

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales · Charity number 207325

Details

Other names SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH, SPR

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [00044861](#)

Registered 1962-12-31

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

Contact

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West Kensington
London
W14 0RL

Phone 02079378984

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Website www.spr.ac.uk

Activities

Objects: TO SEEK, COLLECT, AND OBTAIN INFORMATION RESPECTING AND GENERALLY TO INVESTIGATE THE PHENOMENA COMMONLY KNOWN AS PSYCHICAL OR AS SPIRITUALISTIC INCLUDING HYPNOTISM, SOMNAMBULISM THOUGHT-TRANSFERENCE AND ALL MATTERS OF A KINDRED NATURE.

Activities: Publication of informative journals. Operation of lending and reading library. Holding of lectures and conferences. Provision of education and advice. Award of grants in aid of research.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£654,625	£324,964	£4,383,201	7
2024-09-30	£163,348	£295,953	-	-
2023-09-30	£117,005	£276,107	-	-
2022-09-30	£112,514	£226,498	-	-
2021-09-30	£431,416	£235,178	-	-
2020-09-30	£103,176	£220,858	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Emeritus Professor Caroline Agnes Watt	Chair	2025-06-05
ADRIAN RYAN		2002-04-25
ALAN MURDIE		1999-11-04
Ashley Knibb		2023-09-14
CIARAN FARRELL		2017-04-29
DR GRAHAM KIDD		2015-02-05
Dr Ann Winsper		2023-09-14
Dr BARRIE GEORGE COLVIN		2014-01-27
Dr CALLUM ELLIOTT COOPER		2017-05-11
Dr DAVID NICHOLAS ROUSSEAU		1997-04-03
Dr DAVID VERNON		2018-01-11
Dr DEBORAH ERICKSON		2014-12-18
Dr LIAM PAUL RUICKBIE		2017-05-11
Dr MELVYN JOHN WILLIN		1997-04-03
Dr Malcolm Barlow Schofield		2020-07-15
Dr RICHARD STANLEY BROUGHTON		
Dr THOMAS HARRY RUFFLES PHD		1990-11-01
Dr ZOFIA WEAVER		2018-10-19
JOHN FRASER		
JULIE ANNE ROUSSEAU		2002-04-25
MARIAN BARTON		2013-09-12
PROFESSOR BERNARD JOHN CARR MA, PHD		1974-04-04
PROFESSOR CHRIS ROE		
PROFESSOR EMERITUS ADRIAN DAVID PARKER		2016-08-04
ROBERT MCLUHAN		2012-11-29
STEVEN PARSONS		2018-10-19

Name	Role	Appointed
TyLean Tuijl		2023-07-20

Linked charities

- [BLENNERHASSETT RESEARCH FUND \(207325-1\)](#)
- [THE FREDERICK W H MYERS MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP FUND \(207325-2\)](#)
- [RESEARCH ENDOWMENT FUND \(207325-3\)](#)

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 207325

Accounts

The Incorporated
SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

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COUNCIL, OFFICERS, STAFF AND ADVISERS as of 30th September 2025

President: Prof. C. A. Watt, M.A., PhD

Vice-Presidents

Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Prof. D. L. Delaney, BA, PhD

Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD
Prof. J. C. Poynton, MSc, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS

Elected Members of Council

(for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006 the elected members of Council are directors)

Mrs M. E. Barton
Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Dr B. G. Colvin, BSc, PhD
Prof. C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes,
PhD, CPsychol., FHEA
Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC
Mr J. Fraser, BA

Dr G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS,
MRCPsych
Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt
Mr A. D. Murdie, LLB
Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc,
PhD, AFBPsS
Dr D. N. Rousseau, BSc, PhD

Mrs J. A. Rousseau, BSc
Dr T. H. Ruffles, BSc, BA, MA, PhD,
ARPS
Dr L. Ruickbie, BA, MA, PhD, Assoc. of
King's College
Mr A. P. Ryan
Dr M. J. Willin, BMus, MMus, PhD,
LRAM

Co-opted Members of Council

Dr D. L. Erickson, MBA, PhD
Mr A. Knibb
Mr S. T. Parsons
Dr M. B. Schofield, BSc, MRes, PhD

Dr D. J. Vernon, BSc, PhD
Prof. C. A. Watt, M.A., PhD
Dr Z. Weaver, BA, PhD

Dr A. Winsper, PhD
Dr D. Thomas, PhD
Mrs T. Tuijl

Council Appointments

Officers:

Hon. Secretary – Dr Kidd

Hon. Treasurer – Dr Broughton

Other appointments:

Hon. Editor, Journal & Proceedings – Dr Vernon

Editorial Assistant – Dr Tammy Dempster

Associate Editor – Dr Weaver

Hon. Editor, The Magazine – Mr Gordon Rutter

Hon. Communications Officer – Dr Ruffles

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer – Dr Willin

Hon. Website Manager – Dr Erickson

Website Content Manager – Mr Nemo Mörck

Data Protection Officer – Mr Farrell

Hon. Book Review Editor, JSPPR – Mr Nemo Mörck

Secretary: Mr Peter Johnson

Librarian: Mrs Karen Patel

Council Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
Education & Publicity	Prof. Carr	Dr Erickson, Mr McLuhan, Mr Nemo Mörck, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles, Mr Gordon Rutter.
Research Grants	Mr Ryan	Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delaney, Prof. Caroline Watt
Buckmaster Oversight	Dr Broughton	Prof. Carr, Mr Fraser, Mr Murdie, Dr Kidd, Mr Ryan, Dr Weaver
Library	Dr Ruffles	Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Mr Mörck, Dr John Newton, Mrs Patel, Prof. Poynton, Dr Willin
Spontaneous Cases	Dr Kidd	Dr Colvin, Prof. Cooper, Mr Paul Cropper, Mrs Beth Darlington-Bailey, Rachel Evenden, Mr Farrell, Mr Fraser, Dr Matthew Hopkins, Mr Knibb, Randy Liebeck, Aaron Lomas, Dr John Newton, Sheila Pryce Brooks, Dr Ruickbie, Damon Simms, Dr Schofield, Nick Terrell, Mrs Tuijl, Dr Weaver, Dr Winsper, Dr Ursula Wolski
Survival Research	Prof. Cooper	Mrs Barton, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Rousseau, Dr David Saunders
Conference Programme	Prof. Cooper	Prof. Carr, Mr Murdie, Prof. Parker, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles

Banks

CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4JQ
NatWest, Kensington Royal Garden, P O Box 2341, 55 Kensington High Street, London, W8 5ZG

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ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the President - Professor Caroline Watt

As can be seen from the fourteen reports below, a great deal of work has gone into making 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025 an extremely productive period for the SPR. The wide-ranging activities of the various committees and enterprises are testimony to the dedication and drive shown by office holders, committee chairs and members, as well as by all who participate in the SPR's regular meetings of Council. I'm grateful to all of these individuals who in June 2025 voted to support my nomination as President and kindly welcomed me to Council. At the same time, Council expressed its gratitude to Prof Adrian Parker, now Vice-President, for his excellent leadership over the past four years.

I'd like to draw attention to just a few highlights from what has been a very busy period for the SPR. Perhaps the most significant event to occur this year, providing vital support for one of the founding interests of the SPR, was a further development regarding the substantial donation of £500,000 by Prof Yew-Kwang Ng (you may recall that Prof Ng's gift was first announced in the 2023-2024 Annual Report). Together with an intended further generous gift in his legacy, Prof Ng's wish is for this donation to support survival research in perpetuity. According to Prof Ng's wishes, Council voted to rename the SPR's Survival Research Fund the Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research. Awards for research projects supported by the new fund are to be made via the Survival Research Committee which is now chaired by Prof. Cooper. I would like to thank Marian Barton for her remarkable 11 years of service as chair of the SRC, having stood down from this role, though fortunately not from SRC membership, in September 2025. Many thanks also to Peter Johnson and Richard Broughton, who have been taking care of the ongoing work associated with Prof Ng's generous legacy to the SPR.

Richard Broughton has also been an invaluable asset, supported by the VPs, in helping to resolve occasional unexpected challenges.

In another landmark development, under the energetic editorship of David Vernon, the Journal of the SPR has been adapted to modern standards to enable open access to Journal contents, for instance through online searches. This move to an open access

model aligns JSPR with developments across scientific research and publishing (as does Psi Open Data), and will dramatically increase the readership of JSPR articles and support one of the longest-running activities of the SPR. This publishing model includes giving each journal item (including book reviews) permanent identification codes (Digital Object Identifiers - DOIs) as well as providing author ORCID data (allowing readers to locate other papers by the same author). Furthermore, David and his team (including Associate Editor, Zofia Weaver and Editorial Assistant, Tammy Dempster) have moved JSPR to a new hosting platform managed by Open Journal Systems. As explained in more detail in his report, this platform enables the management of all aspects of journal production, from submission to publishing. The July 2025 edition was the first full and open access edition published on this platform. As David remarks, there is work still to be done, but meantime many congratulations to David and his team for all their hard work to ensure JSPR goes from strength to strength.

Of course there are many other outlets for the expertise, activities and interests of SPR Council members, many of which promote the work of the SPR and reach a diverse audience. These include the Magazine of the SPR, SPR online and in-person study days, lectures and workshops, blogs, book reviews, print media articles, and interviews and the provision of SPR Archive materials for podcasts, radio, TV, and for streaming platforms such as Apple TV which so vividly depicted Maurice Grosse in action.

Further details of the 2025 Annual Conference are given in Program Chair Cal Cooper's report. But while memories are fresh, my observation was that there was a healthy turnout and the congenial atmosphere was aided by provision of coffee and pastries. Cal and his committee helped to ensure the representation of a wide variety of different approaches to the study of paranormal beliefs and experiences. My highlight was the closing panel hosted by Richard Wiseman celebrating the life and work of SPR stalwart Tony Cornell, including moving personal reminiscences from Bernard Carr. As ever, Peter Johnson and his team in 'the office' did a superb job in organising and running the practicalities of the meeting.

I'd like to pay tribute to Graham Kidd who is relinquishing the chair of the Spontaneous Cases

Committee, which he has held since 2021. As detailed in his report below, SCC was presented with an increased workload of over 270 cases this year - a number that is challenging to manage, to say the least!

Finally, I must note the sad passing of colleagues and friends whose work has contributed to the SPR and parapsychology, including Alan Gauld, Dennis Bury, Peter Fenwick, Charles Tart and, most recently, Stephen Braude.

RESEARCH

Report of the Research Grants Committee Chairman: Adrian Ryan

The committee received ten grant applications in the period, and after careful deliberations the committee decided to fund four of these. We send our congratulations to the successful applicants and wish them every success with their research. The successful applicants are as follows:

Alex Escolà-Gascón - Quantum-like psi learning: Neuromodulating extraocular vision in blind individuals - £5,666.40

Chris Roc, Matthew Hopkins and Deborah Patton - Testing the theory of 'First Sight' using the Bem 'feeling the future' paradigm – funding request for phase 3 - £7,000.00

Rodrigo Montenegro - Neurophysiological and Phenomenological Effects of tPBM on Synchronized REM States: A Comparative Analysis of REM Lucidity - £7,000.00

Malcolm Schofield - I feel, therefore I am: Investigating what emotions underly the variables that correlate with paranormal belief and experience - £6,982.95

The total value of grants awarded this year is £26,649.35.

I would like to encourage SPR members to consider making donations and/or bequests specifically to the SPR's Research Fund, so that we can continue to support this important work far into the future.

Report of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee (BOC) Chairman: Dr Richard S. Broughton

The role of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee is to oversee the projects approved by Council that are funded by a legacy from Mr Nigel Buckmaster. The Buckmaster fund was intended to be spent down in pursuit of its aims and now, after over 10 years of actively supporting projects, it is beginning to wind down operations.

The SPR's online Psi Encyclopedia, the flagship project of the Buckmaster fund continues to provide an unmatched online information source for Psychical Research and dominates search engine results for many psychical research topics. This was one of the original goals of founder and Editor Robert McLuhan and it has been more than met. This year has seen a host of new topics added along with editorial improvements and enhanced web links across the site. Considerable effort has been put into designing and moving the entire contents of the encyclopedia onto a new web platform that is expected to be ready late in 2025. Further details of its activities this year are in the report of the Education and Publicity Committee.

The two printed volumes of the *Is There Life After Death?* book project that are associated with this project remain delayed although editor Leo Ruickbie reports that

progress has been made this year and that publication is 'within sight'.

The Rousseaus reported that significant progress has been made on practical handbook for applying Systems Methodology, although the amount of research needed to be done for the project had been significantly underestimated. This extra work has now been completed but doing it caused a delay to the book completion milestone. Having resolved significant personal and family challenges the Rousseaux report that progress will accelerate. They are currently working on integrating and editing relevant materials into the planned book format. A detailed outline of the book structure and description of the contents of each section has been shared with the BOC.

After a review of hosting options as well as the trends in archiving research data, Adrian Ryan, director of the Psi Open Data Systems, migrated the entire collection to Zenodo, an open access data repository operated by CERN under the European OpenAIRE program. This not only eliminates hosting costs, but, more importantly, offers wider exposure through DOI (Digital Object Identifiers) and firm placement within the Open Science community. Already, across the 24 data sets currently available, the site is recording hundreds of downloads of

different data sets. Psi Open Data continues to be managed by Mr Ryan, and it is still accessed through the SPR web site.

Despite ongoing delays in two components of the several Buckmaster projects the solid success of the Psi Encyclopedia as well as the academic accomplishments of the other projects continue to deliver the benefits of Mr Buckmaster's legacy.

**Report of the Spontaneous Cases Committee
Chairman: Dr Graham Kidd**

New members coopted during the past year include Rachel Eveden, Ursula Wolski, Damon Simms, TyLean Tuijl, Sheila Pryce Brooks, and Ann Winsper who has returned to the fold. This intake has been vital in spreading the load to examine at least some of the 270 cases that Beth has circulated over the past year.

What we lack in terms of substantial poltergeist cases we make up for in investigating experiences that are reported through the website. Over the past year we have received some 274 cases circulated efficiently by our Case Coordinator Beth Darlington, significantly more than previous years which were about 200 each year. This year cases have included 12 apparitions, 10 Mediumistic claims, 8 JOTTs, 6 Poltergeists, 4 OBE /NDEs, 4 Orbs, 46 photo/ videos, 2 ADCs, 5 Possessions, 6 EVPs, 6 PKs, 2 Synchronicity, 18 Hauntings, 3 Clairvoyance claims, 19 Premonitions, 6 UFO/ alien contacts, 4 Healings, 5 Time slips, 2 Reincarnations, and 2 Witchcraft reports. Not surprisingly, not every case has been explored in detail, but I am hopeful that the increased membership will eventually resolve that deficiency.

Meanwhile every member is encouraged to pursue their particular interest. These include the following:

Ashley Knibb is developing his Psi Dynamics Research unit and is in the process of writing an explanatory article. He continues to update SCC data protocols.

Sheila Pryce Brooks is pursuing the effects of sleep paralysis and psychic phenomena.

Ann Winsper is accumulating Timeslip cases.

TyLean Tuijl examines possession states, including the factors involved in its development and the experiencers of exorcists and healers.

Aaron Lomas, our training officer, continues to explore the effect of Covid and the lockdown on paranormal phenomena.

Tony Hayes' Basildon poltergeist case has it seems more less completely subsided following a substantial fire of doubtful cause in the house where it began, forcing the family to relocate. Some lesser phenomena did follow them for a while. A full write up is in the offing.

To the equipment available for field research at Vernon Mews, Tony Hayes has kindly added a CCTV system and three EMF meters. The recently acquired Wyrroscope has recently been put to the test by Barrie Colvin and two of his PK subjects, but without positive results so far. Hopefully this will not deflect from its being tried out in other fields.

Our secretary Ciaran Farrell continues to do sterling work, well covered by Ashley Knibb during Mr Farrel's illness, for which the SCC is very grateful.

**Report of the Survival Research Committee
Chairman: Prof. Callum Cooper**

I would firstly like to offer my appreciation and thanks to Mrs Marian Barton, having led the Survival Research Committee (SRC) as Chair 11 years and having stepped down in this role in mid-2024. The role was immediately offered over to me by the SRC, and I am proud to take on this position. We are also grateful to Dr David Rousseau, who also had to stepdown due to family circumstances, but we await his return when such circumstances become more comfortable for him. I am thankful to the committee members: Mrs Marian Barton (who remains on the committee), Dr Matthew Colborn and Dr David Saunders.

recruitment of new members in July 2024, which he gladly approved. These new members are Dr Rachael Ironside and Mr Matthew Arnold.

Despite the various changes to the SRC in the last year, Drs Colborn, Saunders, Rousseau, Mrs Barton and Mr Bury, all carefully considered various applications received for grants, and where possible, Dr Gauld was visited and informed of the incoming projects between 2023-2024. Applications included topics areas of: after-death communication experiences, terminal lucidity, past life memories, photography and the afterlife, mediumship, experiences in the funeral industry and archival work and associated travel.

Sadly, Dr Alan Gauld passed away in December 2024, so too, Mr Dennis Bury. However, Mr Bury was able to join an online SRC meeting regarding the

The following are the awards we have made this

year:

Professor Chris Roe and Professor Callum Cooper - Investigation of the phenomenology and Impact of perceived direct and spontaneous After-Death Communications (continuation) - £7,518.92

Dr Maryne Mutis - Luciveille: Phenomenological study on the spectrum of terminal lucidity University of Lorraine - £3,000.00

Elaine Rycroft - Evaluating the premise that Past Life Memories indicate that 'personality' survives death - £3095.00

Aaron Lomas - The Phenomenology of Anomalous Experiences Reported during the Covid Pandemic - £2795.00

Corrine Gretton-West - Communicating Exceptional Human Experiences through Photographic Art' Continuation - £3150.00

Prof. Callum Cooper - for his research on Scott Rogo and correspondence with Raymond Bayless - £260.00

Patrizio Tressoldi (Italy) - Living in the Afterlife clues from direct experiences. (To obtain detailed information about it, and how they live there from participants who claim to be able to visit or contact people there.) - £3,000.00

Professor Chris Roe, Ashlee Lewis-Earl, Research Assistant, Northampton - The Truth in the Light: Conducting a systemic analysis of the Fenwick collection (continuation) - £2,964.00

Kirsty Allan - A New Bridge between the Physical and the Psychical Detecting synchronicity in the field of consciousness during physical mediumship - £3089.00

Felicity S Kinnersley, Northampton - Psychic or Spirit? A phenomenological investigation into the

Report of the Library Committee

Chairman: Dr Tom Ruffles

The Library Committee approves acquisitions for the Vernon Mews library. Its members are Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Nemo Mörk, John Newton, Karen Patel (Librarian), Prof. Poynton, Dr Ruffles (Chair) and Dr Willin.

During the current reporting year, 112 loans were made. Eleven books were purchased, at a cost of £168.92, while a further 60 books were donated. We are grateful to donors for their generosity. The Librarian operates a sale of second-hand books, available both in the library and via the website.

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer's Report Dr Melvyn Willin

The work of cataloguing and conservation has continued as have regular visits to Cambridge University Library (CUL) where relations with the staff there are very positive. My cataloguing of the hitherto

process whereby developing Spiritualist mediums learn to attribute received information to ostensible psychic or discarnate sources - £3,000.00

Corrine Gretton-West, Northampton - Communicating Exceptional Human Experiences through Photographic Art (continuation) - £2,695.00

Natalia Mae Lavin, Northampton - After-Death Communication Experiences in the Funeral Industry - £3,000.00

It should be noted that the Gwen Tate Lectures have now run their course, as funds from the Gwen Tate legacy have since been used for various projects over time. However, we are pleased to report we have received a substantial donation to the SRC from Professor Yew-Kwang Ng 黄有光 (Monash University, Australia). Part of the agreement for this is that grants awarded by the SRC in future are to be given in his name:
Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research

Professor Ng has indicated that the fund should be administered as it is now, by the Survival Research Committee, and that the funds should be managed to provide support in perpetuity. Much like the Gwen Tate Lectures, we may begin to hold Yew-Kwang Ng 黄有光 Lectures, occasionally, for successful applicants to report back to the SPR on their research.

We continue to support the Hon. Archives Liaison Officer, Dr Melvyn Willin. We also respond to survival themed questions from the Hon. Communications Officer, Dr Tom Ruffles through the website and various media outlets which he also manages.

The Library continues to be open on Wednesday afternoons, attracting both regular and occasional users from the membership, as well as interested non-members. Requests to visit at other times are arranged with the Secretary.

For members unable to attend in person, a postal loan service is available; details can be obtained from the Librarian. The library catalogue is on the website. Also on the website is extensive book information, including reviews, compiled and edited by Content Manager Nemo Mörk.

un-published 'Hauntings and Poltergeist Files' was particularly welcomed by CUL and has acquired further interest from researchers and other academics. I made use of the archive there myself when preparing for the

external examination of a PhD student from Northampton University. In October I was invited to Trinity College, Cambridge to pick up a donation of journals and magazines previously belonging to C.D. Broad.

I have maintained regular correspondence and meetings with several SPR members and the general public, and visits to the SPR audio-visual archive, held at my premises in Norfolk, have been made by PhD students from England as well as a researcher from the USA who was particularly impressed with the collection.

During the past year I have given various podcasts and broadcasts about the SPR archives and recently wrote an article in the SPR's *Magazine*. I was a consultant to Ben Machell's book *Chasing the Dark*, which explores the excellent investigative work carried out by Tony Cornell and I have also been involved in a project from Ireland which is investigating the Goligher

Circle's previous mediumistic activities. I am still liaising with the Met Film Company that made the BAFTA nominated Enfield poltergeist series of documentaries. The company is seeking sponsorship for a series of documentaries devoted to other past investigations by the SPR.

Currently (October 2025) I am cataloguing the 'Mediums and Psychics' files which are held at CUL; I continue to work with Robert McLuhan on the *Psi Encyclopedia*; and frequently liaise with the secretary Peter Johnson and the SPR librarian Karen Patel when they receive queries that I can help with. Contact is also maintained with several other SPR Council members as and when required.

I have to report here that despite Dr Gauld writing to me about the hope, the administrator/s of his estate have not followed through in line with his wish that his books and archive should be deposited with the SPR after his death, (as of October 2025).

Education and Publicity Committee Chairman: Professor Bernard Carr

The Education and Publicity Committee (EPC) coordinates the SPR's educational activities and develops strategies for publicising these. The promotion of our events is now primarily via the internet and our website, so our members include Deborah Erickson (Honorary Website Manager) and Nemo Mörck (Website Content Manager). Other members are Chris Roe, Robert McLuhan, Tom Ruffles (Honorary Communications Officer) and Gordon Rutter (editor of *The Magazine*). Some of these members report their activities more fully in their individual reports.

This year our educational programme has again mainly comprised of zoom events, although we're beginning to hold physical meetings again. David Vernon continues to organize and host regular Wednesday webinars. In the reported period, these were given by Ciaran Farrell, Paul Smith, Steve Taylor, Claire Murphy-Morgan, Eric Dullin, Graham Kidd, Chris Roe, Jeff Tarrant, Kirsty Allan and Michael Nahm. Although we miss meeting physically, webinars have the advantage of attracting speakers and participants from all over the world and it also reduces the expenses involved.

Our educational role includes overseeing evening discussion forums and study days. The forums are usually organized by Dennis Bury and Ciaran Farrell but there were none this year because of Dennis's illness and sad passing. They will resume in 2026. In April 2025 a study day entitled "Mind the Gap: Journeying Non-Locally through Theories of Mind Beyond the Brain" was organised and chaired by Cal Cooper, with contributions from Mike Daw, Michael

Nahm, Cameron Alldredge, Rupert Sheldrake and Bernard Carr. In May 2025 Rodrigo Montenegro led a 4-day OBE experiential workshop, as a follow-up to the October 2024 study day. The Committee also plays a part in the annual conference, with Carr, Roe and Ruffles serving on the Programme Committee. This year's conference was held at Oxford in October 2025 and will therefore be covered in next year's annual report.

The past year has seen a continuation of Steve Parsons' highly successful online and in-person training for ASSAP investigators, using the SPR's publications as essential reading and support material. To date more than 130 people have participated in the course and their feedback has been used to hone both the content and the way that the information is delivered. Council has approved offering SPR members a similar online training package, using the same support material. The first online course should take place in the spring of 2026. This will help to boost both awareness and membership of the SPR within the general ghost hunting community, as well as promoting sales of our two relevant publications. In due course, the Ghost Club will also be offering training to its members, and having all big three major organisations offering a common training programme based upon our publications is the best antidote to the sensationalist approach to ghost-hunting in the past decade. The publication of *Paravision, Sight & the Paranormal* (the follow-up to *Paracoustics*), co-edited by Steve and Cal Cooper, originally scheduled by White Crow books for 2025, has been delayed until 2026.

New articles continue to be published in the *Psi Encyclopedia*, which is funded by the Buckmaster bequest and now contains 650 (?) articles and almost two million (?) words. It is now over ten years old and has been given a refresh, made necessary by the original software platform becoming obsolete. The aim has been to update the look and make articles easier to access. Some category headings have been revised. A new page provides links to articles and research papers that are free to read online and there will also be links to pdfs of selected articles from the archives of the *Proceedings* and *Journals*. Work continues on updating existing articles and creating new ones. The founding editor, Robert McLuhan, is moving on and the name of his successor will be announced shortly. Another Buckmaster project, two volumes of essays on aspects of survival, has unfortunately been delayed through factors beyond our control, but progress continues to be made.

Tom Ruffles regularly responds to enquiries via the website and social media. Frequent references to the SPR, both in print and online, can be followed on our

Report of the Hon. Website Manager Dr Deborah Erickson

The SPR website performed smoothly this reporting period, with no technical issues or problems. Nemo Mörck, SPR Content Editor, successfully updated the Book Reviews section with 30 book reviews written by a variety of authors, as well as himself. I collaborated with Dr Ruffles and Mr Mörck for the Who's Who pages for Council members and updates for

The Journal of the Society for Psychological Research Editor: Dr David Vernon

During the period 1st October 2024 to 31st September 2025, we have produced and published four issues of the Journal: those for October 2024, January 2025, April 2025, and July 2025. The aim, as always, is to have these issues distributed to subscribers in their designated month of publication but this is in part dependent on the amount of sufficiently high-quality material ready for publication and on ensuring its production to the highest quality. Additionally, in order to keep distribution costs down, mailings are sometimes delayed so as to include other materials being prepared for members. Taken together, these four Journal issues included 7 refereed articles, 18 book reviews, 5 obituaries, 5 letters to the Editor and three Society notices. The Journal continues to have international reach, which is reflected in contributions from the USA, India, Australia, as well as the United Kingdom.

The published material continues to reflect the breadth of interest within psychological research, ranging from experimental research (both quantitative and

Facebook page and Bluesky and X feeds, all of which are overseen by Tom. At the end of the reporting year the Facebook page had 19,434 followers and the general X feed had 12,103 followers. These sites publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general. Tom also runs a Twitter feed dedicated to our *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 3,109 followers. The Bluesky account (started in November 2024) had 892 followers. Posts on all four are circulated by readers and thereby reach a very large audience. Significant information relating to the SPR appears on our website as news items posted by Nemo Mörck, who also adds information about new books and their reviews. SPR members frequently make media appearances, and these are mostly reported on our website. We continue to build bridges with other organisations since this allows news of our activities to reach a wider audience. Ben Machell's biography of the late Tony Cornell, *Chasing the Dark*, has attracted favourable reviews in *The Observer*, *The Times* and *The Guardian*. It was also the main review in the January 2026 *Fortean Times*, which gave it five stars. This has generated a lot of positive publicity for the SPR.

Officers. Tom and Nemo are happy to publicise events of interest outside of SPR on social media sites, but they do need tips to hear about them, so SPR officers and members are encouraged to let them know about events and links. Collaboration between organisations is also encouraged.

qualitative), field investigations, case studies, theoretical contributions, reviews and historical perspectives. I trust that this diversity assures members that the Editorial Board will consider any empirical approach or topic of relevance to psychological research so long as it is original, provides a significant contribution to the field and is underpinned by a highly rigorous methodology.

This has been a busy and at times challenging year as we moved the Journal to a new hosting platform managed by Open Journal Systems/Public Knowledge Project (<https://jspr.spr.ac.uk/index.php/jspr/index>). This now means that all aspects of the Journal, from submission to publishing, can be easily monitored and controlled via this platform. Hence, all submissions to the Journal now need to be made online via the new portal (<https://jspr.spr.ac.uk/index.php/jspr/about/submissions>). To facilitate this, clear and detailed author guidance has been produced and displayed on the new platform

along with information relating to the peer review policy, the use of pre-registration and ethical practice. Our first full edition published on this platform was the July 2025 edition (<https://jspr.spr.ac.uk/index.php/jspr/issue/view/5>). The use of this platform has dramatically improved access to Journal material due to the use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) and author ORCID data. In addition, the Journal has shifted to an 'Open Access' model making all material (from July 2025) openly available. These changes will no doubt strengthen the position of the Journal and help to ensure it has a bright and enduring future. Now that the new platform is up and running the next task is to try again to secure indexing of the Journal.

Editing and producing the JSPR is both a time

consuming and demanding task, and not one carried out alone. Hence, I would like to offer my very special thanks to both the Associate Editor, Dr Zofia Weaver, and the Editorial Assistant, Dr Tammy Dempster, for their excellent work and very much appreciated support. Thanks also to Julie Gorman and Rich Cutler from Helius (<https://helius.co.uk/>), our typesetters, for their prompt and scrupulous attention to detail when helping to shape the articles. A big thank you to our Book Review Editor, Nemo Mörck, for his help and guidance with the book reviews and more. Last, but by no means least, my sincere thanks to all those who help to make the JSPR possible by submitting manuscripts and to those that help review them, providing a high level of useful and effective feedback to help ensure that the JSPR remains a useful and valuable publication within the field of psychic research.

The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: **Gordon Rutter**

During the reporting period only three issues of *The Magazine* were produced, issues 12, 13 and 14. Issue 15 nearly made it into the time period but just missed.

One major change over the year was the departure of David Ellis as proofreader. I would like to record my thanks to David for his work on *The Magazine* and the help he has given me over our time together. The work of a proofreader is often overlooked, particularly when they perform their job well. As editor it is so often the case that I am too close to articles to catch every typographical error or misplaced space. Consequently, I rely on the work of the proofreader as a final check before an issue is sent off to Peter Johnson. Again, thank you David for helping to make *The Magazine* better for everyone. I am also grateful to our new proofreader, Stu Neville. Stu stepped in at very short notice and has agreed to continue the job going forward. So thank you also to Stu for his work on the material covered during this reporting period.

We have also seen the departure of Professor Adrian Parker from his position of President of the SPR. Adrian had a regular section – the President's Pages – in *The Magazine*. In these he shared his thoughts on many areas of interest to members of the SPR. I'm sure that many readers, like me, found new areas and writers to follow. Thank you, Adrian, for your regular input.

The issues of *The Magazine* are all full colour and twenty-eight pages, and all are produced as a print ready PDF and a compressed PDF, this latter for electronic distribution. Due to the time taken to print the physical copies the online version appears first and is available from the SPR website members' section.

During this year *The Magazine* has continued its usual wide range of articles. Each individual issue has had a thought-provoking piece from Adrian Parker. Graham Kidd provided us with an intriguing case from the Spontaneous Cases Committee and there are more from that group to come. Sally Collins gave an overview of a ghost case involving family friends at Romney Marsh. A new way to measure paranormal experiences (how do you determine “the most haunted...”?) and John Tate gave us Paranomics 3, the conclusion to his look at economics in the Paranormal. Also, in multi part format we had two articles from Peter McCue on whether there should be a new terminology for Hauntings and Poltergeists. John Fraser gave us a taste of his latest book with *Can Most of What We Call the Paranormal Fit in One Big Theoretical Box?* Melvyn Willin provided us with an overview of some of the resources belonging to the SPR, and also a reminder to think about what happens to our own collections when we die. An opportunity to expand our book collections has been provided by a continued look at new acquisitions to the SPR library, courtesy of the SPR Librarian Karen Patel. We've also had a range of reviews, including a look at the University of Northampton on one of their frequent visits to the Edinburgh based Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Centre and an overview of the SPR 47th Annual International Conference – based at Derby. As usual all articles were accompanied by colour illustrations, and the covers of individual issues represented an array of images of interest to SPR members.

Over the year I have received some positive comments from the membership about *The Magazine*, and I am very grateful for them all and I am glad that people are enjoying it. I am also grateful to all who

have contributed articles or letters, and I hope to continue to receive many more of both.

The continued use of Open-Source software to produce *The Magazine* saves the SPR quite a large fee in licensing.

Annual Conference

Programme Chairman: **Prof. Callum Cooper**, Conference Organiser: **Peter Johnson**

The 48th SPR International Annual Conference took place 17th - 19th October 2025 at Milton Hill House, Oxford. We moved back to hybrid attendance at this event, which meant we had approximately 115 people registered for in person and online attendance in total. Some 30 abstracts were submitted for review by the conference committee: Prof. Carr, Mr Murdie, Prof. Parker, Prof. Roe and Dr Ruffles. I extend my thanks to the committee for taking the time to review these submissions and providing timely feedback for what was a short turnaround in arrangements.

And in total, 21 papers were accepted and presented, with an invited lecture by Dr Paul Rogers on 'The Dodleston Messages' and an invited panel hosted by Prof. Richard Wiseman on the life and work of Tony Cornell, and our guest dinner speaker was Gary Lachman, speaking about his writings and most recent work on dream precognition. As usual, the 21 abstracts accepted greatly varied in topic: history and theology, research methods and surveys, after-death

communication experiences, mediumship, laboratory studies, and psychic healing.

Thank you to all who attended and provided audience questions from both those in person and online, it was such an interactive event for all to share, with excellent facilities at the Milton Hill House for those in physical attendance – we were truly looked after by the staff and building.

I wouldn't be able to put these conferences together and create a schedule that works so smoothly to time without Mr Johnson. My thanks to him for helping source locations, discussing logistics, sort emails back and forth on abstracts and working with me on editing and finalising a schedule of talks, tea breaks and dinners. Mr Johnson's work also goes as far as sorting price packages for the weekend, conference bags, liaising with the venue and more. It all pays off in what wonderful feedback we've received from all for such an enjoyable and insightful weekend.

Secretary's Report Peter Johnson

In the table below, you will be able to see that our membership numbers have increased very slightly

	Members & Associates			Student Associates			TOTALS		
	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change	2025	2024	Change
UK	462	437	6%	51	51	0%	513	488	5%
USA	143	133	6%	23	23	0%	166	156	6%
Other	108	135	-20%	17	17	0%	125	152	-12%
TOTAL	713	705	1%	91	91	0%	804	796	1%

Note that, in addition to the Members and Associates, we also send copies of our publications to over 100 subscribers. An increasing number of members are opting to take advantage of the £15 discount for digital-only publications.

Audio recordings of all our events are available free of charge for members only, and for purchase by non-members. Thanks to David Vernon for finding so many interesting speakers for our online Web Events during the year. Thanks to Melvyn Willin for maintaining our archive catalogue of recordings. Please note that, in

addition to borrowing physical recordings, members may also listen to recent talks directly from our website.

The Office and Library have continued to operate mainly from home, with Karen Patel (Librarian) attending the SPR Library on Wednesday afternoons when visitors do not need an appointment.

We held our 2025 Annual General Meeting in person at Vernon Mews in April.

The following six members of Council retired and were re-elected at this meeting to serve for three further years:
Mrs M E Barton, Mrs J A Rousseau, Mr A D Murdie

Dr B G Colvin, Dr L Ruickbie, Dr M J Willin

All other motions on the agenda were passed unanimously.

Data Protection Officer's Report Ciaran Farrell

During the reporting year, the General Data Protection Implementation Team (GDPRIT) maintained strategic oversight of the Society's data protection framework to ensure compliance with relevant UK legislation and regulatory guidance. The Team continued to monitor the effectiveness of the systems and policies in place, confirming that they remain proportionate, functional, and aligned with best practice. Activity was conducted through regular physical and virtual meetings, supplemented by ongoing correspondence and liaison with the Council and other committees to ensure the consistent application of data protection principles across all areas of the Society's operations.

Throughout the year, GDPRIT undertook a detailed review of the Society's Privacy and Data Protection Policy and the internal Data Processing Agreement (DPA), which includes a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy recommended by the Charity Commission and the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). This reflects the Society's structure as a distributed organisation, with many officers and Council members working remotely and utilising their own equipment. The Team also examined the operation of the Society's website and membership mailing systems, verifying compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR), while maintaining effective communication channels with members and the public.

Monitoring regulatory changes continued to be a key focus. In particular, the Team assessed developments associated with the implementation of the Online Safety Act 2023, designed to protect users in digital environments, and the introduction of the Data Use and Access Act 2025, which builds upon the previous Data Protection and Digital Information Bill. Anticipating new guidance from the ICO, preparatory evaluation was undertaken to determine potential implications for SPR governance, policies, and operational practice.

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) maintained close collaboration with the Policy Advisory Panel (PAP) and the Scientific and Case Committee (SCC) to ensure a coordinated approach to data protection, policy development, and compliance oversight. Work progressed on a significant joint initiative with the SCC to develop a secure, GDPR-compliant database for anonymised case and investigation reports, which will provide a valuable long-term research and archival resource.

The DPO reported regularly to the SPR Council to ensure trustees and directors remained fully informed of the Society's obligations, compliance activities, and evolving regulatory responsibilities. The DPO extends sincere appreciation to GDPRIT colleagues—Mr Johnson, Dr Broughton, and Mr Ryan—for their professionalism, commitment, and ongoing contribution throughout the year.

The Financial Position

Honorary Treasurer: **Dr Richard Broughton**

As many members may have heard via our website, the Society is enjoying an improved financial situation thanks to a very generous donation from Prof, Yew-Kwang Ng 黄有光 of Monash University in Australia. This year we have received one quarter of a two-million-pound pledge to the Society. Professor Ng's wishes are that the bulk of his donation be used to support research into Survival but he is also contributing a substantial portion to the Society's general fund to ensure that the Society itself remains in good financial health to support the work of the now renamed Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research in perpetuity. The Survival Research Committee has embarked on a programme to notify the research community and encourage high quality applicants for its increased funding pool.

I am pleased to report that the generally healthy investment market this year has meant that we have been able to provide financial support to a good number of research projects as detailed elsewhere in this report, but we are in a position to do more, and our research committees are being encouraged to seek good quality projects worthy of support. Support from the Society is vitally important for both early career researchers and students as well as established scientists who are unable to obtain financial support for research from the usual sources.

The general economic environment remains challenging for the Society and its members as costs continue to rise on all fronts. We continue to run an operating deficit despite ongoing efforts to control costs, and that requires us to make draws on the General Fund. Our membership numbers remain steady and membership income is up slightly. We are enormously grateful for our members who can continue to support the Society through their membership in these difficult times.

Most of our programmes for academics and the public are being conducted on-line or in a hybrid format. Our Annual Conference offered both on-site and video participation and drew a good attendance. Our Study Days have migrated to a hybrid format as well, and our completely on-line discussion group evenings remain popular. The Society's Journal and the Magazine continue to be produced to a high standard, but skyrocketing mailing charges have led the Society to encourage on-line receipt of our publications.

The world is facing unusual (though certainly not unprecedented in our long history) financial instability and the Society must be prepared for adverse circumstances. At the investment level, Council is confident that the investment policies of our management company should mitigate sudden shocks and our grant-giving activities can be adjusted if necessary. At the day-to-day level, however, we continue to see the effect of the cost-of-living crisis on our membership which, for many people, especially for students and young people, is a matter of discretionary spending. More than ever it remains vitally important that the Society receives donations to the general fund that can provide the additional income required to offer our scientific and educational services at the lowest possible cost to our members. Those who are in a position to be generous now can help future generations of psychical researchers develop into productive scientists.

The large donation that we have received this year has triggered the requirement for a full audit of our accounts and operation. This is reported in the following section. In the audit process we have found that our previous method of reporting the value of our premises was not correct and that the building component should have been depreciated at the standard rate. This has been done, resulting in a restatement of the value of the building in last year's figures and a new and ongoing depreciation charge this year. The bottom line (literally) is that our total funds reported on the balance sheet will be notably lower this year reflecting the accumulated depreciation costs.

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL**

For full Members of the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research to be held at 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL on Saturday, 25th April 2026 at 5.15 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) **To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th April 2025.**
- 2) **a) To receive the Report of the Council made up to 30th September 2025.**
b) To receive the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2025.
- 3) **To elect six members to the Council**
Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter:

Dr R. S. Broughton	Dr T. H. Ruffles
Dr D. N. Rousseau	Dr G. T. B. Kidd
Prof. B. J. Carr	Prof. A. D. Parker
- 4) **To appoint Kreston Reeves LLP as Reporting Accountants and Auditors for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.**
- 5) **To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants and Auditors.**

No other business will be transacted at this meeting.

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON Saturday, 26th April 2025 at 5.15 p.m.**

Dr Richard Broughton (Hon Treasurer of the Society) opened the meeting at 5.15 p.m., welcoming 12 voting members to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

The President was not present; Dr Broughton was unanimously appointed as the Chairman.

1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th April 2024, which was adjourned and reconvened on 5th June 2024.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Minutes of the AGM held on 26th April 2024, adjourned for Item 2 only and reconvened on 5th June 2024 should be approved. **This was agreed with two abstentions (because they were not present at those meeting).**

2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2024.

Dr Broughton spoke briefly about the activities of the Society during the year, as described in his contribution to the Annual Report. He confirmed that a new firm of accountants had been appointed (see Item 4) and **he proposed that the meeting should officially receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2024. This was agreed unanimously.** Dr Broughton went on to comment that the investments of the Society had performed very well during the year. He also reported that, since the closing of the accounts for 2024, a very generous donation had been received from Prof. Yew Kwang Ng in Australia, for the main purpose of supporting research in the area of Survival (of bodily death). In addition, part of this donation would be used to bolster the General Fund. Prof. Yn had also pledged to make an even larger donation in due course, in his Will. Further details will be included in the Annual Report and Accounts next year.

3) To elect six members to the Council

Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, **there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter and they were subsequently re-elected.**

Mrs M E Barton
Mrs J A Rousseau
Mr A D Murdie

Dr B G Colvin
Dr L Ruickbie
Dr M J Willin

4) To appoint Kreston Reeves LLP as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.

Dr Broughton reported that, as already mentioned above, a new firm of accountants had been appointed. He **proposed that Kreston Reeves LLP should be formally appointed as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006. This was agreed unanimously.**

5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Council should be authorised to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants. This was agreed unanimously.

No other business was transacted at this meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at 17:28.

For item 3**NOTES ON CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 25th APRIL 2026****IN THEIR OWN WORDS****RICHARD BROUGHTON**

Richard is the author of numerous scientific papers and a critically acclaimed popular book on parapsychology and, in the past, he has been a frequent commentator on parapsychology in the media. He is a twice-past-President and former Board member of the Parapsychological Association. He has been on the SPR Council since 2004, serving as President from 2011 until 2015. Since then he has served the SPR as the Honorary Treasurer, working closely with the management team to shepherd the Society's finances so the SPR can continue to serve both scientific community and the public well into the future.

DAVID ROUSSEAU

David Rousseau joined the SPR in 1994, was co-opted to Council in 1997, and became an elected Member of Council in 2003. He has served as secretary to the Finance Committee (2004–2006) and to the Image and Publicity Committee (1995–1999) and was a member of the IPPC until 2007. He was Chairman of the Research Activities Committee (2007–2014, a member since 1997), Honorary Treasurer (2010–2015) and a member of the e-Communications Committee (2008–2015). He was a member of the Research Grants Committee (2006–2017) and serves on the Survival Research Committee (since 2003). He co-founded the online Library of Exploratory Science and is currently Director of the Centre for Systems Philosophy. He has conducted academic research into the mind–body relationship and into the nature of spiritual experiences, presented at SPR Conferences and Study Days, and published numerous scientific and philosophical papers. He is currently developing systems-science-based methodologies for exploratory science, with support from the SPR, the Centre for Systems Studies (University of Hull), the Bertalanffy Centre for the Study of Systems Science (University of Vienna), the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), and the School of Engineering in Oregon State university (OSU). He is a Fellow of INCOSE, a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts (RSA), and a Trustee of the Alistair Hardy Trust. He is a Trustee, past President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the International Society for the Systems Sciences (ISSS), a Trustee and past Chair of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality (INSS), and a Research Associate in OSU.

BERNARD CARR

Bernard Carr joined the Society in 1972, was co-opted to Council in 1975, and became an elected Member of Council in 1977. He was the SPR Education Officer from 1985 to 2000 and Chairman of the Research Activities Committee from 1994 until 2008. He is currently Chairman of the Education and Publicity Committee and serves on the International Conference Programme Committee. He also co-organizes Study Days and serves on the Research Grants Committee and the Editorial Board. Formerly a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, he is now Emeritus Professor in Mathematics and Astronomy at Queen Mary University of London. He was President of the Society from 2000 to 2004 and is now a Vice-President.

TOM RUFFLES

Tom joined the Society in 1987 and Council in 1990. He was a member of the Publicity sub-committee (later the Image and Publicity Committee) from 1988–1994 – during which time he co-designed the SPR logo – and was Hon. Appeals Secretary 1989–90. In 1991 He served on Professor Robert Morris's working party which led to the setting up of the now-defunct Research Activities Committee and was Hon. Testing Officer 1992–2007. In 2005 he joined the Image, Publicity and Publications Committee and when it split into the Education and Publicity and e-Communications Committees he joined both. He is still a member of the former and was of the latter until it disbanded in May 2017. While on the e-CC he was involved in developing the Society's website.

He has refereed papers for JSPR and was its book reviews editor from January 2009 to January 2018. Having joined the Library Committee in 2010, he became its chair in August 2016. Since 2011 he has

served on the Conference Programme Committee. Also, in 2011 he became the SPR's Communications Officer. In that capacity he responds to general emails received through the website, as well as looking after the SPR's Facebook page (from February 2010) and Twitter accounts – general (from July 2013) and Psi Encyclopedia (from October 2019). He added content to the website until the appointment of a dedicated content manager in March 2018. He has been instrumental in obtaining several collections of material for the SPR's archives and was involved, with Prof. David Fontana, in lobbying for the reissue of the 1999 Scoble Report as a mass circulation paperback in 2011.

For some years he was a coordinator of the Anglia Paranormal Research Group and investigated a number of spontaneous cases. He has contributed to JSPR and Paranormal Review (and its predecessors) as well as Fortean Times and online publications; blogs at <http://tomruffles.blogspot.co.uk/>; and is the author of *Ghost Images: Cinema of the Afterlife*. He is an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society by research, was an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow at Anglia Ruskin University, 2014-2019, and is a member of the Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena and a Supporting Member of the Parapsychological Association. He holds two PhDs: one on *Life After Death in the Cinema*, from the University of East Anglia, the other on *George Albert Smith (1864–1959): From Stage to Screen*, from Anglia Ruskin University, about a significant figure in the early history of the SPR.

GRAHAM KIDD

Dr Kidd has been a member of the SPR since 1969, on the Spontaneous Cases Committee since 2009, and a member of the Council since 2014. He also joined the Library Committee in January 2019. Trained at St Bartholomew's Hospital, he was medical officer to 10th Gurkha Rifles, subsequently training in psychiatry at St Thomas's Hospital. He was a Consultant in Old Age and General Psychiatry in Surrey, and on retiring from the NHS, worked in private practice at the Priory and the Cardinal

Clinics, before retiring to do purely psychotherapy, specialising in psychological trauma using Ego state and EMDR techniques. He teaches occasionally at St George's Hospital. He has studied dissociation and was a member of the ISSTD for many years. He has contributed to SPR study days, to the *JSPR* and the *Paranormal Review/The Magazine* of the SPR. Dr Kidd joined the Spontaneous Cases Committee as its Chairman in 2021 and continued to serve in this capacity during the year of this report.

ADRIAN PARKER

After qualifying in clinical psychology at the Tavistock Clinic, Adrian Parker was the recipient of the Perrott-Warrick Studentship in psychical research, Trinity College, Cambridge becoming the first to gain a UK doctorate with a thesis on altered states and ESP from the University of Edinburgh. His doctoral work co-innovated (with Charles Honorton and William Braud) the technique known as the psi-ganzfeld of reproducing psychic-like experiences in the laboratory. He is author of the book *States of Mind* and recently together with the philosopher Annekatrin Puhle published the book *Shakespeare's Ghost Live* showing how forgotten knowledge found in Shakespeare works is relevant to the deeper understanding of transpersonal experiences. He has well over a hundred publications mainly on altered states of consciousness and psychic experiences. He has published on a diversity of topics in psychical research and parapsychology including hypnotic states, dream states, psychic experiences amongst twins, spontaneous experiences, mediumship, and psychokinesis.

Adrian has studied medicine degree courses and worked in the child clinical psychology service before accepting a position at Gothenburg University, when a major award from the Swedish Bank Jubilee Fond enabled the development of the "Real Time Digital Ganzfeld". This can be regarded as a benchmark procedure for studying high quality psi (psychic) events in the laboratory. His current interest concerns lucid dream states and recently he is the joint recipient together with Annekatrin Puhle of a BIAL grant to study Near-Death Experiences followed extended cardiac arrest. He received the 2014 teaching award from the Gothenburg Students.

Adrian Parker is emeritus professor at the University of Gothenburg and Board member of the Scandinavian International University, Vice President of the Swedish Society for Psychical Research, and was President of the Society for Psychical Research until retiring in June 2025. He is now a Vice President of the Society.

Registered number: 00044861
Charity number: 207325

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustee's report and financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2025

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

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The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research

(A company limited by guarantee)

**Reference and administrative details of the Society, its Trustees and advisers
For the year ended 30 September 2025**

Trustees	The members of the Council
Company registered number	00044861
Charity registered number	207325
Registered office	1 Vernon Mews West Kensington London W14 0RL
Company secretary	P M Johnson
Auditor	Kreston Reeves Audit LLP 9 Donnington Park 85 Birdham Road Chichester West Sussex PO20 7AJ
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ NatWest Bank plc 55 Kensington High Street London W8 5ZG
Investment advisors	BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd PO Box 366 Darlington DL1 9RF

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustee's report

For the year ended 30 September 2025

The Trustee present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research for the year 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025.

The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustee' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustee confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Society qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustee have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Achievements and performance

a. Main achievements of the Society

SPR can report several achievements, including the reopening of the library, the success of the film "The Enfield Poltergeist" due to Melvyn Willin's efforts, and the addition of Quick Guides for Investigators on the SPR website. The Psi Encyclopaedia now has 650 articles, and the SPR's social media presence has grown significantly. The JSPR published eight peer-reviewed articles and 19 book reviews in 2023. The SPR also hosted successful web events and an international conference. Additionally, SPR acknowledges the need for improved investigatory standards and a simple complaints procedure.

Other activities and achievements of the Society are detailed in the narrative portion of the Annual Report. These include the annual conference for research professionals, held this year near Oxford and online, as well as Study

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustee's report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2025

Achievements and performance (continued)

Days and online evening discussion forums for laypersons as well as researchers. The Society was able to provide over £64,000 in funding to support 16 different research projects and dealt with 270 approaches from the public to help understand personal psychic experiences. The Society's professional journal continues its quarterly publication of original research and academic reviews and this year the editor effected the transition to an online platform that enables the use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) and other features that make online access easier and bring it into line with modern academic publishing. Our public-facing Magazine continues to produce engaging articles for general readership. The Psi Encyclopedia website continues to grow and provides accurate and accessible information on parapsychology and psychical research.

b. Investment policy and performance

Council is empowered to direct the investment of surplus funds of the General Fund and the capital of the restricted funds in whichever way it sees fit, subject to the investment guidelines of the Charity Commission. The Society's reserves are invested in a managed fund designed for charities, the Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities, managed by Newton Investment Managers, a subsidiary of BNY. The investment performance is monitored on a regular basis by the Hon. Treasurer.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustee have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The unrestricted reserves of the charity stand at £2,446,370 (2024: £2,093,870) whilst the restricted reserves of the charity stand at £1,936,831 (2024: £1,767,440).

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts. The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund was renamed this year to the Yew-Kwang Ng (黃有光) Fund for Survival Research to honour a major donor to the fund. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychological Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustee's report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2025

for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds.

c. Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net surplus before gains or loss on investments of £329,661 (2024: £141,871 deficit).

Gains on investments changed from a increase of £265,127 in 2024 to an increase of £192,230 in the current year. This was as a result of the positive movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was an increase of £521,891 (2024: increase of £123,256).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, increased by this amount from £3,861,310 as at 30 September 2024 to £4,383,201 as at 30 September 2025.

Structure, governance and management

a. Directors and Trustees

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further seven co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 24 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustee

The management of the Society is the responsibility of the Trustee who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustee

Trustees are supported through an induction process on appointment and are provided with Charity Commission guidance, which they are encouraged to refer to as part of their ongoing development and understanding of their responsibilities.

d. Pay policy for key management personnel

The charity employs one member of key management personnel. The level of remuneration is determined through an agreed contract, which is subject to annual review by the Council.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustee's report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2025

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Financial risk management

The Trustee have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Society, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high-quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Particular attention will be paid to attracting quality applicants for funding by the Survival Research Committee thanks to the recent donation for this purpose. Other near term plans include continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustee at the time when this Trustee's report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Kreston Reeves Audit LLP, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustee will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustee.


Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustee and signed on their behalf by:



Caroline Watt 20 May 2026 11:36:03 BST (UTC +1)

Prof. C. A. Watt, M.A., PhD
President (Trustee)

Date: 20 May 2026



Richard Broughton 20 May 2026 09:27:47 BST (UTC +1)

Dr R S Broughton
Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Trustee's responsibilities
For the year ended 30 September 2025


The Trustee (who are also the directors of the Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustee must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustee are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in business.


The Trustee are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Society's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustee and signed on its behalf by:



Caroline Watt 20 May 2026 11:36:03 BST (UTC +1)

Prof. C. A. Watt, M.A., PhD
President (Trustee)
Date: 20 May 2026



Richard Broughton 20 May 2026 09:27:47 BST (UTC +1)

Dr R S Broughton
Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent auditors' report to the Members of The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 30 September 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent auditors' report to the Members of The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustee's report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustee's responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent auditors' report to the Members of The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(continued)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Discussions with management and assessment of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations (including health and safety) and fraud, and review of the reports made by management; and
- Assessment of identified fraud risk factors; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates; and
- Confirmation of related parties with management, and review of transactions throughout the period to identify any previously undisclosed transactions with related parties outside the normal course of business; and
- Performing analytical procedures with automated data analytics tools to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships, including related party transactions, that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with relevant tax and regulatory authorities; and
- Review of significant and unusual transactions and evaluation of the underlying financial rationale supporting the transactions; and
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any manual entries made at the year end for financial statement preparation.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustee.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent auditors' report to the Members of The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(continued)

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Other matters

The financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 were not subject to an audit. As required by ISA (UK) 710, we report that the corresponding figures are unaudited.

Although the prior period was not audited, we have obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the opening balances to determine that they do not contain misstatements that would materially affect the current period's financial statements. Our opinion on the current period is therefore not modified in respect of this matter.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kreston Reeves LLP

Lucy Hammond 21 May 2026 14:12:20 BST (UTC +1)

Kreston Reeves Audit LLP
Statutory Auditor
Chichester

Date: 21 May 2026

Kreston Reeves Audit LLP are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 30 September 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	As restated Total funds 2024 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	388,074	125,026	513,100	51,162
Charitable activities	5	21,327	-	21,327	12,473
Other trading activities	6	51,258	-	51,258	40,258
Investments	7	28,365	40,575	68,940	59,455
Total income		489,024	165,601	654,625	163,348
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	24,836	-	24,836	21,086
Charitable activities	9	182,619	117,509	300,128	284,133
Total expenditure		207,455	117,509	324,964	305,219
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments		281,569	48,092	329,661	(141,871)
Net gains on investments		70,931	121,299	192,230	265,127
Net movement in funds		352,500	169,391	521,891	123,256
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward as previously stated		2,177,264	1,767,440	3,944,704	3,812,182
Prior year adjustment		(83,394)	-	(83,394)	(74,128)
Total funds brought forward as restated		2,093,870	1,767,440	3,861,310	3,738,054
Net movement in funds		352,500	169,391	521,891	123,256
Total funds carried forward		2,446,370	1,936,831	4,383,201	3,861,310

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 32 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 00044861

Balance sheet
As at 30 September 2025

	Note	2025 £	As restated 2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	1,176,186	1,186,560
Investments	16	3,204,716	2,646,831
		<u>4,380,902</u>	<u>3,833,391</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	17	1,999	2,854
Debtors	18	6,058	5,461
Cash at bank and in hand		61,227	65,292
		<u>69,284</u>	<u>73,607</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(66,985)	(45,688)
		<u>2,299</u>	<u>27,919</u>
Net current assets		<u>2,299</u>	<u>27,919</u>
Total net assets		<u>4,383,201</u>	<u>3,861,310</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	21	1,936,831	1,767,440
Unrestricted funds	21	2,446,370	2,093,870
Total funds		<u>4,383,201</u>	<u>3,861,310</u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 00044861

Balance sheet (continued)
As at 30 September 2025

The entity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the entity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

However, an audit is required in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustee acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustee and signed on their behalf by:



Caroline Watt 20 May 2026 11:36:03 BST (UTC +1)

Prof. C. A. Watt, M.A., PhD
President (Trustee)
Date: 20 May 2026



Richard Broughton 20 May 2026 09:27:47 BST (UTC +1)

Dr R S Broughton
Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)
Date: 20 May 2026

The notes on pages 32 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 September 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	430,530	(91,317)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(355)
Sale of investments	174,920	213,828
Purchase of investments	(540,575)	(38,154)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(365,655)	175,319
Cash flows from financing activities		
Investment income	(68,940)	(59,455)
Net cash used in financing activities	(68,940)	(59,455)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(4,065)	24,547
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	65,292	40,745
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	61,227	65,292

The notes on pages 32 to 51 form part of these financial statements

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

1. General information

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

The members of the charitable company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the charity's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of cost crisis as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Society has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Society has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Society, can be reliably measured.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of investment management.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Society's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the reporting date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of financial activities.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- Over 100 years
Office equipment	- 15% p.a. on written down value
Computer equipment	- 25% p.a. on cost

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Society anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The Society only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Pensions

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Society to the fund in respect of the year.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustee in furtherance of the general objectives of the Society and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Society for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.15 Library

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical areas of judgment

Long-term leasehold property and useful economic life of land

The legal form of the property included within tangible fixed assets is long-term leasehold. However, the Trustees have exercised judgment that the lease is, in substance, equivalent to a freehold interest. Accordingly, the land element of the property is considered to have an indefinite useful economic life and is not depreciated.

Critical accounting estimates

Estimation of land and buildings valuation split

The Trustees have estimated the allocation of the property's carrying value between land and buildings for depreciation purposes. The estimate is subject to uncertainty and is based on available information, including comparisons to similar properties, estimated rebuild costs and the insured value of the property at the date of acquisition. Accordingly, the estimated value attributable to land is £338,010. While different assumptions could be used, the Trustees do not consider that reasonably possible changes would result in a material impact on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Gifts and donations	377,830	125,000	502,830	17,134
Bequests and legacies	7,982	-	7,982	7,448
Similar incoming resources	2,262	26	2,288	26,580
	<u>388,074</u>	<u>125,026</u>	<u>513,100</u>	<u>51,162</u>
Total 2024	<u>50,948</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>51,162</u>	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from charitable activities	21,327	21,327	12,473
Total 2024	<u>12,473</u>	<u>12,473</u>	

6. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Membership and journal subscriptions	51,258	51,258	40,258
Total 2024	<u>40,258</u>	<u>40,258</u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Dividends and interest receivable	28,365	40,575	68,940	59,455
Total 2024	<u>21,301</u>	<u>38,154</u>	<u>59,455</u>	

8. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Publication costs	23,981	23,981	21,086
Total 2024	<u>21,086</u>	<u>21,086</u>	

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Cost of goods sold	855	855	-
	<u>855</u>	<u>855</u>	<u>-</u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Grant funding of activities 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	As restated Total funds 2024 £
Expenditure on charitable activities	32,171	200,507	232,678	220,187
Grants for research and education	67,450	-	67,450	63,946
	<u>99,621</u>	<u>200,507</u>	<u>300,128</u>	<u>284,133</u>
Total 2024 as restated	<u><u>95,733</u></u>	<u><u>188,400</u></u>	<u><u>284,133</u></u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities	Total	As restated
	2025	funds	Total
	£	2025	funds
		£	2024
			£
Staff costs	101,832	101,832	100,611
Depreciation	10,374	10,374	11,193
Software	1,800	1,800	3,008
Website and internet expenses	1,948	1,948	3,691
Administration fee	-	-	34
Lectures	20,574	20,574	26,483
Library and archive	1,726	1,726	339
Premises	11,219	11,219	8,440
Postage and stationery	4,922	4,922	4,292
Telecommunications	735	735	709
Study days	552	552	2,215
General expenses	11,274	11,274	10,716
Accounting services	11,888	11,888	10,306
Audit fees	12,950	12,950	-
Bank charges	2,199	2,199	3,394
Legal and professional fees	35	35	35
Council meetings	-	-	184
Independent examination fees	-	-	2,750
Charitable and political donations	100	100	-
Conference organisation costs	6,379	6,379	-
	<u>200,507</u>	<u>200,507</u>	<u>188,400</u>
Total 2024 as restated	<u>188,400</u>	<u>188,400</u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

10. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Individuals 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Psi Encyclopedia grants	32,171	32,171	31,787
Grants for research and education	67,450	67,450	63,946
	<u>99,621</u>	<u>99,621</u>	<u>95,733</u>
Total 2024	<u><u>95,733</u></u>	<u><u>95,733</u></u>	

11. Auditors' remuneration

The auditors' remuneration amounts to an auditor fee of £12,950 (2024 - £ -), and non-audit related services provided by a fellow group entity of £11,888 (2024 - £ -).

12. Independent examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £ - (2024 - £2,750), and accounts preparation fee of £ - (2024 - £10,306).

13. Staff costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	94,280	94,661
Social security costs	6,231	2,721
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	1,321	3,229
	<u>101,832</u>	<u>100,611</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Society during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Employees	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

14. Trustee's remuneration and expenses

During the year, one or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Society. These payments were made as an honorarium payment and editorial services provided in accordance with the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association. The value of Trustee's remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2025	2024
		£	£
Ruffles T H	Remuneration	6,100	6,000
Willin M J	Remuneration	7,971	7,846
Vernon D	Remuneration	4,875	4,800
Schofield M	Remuneration	-	1,125

During the year ended 30 September 2025, expenses totalling £1,438 were reimbursed or paid directly to 3 Trustees (2024 - £1,337 to 6 Trustees) for travel expenses.

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 October 2024	1,264,608	33,097	16,052	1,313,757
At 30 September 2025	1,264,608	33,097	16,052	1,313,757
Depreciation				
At 1 October 2024 (as restated)	83,394	28,625	15,178	127,197
Charge for the year	9,266	671	437	10,374
At 30 September 2025	92,660	29,296	15,615	137,571
Net book value				
At 30 September 2025	1,171,948	3,801	437	1,176,186
At 30 September 2024 (as restated)	1,181,214	4,472	874	1,186,560

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

16. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2024	2,646,831
Additions	540,575
Disposals	(174,920)
Revaluations	192,230
	<u>3,204,716</u>
At 30 September 2025	<u><u>3,204,716</u></u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2025	<u>3,204,716</u>
At 30 September 2024	<u><u>2,646,831</u></u>

17. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks of publications	<u>1,999</u>	<u>2,854</u>

18. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	2,292	2,292
Prepayments and accrued income	3,766	3,169
	<u>6,058</u>	<u>5,461</u>

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	18,368	-
Other taxation and social security	2,849	1,728
Accruals and deferred income	45,768	43,960
	<u>66,985</u>	<u>45,688</u>

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	2025	2024
	£	£
	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 October 2024	36,120	25,503
Membership subscriptions deferred during the year	23,978	36,120
Amounts released from previous periods	(36,120)	(25,503)
	23,978	36,120

Deferred income relates to membership subscriptions and conference fees received in advance for services still to be provided at the year end. Amounts are deferred where the income pertains to future membership periods or events occurring after the reporting date, and are released to income when the charity fulfils its performance obligations, being over the membership term for subscriptions and when the event takes place for conference income.

20. Prior year adjustment

A prior period restatement has been made following the identification of an error in the previously assessed residual value of a long-term leasehold property, which resulted in an insufficient depreciation charge being recognised in prior periods.

As a result, accumulated depreciation was understated as at 30 September 2023. Opening reserves at 1 October 2023 have therefore been adjusted from £3,812,182 to £3,738,054 to reflect £74,128 of omitted accumulated depreciation. This also resulted in the opening net book value of tangible fixed assets at the same date being adjusted from £1,271,526 to £1,197,398.

The depreciation charge for the year ended 30 September 2024 has been adjusted by £9,266 from £1,927, as previously recorded, to £11,193.

These restated comparative figures are reflected in the opening reserves and opening net book value of tangible fixed assets for the current period commencing 1 October 2024, which have been adjusted to £3,861,310 and £1,186,560 respectively.

Finally, as part of the prior year adjustment, the property has been reclassified from freehold property to long-term leasehold property to reflect the legal title under which the property is held.

A reconciliation of funds, a reconciliation of tangible fixed assets and a restated balance sheet as at 30 September 2023 has been presented below to illustrate the impact of the correction on accumulated depreciation and reserves brought forward at 1 October 2023.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

Reconciliation of funds

	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Total funds brought forward as previously stated	2,177,264	1,767,440	3,944,704	3,812,182
Prior year adjustment	(83,394)	-	(83,394)	(74,128)
Total funds brought forward as restated	2,093,870	1,767,440	3,861,310	3,738,054
Net movement in funds	352,500	169,391	521,891	123,256
Total funds carried forward	2,446,370	1,936,831	4,383,201	3,861,310

Reconciliation of tangible fixed assets

	2025 £	2024 £
Total NBV brought forward as previously stated	1,269,954	1,271,526
Prior year adjustment	(83,394)	(74,128)
Total NBV brought forward as restated	1,186,560	1,197,398

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

Restated Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2023

	2023
	£
Fixed assets	
Tangible assets	1,197,398
Investments	2,557,378
	<u>3,754,776</u>
Current assets	
Stock	2,706
Debtors	9,519
Cash at bank and in hand	40,745
	<u>52,970</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(69,692)</u>
Net current assets / liabilities	<u>(16,722)</u>
Total net assets	<u>3,728,054</u>
Charity funds	
Restricted funds	1,660,979
Unrestricted funds	2,077,075
Total funds	<u>3,738,054</u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

21. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	As restated Balance at 1 October 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	2,093,870	489,024	(207,455)	70,931	2,446,370
Restricted funds					
SPR Research Fund	781,529	17,152	(33,166)	52,153	817,668
Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research	835,494	145,206	(50,454)	59,836	990,082
Buckmaster Project Fund	150,417	3,243	(33,889)	9,310	129,081
	<u>1,767,440</u>	<u>165,601</u>	<u>(117,509)</u>	<u>121,299</u>	<u>1,936,831</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,861,310</u></u>	<u><u>654,625</u></u>	<u><u>(324,964)</u></u>	<u><u>192,230</u></u>	<u><u>4,383,201</u></u>

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

21. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	As restated Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	As restated Balance at 30 September 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,077,075	124,980	(209,001)	6,416	94,400	2,093,870
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Restricted funds						
SPR Research Fund	717,191	16,716	(20,149)	(6,416)	74,187	781,529
Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research	780,999	17,970	(43,797)	-	80,322	835,494
Buckmaster Project Fund	162,789	3,682	(32,272)	-	16,218	150,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,660,979	38,368	(96,218)	(6,416)	170,727	1,767,440
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of funds	3,738,054	163,348	(305,219)	-	265,127	3,861,310
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

21. Statement of funds (continued)

The Society's restricted funds include:

SPR Research Fund - Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.

Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research (formerly Survival Research Fund) - The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death. The Survival Research Fund was renamed to Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research in recognition of the significant contributions made by Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光).

Buckmaster Fund - The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychological Research, and related work. The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,176,186	-	1,176,186
Fixed asset investments	1,311,339	1,893,377	3,204,716
Current assets	25,830	43,454	69,284
Creditors due within one year	(66,985)	-	(66,985)
Total	2,446,370	1,936,831	4,383,201

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

22. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	As restated Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	As restated Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,186,560	-	1,186,560
Fixed asset investments	879,391	1,767,440	2,646,831
Current assets	73,607	-	73,607
Creditors due within one year	(45,688)	-	(45,688)
Total As restated	2,093,870	1,767,440	3,861,310

23. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	521,891	123,256
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	10,374	11,193
Losses on investments	(192,230)	(265,127)
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	68,940	59,455
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	855	(148)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(597)	4,058
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	21,297	(24,004)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	430,530	(91,317)

24. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand	61,227	65,292
Total cash and cash equivalents	61,227	65,292

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

25. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 30 September 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	65,292	(4,065)	61,227
	<u>65,292</u>	<u>(4,065)</u>	<u>61,227</u>

26. Pension commitments

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge of £3,522 (2024: £3,229) represents contributions payable by the group to the fund. £Nil (2024: £Nil) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

27. Operating lease commitments

At 30 September 2025 the Society had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	2,616	2,616
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	5,232	7,848
	<u>7,848</u>	<u>10,464</u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2025

28. Related party transactions

During the year, certain Council members received grants from the Society. Council members may apply for grants in accordance with the Society's grant application policy. All applications from Council members are assessed and approved through the same review process as all other grant applications, and no special terms or preferential treatment were given.

Dr C. Cooper - £2,637 (2024: £260) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund.

Mr Robert McLuhan - £7,937 (2024: £4,600) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopaedia project.

Dr Malcolm Schofield - £Nil (2024: £6,983) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund.

Prof. C. A. Roe - £9,945 (2024: £10,213) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund and £Nil (2024: £7,000) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund.

Dr Melvyn Willin - £5,610 (2024: £6,089) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopaedia project.

Other than these payments, and those disclosed in Note 15, no trustee or other person related to the Society had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

29. Post balance sheet events

After the reporting period, the Society received a total of £1,500,000 in donations from Yew-Kwang Ng (黃有光) comprising £375,000 of unrestricted funds and £1,125,000 of restricted funds. These amounts were received in November and December 2025.

As the donation relates to conditions arising after 30 September 2025, it is treated as a non-adjusting subsequent event in accordance with FRS 102 Section 32 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019. These receipts do not provide evidence of conditions existing at the balance sheet date; therefore, no adjustments have been made to the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2025.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 207325

Accounts

The Incorporated
SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH



ANNUAL REPORT of COUNCIL

1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024

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COUNCIL, OFFICERS, STAFF AND ADVISERS as of 30th September 2024

President: Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD

Vice-Presidents

Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD

Dr A. O. Gauld, MA, PhD, DLitt
Prof. J. C. Poynton, MSc, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS

Elected Members of Council

Mrs M. E. Barton
Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Dr B. G. Colvin, BSc, PhD
Prof. C. E. Cooper, BSc,
MRes, PhD, CPsychol.,
FHEA
Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC
Mr J. Fraser, BA

Dr G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS,
MRCPsych
Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt
Mr A. D. Murdie, LLB
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc,
PhD, AFBPsS
Dr D. N. Rousseau, BSc, PhD
Mrs J. A. Rousseau, BSc

Dr T. H. Ruffles, BSc, BA, MA, PhD,
ARPS
Dr L. Ruickbie, BA, MA, PhD, Assoc.
of King's College
Mr A. P. Ryan
Dr M. J. Willin, BMus, MMus, PhD,
LRAM

(for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006 the elected members of Council are directors)

Co-opted Members of Council

Dr D. L. Erickson, MBA, PhD
Mr A Knibb
Mr S. T. Parsons
Dr M. B. Schofield, BSc, MRes, PhD

Dr D. J. Vernon, BSc, PhD
Dr Z. Weaver, BA, PhD
Dr A Winsper, PhD
Mrs T. Tuijl

Council Appointments

Officers:

Hon. Secretary – Dr Kidd

Hon. Treasurer – Dr Broughton

Other appointments:

Hon. Editor, Journal & Proceedings – Dr Schofield

Editorial Assistant – Dr Tammy Dempster

Associate Editor – Dr Weaver

Hon. Editor, Paranormal Review – Mr Gordon Rutter

Hon. Communications Officer – Dr Ruffles

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer – Dr Willin

Hon. Website Manager – Dr Erickson

Website Content Manager – Mr Nemo Mörck

Data Protection Officer – Mr Farrell

Hon. Book Review Editor, JSPPR – Mr Nemo Mörck

Secretary: Mr Peter Johnson

Librarian: Mrs Karen Patel

Council Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
Education & Publicity	Prof. Carr	Dr Erickson, Mr McLuhan, Mr Nemo Mörck, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles, Mr Gordon Rutter.
Research Grants	Mr Ryan	Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delanoy, Dr Gauld, Prof. Caroline Watt
Buckmaster Oversight	Dr Broughton	Prof. Carr, Mr Fraser, Mr Murdie, Dr Kidd, Mr Ryan, Dr Weaver
Library	Dr Ruffles	Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Mr Mörck, Dr John Newton, Mrs Patel, Prof. Poynton, Dr Willin
Spontaneous Cases	Dr Kidd	Dr Colvin, Prof. Cooper, Mr Paul Cropper, Mrs Beth Darlington-Bailey, Mr Farrell, Mr Fraser, Dr Matthew Hopkins, Mr Ashley Knibb, Mr Randy Liebeck, Mr Aaron Lomas, Dr John Newton, Dr Ruickbie, Dr Malcolm Schofield, Mr Nick Terrell, Dr Weaver.
Survival Research	Prof. Cooper	Mrs Barton, Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Gauld, Dr Rousseau, Dr David Saunders
Conference Programme	Prof. Cooper	Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Murdie, Prof. Parker, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles

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ANNUAL REPORT

Report (as of April 2025) of the President - Professor Adrian Parker

The work of the SPR has been extremely productive during the year 2025 so much so that I shall not attempt to summarise or comment on the individual attainments other than those I think are requiring some special focus. It is indeed a good sign that it is no longer feasible with this task because the activities have become so intense and involve too many individuals as to make a fair summary. The reports below stand as a testimony to the intensity of engagement of individuals in the success of the various committees and enterprises.

Not only this year has been conflict-free but one major very favourable event occurred in the form of a major donation and testimony to the SPR which will do much to secure its future. I will leave our treasurer Richard Broughton to provide further details. The funding should in the first instance encourage research in area once central to the SPR, of possible post-mortem consciousness. Lasting thanks are due to Richard Broughton and Peter Johnson for seeing this process through.

The Journal of the SPR, now under the editorship of David Vernon, merits a comment since it is currently being adapted to modern standards which in the long run will enable digital on-line access via libraries and internet searches to be made. This involves giving the journal and its articles identification codes and David has provided in his report an excellent concise guide to the various codes that are expressed the form of acronyms.

The Magazine continues to be a success, and the editor Gordon Rutter has more than fulfilled the hopes that the Council had that we would continue the high standard set by Gordon's predecessors.

The Annual Conference was held at Derby, again in November, and was deemed another success thanks to the efforts of many individuals but of course principally due to work of the programme leader, Callum Cooper, and to the organiser, Peter Johnson.

The work of the Spontaneous Cases Committee is still central to the SPR, and the report here provides a comprehensive documentation of how the SPR continues to provide advice and understanding, as well

as in appropriate instances conducting investigations. There occur also some new expressions of apparently psychic phenomena.

We have had recently some deaths of persons who made major contributions to the SPR, in particular: Peter Fenwick, Alan Gauld, and Dennis Bury. I will also record the death in recent days of Charles Tart who, while not specifically involved in the SPR, has been during many years a major contributor to psychical research and parapsychology.

One area that may be of some concern is that of membership numbers, which have declined somewhat in the post-Covid years. In particular, an argument can be made for recruiting more student members. In this context, the work of David Vernon and Callum Cooper for organising study days and that of Steve Parsons for his educational courses, becomes vital.

Furthermore, I believe the efforts of those publishing outside the usual scientific journals deserve recognition. I am thinking here of the Council members who publish articles in the Magazine of the SPR, the Paradigm Explorer, and Fortean Times. There are clearly many unsung heroes in the following reports but Tom Ruffles and Nemo Mörk should be mentioned for their book reviews and blogs and news updates.

The role of the SPR president should ideally provide some vision and inspiration for positive change. One aim here, which will add to publicity for the SPR thereby potentially adding to membership numbers, is to promote the SPR as a news hub for providing information about international events related to our subject matter. Many of these events occur through other European SPRs and consciousness research organisations. Ciaran Farrell has provided us with a current assessment of the vicissitudes of Data Protection laws in how they restrict giving this information directly to members. We have as yet made a very limited use of "News" on the SPR website and our social media in lieu of membership access. My suggestion is that we expand this section to be more all-inclusive and that we inform members of this change.

RESEARCH

Report of the Research Grants Committee

Chairman: **Adrian Ryan**

The committee received ten grant applications in the period, and after careful deliberations the committee decided to fund four of these. We send our congratulations to the successful applicants and wish them every success with their research. The successful applicants are as follows:

Alex Escolà-Gascón - Quantum-like psi learning: Neuromodulating extraocular vision in blind individuals - £5,666.40

Chris Roe, Matthew Hopkins and Deborah Patton - Testing the theory of 'First Sight' using the Bem 'feeling the future' paradigm – funding request for phase 3 - £7,000.00

Rodrigo Monetenegro - Neurophysiological and Phenomenological Effects of tPBM on Synchronized REM States: A Comparative Analysis of REM Lucidity - £7,000.00

Malcolm Schofield - I feel, therefore I am: Investigating what emotions underly the variables that correlate with paranormal belief and experience - £6,982.95

The total value of grants awarded this year is £26,649.35.

I would like to encourage SPR members to consider making donations and/or bequests specifically to the SPR's Research Fund, so that we can continue to support this important work far into the future.

Report of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee (BOC)

Chairman: **Dr Richard S. Broughton**

The role of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee is to oversee the projects approved by Council that are funded by a legacy from Mr Nigel Buckmaster.

The SPR's online Psi Encyclopedia, the flagship project of the Buckmaster fund continues to provide an unmatched online information source for Psychological Research under the direction of Editor Robert McLuhan. This year has seen a host of new topics added along with editorial improvements and enhanced web links across the site. The team is also progressing on a major upgrade of the underlying web platform that has been made necessary by the technical obsolescence of the existing one. Details of its activities this year are in the report of the Education and Publicity Committee.

The two printed volumes of the *Is There Life After Death?* book project that are associated with this project remain delayed although editor Leo Ruickbie reports that progress has been made this year and that publication is 'within sight'.

Dr David Rousseau has reported that the Systems Methodology for Exploratory Science project is again on track after an unavoidable pause due to family matters. He expects to complete the remaining product of this project, the practical handbook for applying Systems Methodology to the problems of psychical research by summer of 2025. In the interim he has added an important paper to his collection of published papers arising from this project that is available in the SPR Library.

The Psi Open Data Systems project under Adrian Ryan has continued to accumulate data sets for the use of other scientists, but, as with the Psi Encyclopedia, it is also facing the need to upgrade its web platform, and Adrian is reviewing options for continuing this service in the future.

The BOC regrets the few delays mentioned above but is pleased that the bulk of the benefits from Mr Buckmaster's generosity have been and continue to be delivered to our scientific colleagues as well as to our members and the general public.

Report of the Spontaneous Cases Committee

Chairman: **Graham Kidd**

We have had the usual busy year with some 200 people from every corner of the world reporting their experiences. Of these some 55 have been taken up for investigation by members of the SCC. This of course leaves some 150 available for further investigation, most of whom have agreed.

Beth Darlington is currently the hard-working Case Coordinator and Ciaran Farrel the likewise secretary.

We have expanded the SCC membership by three. Kirsty Allan introduced us to a new measuring device, the

Wyrdoscope, which is random number generator which comes with sophisticated software. We surmise that it may be able to indicate changes in fields correlating with possible psychic effects and demonstrating a field of consciousness outside the skull. Our treasurer kindly agreed to the purchase of a machine, and we hope to use it soon in the first instance with the investigation of those experiencers who purport to have the gift of PK, as well as in poltergeist field investigations. Kirsty is arranging training in its use.

We have also been joined by Sabrina Davis, a psychotherapist and also an expert in forensic psychology, and by Corrine Gretton-West, a much-needed photography expert.

We continue to meet every six weeks to review cases. We are continuing to anonymise cases as they come in and file them, investigated or otherwise, in a system that in due course will be available to Council members and, via a process of basic vetting, to members of the SPR and academics.

Bearing in mind the vast overlap and clustering of types of experience, for the record cases over the past 12 months include 12 apparitions, 5 after death

Report of the Survival Research Committee

Chairman: **Callum Cooper**

I would firstly like to offer my appreciation and thanks to Mrs Marian Barton, having led the Survival Research Committee (SRC) as Chair 11 years and having stepped down in this role in mid-2024. The role was immediately offered over to me by the SRC, and I am proud to take on this position. We are also grateful to Dr David Rousseau, who also had to stepdown due to family circumstances, but we await his return when such circumstances become more comfortable for him. I am thankful to the committee members: Mrs Marian Barton (who remains on the committee), Dr Matthew Colborn and Dr David Saunders.

Sadly, Dr Alan Gauld passed away in December 2024, so too, Mr Dennis Bury. However, Mr Bury was able to join an online SRC meeting regarding the recruitment of new members in July 2024, which he gladly approved. These new members are Dr Rachael Ironside and Mr Matthew Arnold.

Despite the various changes to the SRC in the last year, Drs Colborn, Saunders, Rousseau, Mrs Barton and Mr Bury, all carefully considered various applications received for grants, and where possible, Dr Gauld was visited and informed of the incoming projects between 2023-2024. Applications included topics areas of: after-death communication experiences, terminal lucidity, past life memories, photography and the afterlife, mediumship, experiences in the funeral industry and

communications, 5 astral projections 31 poltergeists/hauntings, 9 Pk abilities, 7 JOTTs, 25 premonitions, 8 OBEs, 33 telepathy / psychic abilities, 4 cryptid sightings, 5 UFO sightings ,1 reincarnation, 5 possessions, 1 reincarnation, 1 prebirth memory, 19 photos / videos, 4 clairvoyants, and 2 healers. Clearly many are judged to be mistaken as to the paranormal nature of their experience, but all in my view are worth attempting to understand.

The ongoing poltergeist case in Essex seems to be subsiding, if that is the right word, after some five years of activity involving bangs, apports of coins, the falling of large objects off shelves, and electrical interference with messages on the television, and will be reviewed and written up in the coming months.

The Protocol and Procedure document of the SCC is being revised in the light of recent experiences involving a member undergoing a private investigation. This will advise that all those who are undertaking an investigation should agree any relevant conditions that may be deemed to apply, albeit negotiable at a later time, and sign a document accordingly so that there is no misunderstanding.

archival work and associated travel.

The following are the awards we have made this year:

Professor Chris Roe and Professor Callum Cooper - Investigation of the phenomenology and Impact of perceived direct and spontaneous After-Death Communications (continuation) - £7,518.92

Dr Maryne Mutis - Luciveille: Phenomenological study on the spectrum of terminal lucidity University of Lorraine - £3,000.00

Elaine Rycroft - Evaluating the premise that Past Life Memories indicate that 'personality' survives death - £3095.00

Aaron Lomas - The Phenomenology of Anomalous Experiences Reported during the Covid Pandemic - £2795.00

Corrine Gretton-West - Communicating Exceptional Human Experiences through Photographic Art' Continuation - £3150.00

Prof. Callum Cooper - for his research on Scott Rogo and correspondence with Raymond Bayless - £260.00

Patrizio Tressoldi (Italy) - Living in the AfterLife clues from direct experiences'. (To obtain detailed information about it, and how they live there from participants who claim to be able to visit or contact people there.) - £3,000.00

Professor Chris Roe, Ashlee Lewis-Earl,

Research Assistant, Northampton - The Truth in the Light: Conducting a systemic analysis of the Fenwick collection (continuation) - £2,964.00

Kirsty Allan - A New Bridge between the Physical and the Psychical Detecting synchronicity in the field of consciousness during physical mediumship - £3089.00

Felicity S Kinnersley, Northampton - Psychic or Spirit? A phenomenological investigation into the process whereby developing Spiritualist mediums learn to attribute received information to ostensible psychic or discarnate sources - £3,000.00

Corrine Gretton-West, Northampton - Communicating Exceptional Human Experiences through Photographic Art (continuation) - £2,695.00

Natalia Mae Lavin, Northampton - After-Death Communication Experiences in the Funeral Industry - £3,000.00

It should be noted that the Gwen Tate Lectures have now run their course, as funds from the Gwen Tate legacy have since been used for various projects over time. However, we are pleased to report we have

Report of the Library Committee

Chairman: **Dr Tom Ruffles**

The Library Committee approves acquisitions for the Vernon Mews library. The members are: Graham Kidd, Robert McLuhan, Nemo Mörk, John Newton, Karen Patel (Librarian), John Poynton, Tom Ruffles (chair) and Melvyn Willin.

We have seen a steady increase in library usage since the end of the Covid restrictions. During the current reporting year, 140 loans were made (compared to 107 the previous year). Eighteen books were purchased at a cost of £379.60. A further 35 books were donated, and we are grateful to donors for their

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer's Report Dr Melvyn Willin

The work of cataloguing and conservation has continued, as have regular visits to Cambridge University Library (CUL) where relations with the staff are very positive. Having completed the cataloguing of Donald West's Research Files, I am now cataloguing the hitherto unpublished SPR 'Hauntings and Poltergeist Files' which should be completed in 2025.

Correspondence and meetings with a number of academics, members of the SPR and the general public have been undertaken with contacts including the Freiburg Institute for Frontier Areas of Psychology and Mental Health and the College of Psychic Studies. Close co-operation with the latter resulted in the purchase of artworks from the Society for conservation and display at the College.

received (after the end of this reporting period) a substantial donation to the Society from Professor Yew-Kwang Ng 黄有光 (Monash University, Australia). Part of the agreement for this is that grants awarded by the SRC in future are to be given in his name, from the renamed **Yew-Kwang Ng (黄有光) Fund for Survival Research**.

Professor Ng has indicated that the fund should be administered as it is now, by the Survival Research Committee, and that the funds should be managed to provide support in perpetuity. Much like the Gwen Tate Lectures, we may begin to hold Yew-Kwang Ng 黄有光 Lectures, occasionally, for successful applicants to report back to the SPR on their research.

We continue to support the Hon. Archives Liaison Officer, Dr Melvyn Willin. We also respond to survival themed questions from the Hon. Communications Officer, Dr Tom Ruffles through the website and various media outlets which he also manages.

generosity. The Librarian operates a sale of second-hand books, available via the website as well as in the library.

The Library continues to be open on Wednesday afternoons, attracting both regular and occasional users, and interested non-members. Requests to visit at other times are arranged with the Secretary.

For members unable to visit, there is a postal loan service; details can be obtained from the Librarian. The library catalogue is on the website.

There are on-going conversations with the film company that produced the Enfield Poltergeist documentaries last year – the company received three BAFTA nominations for their work – which will involve further research of the archives.

The 'SPR Archive Office' at my premises in Norfolk contains the complete audio-visual collection as well as artefacts from the Enfield Poltergeist case and numerous other items awaiting deposit at CUL. Visits by members are possible by direct contact with me to fix mutually convenient times. Three mainline stations are all approximately ten miles away.

I finish with a request repeated from previous years. Some members receive financial and archival support from the SPR. Please send me copies of these

dissertations, photographs, correspondence and articles for inclusion in the archives when they are of relevance to psychical research. We need more contemporary material to add to the enormous amount of research deposited in the past. Items given to the SPR archives will then be available in the future for the education of

Education and Publicity Committee

Chairman: Professor Bernard Carr

The Education and Publicity Committee (EPC) coordinates the SPR's educational activities and develops strategies for publicising these. The promotion of our events is now primarily via the internet and our website, so our members include Deborah Erickson (Honorary Website Manager) and Nemo Mörck (Website Content Manager). Other members are Chris Roe, Robert McLuhan, Tom Ruffles (Honorary Communications Officer) and Gordon Rutter (editor of *The Magazine*). Some of these members report their activities more fully in their individual reports.

This year our educational programme has again mainly comprised of Zoom events, although we're beginning to hold physical meetings again. David Vernon continues to organize and host regular Wednesday webinars. In the reported period, these were given by Debra Katz, Jon Barker, Damien O'Dell, Sean Richards, Arnaud Delorme, Roger Nelson, Thomas Rabeyron, Erika Pratte, Mario Varvoglis, Karen Muter and Kyle Hankee. Although we miss meeting physically, webinars have the advantage of attracting speakers and participants from all over the world and it also reduces the expenses involved.

Our educational role also includes overseeing evening discussion forums, organized by Dennis Bury and Ciaran Farrell, and study days, organized by Cal Cooper and David Vernon. A zoom forum on 'Healing' took place in January 2023, chaired by Bernard Carr. In October 2023, instead of the usual study day, Rodrigo Montenegro led a physical workshop on vibrational states entitled "Self-Tuning to Higher Consciousness: A Neuroscience-Based Approach". A hybrid study day in April 2024, entitled "From the Mouths of Babes: Children and Psychical Experience", was chaired by Cal Cooper with contributions from Donna Thomas, Natalia Lavin, Kate Adams, Kirsty Allan and Elaine Rycroft. The same week the Royal Society was the venue for Ed Kelly's Myers Memorial lecture and Chris Roe's Presidential Address, which had been postponed because of the pandemic.

The Committee also plays a part in the annual conference, with Carr, Roe and Ruffles serving on the Programme Committee. However, this year's conference (held at Derby) was in November 2024 and so will be covered in next year's report.

the public and academics alike. When collections are deposited in universities they are, of course, made available to the staff and students therein, but once they are part of the SPR archive collection their availability is increased worldwide.

Steve Parsons' excellent *Guidance Notes for the Investigation of Spontaneous Cases*, financed by the Buckmaster Fund, continues to establish the SPR's crucial role in this area. In the past year he has built on this foundation, working towards a common approach by all major UK organisations, as well as independent groups and individuals. Further support in this area is provided by the freely downloadable 'Quick Guides' and these are being promoted by the EPC. Additional 'Quick Guides' are planned to increase the scope of this material. Steve's main focus is promoting ethical and critical approaches for investigators of spontaneous experiences. He has implemented a standardised training package, based on the *Guidance Notes*. ASSAP has now adopted this for their investigator training and this is frequently cited as a reason for people joining that organisation. He hopes to offer SPR members a similar provision and is developing an SPR training package appropriate for both in-person and online delivery. Steve's latest book, *Paravision, Sight & the Paranormal*, co-edited with Cal Cooper, will be published by White Crow books in 2025. It examines the visual aspects of a wide range of paranormal experiences and follows the success of their previous collaboration in examining sound and acoustic aspects of paranormal experiences.

New articles continue to be published in the *Psi Encyclopedia*, which is funded by the Buckmaster bequest and now contains 650 articles and almost two million words. It is currently undergoing an upgrade necessitated by the switch to a new software platform. This will see some changes to the design and navigation, and new features such as pdf files of key research papers that can be downloaded, along with links to online articles, books and videos that are free to view. Another Buckmaster project, two volumes of essays on aspects of survival, has unfortunately been delayed through factors beyond our control, but progress continues to be made.

Tom Ruffles regularly responds to enquiries via the website and social media. Frequent references to the SPR, both in print and online, can be followed on our Facebook page and Twitter feed, both of which are overseen by Tom. At the end of the reporting year the Facebook page had 18,874 'likes' and the general Twitter (X) feed had 11,948 followers. These sites

publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general. Tom also runs a Twitter feed dedicated to *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 2,870 followers. Posts on all three are circulated by readers and thereby reach a very large audience. ASSAP's regular e-bulletin includes forthcoming SPR events. Significant information relating to the SPR appears on our website as news

Report of the Hon. Website Manager Dr Deborah Erickson

The SPR website has continued smooth operations this reporting period. Content Manager Nemo Morck published 18 book reviews in 2024, including reviews of popular books in addition to the academic. Reviewers are thanked for their time and expertise. Nemo would also like to remind members/readers that he and Tom Ruffles, Hon. Communications Officer, appreciate tips about new

The Journal of the Society for Psychological Research Editor: Dr David Vernon

I took over the Editorship of the Journal of the Society for Psychological Research in January 2024 from Dr Malcolm Schofield. I would like to begin by thanking Malcolm for all the work he has done for the Journal and for the smooth handover and his support during that period and since.

During the period 1st October 2023 to 31st September, we have produced and published four issues of the Journal: those for October 2023, January 2024, April 2024, and July 2024. The aim, as always, is to have these issues distributed to subscribers in their designated month of publication but this is in part dependent on the amount of sufficiently high-quality material ready for publication and on ensuring its production to the highest quality. Additionally, in order to keep distribution costs down, mailings are sometimes delayed so as to include other materials being prepared for members. Taken together, these five Journal issues included 8 refereed articles, 20 book reviews, one obituary and two Society notices. The Journal continues to have international reach, which is reflected in contributions from Brazil, the USA, as well as the United Kingdom. Prospective contributors are reminded that the email address for submissions is journal@spr.ac.uk and we encourage electronic submissions as Word files.

The published material continues to reflect the breadth of interest within psychological research, ranging from experimental research (both quantitative and qualitative), field investigations, case studies, theoretical contributions, reviews and historical perspectives. I trust that this diversity assures members

items posted by Nemo Mörck, who also adds information about new books and their reviews. SPR members frequently make media appearances, and these are mostly reported on our website. We continue to build bridges with other organisations since this allows news of our activities to reach a wider audience.

books, surveys, lectures and events. We are happy to give attention on the SPR website and on social media when it is appropriate.

David Vernon, Editor, will report on the move of the Journal of the SPR to another technology platform.

that the Editorial Board will consider any empirical approach or topic of relevance to psychological research so long as it is original, provides a significant contribution to the field and is underpinned by a highly rigorous methodology.

Looking ahead, in an effort to enhance the visibility of the Journal and bring it more into line with similar journals, we will be working to link the Journal content to various persistent identifiers (PID). The initial aim will be to link the Journal with Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) and author ORCID data. A Digital Object Identifier, or DOI, represents a persistent identifier (PID) for a piece of online content, such as a journal article, research note, book review etc. Whereas ORCID stands for Open Researcher and Contributor ID, and is a free, unique PID for authors. Hence, a simple way to think of these is that the DOI is a PID for Journal *content* whereas ORCID is a PID for the *author* of that content. Once these have been obtained and are in place the aim will then be to try again to secure indexing of the journal.

Editing and producing the JSPR is both a time consuming and demanding task, and not one carried out alone. Hence, I would like to offer my very special thanks to both the Associate Editor, Dr Zofia Weaver, and the Editorial Assistant, Dr Tammy Dempster, for their excellent work and very much appreciated support. Thanks also to Julie Gorman from Helius (<https://helius.co.uk/>), our typesetter, for her prompt and scrupulous attention to detail when helping to shape the articles. A big thank you to our Book Review Editor, Nemo Mörck, for his help and guidance with the

book reviews and more. Last, but by no means least, my sincere thanks to all those who help to make the JSPR possible by submitting manuscripts and to those that help review them, providing a high level of useful

and effective feedback to help ensure that the JSPR remains a useful and valuable publication within the field of psychic research.

The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: **Gordon Rutter**

During the reporting period only three issues of *The Magazine* were produced. Partly this has been due to the learning curve of getting to grips with the software. As I write this one more issue has been produced and another is almost ready to go, this coming year will see an inroad into reducing the backlog.

The issues are all full colour and twenty-eight pages, and all are submitted as a print ready PDF and a compressed version for electronic distribution. Due to the time taken to print the physical copies the online version appears first and is available from the SPR website members' section.

During this year *The Magazine* has continued its wide range of articles. Each issue contains a piece from the President, Adrian Parker. Over the course of the year, we have had interviews such as that with Danny Robins who promotes the paranormal through his BBC Podcast, stage show and TV series *Uncanny*. Another interview has been with David Vernon giving us some behind the scenes views on the popular series of online talks. This is the first of a series of articles about and with personages of the SPR, giving us a look behind the curtain of the SPR. Within this vein we also had Tom Ruffles and "The SPR on Social Media" and Nemo Mörck "Opportunities and Challenges: the SPR Web Pages". Paul Lee provided us with "A Ghostly Gazetteer".

"Food and the Psychic Investigator" by Mike Daws provided a different approach to our subject. We have also had some historical overviews such as Trevor Harley "Parapsychology in Cambridge in the 1970s", and some forward-looking articles such as Sean Richards "Furthering Research into Electronic Voice Phenomena". And there have been several event reports including the 2023 annual conference and Ashley Knibb on "The Myers Memorial Medal, the Presidential Address and the Royal Society".

Add in some news items, some letters and a wealth of newly received materials for the SPR Library.

And there was one other article from David Ellis. "A Paradigm for the Paranormal". David has been proofreading *The Magazine* and before that *The Paranormal Review* for many years and several editors. As usual I offer my heartfelt thanks to have for the excellent work he does.

Over the year I have received some positive comments from the membership about *The Magazine*, and I am very grateful for them all and I am glad that people are enjoying it. I am also grateful to all who have contributed articles or letters, and I hope to continue to receive many more of both.

The continued use of Open-Source software to produce *The Magazine* saves the SPR quite a large fee in licensing.

Annual Conference

Programme Chairman: **Prof. Callum Cooper**, Conference Organiser: **Peter Johnson**

The 47th SPR International Annual Conference took place 8th- 10th November 2024 at the Derby Mickleover Hotel. This was an in-person only event and online attendance was not provided. We had just over 70 people registered throughout the weekend.

Speakers joined us from throughout the UK, across Europe and from the United States. A total of 25 talks were scheduled over the weekend, including 2 invited talks from Dr Richard Broughton and Dr William van Gordon, as well as a guest after-dinner talk from , Prof. Paul Gilbert, OBE.

Talks were arranged into themed sessions such as 'observing the exceptional', 'the latest from the labs', 'experimental and theoretical', 'death, dying and beyond', 'history and legacy', 'case studies, collection and method', 'spirit and the end of the tunnel' and 'beliefs and perceptions'. Video recordings will be available via the SPR website. The abstracts of the papers are available on the website.

A note of thanks is due to the SPR Conference Programme Committee (Prof. Carr, Mr Nemo Mörck, Mr Murdie, Prof. Parker, Prof. Roe and Dr Ruffles). Thanks are also due to Mr Johnson, especially, for

assistance in scouting out locations, and all the admin hours that go into setting up contracts with venues, creating and the booking packages, editing and printing the book of abstracts and badges, etc., etc. The hard work all paid off as I have never seen and heard so much positive feedback for a conference before. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all. My thanks to all involved

and the speakers for giving their time to create such an event.

Secretary's Report Peter Johnson

In the table below, you will be able to see that our membership numbers have reduced this year, in line

with the experience of many other membership organisations during these difficult times for everyone.

	Members & Associates			Student Associates			TOTALS		
	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change
UK	437	480	-8.96%	51	39	30.77%	488	519	-6%
USA	133	153	-13.07%	23	21	9.52%	156	174	-10%
Other	135	151	-10.60%	17	24	-29.17%	152	175	-13%
TOTAL	705	784	-10.08%	91	84	8.33%	796	868	-8%

Note that, in addition to the Members and Associates, we also send copies of our publications to over 100 subscribers. An increasing number of members are opting to take advantage of the £15 discount for digital-only publications.

when visitors may come without an appointment.

Audio recordings of all our events are available free of charge for members only, and for purchase by non-members. Thanks to David Vernon for finding so many interesting speakers for our online Web Events during the year. Thanks to Melvyn Willin for maintaining our archive catalogue of recordings. Please note that, in addition to borrowing physical recordings, members may also listen to recent talks directly from our website.

We held our 2024 Annual General Meeting in person at Vernon Mews in April.

The following six members of Council retired and were re-elected at this meeting to serve for three further years:

- C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC.
- J. Fraser, B.A.
- R. G. McLuhan, B.A., B.Litt.
- C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA,
- C. A. Roe, BSc., MSc., PhD
- A. P. Ryan

The Office and Library have continued to operate mainly from home, with Karen Patel (Librarian) attending the SPR Library on Wednesday afternoons

All other motions on the agenda were passed unanimously.

Data Protection Officer's Report Ciaran Farrell

During the course of the reporting year the SPR's General Data Protection Implementation Team, GDPRIT, continued to monitor and evaluate the SPR's operation to ensure that the systems that had been put in place were the correct ones and that they were functioning as they were intended to do.

This work has now been completed and the new policy has been adopted and placed on the SPR's website. It was concluded during the review process that the provisions of the 2023 Online Safety Act did not essentially affect the SPR's operation in any material way so its provisions did not need to be incorporated within the policy.

In order to do this GDPRIT held physical and Zoom meetings online and exchanged correspondence within GDPRIT, the SPR, and with other organisations as we continued our work reviewing and updating the SPR's overarching Privacy and Data Protection policy.

In addition to this we again reviewed the operation of the SPR's website and administrative and events email mailing lists. This was to ensure that SPR members can take up the benefits of SPR membership

by way of the information services and other services the SPR has to offer, as well as publicising SPR events.

A general Data Processing Agreement, DPA, for the SPR which was discussed in the last reporting year was developed within GDPRIT during the current reporting period, finalised, and installed as a policy for internal guidance. The DPA contained guidance on the use of emails by SPR Council members, staff and volunteers as well as the use of WhatsApp which is being used internally within the SCC for discussion rather than decision making processes. We wanted to ensure that current SPR practice conforms to the standards used by government as set out in government guidance for the use of WhatsApp and other messaging Apps. The DPA also contained an integral Bring Your Own Device policy.

A BYOD policy is recommended for small charitable companies like the SPR by the Charity Commission and the UK's data regulator, the Information Commissioner's Office, ICO. This is because the SPR is a 'distributed' organisation with many key SPR personnel, Council members, staff and volunteers working from home using their own computers and other communications devices. A BYOD policy is a means by which an organisation like the SPR can ensure that common standards are worked to by all concerned in relation to the safety, security and management of data across the organisation even when people are using their own equipment at home.

GDPRIT also reviewed the use and operation of the SCC's Policy and Protocol policy from a data protection point of view after a number of changes were made to it to update the policy following a review of the policy in connection with fresh requirements for on-site investigations.

In addition to this, GDPRIT reviewed the SPR's internal processes and procedures for Subject Access Requests, SARs following further SARs which were made during the course of the year. A Subject Access Request is an official request under The Data Protection Act 2018, known as UK GDPR for the applicant(s) to have a copy of the data that is held on them by an organisation. The data was provided to the applicant(s) within the timescales laid down by the ICO, and in accordance with ICO guidance. It was acknowledged that people may make SAR applications for a variety of reasons some of which might diverge from the original intended purpose of the legislation to ensure the data held on them is correct and accurate. Furthermore, GDPRIT also considered how complaints

might best be handled from a data protection point of view, to ensure that confidentiality and impartiality of the existing SPR complaints procedure is maintained in the run up to a prospective review of the complaints procedure itself.

The previous government's Data Protection and Digital Information Bill which was making its way through Parliament when the then Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, called the general election did not complete its parliamentary hurdles in time to be passed into law. The incoming Labour government has seen the need to build on some of the work done by the previous government and has announced through the King's Speech that they will introduce a Digital Information and Smart Data Bill into parliament. This will focus on the need to ensure that people and organisations will have secure digital identities for the safety and security of all concerned online in order to protect the nation against fraud and cyber-attacks. Hopefully they will also see the wisdom in relaxing some of the more onerous restrictions and requirements of GDPR. In particular, they want to reduce the burden of red tape for small companies and charities like the SPR including the burden of work associated with SARs and the operation of email mailing lists.

During the course of the year, I have continued to work with the Policy Advisory Panel, PAP in order to develop SPR policy that is relevant and related to the data protection work of the DPO and to liaise with the SCC in their work to develop their own policies and protocols.

I have also made regular reports to the SPR Council on data protection and policy matters related to this as well as communicating with my colleagues within the SPR on data protection matters. This is in keeping with the requirement under the Data Protection Act 2018 for corporate boards of Trustees/Directors to be kept informed and involved with the requirements of data protection work as it applies to their own organisations including ICO guidance.

The DPO looks forward to working with GDPRIT and the PAP in the future as well as the SPR Council over the forthcoming year.

The Data Protection Officer would like to thank the other members of GDPRIT for all their hard work. They are Peter Johnson - SPR Secretary, Richard Broughton - Honorary Treasurer and Adrian Ryan.

The Financial Position

Honorary Treasurer: **Dr Richard Broughton**

I am pleased to report that the Society has concluded the fiscal year in reasonably good financial health. Our reserves are up slightly on last year, thanks in part to our own income-generating activities, but mostly to a healthy investment market. We were able to provide substantial financial support to a good number of research projects as detailed elsewhere in this report, but we are in a position to do more, and our research committees are being encouraged to seek good quality projects worthy of support. Support from the Society is vitally important for both early career researchers and students as well as established scientists who are unable to obtain financial support for research from the usual sources.

The general economic environment remains challenging for the Society and its members as costs continue to rise on all fronts. Our membership numbers have dipped a bit but income remains steady. We are enormously grateful for our members who can continue to support the Society through membership in these difficult times.

Most of our programmes for academics and the public are being conducted on-line or in a hybrid format. Our Annual Conference offered both on-site and video participation and drew a good attendance. Our Study Days are migrating to a hybrid format as well, and our completely on-line discussion group evenings remain popular. The Society's *Journal* and

the *Magazine* continue to be produced to a high standard, but skyrocketing mailing charges have led the Society to encourage on-line receipt of our publications.

The Society continues to weather difficult financial circumstances in reasonable shape thanks to the continued hard work of our staff and volunteers to provide our services as economically as possible. We continue to see the effect of the cost-of-living crisis on our membership which, for many people, especially for students and young people, is a matter of discretionary income. More than ever, it remains vitally important that the Society receives donations to the general fund that can provide the additional income required to offer our scientific and educational services at the lowest possible cost to our members. Those who are in a position to be generous now can help future generations of psychical researchers develop into productive scientists.

The Society has engaged a different accounting firm this year and you will notice that the Annual Financial Statement looks different, however all the essential information is present. The accounts have been subject to an Independent Examination and no issues of concern have been noted. The full report of this examination is included in the financial statement.

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL**

For full Members of the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research to be held at 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL on Saturday, 26th April 2025 at 5.15 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th April 2024**
- 2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2024.**
- 3) To elect six members to the Council**
Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter:

Mrs M E Barton	Dr B G Colvin
Mrs J A Rousseau	Dr L Ruickbie
Mr A D Murdie	Dr M J Willin
- 4) To appoint Kreston Reeves LLP as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.**
- 5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.**

No other business will be transacted at this meeting.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON Saturday, 27th April 2024 at 5.15 p.m.

Dr Richard Broughton (Hon Treasurer of the Society) opened the meeting at 5.15 p.m., welcoming 10 voting members to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

The President was not present; Dr Broughton was unanimously appointed as the Chairman.

1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 29th April 2023, which was adjourned and reconvened on 27th May 2023.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Minutes of the AGM held on 29th April 2023, adjourned for Item 2 only and reconvened on 27th May 2023 should be approved. **This was seconded by Mr Farrell and was agreed unanimously.**

2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2023.

Dr Broughton explained that the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2023 were not ready to bring to the meeting. This item would be adjourned to a date to be agreed. It was agreed that this date should be Wednesday 5th June 2024, at 2.00 p.m.

3) To elect six members to the Council

Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter:

C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC.

C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA,

J. Fraser, B.A.

C. A. Roe, BSc., MSc., PhD

R. G. McLuhan, B.A., B.Litt.

A. P. Ryan

4) To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.

Dr Broughton reported that, along with Mr Johnson, he was still considering alternative options for appointing new Accountants. Mr Farrell proposed that PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants should be reappointed as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006 and such other Accountants as Council determines during the coming year. **This was seconded by Mr Fraser and was agreed unanimously.**

5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.

Dr Cooper proposed that the Council should be authorised to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants. **This was seconded by Mr Farrell and was agreed unanimously.**

No other business was transacted at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

RECONVENED ON Wednesday, 5th June 2024 at 2.00 p.m.

Dr Broughton welcomed 5 members to the reconvened meeting.

The President was not present; Dr Broughton was unanimously appointed as the Chairman.

Item 2) held over from the meeting on Saturday, 27th April 2024. To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2023.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2023 should be received. This was agreed unanimously.

No other business was transacted at this meeting. The meeting closed at 2.10 p.m.

**NOTES ON CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AT THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 26TH APRIL 2025
IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

MRS M E BARTON

Marian Barton joined the Society in 1963. Her grounding in psychical research was by attending courses given by other members of the SPR in the 1960s. In the early days she helped investigate spontaneous cases with her late husband Arthur Ellison. She acted as the Society's Social Secretary for some years, providing a welcome to new members and introducing them to others in the Society at SPR events.

Marian worked at the Institute of Psychiatry for 5 years helping with the research on twins via Hans Eysenck's twin register, where she was also the contact name for the twins when they needed help and advice. Marian worked for over 13 years as Admissions Officer at St Christopher's Hospice, London and considers that survival is an important aspect of research into the paranormal, believing that a knowledge that we may survive bodily death can help the bereaved.

Marian has been on the Survival Research Committee for some years, and was co-opted to the Council and appointed Chairman of the Committee in 2013. She oversaw the reprint of the Scole Report and is a member of the Conference Planning Group. Marian has also given Workshops and lectures on the paranormal at the Theosophical Society Summer Schools and other meetings. She resigned as Chair of the SCC in 2024 but remains on the committee.

DR B G COLVIN, BSc, PhD

Barrie Colvin joined the SPR in 1973 and was co-opted to Council in 2007. He was appointed by the Council to fill a temporary vacancy in the list of elected members of Council in January 2014, following the resignation of Dr Sommer. He has been actively involved in the investigation of mental and physical mediums, including direct-voice, transfiguration and materialisation mediumship. Past projects have included the investigation of haunted houses, the human aura, X-ray analysis of hair reported to be taken from the head of Katie King and evaluation of evidence presented by Gerard Croiset in a missing person case. His principal interest in recent times has been the physics of poltergeist activity, including the development of instrumentation for this branch of the subject. He developed and successfully trialled infra-red absorption equipment as well as a bespoke mid-frequency infra-red camera for poltergeist field work. His most recent projects have been a study of the acoustic properties of poltergeist rapping sounds and the analysis of voices generated at a materialisation séance.

MRS J A ROUSSEAU, BSc (Hons)

Julie Rousseau joined the SPR in 1994 and has been a member of Council since 2002. She served as the SPR's Hon Website Manager from 2006 to 2014, introducing online subscription and membership management, and providing tools for non-technical volunteers to add editorial content to the website easily. She is currently an e-commerce strategy consultant helping businesses to optimise their online operations, having provided mathematical decision support in areas as diverse as fisheries management, aeronautics and new business development. She promotes interdisciplinary and systems approaches to the study of anomalous phenomena and has a particular interest in the mechanisms by which new ideas catalyse social transformation. She is a co-founder of the Library of Exploratory Science, which houses the SPR's Online Library.

DR L RUICKBIE BA (Hons), MA, PhD (Lond), AKC (Associate of King's College)

Dr Ruickbie has been a member of the SPR since 2010 and was co-opted to the Council in 2017 and was appointed by the Council to fill a temporary vacancy in the list of elected members of Council in June 2022. He is the author of several books on witchcraft, magic, and the supernatural. His published articles, covering such subjects as theories of magic, the historical development of personalised conceptions of evil, folk beliefs in the external soul, and the representation of angels in modern media, show his broad interest in the history and sociology of belief and anomalous phenomena. Dr Ruickbie served for a number of years as Editor of *The Magazine* of the Society for Psychical Research.

MR A D MURDIE, LLB, Barrister

Alan Murdie has been a member of the SPR since 1997 and was co-opted to the Council in 1999. He was appointed by the Council to fill a temporary vacancy in the list of elected members of Council, replacing Chris Roe in 2005. He is a lawyer by profession, has investigated spontaneous cases both in Britain and abroad and is

the Chairman of the Society's Spontaneous Cases Committee. He served for several years as Chairman of The Ghost Club.

DR M J WILLIN, PhD

Dr Willin has been a member of the Society since 1992, was co-opted to Council in 1997 and became an elected member in 2000. He currently serves as the Society's Hon. Archives Liaison Officer, working on the archives held in Cambridge University Library. He holds two PhDs, both about music. The first is in connection with the paranormal and the second studying its place in pagan and witchcraft ritual and culture. Melvyn previously taught parapsychology and psychical research at a college in Essex. He has led investigations into alleged haunting and poltergeist cases and continues to support the serious research of all such phenomena.

Registered number: 00044861
Charity number: 207325

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

**The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)**

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The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details of the Company, its Trustees and advisers
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Trustees

The members of the Council

Company registered number

00044861

Charity registered number

207325

Registered office

1 Vernon Mews
West Kensington
London
W14 0RL

Company secretary

P M Johnson

Independent Examiner

Lucy Hammond
Kreston Reeves LLP
9 Donnington Park
85 Birdham Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7AJ

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

NatWest Bank plc
55 Kensington High Street
London
W8 5ZG

Investment advisors

BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd
PO Box 366
Darlington
DL1 9RF

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report
For the year ended 30 September 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

a. Main achievements of the Company

SPR can report several achievements, including the reopening of the library, the success of the film "The Enfield Poltergeist" due to Melvyn Willin's efforts, and the addition of Quick Guides for Investigators on the SPR website. The Psi Encyclopaedia now has 650 articles, and the SPR's social media presence has grown significantly. The JSPP published eight peer-reviewed articles and 19 book reviews in 2023. The SPR also hosted successful web events and an international conference. Additionally, SPR acknowledges the need for improved investigatory standards and a simple complaints procedure.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The unrestricted reserves of the charity stand at £2,177,264 (2023: £2,151,203) whilst the restricted reserves of the charity stand at £1,767,440 (2023: £1,660,979).

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts. The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds.

c. Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net deficit before gains or loss on investments of £132,605 (2023: £159,102).

Gains on investments changed from a increase of £156,458 in 2023 to an increase of £265,127 in the current year. This was as a result of the positive movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was an increase of £132,522 (2023: decrease of £2,644).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, increased by this amount from £3,812,182 as at 30 September 2023 to £3,944,704 as at 30 September 2024.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Structure, governance and management

a. Directors and Trustees

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further seven co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 24 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

Plans for future periods

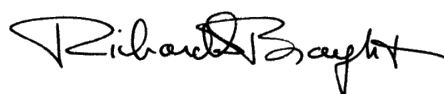
With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Near term plans including continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



[Adrian Parker \(Apr 9, 2025 17:01 GMT+2\)](#)

Prof. A. D. Parker
President (Director and Trustee)
Date:



Dr R S Broughton
Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
For the year ended 30 September 2024

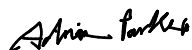
The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 105);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

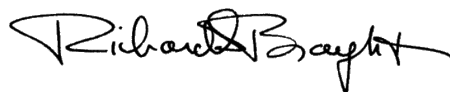


[Adrian Parker \(Apr 9, 2025 17:01 GMT+2\)](#)

Prof. A. D. Parker

President (Director and Trustee)

Date:



Dr R S Broughton

Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research ('the Company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:  Dated:

Lucy Hammond BSc FCA

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
9 Donnington Park
85 Birdham Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7AJ

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 30 September 2024

	Note	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	214	50,948	51,162	13,933
Charitable activities	5	-	12,473	12,473	2,484
Other trading activities	6	-	40,258	40,258	36,602
Investments	7	38,154	21,301	59,455	63,986
Total income		38,368	124,980	163,348	117,005
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	-	21,086	21,086	31,650
Charitable activities		96,218	178,649	274,867	244,457
Total expenditure		96,218	199,735	295,953	276,107
Net expenditure before net gains on investments					
		(57,850)	(74,755)	(132,605)	(159,102)
Net gains on investments		170,727	94,400	265,127	156,458
Net income/(expenditure)		112,877	19,645	132,522	(2,644)
Transfers between funds	19	(6,416)	6,416	-	-
Net movement in funds		106,461	26,061	132,522	(2,644)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,660,979	2,151,203	3,812,182	3,814,826
Net movement in funds		106,461	26,061	132,522	(2,644)
Total funds carried forward		1,767,440	2,177,264	3,944,704	3,812,182

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 9 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number:

Balance sheet
As at 30 September 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	1,269,954	1,271,526
Investments	15	2,646,831	2,557,378
		<u>3,916,785</u>	<u>3,828,904</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	16	2,854	2,706
Debtors	17	5,461	9,519
Cash at bank and in hand		65,292	40,745
		<u>73,607</u>	<u>52,970</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(45,688)	(69,692)
Net current assets / liabilities		<u>27,919</u>	<u>(16,722)</u>
Total net assets		<u>3,944,704</u>	<u>3,812,182</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	19	1,767,440	1,660,979
Unrestricted funds	19	2,177,264	2,151,203
Total funds		<u>3,944,704</u>	<u>3,812,182</u>


The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

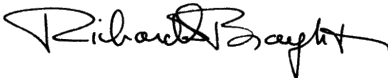
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Adrian Parker (Apr 9, 2025 17:01 GMT+2)
Prof. A. D. Parker
 President (Director and Trustee)
 Date:


Dr R S Broughton
Dr R S Broughton
 Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The notes on pages 9 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

1. General information

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

The members of the charitable company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the charity's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of cost crisis as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received. Government grants are accounted for when receivable and included in other sales.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of investment management.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the reporting date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of financial activities.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Over 100 years
Office equipment	- 15% p.a. on written down value
Computer equipment	- 25% p.a. on cost

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Endowment funds comprise capital donated to the charity, together with accumulated realised and unrealised investment gains or losses. The Trustees have the power to expend the endowment funds. Investment management charges and other professional fees relating directly to the fund are charged against the fund. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.15 Library

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Residual value of the leasehold property

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives. As at 30 September 2024 the estimated residual value of the leasehold amounted to £1,264,610 (2023: £1,264,610).

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Gifts and donations	20	17,114	17,134	416
Bequests and legacies	-	7,448	7,448	10,482
Similar incoming resources	194	26,386	26,580	3,035
	<u>214</u>	<u>50,948</u>	<u>51,162</u>	<u>13,933</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>445</u></u>	<u><u>13,488</u></u>	<u><u>13,933</u></u>	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from charitable activities	12,473	12,473	2,484
	<u>12,473</u>	<u>12,473</u>	<u>2,484</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>2,484</u></u>	<u><u>2,484</u></u>	

6. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Membership and journal subscriptions	40,258	40,258	36,602
	<u>40,258</u>	<u>40,258</u>	<u>36,602</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>36,602</u></u>	<u><u>36,602</u></u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

7. Investment income

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from local listed investments	38,154	21,301	59,455	63,986
Total 2023	<u>40,420</u>	<u>23,566</u>	<u>63,986</u>	

8. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Publication costs	21,086	21,086	31,650
Total 2023	<u>31,650</u>	<u>31,650</u>	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Grants payable 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Expenditure on charitable activities	31,787	179,134	210,921	170,479
Grants for research and education	63,946	-	63,946	73,978
	<u>95,733</u>	<u>179,134</u>	<u>274,867</u>	<u>244,457</u>
Total 2023	<u>106,176</u>	<u>138,281</u>	<u>244,457</u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	100,611	100,611	82,028
Depreciation and impairment	1,927	1,927	1,681
Software	3,008	3,008	2,432
Website and internet expenses	3,691	3,691	6,031
Administration fee	34	34	-
Lectures	26,483	26,483	320
Library and archive	339	339	254
Premises	8,440	8,440	7,604
Postage and stationery	4,292	4,292	4,083
Telecommunications	709	709	680
Study days	2,215	2,215	263
Advertising and marketing	-	-	169
General expenses	10,716	10,716	9,097
Accounting services	10,306	10,306	14,551
Audit fees	2,750	2,750	6,000
Bank charges	3,394	3,394	2,687
Legal and professional fees	35	35	41
Council meetings	184	184	360
	<u>179,134</u>	<u>179,134</u>	<u>138,281</u>
Total 2023	<u>138,281</u>	<u>138,281</u>	

10. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Individuals 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Psi Encyclopedia grants	31,787	31,787	32,198
Grants for research and education	63,946	63,946	73,978
	<u>95,733</u>	<u>95,733</u>	<u>106,176</u>
Total 2023	<u>106,176</u>	<u>106,176</u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

11. Independent examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £2,750 (2023 - £6,000), and accounts preparation fee of £10,306 (2023 - £14,551).

12. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	94,661	79,398
Social security costs	2,721	1,206
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	3,229	1,424
	100,611	82,028

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Employees	7	7

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 30 September 2024, expenses totalling £1,337 were reimbursed or paid directly to 6 Trustees (2023 - £123 to 2 Trustees) for travel and other expenses.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 October 2023	1,264,608	32,742	16,052	1,313,402
Additions	-	355	-	355
At 30 September 2024	<u>1,264,608</u>	<u>33,097</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>1,313,757</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 October 2023	-	27,135	14,741	41,876
Charge for the year	-	1,490	437	1,927
At 30 September 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>28,625</u>	<u>15,178</u>	<u>43,803</u>
Net book value				
At 30 September 2024	<u>1,264,608</u>	<u>4,472</u>	<u>874</u>	<u>1,269,954</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>1,264,608</u>	<u>5,607</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>1,271,526</u>

15. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2023	2,557,378
Additions	38,154
Disposals	(213,828)
Revaluations	265,127
At 30 September 2024	<u>2,646,831</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2024	<u>2,646,831</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>2,557,378</u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

16. Stocks

	2024	2023
	£	£
Stocks of publications	2,854	2,706

17. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year		
Other debtors	2,292	3,398
Prepayments and accrued income	3,169	6,121
	5,461	9,519

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	9,483
Other taxation and social security	1,728	891
Other creditors	-	294
Accruals and deferred income	43,960	59,024
	45,688	69,692

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 October 2023	25,503	15,478
Membership subscriptions deferred during the year	(25,503)	(15,478)
Amounts released from previous periods	36,120	25,503
	36,120	25,503

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,151,203	124,980	(199,735)	6,416	94,400	2,177,264
	<u>2,151,203</u>	<u>124,980</u>	<u>(199,735)</u>	<u>6,416</u>	<u>94,400</u>	<u>2,177,264</u>
Restricted funds						
SPR Research Fund	717,191	16,716	(20,149)	(6,416)	74,187	781,529
Survival Research Fund	780,999	17,970	(43,797)	-	80,322	835,494
Buckmaster Project Fund	162,789	3,682	(32,272)	-	16,218	150,417
	<u>1,660,979</u>	<u>38,368</u>	<u>(96,218)</u>	<u>(6,416)</u>	<u>170,727</u>	<u>1,767,440</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,812,182</u></u>	<u><u>163,348</u></u>	<u><u>(295,953)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>265,127</u></u>	<u><u>3,944,704</u></u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,194,252	76,140	(156,128)	(21,289)	58,228	2,151,203
Restricted funds						
SPR Research Fund	690,021	22,927	(38,726)	1,418	41,551	717,191
Survival Research Fund	750,908	24,495	(45,551)	5,763	45,384	780,999
Buckmaster Project Fund	179,645	(6,557)	(35,703)	14,109	11,295	162,789
	<u>1,620,574</u>	<u>40,865</u>	<u>(119,980)</u>	<u>21,290</u>	<u>98,230</u>	<u>1,660,979</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,814,826</u></u>	<u><u>117,005</u></u>	<u><u>(276,108)</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>	<u><u>156,458</u></u>	<u><u>3,812,182</u></u>

The Society's restricted funds include:

SPR Research Fund - Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.

Survival Research Fund - The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death.

Buckmaster Fund - The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research, and related work.

The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,269,954	1,269,954
Fixed asset investments	1,767,440	879,391	2,646,831
Current assets	-	73,607	73,607
Creditors due within one year	-	(45,688)	(45,688)
Total	1,767,440	2,177,264	3,944,704

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,271,526	1,271,526
Fixed asset investments	1,660,979	896,399	2,557,378
Current assets	-	52,970	52,970
Creditors due within one year	-	(69,692)	(69,692)
Total	1,660,979	2,151,203	3,812,182

21. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund and amounted to £Nil (2023 - £Nil) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

22. Related party transactions

The following Council members received honoraria, grants and expenses in recognition of specialised services rendered to the Society and in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Dr C. Cooper: £260 (2023: £1,008) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund and £81 (2023: £71) for travel expenses.

Mr Robert McLuhan £4,600 (2023: £8,057) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopaedia project.

Dr Malcolm Schofield £1,500 (2023: £3,600) as Editor of Journal and £6,983 (2023: £Nil) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund.

Prof. C. A. Roe: £10,213 (2023: £9,508) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £7,000 (2023: £6,343) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund and £115 (2023: £52) for travel expenses.

Dr T. H. Ruffles £5,132 (2023: £5,611) as Hon Communications Officer.

Dr L Ruickbie £400 (2023: £800) for typesetting fees.

Dr D J Vernon £360 (2023: £320) for internet expenses, £2,400 (2023: £Nil) as Editor of Journal and £57 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Dr Melvyn Willin £6,416 (2023: £Nil) as Archives Liaison Officer, £6,089 (2023: £Nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopaedia project and £308 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Prof. Adrian Parker £681 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Dr Ann Winsper £95 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Other than these payments and receipts no trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

Registered number: 00044861
Charity number: 207325

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

**The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)**

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The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details of the Company, its Trustees and advisers
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Trustees

The members of the Council

Company registered number

00044861

Charity registered number

207325

Registered office

1 Vernon Mews
West Kensington
London
W14 0RL

Company secretary

P M Johnson

Independent Examiner

Lucy Hammond
Kreston Reeves LLP
9 Donnington Park
85 Birdham Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7AJ

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

NatWest Bank plc
55 Kensington High Street
London
W8 5ZG

Investment advisors

BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd
PO Box 366
Darlington
DL1 9RF

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report
For the year ended 30 September 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

a. Main achievements of the Company

SPR can report several achievements, including the reopening of the library, the success of the film "The Enfield Poltergeist" due to Melvyn Willin's efforts, and the addition of Quick Guides for Investigators on the SPR website. The Psi Encyclopaedia now has 650 articles, and the SPR's social media presence has grown significantly. The JSRP published eight peer-reviewed articles and 19 book reviews in 2023. The SPR also hosted successful web events and an international conference. Additionally, SPR acknowledges the need for improved investigatory standards and a simple complaints procedure.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The unrestricted reserves of the charity stand at £2,177,264 (2023: £2,151,203) whilst the restricted reserves of the charity stand at £1,767,440 (2023: £1,660,979).

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts. The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds.

c. Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net deficit before gains or loss on investments of £132,605 (2023: £159,102).

Gains on investments changed from a increase of £156,458 in 2023 to an increase of £265,127 in the current year. This was as a result of the positive movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was an increase of £132,522 (2023: decrease of £2,644).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, increased by this amount from £3,812,182 as at 30 September 2023 to £3,944,704 as at 30 September 2024.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Structure, governance and management

a. Directors and Trustees

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further seven co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 24 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

Plans for future periods

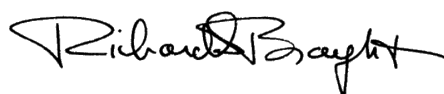
With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Near term plans including continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



[Adrian Parker \(Apr 9, 2025 17:01 GMT+2\)](#)

Prof. A. D. Parker
President (Director and Trustee)
Date:



Dr R S Broughton
Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
For the year ended 30 September 2024

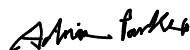
The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 105);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

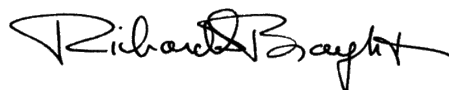


[Adrian Parker \(Apr 9, 2025 17:01 GMT+2\)](#)

Prof. A. D. Parker

President (Director and Trustee)

Date:



Dr R S Broughton

Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research ('the Company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:  Dated:

Lucy Hammond BSc FCA

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
9 Donnington Park
85 Birdham Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7AJ

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 30 September 2024

	Note	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	214	50,948	51,162	13,933
Charitable activities	5	-	12,473	12,473	2,484
Other trading activities	6	-	40,258	40,258	36,602
Investments	7	38,154	21,301	59,455	63,986
Total income		38,368	124,980	163,348	117,005
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	-	21,086	21,086	31,650
Charitable activities		96,218	178,649	274,867	244,457
Total expenditure		96,218	199,735	295,953	276,107
Net expenditure before net gains on investments					
		(57,850)	(74,755)	(132,605)	(159,102)
Net gains on investments		170,727	94,400	265,127	156,458
Net income/(expenditure)		112,877	19,645	132,522	(2,644)
Transfers between funds	19	(6,416)	6,416	-	-
Net movement in funds		106,461	26,061	132,522	(2,644)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,660,979	2,151,203	3,812,182	3,814,826
Net movement in funds		106,461	26,061	132,522	(2,644)
Total funds carried forward		1,767,440	2,177,264	3,944,704	3,812,182

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 9 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number:

Balance sheet
As at 30 September 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	1,269,954	1,271,526
Investments	15	2,646,831	2,557,378
		<u>3,916,785</u>	<u>3,828,904</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	16	2,854	2,706
Debtors	17	5,461	9,519
Cash at bank and in hand		65,292	40,745
		<u>73,607</u>	<u>52,970</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(45,688)	(69,692)
Net current assets / liabilities		<u>27,919</u>	<u>(16,722)</u>
Total net assets		<u>3,944,704</u>	<u>3,812,182</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	19	1,767,440	1,660,979
Unrestricted funds	19	2,177,264	2,151,203
Total funds		<u>3,944,704</u>	<u>3,812,182</u>


The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

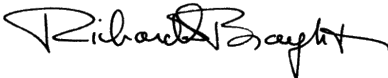
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Adrian Parker (Apr 9, 2025 17:01 GMT+2)
Prof. A. D. Parker
 President (Director and Trustee)
 Date:



Dr R S Broughton
 Honorary Treasurer (Director and Trustee)

The notes on pages 9 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

1. General information

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

The members of the charitable company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the charity's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of cost crisis as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received. Government grants are accounted for when receivable and included in other sales.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of investment management.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the reporting date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of financial activities.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Over 100 years
Office equipment	- 15% p.a. on written down value
Computer equipment	- 25% p.a. on cost

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Endowment funds comprise capital donated to the charity, together with accumulated realised and unrealised investment gains or losses. The Trustees have the power to expend the endowment funds. Investment management charges and other professional fees relating directly to the fund are charged against the fund. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.15 Library

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Residual value of the leasehold property

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives. As at 30 September 2024 the estimated residual value of the leasehold amounted to £1,264,610 (2023: £1,264,610).

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Gifts and donations	20	17,114	17,134	416
Bequests and legacies	-	7,448	7,448	10,482
Similar incoming resources	194	26,386	26,580	3,035
	<u>214</u>	<u>50,948</u>	<u>51,162</u>	<u>13,933</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>445</u></u>	<u><u>13,488</u></u>	<u><u>13,933</u></u>	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from charitable activities	12,473	12,473	2,484
	<u>12,473</u>	<u>12,473</u>	<u>2,484</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>2,484</u></u>	<u><u>2,484</u></u>	

6. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Membership and journal subscriptions	40,258	40,258	36,602
	<u>40,258</u>	<u>40,258</u>	<u>36,602</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>36,602</u></u>	<u><u>36,602</u></u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

7. Investment income

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from local listed investments	38,154	21,301	59,455	63,986
Total 2023	40,420	23,566	63,986	

8. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Publication costs	21,086	21,086	31,650
Total 2023	31,650	31,650	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Grants payable 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Expenditure on charitable activities	31,787	179,134	210,921	170,479
Grants for research and education	63,946	-	63,946	73,978
	95,733	179,134	274,867	244,457
Total 2023	106,176	138,281	244,457	

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	100,611	100,611	82,028
Depreciation and impairment	1,927	1,927	1,681
Software	3,008	3,008	2,432
Website and internet expenses	3,691	3,691	6,031
Administration fee	34	34	-
Lectures	26,483	26,483	320
Library and archive	339	339	254
Premises	8,440	8,440	7,604
Postage and stationery	4,292	4,292	4,083
Telecommunications	709	709	680
Study days	2,215	2,215	263
Advertising and marketing	-	-	169
General expenses	10,716	10,716	9,097
Accounting services	10,306	10,306	14,551
Audit fees	2,750	2,750	6,000
Bank charges	3,394	3,394	2,687
Legal and professional fees	35	35	41
Council meetings	184	184	360
	<u>179,134</u>	<u>179,134</u>	<u>138,281</u>
Total 2023	<u>138,281</u>	<u>138,281</u>	

10. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Individuals 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Psi Encyclopedia grants	31,787	31,787	32,198
Grants for research and education	63,946	63,946	73,978
	<u>95,733</u>	<u>95,733</u>	<u>106,176</u>
Total 2023	<u>106,176</u>	<u>106,176</u>	

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

11. Independent examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £2,750 (2023 - £6,000), and accounts preparation fee of £10,306 (2023 - £14,551).

12. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	94,661	79,398
Social security costs	2,721	1,206
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	3,229	1,424
	100,611	82,028

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Employees	7	7

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 30 September 2024, expenses totalling £1,337 were reimbursed or paid directly to 6 Trustees (2023 - £123 to 2 Trustees) for travel and other expenses.

The Incorporated Society For Psychological Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 October 2023	1,264,608	32,742	16,052	1,313,402
Additions	-	355	-	355
At 30 September 2024	<u>1,264,608</u>	<u>33,097</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>1,313,757</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 October 2023	-	27,135	14,741	41,876
Charge for the year	-	1,490	437	1,927
At 30 September 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>28,625</u>	<u>15,178</u>	<u>43,803</u>
Net book value				
At 30 September 2024	<u>1,264,608</u>	<u>4,472</u>	<u>874</u>	<u>1,269,954</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>1,264,608</u>	<u>5,607</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>1,271,526</u>

15. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2023	2,557,378
Additions	38,154
Disposals	(213,828)
Revaluations	265,127
At 30 September 2024	<u>2,646,831</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2024	<u>2,646,831</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>2,557,378</u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

16. Stocks

	2024	2023
	£	£
Stocks of publications	2,854	2,706

17. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year		
Other debtors	2,292	3,398
Prepayments and accrued income	3,169	6,121
	5,461	9,519

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	9,483
Other taxation and social security	1,728	891
Other creditors	-	294
Accruals and deferred income	43,960	59,024
	45,688	69,692
	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 October 2023	25,503	15,478
Membership subscriptions deferred during the year	(25,503)	(15,478)
Amounts released from previous periods	36,120	25,503
	36,120	25,503

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,151,203	124,980	(199,735)	6,416	94,400	2,177,264
	<u>2,151,203</u>	<u>124,980</u>	<u>(199,735)</u>	<u>6,416</u>	<u>94,400</u>	<u>2,177,264</u>
Restricted funds						
SPR Research Fund	717,191	16,716	(20,149)	(6,416)	74,187	781,529
Survival Research Fund	780,999	17,970	(43,797)	-	80,322	835,494
Buckmaster Project Fund	162,789	3,682	(32,272)	-	16,218	150,417
	<u>1,660,979</u>	<u>38,368</u>	<u>(96,218)</u>	<u>(6,416)</u>	<u>170,727</u>	<u>1,767,440</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,812,182</u></u>	<u><u>163,348</u></u>	<u><u>(295,953)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>265,127</u></u>	<u><u>3,944,704</u></u>

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,194,252	76,140	(156,128)	(21,289)	58,228	2,151,203
Restricted funds						
SPR Research Fund	690,021	22,927	(38,726)	1,418	41,551	717,191
Survival Research Fund	750,908	24,495	(45,551)	5,763	45,384	780,999
Buckmaster Project Fund	179,645	(6,557)	(35,703)	14,109	11,295	162,789
	<u>1,620,574</u>	<u>40,865</u>	<u>(119,980)</u>	<u>21,290</u>	<u>98,230</u>	<u>1,660,979</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,814,826</u></u>	<u><u>117,005</u></u>	<u><u>(276,108)</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>	<u><u>156,458</u></u>	<u><u>3,812,182</u></u>

The Society's restricted funds include:

SPR Research Fund - Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.

Survival Research Fund - The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death.

Buckmaster Fund - The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research, and related work.

The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,269,954	1,269,954
Fixed asset investments	1,767,440	879,391	2,646,831
Current assets	-	73,607	73,607
Creditors due within one year	-	(45,688)	(45,688)
Total	1,767,440	2,177,264	3,944,704

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,271,526	1,271,526
Fixed asset investments	1,660,979	896,399	2,557,378
Current assets	-	52,970	52,970
Creditors due within one year	-	(69,692)	(69,692)
Total	1,660,979	2,151,203	3,812,182

21. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund and amounted to £Nil (2023 - £Nil) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 September 2024

22. Related party transactions

The following Council members received honoraria, grants and expenses in recognition of specialised services rendered to the Society and in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Dr C. Cooper: £260 (2023: £1,008) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund and £81 (2023: £71) for travel expenses.

Mr Robert McLuhan £4,600 (2023: £8,057) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopaedia project.

Dr Malcolm Schofield £1,500 (2023: £3,600) as Editor of Journal and £6,983 (2023: £Nil) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund.

Prof. C. A. Roe: £10,213 (2023: £9,508) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £7,000 (2023: £6,343) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund and £115 (2023: £52) for travel expenses.

Dr T. H. Ruffles £5,132 (2023: £5,611) as Hon Communications Officer.

Dr L Ruickbie £400 (2023: £800) for typesetting fees.

Dr D J Vernon £360 (2023: £320) for internet expenses, £2,400 (2023: £Nil) as Editor of Journal and £57 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Dr Melvyn Willin £6,416 (2023: £Nil) as Archives Liaison Officer, £6,089 (2023: £Nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopaedia project and £308 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Prof. Adrian Parker £681 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Dr Ann Winsper £95 (2023: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Other than these payments and receipts no trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 207325

Accounts

The Incorporated
SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

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COUNCIL, OFFICERS, STAFF AND ADVISERS as at 30th September 2023

President: Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD

Vice-Presidents

Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD

Dr A. O. Gauld, MA, PhD, DLitt
Prof. J. C. Poynton, MSc, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS

Elected Members of Council

Mrs M. E. Barton
Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Dr B. G. Colvin, BSc, PhD
Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes,
PhD, CPsychol., FHEA
Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC
Mr J. Fraser, BA

Dr G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS,
MRCPsych
Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt
Mr A. D. Murdie, LLB
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc,
PhD, AFBPsS
Dr D. N. Rousseau, BSc, PhD
Mrs J. A. Rousseau, BSc

Dr T. H. Ruffles, BSc, BA, MA, PhD,
ARPS
Dr L. Ruickbie, BA, MA, PhD, Assoc.
of King's College
Mr A. P. Ryan
Dr M. J. Willin, BMus, MMus, PhD,
LRAM

(for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006 the elected members of Council are directors)

Co-opted Members of Council

Dr D. L. Erickson, MBA, PhD
Mr S. T. Parsons
Dr M. B. Schofield, BSc, MRes, PhD

Dr D. J. Vernon, BSc, PhD
Dr Z. Weaver, BA, PhD
Mrs T. Tuijl

Council Appointments

Officers:

Hon. Secretary – Dr Kidd

Hon. Treasurer – Dr Broughton

Other appointments:

Hon. Editor, Journal & Proceedings – Dr Schofield

Editorial Assistant – Dr Tammy Dempster

Associate Editor – Dr Weaver

Hon. Editor, Paranormal Review – Mr Gordon Rutter

Hon. Communications Officer – Dr Ruffles

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer – Dr Willin

Hon. Website Manager – Dr Erickson

Website Content Manager – Mr Nemo Mörck

Data Protection Officer – Mr Farrell

Hon. Book Review Editor, JSPR – Mr Nemo Mörck

Secretary: Mr Peter Johnson

Librarian: Mrs Karen Patel

Council Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
Education & Publicity	Prof. Carr	Dr Erickson, Mr McLuhan, Mr Nemo Mörck, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruickbie, Dr Ruffles, Mr Gordon Rutter
Research Grants	Mr Ryan	Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delanoy, Dr Gauld, Prof. Caroline Watt
Buckmaster Oversight	Dr Broughton	Prof. Carr, Mr Fraser, Mr Murdie, Dr Kidd, Mr Ryan, Dr Weaver
Library	Dr Ruffles	Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Mr Mörck, Dr John Newton, Mrs Patel, Prof. Poynton, Dr Willin
Spontaneous Cases	Dr Kidd	Dr Colvin, Dr Cooper, Mr Paul Cropper, Mrs Beth Darlington-Bailey, Mr Farrell, Mr Fraser, Dr Matthew Hopkins, Mr Ashley Knibb, Mr Randy Liebeck, Mr Aaron Lomas, Dr John Newton, Dr Ruickbie, Dr Malcolm Schofield, Mr Nick Terrell, Dr Weaver.
Survival Research	Mrs Barton	Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Cooper, Dr Gauld, Dr Rousseau, Dr David Saunders
Conference Programme	Prof. Parker	Prof. Carr, Dr Cooper, Dr Gauld, Mr Murdie, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles

JSPR Editorial Board

Richard Broughton, BA, PhD; Prof. Bernard Carr, MA, PhD; Prof. Deborah Delanoy, BA, PhD; Eric Dullin, PhD; Renaud Evrard, PhD; James Houran, MA, PhD; Everton Maraldi, PhD; Prof. Adrian Parker, MA, PhD; Prof. Chris Roe, BSc, PhD; Adrian Ryan; Malcolm Schofield, BSc, PhD; Prof. Christine Simmonds-Moore, PhD; Paul Stevens, BSc, PhD; Steve Taylor BA, MSc, PhD; Prof. Patrizio Tressoldi, PhD; Helané Wahbeh, ND, MCR; Prof. Caroline Watt, BSc, PhD; Prof. Robin Wooffitt, BSc, PhD

Professional Advisers

Auditors & Accountants
Investment Manager

PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants
Newton Investment Management Ltd.

ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the President - Professor Adrian Parker

Annual reports of societies are often considered to be dreary accounts that almost nobody reads so I hope in this case the readership will extend beyond the SPR Council because I do think the SPR's accounts are well-worth reading also by the members in general. What is impressive is how the accounts show the wide ranging and intensive nature of the SPR's activities. Nearly all of these enterprises are conducted on a voluntary unpaid basis and the accounts show what the membership support has enabled. I cannot provide a fair summary of all these numerous activities but will only highlight a few.

My first duty here is to alert members that the library has opened again now on Wednesdays and also at negotiated times. I think readers will, in particular, value the efforts to give the SPR more good quality publicity. In this respect I will draw attention to the current new film *The Enfield Poltergeist* (available through Apple tv) which owes much of its success to the efforts of Melvyn Willin, in providing the producers of this film with access to archival audiovisual recordings from this period. Together with in-depth interviews with virtually all those still living who were involved in the case, gave the result, which is a high-quality drama documentary.

The SPR website now contains an important asset for investigators of spontaneous phenomena in the form of Quick Guides for Investigators. In this context, I recommend the courses and book *Guidance Notes for Investigators of Spontaneous Cases* (2018) by Steve Parsons, published under aegis of the SPR. The Website Content Manager, Nemo Mörck, has carried out excellent work in maintaining the site and providing book reviews, and publications. I would again appeal to members, especially those with a speciality, to help Nemo continue his quality reviews which are of a valuable service to the readership of both the SPR website and the *JSPR*. The *JSPR* is of course still the main showpiece for research activity and the editor Malcolm Schofield has nearly eliminated the publication time-lag. He notes that with the help of Zofie Weaver, Tammy Dempster and Julie Gorman that the *JSPR* has, during 2023, contained eight peer-reviewed articles, 19 book reviews, and six letters with a selection of notices.

The Spontaneous Case Committee has continued a good public contact and confidence. The report by Graham Kidd is that there are 470 cases currently being dealt with.

Another important display window for the SPR is the *Psi Encyclopedia*, maintained by Robert McLuhan, which now has 650 articles. Tom Ruffles also runs a Twitter site dedicated to *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 2,389 followers! As Bernard Carr (chairman of the Education and Publicity Committee) notes, Tom does some demonstrably productive work in running the SPR Facebook page, as shown by the 18,164 followers. The SPR's Twitter feed has 10,820 followers. As Bernard notes, "These [social media pages] publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general".

I would also like to alert readers to regular evening Web Events hosted by David Vernon. This year, these talks have "starred" both well-known persons and SPR representatives such as Mike Daw, Leo Ruickbie, Jan Holden (twice), Steve Taylor, Steve Parsons, Humberto Coelho, Mauricio Ibarra, Kekecs Zoltan, Helane Wahbeh, Rodrigo Montenegro and Dean Radin

Often forgotten are formal and technical skills in running the SPR. Our multi-skilled Secretary has become even an expert now in organising physical and hybrid conferences. At this year's Annual International conference, Peter was aided by Ashley Knibb and Christof King, which enabled the conference to run smoothly. Because of the difficulty in finding a suitable location, this year's was held physically in November 2023 [just outside the period of this report] at Royal Leamington Spa, also with a live Zoom link-up. Dr Ed May was the invited speaker and filmmaker Terje Toftenes gave the after-dinner address based on his film "*The Day Before the Paradigm Shift*".

A further demanding and often unappreciated task is complying with governmental regulations for charities especially data protections laws and monitoring any forthcoming changes in these, and for this work we need to thank Ciaran Farrell.

The report would not be complete without mentioning the dark side of activities which here concerns the dissipation of energy on three complaints. These have grown out of personality frictions and conflicts over investigatory standards, which I would argue should be solved before they dissipate the SPR's limited resources. I want to thank Richard Broughton who headed the temporary Ethics Committee during one of these complaints, Graham Kidd who carried out much of the groundwork, and Ashley Knibb who applied his skills from customer service to one of the complaints. The positive outcome is the highlighting of

a need for a review of standards of conduct for investigators and for a simple complaints procedure.

Finally, I would like welcome Mrs Tylean Tuijl, our Student Representative on the SPR Council, and to

congratulate Mr Gordon Rutter, our new *Magazine* editor, who took over from Leo Ruickbie and produced a highly appreciated new issue.

RESEARCH

Report of the Research Grants Committee

Chairman: **Adrian Ryan**

The committee received seven grant applications in the period, and after careful deliberations the committee decided to fund five of these. We send our congratulations to the successful applicants and wish them every success with their research. The successful applicants are as follows:

Sabine Roubardin - Anthropological and microphenomenological studies of perception of space and sense of self in out-of-body experiences - £7,000.00

Chris Roe - Testing the theory of 'First Sight' using the Bem 'feeling the future' paradigm – funding request for phase 2 - £6,342.80

Lance Storm - Meaningfulness in the I Ching using a Q-Sort RNG method - £6,843.20

Ruth-Helen Vassilas - Life after spiritually transformative experiences and the role of others in the integration process - £7,000.00

Melvyn Willin - The expansion and clarification of the Donald West 'Research Files' - £5,000.00

The total value of grants awarded this year is £32,186.00.

I would like to encourage SPR members to consider making donations and/or bequests specifically to the SPR's Research Fund, so that we can continue to support this important work far into the future.

Report of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee (BOC)

Chairman: **Dr Richard S. Broughton**

The role of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee is to oversee the projects approved by Council that are funded by a legacy from Mr Nigel Buckmaster. During the past year the committee has continued to monitor the two projects remaining in its portfolio.

The SPR's online Psi Encyclopedia, the flagship project of the Buckmaster fund continues to provide an unmatched online information source for Psychological Research under the direction of Editor Robert McLuhan. Details of its activities this year are in the report of the Education and Publicity Committee. The Committee is aware of a delay in the production of the printed volumes that are associated with this project and is closely monitoring the situation and taking steps to resolve problems.

The Systems Methodology for Exploratory Science project under Dr David Rousseau unfortunately has had to put the final component on hold temporarily due to serious family matters. The remaining product of this project is a practical handbook for applying Systems Methodology to the problems of psychical research. Although Dr Rousseau is committed to completing this as soon as possible we are unable to provide an expected date. A collection of published and unpublished papers arising from this project is now available in the SPR Library.

The BOC regrets the delays mentioned above but is pleased to report that the Psi Encyclopedia continues to extend the benefits of Mr Buckmaster's generosity to our scientific colleagues as well as to our members and the general public.

Report of the Spontaneous Cases Committee

Chairman: **Graham Kidd**

The SCC has lost one member but acquired three new well qualified members over the past year: Aaron Lomas, Nick Terrell, and Randy Liebeck, who may be regarded as the SCC's representative in the USA.

The SCC continues to meet regularly via Zoom

or hybrid wise every six weeks or so, to discuss cases that have been deemed worthy of investigation, with a view to possible publication in the Magazine. We continue to accumulate cases in what will in due course be available for scrutiny by researchers, and numbers are approaching some 470 cases of varying

evidential value, and no doubt of some sociological value.

This year we have had over two hundred submissions to the Experiences inbox. These include: 11 poltergeist cases of which two have been subject to field investigation, the rest being historical or short lived; 6 photos of orbs, mostly non evidential; 9 precognition/premonitions undergoing evaluation by Leo Ruickbie; 6 spiritual experiences; 7 apparitions, some repeated from childhood; 5 JOTTS/Apports; 6 Telepathic/Clairvoyant/mediumistic; 1 Physical mediumship; 5 PK ability.; 3 Time slips; 4 ADC/Crisis apparitions; 4 Healers; 4 UFOs??; 3 Hauntings; 1 Synchronicity; 1 Lucid dreamer; 4 being touched harassed; 4 Stone throwing/fire poltergeists; News reports compiled by Paul Cropper, mostly from India; 2 Bilocation.

Report of the Survival Research Committee

Chairman: **Marian Barton**

We received a number of requests for funding research projects and the following are the successful applicants. We wish them every success with their research.

£9,500 allocated from the fund for producing the manuscript on Kluski, the medium as an SPR Proceedings.

Corrine Gretton-West £1,480.96 'The Impact of Spirit Photography on the Viewer and their Place of such Artwork among Survival Evidence'.

Prof. Chris Roe & Ms Ashlee Lewis-Earl £9,507.50 'The Truth in Light: Conducting a systematic analysis of the Fenwick collection'.

Dr Callum Cooper £1,008.07 'Contingency Funding – Binding and Preservation of SPR (and related material) of concern to survival'.

Dr James Houran & Dr Adam J Rock £800 'A Transpersonal Analysis of the Drake-S Equation for Postmortem Survival'.

Jennifer Glenc £3,000 'Managing the nightmare' A phenomenological analysis of the impact distressing exceptional human experiences have on religiosity and reconciliation with pre-existing existential concepts of death and dying'.

Dr James Houran £3,600 'Evaluating Survival Phenomena in the Context of 'Self-Expansiveness''.

Natalia Mae Lavin £2,895 'After-Death Communication Experiences in the Funeral Industry'.

All of the above, totalling £31,791.53, to be paid in

Report of the Library Committee

Chairman: **Dr Tom Ruffles**

The Library Committee approves acquisitions for the Vernon Mews library. Members are: Graham Kidd, Robert McLuhan, Nemo Mörk, John Newton, Karen

The ongoing poltergeist case in Essex seems to be subsiding, if that is the right word, after some five years of activity involving bangs, apports of coins, the falling of large objects off shelves, and electrical interference with messages on the television, and will be reviewed and written up in the coming months.

The Protocol and Procedure document of the SCC is being revised in the light of recent experiences involving a member undergoing a private investigation. This will advise that all those who are undertaking an investigation should agree any relevant conditions that may be deemed to apply, albeit negotiable at a later time, and sign a document accordingly so that there is no misunderstanding.

financial year 2022/23.

The following awards were made but to be paid in the financial year 2023/2024.

Professor Chris Roe and Dr Cal Cooper £7,518.92 'Investigation of the phenomenology and Impact of perceived direct and spontaneous After-Death Communications (continuation bid)'.

Dr Maryne Mutis £3,000 'Lucieville: Phenomenological study on the spectrum of terminal lucidity' University of Lorraine.

On completion of the projects the recipients of awards will be submitting a short report of the results which will be placed in the SPR Archives for the benefit of future researchers.

As you will see, the awards we can give each year are limited so if anyone wishes to help to increase our funds, please donate to the SPR's Survival Research Fund. We and the researchers will be most grateful.

With the number of projects received this year for consideration the Survival Research Committee has had to spend some hours reading all the proposals and their decisions and comments are shared with all the SRC. I would like to thank the members for their help and support: Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Callum Cooper, Dr Alan Gauld, Dr David Rousseau and Dr David Saunders.

Patel (Librarian), John Poynton, Tom Ruffles (chair) and Melvyn Willin.

During the current reporting year, 107 loans were made (compared to 83 the previous year). Fifteen books were purchased at a cost of £262.02. A further 50 books were donated, and we are very grateful to donors for their generosity. The Librarian operates a sale of second-hand books, available via the website as well as in the library.

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer's Report Dr Melvyn Willin

The work of cataloguing and conservation has continued as have visits to Cambridge University Library. Correspondence and meetings with a number of academics, members of the SPR and the general public have been undertaken. They have asked a variety of questions from worldwide locations. Archive material has continued to be acquired, sorted, conserved and catalogued. I have started a major archive project to catalogue the 'Donald West Research Files' which contain a vast amount of information about a huge range of psi-orientated subjects.

I have had various meetings with film companies which are interested in filming aspects of the SPR's work and was instrumental in setting-up the Enfield poltergeist series of documentaries which resulted in a substantial donation being made to the SPR for the use of our archive material. Recently (August 2023) a different film company has shown an interest in making a documentary about the history of the SPR.

Regular contact has been made with the College of Psychic Studies which resulted in the loan of one of the SPR's collections of photographs for an exhibition

Education and Publicity Committee Chairman: Professor Bernard Carr

The Education and Publicity Committee (EPC) coordinates the SPR's educational activities and develops strategies for publicising these. The promotion of our events is now primarily via the internet and our website, so our members include Deborah Erickson (Honorary Website Manager) and Nemo Mörck (Website Content Manager). Other members are Chris Roe, Robert McLuhan, Tom Ruffles (Honorary Communications Officer) and Gordon Rutter, whom we were delighted to welcome this year as the new editor of *The Magazine*. Some of these members report their activities more fully in their individual reports.

This year our educational programme has again mainly comprised zoom events (initiated as a result of the pandemic), although we're beginning to hold physical meetings again. David Vernon continues to organize and host regular evening webinars. In the

The library is open on Wednesday afternoons and is popular with both members and interested non-members. A number of visits at other times have been arranged with the Secretary. For members unable to visit, the postal loan service is useful; details are available from the Librarian. The library catalogue, as well as details of our archive held at Cambridge University Library, can be viewed on the website.

there.

Having moved home to Norfolk I can now announce that a separate building at my property is dedicated to the SPR's audio-visual material and visits by members are possible by direct contact with me to fix mutually convenient times. Norwich, Wymondham and Diss all have mainline stations which are approximately ten miles away.

I finish with a request repeated from previous years and tinged with disappointment at the lack of response. Some members receive financial and archival support from the SPR. Members should please send me copies of their dissertations, photographs, correspondence and articles for inclusion in the archives when they are of relevance to psychical research. We need more contemporary material to add to the enormous amount of research deposited in the past. Items given to the SPR archives will then be available in the future for the education of the public and academics alike.

reported period, these were given by Mike Daw, Leo Ruickbie, Jan Holden (twice), Steve Taylor, Steve Parsons, Humberto Coelho, Mauricio Ibarra, Kekecs Zoltan, Helane Wahbeh, Rodrigo Montenegro and Dean Radin. Although we miss meeting physically, webinars have the advantage of attracting speakers and participants from all over the world and it also reduces the expenses involved.

Our educational role also includes overseeing evening discussion forums, organized by Dennis Bury and Ciaran Farrell, and study days. A zoom forum on 'Haunted Houses' took place in February 2023, based on a fictional scenario written by Ciaran.

The Zoom study day in November 2022 was a follow-up to the one held in May 2022 to mark the 140th anniversary of our founding. It was entitled 'The

Early Years of the SPR and 140 Years On' and chaired by Bernard Carr with contributions from David and Julie Rousseau, Andreas Sommer, Nancy Zingrone and Michael Nahm. The April 2023 study was on 'After-Death Communications' and organized by David Vernon and Cal Cooper, who have now taken over the role from Bernard. It was chaired by David with contributions from Chris Roe, Rachel Evenden, Sara MacKian and Cal Cooper. This was our first physical meeting since the pandemic.

The Committee also plays a part in the annual conference, with three of us (Carr, Roe and Ruffles) serving on the Programme Committee. However, this year's conference (held physically at Leamington Spa) was in November 2023 and so will be covered in next year's report.

Steve Parsons' excellent *Guidance Notes for the Investigation of Spontaneous Cases*, financed by the Buckmaster Fund, is re-establishing the SPR's crucial role in this area. In the past year he has built on this foundation, working toward a common approach by all major UK organisations, as well as independent groups and individuals. It is now possible to download 'Quick Guides' for free but many individuals aren't aware of them, so they are being promoted further by our webmaster and social media officer. Further 'Quick Guides' are already underway to increase the scope of the material.

His main focus now is on the promotion of ethical and critical approaches for investigators of spontaneous experiences. He has been developing a standardised training package, using the *Guidance Notes* which have already been well received. Indeed, ASSAP have now fully adopted them as the foundation for their investigator training and this has resulted in a significant increase in their sales. He hopes to eventually involve interested SPR members. This new training package lends itself to both in-person and online delivery and the first online course is scheduled to commence in March or April 2024

Report of the Hon. Website Manager Dr Deborah Erickson

The SPR website has continued smooth operations this reporting period. Important content additions have been the Investigations Quick Guides. Website Content Manager Nemo Mörck continues his excellent work with maintenance, and adding book reviews, and SPR publications.

The follow-up to Steve's book *Paracoustics, Sound & the Paranormal* is on course for publication. Entitled *Paravision, Sight & the Paranormal* and co-edited with Cal Cooper, it examines the visual aspects of a wide range of paranormal experiences and follows the success of their previous collaboration in examining sound and acoustic aspects of paranormal experiences.

As part of the publication activities funded by the Buckmaster bequest, the *Psi Encyclopedia* continues to grow, now with 650 articles and almost two million words. Besides the creation of new entries, much of the current work is on the revision and updating of existing material. In 2024 the site must be rebuilt, as its original software is becoming obsolete, providing an opportunity to make improvements to the layout and presentation. Some disruption is likely at the switchover to the new platform, but we will aim to keep this to a minimum. Another Buckmaster project, two volumes of essays on aspects of survival, has unfortunately been delayed through factors beyond our control, but progress continues to be made.

Tom Ruffles regularly responds to enquiries via the website and social media. Frequent references to the SPR, both in print and online, can be followed on our Facebook page and Twitter feed, both of which are overseen by Tom. At the end of the reporting year the Facebook page had 18,164 'likes' and the general Twitter feed had 10,820 followers. These sites publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general. Tom also runs a Twitter feed dedicated to *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 2,389 followers. Posts on all three are circulated by readers and thereby reach a very large audience. ASSAP have resumed circulating their e-bulletin, and this includes forthcoming SPR events. Significant information relating to the SPR appears on our website as news items posted by Nemo Mörck, who also adds information about new books and their reviews. SPR members frequently make media appearances, and these are mostly reported on our website. We continue to build bridges with other organisations since this allows news of our activities to reach a wider audience.

Nemo Mörck, David Vernon, and Malcolm Schofield are planning a future update of the Journal pages, to enable Google Scholar (scholar.google.com) to scan and index the JSPR articles accurately. This will require some formatting updates for each article to have its own page, and article abstracts should be made more accessible.

The Journal of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: **Dr Malcolm Schofield**

This is my third report as the editor of the *JPSR*. Please note that this report will include the July 2022 issue, as this was published after last year's report. The July 2023 issue is currently in production and will be published shortly, meaning that three of the four issues for this cycle have been published. Including the July 2022 issue, we had an excellent selection of articles: eight peer-reviewed articles, 19 book reviews, and six letters with a selection of notices. The standard of articles remains high, and we have had the usual spread of engaging topics, such as poltergeists, near-death experiences, paranormal contagion, and uncanny geographies. The Letters page continues to provide plenty of debate, with much back and forth. However, articles are not as prolific as they could be, and I will endeavour to get more submissions from this year's Annual Conference.

Also, we have produced another issue of *Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research*, 'Reminiscences of Séances with The Medium Franek

The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: **Gordon Rutter**

As announced in the previous Annual Report Dr Leo Ruickbie has now stepped down as editor of *The Magazine*. I have great pleasure in taking over the reins from him.

I must express my gratitude to Leo for setting up an excellent publication, for passing material over to me and for being available to answer some initial questions.

I am continuing to use the open-source software trialled by Leo thus saving software licensing fees for the SPR.

Annual Conference

Programme Chairman: **Prof. Adrian Parker**, Conference Organiser: **Peter Johnson**

The 46th SPR International Annual Conference took place 10th to 12th November 2023, at Woodland Grange, Royal Leamington Spa, and online as a Zoom meeting. [This conference was just outside the period of the report.]

The Annual Conference programme included presentations on many areas of research, split into historical aspects, NDEs and ADEs, experimental and theoretical issues, spontaneous case investigations, mediumship, and further experimental research. There were invited talks from Edwin May and Terje Toftenes

Kluski', with full credit to Zofia Weaver and Michael Nahm for all their hard work on this. David Vernon and Nemo Mörck have also been looking into getting the *Journal* DOIs to secure the journal impact factor status. Work for this is progressing nicely.

The biggest thanks go to the editorial team, Associate Editor Dr Zofie Weaver and the Editorial Assistant Dr Tammy Dempster; without them, the *Journal* would not function. Thanks to them for their constant support and guidance. Thanks also to the typesetter Julie Gorman; since we have started working together, production of the *Journal* has been a lot smoother and she was vital in getting the latest *Proceedings* out in good time. Thanks to the Book Review Editor, Nemo Mörck, for his help and the content. Thanks to Peter Johnson and the Council for their continuing advice. Finally, thank you to all the reviewers and people who provided articles, book reviews and all the content for the *Journal*.

Within the reporting period I have only produced one issue so if I were to list highlights it would simply be the contents of this issue (issue 8). I am endeavouring to bring the publishing schedule back to where it should be, but I do not want to rush issues out solely about quantity rather than quality. As I progress in my journey as editor, I feel more confident that I can achieve this aim sooner rather than later.

I would like to thank all members who have submitted articles, without them *The Magazine* would not exist. And of course, a huge vote of thanks must go to David Ellis for his excellent help as proof-reader.

well as panel discussions on: "Ghosts and Poltergeists - Separate Entities or Potentially Elements of the Same Anomalous Power", Chaired by John Fraser, with Alan Murdie and Annekatrin Puhle, and "Where Are We Heading? - A Discordant Farrago, or Waiting for a Paradigm Shift?" with Edwin May, Ann Winsper and Chris Roe.

We had a total of 59 attendees at the hotel for this conference and another 46 joining us via Zoom.

Speakers came from the UK, Scandinavia,

Germany and from the United States. The after-dinner talk was given by the Norwegian filmmaker Terje Toftenes: The Day Before the Paradigm Shift.

Video recordings and printed abstracts of the conference proceedings are available on the SPR website.

A big thank you is due the SPR Conference

Programme Committee (Prof. Carr, Dr Cooper, Dr Gauld, Alan Murdie, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles & Dr David Vernon), with special thanks to Ashley Knibb and Christof King for helping out at short notice with technical equipment and to Peter Johnson for the arrangements and remote control. I want to express heart-felt thanks to the invited speakers Edwin May and Terje Toftenes for so generously giving their personal time.

Secretary's Report Peter Johnson

In the table below, you will be able to see that our membership numbers have reduced this year, in line with the experience of many other membership

organisations during these times of pandemic and cost-of-living crisis.

	Members & Associates			Student Associates			Totals		
	2023	2022	Change	2023	2022	Change	2023	2022	Change
UK	480	556	-13.67%	39	44	-11.36%	519	600	-14%
USA	153	198	-22.73%	21	23	-8.70%	174	221	-21%
Other	151	181	-16.57%	24	27	-11.11%	175	208	-16%
TOTALS	784	935	-16.15%	84	94	-10.64%	868	1029	-16%

Audio recordings of all our events are available free of charge for members only, and for purchase by non-members. Thanks to David Vernon for finding so many interesting speakers for our online Web Events during the year. Thanks to Melvyn Willin for maintaining our archive catalogue of recordings. Please note that, in addition to borrowing physical recordings, members

may also listen to recent talks directly from our website.

The Office and Library have continued to operate mainly from home, with Karen Patel (Librarian) attending the SPR Library on Wednesday afternoons.

We held our 2023 Annual General Meeting in person at Vernon Mews in April.

Data Protection Officer's Report Ciaran Farrell

The last reporting year marked the SPR's transition from our Covid 19 set up and restrictions on physical meetings back to a 'new normal' which resembled our pre-pandemic organisational arrangements. We returned to having some physical rather than online meetings for the internal management of the SPR, although online meetings were retained for their convenience in many instances.

During the reporting year the SPR's General Data Protection Implementation Team, GDPRIT, recommenced the task of examining the SPR's entire operation to ensure that the systems that had been put in place were the correct ones and that they were functioning as they were intended. This work had largely been placed on hold as the result of the difficulties in carrying out the detailed work concerned due to Covid in the first instance, and the return to our

new normal in organisational terms in the second. In order to do this GDPRIT held physical and Zoom meetings and exchanged correspondence within GDPRIT, the SPR and with other organisations as we continued our work reviewing and updating the SPR's overarching Privacy and Data Protection policy.

In addition to this we reviewed the operation of the SPR's website and administrative and events email mailing lists. This was to ensure that SPR members can take up the benefits of SPR membership by way of the information services the SPR has to offer, and to publicise SPR events as well as streamlining administration.

Following the successful adoption by the Spontaneous Cases Committee of their Process and Protocol document and a Data Processing Agreement (DPA) in association with GDPRIT, the DPO drew up

a more general form of the DPA for discussion by GDPRIT. This was discussed within GDPRIT to see if the Society could derive general benefit from the provisions of a DPA as a reference and guidance policy particularly in relation to what is known as a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy which was contained within it.

A BYOD policy is recommended for small charitable companies like the SPR by the Charity Commission and the UK's data regulator, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). This is because the SPR is a 'distributed' organisation with many key SPR personnel, Council members, staff and volunteers working from home using their own computers and other communications devices. A BYOD policy is a means by which an organisation like the SPR can ensure that common standards are worked to by all concerned in relation to the safety, security and management of data across the organisation even when people are using their own equipment at home.

During the year the SPR received one Subject Access Request (SAR) which was dealt with on a confidential basis by selected members of GDPRIT.

During the reporting year the Government, acting through the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, carried out a consultation and post Brexit review of the operation of UK GDPR in relation to the Data Protection Act. The Government are reviewing the

provisions of the Act, and its attendant guidance, with a view to relaxing some of the more onerous restrictions and requirements of GDPR. In particular, they want to reduce the burden of red tape for small companies and charities like the SPR.

During the year, I have continued to work with our Policy Advisory Panel (PAP) in order to develop SPR policy that is relevant to the data protection work of the DPO.

I have also made regular reports to the SPR Council on data protection and policy matters related to this as well as communicating with my colleagues within the SPR on data protection matters. This is in keeping with the requirement under the Data Protection Act 2018 for corporate boards of Trustees/Directors to be kept informed and involved with the requirements of data protection work as it applies to their own organisations including ICO guidance.

The DPO looks forward to working with GDPRIT and the PAP in the future as well as with the SPR Council over the forthcoming year.

The Data Protection Officer would like to thank the other members of GDPRIT for all their hard work. They are Peter Johnson (SPR Secretary), Dr Richard Broughton (Honorary Treasurer) and Adrian Ryan (SPR Council member).

The Financial Position

Honorary Treasurer: **Dr Richard Broughton**

The Society continues to operate in a challenging financial environment with inflation driving up operating costs and the 'cost of living crisis' hitting our customary income streams hard. Little comfort can be gained by recognizing that we are in the company of most non-profit organizations across the arts, education, and social welfare.

The Society has found it cost effective to retain the hybrid working model that it adopted during the Covid period, with key personnel working largely from home but maintaining office and library hours commensurate with the demand (which has been much lower since the pandemic). While most of our programmes for academics and the public are being conducted over Zoom, this past year we adopted a hybrid format for our Annual Conference with both on-site and video participation. [This conference was just outside the reporting period.] The Workshops (Study Days) will move to that format as well early in 2024. Our completely on-line talks and discussion group evenings remain popular. Despite

editorship changes both the *Journal* and the *Magazine* continue to be produced to a high standard, but skyrocketing mailing charges have led the Society to encourage on-line receipt of our publications.

We continue to keep a close rein on operating expenses though items such as printing and mailing costs have risen dramatically. Website costs were also up due to an expensive but required upgrade to our main website. Unsurprisingly membership has dipped slightly this year resulting in lower income, but this was largely offset by higher income from our online activities.

Quite in contrast to the situation facing many of our members, our investments have done well this year, reversing losses of last year. We were able to provide nearly £64,000 in support of psychical research projects in the UK and overseas. This support from the Society is vitally important for both early career researchers and students as well as

established scientists who are unable to obtain financial support for research from the usual sources.

Again, the Society has weathered a difficult year in reasonable financial shape thanks to the continued hard work of our staff and volunteers to provide our services as economically as possible. Particularly this year we can see the effect of the cost-of-living crisis on our membership which, for many people, especially for students and young people, is a matter of discretionary income. More than ever it remains vitally important that the Society receives donations to the general fund that can provide the additional income required to offer our scientific and educational services at the lowest possible costs to our members. Those who are in a position to be generous now can help future generations of

psychical researchers develop into productive scientists.

This year the Society benefited from a small bequest, and I would like to take this opportunity to remind our members of the importance of maintaining the SPR's work for the future when they are reviewing their charitable giving plans. Remember that your Will can be an important way to support the SPR and we would be happy to discuss this and other ways of making substantial contributions.

The accounts have been subject to an Independent Examination and no issues of concern have been noted. The full report of this examination is included in financial statement.

Charity registration number 207325

Company registration number 00044861 (England and Wales)

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Directors and Trustees	The members of Council – Page 2
Secretary	P M Johnson
Charity number	207325
Company number	00044861
Registered office	1 Vernon Mews London W14 0RL
Accountants	PK Group Ventures Limited 1 Parkshot Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD
Independent examiner	PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 1 Parkshot Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ NatWest Bank plc 55 Kensington High Street London W8 5ZG
Investment advisors	BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd PO Box 366 Darlington DL1 9RF

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

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THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objects of the charity, principal activities and organisation work for the public benefit

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

Development, activities and achievements this year and future developments

These matters are addressed in the attached Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net deficit before gains or loss on investments of £159,102 (2022: £113,983). Gains on investments changed from a decrease of £155,010 in 2022 to an increase of £156,458 in the current year. This was as a result of the positive movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was a decrease of £2,644 (2022: £268,993).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, decreased by this amount from £3,814,826 as at 30 September 2022 to £3,812,182 as at 30 September 2023.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Society

Details of the movements in fixed assets are set out in note 14 to the accounts.

Reserves available

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts under "Charitable Activities Costs" (Note 8). The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research, as described in Note 21 of the Accounts. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 21) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 21) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds, and this transfer to the general fund is shown in Note 21.

Investment policy and returns

Council is empowered to direct the investment of surplus funds of the General Fund and the capital of the restricted funds in whichever way it sees fit, subject to the investment guidelines of the Charity Commission. The Society's portfolios of listed investments is now managed by its investment managers, BNY Mellon Fund Managers, the parent company of its former investment managers Newton Investment Management Limited. The investment performance is monitored on a regular basis by the Hon. Treasurer.

Grants

Research grants are awarded on an annual basis by the Research Grants Committees and are sourced from the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund.

Risk Management

The trustees review as part of their regular Council meetings all potential areas of risk which may affect the Society. Procedures are in place to identify and mitigate risk.

Plans for future periods

With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Near term plans including continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund.

Directors and trustees

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further seven co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 24 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will continue in operation.

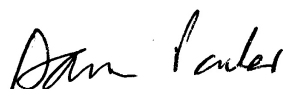
The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving this report, there is no relevant information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, the trustees, individually, have taken all necessary steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees' report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees and signed on its behalf by:



A D Parker
Trustee

Date: 2 May 2024

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research (the charity) for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

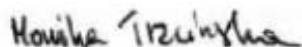
Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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



Monika Trzcinska FCCA
PK Audit LLP
Chartered Accountants
1 Parkshot
Richmond
TW9 2RD

Dated: 2 May 2024

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	10,773	125	10,898	7,953
Charitable activities	4	2,484	-	2,484	3,625
Membership and journal subscriptions	5	36,602	-	36,602	38,973
Investments		23,566	40,420	63,986	59,502
Other income	6	2,715	320	3,035	2,460
Total income		76,140	40,865	117,005	112,513
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	7	31,650	-	31,650	17,060
Charitable activities	8	100,839	119,979	220,818	187,353
Governance costs	11	23,639	-	23,639	22,083
Total expenditure		156,128	119,979	276,107	226,496
Net outgoing resources before gains/(losses) on investments		(79,988)	(79,114)	(159,102)	(113,983)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	58,228	98,230	156,458	(155,010)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(21,760)	19,116	(2,644)	(268,993)
Gross transfers between funds		(21,289)	21,289	-	-
Net movement in funds		(43,049)	40,405	(2,644)	(268,993)
Fund balances at 1 October 2022		2,194,252	1,620,574	3,814,826	4,083,819
Fund balances at 30 September 2023		2,151,203	1,660,979	3,812,182	3,814,826

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	1,271,526	-	1,271,526	1,271,119
Investments	15	936,008	1,621,370	2,557,378	2,510,776
		<u>2,207,534</u>	<u>1,621,370</u>	<u>3,828,904</u>	<u>3,781,895</u>
Current assets					
Stocks	16	2,706	-	2,706	3,143
Debtors falling due within one year	17	5,411	4,108	9,519	7,946
Cash at bank and in hand		(16,154)	56,899	40,745	93,540
		<u>(8,037)</u>	<u>61,007</u>	<u>52,970</u>	<u>104,629</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(48,294)	(21,398)	(69,692)	(71,698)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		<u>(56,331)</u>	<u>39,609</u>	<u>(16,722)</u>	<u>32,931</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>2,151,203</u>	<u>1,660,979</u>	<u>3,812,182</u>	<u>3,814,826</u>
Income funds					
General restricted funds		-	1,660,979	1,660,979	1,620,576
General unrestricted funds		<u>2,151,203</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,151,203</u>	<u>2,194,250</u>
		<u>2,151,203</u>	<u>1,660,979</u>	<u>3,812,182</u>	<u>3,814,826</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 30 September 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 2 May 2024.



A D Parker
Trustee



R S Broughton

Company registration number 00044861

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Incorporated Society For Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the charity's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of cost crisis as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received. Government grants are accounted for when receivable and included in other sales.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure associated with the delivery of activities meeting charitable objects and comprises direct costs relating to these activities. Governance costs include those costs associated with the governance of the charitable company and include audit fees and costs limited to the strategic management of the charitable company.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity comprise costs that can be allocated directly to such activities to support them. The company makes grants to individuals for research which furthers the charity's objects and as agreed by the Trustees.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold land and buildings	Over 100 years
Furniture & equipment	15% p.a. on written down value
Computer equipment	25% p.a on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.6 Fixed asset investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each balance sheet date, the company reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss and if so the extent of the loss

1.8 Stocks

Stocks of publications and other items for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, due allowance being made for slow-moving and obsolete items.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has only financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognized at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.10 Taxation

As a charity, the Society is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.13 Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at total net income.

1.14 Library

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Residual value of the leasehold property

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives. As at 30 September 2023 the estimated residual value of the leasehold amounted to £1,264,610 (2022: £1,264,610).

3 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Gifts and donations	291	125	416	2,453
Bequests and legacies	10,482	-	10,482	5,500
	<u>10,773</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>10,898</u>	<u>7,953</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

4 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Conferences	-	-	-	2,133
Lectures	746	-	746	842
Study days	1,738	-	1,738	650
	<u>2,484</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,484</u>	<u>3,625</u>

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Membership and journal subscriptions	<u>36,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,602</u>	<u>38,973</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Royalties	617	-	617	421
Other income	509	-	509	12
Publication and other sales	1,400	276	1,676	1,764
Other sales	118	-	118	225
Interest	71	44	115	38
	<u>2,715</u>	<u>320</u>	<u>3,035</u>	<u>2,460</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Publication costs	31,650	-	31,650	17,060
	<u>31,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,650</u>	<u>17,060</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	82,028	-	82,028	72,213
Depreciation and impairment	1,681	-	1,681	1,548
Software	2,432	-	2,432	2,482
Website and internet expenses	6,031	-	6,031	12,883
Grants for research and education	3,750	102,426	106,176	74,167
Administration fee	(17,553)	17,553	-	-
Lectures	320	-	320	489
Library and archive	254	-	254	214
Premises	7,604	-	7,604	6,824
Postage and stationery	4,083	-	4,083	3,711
Telecommunications	680	-	680	615
Study days	263	-	263	-
Advertising & Marketing	169	-	169	202
General expenses	9,097	-	9,097	12,005
	<u>100,839</u>	<u>119,979</u>	<u>220,818</u>	<u>187,353</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

9 Trustees remuneration and related party transactions

No trustee or member of Council received remuneration during the year in their capacity as trustees or directors. Travel and other expenses amounting to £123 (2022: £917) were reimbursed to Council members.

The following Council members received honoraria in recognition of specialised services rendered to the Society and in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Dr C. E. Cooper: £1,008 (2022: £4,313) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund and £71 (2022: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Mr R. McLuhan £8,057 (2022: £9,860) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project.

Dr M. Schofield £3,600 (2022: £3,180) as Editor of Journal.

Prof. C. A. Roe: £9,508 (2022: £7,638) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £6,343 (2022: £7,041) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund and £52 (2022: £Nil) for travel expenses.

Dr T. H. Ruffles £5,611 (2022: £5,300) as Hon Communications Officer.

Dr L Ruickbie £800 (2022: £Nil) for typesetting fees.

Dr D J Vernon £320 (2022: £Nil) for internet expenses.

Other than these payments and receipts no trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
	7	7
	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Employment costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	79,398	68,707
Social security costs	1,206	610
Other pension costs	1,424	2,896
	<u>82,028</u>	<u>72,213</u>
	<u>82,028</u>	<u>72,213</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

11 Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Legal and professional fees	14,592	-	14,592	13,648
Audit fee	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
Bank and credit card charges	2,687	-	2,687	2,435
Council meetings	360	-	360	-
	<u>23,639</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,639</u>	<u>22,083</u>

12 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrealised gain on investments	35,585	55,560	91,145	(208,844)
Gain/(loss) on sale of investments	22,643	42,670	65,313	53,834
	<u>58,228</u>	<u>98,230</u>	<u>156,458</u>	<u>(155,010)</u>

13 Taxation

As a charity, the Society is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No such charge have arisen in the charity.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Furniture & equipment	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 October 2022	1,264,608	32,403	14,304	1,311,315
Additions	-	339	1,748	2,087
At 30 September 2023	1,264,608	32,742	16,052	1,313,402
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 October 2022	-	26,146	14,050	40,196
Depreciation charged in the year	-	989	691	1,680
At 30 September 2023	-	27,135	14,741	41,876
Carrying amount				
At 30 September 2023	1,264,608	5,607	1,311	1,271,526
At 30 September 2022	1,264,610	6,256	253	1,271,119

The carrying value of land included in land and buildings comprises:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Long leasehold	1,264,610	1,264,610

15 Fixed asset investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation				
Market value at 1 October 2022	927,780	1,582,996	2,510,776	2,747,770
Net additional funds invested/(funds withdrawn)	(50,000)	(59,856)	(109,856)	(81,984)
Increase/(decrease) in market value during the year	58,228	98,230	156,458	(155,010)
Market value at 30 September 2023	936,008	1,621,370	2,557,378	2,510,776
Carrying amount				
Market value at 30 September 2023	936,008	1,621,370	2,557,378	2,510,776
Market value at 30 September 2022	927,780	1,582,996	2,510,776	2,747,770

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

15 Fixed asset investments

(Continued)

Investments at 30 September 2023 comprise 1,597,064 (2022: 1,665,302) units held in Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities.

Unlisted investment

At 1 October 2022 and 30 September 2023 £1

The Society has a 20% beneficial interest in Vernon Mews Management Company Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, under the company number 01791332. The company is dormant and holds the freehold of 30 to 36 (even) North End Road and 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

16	Stocks	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds		
		2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
	Stock of publications etc.	2,706	-	2,706	3,143
		<u>2,706</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,706</u>	<u>3,143</u>
17	Debtors	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds		
		2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:				
	Other debtors	2,290	1,108	3,398	3,938
	Prepayments and accrued income	3,121	3,000	6,121	4,008
		<u>5,411</u>	<u>4,108</u>	<u>9,519</u>	<u>7,946</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

18	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund	Total	Total
			2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
	VAT liability		891	-	891	12,687
	Deferred income - Membership and subscriptions	19	25,503	-	25,503	15,478
	Trade creditors		-	9,483	9,483	-
	Other creditors		294	-	294	204
	Accruals		21,606	11,915	33,521	43,329
			<u>48,294</u>	<u>21,398</u>	<u>69,692</u>	<u>71,698</u>

Other creditors and accruals includes grants payable of £Nil (2022: £16,094).

19 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Other deferred income	<u>25,503</u>	<u>15,478</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	<u>25,503</u>	<u>15,478</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 October 2022	15,478	16,233
Released from previous periods	(15,478)	(16,233)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>25,503</u>	<u>15,478</u>
Deferred income at 30 September 2023	<u>25,503</u>	<u>15,478</u>

20 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The Charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £1,424 (2022 - £2,896).

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

21 Restricted funds

The Society's restricted funds include:

- SPR Research Fund - Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.
- Survival Research Fund - The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death.
- Buckmaster Fund - The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research, and related work.

Movements in the restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance at 1 October 2022	Incoming resources	Movement in funds Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 30 September 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
SPR Research Fund	690,021	22,927	(38,726)	1,418	41,551	717,191
Survival Research Fund	750,908	24,495	(45,551)	5,763	45,384	780,999
Buckmaster Project Fund	179,645	(6,557)	(35,703)	14,109	11,295	162,789
	<u>1,620,574</u>	<u>40,865</u>	<u>(119,980)</u>	<u>21,290</u>	<u>98,230</u>	<u>1,660,979</u>

The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

22 Company Limited by Guarantee

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital. In accordance with the Articles of Association, each member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount, not exceeding £1 each, to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up.

23 Comparative Information

The charitable company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2022 are available in full on the Charity Commission's website.

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research to be held at 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL on Saturday, 27th April 2024 at 5.15 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th April 2023.**
- 2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2023.**
- 3) To elect six members to the Council**
Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter:

C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC.	C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA,
J. Fraser, B.A.	C. A. Roe, BSc., MSc., PhD
R. G. McLuhan, B.A., B.Litt.	A. P. Ryan
- 4) To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.**
- 5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.**

No other business will be transacted at this meeting.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON Saturday, 29th April 2023 at 5.15 p.m.

Prof. Adrian Parker (President of the Society) opened the meeting at 5.15 p.m., welcoming 10 voting members to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30th July 2022.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Minutes of the AGM held on 30th July 2022 should be approved. This was seconded by Mr Farrell and was agreed unanimously.

2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2022.

Prof. Parker explained that the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2022 were not ready to bring to the meeting. This item would be adjourned to a date to be agreed. It was agreed that this date should be Saturday 27th May 2023, at 5.15 p.m.

3) To elect six members to the Council

Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter:

R. S. Broughton, B.A., Ph.D.	T. H. Ruffles, B.Sc., B.A., M.A.,
D. N. Rousseau, B.Sc., Ph.D.	Ph.D., A.R.P.S.
B. J. Carr, M.A., Ph.D.	G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS, MRCPsych
	A. D. Parker, M.A., Ph.D.

Although a vote was not required, Prof. Parker proposed that all six candidates should be elected to serve for three years. This was agreed unanimously, and the six candidates were duly elected.

4) To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.

Dr Broughton proposed that PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants should be reappointed as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006. This was seconded by Dr Vernon and was agreed unanimously. Dr Broughton reported that he was reviewing with The Secretary the possible options for new Accountants, taking into account the costs and the level of service received.

5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Council should be authorised to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants. This was seconded by Prof. Parker and was agreed unanimously.

No other business was transacted at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

RECONVENED ON Saturday, 27th May 2023 at 5.15 p.m.

Dr Broughton welcomed 5 members to the reconvened meeting.

The President was not present; Dr Broughton was appointed as the Chairman.

Item 2) held over from the meeting on Saturday, 29th April 2023. To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2022.

Dr Broughton proposed that the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2022 should be received. This was agreed unanimously.

No other business was transacted at this meeting. The meeting closed at 5.25 p.m.

**NOTES ON CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AT THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 27TH APRIL 2024
IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

CALLUM E COOPER, Ph.D.

Dr Callum E. Cooper joined the SPR in 2007. He became a member of the Survival Research Committee and then Council several years later. He is a senior lecturer and researcher of psychology at the University of Northampton. He is the third-year module coordinator for 'Parapsychology & Anomalous Experiences' and lectures on such topics as: parapsychology, positive psychology, sexual behaviour, and death and loss. He received a PhD from the University of Northampton (2017) exploring the impact of post-death experiences on bereavement, and soon after received a PhD from Manchester Metropolitan University (2018) based on ten years of work he had conducted in parapsychology regarding spontaneous case research and the survival hypothesis. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2009 Eileen J. Garrett Scholarship Award (Parapsychology Foundation), the Dr Gertrude Schmeidler Award (Parapsychological Association), as was a nominee for the 2018 Ockham's Razor Award for Excellence in Skeptical Activism (The Skeptic Magazine / QEDcon). He also holds various positions with research institutes including: Library Fellow of the Eileen J. Garrett – Parapsychology Foundation (2015), Principal Researcher of the Alex Tanous Foundation, Research Associate of Hope Studies Central (University of Alberta), Professional Member of the Parapsychological Association, and Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society.

CIARAN FARRELL

Ciaran was elected to Council at the 2017 AGM and has played an active role in all aspects of the Council's work. Ciaran was appointed by Council in 2017 to fulfil the role of Data Protection Officer (DPO), and to work alongside the Secretary and Honorary Treasurer within a small General Data Protection Regulation Implementation Team, to ensure that the SPR would be made ready for the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation, in May 2018. This significant milestone in the SPR's administration was achieved on time and on budget. Ciaran remains in post as DPO as there is still further work to be done in policy development for data protection and to act as a point of reference and contact for data protection matters.

Ciaran is an active member of the recently formed Policy Working Group and has made valuable contributions to the evaluation and revision of existing SPR policies and also to policy development due to the skills and knowledge he has gained in the charitable and voluntary sectors. He is an active member of the Spontaneous Cases Committee, using the skills and knowledge he has gained through his background in psychical research, practical investigation skills and psychical experiences. Ciaran is also an active member of the Conference Arrangements Committee, which assists the Secretary with the organisation of SPR Conferences. In addition, Ciaran also assists the Secretary by helping out with the general administration of the SPR.

Ciaran has had psychical experiences of various types over the years which started when he was young including a holiday in a haunted house and experiences in haunted hospitals and other locations. He became fascinated by the phenomena, rather than scared by them, and set out to do all he could to understand their nature. He has been carrying out psychical research for several years at the British & Wellcome Libraries, the National Archives & various other institutions. This includes the history and nature of psychical phenomena, entities, apparitions, veridical dreams, telepathy and mediumship. He is particularly interested in comparing veridical information and psychical sense impression data with historical fact.

Ciaran joined the Society in February 2015 and regularly attends SPR Lectures, Study Days and last year's SPR Conference, and he is a regular contributor to the group discussion at these events.

Ciaran is a member of several health-related groups and is a local authority consultant in health & social care. He has also been the Company Secretary of a small business as well as Vice Chair of his local Community Health Council, and a member of its successor bodies, and a School Governor. In addition, he was the chair or vice chair of his local Tenants' Association for many years, and has represented communities at local, regional and national levels in health and housing. He has also been a Trustee of several charities involved in health, housing and education. Ciaran graduated from London University with a joint honours degree in chemistry & physics after obtaining the first part of an engineering, toolmaking apprenticeship. He went on to carry out research for a PhD but was unable to secure funding for his qualification due to the merger of his college with others within the university. He became an honorary student in the college's Philosophy of Science department and engaged in original philosophical research into the mind body problem. He then went on to work for the charity National MIND.

JOHN FRASER, B.A.

John is a current member of the SPR Council and has been Vice Chair Investigations of the Ghost Club – the two oldest groups in the country that study the paranormal. John's active interest in the paranormal dates from the 1980s, when he participated in a long-running series of hypnotic regression experiments, assisting in the co-ordination of sessions and being trained in hypnotic regression techniques. Following a research project regarding the reasons behind supernatural occurrences at Sandwood Bay in Sutherland, he was invited to join the Ghost Club, where he became the Vice Chair (with investigations portfolio) 1998-2004. He joined the SPR in the late 1990s and, in 2003, became a member of the Spontaneous Cases Committee, where he has worked to widen its accessibility to the general public. He was also invited to join the Council in 2008. His 2010 *Ghost Hunting, a Survivors Guide* was one of the first UK books published about the subject since its re-popularisation by TV. Since 2015 John has been working on an extended project of witness testimony regarding the well-publicised phenomena occurring at The Cage in St Osyth, Essex, while also assessing the validity of witness testimony in spontaneous 'paranormal' cases. He has presented some of his findings both at an SPR lecture and in an article in the *Paranormal Review*. One of John's primary aims is to make the SPR more involved in spontaneous cases and 'paranormal' field research and he will be contributing to a forthcoming SPR Study Day on 29th April (ahead of the AGM) on New Approaches to Ghost Hunting, arguing along these lines. John has also appeared in numerous media discussions of the paranormal - including Japanese and Scottish Television, and national BBC radio.

ROBERT McLUHAN, B.A., B.Litt.

Robert McLuhan is a professional journalist who began his career as a foreign correspondent for the *Guardian* and *Economist*, and now writes mainly for *The Week* and for business publications. Robert joined the Society in 1993, making good use of the library to get to grips with psychical research. In 1998, the Survival Research Committee commissioned him to create an Abstracts Catalogue of all survival-related material in the SPR *Proceedings* and *Journals* from 1884 to the present day. This project was subsequently enlarged to cover all the archive material, taking five years to complete (the entire catalogue can now be accessed in the SPR website's Publications menu). In 2010, he published *Randi's Prize: What Sceptics Say About the Paranormal, Why They Are Wrong, and Why It Matters*, in which he closely compared research reports by psi investigators with the criticisms of sceptics. He has given occasional SPR lectures and contributed to SPR Study Days on topics such as mediumship, and reincarnation research, and scepticism. In 2014, he was commissioned to manage the Buckmaster Publications project, beginning with the creation of the online Psi Encyclopedia. He has also overseen the redesign of the SPR website. He contributes book reviews to the *Journal* and writes essays about paranormal matters on his blog Paranormalia.com.

CHRIS A. ROE, Ph.D.

Chris Roe joined the Society in 1991 and was co-opted onto Council in 1997 when he took over as Editor of the *Paranormal Review*. In 2003, he became Editor of the SPR's *Journal*. He studied Psychology at Edinburgh University and returned there to study for a PhD as part of the Koestler Parapsychology Unit. In 1995, he took up a lectureship in Psychology at the University of Northampton and was responsible for introducing parapsychology into the undergraduate Psychology course at Northampton and has helped to establish the Centre for the Study of Anomalous Psychological Processes, which includes ten academic staff and nine PhD students with interests in parapsychology and transpersonal psychology. He is the Perrott-Warrick Senior Researcher and Professor of Psychology at the University of Northampton. He is currently President of the Parapsychological Association and Chair of the Transpersonal Psychology Section of the British Psychological Society. He is a member of the Scientific Board of the BIAL Foundation and the International Affiliate for the Parapsychology Foundation representing England. He has personally conducted laboratory-based research on ESP and PK but also has a long-standing interest in psychic readers and readings.

ADRIAN RYAN

Adrian is a freelance business systems analyst for the financial services industry, with a long-standing interest in parapsychology and psychical research. He serves on several of the Society's committees and is a member of the Editorial Board of the Society's *Journal*. He is also a member of the Scientific & Medical Network and a Professional Member of the Parapsychological Association. Adrian recently assisted in migrating the Society's membership database onto new technology, enabling email communication with members and online renewals and registration for events. He is currently undertaking a project to implement an open data repository for parapsychological and psychical research data, and is also conducting research into environmental influences on psi. Adrian is keen to represent younger members of the Society and will always work to ensure that legacies received by the Society are utilised in accordance with the deceased's wishes.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 207325

Accounts



**The Incorporated
SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH**

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

1st October 2021 to 30th September 2022

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COUNCIL, OFFICERS, STAFF AND ADVISERS as at 30th September 2022

President: Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD

Vice-Presidents

Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD

Dr A. O. Gauld, MA, PhD, DLitt
Prof. J. C. Poynton, MSc, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS

Elected Members of Council

Mrs M. E. Barton
Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Dr B. G. Colvin, BSc, PhD
Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes,
PhD, CPsychol., FHEA
Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC
Mr J. Fraser, BA

Dr G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS,
MRCPsych
Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt
Mr A. D. Murdie, LLB
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc,
PhD, AFBPsS
Dr D. N. Rousseau, BSc, PhD
Mrs J. A. Rousseau, BSc

Dr T. H. Ruffles, BSc, BA, MA, PhD,
ARPS
Dr L. Ruickbie, BA, MA, PhD, Assoc.
of King's College
Mr A. P. Ryan
Dr M. J. Willin, BMus, MMus, PhD,
LRAM

(for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006 the elected members of Council are directors)

Co-opted Members of Council

Mr D. R. Bury, AFBPsS., CPsychol, BA (Theol), MA,
Dip Psychol, Dip Couns
Dr D. L. Erickson, MBA, PhD
Mr S. T. Parsons

Dr M. B. Schofield, BSc, MRes, PhD
Dr D. J. Vernon, BSc, PhD
Dr Z. Weaver, BA, PhD

Council Appointments

Officers:

Hon. Secretary – Dr Kidd

Hon. Treasurer – Dr Broughton

Other appointments:

Hon. Editor, Journal & Proceedings – Dr Schofield
Editorial Assistant – Dr Tammy Dempster
Associate Editor – Dr Weaver
Hon. Editor, Paranormal Review – Dr Ruickbie
Hon. Communications Officer – Dr Ruffles

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer – Dr Willin
Hon. Website Manager – Dr Erickson
Website Content Manager – Mr Nemo Mörck
Data Protection Officer – Mr Farrell
Hon. Book Review Editor, JSPPR – Mr Nemo Mörck

Secretary: Mr Peter Johnson

Librarian: Mrs Karen Patel

Council Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
Education & Publicity	Prof. Carr	Dr Erickson, Mr McLuhan, Mr Nemo Mörck, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruickbie, Dr Ruffles
Research Grants	Mr Ryan	Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delanoy, Dr Gauld, Prof. Caroline Watt
Buckmaster Oversight	Dr Broughton	Prof. Carr, Mr Fraser, Mr Murdie, Dr Kidd, Mr Ryan, Dr Weaver
Library	Dr Ruffles	Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Mr Mörck, Dr John Newton, Mrs Patel, Prof. Poynton, Dr Willin
Spontaneous Cases	Dr Kidd	Dr Colvin, Dr Cooper, Mr Paul Cropper, Ms Beth Darlington, Mr Farrell, Mr Fraser, Mr Ashley Knibb, Mr Murdie, Dr John Newton, Mrs Claire O'Malley, Dr Ruickbie
Survival Research	Mrs Barton	Mr Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Cooper, Dr Gauld, Dr Rousseau, Dr David Saunders
Editorial Board	Prof. Parker	Prof. Stephen Braude, Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delanoy, Dr Gauld, Dr James Houran, Dr Harvey Irwin, Dr Julia Mossbridge, Prof. Roe, Prof. Poynton, Mr Ryan, Dr Stefan Schmidt, Prof. Caroline Watt, Dr Robin Wooffitt
Conference Programme	Dr Cooper	Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Murdie, Prof. Parker, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles

Professional Advisers

Auditors & Accountants PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants
Investment Manager Newton Investment Management Ltd.

ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the President - Professor Adrian Parker

This year's annual report for the period 1 October 2021 until 30 Sept 2022 covers the difficult time of slow recovery from the Covid restrictions and their impact. There were however some uplifting events in the year, one of which was that several SPR members received awards in the form of prize money from the aerospace entrepreneur Robert Bigelow. In fact, of the 30 or so prize winners, many, perhaps close to half were SPR members including the third prize winner Leo Ruickbie. The Zoom-based meetings also contributed to maintaining a level of enthusiasm in enabling us to meet leading experts in this area who otherwise would have been inaccessible for financial reasons. David Vernon continued his successful recruitment of many leading academic experts to give Zoom talks, but he also dared to deviate by including someone, who spoke of his own personal experiences: Graham Nicholls gave insights as to the failures as well as successes with OBEs. Zoom webinars have spread to other European SPRs and one of my ambitions has been to make these talks more accessible to our membership. For instance, the Swedish SPR hosted with free access for SPR Members, to talks by the comedian John Cleese and the Edward Kelly, the recipient of the Myers Medal for his series of edited books on Consciousness. Most recent were the inspiring lectures by Cal Cooper and Chris Roe on ADEs, Michael Nahm on materialisations and Bernard Carr on Bridging Mind Matter and Spirit. These and others are freely accessible via the website parapsykologi.se. The Freiburg Institute holds a regular colloquium on Tuesdays (sometimes in English) with guest speakers. Although we endeavor to advertise such talks via the SPR website, in order to be notified in advance of such talks members because of confidentiality must update their communications preferences in order to be informed of external events via email.

There was inevitably a drawback to Zoom meetings in that it became harder to justify arranging physical meetings but there appears to be now a growing desire for direct interaction. Nevertheless, the consensus in 2022 was for the Annual Conference for 2022 to be in the form of a Zoom-based webinar, with audience participation via the Chat and Q&A functions. The conference, chaired by the socially gifted Cal Cooper (now Professor Cal Cooper), was a success with about 100 participants. There were four outstanding invited speakers: the skeptic David Marks who now sees a deeper meaning in his personal synchronicities, Bigelow essay prize-winners Leo Ruickbie and Jeffery Mishlove, and the internationally well-known clinical psychologist and philosopher Harald Walach, author of many reports and books including *The Galileo Commission Report*.

Despite the gains that were linked of zoom technology, the importance of direct social contact is

recognised, so like many organisations, we are attempting to more forward and arrange hybrid sessions for conferences some study days and some study days. Major change take time and we are most thankful for the continued membership support especially during this transitional period when the SPR has also had to deal with major leadership changes. The editor of the Magazine of the SPR, Leo Ruickbie accepted employment from the Bigelow Institute for Consciousness Studies. The much-valued input and the skills of Leo in developing this magazine have not been easy to replace and as consequence there has been a delay in maintaining the flow of issues in the intervening period. Bernard Carr after nearly 40 years of enabling an enormous and rich output in the educational role of the SPR and, not least, arranging our Study Days, decided to stand back and will be succeeded by a collaborative effort from David Vernon and Cal Cooper. The SPR is most grateful for the Herculean services of Bernard during these years. I will alert readers to the rich treasure house of recorded Study Days and Conferences that is available on the SPR website. David Vernon's very popular SPR Web Events can also be found here.

A further demand on resources concerned the *JSPR* which changed its type setters creating delays in publication. The high standard of the content is being maintained by the Hon. Editor, Malcolm Schofield and our Hon. Book Review Editor, Nemo Mörck (although I am told there is a shortage of expert book reviewers).

Another positive aspect of this period is that the work of investigating spontaneous cases has proceeded with energy and enthusiasm. I recommend the essay in the 2022 issue 5 of *The Magazine of the SPR* by Graham Kidd, chairperson of the Spontaneous Cases Committee. describing its aims, purposes, and current activities. The SPR website has become a rich source of information, which I suspect are not readily discovered by the membership, so I mention here a just a couple of examples: the reviews and blog activities of Tom Ruffles and Nemo Mörck. Nemo who, alongside Deborah Erickson, is the Website Content Manager, has made valuable contributions towards updating the website.

Much of work at the SPR goes unnoticed or without due recognition. I have been recently impressed by the competence shown by our Treasurer, Richard Broughton, and SPR Secretary, Peter Johnson, in administering and overseeing our finances and web platform activities such as membership and event management, and in continuing to stay updated on digital developments. These activities demand both technical and social competence and deserve recognition. Also, Melvyn Willin continues to work tirelessly maintaining the SPR's archives held at

Cambridge University Library as well as the audiovisual material held at his own home; and the Psi Encyclopedia continues to develop under the editorship of Robert McLuhan.

The reports here from the various committees, especially Survival Research Committee, Research Grants Committee, Buckmaster Oversight Committee, the library Committee, all evidence how the society has continued to

make active and meaningful contributions during this transition period to normality or hopefully to what will become an enhanced perception of what is considered normality.

I commend this report to the Society's members and other interested bodies.

RESEARCH

Report of the Research Grants Committee

Chairman: Adrian Ryan

At the start of the period Prof. Deborah Delaney stepped down as chair of the committee and I was elected to take over this role. I'd like to thank Deborah for her many years of service as chair and I'm delighted that she continues to serve as a committee member and offer the committee her considerable experience. Deborah has done an excellent job of documenting the committee's Terms of Reference and processes, which makes my job that much easier.

I am delighted to announce that we have a new committee member, Prof. Caroline Watt. Caroline of course has enormous experience in our field, with a particular focus on methodology, and I'm very happy to have her on board. Dr Alan Gauld, whilst still a committee member, was not able to contribute to the assessment of grant applications this year due to failing health.

We received ten grant applications in the period, and after careful deliberations the committee decided to fund five of these. We send our congratulations to the successful applicants and wish them every success with

their research. The successful applicants are as follows:

Chris Roe - Testing the theory of 'First Sight' using the Bem 'feeling the future' paradigm - £7,041.90

Etzel Cardena - Participant versus independent judging: an empirical evaluation of two Ganzfeld/hypnosis datasets. - £6,500.00

Steve Parsons - Examination of a potentially new type of visual phenomena which has appeared in photographs and video predominantly taken using cameras fitted to mobile phones and similar devices. - £3,600.00

Marc Wittmann - VR video game induced psi experiences in red and green Ganzfeld - £3,543.00

Samantha Treasure - The role of spontaneous and deliberate out-of-body experiences in Korean shamanism - £1,051.05

The total value of grants awarded this year is £21,735.95.

I would like to encourage SPR members to consider making donations and/or bequests specifically to the SPR's Research Fund, so that we can continue to support this important work far into the future.

Report of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee (BOC)

Chairman: Dr Richard S. Broughton

The role of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee is to oversee the projects approved by Council that are funded by a legacy from Mr Nigel Buckmaster. During the past year the committee has continued to monitor the two projects remaining in its portfolio.

The SPR's online Psi Encyclopedia, the flagship project of the Buckmaster fund continues to provide an unmatched online information source for Psychical Research under the direction of Editor Robert McLuhan. Details of its activities this year are in the report of the Education and Publicity Committee.

The Systems Methodology for Exploratory Science project under Dr David Rousseau is finally nearing completion but continues to experience delays due to family matters. The remaining and final product of this project is a practical handbook for applying Systems Methodology to the problems of psychical research, and this is now expected early in 2023. A collection of published and unpublished papers arising from this project is now available in the SPR Library.

The BOC is pleased to report that the projects are proceeding satisfactorily and that benefits of Mr Buckmaster's generosity are being realised by our scientific colleagues as well as by our members and the general public.

Report of the Spontaneous Cases Committee

Chairman: Graham Kidd

Applications to join the SCC has been gratifyingly plentiful, and we are in the process of considering four. Ashley Knibb has re-joined bringing with him his usual enthusiasm. We are pleased to have two new members of the SCC, both experienced in the field, Claire O'Malley and Beth Darlington. We have four more to consider. The aim is to have as many members as possible that are well qualified, committed and available to carry out what may be termed routine work on a regular basis, other long-standing members hopefully being available for consultation. Prof Dieppe incidentally found himself unable to continue membership but has been available for consultation.

The past year otherwise has been relatively uneventful until, it so happens, recently. The "Have You Had a Paranormal Experience?" inbox continues to register a steady stream of experiences of all conceivable types, most of which may be classified as two or three out of five on the "Subjective Unit of Evidentiality" scale, as measured by the Case Coordinator. Few have no value, being either clearly medical in nature, or wanting to advertise a book or share a pet theory, which may occasionally be of interest. All cases which have some value, whether fully investigated, are in the process of being downloaded to a digital database, provided the appropriate permission box has been ticked. Four cases in 2022 were offered to the Magazine for publication, and hopefully will be published this year.

The membership of the SCC has proffered their specialisms and are allocated cases accordingly for further investigation. The aim is to formulate hypotheses concerning each type of case, with the hope of accumulating a sufficient number of similar cases over time to be able to draw conclusions. We have been meeting to discuss cases every four to six weeks via Zoom but are intending to meet in person at Vernon Mews in March.

The past year there have been some 114 submissions. A rough breakdown of basic classifications of experiences are as follows: JOTTs 4, PK ability 5, Spiritual experiences 2, Levitation 1, After Death Communication 3, orbs 5, telepathy 10, clairvoyance 4, UFO 1,

Report of the Survival Research Committee

Chairman: Marian Barton

I would like to offer my appreciation to the Survival Research Committee members Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Callum Cooper, Dr Alan Gauld, Dr David Rousseau and Dr David Saunders for their help and support this year. They have very carefully considered the applications we have received for grants and whether they

poltergeists (including historical and transient) 10, past life 1, NDEs 3, OBEs 1, premonitions 18, healing 2, apparitions, including several of dead pets, 6, Time slips 3, Possessed 8, voices 2, hauntings 6, mediumship 8, and media (odd photos, possible EVPs etc) 6. One particularly intriguing photo was of the bottom half of what could be a Victorian ladies dress and shoes, taken at a modern wedding at the home of a Victorian author, Margeret Munthe, a painting of which matches accurately the perceived dress.

All members are naturally keen to do field research with ongoing hauntings and poltergeists, which are of course relatively rare. However, as with busses, four possibly worthwhile cases have turned up this January. One involves a family of six, who have been experiencing apparitions of small coins, some 400 to date, appearing suddenly, a phenomenon I am inclined to dub "Pennies from Heaven", but their experiences have been frightening at times, including being pushed, and held round the throat, and such like, and having objects thrown at them. The size and makeup of the household make this a complicated case to clarify reported experiences, but videos via CCTV have demonstrated an apparent assault on the cheek of the adult male of the household by an invisible entity, and the sudden appearance of a small coin on the carpet of the landing, precede by a rap which caught the attention of the person who had just walked past. There was no indication of any flight path of the coin. The video and sound are being analysed.

The case was first brought to the attention of the SCC in January 2021, but investigation stalled because of the lockdown. It was reintroduced to us by a member whose attention was drawn to it by the householder in his capacity as a member of ASSAP, Tony Hayes, who has kept a detailed diary of events and observations. He sought help from us, with the permission of the experiencer, and arrangements have been made for Ciaran Farrell and Tony's ASSAP colleague, Caroline McKendrick, also an SPR member, for a weekend visit with appropriate devices at end of January. We hope for an interesting report that may increase our understanding of these mysterious phenomena.

are appropriate for support.

The following are the awards we have made this year to those in the UK, Brazil, Switzerland and Germany:

- Professor Chris Roe £7,637 for 'Investigation of phenomenology and impact of perceived direct

- and spontaneous after-death communications’.
- Dr Eric Vinicius Avila Pires and Associate Professor Alexander Moreira-Almeida £5,000 for ‘Assessment of adults who claimed past-life memories when they were children: a ‘retrospective cohort’.
- Dr Callum Cooper £4,313.28 ‘Binding and Preservation of SPR (and related material) of concern to survival’. For the use of students of the Library of Northampton University.

- Adrian Weibel and David Garcia £2,500 for ‘Project MedSty’.

We wish them every success in their research.

We have not held a Gwen Tate Lecture this year. However, we continue to give some support to the valuable work of the Hon. Archives Liaison Officer. We also respond to survival-related enquiries referred to us by the Hon. Communications Officer which come into the SPR via the Contact Us link on the SPR website.

Report of the Library Committee

Chairman: Dr Tom Ruffles

The Library Committee approves acquisitions for the Vernon Mews library. The Committee members are Graham Kidd, Robert McLuhan, Nemo Mörck, John Newton, Karen Patel (librarian and committee secretary), John Poynton, Tom Ruffles (chair) and Melvyn Willin.

During the current reporting year, 83 loans were made (compared to 73 the previous year). Fourteen books were purchased at a cost of £260.54. A book collection was received from the estate of Robin Foy, and a further 11 books were donated. We are very grateful to donors for

their generosity. The librarian continues to operate a sale of second-hand books, available via the website as well as in the library.

The library is open each Wednesday afternoon. For those members unable to visit in person, the postal loan service has proved useful; details are available from the librarian. The library catalogue, as well as details of our archive held at Cambridge University Library, can be viewed on the website.

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer’s Report

Dr Melvyn Willin

The work of cataloguing and conservation has continued unaffected by Covid and visits to institutions including Cambridge University Library have re-started albeit with more difficulty than before because of access. Correspondence and meetings with a number of academics, members of the SPR and the general public have been undertaken when they have had a variety of queries.

Archive material has continued to be acquired, sorted, conserved and catalogued. This includes a collection of original handwritten scripts which would seem to be part of the cross-correspondences from the granddaughter of Lady Kremer; a number of A.C. Clarke’s films; Serena Roney Dougal’s substantial archive; and a large collection of books and magazines which were donated by the Robin Foy estate and the Oxford Psychophysical Society.

I have had various meetings with film companies who are interested in filming aspects of the SPR’s work and was instrumental in setting-up a forthcoming Enfield poltergeist series of documentaries which resulted in a substantial donation being made to the SPR for the use of our archive material.

Regular contact has been made with the College of Psychic Studies concerning the borrowing of archive material for a proposed exhibition and possible purchase of artwork in need of restoration.

After I contacted Lord Rayleigh, I received a positive reply from him concerning psychical research material that may be held on the estate and his archivist will be in touch should anything arise with a view to donating it to the SPR.

I finish with a request repeated from previous years and tinged with disappointment at the lack of response. Some members receive financial and archival support from the SPR. Could they PLEASE send me copies of their dissertations, photographs, correspondence and articles for inclusion in the archives when they are of relevance to psychical research. We need more contemporary material to add to the enormous amount of research deposited in the past. Items given to the SPR archives will then be available in the future for the education of the public and academics alike.

Education and Publicity Committee

Chairman: Professor Bernard Carr

The Education and Publicity Committee (EPC) coordinates the SPR's educational activities and develops strategies for publicising these. The promotion of our events is now primarily via the internet and our website, so our members include Robert McLuhan (chair of the former Electronic Communications Committee), Deborah Erickson (Honorary Website Manager) and Nemo Mörck (Website Content Manager). Deborah also covers some of these activities in her individual report. Other members in the period of this report were Tom Ruffles (Honorary Communications Officer), Leo Ruickbie (editor of *The Magazine*) and Chris Roe.

This year has seen a continuation of the change in our educational activities due to the pandemic, with online rather than physical meetings. In particular, we now hold regular evening webinars, organised and chaired by David Vernon. In the reported period, webinars were given by Gary Schwartz, Diane Hennacy Powell, Julia Mossbridge, Rupert Sheldrake, Graham Nicholls, Jerry Kroth, Marco Bastos, Eric Dullin, David Orme-Johnson and Jan Holden. Although we miss meeting physically, webinars have the advantage of attracting speakers and participants from all over the world and it also reduces the expenses involved.

Our educational role includes overseeing evening forums and study days. After a break due to the pandemic, Dennis Bury and Ciaran Farrell restarted the forums but in virtual form. There was one in May 2022 on poltergeists, with a presentation by John Fraser, and another in September 2022 on precognition. There was no study day in Autumn 2021 because of the pandemic but an online study day, "The SPR after 140 years: Looking to the Future", was held in May 2022 to mark the 140th anniversary of our founding. It was chaired and introduced by Bernard Carr and featured talks by Richard Noakes, Leo Ruickbie, Zofia Weaver, Melvyn Willin and Adrian Parker. There was a follow-up study day in November 2022 but that was after the year being reported.

The Committee plays a key role in the annual conference, with three of our members (Carr, Roe, and Ruffles) serving on the Programme Committee under the chairmanship of Cal Cooper. This year's conference was held online in September 2022 and included three plenary speakers (Harald Walach, David Marks, Leo Ruickbie) and a panel discussion on the impact of the Bigelow initiative on survival research, with Adrian Parker, Bernard Carr and Jeffrey Mishlove.

Steve Parsons' excellent *Guidance Notes for the Investigation of Spontaneous Cases and Using Equipment:*

Guidance Notes for Investigators of Apparitions, Hauntings, Poltergeists and Similar Phenomena, financed by Buckmaster Fund, are re-establishing the SPR's crucial role in this area. Both booklets are now in the 'required reading' list for students of the Rhine Education Center. Steve has also been working closely with the Ghost Club and ASSAP to promote a common approach across the three major UK organisations. ASSAP have agreed that every member undergoing their investigation training will receive copies of the two Guidance Notes, these setting the standard for their investigators. Ghost-hunting workshops were postponed due to the pandemic but will take place in the coming year. Plans to provide field investigation skills to undergraduate students are also underway, with the first workshop planned to take place at the University of Northampton. Once our website upgrades are complete, it should be possible to download the 'Quick Guides' for free.

As part of the publication activities funded by the Buckmaster bequest, the *Psi Encyclopedia* continues to grow, now with 600 articles and a total of nearly 1.9 million words. A new emphasis is on improving and updating existing articles to take account of the latest research and developments, while also creating new entries on people and topics that have not yet been covered. Particular attention is being given to matters of style, with articles being revised to create consistency throughout. As always, the editor Robert McLuhan is keen to hear from members with comments and suggestions. A second project that was begun in 2020, to create two volumes of essays on aspects of survival research, is also making progress, with the second volume nearing completion and negotiations beginning with academic publishers.

Tom Ruffles regularly responds to enquiries via the website and social media. Frequent references to the SPR, both in print and online, can be followed on our Facebook page and Twitter feed, all of which are overseen by Tom. At the end of the reporting year the Facebook page had 17,782 'likes', and the general Twitter feed had 10,131 followers. These sites publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general. Tom also runs a Twitter feed dedicated to *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 2108 followers. Posts on all three are circulated by readers and thereby reach a very large audience. Significant information relating to the SPR appears on our website as news items posted by Nemo Mörck, who also adds information about new books and their reviews. SPR members frequently make media appearances and these are mostly reported on our website. We continue to build bridges with other organisations since this allows news of our activities to reach a wider audience.

Report of the Hon. Website Manager

Dr Deborah Erickson

The SPR website has continued smooth operations this reporting period. Website Content Manager, Nemo Mörck has continued his excellent work with content maintenance, book reviews, publications, etc. In March our website host, Circle Interactive, advised us our three sites (SPR, Psi Encyclopedia and Psi Open Data) all needed to be migrated to the latest version of the content management platform software. Circle's estimates and

planning continued through the year, and it was agreed the SPR site would be migrated first. SPR review of the migrated test site began in September and Circle corrected issues as they were discovered in testing. The SPR upgraded site went live February 21, 2023. Planning will continue for the Psi Encyclopedia and Psi Open Data sites.

The Journal of the Society for Psychological Research

Editor: **Dr Malcolm Schofield**

This is my second full report as the editor of the *JSPR*, and it covers the period from the 1st of October 2021 to the 30th of September 2022. Three of the four issues have been published. The July 2022 edition will be published shortly. Once again, we had a good spread of articles in the journal: seven peer-reviewed research articles, 17 book reviews and seven letters. Plus, several obituaries and notices. Please note that these figures included the unpublished July 2022 edition. The types of articles were quite diverse, featuring topics such as poltergeists, psi research, and near-death experience. There has also been lively debate on the letters pages, which was good. I am glad the *Journal* has continued to present high-quality articles, although it has been complex sourcing content in the current climate. However, submissions are coming in, and I am confident we will have plenty to go into the subsequent issues.

This year has not been without its challenges. After our original typesetters quit last year, the new typesetters only

produced one issue (July 2021) before also quitting. The *Journal* was already considerably delayed and having to find a new typesetter and get them used to producing the *Journal* extended this delay to nearly ten months.

However, working with the new typesetters on multiple issues at once, thankfully, we are now only delayed by a couple of months. This gap should also be closed shortly.

Once again, my biggest thanks go to Associate Editor Dr Zofia Weaver and the Editorial Assistant Dr Tammy Dempster for their constant support and guidance. I am grateful that we have such a strong team. Whilst it has been inconvenient, to say the least, to lose another typesetter, I must thank Julie Gorman from our new typesetters for her dedication and interest in the subject area. Also, thanks go to the Book Review Editor, Nemo Mörck, for his help and guidance. Thanks to Peter Johnson and the Council for their continuing advice. Finally, thank you to all the reviewers and people who provide articles, book reviews and all the content for the *Journal*.

The Magazine of the Society for Psychological Research

Editor: **Dr Leo Ruickbie**

During the reporting period, I tendered my resignation as Hon. Editor of the *Magazine*. The reasons behind this, the search for a replacement and other factors led to inevitable disruption of the usual publishing schedule. All four issues for this period have been produced, but only three have so far been printed and distributed to members. I was asked to remain in position until a suitable replacement was found, with the understanding that my time would be limited in this capacity due to the change in my circumstances. As such, I continued to field correspondence, solicit future articles and conduct the usual business of the *Magazine*.

Despite the difficulties, many noteworthy articles were published, including Dr Tom Ruffles on 'Forty Years of the Society for Psychological Research's Magazines', Prof. Adrian Parker's essay review of a new book by Luis Portela, Chairman of the BIAL Foundation, Dr Graham Kidd on the work of the Spontaneous Cases Committee, of

which he is Chair, and Michael Jawer wrote about the role of emotion in psi phenomena. Prof. Bernard Carr gave us his reminiscences from a life in psychical research, including marking his fiftieth anniversary as a member of this Society. To mark the Society's 140th anniversary, Dr David Rousseau and Julie Billingham provided an analysis of our history, and I contributed an article on the Society's most recent achievement: the success of five Council Members in winning prizes in the 2021 Bigelow Institute for Consciousness Studies essay contest on the evidence for life after death. My regular contributor Brandon Hodge supplied his usual informative and well-illustrated articles on the history of spirit communication devices.

Once again, it is my pleasure to thank David Ellis for his valuable contribution as proof-reader. The usual marketing activities were also undertaken, with welcome support from the Society's Hon. Communications Officer Dr Tom Ruffles and the website's Content Manager Nemo Mörck. The *Magazine* continued to save the Society

considerable software licensing fees by using open-source solutions.

It has been an honour and a great pleasure these past years to have had the opportunity of serving the Society in the capacity of Hon. Editor.

Annual Conference

Programme Chairman: Dr Callum Cooper, Conference Organiser: Peter Johnson

The 45th SPR International Annual Conference took place 9-11th September 2022, online as a Zoom meeting.

The Annual Conference programme included presentations on many areas of research, split into Survival Issues, Spontaneous Cases, Consciousness Studies and Laboratory work. There were also invited talks from Harald Walach, David Marks and Leo Ruickbie, as well as a Panel Discussion on each day of the meeting. We had a total of 110 attendees at this conference.

Speakers came from around the UK, across Europe and also from the United States, Canada and South

America.

Video recordings and printed abstracts of the conference proceedings are now available on the SPR's website.

A thank you is due the SPR Conference Programme Committee (Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Nemo Mörck, Mr Murdie, Prof. Parker, Prof. Roe & Dr Ruffles), with special thanks to Peter Johnson for dealing with all the technical difficulties. I want to express heart-felt thanks to the invited speakers for so generously giving their personal time.

Secretary's Report

Peter Johnson

In the table below, you will be able to see that our membership numbers have increased again this year,

continuing the trend from last year, with a 4.5% increase in the total number of members at year end.

	Members & Associates			Student Associates			Totals		
	2022	2021	Change	2022	2021	Change	2022	2021	Change
UK	556	575	-3.3%	44	51	-13.7%	600	626	-1%
USA	198	170	16.5%	23	19	21.1%	221	189	16.9%
Other	181	150	20.7%	27	20	35.0%	208	170	22.4%
TOTAL	935	895	4.5%	94	90	4.4%	1029	985	4.5%

Audio recordings of all our events are available free of charge for members only, and for purchase by non-members. Thanks to David Vernon for finding so many interesting speakers for our online Web Events during the year. Thanks to Melvyn Willin for maintaining our archive catalogue of recordings. Please note that, in addition to borrowing physical recordings, members may also listen to recent talks directly from our website.

The Office and Library have continued to operate mainly from home with Karen Patel (Librarian) attending the SPR Library to open it up again on Wednesday afternoons.

We held our 2022 Annual General Meeting in person at Vernon Mews in July.

Data Protection Officer's Report

Ciaran Farrell

The last reporting year has been a difficult one as we have continued to emerge from Covid 19 restrictions and have begun to live with the disease. Therefore, the SPR's operations continued to be largely carried out remotely. This made it difficult to carry out the detailed work which needed to be done in relation to examining the SPR's entire operation to ensure that the systems that had been

put in place were the correct ones and that they were functioning as they were intended to do.

During the reporting year the SPR's General Data Protection Implementation Team, GDPRIT, carried out a review of the operation of Spontaneous Cases Committee, SCC. The DPO assisted the SCC and the Chair of the

committee to adjust and align the customs and working practices of the SCC in order to satisfy the requirements of the GDPRIT review. In particular two documents were produced, the SCC Process and Protocol, P & P document and a Data Process Agreement, DPA. The DPA was drafted by the DPO in consultation with the SCC.

The SCC approved these documents and forwarded them on to GDPRIT for our consideration as part of our review of the SCC's operation. We concluded that the SCC had more than amply satisfied the requirements we had set down in our review document and thanked the SCC for all their hard work.

GDPRIT considered that the SCC's DPA might be used in a more generalised form for use by other SPR committees and across the SPR in general. The DPO is currently working on this in liaison with GDPRIT.

The GDPRIT review of SCC operations and the P & P document as well as the development of a potential cross cutting policy in the form of a generalised DPA have had implications for the full review of the SPR's overarching over-arching Privacy and Data Protection policy. This work was born in mind during the development and liaison that went into the production of these policy documents. It was recognised that a full revision of the Privacy and Data Protection policy should take account of these developments. Therefore, work on the Privacy and Data Protection policy had to be placed on hold.

The previous chair of the SCC commissioned a legal opinion on the operation of GDPR principally in relation to the work of the SCC but also on the work of the SPR in general. The P & P document and the DPA go a long way to address a number of points made in the consultant's report. There are however some issues that remain which are largely of a cross cutting nature. These will need to be addressed before the Privacy and Data Protection policy can be fully reviewed and revised.

During this year, the DPO and GDPRIT have reviewed the operation of the SPR's website in conjunction with the SPR's events Email mailing list. This was to ensure SPR members can take up the benefits of SPR membership by way of the information services the SPR has to offer, and to publicise SPR events.

The Financial Position

Honorary Treasurer: Dr Richard Broughton

The global and domestic economic situations continue to present challenges for the Society. The relief of having emerged from the pandemic in relatively good shape was tempered this year by sharply rising inflation, looming recession, and a general sense of economic uncertainty brought on by erratic government policy and the war in Ukraine.

During the course of the year the Government acting through the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, DCMS, have been carrying out a post Brexit review of the operation of UK GDPR in the form of the Data Protection Act 2018. The Government are reviewing the provisions of the Act, and its attendant guidance, with a view to relaxing some of the more onus restrictions and requirements of GDPR in general. In particular, they want to reduce the burden of red tape for small companies and charities like the SPR.

One specific area in which this might be very helpful to us is that the Government have recognised that the legislation and guidance for research organisations like the SPR is unduly unwieldy and onus, so they are looking to streamline it.

A consultation exercise was carried out by the DCMS which was completed by the end of April 2022. The Government have responded to it by flagging up the points they will be taking further action on. It was anticipated that a Bill would be introduced into Parliament in the autumn of 2022, but this is likely to be delayed due to the change of Prime Minister.

Our Policy Working Group, PWG was wound up this year and a new Policy Advisory Panel was set up. The PAP is led by Ciaran Farrell and will take on the job of drawing up a number of policies, including one on Safeguarding. Therefore, as DPO I can ensure that key policy documents were drawn up with GDPR in mind which will be of mutual benefit to GDPRIT and the PAP.

During the reporting period the DPO had made regular reports on all relevant aspects of data protection work within the SPR and in general to the SPR Council. This is in keeping with the requirement under the Data Protection Act 2018 for corporate boards of Trustees/Directors to be kept informed and involved with the requirements of data protection work as it applies to their own organisations.

The DPO looks forward to working with GDPRIT and the SCC and the PAP in the future as well as the SPR Council over the forthcoming year.

The Data Protection Officer would like to thank the other members of GDPRIT for all their hard work. They are Mr Johnson, Dr Broughton and Mr Ryan.

Over the course of the year the Society effectively emerged from the pandemic restrictions, however, as with many organisations and businesses, it was determined that there were advantages to the ways of operating and offering services that emerged to deal with the pandemic. We continued to make all our offerings to members online because they have been attracting larger numbers of participants from around the world and have been very popular. We have also found that our adjusted office hours

and working from home arrangements seem to fit our members' needs. In the coming year we expect to start offering some of our events, such as study days, in hybrid form merging 'real' participation in our lecture room with 'virtual' participation online.

At the operations level our expenses continue to exceed our income, but we managed to narrow the gap this year thanks in large part to a substantial film rights contract secured by our Honorary Archives Liaison Officer, Melvyn Willin. The long overdue dues increase approved at the November EGM took effect in January and has increased our income from membership fees. We are happy to report that there seems to have been no adverse effect on our membership numbers which are up slightly over last year. Unfortunately, the sharply rising prices for printing, mailing, and other services that we were seeing as the year ended will largely erode these gains in the coming year.

After a good previous year, our investments this year followed the global trend and lost about six percent of overall value, however the yields from the funds that underly our grant-giving programs enabled us to fund several important research projects as reported elsewhere.

The Society has concluded a challenging year in relatively good financial shape thanks to the continued hard work of our staff and volunteers to provide our services as economically as possible. Currently the

country is enduring one of the most severe cost-of-living crises in a generation, and the Society must expect its consequences on membership retention and uptake of our offerings. More than ever, it remains vitally important that the Society receives donations to the general fund that can provide the additional income required to offer our scientific and educational services at the lowest possible costs to our members. Those who are in a position to be generous now can help future generations of psychical researchers develop into productive scientists.

As we have seen this year, income from bequests is another important means of supporting the Society and I would like to take this opportunity to remind our members of the importance of maintaining the SPR's services for the future when they are reviewing their charitable giving plans. Remember that your Will can be an important way to support the work of the SPR and we would be happy to discuss this and other ways of making substantial contributions.

Following a decision of Council, the accounts have been subject to an Independent Examination, replacing the very costly full Audit of previous years and which is not required of the Society. Please note that in the Report, included with the Accounts, references to "members" is a technical usage to refer to members of the Corporation, i.e., the Directors of the Society.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
A company limited by guarantee and without a share capital

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES	The members of Council – Page 2
COMPANY SECRETARY	P M Johnson
COMPANY NUMBER	00044861 (England and Wales)
CHARITY NUMBER	207325
REGISTERED OFFICE	1 Vernon Mews London W14 0RL
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ NatWest Bank plc 55 Kensington High Street London W8 5ZG
INVESTMENT MANAGERS	BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd PO Box 366 Darlington, DL1 9RF
ACCOUNTANTS	PK Group Ventures Limited 1 Parkshot, Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 1 Parkshot, Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Pages:	13-17	Report of the Directors and Trustees
	17	Independent examiner's report
		Accounts, comprising:
	18	Statement of Financial Activities
	19	Balance Sheet
	20 – 28	Notes to the accounts

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

The directors and trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 September 2022.

Objects of the charity, principal activities and organisation of work for the public benefit

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

Development, activities and achievements this year and future developments

These matters are addressed in the attached Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts.

Transactions and financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net deficit before gains or loss on investments of £113,984 (2021: £265,627). Gains on investments changed from an increase of £404,173 in 2021 to a decrease of £155,009 (2021: £404,173) in the current year. This was as a result of the movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was a decrease of £268,993 (2021: increase £669,800).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, decreased by this amount from £4,083,819 as at 30 September 2021 to £3,814,826 as at 30 September 2022.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Society

Details of movements in fixed assets are set out in note 11 to the accounts.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Reserves available

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts under "Charitable Activities Costs" (Note 6). The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research, as described in Note 16 of the Accounts. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds, and this transfer to the general fund is shown in Note 16.

Plans for the future

With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Near term plans including continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund following the acquisition of the Society's new headquarters.

Investment policy and returns

Council is empowered to direct the investment of surplus funds of the General Fund and the capital of the restricted funds in whichever way it sees fit, subject to the investment guidelines of the Charity Commission. The Society's portfolios of listed investments is now managed by its investment managers, BNY Mellon Fund Managers, the parent company of its former investment managers Newton Investment Management Limited. The investment performance is monitored on a regular basis by the Hon. Treasurer.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Grants

Research grants are awarded on an annual basis by the Research Grants Committees and are sourced from the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund.

Directors and trustees

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further seven co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 23 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

Risk management

The trustees review as part of their regular Council meetings all potential areas of risk which may affect the Society. Procedures are in place to identify and mitigate risk.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that year. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Society will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

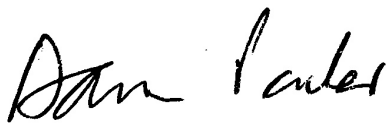
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving this report, there is no relevant information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, the trustees, individually, have taken all necessary steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees on 20th July 2023 and signed on its behalf:

A. D. Parker - President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. D. Parker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Association for the year ended 30 September 2022 set out on pages 18 to 28.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

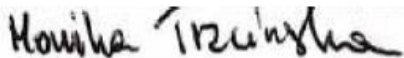
Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Signed:



Date: 24 July 2023

Monika Trzcinska FCCA
PK Audit LLP
Chartered Accountants
1 Parkshot
Richmond
TW9 2RD

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	2	5,815	2,138	7,953	333,062
Membership and journal subscriptions		38,973	-	38,973	34,495
Investment income		21,715	37,787	59,502	51,274
Charitable activities income	3	3,626	-	3,626	6,109
Other income	4	2,137	323	2,460	85,312
TOTAL INCOME		<u>72,266</u>	<u>40,248</u>	<u>112,514</u>	<u>510,252</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED:					
Cost of generating funds:					
Activities for generating funds	5	16,560	500	17,060	22,206
Charitable activities costs	6	103,423	83,932	187,355	199,719
Governance costs	7	22,083	-	22,083	22,700
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>142,066</u>	<u>84,432</u>	<u>226,498</u>	<u>244,625</u>
Net (outgoing) resources before gains/(losses) on investments		(69,800)	(44,184)	(113,984)	265,627
Transfers between funds		(21,334)	21,334	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on investments	8	(56,918)	(98,091)	(155,009)	404,173
Net movement in funds for the year		(148,052)	(120,941)	(268,993)	669,800
Funds brought forward 1 October 2021		2,342,304	1,741,515	4,083,819	3,414,019
Funds carried forward 30 September 2022		<u>2,194,252</u>	<u>1,620,574</u>	<u>3,814,826</u>	<u>4,083,819</u>

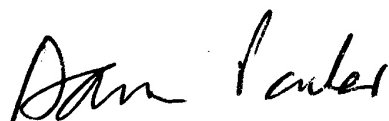
**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible assets	11	6,510	-	6,510	8,058
Leasehold property	11	1,264,610	-	1,264,610	1,264,610
Investments	12	927,780	1,582,996	2,510,776	2,747,770
		2,198,900	1,582,996	3,781,896	4,020,438
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Stocks	13	3,143	-	3,143	3,283
Debtors	14	7,420	526	7,946	87,364
Cash at bank and in hand		39,264	54,276	93,540	32,083
		49,827	54,802	104,629	122,730
CREDITORS:					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(54,475)	(17,224)	(71,699)	(59,349)
NET CURRENT ASSETS /(LIABILITIES)					
		(4,648)	37,578	32,930	63,381
NET ASSETS					
		2,194,252	1,620,574	3,814,826	4,083,819
ACCUMULATED GENERAL RESERVE					
		2,194,252	-	2,194,252	2,342,304
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	16	-	1,620,574	1,620,574	1,741,515
		2,194,252	1,620,574	3,814,826	4,083,819

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

This report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees on 20th July 2023 and signed on its behalf:



A. D. Parker – President



R. S. Broughton - Honorary Treasurer

Registered number: 00044861

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company is a private company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales.

The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

The accounts are prepared in sterling and monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 PREPARATION OF THE ACCOUNTS ON A GOING CONCERN BASIS

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the company's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of cost crisis as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 INCOMING RESOURCES

Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received. Government grants are accounted for when receivable and included in Other Sales.

1.4 RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure associated with the delivery of activities meeting charitable objects and comprises direct costs relating to these activities. Governance costs include those costs associated with the governance of the charitable company and include audit fees and costs limited to the strategic management of the charitable company.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity comprise costs that can be allocated directly to such activities to support them. The company makes grants to individuals for research which furthers the charity's objects and as agreed by the Trustees.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

1.5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets are measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold property	over 100 years
Furniture and equipment	15% p.a. on written down value.
Computer equipment	25% p.a. on cost.

At each balance sheet date, the company reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss and if so the extent of the loss

1.6 STOCKS

Stocks of publications and other items for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, due allowance being made for slow-moving and obsolete items.

1.7 INVESTMENTS

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.8 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at total net income.

1.9 LIBRARY

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

1.10 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has only financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognized at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCE OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Residual value of the leasehold property

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives. As at 31 December 2022 the estimated residual value of the leasehold amounted to £1,264,610 (2021: £1,264,610).

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Gifts and donations	315	2,138	2,453	1,244
Bequests and legacies	5,500	-	5,500	331,818
	<u>5,815</u>	<u>2,138</u>	<u>7,953</u>	<u>333,062</u>

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Conferences	2,133	-	2,133	2,721
Lectures	843	-	842	838
Study days	650	-	650	2,550
	<u>3,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,626</u>	<u>6,109</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

4 OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Publication and other sales	1,446	318	1,764	1,549
Royalties	421	-	421	860
Other sales	225	-	225	245
Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	3,833
Other income	12	-	12	78,825
Interest	33	5	38	-
	<u>2,137</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>2,460</u>	<u>85,312</u>

5 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Publication costs	16,560	500	17,060	22,206
Publicity cost				-
	<u>16,560</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>17,060</u>	<u>22,206</u>

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Grants for research and education	10,149	64,017	74,166	107,483
Conferences	-	-	-	(21)
Lectures	489	-	489	189
Study days	-	-	-	-
Library and archive	214	-	214	641
Staff costs	72,212	-	72,212	66,852
Premises	6,824	-	6,824	5,509
Postage and stationery	3,711	-	3,711	4,436
Telecommunications	615	-	615	530
Website and internet expenses	12,433	450	12,883	4,941
Advertising & Marketing	202	-	202	257
Software	2,068	418	2,486	1,470
General expenses	12,005	-	12,005	5,690
Gift Aid adjustment	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	1,548	-	1,548	1,742
Administration fee	(19,047)	19,047	-	-
	<u>103,423</u>	<u>83,932</u>	<u>187,355</u>	<u>199,719</u>

No member of staff was paid over £60,000. Apart from the payments set out in note 9, the average number of employees in the year was 7 (2021: 7). Staff costs includes £5,082 (2021: £4,885) social security costs.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

7 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Legal and professional fees	13,648	-	13,648	7,936
Council meetings	-	-	-	-
Audit fee	6,000	-	6,000	12,600
Bank and credit card charges	2,435	-	2,435	2,164
	<u>22,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,083</u>	<u>22,700</u>

8 NET GAINS/ (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrealised gain/ (loss) on investments	(65,934)	(142,909)	(208,843)	234,497
Realised gain on investments	9,016	44,818	53,834	169,676
Net gains/ (loss) on investment	<u>(56,918)</u>	<u>(98,091)</u>	<u>(155,009)</u>	<u>404,173</u>

9 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No trustee or member of Council received remuneration during the year in their capacity as trustees or directors. Travel and other expenses amounting to £917 (2021: £299.45) were reimbursed to Council members.

The following Council members received honoraria in recognition of specialised services rendered to the Society and in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Prof A. D. Parker: £550 (2021: £nil) for council meeting expenses and £nil (2021: £5,000) as a grant to his partner, Annekatriin Puhle, from the Survival Research Fund.

Dr C. Cooper: £nil (2021: £nil) for travel expenses and £4,313 (2021: £9,000) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund.

Mr Robert McLuhan £9,860 (2021: £8,647) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project.

Mr Malcolm Schofield £3,180 (2021: £2,880) as Editor of Journal and £nil (2021: £5,481.30) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund.

Mr David Rousseau and Mrs Julie Rousseau £nil (2021: £19,500) as a grant to C-FAR (a non-profit company owned by Dr and Mrs Rousseau) from the Buckmaster Projects Fund.

Prof. C. A. Roe: £7,638 (2021: £5,042) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £7,041 (2021: £nil) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund and £550 (2021: £410) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project.

Dr T. H. Ruffles: £5,300 (2021: £4,800) as Hon Communications Officer.

Dr M. J. Willin: £nil (2021: £1,911.40) from the General Fund, £3,000 (2021: £3,000) from the Survival Research Fund for his work on the archives, £2,404 (2021: £nil) as a grant from the Survival Research

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

Fund, £917 (2021: £299.45) for travel expenses and, £4,884 (2021: £5,440) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project and £40 (2021: £nil) for books purchased.

Dr L Ruickbie £4,417 (2021: £3,999.96) as Editor of the Paranormal Review, £nil (2021: £1,200) for typesetting costs, £nil (2021: £nil) for travel expenses and £1,400 (2021: £5,000) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund.

Mr S T Parsons £3,600 (2021: £nil) for research grant and £400 (2021: £nil) for SPR Guides.

Dr D J Vernon £325 (2021: £nil) for his editorial work on the SPR Journal.

Other than these payments and receipts no trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

10 TAXATION

As a charity, the Society is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No such tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 FIXED ASSETS – Tangible assets

	Leasehold Property £	Furniture & equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 October 2021	1,264,610	32,403	14,304	1,311,317
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 30 September 2022	1,264,610	32,403	14,304	1,311,317
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 October 2021	-	25,043	13,606	38,649
Charge for the year	-	1,104	444	1,548
At 30 September 2022	-	26,147	14,050	40,197
NET BOOK VALUE – 30 September 2022	<u>1,264,610</u>	<u>6,256</u>	<u>254</u>	<u>1,271,120</u>
NET BOOK VALUE – 30 September 2021	<u>1,264,610</u>	<u>7,360</u>	<u>698</u>	<u>1,272,668</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

12a FIXED ASSETS – Investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Investments are shown in the balance sheet at market value. The movement in market values during the year is as follows:-				
Market value at 1 October 2021	1,004,698	1,743,072	2,747,770	2,144,742
Net additional funds invested/ (funds withdrawn)	(20,000)	(61,985)	(81,985)	198,855
Increase/(decrease) in market value during the year	(56,918)	(98,091)	(155,009)	404,173
Market value at 30 September 2022	<u>927,780</u>	<u>1,582,996</u>	<u>2,510,776</u>	<u>2,747,770</u>
UK listed investments	<u>927,780</u>	<u>1,582,996</u>	<u>2,510,776</u>	<u>2,747,770</u>
Cash balances on deposit and awaiting investment	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Historical cost of listed investments on 30 September 2022	<u>546,027</u>	<u>1,067,926</u>	<u>1,613,953</u>	<u>1,642,103</u>

Investments at 30 September 2022 comprise 1,665,302 (2021: 1,716,135) units held in Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities.

12b FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

**Unlisted
Investment**

At 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022 £1

The Society has a 20% beneficial interest in Vernon Mews Management Company Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, under the company number 01791332. The company is dormant and holds the freehold of 30 to 36 (even) North End Road and 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

13 STOCKS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Stock of publications etc.	<u>3,143</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,143</u>	<u>3,283</u>

14 DEBTORS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Other debtors	3,412	526	3,938	85,080
Prepayments	<u>4,008</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,008</u>	<u>2,284</u>
	<u>7,420</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>7,946</u>	<u>87,364</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

15 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-	-	1,813
Deferred income – Memberships and subscriptions	15,479	-	15,479	16,233
VAT liability	12,687	-	12,687	-
Other creditors and accruals	26,309	17,224	43,533	41,303
	54,475	17,224	71,699	59,349

Other creditors and accruals includes grants payable of £16,094 (2021: £18,936).

16 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Society's restricted funds include:

SPR Research Fund

Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.

Survival Research Fund

The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death.

Buckmaster Fund

The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research, and related work. Movements in the restricted funds during the year were:

	SPR Research Fund £	Survival Research Fund £	Buckmaster Projects Fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 October 2021	729,886	793,996	217,632	1,741,514
Investment income	16,137	19,154	4,633	39,924
Allocation of 2020 investment income				
Other income		323		323
Grants awarded	(14,896)	(20,263)	(28,855)	(64,014)
Lecture expenses				
Website & other expenses			(1,369)	(1,369)
Net Movement in investments	(41,107)	(45,590)	(11,394)	(98,091)
Transfers between restricted funds				
Transfers between funds	7,299	11,228	2,807	21,334
Administration fees	(7,299)	(7,940)	(3,808)	(19,047)
	690,020	750,908	179,646	1,620,574

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

17 RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES

Defined contribution schemes

	2022	2021
	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>2,896</u>	<u>2,633</u>

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

18 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital. In accordance with the Articles of Association, each member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount, not exceeding £1 each, to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up.

19 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

The charitable company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021 are available in full on the Charity Commission's website.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research to be held at

1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL on Saturday, 29th April 2023 at 5.15 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30th July 2022.**
- 2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2022.**
- 3) To elect six members to the Council**

Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter:

R. S. Broughton, B.A., Ph.D.	T. H. Ruffles, B.Sc., B.A., M.A.,
D. N. Rousseau, B.Sc., Ph.D.	Ph.D., A.R.P.S.
B. J. Carr, M.A., Ph.D.	G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS, MRCPsych
A. D. Parker, M.A., Ph.D.	

- 4) To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.**
- 5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.**

No other business will be transacted at this meeting.

For item 1

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 30th JULY 2022

Prof. Adrian Parker (President of the Society) opened the meeting at 3.00 p.m., welcoming 11 voting members to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

1) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th April 2021.

The President proposed that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th April 2021 should be approved. This was carried unanimously.

2) To approve and sign the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 20th November 2021 and adjourned to 27th November 2021.

The President proposed that the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 20th November 2021 and adjourned to 27th November 2021 should be approved. This was carried unanimously.

3) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2021.

The President summarised the contents of the Annual Report for the year ending 30th September 2021.

Dr Broughton, Hon Treasurer, spoke on the matter of the Annual Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2021. He summarised his report contained in the Annual Report and recommended that the Annual Statement of Accounts should be received. He also took the opportunity to encourage all members to consider including the Society in their Will.

The President proposed that the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2021 should be received by the meeting. This was approved unanimously.

4) To elect six members to the Council

Six members of the Council were due to retire from office and all six offered themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there was no requirement to hold a vote on this matter.

All six candidates, Mrs M E Barton, Dr B G Colvin, Mrs J A Rousseau, Dr L Ruickbie, Mr A D Murdie & Dr M J Willin were duly re-elected.

5) To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.

The Hon. Treasurer proposed the motion to re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006. This was seconded by Mr Bury and was carried unanimously. PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants were duly re-appointed as Reporting Accountants

6) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.

The President proposed the motion for the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.

The meeting was closed at 3.15 p.m.

For item 3

NOTES ON CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 29th APRIL 2023

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

RICHARD BROUGHTON

Richard is the author of numerous scientific papers and a critically acclaimed popular book on parapsychology, and in the past he has been a frequent commentator on parapsychology in the media. He is a twice-past-President and former Board member of the Parapsychological Association. He has been on the SPR Council since 2004, serving as President from 2011 until 2015. Since then he has served the SPR as the Honorary Treasurer, working closely with the management team to shepherd the Society's finances so the SPR can continue to serve both scientific community and the public well into the future.

DAVID ROUSSEAU

David Rousseau joined the SPR in 1994, was co-opted to Council in 1997, and became an elected Member of Council in 2003. He has served as secretary to the Finance Committee (2004–2006) and to the Image and Publicity Committee (1995–1999) and was a member of the IPPC until 2007. He was Chairman of the Research Activities Committee (2007–2014, a member since 1997), Honorary Treasurer (2010–2015) and a member of the e-Communications Committee (2008–2015). He was a member of the Research Grants Committee (2006–2017) and serves on the Survival Research Committee (since 2003). He co-founded the online Library of Exploratory Science and is currently Director of the Centre for Systems Philosophy. He has conducted academic research into the mind–body relationship and into the nature of spiritual experiences, presented at SPR Conferences and Study Days, and published numerous scientific and philosophical papers. He is currently developing systems-science-based methodologies for exploratory science, with support from the SPR, the Centre for Systems Studies (University of Hull), the Bertalanffy Centre for the Study of Systems Science (University of Vienna), the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), and the School of Engineering in Oregon State university (OSU). He is a Fellow of INCOSE, a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts (RSA), and a Trustee of the Alistair Hardy Trust. He is a Trustee, past President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the International Society for the Systems Sciences (ISSS), a Trustee and past Chair of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality (INSS), and a Research Associate in OSU.

BERNARD CARR

Bernard Carr joined the Society in 1972, was co-opted to Council in 1975, and became an elected Member of Council in 1977. He was the SPR Education Officer from 1985 to 2000 and Chairman of the Research Activities Committee from 1994 until 2008. He is currently Chairman of the Education and Publicity Committee and serves on the International Conference Programme Committee. He also co-organizes Study Days and serves on the Research Grants Committee and the Editorial Board. Formerly a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, he is now Emeritus Professor in Mathematics and Astronomy at Queen Mary University of London. He was President of the Society from 2000 to 2004 and is now a Vice-President.

TOM RUFFLES

Tom joined the Society in 1987 and Council in 1990. He was a member of the Publicity sub-committee (later the Image and Publicity Committee) from 1988–1994 – during which time he co-designed the SPR logo – and was Hon. Appeals Secretary 1989–90. In 1991 He served on Professor Robert Morris's working party which led to the setting up of the now-defunct Research Activities Committee and was Hon. Testing Officer 1992–2007. In 2005 he joined the Image, Publicity and Publications Committee and when it split into the Education and Publicity and e-Communications Committees he joined both. He is still a member of the former and was of the latter until it disbanded in May 2017. While on the e-CC he was involved in developing the Society's website.

He has refereed papers for JSPR and was its book reviews editor from January 2009 to January 2018. Having joined the Library Committee in 2010, he became its chair in August 2016. Since 2011 he has served on the Conference Programme Committee. Also, in 2011 he became the SPR's Communications Officer. In that capacity he responds to general emails received through the website, as well as looking after the SPR's Facebook page (from February 2010) and Twitter accounts – general (from July 2013) and Psi Encyclopedia (from October 2019). He added content to the website until the appointment of a dedicated content manager in March 2018. He has been instrumental in obtaining several collections of material for the SPR's archives and was involved, with Prof. David Fontana, in lobbying for the reissue of the 1999 Scoble Report as a mass circulation paperback in 2011.

For some years he was a coordinator of the Anglia Paranormal Research Group and investigated a number of spontaneous cases. He has contributed to JSPR and Paranormal Review (and its predecessors) as well as Fortean Times and online publications; blogs at <http://tomruffles.blogspot.co.uk/>; and is the author of *Ghost Images: Cinema of the Afterlife*. He is an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society by research, was an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow at Anglia Ruskin University, 2014-2019, and is a member of the Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena and a Supporting Member of the Parapsychological Association. He holds two PhDs: one on *Life After Death in the Cinema*, from the University of East Anglia, the other on *George Albert Smith (1864–1959): From Stage to Screen*, from Anglia Ruskin University, about a significant figure in the early history of the SPR.

GRAHAM KIDD

Dr Kidd has been a member of the SPR since 1969, on the Spontaneous Cases Committee since 2009, and a member of the Council since 2014. He also joined the Library Committee in January 2019. Trained at St Bartholomew's Hospital, he was medical officer to 10th Gurkha Rifles, subsequently training in psychiatry at St Thomas's Hospital. He was a Consultant in Old Age and General Psychiatry in Surrey, and on retiring from the NHS, worked in private practice at the Priory and the Cardinal

Clinics, before retiring to do purely psychotherapy, specialising in psychological trauma using Ego state and EMDR techniques. He teaches occasionally at St George's Hospital. He has studied dissociation and was a member of the ISSTD for many years. He has contributed to SPR study days, to the JSPR and the Paranormal Review/The Magazine of the SPR. Dr Kidd joined the Spontaneous Cases Committee as its Chairman in 2021 and continues to serve in this role.

ADRIAN PARKER

After qualifying in clinical psychology at the Tavistock Clinic, Adrian Parker was the recipient of the Perrott-Warrick Studentship in psychical research, Trinity College, Cambridge becoming the first to gain a UK doctorate with a thesis on altered states and ESP from the University of Edinburgh. His doctoral work co-innovated (with Charles Honorton and William Braud) the technique known as the psi-ganzfeld of reproducing psychic-like experiences in the laboratory. He is author of the book *States of Mind* and recently together with the philosopher Annekatriin Puhle published the book *Shakespeare's Ghost Live* showing how forgotten knowledge found in Shakespeare works is relevant to the deeper understanding of transpersonal experiences. He has well over a hundred publications mainly on altered states of consciousness and psychic experiences. He has published on a diversity of topics in psychical research and parapsychology including hypnotic states, dream states, psychic experiences amongst twins, spontaneous experiences, mediumship, and psychokinesis.

Adrian has studied medicine degree courses and worked in the child clinical psychology service before accepting a position at Gothenburg University, when a major award from the Swedish Bank Jubilee Fond enabled the development of the "Real Time Digital Ganzfeld". This can be regarded as a benchmark procedure for studying high quality psi (psychic) events in the laboratory. His current interest concerns lucid dream states and recently he is the joint recipient together with Annekatriin Puhle of a BIAL grant to study Near-Death Experiences followed extended cardiac arrest. He received the 2014 teaching award from the Gothenburg Students.

Adrian Parker is emeritus professor at the University of Gothenburg and Board member of the Scandinavian International University, Vice President of the Swedish Society for Psychical Research, and President of the Society for Psychical Research.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 207325

Accounts

The Incorporated
SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

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COUNCIL, OFFICERS, STAFF AND ADVISERS as at 30th September 2021

President: Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD

Vice-Presidents

Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD

Dr A. O. Gauld, MA, PhD, DLitt
Prof. J. C. Poynton, MSc, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS

Elected Members of Council

Mrs M. E. Barton
Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Dr B. G. Colvin, BSc, PhD
Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes,
PhD, CPsychol., FHEA
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD
Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC

Mr J. Fraser, BA
Dr G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS,
MRCPsych
Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt
Mr A. D. Murdie, LLB
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD,
AFBPsS

Dr D. N. Rousseau, BSc, PhD
Mrs J. A. Rousseau, BSc
Dr T. H. Ruffles, BSc, BA, MA,
PhD, ARPS
Mr A. P. Ryan
Dr M. J. Willin, BMus, MMus, PhD,
LRAM

(for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006 the elected members of Council are directors)

Prof. D. L. Delanoy was removed as a director on 28 April 2022, Dr L. P. Ruickbie was appointed as a director on 28 May 2022.

Co-opted Members of Council

Mr D. R. Bury, AFBPsS., CPsychol, BA (Theol), MA,
Dip Psychol, Dip Couns
Dr D. L. Erickson, MBA, PhD
Mr S. T. Parsons

Dr L. P. Ruickbie, BA, MA, PhD, Assoc. of King's
College
Dr M. B. Schofield, BSc, MRes, PhD
Dr D. J. Vernon, BSc, PhD
Dr Z. Weaver, BA, PhD

Council Appointments

Officers:

Hon. Secretary – Dr Kidd

Hon. Treasurer – Dr Broughton

Other appointments:

Hon. Editor, Journal & Proceedings – Dr Schofield

Editorial Assistant – Dr Tammy Dempster

Associate Editor – Dr Weaver

Hon. Editor, The Magazine – Dr Ruickbie

Hon. Communications Officer – Dr Ruffles

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer – Dr Willin

Hon. Website Manager – Dr Erickson

Website Content Manager – Mr Nemo Mörck

Data Protection Officer – Mr Farrell

Hon. Book Review Editor, JSPPR – Mr Nemo Mörck

Secretary: Mr Peter. Johnson

Librarian: Mrs Karen Patel

Council Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
Education & Publicity	Prof. Carr	Dr Erickson, Mr McLuhan, Mr Nemo Mörck, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruickbie, Dr Ruffles
Research Grants	Prof. Delanoy	Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Ryan
Buckmaster Oversight	Dr Broughton	Prof. Carr, Mr Fraser, Mr Murdie, Dr Kidd, Mr Ryan, Dr Weaver
Library	Dr Ruffles	Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Mr Mörck, Dr John Newton, Mrs Patel, Prof. Poynton, Dr Willin.
Spontaneous Cases	Dr Kidd	Dr Colvin, Dr Cooper, Mr Paul Cropper, Mr Farrell, Mr Fraser, Mr Ashley Knibb, Mr Murdie, Dr John Newton, Dr Ruickbie.
Survival Research	Mrs Barton	Mr Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Cooper, Dr Gauld, Dr Rousseau, Dr David Saunders.
Editorial Board	Prof. Parker	Prof. Stephen Braude, Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delanoy, Dr Gauld, Dr James Houran, Dr Harvey Irwin, Dr Julia Mossbridge, Prof. Roe, Prof. Poynton, Mr Ryan, Dr Stefan Schmidt, Dr Paul Stevens, Dr Vernon, Prof. Caroline Watt, Dr Robin Wooffitt.
Conference Programme	Prof. Parker	Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Nemo Mörck, Mr Murdie, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles.

Professional Advisers

Auditors & Accountants
Investment Manager

PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants
Newton Investment Management Ltd.

ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the President - Professor Adrian Parker

This annual report, covering the period to 30th September 2021, is inevitably a difficult one to write given that it is a year that I suspect many people, including myself, will want to erase from memory when much of that year has been associated with the COVID-19 mandates. This is also a year in which the death occurred of prominent researchers Erlendur Haraldsson and Carlos Alvarado, who will be much missed

There were however some very positive developments, foremost the growth in international contacts and the sharing of knowledge, which were facilitated by the enormous surge in Zoom-based lectures. In order to facilitate the use of this new technology, an extensive guide is provided for new users of Zoom on the SPR website. A total of 13 such lectures were given during the period under review. Please note that, in order to receive email notifications from us about upcoming events, it is essential that you consent and join our mailing list. You can do this from the top of the homepage on our website.

These events were popular and ran smoothly, doubtless due to the managerial competence of our Secretary, Peter Johnson and the pedagogic skills of Dr David Vernon in hosting these meetings. The efforts of Professor Bernard Carr were also much appreciated in organising two Zoom-based Study Days during this period: One was devoted to highlighting the contributions of the two above-mentioned recently deceased members. The other was entitled "Psi and Post-materialistic Science" with several well-known international contributors taking part. Video recordings of these Lectures and Study Days are available on the SPR website. Many other SPR lectures are also available on our YouTube channel.

I would also like to draw attention to some of the other informative features of the SPR website: the numerous book reviews arranged and/or written by Nemo Mörck. In addition, we have very active pages on Facebook and Twitter, which are tirelessly managed by Dr Tom Ruffles. Please follow us on these social media platforms and join in with some lively discussion of what is happening in the field. Thanks also to our Data Protection Officer, Ciaran Farrell, for his inexorable work on updating the SPR's data protection policy, as set out on the website.

Our Honorary Treasurer, Richard Broughton has endeavoured to find new ways of improving the SPR's

finances. This led to the first increase in membership fees since 2005 being scheduled for the start of 2022. Dr Broughton has also organised a new committee to find effective ways of raising funds especially reaching out to individuals who might be willing to give major support.

Two new books by Steve Parsons were published by the Society during this period: *Guidance Notes for Investigators of Spontaneous Cases* and *Using Equipment Guidance Notes for Investigators of Apparitions, Hauntings, Poltergeists and Similar Phenomena*. Both can be bought via the SPR Shop to be found on the website.

Under the continued and much valued editorship of Dr Leo Ruickbie, it was decided to change the name of the *Paranormal Review* to the more appropriate *The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research*. The Myers Memorial Medal (given irregularly on merit) was awarded to Dr Edward Kelly for his outstanding contributions honouring the work of F W H Myers (see his entry in the Psi Encyclopedia on our website).

For most of this period under review the COVID-19 restrictions meant that the Librarian, Mrs Patel was furloughed, and Mr Johnson worked from home. From July 2020 the SPR Office and Library were opened one day a week.

Dr Melvyn Willin continues to look after the SPR's considerable archive of documents and audio/visual material. He works closely with Cambridge University Library, where the documents and manuscripts are housed in a Special Collection that is highly prized by the CUL. The a/v collection is managed and housed at Dr Willin's own home, and we thank him for his work dealing with archival enquiries from members and others, such as TV companies who make use of the material

The Annual International Conference of the SPR, chaired by me, took place 18-19 September 2021 via Zoom linkups to various countries and was well attended, with speakers and audience from around the world.

Having taken on the President's role at the beginning of May 2021, I would like to thank Council and all the various committee members for their helpful suggestions and guidance.

I commend this report to the Society's members and other interested bodies.

RESEARCH

Report of the Research Grants Committee

Chairman: Professor Deborah Delanoy

Firstly, as the Committee Chairperson, I extend my gratitude and thanks to the Research Grants Committee (RGC) members who gave their time and expertise to evaluate the research applications submitted this year. The 2021 RGC committee members are: Dr Richard Broughton, Professor Bernard Carr, Dr Alan Gauld and Mr Adrian Ryan.

Also, the Research Grants Committee extends thanks to everyone who submitted a research proposal; the effort that went into the research proposals is much appreciated. The proposals represented broad-ranging questions from distinguished, as well as 'up and coming', researchers. There are two successful applicants to whom we send our congratulations and wish them every success with their research. They are:

Leo Ruickbie who has been awarded £6,840 to conduct an online survey investigating the correlation between reported premonitions and real-world events; and,

Lance Storm who has been awarded £6,494.58 for a study of imagery-cultivation impact on phenomenological and paranormal experience.

Sadly, the limit on our funds continues to restrict the number of proposals we are able to fund. To help advance our knowledge of this critically important area via the funding of research, please make donations and/or bequests specifically to the SPR's Research Grants Committee. Your support would help achieve the ultimate and far-reaching goal of extending our understanding of psychical phenomena.

Report of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee (BOC)

Chairman: Dr Richard S. Broughton

The role of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee is to oversee the projects approved by Council that are funded by a legacy from Mr Nigel Buckmaster. During the past year the committee has continued to monitor the two projects remaining in its portfolio.

The SPR's online Psi Encyclopedia, the flagship project of the Buckmaster fund continues to flourish. As the main component to implement Mr Buckmaster's wishes that the SPR would be the source of the best evidence for psychical research the Psi Encyclopedia continued to grow over the year while the Editor, Robert McLuhan focussed on improving editorial consistency across the entries. In addition to the online Psi Encyclopedia, printed volumes are planned to supplement the digital offerings. The first of these, an edited volume of essays exploring the best evidence for survival, is well

underway under the editorship of Dr Ruickbie and Mr McLuhan. It is expected that this will be published in 2022.

The delayed Systems Methodology for Exploratory Science project under Dr David Rousseau is finally nearing completion but has encountered yet another delay due to family reasons. The remaining and final product of this project is a practical handbook for applying Systems Methodology to the problems of psychical research, and this is now expected early in 2022.

The BOC is pleased to report that the projects are proceeding satisfactorily and that benefits of Mr Buckmaster's generosity are being realised by our scientific colleagues as well as by our members and the general public.

Report of the Spontaneous Cases Committee

Chairman: Graham Kidd

This year was of course marred by the ongoing pandemic, causing a disinclination to carry out field investigations despite the enthusiasm and organisational ability of Steven Parsons. In addition, much of committee work in the first part of the year was taken up with attempting to clarify the role of GDPR in the functioning of the SCC which has direct contact with members of the public who deliver personal information into the keeping of the SPR. This, together with a misunderstanding as to the ownership of this information, the formal structure of the

SPR, and how to proceed in the most scientific fashion as a committee, generated considerable discussion and some unhappiness with consequent understandable resignations.

Ashley Knibb initiated some much-needed changes in the collection and organisation of data, which has been accumulating steadily via the Experiences In box on the SPR website, in his role as Case Coordinator, for which we are most grateful. It is regrettable that for personal reasons he also recently resigned. There has, however,

been no shortage of volunteers for recruitment into the SCC from the ranks of the SPR membership, and Prof Paul Dieppe has recently been accepted.

The SCC has continued to develop its role. We have completed the task of defining the functions of the SCC in the form of a Policy and Procedures document, written largely by Leo Ruickbie in coordination with a GDPR Data Agreement document written by Ciaran Farrell, which we are committed to abide by. These documents should prevent further misunderstandings and help coordinate the functions of the SCC, without limiting personal initiative. They have been sent to the GDPRIT for approval. The work of Ciaran and Leo is hereby recognised, as is that of John Fraser who has completed a year as the SCC secretary, the tasks of which are now to be rotated among committee members.

While we await the notification of a poltergeist case of sufficient significance to warrant a field investigation, and for which we are preparing the less experienced of the SCC members with regular seminars, we continue to have regular submissions to the Experiences in box. Between November 2020 and November 2021, we have had some 200 entries. Most are relatively lacking in substantial evidential information and thus not allocated for further investigation, but they are not necessarily without psychological and sociological interest. Few may be termed without value at all, or clearly the result of illness. They are therefore all, except the most irrelevant ones, being documented and will be accessible to researchers in digital form, (providing of course that permissions have been given). Many are being investigated by members of the SCC and have been or will be written up and as fully documented as possible and put forward for publication in the Magazine. The aim is also to make ongoing scientific use of this information at the outset by methodical use of validated questionnaires and protocols relevant to the particular type of case.

Of the approximately 200 cases, a rough breakdown of categories is as follows: Mediumship 16, media offerings 13, orbs 10, time slips 3, sense of presence 3, apparitions 16, (of which 4 are crisis apparitions), JOTTs 3, psychokinesis 6, poltergeist phenomena 13, hauntings 3, OBEs 5, NDEs 6, telepathy claims 11, precognitive claims 13, clairvoyance 3, synchronicities 5, lucid dreams 3, past life memories 2, after death communication 1, and

Report of the Survival Research Committee *Chairman: Marian Barton*

We have not held a Gwen Tate Lecture this year owing to the restrictions of COVID-19.

4 UFO events. In addition, there have been some 6 entries by individuals keen to express their theories regarding the supernatural, some not without merit, but several concerned about the danger of evil spirits and curses. Most cases can of course be classified with more than one tag, for example the conjunction of a UFO sighting and healing. One aim is to classify experiences so that possible correlations can be readily assessed.

Probably a quarter of cases are from outside the UK, emanating from all parts of the globe, including the middle East (notably Iran and Saudi Arabia) and the far East, though mostly from the USA.

Typical of cases that stand out as having perhaps significant evidential value include a case reported lucidly some years after the event of an entity manifesting itself and, in the process, terrifying a wide awake 15-year-old boy in the middle of the night, by muttering in a foreign language, breathing heavily into his ear, shuffling about and moving furniture. The Portuguese lodging had, it was discovered, been built on an old graveyard. One experiencer keeps us informed of his clairvoyant dreams concerning the activities of his friends which he verifies with them the next day, to their astonishment. Another keeps us informed of ongoing intermittent poltergeist like activity plaguing him in his flat. One notable precognitive dream just reported is the prediction by 10 years of the Japanese Olympics being made strange by empty Stadium seats. We have received a quite convincing video of a paper disc balanced on a pin made to rotate by the power of thought, the paper being reasonably covered by a perspex bowl. The man with this apparent PK ability was an Iranian and thus was not unfortunately available for laboratory study, despite his willingness.

Paul Cropper continues to survey the web for reports of poltergeists in various parts of the world, and these lately have included stone throwing and fire outbreaks both from rural parts of India.

Finally, while little to do with the activity of the SCC as such, we are nevertheless proud to note that our own Dr Leo Ruickbie has distinguished himself by coming third of some 2000 entrants in the Bigelow Essay competition concerning evidence for survival, collecting his substantial but extremely well-earned reward in Las Vegas for what may be considered one of the most thoughtful, erudite, and indeed literary, of the essays.

We received nine requests for funding and the following are the awards made during this year:

- Professor Chris Roe £2,260 for ‘Creating an NDE collection to be made available to researchers for secondary analysis’.
- Dr Callum E Cooper £2,000 for ‘Psi Experiences in the Funeral Industry’.
- Ann Bridge Davies £3,487.23 for ‘Appraising the History of Spiritualist Art and the Veridical Aspects of Personalities Drawn from Spirit’.
- Professor Chris Roe £2,782 for ‘Creating an NDE collection to be made available to researchers for secondary analysis’ (continued funding).
- Aaron Lomas £2,795 for ‘The Phenomenology and Veridical Nature of Apparitional Experiences Reported during the COVID-19 Pandemic’.
- Dr Alexander Moreira-Almeida £5,000 for ‘Epistemological and methodological contributions of the first decades of the Society for Psychical Research (1882-1930) to the research on the survival of consciousness (2-year study)’.
- Dr Annekatriin Puhle £5,000 for ‘Incubation Dreams of the Deceased’.
- Dr Callum E Cooper £5,000 for ‘Psi Experiences in the Funeral Industry (continued funding)’.

We wish them every success with these projects.

We continue to give some support to the valuable work of the Hon. Archives Liaison Officer. We also respond to survival-related enquiries referred to us by the Hon. Communications Officer which come into the SPR via the Contact Us link on the SPR website.

I would like to offer my very special appreciation to the Survival Research Committee members Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Callum Cooper, Dr Alan Gauld, Dr David Rousseau and Dr David Saunders. They have given help and support on these various projects and the queries we have received during another difficult year.

Report of the Library Committee

Chairman: Dr Tom Ruffles

Library usage has again been severely limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The office and library were closed from March 2020 until July 2021, and library access since has been restricted, with an appointment system in place. This meant that the postal loan service proved particularly useful once the office reopened (details of the service are available from the Librarian; the library catalogue can be viewed on the website).

In the current reporting year 73 loans were made, compared to 77 the previous year, the lower figure reflecting the library’s closure for a significant portion of the year. Twenty-one books were purchased at a cost of £349.75. The Librarian reports that library users have commented very favourably on the Committee’s choices.

Book collections were received from the estates of Miss Mary Rose Barrington and Prof. Donald West, and a further 11 books were donated. We are grateful to donors for their generosity. The Librarian continues to operate a second-hand books sale, now available to purchase via the website as well as in the library.

The Library Committee has not met in person since March 2020, but it has continued to discuss possible acquisitions via email. Committee members are: Graham Kidd, Robert McLuhan, Nemo Mörck, John Newton, Karen Patel (Librarian and committee secretary), John Poynton, Tom Ruffles (chair) and Melvyn Willin.

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer’s Report

Dr Melvyn Willin

It has obviously been a more difficult year than usual as far as collecting and depositing archive material, but the work of cataloguing and conservation has continued unaffected by COVID-19 and recently (September 2021) visits to institutions including Cambridge University Library have re-started.

Archive material has continued to arrive via Alan Murdie from the Guy Playfair estate, and I completed the cataloguing of Mary Rose Barrington’s archive and deposited it at Cambridge...30 boxes of correspondence and articles.

One particularly exciting donation consisted of three volumes of correspondence concerning the Society for

Supernormal Photography and one volume of extremely rare spirit photos. I have catalogued this collection as best I can despite many items being unidentified and in a very poor state of repair. I visited the College of Psychic Studies and will be returning to discuss the photos with their staff.

I have liaised with members of the Spontaneous Cases Committee about their collection and have also had contact throughout the year with numerous other members of the Society and the general public concerning their diverse queries which have included such subjects as JOTTs, the SORRAT photos, the cross-correspondences, the Bircham Newton haunting, Rosemary Brown’s musical mediumship and the work of Fanny Moser and

Matthew Manning. Tom Ruffles regularly sends me queries to look into.

I hosted the launch in Cambridge of Kate Summerscale's new book on the haunting of Alma Fielding which was an in-depth study by Nandor Fodor which required substantial archive work and I have received numerous reports by a member of the public about various premonitions she has experienced and information from another lady who believes her previous home was haunted.

I have had a meeting with a film company who are interested in doing a follow-up to their 'Survival' programmes on poltergeist via Netflix and I continue to assist another film company who have negotiated with the SPR to make a documentary about the Enfield poltergeist.

I collected from a member of the public seven boxes of books some of which the library does not possess and some of which are both rare and interesting. These include

Education and Publicity Committee

Chairman: Professor Bernard Carr

The Education and Publicity Committee (EPC) coordinates the SPR's educational activities and develops strategies for publicising these. The promotion of our events is now primarily via the internet and our website, so our members include Robert McLuhan (chair of the former Electronic Communications Committee), Deborah Erickson (Honorary Website Manager) and Nemo Mörck (Website Content Manager). Deborah also covers some of these activities in her individual report. Other members are Tom Ruffles (Honorary Communications Officer), Leo Ruickbie (editor of *The Magazine*) and Chris Roe.

This year has seen a continuation of the change in our educational activities due to the pandemic, with online rather than physical meetings. Although we miss meeting physically, this has the advantage of attracting speakers and participants from all over the world and it also reduces the expenses involved. In particular, we now hold regular evening webinars. These were initially organised and chaired by David Vernon, but Deborah Erickson temporarily took over the role in September. This initiative has proved very successful, attracting much larger audiences than our physical meetings, and we are most grateful to David and Deborah. In the reported period, webinars were given by Chris French, Dean Radin, Chris Roe, Adrian Parker, Neil Langdon Inglis, Simon Duan (twice), Malcolm Schofield, Eric Dullin, Christine Simmonds-Moore, Everton Maraldi, Rodrigo Machado Tavares and Gary Schwartz.

Our educational role includes overseeing evening discussions and study days. There were no evening discussions this year but Dennis Bury hopes to initiate them again in either physical or virtual form soon. In

obscure books by Eric Dingwall and William McDougal; an Indian publication from 1922 about Blavatsky; and various other books which will be deposited in the library.

After I contacted Lord Rayleigh, I received a positive reply from him concerning psychical research material that may be held on the estate and his archivist will be in touch should anything arise with a view to donating it to the SPR.

I finish with my usual request repeated from previous years and tinged with disappointment at the lack of response. Some members receive financial and archival support from the SPR. Could they PLEASE send me copies of their dissertations, photographs, correspondence and articles for inclusion in the archives when they are of relevance to psychical research. We need more contemporary material to add to the enormous amount of research deposited in the past. Items given to the SPR archives will then be available in the future for the education of the public and academics alike.

December 2020 we held an online study day, "Psi and Post-Materialist Science: the Search for a New Paradigm". It was chaired by Bernard Carr, with contributions from David Lorimer, Harald Walach, Brian Josephson and Evelyn Elsaesser. This was prompted by the Galileo Commission Report, written by Harald Walach and commissioned by the Scientific & Medical Network. The online study day in April 2021 marked the passing of three eminent and much missed members: "On Life, Death and the Nature of Reality: A Tribute to Mary Rose Barrington, Erlendur Haraldsson and Donald West". It was chaired by Bernard Carr and featured talks by Zofia Weaver, David Rousseau, Adrian Parker, Melvyn Willin, Jim Matlock, Cal Cooper and Matt Colborn.

The Committee plays a key role in the annual conference, with four of our members (Carr, Roe, Ruffles and Mörck) serving on the Programme Committee under the chairmanship of Adrian Parker. This year's conference was held online in September 2021 and had a different format from usual, with invited talks by students and six plenary speakers (Jim Tucker, Bruce Greyson, Bernard Carr, Christine Simmonds-Moore, Marjorie Woollacott and Stanley Krippner).

Steve Parsons has followed up his excellent *Guidance Notes for the Investigation of Spontaneous Cases* with a second booklet, *Using Equipment: Guidance Notes for Investigators of Apparitions, Hauntings, Poltergeists and Similar Phenomena*, financed by Buckmaster Fund. This was launched at the annual conference and can be combined with the original booklet at a special price. Both booklets are now in the 'required reading' list for students

of the Rhine Education Center in Durham N.C. They are aimed at the general ghost-hunting community and are re-establishing the SPR's crucial role in this area. Associated ghost-hunting workshops were postponed due to the pandemic but will take place in the coming year if possible.

As part of the publication activities funded by the Buckmaster bequest, *Psi Encyclopedia* continues to expand under the management of Robert McLuhan; it now has 530 articles and a word count of 175 million. The general readership is growing and citations to its articles now regularly appear in scholarly publications, attesting to its value to academic users. The entries on 20th century researchers continue to grow and articles on several other topics are planned. These are often prompted by readers' suggestions, which are being received in ever greater numbers. Members should contact Mr McLuhan if they have suggestions for other items. Another Buckmaster project is a book of scholarly essays about survival of consciousness after death. The collection is being edited by Leo Ruickbie and Robert McLuhan and they are also planning a second volume. This topic has attained prominence as a result of the much-publicised Bigelow prize on the same topic and we congratulate Leo on obtaining one of the major prizes.

Report of the Hon. Website Manager

Dr Deborah Erickson

The SPR website has continued smooth operations this fiscal year. Content Manager Nemo Mörck has continued to perform content maintenance, upload book reviews as they have been available, and he posted an informal guide to Lexscien on Twitter. As the Website

Tom Ruffles regularly respond to enquiries via the website and social media. Frequent references to the SPR, both in print and online, can be followed on our Facebook page and Twitter feed, all of which are overseen by Tom. At the end of the reporting year the Facebook page had 15,921 'likes', and the general Twitter feed had 8,336 followers. These sites publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general. Tom also runs a Twitter feed dedicated to *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 1397 followers. Posts on all three are circulated by readers and thereby reach a very large audience. Significant information relating to the SPR appears on our website as news items posted by Nemo Mörck, who also adds information about new books and their reviews. SPR members frequently make media appearances, and these are mostly reported on our website.

We continue to build bridges with other organisations since this allows news of our activities to reach a wider audience. During the pandemic we are unable to distribute SPR leaflets at events arranged by other groups because there are none. However, Leo Ruickbie promotes the SPR and our magazine through his own website, social media channels and *Supernatural Magazine*. Also, Ashley Knibb's blog frequently carries digests of links featuring the SPR from sources of psychical research news.

Manager I picked up scheduling and hosting three webinars last Fall, filling in while David Vernon was on sabbatical. Presentations by Gary Schwartz, PhD, Diane Hennacy-Powell, PhD and Julia Mossbridge, PhD were well received and attended.

The Journal of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: Dr Malcolm Schofield

This is my first full report as Editor of the *JSPR*. Four issues were published from 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021. This period has given the team some significant challenges that have impacted publication dates. Our typesetters, Hope Services, earlier in the year, and without warning, ceased business. This caused a significant delay while I secured a new typesetter. The new typesetters are User Design, Illustration and Typesetting. They have completed the July 2021 issue with understandable delays while we get used to each other's way of working. They are shaping up to be an excellent asset to the team. Also, we experienced some delays in copy for the July 2021 issue. This year I had to investigate accusations of plagiarism against Dr Alejandro Parra. Plagiarism was found to have occurred in several articles, details of which were published in the July 2021 issue. These articles will be retracted in 2022. While we endeavour to get each issue out on time and in the corresponding month, this is not always possible; however, working with the new typesetters and working

on multiple issues at once, I am confident we can catch up and get future issues out on time.

Eight peer-review articles, one research note, and 16 book reviews were published throughout the four issues, as well as three obituaries, various correspondence and notices. Various methodological approaches were published, such as quantitative, mixed methods and meta-analysis. The discipline areas were wide-ranging, including physics and psychology, looking at topics such as remote viewing, mediumship, and levitation. The *Journal* continues to uphold the methodological rigour required of contributions, and it has been great to see publications from international researchers once again. Furthermore, the action resulting from the plagiarism investigation further demonstrates the *Journal's* integrity.

Associate Editor Dr Zofia Weaver and the Editorial Assistant Dr Tammy Dempster have once again been an invaluable source of support and guidance over the past year, and I wish to thank them for all their help and

advice. I am pleased that we have such a good team working on the journal. While I was sad to lose Hope Services as typesetters, I would like to thank them for their help with the *Journal*. I would also like to thank Thomas Bohm at the new typesetters for his patience with me as we learn how we both work and his dedication to making the journal look its best. Thanks to the Book Review

Editor, Nemo Mörck, for his help and guidance. Thank you to the editorial board for their guidance during the plagiarism investigation, and to Dr Richard Broughton and Peter Johnson for their help securing the new typesetters. Finally, a big thank you to all the people who have reviewed articles providing great feedback and so often gone above and beyond to assist authors.

The Paranormal Review/The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: Dr Leo Ruickbie

During the reporting period four issues of the magazine were developed, with ongoing effort put into acquiring articles for future issues. The year 2021 began with a name change and re-design. With the support of Council, the previous title of *Paranormal Review* was replaced with *The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research*, bringing it into line with the Society's other publications.

Notable features were an in-depth report on the attendance of several of the Society's Members and Council Members at a conference in Vietnam, tributes to Prof. Donald West and Mary Rose Barrington, a large-scale tribute to Prof. Erlendur Haraldsson organised by Walter Meyer zu Erpen, and interviews with the photographer Stéphanie Solinas, the US billionaire Robert Bigelow, founder of the Bigelow Institute for Consciousness Studies, and the Tower of London's Raven Master, Yeoman Warder Chris Skaife, with the regular President's Column supplied by then President, Prof. Chris Roe, and the current President, Prof. Adrian Parker. With

regard to the Vietnam issue, Vice President Prof. Bernard Carr was kind enough to express his thanks, saying (quoted with permission):

I've just read your wonderful report on the Vietnam meeting – informative, insightful and also humorous. It brought back many nice memories. This was probably the last conference I attended before the pandemic struck, which makes your account even more special. A very valuable aspect of the magazine now is your astute use of photographs. This was evident, for example, in the tributes to Donald and Mary Rose.

David Ellis is to be thanked for his valuable role as proofreader. The usual marketing activities were also undertaken, with support gratefully received from the Society's Hon. Communications Officer Dr Tom Ruffles and the website's Content Manager Nemo Mörck. Finally, our production of *The Magazine* continues to save the Society considerable software licensing fees by using open-source solutions.

Annual Conference

Programme Chairman: Professor Adrian Parker, Conference Organiser: Peter Johnson

The 44th International Conference took place 18-19th September 2021. It was for the first time held online as a Zoom meeting. Following the suggestion from the then SPR president, Professor Chris Roe, the Council decided that the meeting would be centered around invited student presentations and invited speakers prominent in the research fields. The internet form of the meeting gave us the opportunity to invite some international speakers whose travel costs would normally be beyond the SPR's conference resources. The invited speakers were Bernard Carr, Bruce Greyson, Stanley Krippner, Jim Tucker, Christine Simmonds-Moore, and Margorie Woollacott. In addition, David Luke kindly substituted at short notice for Christine Simmonds-Moore when she was unable to take part as had been planned in the panel discussion.

The conference form of the zoom meeting (rather than the webinar form) meant that the audience members were asked to submit comments via the Q and A chat facility rather than directly. (On special occasions, it was possible to move participants to main speakers allowing direct questions.) A maximum of 140 attendees to the

conference were on-line at once.

There were 16 participant sessions and two panel discussions. Two participants sessions were given to invited presentations concerned the SPR: Ann Winsper gave an invited talk titled "A Brief Account of Some Historical Cases Investigated by the SPR", and Steve Parsons presented "The SPR's *Equipment Guidance - Notes for Investigators of Spontaneous Cases*". The first panel discussion related to the nature of consciousness and brought together Bernard Carr, Bruce Greyson, and Tucker. Sunday's panel discussion involved a wide-ranging discussion with Stanley Krippner, Margorie Woollacott and David Luke.

The nine student participants came from the following universities: Newcastle, Northampton, Canterbury, Edinburgh and Gothenburg. One student (Gävle University) was forced to drop out due to a domestic accident and another student withdrew (Greenwich University) due to a death in the family. The topics covered in the conference included the public perception

of parapsychology, mediumship, nutrition and psychic experiences, the Ganzfeld, memories of former lives, NDEs and mystical & transpersonal experiences.

Because of the non-residential location of speakers, it is worth noting that the conference appeared to be more prone to last minute unexpected changes and drops outs. It also involved managing 4 time zones. Adrian Parker chose to be the session leader throughout in order to minimise these changes in location and possible problems with linkups.

Secretary's Report

Peter Johnson

In the table below, you will be able to see that our membership numbers have increased again this year,

	Members & Associates			Student Associates			Totals		
	2021	2020	Change	2021	2020	Change	2021	2020	Change
UK	575	559	+2.9%	51	33	+54.5%	626	592	+5.7%
USA	170	157	+8.3%	19	14	+35.7%	189	171	+10.5%
Other	150	141	+6.4%	20	15	+33.3%	170	156	+9%
TOTAL	895	857	+4.4%	90	62	+45.2%	985	919	+7.2%

Audio recordings of all our events are available free of charge for members only, and purchase by non-members. Thanks to David Vernon and Deborah Erickson for finding so many interesting speakers for our online Web Events during the year. Thanks to Melvyn Willin for maintaining our archive catalogue of recordings. Please note that, in addition to borrowing physical recordings, members may also listen to talks directly from our website.

Data Protection Officer's Report

Ciaran Farrell

The last reporting year has been a difficult one due to the continuation of COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns has which meant that we were not able to hold any physical meetings, and the SPR office was closed for much of the year.

Therefore, the SPR's operations had largely to be conducted remotely. This made it difficult to carry out the detailed work which needed to be done in relation to examining the SPR's entire operation to ensure that the systems that had been put in place were the correct ones and that they were functioning as intended.

The previous reporting year had finished on a high thanks to the hard work of the General Data Protection Implementation Team (GDPRIT), as the SPR was able to register as being compliant with the Data Protection Act 2018 which is the UK's version of the European

Video recordings and printed abstracts of the conference proceedings are now available on the SPR's website.

A thank you is due the SPR Conference Organising Committee, and special thanks to Peter Johnson for solving all the practical difficulties (being the first such conference, this was a learning experience for us all). I want to express heart-felt thanks to the invited speakers for so generously giving their personal time free of charge.

continuing the trend from last year, with a 7.2% increase in the total number of members at year end.

The Office and Library have been operating from home when we were told to do so and, during the summer of 2021, we were able to reopen our Library on one day per week, with Karen Patel (Librarian) coming out of furlough and returning to work.

We held our 2021 Annual General Meeting via Zoom in April. The elections of Council Members planned for the 2020 AGM were held at this meeting.

General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR. This was done through registration with the UK's data regulator, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The SPR's official registration Certificate is Number ZA574485. This has been placed on the SPR's website together with the SPR's new Cookie and Website Terms & Conditions policy which was completed at around the same time.

A further GDPRIT meeting was held, and this was followed by remote meetings after it was decided that the Team should be wound up as the major objective of basic GDPR compliance and ICO registration had been achieved. There were some outstanding areas of work that it was considered should be addressed through the DPO liaising with whomever might be necessary rather than continuing to hold further remote GDPRIT meetings.

This left the DPO free to take a more thorough look at revising the SPR's overarching Privacy and Data Protection Policy in the light of the legal opinion commissioned by the Chair of the Spontaneous Cases Committee in relation principally to the activities of the SCC. The report also referred to a number of cross-cutting issues that would also need to be addressed. This work continued from the previous reporting period into the current one as it is a major project. Therefore, the DPO liaised as planned with other officers of the SPR as and when required remotely or by email during this period.

This revision of the policy was, to a certain extent, to be expected as the policy would have needed to be reviewed and revised in the light of more recent developments in area of GDPR. This was because the policy was drawn up and put in place by the SPR as a matter of urgency by GDPRIT and the SPR Council at a relatively early stage in the development of GDPR guidance to meet the tight compliance timetable.

Then another set of issues arose out of the Spontaneous Cases Committee's (SCC) initiative to form a First Response Group to actively undertake field investigations as part of a broader initiative within the SPR. The First Response Group later became the Field Research Group.

These issues have added to and compounded those that were already known about and were being worked upon as new GDPR complaint systems, procedures and protocols needed to be drawn up. This meant that the DPO needed to work intensely with the SCC and its officers to ensure that the new working practices and procedures would make sense as far as GDPR and GDPR compliance were concerned.

One aspect of this has been to ensure that spontaneous cases are reported to the SPR through a transparent and GDPR-compliant procedure through the SPR's website and via other routes so that the cases themselves are handled in a GDPR-compliant way right through to their conclusion. This has proven to be the most challenging area of GDPR work within the SPR as the information or data involved in the handling of spontaneous cases is of a far more sensitive and personal nature and therefore requires a higher level of protection and security.

Another aspect of this work is to ensure the relevant data is collected with the appropriate permissions and consents so that the SPR can achieve our mission to include suitably anonymised cases in publications and/or they are retained for research and archival purposes. This has also proved to be a difficult area of work as it involves the use of additional procedures and additional IT facilities so that all the required documents can be held within a secure digital environment.

It was soon realised that GDPRIT would need to be

reconvened to tackle some of these issues and especially the cross-cutting ones. There was also a need to continue with the work of reviewing and revising the Privacy and Data Protection policy in the light of the changed circumstances and requirements. This was done and further remote meetings of GDPRIT were held.

Then there were further changes within the SCC which were followed by a change of leadership of the committee around the time of the AGM when Mr Alan Murdie stood down as SCC Chair. Dr Graham Kidd was elected as SCC Chair other SCC officers were appointed. The new SCC leadership team redefined the SCC's mission and operation in general and with respect to field operations which was already the focus for development work within the SCC.

This led on to a further period of intensive data protection work as the new procedures, protocols and administrative handling of spontaneous cases first needs to be worked through in a GDPR-compliant way and then checked for GDPR compliance. Therefore, further meetings of GDPRIT were called for and held. This work is still ongoing as the SCC develops its processes, procedures and protocols. It has also raised some further cross cutting issues which will need to be considered by GDPRIT as there are implications for the SPR in general, and for the review and revision of the SPR's Privacy & Data protection policy.

In addition to these areas of work the DPO has been involved with working with the Policy Working Group to ensure that certain key policy documents were drawn up with GDPR in mind. This work is for the present time complete as the policy documents concerned have been finalised and approved by Council for use.

During the reporting period the DPO made regular reports on all relevant aspects of data protection work within SPR and in general to the SPR Council. This is in keeping with the requirement under the Data Protection Act 2018 for corporate boards of Trustees/Directors to be kept informed and involved with the requirements of data protection work as it applies to their own organisations.

The DPO looks forward to working with GDPRIT and the SCC and the Policy Working Group in the future as well as the SPR Council over the forthcoming year.

The Data Protection Officer would like to thank the other members of GDPRIT for all their hard work. They are Peter Johnson, Richard Broughton and Adrian Ryan.

In addition to this the DPO would like to thank the old and new officers and members of the SCC for all their hard work, understanding and forbearance of what has turned out to be some very technical and knotty issues.

The Financial Position

Honorary Treasurer: Dr Richard Broughton

Although the continuing pandemic overshadowed this entire financial year, the financial report reveals the Society to be in a better position than might have been expected given the difficulties we were facing at the close of last year.

Throughout the year the Society has operated in accordance with the restrictions mandated by the government as well as those deemed necessary by our ongoing evaluations of our own health and safety situation. All of our offerings to members have remained online, with the added benefit of attracting larger numbers of participants from around the world. While the disruption of the customary pattern of income and expenses continues, it does not have a major impact on our overall finances.

At the operations level our expenses continue to exceed our income, but we were able to reduce the gap considerably this year, thanks to growing membership income and small legacies. Of course, we continue to keep operations expenses at a minimum and we continue to explore ways of developing an effective ongoing fund-raising campaign.

This year the Society benefited from a major legacy of £300,000 from the estate of Miss Mary Rose Barrington, a long-serving Member of the Council, and even longer member of the Society. Over the years Miss Barrington had been very generous in her financial support to the Society and she led the effort to secure the Society's present headquarters as well as ensuring that the library was outfitted to a standard that befit such an ancient institution of learning as ours.

Our investments have weathered this difficult year much better than expected, with growth in value of the funds that underly our operations and our grant-giving programmes so that we are able to support researchers to a greater degree than previously possible.

After very careful consideration Council decided that for the first time in over 15 years it would be necessary to increase membership dues. This was a largely inflationary increase and, with the agreement of the membership at an Extraordinary General Meeting, would take effect at the start of 2022.

Although this report shows that the Society has benefited from favourable financial conditions and the continued hard work of our staff and volunteers to provide our services while keeping expenses low, as I write, the country is facing one of the most severe cost-of-living crises in a generation, and the Society must expect its consequences on membership retention and uptake of our offerings. More than ever, it remains vitally important that the Society receives donations to the general fund that can provide the additional income required to offer our scientific and educational services at the lowest possible costs to our members. Those who are in a position to be generous now can help future generations of psychical researchers develop into productive scientists.

As we have seen this year, income from bequests is another important means of supporting the SPR and I would like to take this opportunity to remind our members of the importance of maintaining the SPR's services for the future when they are reviewing their charitable giving plans. Remember that your Will can be an important way to support the work of the SPR and we would be happy to discuss this and other ways of making substantial contributions.

This year the accounts have again been subject to a full audit, and I am pleased to report that the auditor has submitted a positive report. Please note that in the Auditor's Report, included with the Accounts, references to "members" is a technical usage to refer to members of the Corporation, i.e., the Directors of the SPR.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
A company limited by guarantee and without a share capital

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES	The members of Council – Page 2
COMPANY SECRETARY	P M Johnson
COMPANY NUMBER	00044861 (England and Wales)
CHARITY NUMBER	207325
REGISTERED OFFICE	1 Vernon Mews London W14 0RL
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ NatWest Bank plc 55 Kensington High Street London W8 5ZG
INVESTMENT MANAGERS	BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd PO Box 366 Darlington, DL1 9RF
ACCOUNTANTS	PK Group Ventures Limited 1 Parkshot, Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD
AUDITORS	PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 1 Parkshot, Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Pages:	14-17	Report of the Directors and Trustees
	18-21	Auditor's report
		Accounts, comprising:
	22	Statement of Financial Activities
	23	Balance Sheet
	24 – 32	Notes to the accounts

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

The directors and trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021.

Objects of the charity, principal activities and organisation of work for the public benefit

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

Development, activities and achievements this year and future developments

These matters are addressed in the attached Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts.

Transactions and financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities (page 22) shows a net surplus before gains on investments of £265,627 (2020: a deficit of £117,682). Gains on investments changed from a decrease of £165,984 in 2020 to an increase of £404,173 in the current year. This was as a result of the movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was an increase of £669,800 (2020: a decrease of £283,666).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, increased by this amount from £3,414,019 as at 30 September 2020 to £4,083,819 as at 30 September 2021 (see Balance Sheet on page 23).

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Society

Details of movements in fixed assets are set out in note 11 to the accounts (page 29).

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Reserves available

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts under "Charitable Activities Costs" (Note 6). The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research, as described in Note 16 of the Accounts. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds, and this transfer to the general fund is shown in Note 16.

Plans for the future

With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Near term plans including continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund following the acquisition of the Society's new headquarters.

Investment policy and returns

Council is empowered to direct the investment of surplus funds of the General Fund and the capital of the restricted funds in whichever way it sees fit, subject to the investment guidelines of the Charity Commission. The Society's portfolios of listed investments is now managed by its investment managers, BNY Mellon Fund Managers, the parent company of its former investment managers Newton Investment Management Limited. The investment performance is monitored on a regular basis by the Hon. Treasurer.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Grants

Research grants are awarded on an annual basis by the Research Grants Committees and are sourced from the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund.

Directors and trustees

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further seven co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 18 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

Risk management

The trustees review as part of their regular Council meetings all potential areas of risk which may affect the Society. Procedures are in place to identify and mitigate risk.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that year. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Society will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving this report, there is no relevant information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, the trustees, individually, have taken all necessary steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees on 30 July 2022 and signed on its behalf:

A. D. Parker - President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. D. Parker".

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research for the year ended 30 September 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors'/trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors/trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors/trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the directors' and trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' and trustees' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery and employment legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the industry and through discussion with the directors and other management (as required by auditing standards), we identified that the principal risks were:

- Non-compliance with the provisions of laws and regulations generally recognised (related to health and safety, anti-bribery, money laundering legislation and tax law) to have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements;
- The risk of management override of internal controls for any evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Management assumptions in the accounting estimates associated with the property impairment and depreciation of the assets;
- Revenue recognition, and
- The risk of not identifying related party transactions.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team

In response to the risk of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- Discussions with management and assessment of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations (including health and safety, anti-bribery, money laundering legislation and tax law) and fraud;
- Performing low level analytical procedures to any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reviews of minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls that management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business;
- Assessing whether judgments and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- Agreeing disclosures within the financial statements to underlying supporting documentation;
- For an appropriate sample of transactions, identifying the revenue recognition point for the provision of services, and testing for completeness by ensuring the transaction was properly recorded in the sales nominal ledger account;

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

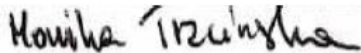
- Reviewing correspondence with HM Revenue and Customs, bankers and the company's relevant costs; and
- Discussing the existence of related parties with management.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



02.08.2022

Monika Trzcinska (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of PK Audit LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
1 Parkshot
Richmond
Surrey
TW9 2RD

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	2	333,062	-	333,062	12,057
Membership and journal subscriptions		34,495	-	34,495	29,735
Investment income		16,055	35,219	51,274	51,146
Charitable activities income	3	6,109	-	6,109	1,266
Other income	4	85,095	217	85,312	8,972
TOTAL INCOME		<u>474,816</u>	<u>35,436</u>	<u>510,252</u>	<u>103,176</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED:					
Cost of generating funds:					
Activities for generating funds	5	22,206	-	22,206	16,333
Charitable activities costs	6	74,477	125,242	199,719	182,988
Governance costs	7	22,700	-	22,700	21,537
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>119,383</u>	<u>125,242</u>	<u>244,625</u>	<u>220,858</u>
Net (outgoing) resources before gains/(losses) on investments					
		355,433	(89,806)	265,627	(117,682)
Transfers between funds		(20,864)	20,864	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on investments	8	122,391	281,782	404,173	(165,984)
Net movement in funds for the year		<u>456,960</u>	<u>212,840</u>	<u>669,800</u>	<u>(283,666)</u>
Funds brought forward 1 October 2020		<u>1,885,344</u>	<u>1,528,675</u>	<u>3,414,019</u>	<u>3,697,685</u>
Funds carried forward 30 September 2021		<u>2,342,304</u>	<u>1,741,515</u>	<u>4,083,819</u>	<u>3,414,019</u>

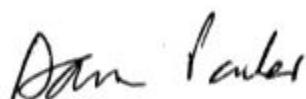
**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible assets	11	8,058	-	8,058	9,800
Leasehold property	11	1,264,610	-	1,264,610	1,264,610
Investments	12	1,004,698	1,743,072	2,747,770	2,144,742
		<u>2,277,366</u>	<u>1,743,072</u>	<u>4,020,438</u>	<u>3,419,152</u>
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Stocks	13	3,283	-	3,283	1,647
Debtors	14	86,337	1,027	87,364	9,765
Cash at bank and in hand		15,731	16,352	32,083	34,176
		<u>105,351</u>	<u>17,379</u>	<u>122,730</u>	<u>45,588</u>
CREDITORS:					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(40,413)	(18,936)	(59,349)	(50,721)
NET CURRENT ASSETS /(LIABILITIES)					
		<u>64,938</u>	<u>(1,557)</u>	<u>63,381</u>	<u>(5,133)</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>2,342,304</u>	<u>1,741,515</u>	<u>4,083,819</u>	<u>3,414,019</u>
ACCUMULATED GENERAL RESERVE					
		2,342,304	-	2,342,304	1,885,344
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	16	-	1,741,515	1,741,515	1,528,675
		<u>2,342,304</u>	<u>1,741,515</u>	<u>4,083,819</u>	<u>3,414,019</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

This report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees on 30 July 2022 and signed on its behalf:



A. D. Parker – President



R. S. Broughton - Honorary Treasurer

Registered number: 00044861

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company is a private company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales.

The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

The accounts are prepared in sterling and monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 PREPARATION OF THE ACCOUNTS ON A GOING CONCERN BASIS

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the company's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of COVID-19 as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 INCOMING RESOURCES

Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received. Government grants are accounted for when receivable and included in Other Sales.

1.4 RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure associated with the delivery of activities meeting charitable objects and comprises direct costs relating to these activities. Governance costs include those costs associated with the governance of the charitable company and include audit fees and costs limited to the strategic management of the charitable company.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity comprise costs that can be allocated directly to such activities to support them. The company makes grants to individuals for research which furthers the charity's objects and as agreed by the Trustees.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

1.5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets are measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold property	over 100 years
Furniture and equipment	15% p.a. on written down value.
Computer equipment	25% p.a. on cost.

At each balance sheet date, the company reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss and if so the extent of the loss

1.6 STOCKS

Stocks of publications and other items for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, due allowance being made for slow-moving and obsolete items.

1.7 INVESTMENTS

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.8 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at total net income.

1.9 LIBRARY

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

1.10 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has only financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognized at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11 JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCE OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Residual value of the leasehold property

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives. As at 31 December 2021 the estimated residual value of the leasehold amounted to £1,264,610 (2020: £1,264,610).

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Gifts and donations	1,244	-	1,244	4,801
Bequests and legacies	331,818	-	331,818	7,256
	<u>333,062</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>333,062</u>	<u>12,057</u>

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Conferences	2,721	-	2,721	-
Lectures	838	-	838	176
Study days	2,550	-	2,550	1,090
	<u>6,109</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,109</u>	<u>1,266</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

4 OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Publication and other sales	1,332	217	1,549	994
Royalties	860	-	860	2,044
Other sales	245	-	245	89
Job Retention Scheme	3,833	-	3,833	2,845
Other income	78,825	-	78,825	2,873
Interest	-	-	-	127
	<u>85,086</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>85,312</u>	<u>8,972</u>

5 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Publication costs	22,206	-	22,206	16,333
Publicity cost	-	-	-	-
	<u>22,206</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,206</u>	<u>16,333</u>

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Grants for research and education	3,000	104,483	107,483	83,998
Conferences	(21)	-	(21)	1,215
Lectures	189	-	189	596
Study days	-	-	-	955
Library and archive	641	-	641	1,177
Staff costs	66,852	-	66,852	64,230
Premises	5,509	-	5,509	8,263
Postage and stationery	4,436	-	4,436	4,753
Telecommunications	530	-	530	518
Website and internet expenses	1,926	3,015	4,941	4,954
Advertising & Marketing	257	-	257	513
Software	1,470	-	1,470	2,563
General expenses	5,690	-	5,690	7,282
Gift Aid adjustment	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	1,742	-	1,742	1,971
Administration fee	(17,744)	17,744	-	-
	<u>74,477</u>	<u>125,242</u>	<u>199,719</u>	<u>182,988</u>

No member of staff was paid over £60,000. Apart from the payments set out in note 9, the average number of employees in the year was 7 (2020: 7). Staff costs includes £4,885 (2020: £4,555) social security costs.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

7 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Legal and professional fees	7,936	-	7,936	6,643
Council meetings	-	-	-	1,221
Audit fee	12,600	-	12,600	12,000
Bank and credit card charges	2,164	-	2,164	1,673
	<u>22,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,700</u>	<u>21,537</u>

8 NET GAINS/ (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Unrealised gain/ (loss) on investments	109,181	125,316	234,497	(237,618)
Realised gain on investments	<u>13,210</u>	<u>156,466</u>	<u>169,676</u>	<u>71,634</u>
Net gains/ (loss) on investment	<u>122,391</u>	<u>281,782</u>	<u>404,173</u>	<u>(165,984)</u>

9 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No trustee or member of Council received remuneration during the year in their capacity as trustees or directors. Travel and other expenses amounting to £299.45 (2020: £1,310) were reimbursed to Council members.

The following Council members received honoraria in recognition of specialised services rendered to the Society and in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Prof. A. Parker: £nil (2020: £202) for council meeting expenses and £5,000 (2020: £nil) as a grant to his partner, Annekatrin Puhle, from the Survival Research Fund.

Dr C. Cooper: £nil (2020: £127) for travel expenses and £9,000 (2020: £2,000) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund.

Mr Robert McLuhan £8,647 (2020: £nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project.

Dr Malcolm Schofield £2,880 (2020: £2,160) as Editor of Journal and £5,481.30 (2020: £nil) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund.

Dr David Rousseau and Mrs Julie Rousseau £19,500 (2020: £5,008) as a grant to C-FAR (a non-profit company owned by Dr and Mrs Rousseau) from the Buckmaster Projects Fund.

Prof. C. A. Roe: £5,042 (2020: £7,250) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £nil (2020: £5,250) as a grant from the SPR Research Fund and £410 (2020: £nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project.

Dr T. H. Ruffles: £4,800 (2020: £4,800) as Hon Communications Officer.

Dr M. J. Willin: £1,911.40 (2020: £1,300) from the General Fund and £3,000 (2020: £nil) from the Survival Research Fund for his work on the archives, £nil (2020: £5,454) as a grant from the Survival Research

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Fund, £299.45 (2020: £nil) for travel expenses and £5,440 (2020: £nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund for work done for the PSI Encyclopedia project.

Dr L Ruickbie £3,999.96 (2020: £2,800) as Editor of the Paranormal Review, £1,200 (2020: £1,300) for typesetting costs, £nil (2020: £776) for travel expenses and £5,000 (2020: £4,500) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund.

Mr S T Parsons £nil (2020: £70) for travel expenses and £nil (2020: £2,120) as a grant from the Buckmaster Projects Fund.

Dr D J Vernon £nil (2020: £720) for his editorial work on the SPR Journal.

Dr D Bury the donation of £nil (2020: £60) was received by the Society.

Other than these payments and receipts no trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

10 TAXATION

As a charity, the Society is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No such tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 FIXED ASSETS – Tangible assets

	Leasehold Property £	Furniture & equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 October 2020	1,264,610	32,403	14,304	1,311,317
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 30 September 2021	1,264,610	32,403	14,304	1,311,317
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 October 2020	-	23,744	13,163	36,907
Charge for the year	-	1,299	443	1,742
At 30 September 2021	-	25,043	13,606	38,649
NET BOOK VALUE – 30 September 2021	1,264,610	7,360	698	1,272,668
NET BOOK VALUE – 30 September 2020	1,264,610	8,659	1,141	1,274,410

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

12a FIXED ASSETS – Investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Investments are shown in the balance sheet at market value. The movement in market values during the year is as follows:-				
Market value at 1 October 2020	604,307	1,540,435	2,144,742	2,414,403
Net additional funds invested/ (funds withdrawn)	278,000	(79,145)	198,855	(103,677)
Increase/(decrease) in market value during the year	122,391	281,782	404,173	(165,984)
Market value at 30 September 2021	<u>1,004,698</u>	<u>1,743,072</u>	<u>2,747,770</u>	<u>2,144,742</u>
UK listed investments	<u>1,004,698</u>	<u>1,743,072</u>	<u>2,747,770</u>	<u>2,144,742</u>
Cash balances on deposit and awaiting investment	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Historical cost of listed investments on 30 September 2021	<u>557,011</u>	<u>1,085,092</u>	<u>1,642,103</u>	<u>1,273,572</u>

Investments at 30 September 2021 comprise 1,716,135 (2020: 1,589,404) units held in Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities.

12b FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

**Unlisted
Investment**

At 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021

£1

The Society has a 20% beneficial interest in Vernon Mews Management Company Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, under the company number 01791332. The company is dormant and holds the freehold of 30 to 36 (even) North End Road and 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

13 STOCKS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Stock of publications etc.	<u>3,283</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,283</u>	<u>1,647</u>

14 DEBTORS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Other debtors	84,053	1,027	85,080	8,376
Prepayments	<u>2,284</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,284</u>	<u>1,389</u>
	<u>86,337</u>	<u>1,027</u>	<u>87,364</u>	<u>9,765</u>

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

15 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	1,813	-	1,813	-
Deferred income – Memberships and subscriptions	16,233	-	16,233	14,643
Social security	-	-	-	44
Other creditors and accruals	22,367	18,936	41,303	36,034
	40,413	18,936	59,349	50,721

Other creditors and accruals includes grants payable of £18,936 (2020: £17,936).

16 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Society's restricted funds include:

SPR Research Fund

Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.

Survival Research Fund

The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death.

Buckmaster Fund

The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research, and related work. Movements in the restricted funds during the year were:

	SPR Research Fund	Survival Research Fund	Buckmaster Projects Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 October 2020	567,137	633,895	327,643	1,528,675
Investment income	13,738	15,149	6,332	35,219
Allocation of 2020 investment income	4,075	4,075	(8,150)	-
Other income	-	217	-	217
Grants awarded	(13,335)	(31,324)	(59,824)	(104,483)
Lecture expenses	-	-	-	-
Website	-	-	(3,015)	(3,015)
Net Movement in investments	108,651	119,364	53,767	281,782
Transfers between restricted funds	49,620	49,620	(99,240)	-
Transfers between funds	5,671	9,339	5,854	20,864
Administration fees	(5,671)	(6,339)	(5,734)	(17,744)
	729,886	793,996	217,633	1,741,515

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

17 RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES

Defined contribution schemes

	2021	2020
	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>2,633</u>	<u>2,484</u>

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

18 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital. In accordance with the Articles of Association, each member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount, not exceeding £1 each, to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up.

19 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

The charitable company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2020 are available in full on the Charity Commission's website.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 24TH APRIL 2021

The meeting took place as a Zoom Meeting. Prof. Chris Roe (President of the Society) opened the meeting at 5.15 p.m., welcoming 32 voting members to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

Item 1 - To endorse the actions of Council for the AGM effectively held on 25th April 2020 as described in this statement:

“At a meeting of the Council on 12th March 2020, it was decided that the 2020 AGM should be postponed.

“Further to consultation with Companies House and the Charities Commission, it was agreed at a meeting of the Council on 14th June 2020 that the 2020 AGM should be deemed to have taken place on 25th April 2020. All motions contained in the Agenda for that 25th April 2020 meeting were deemed to have carried, except for the proposal under Item 3:

To elect six members to the Council. The following six Council members are due to retire in rotation and offer themselves for re-election:

Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC; Mr J. A. Fraser, BA; Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt; Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS; Mr A. P. Ryan; Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA. The required nominations have also been received from two members for the following candidate:

Mr D. J. Ellis, MA.

The Council decided that this item should be carried over to the next AGM, to be held in 2021.”

The President explained that it had not been possible to hold an Annual General Meeting in 2020. **He proposed that the actions of the Council should be endorsed by this meeting, and this was approved unanimously.**

Item 2 – To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2020

The President summarised the contents of the Annual Report for the year ending 30th September 2020 and explained more about how the Society had continued its operations during the difficult periods of lockdown and other restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. He particularly noted the success of the online lectures and Study Days that had been held via Zoom.

Dr Broughton, Hon Treasurer, spoke on the matter of the Annual Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2020. He summarised his report contained in the Annual Report and recommended that the Annual Statement of Accounts should be received. He also took the opportunity to encourage all members to consider including the Society in their Will.

The President proposed that the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2020 should be received by the meeting.

This was approved with just one vote against.

Item 3 – Held over from the 2020 AGM:

*To elect six members to the Council. The following six Council members are due to retire in rotation and offer themselves for re-election: Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC; Mr J. A. Fraser, BA; Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt; Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS; Mr A. P. Ryan; Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA. The required nominations had also been received from two members for the following candidate:
Mr D. J. Ellis, MA.*

A poll was held and the six candidates with the most votes were duly elected. These candidates were: Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC; Mr J. A. Fraser, BA; Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt; Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS; Mr A. P. Ryan; Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA

Item 4 – To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In answer to a question from Mr Chris Bratcher, Dr Broughton confirmed that the option to appoint alternative accountants was certainly considered from time to time. With relevant experience in this areas, Mr Bratcher offered to assist in any such review. Dr Broughton thanked him for this offer. The President then proposed the re-appointment of PK Audit LLP as the Society’s Accountants and the motion was carried.

Item 5 – To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants

Dr Broughton proposed that the Council should be authorised to determine the remuneration of the Accountants. Seconded by Dr Rousseau, the motion was carried.

The meeting was closed at 5.50 p.m.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Convened to be held on 13th November 2021 at 2 p.m.

AT 1 VERNON MEWS, LONDON, W14 0RL

The required quorum of 10 members was not present within half an hour of the time announced for the commencement of the meeting. In accordance with Article 43 of the Articles of Association, the meeting was adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, with the provision that if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the Members present shall be a quorum. Therefore, the adjourned meeting, with three members present, commenced at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday 20th November 2021.

The President was not present and the Hon. Treasurer, Dr Richard Broughton, was appointed as Chairman of the Meeting.

- 1) To consider the following Resolution to increase the Society’s subscription fees (dues) according to the recommendations of Council made at the meeting held on 4th March 2021 pursuant to Article 18 of the Articles of Association. (See Note A for context).**

New subscription fees (dues) effective 1st January 2022

<i>Membership Type</i>	<i>New fees</i>
Individual - Regular	£84
Individual - Concession	£56
Individual - Student	£42
Joint - Regular	£98
Joint - Concession	£70
Individual - Donor	£112
Individual - PA member discount	£76
Subscription - Journal	£56
Subscription - Magazine	£28
Subscription - Both	£84

Along with the new fees, a discount of £15 will be available for members who choose to ‘go paperless’ and read their SPR publications online only.

Dr Broughton immediately demanded a poll in order that the proxy votes could be included in the decision. A total of 25 valid proxy forms had been received. The proxy votes received were also valid in a vote to call for a poll. The call for a poll was agreed with three votes in favour in the room and 23 proxy votes in favour (either specifically or in line with the vote of the Chairman), a total of 26 in favour and two votes (both proxies) against. The motion was proposed by the Chairman and the result of the poll was that the motion was carried with 26 votes in favour and 2 votes against.

- 2) *[Note: The following two resolutions are intended to bring the governing documents up to date in line with current practices taking into account changes since the documents were originally written.*

The amendment to Article 18 will enable the SPR to adjust membership dues in a more timely and efficient manner, without the need to call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society.

The amendment to Article 19 will simply reflect current practice that is enabled by the use of automatic subscription and billing systems.]

To consider (in a single vote) the following resolutions as Special Business pursuant to Article 45 of the Articles of Association:

That pursuant to the recommendation of the Council made at the meeting held on 9th September 2021 that Articles 18 and 19 be amended to read as follows:

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

18. The subscriptions payable by Members and Associates of the Society shall be such annual sums as the Council may determine from time to time.

19. Subscriptions are payable prior to admission to the Society as a Member or Associate, and subsequently on the anniversary of their admission.

The proposal in this item was deemed to be a Special Resolution since the proposal would confer additional powers on the Council.

Dr Broughton demanded a poll, and this was agreed with three votes in favour in the room and 23 proxy votes in favour (either specifically or in line with the vote of the Chairman), a total of 26 in favour and two votes (both proxies) against. The motion was proposed by the Chairman and the result of the poll was that the motion was carried with 26 votes in favour and 2 votes against.

The meeting was closed at 2.38 p.m.

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
NOTES ON CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AT THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 30TH JULY 2022
IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

MARIAN BARTON

Marian Barton joined the Society in 1963. Her grounding in psychical research was by attending courses given by other members of the SPR in the 1960s. In the early days she helped investigate spontaneous cases with her late husband Arthur Ellison. She acted as the Society's Social Secretary for some years, providing a welcome to new members and introducing them to others in the Society at SPR events.

Marian worked at the Institute of Psychiatry for 5 years helping with the research on twins via Hans Eysenck's twin register, where she was also the contact name for the twins when they needed help and advice. Marian worked for over 13 years as Admissions Officer at St Christopher's Hospice, London and considers that survival is an important aspect of research into the paranormal, believing that a knowledge that we may survive bodily death can help the bereaved.

Marian has been on the Survival Research Committee for some years, and was co-opted to the Council and appointed Chairman of the Committee in 2013. She oversaw the reprint of the Scoble Report and is a member of the Conference Planning Group. Marian has also given Workshops and lectures on the paranormal at the Theosophical Society Summer Schools and other meetings.

BARRIE G. COLVIN, B.Sc., Ph.D.

Barrie Colvin joined the SPR in 1973 and was co-opted to Council in 2007. He was appointed by the Council to fill a temporary vacancy in the list of elected members of Council in January 2014, following the resignation of Dr Sommer. He has been actively involved in the investigation of mental and physical mediums, including direct-voice, transfiguration and materialisation mediumship. Past projects have included the investigation of haunted houses, the human aura, X-ray analysis of hair reported to be taken from the head of Katie King and evaluation of evidence presented by Gerard Croiset in a missing person case. His principal interest in recent times has been the physics of poltergeist activity, including the development of instrumentation for this branch of the subject. He developed and successfully trialled infra-red absorption equipment as well as a bespoke mid-frequency infra-red camera for poltergeist field work. His most recent projects have been a study of the acoustic properties of

poltergeist rapping sounds and the analysis of voices generated at a materialisation séance.

JULIE ROUSSEAU, B.Sc.(Hons)

Julie Rousseau joined the SPR in 1994 and has been a member of Council since 2002. She served as the SPR's Hon Website Manager from 2006 to 2014, introducing online subscription and membership management, and providing tools for non-technical volunteers to add editorial content to the website easily. She is currently an ecommerce strategy consultant helping businesses to optimise their online operations, having provided mathematical decision support in areas as diverse as fisheries management, aeronautics and new business development. She promotes interdisciplinary and systems approaches to the study of anomalous phenomena and has a particular interest in the mechanisms by which new ideas catalyse social transformation. She is a co-founder of the Library of Exploratory Science, which houses the SPR's Online Library.

DR LEO RUICKBIE BA (Hons), MA, PhD (Lond), AKC (Associate of King's College)

Dr Ruickbie has been a member of the SPR since 2010 and was co-opted to the Council in 2017 and was appointed by the Council to fill a temporary vacancy in the list of elected members of Council in June 2022. He is the author of several books on witchcraft, magic, and the supernatural. His published articles, covering such subjects as theories of magic, the historical development of personalised conceptions of evil, folk beliefs in the external soul, and the representation of angels in modern media, show his broad interest in the history and sociology of belief and anomalous phenomena. Dr Ruickbie is the current Editor of *The Magazine of the Society for Psychical Research*.

ALAN D MURDIE, LL.B., Barrister

Alan Murdie has been a member of the SPR since 1997 and was co-opted to the Council in 1999. He was appointed by the Council to fill a temporary vacancy in the list of elected members of Council, replacing Chris Roe in 2005. He is a lawyer by profession, has investigated spontaneous cases both in Britain and abroad and is the Chairman of the Society's Spontaneous Cases Committee. He served for several years as Chairman of The Ghost Club.

MELVYN J WILLIN, Ph.D.

Dr Willin has been a member of the Society since 1992, was co-opted to Council in 1997 and became an elected member in 2000. He currently serves as the Society's Hon. Archives Liaison Officer, working on the archives held in Cambridge University Library. He holds two PhDs, on the subject of music. The first is in connection with the paranormal and the second studying its place in pagan and witchcraft ritual and culture. Melvyn used to teach parapsychology and psychical research at a college in Essex, and he continues to play and teach the guitar. He has led investigations into alleged haunting and poltergeist cases and continues to support the serious research of all such phenomena.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The
Incorporated Society for Psychical Research will be held

at 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL

on Saturday, 30th July 2022 at 3.00 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) **To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th April 2021.**
- 2) **To approve and sign the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 20th November 2021 and adjourned to 27th November 2021.**
- 3) **To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2021.**
- 4) **To elect six members to the Council**
Six members of the Council are due to retire from office and all six offer themselves for re-election. No further nominations having been received, there is no requirement to hold a vote on this matter: Mrs M E Barton, Dr B G Colvin, Mrs J A Rousseau, Dr L Ruickbie, Mr A D Murdie & Dr M J Willin.
Notes on all the candidates precede this Agenda.
- 5) **To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.**
- 6) **To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.**

No other business will be transacted at this meeting.

Peter Johnson *Secretary to the Society*

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

England & Wales - Charity number 207325

Accounts

The Incorporated
SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

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COUNCIL, OFFICERS, STAFF AND ADVISERS as at 30th September 2020

President: Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS

Vice-Presidents

Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD

Dr A. O. Gauld, MA, PhD, DLitt
Prof. J. C. Poynton, MSc, PhD

Elected Members of Council

Mrs M. E. Barton
Dr R. S. Broughton, BA, PhD
Prof. B. J. Carr, MA, PhD
Dr B. G. Colvin, BSc, PhD
Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes,
PhD, CPsychol., FHEA
Prof. D. L. Delanoy, BA, PhD
Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC

Mr J. Fraser, BA
Dr G. T. B. Kidd, MBBS,
MRCPsych
Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt
Mr A. D. Murdie, LLB
Prof. A. D. Parker, MA, PhD
Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD,
AFBPsS

Dr D. N. Rousseau, BSc, PhD
Mrs J. A. Rousseau, BSc
Dr T. H. Ruffles, BSc, BA, MA,
PhD, ARPS
Mr A. P. Ryan
Dr M. J. Willin, BMus, MMus, PhD,
LRAM

(for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006 the elected members of Council are directors)

Co-opted Members of Council

Mr D. R. Bury, AFBPsS., CPsychol, BA (Theol), MA,
Dip Psychol, Dip Couns
Dr D. L. Erickson, MBA, PhD
Mr S. T. Parsons

Dr L. Ruickbie, BA, MA, PhD, Assoc. of King's College
Dr M. B. Schofield, BSc, MRes, PhD
Dr D. J. Vernon, BSc, PhD
Dr Z. Weaver, BA, PhD

Council Appointments

Officers:

Hon. Secretary – Dr Kidd

Hon. Treasurer – Dr Broughton

Other appointments:

Hon. Editor, Journal & Proceedings – Dr Schofield

Editorial Assistant – Dr Tammy Dempster

Associate Editor – Dr Weaver

Hon. Editor, Paranormal Review – Dr Ruickbie

Hon. Communications Officer – Dr Ruffles

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer – Dr Willin

Hon. Website Manager – Dr Erickson

Website Content Manager – Mr Nemo Mörck

Data Protection Officer – Mr Farrell

Hon. Book Review Editor, JSPPR – Mr Nemo Mörck

Secretary: Mr Peter. Johnson

Librarian: Mrs Karen Patel

Council Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
Education & Publicity	Prof. Carr	Dr Erickson, Mr McLuhan, Mr Nemo Mörck, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruickbie, Dr Ruffles
Research Grants	Prof. Delanoy	Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Ryan
Buckmaster Oversight	Dr Broughton	Miss Barrington, Prof. Carr, Mr Fraser, Mr Murdie, Dr Kidd, Mr Ryan, Dr Weaver
Library	Dr Ruffles	Dr Kidd, Mr McLuhan, Mr Mörck, Dr John Newton, Mrs Patel, Prof. Poynton, Dr Willin
Spontaneous Cases	Mr Murdie	Miss Barrington, Dr Colvin, Dr Cooper, Mr Paul Cropper, Mr Farrell, Mr Fraser, Dr Kidd, Mr Ashley Knibb, Mrs Rita Leek, Dr John Newton, Mr Parsons, Dr Ruickbie, Mr James Tacchi, Dr Weaver
Survival Research	Mrs Barton	Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Cooper, Dr Gauld, Dr Rousseau, Dr David Saunders
Editorial Board	Prof. Roe	Dr Carlos Alvarado, Prof. Stephen Braude, Dr Broughton, Prof. Carr, Prof. Delanoy, Dr Gauld, Prof. Parker, Prof. Poynton, Mr Ryan, Dr Stefan Schmidt, Dr Paul Stevens, Prof. Caroline Watt.
Conference Programme	Prof. Parker	Prof. Carr, Dr Gauld, Mr Mörck, Mr Murdie, Prof. Roe, Dr Ruffles

Professional Advisers

Auditors & Accountants
Investment Manager

PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants
Newton Investment Management Ltd.

ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the President - Professor Chris Roe

Inevitably, the Society for Psychical Research's annual report for the period to 30 September 2020 is dominated by the profound impact that the coronavirus pandemic has had on us all. Its dramatic effects on the health and wellbeing of citizens around the globe certainly gives us pause to reflect on the importance of connection with others and the devastation of loss. And yet, times of adversity can provide opportunities for the expression of the best qualities of the human spirit, and we are fortunate to live in a time when the concerted efforts of our scientific and medical communities can offer hope for the future in even the bleakest moments. To quote Marie Curie, "Nothing in life is to be feared; it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." This sentiment reflects, I think, the intentions of the Society's founders and remains our mission in the 21st century.

The restrictions on social interaction in order to control the spread of the virus have had a marked effect on the activities of the Society, most notably upon the work of the Spontaneous Cases Committee, but also others who aim to contribute original research to the database of psychical research. Thankfully, other work of the Society, such as our administration, publication, and educational work has carried on relatively unscathed, due to the hard work behind the scenes to adapt to new ways of working. The Psi Encyclopedia continues to expand and is building a reputation among scholars as a trustworthy source of accurate and balanced information, and in an exciting development Dr Leo Ruickbie and Mr Robert McLuhan have been working on a print publication that focuses on the case for survival. Our lecture series has been transformed from in-person events at Vernon Mews to online ones using the Zoom platform. These talks, hosted by David Vernon, have been extremely popular, and the point is not lost on Council that they should remain an important means of reaching out to members who are distant from our London base when we eventually are able to move back to pre-Covid social conditions. I would like to put on record my sincere thanks to all the officers of the

Society for their hard work to ensure that business continues as smoothly as possible.

Lockdown has adversely affected our investments, though prompt and prudent action by our Treasurer and Secretary has helped to minimise any depreciation. This will still affect us in the short term, as earnings from dividends will be reduced, but in the longer term our position should recover. In the meantime, we remain committed to expanding and enriching the services we provide to members, but this is an expensive endeavour, and our operating costs exceed our income from subscriptions and event registration fees. In these challenging times, we are more reliant than ever on kind donations from our members — please do think of the important work that we do when you are considering charitable donations. We are grateful to our Treasurer, Dr Richard Broughton, and his team for managing the Society's finances so judiciously.

This year has seen our Hon. Editor of the *Journal and Proceedings*, Dr David Vernon, step down. I should like to place on record the Council's thanks for David's significant contribution in modernising practices related to the journal so as to improve its perception among our academic peers, and for ensuring a smooth transition for his successors, Dr Malcolm Schofield and Dr Zofia Weaver (as Associate Editor). I would like to welcome Malcolm and welcome back Zofia, confident that our publications are in good hands, particularly with Dr Tammy Dempster staying on as Editorial Assistant.

Finally, I should like to mark the passing of Mary Rose Barrington and Donald West. Both were members of the SPR Council when I was first co-opted (as the then Editor of the *Paranormal Review*), and I have greatly valued their kind words of support and guidance over the years. They are sadly missed.

I commend this report to Society members and other interested parties.

RESEARCH

Report of the Research Grants Committee

Chairman: Professor Deborah Delanoy

Firstly, I must extend my gratitude and thanks to the Research Grant Committee (RGC) members who selflessly gave their time and expertise to evaluate the research applications submitted this year. In addition to myself, the RGC committee members are: Dr. Richard Broughton, Professor Bernard Carr, Dr. Alan Gauld and Mr. Adrian Ryan.

This year, we are funding two of the proposals we received. Sadly, the limit on our funds continues to restrict the number of proposals we are able to fund. Unless more funds for the RGC materialise during the coming year, we will continue to be able to support only a few of the worthy research projects which are submitted to the RGC each year.

To help advance our knowledge of this critically important area via the funding of research, please make donations and/or bequests specifically to the

Research Grants Committee. Your support would help achieve the ultimate and far-reaching goal of extending our understanding of psychical phenomena.

The RGC appreciate the effort that went into the research proposals that we received this year. The proposals represented broad-ranging questions from distinguished, as well as ‘up and coming’, researchers. Our commiserations are extended to those who we were unable to support. To the following successful applicants we send our congratulations and wish them every success with their research:

Lance Storm: The effects of imagery-cultivation on mood and psi performance; £6,455.10

David Vernon and Malcolm Schofield: Retroactive priming of a compound remote associates task; £5,481.30

Report of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee (BOC)

Chairman: Dr Richard S. Broughton

The role of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee is to oversee the projects approved by Council that are funded by a legacy from Mr Nigel Buckmaster. During the past year the committee has continued to monitor the two projects remaining in its portfolio.

The SPR’s online Psi Encyclopedia, flagship project of the Buckmaster fund that launched in 2015, continues to grow in scope and usage. As the main component to implement Mr Buckmaster’s wishes that the SPR would be the source of the best evidence for psychical research the Psi Encyclopedia has now grown to over 440 articles (1.5 million words) from contributors around the globe. Among the planned components of the Psi Encyclopedia brief are related print publications and project director Robert McLuhan announced the first of these this year, an edited volume of essays exploring the best evidence for survival, with Dr Leo Ruickbie as the editor.

After previous delays, the Systems Methodology for Exploratory Science project under Dr David Rousseau made good progress over the past year. All six of the planned publications are now finished and five have been published with the sixth about to be published. These deal with various topics including the fundamentals of Systems Methodology, reconciling spirituality and natural science, and using Systems Methodology to reconcile differing world views. The final product of this project is a practical handbook for applying Systems Methodology to the problems of psychical research, and this is underway and expected early in 2021.

The BOC is pleased to report that all projects are proceeding satisfactorily and that benefits of Mr Buckmaster’s generosity are being realised by our scientific colleagues as well as by our members and the general public.

Report of the Spontaneous Cases Committee

Chairman: Alan Murdie

For the SCC it has been a year of organisational change and development against a backdrop of restrictions arising from the COVID-19 pandemic which effectively curtailed practical field

research. Consequently, since the end of 2019, to 30th September 2020, the SCC has largely focused on administrative reform.

The year 2020 began on a sad note with the death of the oldest long-serving member of the SCC, Mary Rose Barrington (1926-2020) who had been active in spontaneous cases research and with other SPR committees since the 1960s, including the original Enfield Poltergeist Investigation Committee (1980-82) from which the present SCC ultimately developed. Occurring the same month as the death of another distinguished researcher and past SPR President Professor Donald West (1922-2020) who did much in spontaneous case research over many decades, these represented two significant losses in the field.

More widely, the arrival of the covid-19 pandemic meant that plans and arrangements for a roll-out of and the commencement of the First Response Group, to co-ordinate a swift teamwork approach to reports on a national basis and to conduct equipment-based field work in 2020, have been delayed. Arrangements for a series of outreach and training days geared toward encouraging an holistic approach to spontaneous cases investigation, to be held at different venues outside London and with the co-operation of university departments, have also been postponed.

Among the goals of this outreach programme, originally conceived in 2019, were plans for this programme to provide an overview of the investigation of alleged hauntings in accordance with recognised techniques and methodology for SPR members, and also to promote wider understanding amongst the media and public of scientific psychical research, with input and co-operation from university departments. The programme will resume as soon as conditions permit.

Consequently, most SCC activity has been procedural and administrative, bringing about a re-organisation which it is envisaged will help span the continuity gap between the findings of previous historic research work undertaken in the 20th century, and the ongoing demands of psychical research which arise in the 21st century and from the creation of First Response teams. To this end, re-organisation of the Committee pending a structural change to encompass the work of the First Response teams has been necessary and agreed from July 2020 with approval by Council, with the process of implementation commencing from September 2020. Safeguarding/GDPR issues, so far as they affect the SCC, have been addressed with the acquisition of a specialist legal opinion for the SCC in July 2020 which has clarified the compliance position on data handling and deposits of records and reports at Cambridge University Library under the direction of the SPR archivist.

Altogether, these changes reflect the way in which new demands and directions in spontaneous case research which have emerged in the context of a radically different communication environment in which social media and online investigation play an ever-growing role.

Regarding the number of enquiries, reports and questions received from the public, unsurprisingly reports were initially down through the first few months of 2020 compared with previous years. This is attributable to covid-19 restrictions affecting both the population at large and the work of the Society and its committees. No unusual trends in reported phenomena have emerged since 2019 and other than a decline in the number of anomalous photographs and video footage being submitted to the Society by the public; although there has been a rise in cases of claimed EVPs. Often these enquiries are merely seeking a validation by the SCC of the Society that the material concerned may be considered proof of a ghost or spirit activity. Concerning this material, detailed analysis continues to indicate that a normal explanation exists or can be found, or that it is simply not possible to reach any definite conclusions, given the limited nature of the sample and the information supplied. Nonetheless, these submissions may remain of interest from psychological and cultural perspectives rather than of psychical interest and submissions will be subject to revised and more rigorous filtering processes in the future.

Regarding individual cases followed up over 2019-2020, Steve Parsons produced an investigation report into strange noises and unexplained wall-writing occurring in a family home. Investigation revealed that the strange writing was attributable to graffiti by a small child in the property and to wider family dynamics and unverifiable statements from a medium. Although this report has not been included in the *Journal*, details may yet appear in the *Paranormal Review*. Instances of sporadic and seemingly long-term anomalous rapping and physical phenomena at the home of an SPR member have continued to be received, together with a variety of questions, enquiries, accounts of historic incidents and largely partial and anecdotal reports from the public, as in previous years.

SCC members welcomed the publication of the book by John Fraser: *Poltergeist! A New Investigation into Destructive Haunting* (2020). In seeking to demonstrate that poltergeist activity is a worldwide phenomenon and that many poltergeist events are triggered by stress-related factors, this review questions the explanatory adequacy of existing models, assumptions, and existing

paradigms for physical phenomena. It also includes a detailed report on the phenomena at 'The Cage' at St Osyth, Essex, a case initially reported to the SCC and subsequently fully researched with the help of an SPR grant.

Report of the Survival Research Committee

Chairman: Marian Barton

We held only one Gwen Tate Memorial Lecture this year given by Dr Matthew Colborn an SRC member, entitled 'Sticky Bundles, Leaky Buckets and Rabbit Holes: Understanding the Survival Experience'. He suggested that experiences of Survival, (Near-Death Experiences, apparent reincarnation memories, mediumistic communications, apparition encounters) remain a pervasive and perennial part of the human story. He also surveyed recent controversies and argued that whatever our personal biases, a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of these experiences remains a worthy goal. The lecture was much appreciated by the audience as it covered old and more recent research.

We have received ten requests for funding; one was forwarded to the Research Grants Committee and some not successful. The following are the awards during this year:

£4,000 to Helena Cassol for 'A prospective study of unintended returns of awareness during cardiopulmonary resuscitation in hospital emergency video-monitored room'.

£5,000 to Dr Annekatriin Puhle for 'Follow-up Studies in the Consciousness Continuity Project'.

£5,000 to Dr Michael Nahm for 'The King of Mediums', a joint project with Dr Zofia Weaver.

Report of the Library Committee

Chairman: Dr Tom Ruffles

Unsurprisingly, because of the coronavirus pandemic library usage has been severely reduced this year. The library was shut completely from March to August, then reopened with a restricted service utilising an appointment system and allowing a maximum of two visitors at a time.

Two meetings of the Library Committee were held during the reporting year, supplemented by discussions via email. Four books were purchased at a cost of £140, and a further 27 were donated. We are grateful to donors for their generosity. Eighty-

Guy Lyon Playfair's literary estate has yielded further material and the SCC has responded to a variety of fresh and on-going media requests concerning the Enfield poltergeist and other aspects of psychical research received from different print and broadcast media outlets

£4,195 to Ewen Cameron Maclean for 'Clients Experiences of Mediumship Survey'.

£7,429.68 to Professor Chris Roe for 'Investigation of the Phenomenology and Impact of Perceived Direct Spontaneous After-Death Communication Part 2'.

£2,000 to Dr Callum Cooper for 'Spontaneous Phenomena in the Funeral Industry'

We wish them every success with these projects.

We continue to give some support to the work of the Hon. Archives Liaison Officer and to respond to survival-related enquiries referred to us by the Hon. Communications Officer. These come into the SPR via the Contact Us link on the SPR website.

Lockdown and working from home caused many problems this year for most of the SRC so I would like to offer my very special appreciation to the Survival Research Committee members, Mr Dennis Bury, Dr Matthew Colborn, Dr Callum Cooper, Dr Alan Gauld, Dr David Rousseau and Dr David Saunders for their help and support and responding to the various projects and queries we have received.

two loans were made.

The Library Committee members are: Graham Kidd, Rob McLuhan, Nemo Mörk, John Newton, Karen Patel (librarian and committee secretary), John Poynton, Tom Ruffles (chair) and Melvyn Willin.

A postal loan service is available for members unable to visit in person. This is free apart from payment of postage; details are available from the SPR Office. The library catalogue can be viewed on

the website. The Society's secretary issues letters of authorisation to members wishing to use our archive at Cambridge University Library.

The Librarian, Mrs Patel, has been furloughed

Hon. Archives Liaison Officer's Report

Dr Melvyn Willin

I have had the usual busy year with the conservation and copying of manuscripts and audio material. The cataloguing of the contents of recordings of lectures, Study Days and Conferences continues to be keyworded. Through the generosity of the Perrott-Warrick Fund I have been able to digitise and keyword the complete SPR video collection, which contains many hours of fascinating material from a host of different sources.

I continue to liaise with the Librarian concerning the joint queries that we receive, and we have paid the odd visit to members to pick up donations of books and manuscripts to the Society. I continue to have a good working relationship with Sian Collins, the Archivist at Cambridge University Library (CUL). Visits there this year have included the deposit of correspondence and reports from the Guy Playfair, Tony Cornell and Donald West estates; cases from the Spontaneous Cases Committee; Borley material from Alan Gauld and other sources.

I spent many hours cataloguing collections belonging to Tony Cornell, Guy Playfair, Mary Rose

Education and Publicity Committee

Chairman: Professor Bernard Carr

The Education and Publicity Committee (EPC) coordinates the SPR's educational activities and develops strategies for publicising these. The promotion of our events is now primarily via the internet and our website, so our members include Robert McLuhan (chair of the former Electronic Communications Committee), Deborah Erickson (Honorary Website Manager) and Nemo Mörck (Website Content Manager). Deborah also covers some of these activities in her individual report. Other members are Tom Ruffles (Honorary Communications Officer), Leo Ruickbie (editor of *Paranormal Review*) and Chris Roe (President).

This year has seen a radical change in our educational activities due to the pandemic. Since April we have been unable to hold physical meetings and so have opted to hold our events online. We had been planning to do this even before the pandemic, so the current situation has accelerated the process.

throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and limited functions of the library are being operated by The Secretary, from home.

Barrington, Donald West and John Poynton. I digitised the 'Enfield Poltergeist Investigation Committee' report and am in direct contact with a film company that has started filming a legitimate documentary about the 'Enfield Case'.

I have been in correspondence with Walter Meyer zu Erpen and we have produced a large and informative entry devoted to the SPR archives for Preserving the Historical Collections of Parapsychology (PHCP) – a new website devoted to appropriate organisations.

I finish with my usual request repeated from previous years. Could members PLEASE send me copies of their dissertations, photographs, correspondence and articles for inclusion in the archives when they are of relevance to psychical research. We need more contemporary material to add to the enormous amount of research deposited in the past. Items given to the SPR archives will then be available in (hopefully) centuries to come for the education of the public and academics alike.

Although we miss meeting physically, this has the advantage of attracting participants from all over the world and it also reduces the expenses involved in holding meetings. We are grateful to Dr Gerry Fragoso for funding the Zoom licence necessary to host these events. Enormous thanks are due to David Vernon for setting up and running this new programme of events. David also chairs these online talks with technical assistance from Peter Johnson.

Another consequence of virtual meetings is that we no longer need the AVA expertise of Mick O'Neill. He had been planning to stand down anyway, so we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his help over so many years. We will greatly miss his energetic sprints around the lecture room with his microphone in order to reduce the delay between questions.

Steve Parsons, as a follow-up to his excellent

Guidance Notes for the Investigation of Spontaneous Cases and the two associated ghost-hunting workshops (reports of which appeared in a recent issue of *Paranormal Review*), is now writing a booklet, financed by Buckmaster Fund, on the use of equipment in such investigations. The two booklets are aimed at the general ghost-hunting community and is re-establishing the SPR's crucial role in this area.

The *Psi Encyclopedia*, ably managed by Robert McLuhan, continues to expand and now has 440 articles and a word count of 1.5 million. The general readership is growing and citations to its articles now regularly appear in scholarly publications, attesting to its value to academic users. New articles are still being commissioned, as a number of topics remain to be covered. There is also a growing emphasis on updating and improving existing articles, often prompted by readers' suggestions, these being received in ever greater numbers. The encyclopedia includes biographical information about the growing number of key researchers in the field community. Members should contact Mr McLuhan if they have suggestions for other items.

As part of the publication activities funded by the Buckmaster bequest, work is progressing on a book of scholarly essays about survival of consciousness after death, a subject which Nigel Buckmaster particularly wished to see covered. The collection is being jointly edited by Leo Ruickbie and Robert McLuhan, who have already selected the essays from wide number of offerings.

Our educational role includes overseeing study days and evening discussions. In this context, tribute must be paid to our late colleague Mary Rose Barrington, who (although not a member of the EPC) co-organised many of the study days and arranged evening discussions with Dennis Bury and John Poynton. In October 2019, we held a discussion meeting on "Recent Reincarnation Reports in the *JSPR*".

In November 2019 we held the last pre-pandemic study day, "Making Space for Psi". It was chaired by Bernard Carr, who also gave one of the talks, and the other contributors were David Luke, Chris Roe, Rupert Sheldrake, Jan Pilotti and Jean-Pierre Jourdan. The study day originally scheduled for April 2020, "Post-Materialistic Science: The Search for a New Paradigm", was rescheduled as a Zoom event in December 2020, which is part of the next reporting year.

The EPC assists the Secretary in selecting speakers for the London evening lectures, which

usually take place in the SPR premises. This year we held two such lectures before the pandemic intervened, from Matthew Tompkins and John Fraser. Thereafter, David Vernon kindly agreed to organise and chair evening Zoom talks. In the period of this report, there were presentations by Steve Parsons in June, Callum Cooper and Patrizio Tressoldi in July, Caroline Watt in August, and Bernard Carr and Deborah Erickson in September. This initiative has proved very successful, attracting a much larger audience than our physical meetings, and we are most grateful to David for taking on this role.

The Committee usually plays a part in organising the annual conference, with Bernard Carr and Tom Ruffles serving on the Programme Committee under the chairmanship of Adrian Parker. However, this year's conference was cancelled on account of the pandemic.

Tom Ruffles continues to respond to enquiries via the website and social media. Frequent references to the SPR, both in print and online, can be followed on our Facebook page and Twitter feed, all of which are overseen by Tom. At the end of the reporting year the Facebook page had 15,212 'likes', and the general Twitter feed had 6,479 followers. These sites publicise SPR events and carry news about the field in general. Tom also runs a recently established Twitter feed dedicated to the *Psi Encyclopedia*, which had 784 followers. Posts on all three are circulated by readers and thereby reach a very large audience. Significant information relating to the SPR appears on our website as news items posted by Nemo Mörck, who also adds book information and reviews. SPR members frequently make media appearances and these are mostly reported on our website.

We continue to build bridges with other organisations since this allows news of our activities to reach a wider audience. For example, lecture dates are regularly carried in the e-newsletter of ASSAP (Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena) and until the pandemic we were happy to supply SPR leaflets to members for distribution at events arranged by other groups. Carlos Alvarado's parapsychology blog regularly features the SPR and its publications, while Ashley Knibb's blog frequently carries digests of links featuring the SPR from sources of psychical research news.

We also played a part in appointing Malcolm Schofield as the new editor of *JSPR* and Zofia Weaver as Associate Editor, although they are not EPC members.

Report of the Hon. Website Manager

Dr Deborah Erickson

The SPR website has been running smoothly this fiscal year. Content Manager Nemo Mörck published 24 book reviews and has more in the pipeline. Nemo and Chris Phillips worked on the Research Articles Database updates. Several Who's Who pages were created or updated for SPR Council Member changes. The Google Analytics code was updated,

which enables in-depth analysis about website visitor details. This free service enables automatic data collection and creates a number of reports, as well as supporting customised reports. President Chris Roe has been spearheading this effort and working with a consultant to explore free Google ads that are available to charities.

The Journal of the Society for Psychical Research

Editor: **Dr Malcolm Schofield**

I took over the editorship of the Journal of the Society for Psychical Research in January 2020. I would like to thank the former editor Dr David Vernon for the smooth handover and his support during that period and since. From the 1st October 2019 to the 30th September 2020, there were four published issues. The initial two were published when Dr Vernon was the editor, and the latter two were published when I was the editor. I will try to comment on all four issues to the best of my ability. While the aim is to have the issue published on time, in the corresponding month, this is not always possible and is dependent on several things, such as having a sufficient number of high-quality articles, letter and book reviews. Occasionally publication is delayed to cut down on mailing costs. A combination of high-quality copy and keeping an eye on costs must always be considered.

The four issues have contained seven peer-reviewed articles, 17 book reviews and various letters, and obituaries. The content of the peer-reviewed include empirical studies, qualitative research, case studies, historical contributions and reviews. The editorial board will consider a broad range of research and will continue to uphold the methodological rigour required by the journal. The

past four issues have included international submissions demonstrating the reach of the journal. As per previous years, pre-registering of future research projects is encouraged, and the sharing of data is also recommended.

I would like to thank both the Associate Editor, Dr Zofia Weaver and the Editorial Assistant Dr Tammy Dempster. Without their continual support and help, I would not have been able to do the job of editor. They made my transition into the new role a lot easier. Tammy has done an excellent job of handling all the traffic that comes through the JSPR mailbox and provides a vital role in screening what comes through to the rest of the editorial team. Zofia has provided constant and unwavering support, and I am grateful to her for her guidance. Also, I would like to thank Hope Services who have been very supportive as typesetters, and also the editorial board for all their help. A big thank you to Book Review Editor, Nemo Mörck for his help and guidance with the book reviews and more. Thanks must also go to the people who have reviewed papers, always providing a high level of feedback to the authors and have often gone above and beyond to help out with their valuable comments on manuscripts.

The Paranormal Review

Editor: *Dr Leo Ruickbie*

Six issues of the magazine, PR90 to PR95, were submitted and/or signed off during the accounting period, with most of the work also undertaken for PR96. All issues were twenty-eight pages in length, full colour throughout, and delivered as both print-ready files and compressed versions for digital distribution via the SPR website. At the beginning of 2020, I negotiated with the printers to secure better paper stock (both weight and finish) at no extra cost to the Society to produce or distribute. From PR91 onwards, the magazine has been printed with 200 gsm gloss covers and 100 gsm silk finish interior.

The magazine featured an exciting range of important articles. Notably, I secured contributions from Dr Rupert Sheldrake (PR93), Dr Jim Matlock (PR93), David Lorimer on the Galileo Commission Report (PR93) and Dr Sonali Marwaha on the Star Gate Project (PR94 and 95), among others, and our Society's President, Prof. Chris Roe, generously continued to write for the magazine. I published special coverage of several noteworthy events: the Parapsychological Association Convention in Paris (PR91), for which I was the PA's official photographer; the Workshop on Psi Theories in Paris

(PR91), which was partly funded by the SPR; the centenary of the Institut Métapsychique International (PR91); and the 43rd International Annual Conference of the SPR in Leicester (PR92). Additional event coverage was provided by my Events Reporter Ashley Knibb, covering lectures by Dr Matthew Colborn (PR92) and Dr David Saunders (PR93), as well as the SPR's first Ghost Hunting Workshop (PR94) and Study Day 77 on the work of Guy Lyon Playfair (PR95). I also worked on memorial features for Mary Rose Barrington and Prof. Donald West, although these were published in a later edition (PR96). In response to my editorial in PR92, the Letters Page featured a lively discussion on the future of the SPR (PR93 and 95). The magazine also included important community announcements: the 'Call for Chapters' for the SPR's *Is There Life After Death?* book project (PR93); and the announcement of the John Björkhem Memorial Foundation Research Grants (PR94 and 95). In addition, I shot special photographs for the covers of PR92 and PR94.

During my attendance at the PA Convention, I also took the opportunity to promote the Society by distributing copies of the magazine with membership forms enclosed. I was also invited to attend a parapsychology conference in Vietnam in December 2019 and again used the opportunity to promote the magazine and distribute copies to the organiser.

Annual Conference

Programme Chairman: Professor Adrian Parker, Conference Organiser: Peter Johnson

An attractive offer had been made to hold the conference in September at a hotel location in Canterbury however a condition of the offer was that the deposit would be non-refundable.

After some deliberation concerning the risks involving the continuation Covid-19 pandemic, it was in April decided to postpone the conference to

Further promotion of the magazine was undertaken through my website ruickbie.com and personal social media channels (Twitter, Facebook and Academia.edu) and, by special arrangement, through *Supernatural Magazine* at supernaturalmagazine.com. I am also grateful to Dr Tom Ruffles for promoting the magazine via the Society's online channels. The magazine was also contacted by Hatrick Productions concerning possible inclusion in the BBC programme *Have I Got News For You?* and I have been in contact with a documentary producer about a possible television production. Leo Ruickbie promotes the SPR and our magazine through his own website, social media channels and *Supernatural Magazine*.

Production of the magazine was seriously complicated by the global pandemic – those without young children will find it difficult to grasp the burden of home schooling – but I saw that this made the print magazine more important than ever to the SPR's members to maintain contact and engagement with the Society, and worked harder than ever to deliver memorable, high-quality content. I would like to thank David Ellis for his prompt and diligent work as the PR's proof-reader, helping to maintain the magazine's high standards. I am also delighted to report that the magazine has continued to win praise from readers.

September 2021. Even now (January 2021), it would appear to be uncertain if a physical form of a conference can take place in September. However, it is important to approach potential invited speakers now. Accordingly, plans are being made for a possible Zoom technology-based conference, as well as the traditional one.

Secretary's Report

Peter Johnson

In the table below, you will be able to see that our membership numbers have increased again this year,

continuing the trend from last year, with a 6% increase in the total number of members.

	Members & Associates			Student Associates			Totals		
	30 Sep '20	30 Sep '19		30 Sep '20	30 Sep '19		30 Sep '20	30 Sep '19	
UK	559	545	+3%	33	35	-6%	592	580	+2%
USA	157	137	+15%	14	10	+40%	171	147	+16%
Other	141	128	+10%	15	11	+36%	156	139	+14%
TOTAL	857	810	+6%	62	56	+11%	919	866	+6%

Audio recordings of all our events are available for loan (members only) and purchase. Huge thanks to Melvyn Willin for maintaining our catalogue of recordings. Please note that, in addition to borrowing physical recordings, members may also listen to talks directly from our website. I express my thanks to Mick O'Neill for his work as technical assistant prior to the pandemic.

The Office and Library have been operating from (my) home since March 2020 and, since Karen Patel (Librarian) was not able to work from home, she was furloughed on full pay – with

Data Protection Officer's Report

Ciaran Farrell

In August 2017 the UK Government signed the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) into British Law to come into force in the UK from the 25th of May 2018. The British Government subsequently enacted the Data Protection Act 2018 which updated and customised the general provisions of GDPR for British use whilst maintaining compatibility with European data protection regimens under GDPR.

It was agreed at the SPR Council meeting of Thursday the 16th of November 2017 that the SPR Council appoint a Data Protection Officer in order to comply with the requirements of GDPR. The SPR was not required by the statutory provisions of GDPR or the older British Data Protection Act 1998 to have to appoint a Data Protection Officer, DPO, at Board level, but chose to do so on a voluntary basis in order that the SPR could be made compliant with the new statutory requirements of GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

It was agreed that the DPO would assist the work of the Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer with ensuring that the SPR would be able to meet the requirements of this legislation, and a small GDPR Implementation Team or GDPRIT would be formed within the SPR to carry out this vital work. It was agreed that GDPRIT would be a time limited working group and when the requirements of GDPR were substantially met then GDPRIT could be dissolved and the DPO would continue in post. I was appointed to fill the role of DPO.

The Information Commissioners Office, ICO, is responsible for overseeing the implementation of GDPR and is the UK GDPR monitoring body and regulator. GDPR came into force as planned on the 25th of May 2018. Due to the complexities of implementing GDPR and the short time scale for compliance with GDPR requirements in the UK the ICO decided to take a more flexible view of the GDPR deadline by which full compliance should be achieved.

contributions to her salary being claimed from the government as part of their Job Retention Scheme. A facility for members to arrange appointments to visit the library (when possible) has been added to the SPR website. We plan to reopen the library when restrictions are lifted.

We were not able to hold an Annual General Meeting in 2020, but all the required filings of reports to Companies House and the Charity Commission were submitted in time. The elections of Council Members planned for the 2020 AGM will now be held at the 2021 AGM.

Through the hard work of GDPRIT the SPR has achieved the goal of being compliant with GDPR and the SPR is registered with the ICO as being GDPR compliant with an ICO Certificate No. ZA574485. The achievement of this goal and ICO registration has been a major success for the SPR.

It is one of the requirements of GDPR that corporate responsibility needs be taken by the governing bodies of Charitable Companies like the SPR for the establishment and maintenance of GDPR compliance. The DPO is therefore the lead SPR officer in advising the SPR Council on these matters.

This in turn means that the SPR Council is therefore required to put in place the necessary policies, procedures and working practices to achieve these ends. Some of this work of reviewing and drawing up new policies and procedures is a continual 'work in progress' whilst in the case of others the work is completed when the policy had been agreed and installed. During the reporting period GDPRIT drew up and agreed a new Website Terms and Conditions policy which has been placed on the SPR website.

When this work is fully completed the SPR will have a fully coherent data policy framework and set of procedures to accompany it which will embody good GDPR data privacy, security and handling practices which will be achieved through enhanced GDPR compliance. This will enable the SPR to attain 'Good Practice' status within the charity and voluntary sector.

This year has been one of consolidation and review of our previous achievements as we have monitored the way in which new systems and procedures have bedded down and been assimilated into the regular and routine work of the SPR leading up to and after our ICO registration.

The changeover to the new accounting systems software package and the related upgrades has been accomplished and the GDPR aspects of this have been

worked though and are now being kept under review. Some of these GDPR related matters affected the software systems used for the general administration of the SPR which needed to be reviewed and revised in order to bring them fully in-line with the requirements of GDPR.

GDPRIT continued to meet during the reporting period and has monitored the comprehensive review of the SPR's entire operation in relation to the requirements of GDPR which was carried out during the last two reporting periods. The DPO has made regular reports to Council on the progress of this work. In addition, GDPRIT has carried out a great deal of work directly or by correspondence with each other and with other relevant parties outside the SPR and through liaison with the SPR office.

A final review meeting of GDPRIT was held and it was decided that since the major objective of GDPR compliance and registration of the SPR with the ICO had been achieved GDPRIT could be dissolved. I was also agreed that the DPO would continue in post and would function as the SPR's data protection lead on all data protection matters.

The advent of the coronavirus pandemic and its epidemic spread in the UK led to the SPR having to reduce our operations and to temporarily call a halt to physical meetings and our AGM had to be postponed. The basic operation of the SPR continued and most of the essential functions that were required to keep the SPR running as an organisation had to be carried out remotely via email, telephone and video conferencing. A series of very successful webinars has also been held online. However, the closure of the SPR office and library as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown and other Covid-19 related restrictions brought with it some data and GDPR challenges with the requirement that the Secretary should work from home and manage the affairs of the SPR from there.

There remains one area of the SPR's current committee operations that requires further work which is the Spontaneous Cases Committee, SCC, and the way in which the SPR responds to spontaneous cases in general. In order to identify and clarify some of these issues the Chair of the SCC commissioned a legal report on these and other overlapping GDPR and data security and hygiene issues.

The Financial Position

Honorary Treasurer: Dr Richard Broughton

As this financial year began our main concern, and not a large one, was the unpredictable effect of Brexit on our investment portfolio. No one was expecting that we would close the year in the midst of a global pandemic

This has led to a further review of the SPR's policies and procedures which involves the rewriting of the SPR's overarching Privacy & Data Protection policy. This was to a certain extent to be expected as the policy would have needed to be reviewed and revised in the light of more recent developments in the GDPR field. This was because the policy was drawn up and put in place by the SPR as a matter of urgency by GDPRIT and the SPR Council at a relatively early stage in the development of GDPR rules, regulation and guidance in order to meet the tight compliance timetable. This policy development work has been commenced and will continue into the next reporting period.

These include the new initiatives within spontaneous cases. Another very large area of work that the SPR has recently undertaken has been to set up a Policy Working Group to look at the revision of existing policies and drawing up new SPR policies, particularly around Safeguarding. Safeguarding is a cross cutting issue that affects the SPR's entire operation and within which data protection forms a part. The issue of Safeguarding is particularly important within the area of spontaneous cases and this has increased the size and complexity of the workload in spontaneous cases.

There are in addition a number of areas of policy development work being undertaken by the SPR through the Policy Working Group and also more broadly, all of which may need to be reviewed and revised and the appropriate GDPR and data protection included. This work is ongoing and spans a number of reporting periods and will continue to do so.

The DPO is looking forward to working with the SCC and the Policy Working Group to carry forward the recommendations of the report and to more generally review and revise the SPR's policy and procedures in these areas in the light of the new requirements of GDPR and of data protection more generally.

The Data Protection Officer would like to thank the other members of the GDPRIT for all their hard work. They are: Peter Johnson – SPR Secretary, Dr Richard Broughton – Honorary Treasurer, Adrian Ryan.

that is causing considerable human suffering and wreaking havoc on the economy.

The Society responded quickly to protect its staff, members and visitors. Our offices and library were

closed, phone lines and post redirected, and our Secretary Peter Johnson carried on SPR business from his home, while our librarian was placed on the government's furlough scheme. It quickly became apparent that all of our scheduled member events, including our AGM and the annual conference would have to be cancelled. With modest investment in Zoom online conferencing services and the initiative of Council member David Vernon the Society began offering online webinars, first to members and then to paying visitors. These have proven very popular and we expect to be having 'virtual' study days and lectures as well. No doubt online options will be part of these events even when actual meetings can resume.

Although the accounts reflect the missed income and expenses normally arising from these activities, they do not represent a major source of income since we aim to keep costs low for members in any event. Apart from these variations our operating income and expenses remain similar to previous years, with expenses continuing to exceed income despite our continued fiscal discipline. This year's operating deficit of £50,607 is lower than recent years, but still unacceptably high.

The Society's invested reserves suffered the major drop in value that all markets experienced in early March, but by the end of the financial year they had recovered about 90 percent of their value at the start of the financial year. These unrealised losses are reflected in our accounts. Our investment managers have advised us to expect reduced earnings in the coming year as the general economy copes with the effects of the pandemic.

This has been a challenging year for the Society's finances, but we are reasonably well positioned to weather the storm in the long term and prompt action by staff and Council has minimised short term damage. We are also aware that the small businesses that service the SPR have been particularly hard hit and we have done what we can to support them through the crisis.

More than ever, it remains vitally important that the Society receives donations to the general fund that can provide the additional income required to provide our scientific and educational services at the lowest possible costs to our members. The principal vehicle for this has been our "New Home Campaign," aimed at replenishing the investment reserves that were used to purchase our new premises, but we are expanding our online opportunities for donations. Income from bequests is another important means of supporting the SPR and I would like to take this opportunity to remind our members to consider the importance of maintaining the SPR's services for future generations when they are reviewing their charitable giving plans. Remember that your Will can be an important way to support the work of the SPR and we would be happy to discuss this and other ways of making substantial contributions.

This year the accounts have again been subject to a full audit and I am pleased to report that the auditor has submitted a positive report. Council remains concerned by the high costs of this service but remains of the opinion that it is in the best interests of the Society to retain this level of scrutiny. Please note that in the Auditor's Report, included with the Accounts, references to "members" is a technical usage to refer to the members of the Corporation, i.e., the Directors of the SPR.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
A company limited by guarantee and without a share capital

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES	The members of Council –Page 2
COMPANY SECRETARY	P M Johnson
COMPANY NUMBER	00044861 (England and Wales)
CHARITY NUMBER	207325
REGISTERED OFFICE	1 Vernon Mews London W14 0RL
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ NatWest Bank plc 55 Kensington High Street London W8 5ZG
INVESTMENT MANAGERS	BNY Mellon Fund Managers Ltd PO Box 366 Darlington, DL1 9RF
ACCOUNTANTS	PK Group Ventures Limited 1 Parkshot, Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD
AUDITORS	PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 1 Parkshot, Richmond Surrey TW9 2RD

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Pages:	15-18	Report of the Directors and Trustees
	19-20	Auditor's report
		Accounts, comprising:
	21	Statement of Financial Activities
	22	Balance Sheet
	23 – 30	Notes to the accounts

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Year ended 30 September 2020

The directors and trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 September 2020.

Objects of the charity, principal activities and organisation of work for the public benefit

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research (the Society) was incorporated in 1895 and is governed by a memorandum and articles of association, being both a company limited by guarantee without a share capital and a registered charity.

The Society is controlled by a Council whose elected members are directors of the Society, and all of whose members, elected and co-opted, are trustees of the Society. The names of members of Council and subsidiary committees are listed in the Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts. The day-to-day administration of the Society is managed by a full-time administrator supported by a part time librarian.

The objects and principal activities of the Society during the year continued to be the investigation of psychic and other paranormal phenomena, including awarding grants, and other services to further such investigation, the publication of research findings and related matters in its journal and magazine, the maintenance of a library and archives, the maintenance of an information website and an online library of the Society's publications, the holding of public lectures, symposia and an international conference, and the reception of and due response to enquiries and requests for information from the Society's members and the general public.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and settling the grant making policy for the year. Specific details of how these objectives have been achieved and maintained during the year can be found in the preceding individual reports of the various Committees and Officers.

Development, activities and achievements this year and future developments

These matters are addressed in the attached Annual Report of Council preceding these accounts.

Transactions and financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities (page 21) shows a net deficit before gains on investments of £117,682 (2019: a deficit of £103,949). The trustees are working to address the operating deficit. Gains on investments changed from an increase of £117,553 in 2019 to a decrease of £165,984 in the current year. This was as a result of the movement on markets during the year. The net movement in funds for the year was a decrease of £283,666 (2019: an increase of £13,604).

The closing balance on reserves, representing the net assets of the Society, decreased by this amount from £3,697,685 as at 30 September 2019 to £3,414,019 as at 30 September 2020 (see Balance Sheet on page 22).

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Society

Details of movements in fixed assets are set out in note 11 to the accounts (page 28).

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Year ended 30 September 2020

Reserves available

The planned use of the SPR Reserves is as follows. The use of the General Fund (GF) is unrestricted, and it is invested in a medium-risk portfolio to provide income for the payment of the SPR's operational expenses, and such expenditure is reported in the Accounts under "Charitable Activities Costs" (Note 6). The SPR Research Fund (RF) is restricted for use towards research, as described in Note 16 of the Accounts. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the dividend earnings from this investment are made available for grants to be awarded by the Research Grants Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. The Survival Research Fund (SRF) is restricted for promoting activities that might lead to a scientific theory of life after death. This fund is invested in a medium-risk portfolio, and the annual increase in portfolio value is made available for grants to be awarded by the SPR Council on recommendations from the Survival Research Committee. Such awards are reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and in the annual report of the Chairman of the Survival Research Committee.

The Buckmaster Fund is restricted in accordance with the Will of the donor, Nigel Buckmaster, for collating and presenting the best evidence for anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research and related work, and allowing a portion to be used for securing a freehold premises for housing the SPR headquarters and library. In 2014, the SPR Council approved that £250,000 of the legacy be reserved for use in purchasing new premises, and the remainder be reserved for project use. In 2015, the capital of the Buckmaster Building Fund was applied to the purchase of a long leasehold on the 1 Vernon Mews property for the Society's offices resulting in a zero balance and the Buckmaster Building Fund was wound up. The Buckmaster Projects Fund is invested in medium risk portfolios. The capital and earnings of the Buckmaster Projects Fund is available for spending on appropriate projects approved by the SPR Council, and these projects are managed by the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. Such expenditure is reported in the Accounts (Note 16) and the report of the Chairman of the Buckmaster Oversight Committee. The earnings on the investment of the Buckmaster Funds will be transferred for use to the SPR Research Fund and Survival Research Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year in equal parts.

All three restricted funds are assessed a small administration charge to defray the costs of administering the funds, and this transfer to the general fund is shown in Note 16.

Plans for the future

With well over a century's experience in providing reliable information on psychical research to the public and high quality professional research reports to the scientific community, as well as financially supporting new research, the Society plans to continue its work as described in the accompanying Annual Report of its activities. Near term plans including continuing the Society's policy of keeping costs low for membership, conferences, and other educational activities in order to encourage greater participation by students and academics from around the world. Recognising that this places a considerable burden on the general fund of the Society efforts are ongoing to attract benefactors and develop new sources of funding that can provide additional support to the General Fund following the acquisition of the Society's new headquarters.

Investment policy and returns

Council is empowered to direct the investment of surplus funds of the General Fund and the capital of the restricted funds in whichever way it sees fit, subject to the investment guidelines of the Charity Commission. The Society's portfolios of listed investments is now managed by its investment managers, BNY Mellon Fund Managers, the parent company of its former investment managers Newton Investment Management Limited. The investment performance is monitored on a regular basis by the Hon. Treasurer.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Year ended 30 September 2020

Grants

Research grants are awarded on an annual basis by the Research Grants Committees and are sourced from the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund.

Directors and trustees

All of the elected members of Council are directors of the company and trustees of the charity and there are a further three co-opted members who are also trustees. All the members listed in the attached Annual Report of Council served throughout the year. No remuneration is paid to the Society's officers in their capacity as trustees or directors.

The Society's Articles of Association stipulate that 18 trustees are elected by the voting members of the Society. Co-opted trustees are appointed by the Council and are recruited primarily through coming to the attention of existing trustees through their interest in the goals and work of the Society. Co-opted trustees are sought who can bring to the Society particular talents, expertise and experience not only in science but also in other professions such as can enhance and facilitate its operations and future direction.

Risk management

The trustees review as part of their regular Council meetings all potential areas of risk which may affect the Society. Procedures are in place to identify and mitigate risk.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that year. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Society will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Year ended 30 September 2020

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving this report, there is no relevant information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, the trustees, individually, have taken all necessary steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees on 4th February 2021 and signed on its behalf:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. A. Roe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

C. A. Roe - President

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research for the year ended 30 September 2020 which comprise a Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report (incorporating the directors' report) prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.
- The Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibility statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

This report is made solely to the charity's members. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charity's members, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anne Harraghy (Senior Statutory Auditor) Date: 9th April 2021
PK Audit LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor



1 Parkshot
Richmond, Surrey
TW9 2RD

PK Audit LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 30 September 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	2	12,057	-	12,057	37,575
Membership and journal subscriptions		29,735	-	29,735	28,585
Investment income		14,779	36,367	51,146	65,262
Charitable activities income	3	1,266	-	1,266	13,900
Other income	4	8,869	103	8,972	3,297
TOTAL INCOME		<u>66,706</u>	<u>36,470</u>	<u>103,176</u>	<u>148,619</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED:					
Cost of generating funds:					
Activities for generating funds	5	16,333	-	16,333	21,266
Charitable activities costs	6	81,506	101,482	182,988	203,672
Governance costs	7	21,537	-	21,537	27,630
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>119,376</u>	<u>101,482</u>	<u>220,858</u>	<u>252,568</u>
Net (outgoing) resources before gains/(losses) on investments		(52,670)	(65,012)	(117,682)	(103,949)
Transfers between funds		(28,168)	28,168	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on investments	8	(46,805)	(119,179)	(165,984)	117,553
Net movement in funds for the year		<u>(127,643)</u>	<u>(156,023)</u>	<u>(283,666)</u>	<u>13,604</u>
Funds brought forward 1 October 2019		2,012,987	1,684,698	3,697,685	3,684,081
Funds carried forward 30 September 2020		<u>1,885,344</u>	<u>1,528,675</u>	<u>3,414,019</u>	<u>3,697,685</u>

**THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH
BALANCE SHEET**

As at 30 September 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible assets	11	9,800	-	9,800	10,469
Leasehold property	11	1,264,610	-	1,264,610	1,264,610
Investments	12	604,307	1,540,435	2,144,742	2,414,403
		1,878,717	1,540,435	3,419,152	3,689,482
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Stocks	13	1,647	-	1,647	1,809
Debtors	14	7,342	2,423	9,765	14,476
Cash at bank and in hand		30,423	3,753	34,176	65,194
		39,412	6,176	45,588	81,479
CREDITORS:					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(32,785)	(17,936)	(50,721)	(73,276)
NET CURRENT ASSETS /(LIABILITIES)					
		6,627	(11,760)	(5,133)	8,203
NET ASSETS					
		1,885,344	1,528,675	3,414,019	3,697,685
ACCUMULATED GENERAL RESERVE					
		1,885,344	-	1,885,344	2,012,987
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	16	-	1,528,675	1,528,675	1,684,698
		1,885,344	1,528,675	3,414,019	3,697,685

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

This report was approved by Council representing the board of directors and trustees on 4th February 2021 and signed on its behalf:



C. A. Roe – President



R. S. Broughton - Honorary Treasurer

Registered number: 00044861

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company is a private company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales.

The company's registered office is 1 Vernon Mews, London W14 0RL.

The accounts are prepared in sterling and monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 PREPARATION OF THE ACCOUNTS ON A GOING CONCERN BASIS

The trustees have carried out a detailed review of the company's financial position including a review of cash flow forecasts taking into account the increasingly broad effects of COVID-19 as a result of its negative impact on the global economy and major financial markets.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 INCOMING RESOURCES

Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income from membership and journal subscriptions, conferences and sales of publications and other items is accounted for in each case as the amount due for the year. Provision is made against a proportion of outstanding subscriptions on the basis of non-recoveries experienced in previous years.

Other income is accounted for when received. Government grants are accounted for when receivable and included in Other Sales.

1.4 RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure associated with the delivery of activities meeting charitable objects and comprises direct costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those costs associated with the governance of the charitable company and include audit fees and costs limited to the strategic management of the charitable company.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity comprise costs that can be allocated directly to such activities to support them.

The company makes grants to individuals for research which furthers the charity's objects and as agreed by the Trustees.

1.5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets as follows:

Furniture and equipment	15% p.a. on written down value.
Computer equipment	25% p.a. on cost.

Amortisation is not provided on leasehold property where the lease is for a period of more than 100 years.

At each balance sheet date the company reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss and if so the extent of the loss.

1.6 STOCKS

Stocks of publications and other items for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, due allowance being made for slow-moving and obsolete items.

1.7 INVESTMENTS

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.8 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at total net income.

1.9 LIBRARY

The Society owns a library of books which have been acquired over a considerable period of time since the Society was founded. Since there is no reliable cost information, and any conventional valuation would either lack sufficient reliability, or the costs involved in valuing the library would be onerous compared with the additional benefit to the users of the financial statements in assessing the directors' and trustees' stewardship, no valuation has been carried out and the library is excluded from the balance sheet.

1.10 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has only financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognized at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Gifts and donations	4,801	-	4,801	1,975
Bequests and legacies	7,256	-	7,256	35,600
	<u>12,057</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,057</u>	<u>37,575</u>

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Conferences	-	-	-	11,404
Lectures	176	-	176	172
Study days	1,090	-	1,090	2,324
	<u>1,266</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,266</u>	<u>13,900</u>

4 OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Publication and other sales	895	99	994	1,944
Royalties	2,044	-	2,044	504
Other sales	2,934	-	2,934	845
Other income	2,873	-	2,873	-
Interest	123	4	127	4
	<u>8,869</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>8,972</u>	<u>3,297</u>

Other sales includes government grant income of £2,845 in respect of the Job Retention Scheme.

5 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Publication costs	16,333	-	16,333	20,787
Publicity cost	-	-	-	1,350
	<u>16,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,333</u>	<u>22,137</u>

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Grants for research and education	3,570	80,428	83,998	80,626
Conferences	1,215	-	1,215	14,378
Lectures	298	298	596	2,009
Study days	955	-	955	2,194
Library and archive	1,177	-	1,177	951
Staff costs	64,230	-	64,230	67,016
Premises	8,263	-	8,263	11,589
Postage and stationery	4,753	-	4,753	1,962
Telecommunications	518	-	518	364
Website and internet expenses	3,634	1,320	4,954	1,500
Advertising & Marketing	513	-	513	-
Software	2,563	-	2,563	1,654
General expenses	7,282	-	7,282	6,469
Gift Aid adjustment	-	-	-	9,616
Depreciation	1,971	-	1,971	2,473
Administration fee	(19,436)	19,436	-	-
	<u>81,506</u>	<u>101,482</u>	<u>182,988</u>	<u>202,801</u>

No member of staff was paid over £60,000. Apart from the payments set out in note 9, the average number of employees in the year was 7 (2019 6). Staff costs includes £4,555 (2019 £4,767) social security costs.

7 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Legal and professional fees	6,643	-	6,643	10,561
Council meetings	1,221	-	1,221	2,788
Audit fee	12,000	-	12,000	12,000
Bank and credit card charges	1,673	-	1,673	2,281
	<u>21,537</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,537</u>	<u>27,630</u>

8 NET GAINS/ (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Unrealised gain/ (loss) on investments	(82,408)	(155,210)	(237,618)	28,373
Realised gain on investments	35,603	36,031	71,634	89,180
Net gains/ (loss) on investment	<u>(46,805)</u>	<u>(119,179)</u>	<u>(165,984)</u>	<u>117,553</u>

9 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No trustee or member of Council received remuneration during the year in their capacity as trustees or directors. Travel and other expenses amounting to £1,310 (2019: £7,061) were reimbursed to Council members.

The following Council members received honoraria in recognition of specialised services rendered to the Society and in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

Prof. B. Carr: £nil (2019: £265) for study day expenses and £nil (2019: £47) for Lecture expenses.

Mr A Parker: £202 (2019: £nil) for council meeting expenses and £nil (2019: £1,045) for travel expenses.

Dr C. Cooper: £127 (2019: £285) for travel expenses, £nil (2019: £214) for Lecture expenses, £nil (2019: £410) for contribution to Psi and £2,000 (2019: £1,500) as a grant from the Survival Fund.

Mr Robert McLuhan £nil (2019: £15,313) as a grant for work as Editor of the encyclopedia being developed as part of the Buckmaster Project and for articles contributing to the encyclopedia.

Mr Malcolm Schofield £2,160 (2019: £nil) as Editor of Journal.

Mr David Rousseau £5,008 (2019: £nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Fund.

Prof. J. Poynton: £nil (2019: £51) for Lecture expenses, £nil (2019: £20) for travel expenses and £nil (2019: £410) for contribution to Psi.

Prof. C. A. Roe: £7,250 (2019: £7,250) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £5,250 (2019: £nil) as a grant from the Research Fund, £90 (2019: £387) for travel.

Dr T. H. Ruffles: £4,800 (2019: £4,800) as Hon Communications Officer; £45 (2019: £163) travel expenses for Council meetings.

Dr M. J. Willin: £1,300 (2019: £5,220) for his work on the archives and £5,454 (2019: £1,200) as a grant from the Survival Research Fund, £nil (2019: £369) for travel expenses, £nil (2019: £20) for purchase of books and £nil (2019: £70) for tapes transfer.

Mr A Murdie £nil (2019: £96) for travel expenses and £nil (2019: £108) for study day expenses.

Dr L Ruickbie £2,800 (2019: £2,400) as Editor of the Paranormal Review, £1,300 (2019: £900) for typesetting costs, £nil (2019: £601) for conference expenses, £776 (2019: £2,810) for travel expenses, £nil (2019: £718) for contribution to Psi and £4,500 (2019: £nil) as a grant from the Buckmaster Fund.

Mr S T Parsons £nil (2019: £340) for purchases of books, £nil (2019: £30) for membership expenses, £70 (2019: £nil) for travel expenses and £2,120 (2019: £300) as a grant from the Buckmaster Fund.

Dr D J Vernon £720 (2019: £2,520) for his editorial work on the SPR Journal and £nil (2019: £140) for travel expenses.

Mr D Bury £60 (2019: £nil) as a donation.

Other than these payments no trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

10 TAXATION

As a charity, the Society is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No such tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 FIXED ASSETS – Tangible assets

	Leasehold Property £	Furniture & equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 October 2019	1,264,610	32,118	13,287	1,310,015
Additions	-	285	1,017	1,302
At 30 September 2020	1,264,610	32,403	14,304	1,311,317
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 October 2019	-	22,216	12,720	34,936
Charge for the year	-	1,528	443	1,971
At 30 September 2020	-	23,744	13,163	36,907
NET BOOK VALUE – 30 September 2020	1,264,610	8,659	1,141	1,274,410
NET BOOK VALUE – 30 September 2019	1,264,610	9,902	567	1,275,079

12a FIXED ASSETS – Investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Investments are shown in the balance sheet at market value. The movement in market values during the year is as follows:-				
Market value at 1 October 2019	712,466	1,701,937	2,414,403	2,421,410
Net additional funds invested/ (funds withdrawn)	(61,354)	(42,323)	(103,677)	(124,560)
Decrease in market value during the year	(46,805)	(119,179)	(165,984)	117,553
Market value at 30 September 2020	604,307	1,540,435	2,144,742	2,414,403
UK listed investments	604,307	1,540,435	2,144,742	2,414,403
Cash balances on deposit and awaiting investment	-	-	-	-
Historical cost of listed investments on 30 September 2020	265,801	1,007,711	1,273,572	1,305,615

Investments at 30 September 2020 comprise 1,589,404 (2019-1,664,645) units held in Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities.

12b FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Unlisted Investment

At 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2020

£1

The Society has a 20% beneficial interest in Vernon Mews Management Company Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, under the company number 01791332. The company is dormant and holds the freehold of 30 to 36 (even) North End Road and 1 Vernon Mews, London, W14 0RL.

13 STOCKS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Stock of publications etc.	<u>1,647</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,647</u>	<u>1,809</u>

14 DEBTORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	-	-	-	604
Other debtors	5,953	2,423	8,376	12,599
Prepayments	<u>1,389</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,389</u>	<u>1,273</u>
	<u>7,342</u>	<u>2,423</u>	<u>9,765</u>	<u>14,476</u>

15 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-	-	42,346
Deferred income – Memberships and subscriptions	14,643	-	14,643	13,902
Social security	44	-	44	-
Other creditors and accruals	<u>18,098</u>	<u>17,936</u>	<u>36,034</u>	<u>17,028</u>
	<u>32,785</u>	<u>17,936</u>	<u>50,721</u>	<u>73,276</u>

Other creditors and accruals includes grants payable of £15,936 (2019-£22,542).

16 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Society's restricted funds include:

SPR Research Fund

Under the terms of its Trust Deed the fund's assets are to be applied solely for investigations, experiments and other research activities appropriate to the purposes of the Society.

Survival Research Fund

The funds of the Survival Research Fund are to be applied for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of a theory of survival after death.

Buckmaster Fund

The Buckmaster Fund was donated by Mr. Nigel Buckmaster for the purpose of collating and presenting

the best evidence for each class of anomalous phenomena relevant to Psychical Research, and related work.

Movements in the restricted funds during the year were:

	<i>SPR Research Fund £</i>	<i>Survival Research Fund £</i>	<i>Buckmaster Projects Fund £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
Balance at 1 October 2019	592,326	703,057	389,315	1,684,698
Investment income	13,211	15,006	8,150	36,367
Allocation of 2018 investment income	(3,210)	(3,211)	6,421	-
Allocation of 2019 investment income	5,288	5,288	(10,576)	-
Other income	(300)	403	-	103
Grants awarded	(9,791)	(32,770)	(37,867)	(80,428)
Lecture expenses	490	(788)	-	(298)
Website	-	-	(1,320)	(1,320)
Net Movement in investments	(46,837)	(45,683)	(26,659)	(119,179)
Transfers between funds	21,552	(376)	6,992	28,168
Administration fees	(5,592)	(7,031)	(6,813)	(19,436)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at 30 September 2020	567,137	633,895	327,643	1,528,675
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The SPR Council has made a prudent and reasonable assessment of the costs involved in relation to the SPR's stated aims and objectives in order to strike a fair and reasonable balance between the SPR's general administration and running costs and the SPR's priority for the vital research and educational work conducted through the application of these Restricted or Designated funds. The assessments for the SPR Research Fund and the Survival Research Fund amounts to 1% of the respective fund's closing balance at the end of the previous fiscal year and is taken from the fund's capital and placed in the General Fund. For the Buckmaster Fund, a short-term fund with higher operational costs, the assessment amounts to 1.75%. Any funds created in the future shall enter the scheme at the 1% level pending review of the operational costs associated with the fund. The levels of assessment may be subject to review and revision as necessary.

17 RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES

Defined contribution schemes

	2020	2019
	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>2,484</u>	<u>2,371</u>

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

18 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research is a private company limited by guarantee and accordingly, does not have a share capital. In accordance with the Articles of Association, each member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount, not exceeding £1 each, to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up.

19 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

The charitable company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2019 are available in full on the Charity Commission's website.

NOTES ON CANDIDATES – SPR AGM 2021 – IN THEIR OWN WORDS.

CALLUM E COOPER, Ph.D.

Dr Callum E. Cooper joined the SPR in 2007. He became a member of the Survival Research Committee and then Council several years later. He is a senior lecturer and researcher of psychology at the University of Northampton. He is the third-year module coordinator for ‘Parapsychology & Anomalous Experiences’ and lectures on such topics as: parapsychology, positive psychology, sexual behaviour, and death and loss. He received a PhD from the University of Northampton (2017) exploring the impact of post-death experiences on bereavement, and soon after received a PhD from Manchester Metropolitan University (2018) based on ten years of work he had conducted in parapsychology regarding spontaneous case research and the survival hypothesis. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2009 Eileen J. Garrett Scholarship Award (Parapsychology Foundation), the Dr Gertrude Schmeidler Award (Parapsychological Association), as was a nominee for the 2018 Ockham’s Razor Award for Excellence in Skeptical Activism (The Skeptic Magazine / QEDcon). He also holds various positions with research institutes including: Library Fellow of the Eileen J. Garrett – Parapsychology Foundation (2015), Principal Researcher of the Alex Tanous Foundation, Research Associate of Hope Studies Central (University of Alberta), Professional Member of the Parapsychological Association, and Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society.

DAVID ELLIS, M.A.

David was born near the eastern edge of Sussex in 1941 and lived in the south-east with his mother while his father served in the RAF. He attended a private first school and had a year at the local grammar school before his family moved away in September 1953, following his father’s promotion in the Westminster Bank. He went to grammar schools in Horsham, Winchester and Brighton, and having inherited his father’s competitive nature (though not his ability at sport), was never satisfied unless he was top of the A stream. He was fortunate to win a Minor Scholarship in Natural Sciences to Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, where he specialised in Chemistry but also played chess with some success and worked for the university photographic society, first as Darkroom Secretary and then as Chairman. Graduating with a 3rd Class degree from a College which can boast fourteen Nobel Prize Winners, he found employment at an American-owned research laboratory in Harlow, which did at least have one (Charlie Kao, for his fibre-optic work) and also employed Alec Reeves, who invented digital signal coding in the 1930s. Despite being warned by Chris Stephenson of Caius of the effect that involvement in psychical research could have “on any sane career” he applied successfully for the Perrott-Warrick Studentship in 1970 with a project on the Raudive voices (EVP).

He served on two committees of the Churches’ Fellowship in the 1970s and as its first printer he helped his friend Leslie Price found *The Christian Parapsychologist* in 1975. He welcomed D. Scott Rogo to his flat in Epping in 1972, and they visited Dr Robert Crookall before travelling together to the Parapsychology Foundation Conference in Amsterdam, to which David had been invited as the Perrott-Warrick Student. Despite the efforts of SPR friends such as Alan Gauld, David was unable to continue in funded psychical research, but work friends helped him purchase litho printing equipment, and his concern for good English was key to his specialisation in books and periodicals. He printed and published an account of his Perrott-Warrick research, and did books for friends and local authors. Awarded the contract in 1991 for getting the *JSPR* into print, he was made Production Editor by Council in respect of his sub-editing work, and he was responsible for over 100 issues of the *Journal* and *Proceedings* until the end of 2015, for which he was made an honorary member of the Society.

David was elected to Council in 2005 and served on the Finance Committee from 2007 to 2012, setting up a fairer system for subscription renewal fees for members who had joined part-way through a subscription year. He had mailed the publications from 1992 and printed the annual subscription reminders. In 2014 he chaired the sub-committee to appoint an editor for the *Paranormal Review* after Nicola Holt retired, and he continues to proof-read each issue for Leo Ruickbie, a light task as Leo himself works hard on his contributors’ writing. (We need to be very careful with our writing, to avoid giving any impression that we are careless with our research.) For a number of reasons, David decided at the 2017 Annual General Meeting not to contest the election for Council members, and the three-year break has proved very helpful to him, not least as it has enabled him to get a second book of his own into print, this time dealing with his work at his local Church to promote the Christian faith as simple to understand, if not always simple to put into practice. Being at the Don Cupitt end of the theological spectrum, he would like to have visited the man, but this was precluded by the latter’s retirement on account of macular degeneration. Cupitt thanked him for pointing out some typos on his official website, and telephoned to acknowledge receipt of a copy of David’s book, although he would be unable to read it.

David is a Professional Member of the Parapsychological Association. He has friends in Adelaide and after a weekend there in May 2010 for the funeral of Michael Thalbourne, he has contributed to AIPR publications, as well as writing a few articles, book reviews, obituaries and letters for the SPR.

CIARAN FARRELL

Ciaran was elected to Council at the 2017 AGM and has played an active role in all aspects of the Council's work. Ciaran was appointed by Council in 2017 to fulfil the role of Data Protection Officer (DPO), and to work alongside the Secretary and Honorary Treasurer within a small General Data Protection Regulation Implementation Team, to ensure that the SPR would be made ready for the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation, in May 2018. This significant milestone in the SPR's administration was achieved on time and on budget. Ciaran remains in post as DPO as there is still further work to be done in policy development for data protection and to act as a point of reference and contact for data protection matters.

Ciaran is an active member of the recently formed Policy Working Group and has made valuable contributions to the evaluation and revision of existing SPR policies and also to policy development due to the skills and knowledge he has gained in the charitable and voluntary sectors.

Ciaran is an active member of the Spontaneous Cases Committee, using the skills and knowledge he has gained through his background in psychical research, practical investigation skills and psychical experiences.

Ciaran is also an active member of the Conference Arrangements Committee, which assists the Secretary with the organisation of SPR Conferences. In addition, Ciaran also assists the Secretary by helping out with the general administration of the SPR.

Ciaran has had psychical experiences of various types over the years which started when he was young including a holiday in a haunted house and experiences in haunted hospitals and other locations. He became fascinated by the phenomena, rather than scared by them, and set out to do all he could to understand their nature. He has been carrying out psychical research for several years at the British & Wellcome Libraries, the National Archives & various other institutions. This includes the history and nature of psychical phenomena, entities, apparitions, veridical dreams, telepathy and mediumship. He is particularly interested in comparing veridical information and psychical sense impression data with historical fact.

Ciaran joined the Society in February 2015 and regularly attends SPR Lectures, Study Days and last year's SPR Conference which he finds very rewarding, and he is a regular contributor to the group discussion at these events.

Ciaran is a member of several health-related groups and is a local authority consultant in health & social care. He has also been the Company Secretary of a small business as well as Vice Chair of his local Community Health Council, and a member of its successor bodies, and a School Governor. In addition, he was the chair or vice chair of his local Tenants' Association for many years, and has represented communities at local, regional and national levels in health and housing. He has also been a Trustee of several charities involved in health, housing and education.

Ciaran graduated from London University with a joint honours degree in chemistry & physics after obtaining the first part of an engineering, toolmaking apprenticeship. He went on to carry out research for a PhD but was unable to secure funding for his qualification due to the merger of his college with others within the university. He became an honorary student in the college's Philosophy of Science department and engaged in original philosophical research into the mind body problem. He then went on to work for the charity National MIND.

JOHN FRASER, B.A.

John is a current member of the SPR Council and has been Vice Chair Investigations of the Ghost Club – the two oldest groups in the country that study the paranormal. John's active interest in the paranormal dates from the 1980s, when he participated in a long-running series of hypnotic regression experiments, assisting in the co-ordination of sessions and being trained in hypnotic regression techniques. Following a research project regarding the reasons behind supernatural occurrences at Sandwood Bay in Sutherland, he was invited to join the Ghost

Club, where he became the Vice Chair (with investigations portfolio) 1998-2004. He joined the SPR in the late 1990s and, in 2003, became a member of the Spontaneous Cases Committee, where he has worked to widen its accessibility to the general public. He was also invited to join the Council in 2008. His 2010 *Ghost Hunting, a Survivors Guide* was one of the first UK books published about the subject since its re-popularisation by TV. Since 2015 John has been working on an extended project of witness testimony regarding the well-publicised phenomena occurring at The Cage in St Osyth, Essex, while also assessing the validity of witness testimony in spontaneous 'paranormal' cases. He has presented some of his findings both at an SPR lecture and article in the *Paranormal Review*. One of John's primary aims is to make the SPR more involved in spontaneous cases and 'paranormal' field research and he will be contributing to a forthcoming SPR Study Day on 29th April (ahead of the AGM) on New Approaches to Ghost Hunting, arguing along these lines. John has also appeared in numerous media discussions of the paranormal - including Japanese and Scottish Television, and national BBC radio.

ROBERT McLUHAN, B.A., B.Litt.

Robert McLuhan is a professional journalist who began his career as a foreign correspondent for the *Guardian* and *Economist*, and now writes mainly for *The Week* and for business publications. Robert joined the Society in 1993, making good use of the library to get to grips with psychical research. In 1998, the Survival Research Committee commissioned him to create an Abstracts Catalogue of all survival-related material in the SPR *Proceedings* and *Journals* from 1884 to the present day. This project was subsequently enlarged to cover all the archive material, taking five years to complete (the entire catalogue can now be accessed in the SPR website's Publications menu). In 2010, he published *Randi's Prize: What Sceptics Say About the Paranormal, Why They Are Wrong, and Why It Matters*, in which he closely compared research reports by psi investigators with the criticisms of sceptics. He has given occasional SPR lectures and contributed to SPR Study Days on topics such as mediumship, and reincarnation research, and scepticism. In 2014, he was commissioned to manage the Buckmaster Publications project, beginning with the creation of the online Psi Encyclopedia. He has also overseen the redesign of the SPR website. He contributes book reviews to the *Journal* and writes essays about paranormal matters on his blog Paranormalia.com.

CHRIS A. ROE, Ph.D.

Chris Roe joined the Society in 1991 and was co-opted onto Council in 1997 when he took over as Editor of the *Paranormal Review*. In 2003, he became Editor of the SPR's *Journal*. He studied Psychology at Edinburgh University and returned there to study for a PhD as part of the Koestler Parapsychology Unit. In 1995, he took up a lectureship in Psychology at the University of Northampton, and was responsible for introducing parapsychology into the undergraduate Psychology course at Northampton and has helped to establish the Centre for the Study of Anomalous Psychological Processes, which includes ten academic staff and nine PhD students with interests in parapsychology and transpersonal psychology. He is the Perrott-Warrick Senior Researcher and Professor of Psychology at the University of Northampton. He is currently President of the Parapsychological Association and Chair of the Transpersonal Psychology Section of the British Psychological Society. He is a member of the Scientific Board of the BIAL Foundation and the International Affiliate for the Parapsychology Foundation representing England. He has personally conducted laboratory-based research on ESP and PK but also has a long-standing interest in psychic readers and readings.

ADRIAN RYAN

Adrian is a freelance business systems analyst for the financial services industry, with a long-standing interest in parapsychology and psychical research. He serves on several of the Society's committees and is a member of the Editorial Board of the Society's *Journal*. He is also a member of the Scientific & Medical Network and a Professional Member of the Parapsychological Association. Adrian recently assisted in migrating the Society's membership database onto new technology, enabling email communication with members and online renewals and registration for events. He is currently undertaking a project to implement an open data repository for parapsychological and psychical research data, and is also conducting research into environmental influences on psi. Adrian is keen to represent younger members of the Society and will always work to ensure that legacies received by the Society are utilised in accordance with the deceased's wishes.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The Incorporated Society for Psychical Research will be held via Zoom

on Saturday, 24th April 2021 at 5.15 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) To endorse the actions of Council for the AGM effectively held on 25th April 2020 as described in this statement:

“At a meeting of the Council on 12th March 2020, it was decided that the 2020 AGM should be postponed.

“Further to consultation with Companies House and the Charities Commission, it was agreed at a meeting of the Council on 14th June 2020 that the 2020 AGM should be deemed to have taken place on 25th April 2020. All motions contained in the Agenda for that meeting were deemed to have carried, except for the proposal under Item 3: *To elect six members to the Council. The following six Council members are due to retire in rotation and offer themselves for re-election:*

Mr C. J. Farrell, BSc, GRSC; Mr J. A. Fraser, BA; Mr R. G. McLuhan, BA, BLitt; Prof. C. A. Roe, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS; Mr A. P. Ryan; Dr C. E. Cooper, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA. The required nominations have also been received from two members for the following candidate:

Mr D. J. Ellis, MA.

The Council decided that this item should be carried over to the next AGM, to be held in 2021.”

- 2) To receive the Report of the Council and the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to 30th September 2020.
- 3) To elect six members to the Council. The following six Council members are due to retire in rotation and offer themselves for re-election and, for each candidate, the required nominations have been received from two members: **Dr C. E. Cooper**, BSc, MRes, PhD, CPsychol., FHEA; **Mr C. J. Farrell**, BSc, GRSC; **Mr J. A. Fraser**, BA; **Mr R. G. McLuhan**, BA, BLitt; **Prof. C. A. Roe**, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFBPsS; **Mr A. P. Ryan**. The required nominations have also been received from two members for the following candidate: **Mr D. J. Ellis**, MA.

Notes on all the candidates precede this Agenda.

- 4) To re-appoint PK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants as Reporting Accountants for the period prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.
- 5) To authorise the Council to determine the remuneration of the Reporting Accountants.

No other business will be transacted at this meeting.

Peter Johnson *Secretary to the Society*

