

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 00502705
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 262247

**The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists
Limited**

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Unaudited Financial Statements

31 December 2023

DAVID KELLAND FCA
Chartered Accountants
Meadows & Co Limited
Headlands House
1 Kings Court
Kettering Parkway
Kettering
NN15 6WJ

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

	Page
Council of management annual report	1
Independent examiner's report to the members	5
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	6
Statement of financial position	7
Notes to the financial statements	8

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Council of Management Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2023

The members, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited
Charity registration number	262247
Company registration number	00502705
Principal office and registered office	8 Copper Leaf Close Moulton Northampton NN3 7HS

The members

Prof W R Wise	(President)
Mr M Thompson	
Mr S R Trantum	
Dr S Davis	(Resigned 22 April 2023)
Mr K O Macdonald	
Mr L Irwin	
Mr J Hubbard	
Mr J J Osgood	
Dr C M Anscombe	
Mr J Avery	
Dr A Ballantyne	
Mrs D A Taylor	

Elected or Ex Officio

B Jonsson	(President, South African Section)
N Phipps	(Hon. Secretary, South African Section)
M.K. Leafe	Editor

Officers invited to attend Council Meetings but without voting rights

Mrs M Kapuscik	(General Secretary)
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Company secretary	Miss M Kapuscik
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Independent examiner	Mr David Kelland Meadows & Co Limited Headlands House 1 Kings Court Kettering Parkway Kettering NN15 6WJ
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The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Council of Management Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

Structure, governance and management

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objective and its principal activity continues to be that of assisting and encouraging the application of science and technology to the manufacture and utilisation of leather and related products and by the publication of journals and the holding of meetings, to further the development of scientific knowledge in the leather industry.

Policies adopted to achieve the society's objectives

1. To set subscription rates for members and subscribers at a level consistent with the ability to fulfil the objectives of the Society and to attract members from industry, organisations and libraries.
2. To publish the Journal of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists, a recognised international journal which has been published monthly or bi-monthly since 1917. To originate other publications of a scientific or technological nature where appropriate to further the objectives of the Society.
3. To devise analytical methods for publication as Official Methods of the Society and to collaborate with the other organisations in the formulation of International Methods for the Analysis of Leather and related products.
4. To hold meetings, if possible, on an annual basis, and to encourage and support regional meetings held by local groups and overseas sections.

Strategic report

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

Achievements and performance

The profit for the year was £5,541 (2022: £4,089 deficit), leaving total funds to be carried forward of £85,581 (2022: £80,040).

The Council of Management does not consider that there have been any important events affecting the Society between the date of the balance sheet and the date that this report was signed.

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Council of Management Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

Financial review

This year has been an unexpectantly tough year for the UK leather industry, the ripples from the bad news have been felt globally and will continue to do so for a while to come.

It has been announced that one of the longest standing centres for educational and research excellence in leather technology - the Institute for Creative Leather Technologies (ICLT) - is to cease operation by July 2025. The full impact of this decision is yet to be realised, but most in the industry agree it will see a reduction in the importance of the UK in the field of leather manufacture and importantly for the SLTC the cessation of a long-standing relationship between the Society, ICLT and the young people just starting out on their career in leather manufacture. This may have an impact on SLTC membership in the future. A number of council members and active members within the SLTC are also from ICLT, depending on where they find future employment their involvement in the society might be significantly reduced and it will fall to other members to look at the most appropriate way of filling the responsibilities left vacant.

In addition, Pittards called in the administrators in 2023 but were unable to find a buyer despite holding talks with an interested party. Pittards was founded in 1826, employed 150 staff in this country and 900 in Ethiopia and was famed for its high-quality gloving leather. As with ICLT's closure, Pittards closure will have a direct impact on the SLTC as the company sponsored employee's membership to the society and always bought multiple tickets for the Dinner and Dance. This valuable source of income, as well as the loss of experienced personnel in the UK industry, will be noticed.

Despite this 'gloomy' news, the SLTC continues to function well. 2023 saw the stepping down of our long-standing secretary Pat Potter. Pat has done a fantastic job for the SLTC since taking her post as secretary more than 20 years ago, however she made no secret of her desire to step down from the role in 2023 and so the task of finding her replacement was started. I am pleased to say that, following a recruitment round, Monika Kapuscik has filled the role. Monika is already proving to be highly efficient and has demonstrated a knowledge of the society and its working, well beyond her time in the post.

This year also saw the formalisation of 3 sub-groups that work beneath the main full council. There is no need to limit membership on these sub-groups to council members, but at this point it tends to be the same group of people that step up. The concept of these subgroups is that they can discuss changes and procedures etc. and feed directly into the full council meetings with well sorted proposals thus shortening the length of time required for the full council meeting. Despite only being implemented for a year, this initiative appears to be working well.

The annual SLTC conference will take place on 27th April 2024 and, due to the success of previous years, will once again be run in a hybrid format allowing in-person attendance and virtual attendance. As I write this letter, the number of attendees is low in comparison with other years - despite having an excellent line-up of speakers - but this might be symptomatic of the cost of living crisis that all are experiencing alongside a downturn in the leather manufacturing sector.

Following agreement at the previous AGM, the journal has now moved to an online only provision in an attempt to reflect a more modern reader and circumvent issues around the use of colour as well as reducing costs to the society. There will likely be more on this in next years presidents report as the journal only moved to a fully electronic format in January 2024.

I am grateful for the continued support of Council who carry out the work of the Society including promoting membership, planning the conference and delivering the aims of the society. This includes the elected council members and the valuable work done by the Secretary, Editor and Technical Co-ordinator. As a member of staff in ICLT my time has unexpectantly been drawn away from the

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Council of Management Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

society as I worked with my colleagues to reverse the decision of closure of ICLT. All council members have been extraordinarily understanding and have not put me under any pressure, quite the opposite, they have taken on tasks that would normally be expected from the President and helped with the smooth running of the society.

At the SLTC Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year we will vote in an incoming President who will assume the role of Vice President for a year before I hand over the chain of office to the successful nominee. This means that Mr John Hubbard who is the outgoing president and is in the current role of Vice President will be stepping down. John leaves behind a legacy of successful leadership of the SLTC as we emerged from the covid-19 pandemic and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all of his efforts to date.

Hopefully the changes that I am leading, such as moving to an electronic journal and modernising/updating the website will start to have an impact over the next few years and we will return the society to a regular profit.

The council of management annual report and the strategic report were approved on 27 April 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Prof. William R Wise
President



Mr D Miller
Treasurer

27th April 2024

27/4/24

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

Year ended 31 December 2023

I report to the members on my examination of the financial statements of The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006, and
- the accounts do not accord with those records, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met, or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached."



Mr David Kelland
Independent Examiner

Meadows & Co Limited
Headlands House
1 Kings Court
Kettering Parkway
Kettering
NN15 6WJ

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 December 2023

			2023		2022
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	17,945	–	17,945	17,523
Other trading activities	6	17,661	–	17,661	15,493
Investment income	7	424	123	547	198
Total income		<u>36,030</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>36,153</u>	<u>33,214</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	8	18,521	–	18,521	25,939
Expenditure on charitable activities	9,10	12,091	–	12,091	11,364
Total expenditure		<u>30,612</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>30,612</u>	<u>37,303</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		<u>5,418</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>5,541</u>	<u>(4,089)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		69,460	10,580	80,040	84,129
Total funds carried forward		<u>74,878</u>	<u>10,703</u>	<u>85,581</u>	<u>80,040</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	16	156	312
Current assets			
Stocks	17	493	547
Debtors	18	—	1,845
Cash at bank and in hand		88,611	82,025
		<u>89,104</u>	<u>84,417</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	<u>3,679</u>	<u>4,689</u>
Net current assets		85,425	79,728
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>85,581</u>	<u>80,040</u>
Net assets		<u>85,581</u>	<u>80,040</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		10,703	10,580
Unrestricted funds		74,878	69,460
Total charity funds	20	<u>85,581</u>	<u>80,040</u>

For the year ending 31 December 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 27 April 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Prof. William R Wise
President

27th April 2024



Mr D Miller
Treasurer

27/4/24

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 8 Copper Leaf Close, Moulton, Northampton, NN3 7HS.

2. Statement of compliance

These 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 issued in October 2019, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Public benefit

The Trustees of The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited understand the need to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the members for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Plant and machinery - 20% straight line

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

4. Limited by guarantee

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited is a company limited by guarantee and thus has no share capital.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Sponsorship				
Members and associates	13,808	13,808	13,933	13,933
Subscriptions				
Subscriptions and application fees	4,137	4,137	3,590	3,590
	<u>17,945</u>	<u>17,945</u>	<u>17,523</u>	<u>17,523</u>

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Sales of publication and sundry receipts	620	620	1,062	1,062
Conference income	8,546	8,546	7,931	7,931
Journal income	8,495	8,495	6,500	6,500
	<u>17,661</u>	<u>17,661</u>	<u>15,493</u>	<u>15,493</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>424</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>547</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>184</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>198</u>

8. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Opening stock	547	547	607	607
Journal printing	5,310	5,310	12,800	12,800
Closing stock	(493)	(493)	(547)	(547)
Honorarium - editor	7,272	7,272	6,993	6,993
Conference expenditure	5,525	5,525	5,690	5,690
Subscription - IULTCS	360	360	396	396
	<u>18,521</u>	<u>18,521</u>	<u>25,939</u>	<u>25,939</u>

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Support costs	<u>12,091</u>	<u>12,091</u>	<u>11,364</u>	<u>11,364</u>

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Governance costs	<u>12,091</u>	<u>12,091</u>	<u>11,364</u>

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

11. Analysis of support costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Staff costs	5,739	5,739	5,517
Communications and IT	2,455	2,455	2,465
General office	577	577	400
Finance costs	2,046	2,046	1,593
Travelling and meeting	24	24	19
Sundry expenses	153	153	198
Depreciation	156	156	148
Bank charges	265	265	255
Postage and carriage	435	435	547
Other legal and professional	241	241	222
	<u>12,091</u>	<u>12,091</u>	<u>11,364</u>

12. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>156</u>	<u>148</u>

13. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,124</u>

14. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	<u>13,011</u>	<u>12,510</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 2 (2022: 2). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Administration staff	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

15. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

16. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery etc £
Cost	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	10,597
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2023	10,285
Charge for the year	156
At 31 December 2023	10,441
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2023	156
At 31 December 2022	312

17. Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Raw materials and consumables	493	547

18. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	—	1,845

19. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	219	220
Accruals and deferred income	3,241	4,259
Social security and other taxes	219	210
	3,679	4,689

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

20. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 20 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December r 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	69,460	36,030	(30,612)	—	74,878

	At 1 January 20 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	73,563	33,200	(37,303)	—	69,460

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 20 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December r 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Heritage Fund	—	123	—	(123)	—
Raymond Blakey fund	10,580	—	—	123	10,703
	10,580	123	—	—	10,703

	At 1 January 20 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Heritage Fund	—	14	—	(14)	—
Raymond Blakey fund	10,566	—	—	14	10,580
	10,566	14	—	—	10,580

Heritage fund

This project was started during 2018 with the objective of archiving SLTC's scientific knowledge for future generations.

Raymond Blakey fund

This fund is dedicated to the creation of an online Resource Centre to reflect the knowledge requirements of current and future leather technologists and chemists.

The Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists Limited

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	156	–	156
Current assets	78,401	10,703	89,104
Creditors less than 1 year	(3,679)	–	(3,679)
Net assets	<u>74,878</u>	<u>10,703</u>	<u>85,581</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	312	–	312
Current assets	73,837	10,580	84,417
Creditors less than 1 year	(4,689)	–	(4,689)
Net assets	<u>69,460</u>	<u>10,580</u>	<u>80,040</u>