

**CALEDONIAN
RAILWAY
ASSOCIATION**

(Charity Registered in Scotland No. SC014554)

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND
TRUSTEES' REPORT 2024**

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Association shall –

- (i) promote the study, acquisition and preservation of information, documents, illustrations and artefacts relating to the Caledonian Railway, and its constituent and successor companies.
- (ii) facilitate and co-ordinate research by members into the history of the Railway.
- (iii) foster the collation and dissemination of information and material so obtained.
- (iv) assist other private, public and professional organisations which have aims and interests similar to those of the Association.

We ran a full programme of winter meetings in 2024 and have continued the hybrid format. The recordings of the webinars and hybrid meetings are made available online to members, building a great archive of Caledonian related topics. The full list and links to the recordings are in the Association Resources within the Registered Members section of the Forum online. We did not meet in October instead participating in the Scottish Railway History Conference in Perth, and held an expedition to the Peebles line. Our exhibition stand also attended our usual shows in Glasgow, Perth and Falkirk in 2024.

Our quarterly magazine “The True Line” covered a wide range of topics from historical articles through to current updates on the remaining Caledonian Railway infrastructure.

We continue to work together with the other Scottish railway societies through The Forum of Scottish Line Societies which aims to encourage further co-operation amongst the Societies as well as co-ordinating joint activities including the Railway History Conference, sharing stands at exhibitions and building a Scotland-wide railway photographic archive. The online photographic archive which was launched in May 2020 and currently contains over 61,000 images, including over 25,300 from the NRM collections and over 10,300 from the Association’s archive of c.30,000 or more images. Access to the archive is available, free of charge, to all members of the Association by request to webmaster@crassoc.org.uk.

True Line Models range expanded to include our first 7mm scale wagon as well as our first 3D printed model – a horse box available in both 4mm and 7mm all of which have sold well.

After publishing two major works ourselves last year and supporting two other Caledonian related titles by purchasing copies to sell through the Association we have had a quieter year on the publications front in 2024 with just one title in association with the North British Railways Study Group – *Three Generations on Scotland's Railway*. All of our publications and electronic downloads of CR Company documents in searchable pdf format can be purchased through our website at www.crassoc.org.uk/web/shop along with True Line Models and the searchable electronic archive of The True Line magazine.

We carry on our search for items to enhance our Archive, kindly supported by the work of Glasgow University Archive Services who host the archive at their Thurso Street premises where it is normally available to be viewed by members and the wider public. 40 new documents were accessioned this year including an exceptional collection of 12 original Scottish Central Railway drawings of its bridges and structures. We continue to receive and respond to a wide range of queries from members and non-members.

The Association relies on volunteers for all of its work and is grateful for all those who gave of their time to support our activities throughout the year.

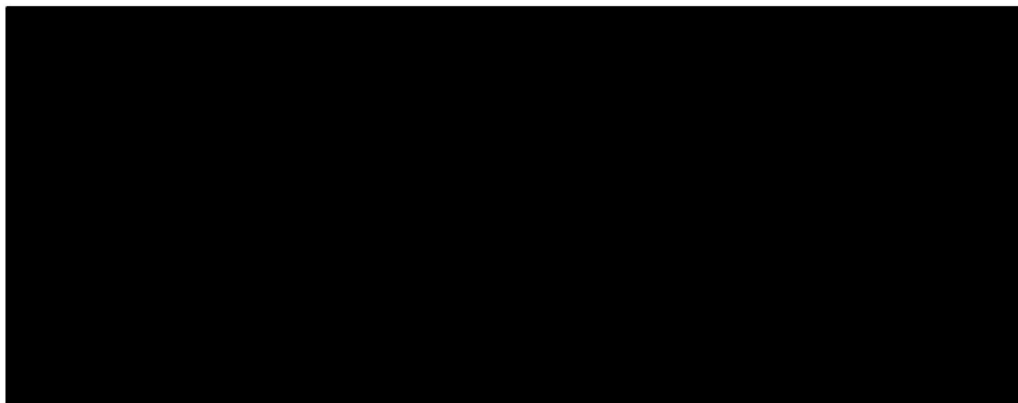
Full details of our current activities as well as more information about the Caledonian Railway are available at our website www.crassoc.org.uk.

GOVERNANCE

The Caledonian Railway Association is an unincorporated association governed under its Constitution. A new constitution was adopted at our AGM on 20 March 2021.

The affairs of the Association are managed by a Committee consisting of members elected at the Annual General Meeting each year which is supported by Associates who undertake specific tasks to help with the running of the Association as required, and attend the Committee meetings to report on their activities. This year we are delighted to welcome [REDACTED] as a new Associate in the role of Photo Archivist.

The Trustees of the Association for 2024, all of whom served throughout the year unless indicated below, were the following Officers:



[REDACTED] was co-opted as Membership Secretary during the year and his appointment will be confirmed at the March 2025 AGM.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

Whilst membership subscriptions are fixed at the level which supports the cost of producing, printing and distributing the Association's quarterly journal, The True Line, funds are raised through donations and reprints/CDs of selected archive material to contribute to other General Expenses.

As noted above the Association relies on volunteers to undertake its main activities and is grateful to the Glasgow University Archives Service for holding our Archive of written material and photographs relating to the Caledonian Railway. Other costs of running the Association, including any annual deficits are met from General Reserves.

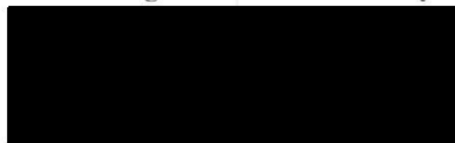
As the Association does not have any significant long-term financial commitments there is no need to maintain a dedicated reserve to address such expenses. The Trustees believe that the Association should hold at least one year's running costs (excluding publications which are covered by the Special Projects Fund) in the General Reserves to provide time to address any significant downturn in income. At 31 December 2024 the General Reserve totals £16,122 (2023 - £19,003) which represents running costs for approximately 13 months.

The "Special Project Fund" is a Designated Account to be used for projects of lasting value. The fund is built up from windfall donations, bequests, tax repayments under Gift Aid, interest received on funds, and the net proceeds from our programme of publications and our True Line Models range. The Special Projects Fund will continue to be used to underwrite the costs of further publications and models to further the Association's aims.

This Reserves Policy will be reviewed annually.

Approved by the Trustees on 29 August 2025

and signed on their behalf by:

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		2024		2023	
RECEIPTS	<i>Note</i>	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	<i>1</i>		10,496		11,279
Donations rec'd with Subs.	<i>1</i>		2,526		360
General Donations			127		801
Tax Repayment on Gift Aid	<i>1</i>		4,880		-
Bank Interest – Building Society		283		133	
Bank Interest – Notice Account		1,263		1,074	
			1,546		1,207
Sales:					
<i>Reprints, others</i>		1,715		416	
<i>CDs-True Line Archive/Drawings</i>		415		726	
<i>Publications</i>		3,320		9,595	
<i>True Line Models</i>		1,165		1,373	
			6,615		12,110
Sale of photographs			90		54
Gross Receipts			26,280		25,811
PAYMENTS					
TTL Printing		6,933		6,366	
TTL Post & Packing		4,949		3,884	
TTL Others		15		15	
			11,897		10,265
Cost of Sales:					
<i>Reprints, Others</i>		1,118		563	
<i>CDs-True Line Archive/Drawings</i>		-		-	
<i>Publications</i>		2,414		9,929	
<i>True Line Models</i>		912		1,008	
			4,444		11,500
Donations to CR419	<i>2</i>		-		600
Donations to CR828	<i>3</i>		-		-
Archive Purchase	<i>4</i>		650		-
Archive Conservation	<i>4</i>		485		-
Membership Expenses			241		109
General Expenses	<i>5</i>		236		1,005
AGM Expenses			607		455
Exhibition Expenses			459		771
Room Hire for Meetings			798		910
Scottish Line Societies:	<i>6</i>				
<i>Scottish Railway History Conference</i>		(159)		-	
<i>Joint Photo Archive Project</i>		712		437	
<i>Contributions from Other Societies</i>		(46)		-	
			507		437
Transaction Charges:	<i>7</i>				
<i>PayPal</i>		99		145	
<i>SumUp</i>		43		50	
			142		195
Insurance	<i>8</i>		242		-
Gross Payments			20,708		26,247
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR			5,572		(436)

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		2024		2023	
	<i>Note</i>	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds					
Cash at bank and in hand at start of year		53,613		54,049	
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		5,572		(436)	
			<u>59,185</u>		<u>53,613</u>
Represented by:					
35-day Notice Deposit Account		40,144		38,881	
Building Society Account		17,044		11,761	
Bank Current Acct. Balance		1,793		1,909	
Account No. 2		86		93	
Sales Stand Float/PayPal Balance		118		969	
			59,185		53,613
Other Assets					
Archives Purchased (Cumulative)	9	32,681		32,031	
Gift Aid Tax Relief		2,250		2,250	
			34,931		34,281
TOTAL ASSETS			<u>94,116</u>		<u>87,894</u>

SPECIAL PROJECT FUND ACCOUNT

(this is a sub-set of the Accounts and is a Designated Account)

		2024		2023	
	<i>Note</i>	£	£	£	£
Opening Balance			68,891		66,491
Donations rec'd with Subs.		2,526		360	
General Donations		127		186	
Tax repayment-Gift Aid		4,880		-	
Interest Received		1,546		1,207	
			9,079		2,368
Archive Purchases	5		(650)		-
Archive Expenses			(485)		-
Publications					
Income		3,320		9,595	
Expenditure		(2,414)		(9,929)	
			906		(334)
True Line Models					
Income		1,165		1,373	
Expenditure		(912)		(1,008)	
			253		365
Net movement in the year			9,103		2,400
Closing Balance			<u>77,994</u>		<u>68,891</u>
Represented by:					
Archives Purchased (Cumulative)		32,681		32,031	
Cash Funds		45,313		36,860	
			<u>77,994</u>		<u>68,891</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 29 August 2025, and signed on their behalf by:



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. A large number of Members add donations to their subscriptions, and c.80% of Members have signed Gift Aid declarations. The Gift Aid claims for 2023 and 2024 will be claimed in the 2025 Financial Year. The Gift Aid received as cash in 2024 includes catch up for 2 earlier years.
2. Proceeds of our publications "CR 419" are donated to the Scottish Railway Preservation Society which owns and maintains the locomotive. A donation of £50 will be made in early 2025 for 2024 sales.
3. Proceeds of the sale of our publication "Caley 828" are donated to the Caledonian Railway 828 Trust which owns and maintains the locomotive. There were no sales of the book in 2024 and accordingly no donation has been made.
4. 40 new documents were accessioned this year including a collection of 12 original Scottish Central Railway drawings of its bridges and structures. Archive conservation costs relate to the purchase of a high speed scanner for use in digitising our photographic archives.
5. General expenses include £175 paid to purchase additional web storage space for the extending website and forum, 2023 included £604 paid for hosting of our website for three years to Summer 2026.
6. Costs include those associated with joint activities with other Scottish Line Societies including the project to record and catalogue all of the Scottish images held by the National Railway Museum and shared attendance at exhibitions. Agreement has been reached to share past and future costs amongst the Scottish line societies. The net cost represents the Association's share of costs plus timing differences between incurring expenses and refunds from other Societies. 2024 also includes the attendance fees for, and costs of running, the Scottish Railway History Conference in October. Final balances for the conference will be shared across all five societies.
7. Administration fees raised by PayPal (online sales) and SumUp (card payments at shows) in respect of their electronic payment services.
8. Insurance is maintained for our meetings and attendance at shows.
9. Archives of the CRA are shown at cost of acquisition since 2002. Donated items are not given a valuation. The CRA archives are held with Glasgow University Business Archive Centre.
10. No valuation has been placed in the Accounts on sales stock or publications.
11. Trustees are reimbursed out of pocket expenses relating to their work for the Association on the same basis as all other volunteers and received no remuneration for their services during the year. Expenses refunded to the Trustees in the year totalled £1,528 (2023 - £2,137) being refunds of Association costs initially paid directly by them - postages and printing costs, stationery etc. or travel and accommodation costs.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CALEDONIAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on the pages 4 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave 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.

26 September 2025