



Scots Philosophical Association

Trustees' Annual Report

01/09/2024 to 31/09/2025

Scottish Charity Number: SC040535

Address c/o Philosophy. School of Humanities. University of Glasgow,
Postcode G12 8QQ.

Telephone number 01413305045

Email address scotsphil@gmail.com

Website <http://www.scotsphil.org.uk>

Charity Trustees

1. John Lyons
2. Bryan Pickel
3. Tina Röck
4. Mahrads Almotahari
5. Michael Hicks
6. Stephan Torre
7. Lisa Ann Jones
8. Kent Hurtig

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the charity is to advance education, and in particular through: (a) promoting the study of philosophy generally; (b) facilitating the exchange of views on philosophical topics among those teaching the subject in Scotland; and (c) providing a regular opportunity for the informal discussion of matters of general interest to philosophers, including particularly questions concerning with the teaching of philosophy.

The Association promotes these objectives in a variety of ways. These include: (a) grants for philosophy conferences at Scottish universities; (b) grants for postgraduate activities in the six Scottish departments; (c) regular meetings of the Association; (d) advertising philosophical events, via email list and website; (e) consultative and advisory work, sometimes with other subject associations.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The Association was registered as a Scottish Charity with effect from 27 May 2009. The Association is administered in accordance with the terms of the Constitution.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The trustees are representatives of the Management Committee, either appointed on the establishment of the Association, or thereafter appointed in accordance with the Association's Constitution. This requires unanimous approval of the existing trustees.

Achievements and performance

In here, include a summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period.

The Association paid out grants of £5000 to the Scottish philosophy departments, to be used for the promotion of postgraduate and staff study and teaching. Postgraduate activities funded by this income include workshops, conferences, reading parties, and contributions to Travel and expenses for PG students giving papers at other institutions. The Association also funded 11 conferences.

Financial review

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Association currently has reserves of £ 340,532 divided between a savings account and a current account. The organisation began saving to increase its reserves in 2022 out of concern that there would be a drop of income due to The Philosophical Quarterly becoming open access. This has not happened. Once the organisation is incorporated (see below), the board would like to invest the reserves and use any dividends to fund further activities.

Details of any deficit

Donated facilities and services

Future plans

The Scots Philosophical Association is currently in the process of winding down to be replaced by The Scots Philosophical Association SCIO. We have completed the legal steps and are at the final stages of

Additional information

Got something else to say? Here is your chance!

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Bryan Pickel

Print name

Bryan Pickel

Designation

Treasurer

Date

01 - 05 - 2026

APPENDIX 1

OSCR

Scottish Charity Regulator

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	09	2024	To	31	08	2025

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Scots Philosophical Association		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number	SC040535		
Charity's principal address	69 Oakfield Ave, Glasgow		
			Postcode G12 8LP

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	John Lyons	Secretary		
2	Bryan Pickel	Treasurer		
3	Tina Röck	Dundee Rep		
4	Stephan Torre	Aberdeen Rep		
5	Michael Hicks	Glasgow Rep		
6	Mahrad Almotahari	Edinburgh Rep		
7	Kent Hurtig	Stirling Rep		
8	Lisa Ann Jones	St Andrews Rep		
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Mike Wheeler	
Mazviita Chirimuuta	

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The trustees are representatives of the Management Committee, either appointed on the establishment of the Association, or thereafter appointed in accordance with the Association's Constitution. This requires unanimous approval of the existing trustees.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The trustees are representatives of the Management Committee, either appointed on the establishment of the Association, or thereafter appointed in accordance with the Association's Constitution. This requires unanimous approval of the existing trustees.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

The purpose of the charity is to advance education, and in particular through: (a) promoting the study of philosophy generally; (b) facilitating the exchange of views on philosophical topics among those teaching the subject in Scotland; and (c) providing a regular opportunity for the informal discussion of matters of general interest to philosophers, including particularly questions concerning with the teaching of philosophy

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The Association promotes these objectives in a variety of ways. These include: (a) grants for philosophy conferences at Scottish universities; (b) grants for postgraduate activities in the six Scottish departments; (c) regular meetings of the Association; (d) advertising philosophical events, via email list and website; (e) consultative and advisory work, sometimes with other subject associations.

APPENDIX 1

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

The Association made grants of £5000 to six units teaching Philosophy in Scottish Universities (Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, St Andrews, and Stirling). Of this sum, £2000 is to be used for Philosophy Postgraduate activities and travel. The remaining £3000 is to be used for departmental events.

The Association contributes £5000 to a Centenary Fellowship, which brings an academic to a Scottish University. In 2024-25, a visitor was brought to Glasgow.

The Association agree to fund 11 academic conferences at Scottish Universities. Because we repay events after they have happened, we paid for 11 conferences from this year and previous years, for a total of £11,151.28. We have committed to funding a total of 19 conferences in the academic year for a total of £21,317.70.

The Association ran a conference and Annual General Meeting in Edinburgh.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At close of September 2025, the charity had reserves of £379,880.27 held in a current account and savings account. The revenue for the charity derives primarily from its share of the profits of The Philosophical Quarterly, a journal housed in St Andrews partially owned by the SPA. In recent years, there has been concern that journal profits would decrease due to open access requirements. However, this has not happened. The charity is in the process of converting into an SCIO. Once this is complete, the board considering how to invest the reserves.

Details of any deficit

Donated facilities and services (if any)

APPENDIX 1

Other optional information

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) <i>OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures</i>	Bryan Pickel	
Full name(s)	Bryan Pickel	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Treasurer	
Date	6 May 2026	

The Scots Philosophical Association

SC040535



Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	01	09	2024		31	08	2025

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total funds current period	Total funds last period
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations					-	
Legacies					-	
Grants	£ 75 716 00				75 716	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings	£ 1 996 00				1 996	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
					-	
A1 Sub total	77 712	-	-	-	77 712	-
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	77 712	-	-	-	77 712	-
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities					-	
Grants and donations	46 151				46 151	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs	1 080				1 080	
Other	2 612				2 612	
					-	
A3 Sub total	49 843	-	-	-	49 843	-
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	49 843	-	-	-	49 843	-
Net receipts / (payments)	27 869	-	-	-	27 869	-
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	27 869	-	-	-	27 869	-

Section B Statement of balances

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash and bank balances at start of year	312 663				312 663	
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	27 869				27 869	
						-	
						-	
	Cash and bank balances at end of year	340 532	-	-	-	340 532	-
	(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Investments				
		Total	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available) to nearest £	Current value (if available) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B3 Other assets					

Details

B4 Liabilities

Details

B5 Contingent liabilities

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature*

Bryan Pickel

Print Name

Bryan Pickel

Date of
approval

01 May 2026

Total	-	-	-

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due
to nearest £

Last year
to nearest £

Total	-	-

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due
(estimate)
to nearest £

Last year
to nearest £

Total	-	-

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds *(may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)*

To advance education, and in particular through: (a) promoting the study of philosophy generally; (b) facilitating the exchange of views on philosophical topics among those teaching the subject in Scotland; and (c) providing a regular opportunity for the informal discussion of matters of general interest to philosophers, including particularly questions concerning with the teaching of philosophy. This is achieved through grants to Scottish Universities Departments of Philosophy for fellowships, conferences, post-graduate education and other philosophical activities.

C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
Centenary Fellow	U of Glasgow	1	5 000
Department Support Grants	Scottish Unis	6	30 000
Conference Support Grants	Scottish Unis	14	11 151
		Total	46 151

C3a Trustee remuneration

If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)

C3b Trustee remuneration - details

Authority under which paid	£

C4a Trustee expenses

If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	
--	--

C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£
The AGM at University of Aberdeen covered Trustees travel and stay costs in addition to other speakers, tea and coffee, and room space.	6	2 380

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)

C6 Other information

--

al agreement with OSCR and will be replaced by the Scots Philosophical Association SCIO. We are experienc

The Scots Philosophical Association

SC040535

Additional analysis (1)

Analysis of receipts and payments

1 Donations

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-

2 Grants

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £			Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
PQ Share of Profits	75 716				75 716	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	75 716	-			75 716	-
	-	-			-	-

3 Gross receipts from other charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-

4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-

SC040535

Additional analysis (2)**5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds**

	Unrestricted fund 1 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 2 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 3 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 4 - enter name of fund below	Total unrestricted funds	Total unrestricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations					-	
Legacies					-	
Grants	75 716				75 716	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
buildings	1 996				1 996	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	77 712	-	-	-	77 712	-
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	77 712	-	-	-	77 712	-
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	2 612				2 612	
Grants and donations	46 151				46 151	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs	1 080				1 080	
					-	
Sub total	49 843	-	-	-	49 843	-
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	49 843	-	-	-	49 843	-
Net receipts / (payments)	27 869	-	-	-	27 869	-
Transfers to / (from) funds					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	27 869	-	-	-	27 869	-
Nature and purpose of funds						

The Scots Philosophical Association

SC040535

Additional analysis (3)**6 Breakdown of restricted funds**

	Restricted fund 1 - enter name of fund below	Restricted fund 2 - enter name of fund below	Restricted fund 3 - enter name of fund below	Restricted fund 4 - enter name of fund below	Total restricted funds	Total restricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations					-	
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities					-	
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
					-	
					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net receipts / (payments)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers to / (from) funds					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	-	-	-	-	-	-

Nature and purpose of funds

--

APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts						v2
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	Scots Philosophical Association						
	Registered charity number	SC040535						
	On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
	1	09	2024	to	31	08	2025	
Set out on pages							(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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.</p>							
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 view given by the accounts.</p>							
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Regulations <p>have not been met, or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. 							
Signed**:					Date:	18 May 2026		
Name:	Prof. Ben Colburn							
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Secretary, Analysis Trust							
Address:	7 Lindsay Place							
	Glasgow G12 0HU							

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

** OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose**