

Open Past

Scotland · Charity number SC047486

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2017-06-07
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	121a Inveresk Road Musselburgh Midlothian EH21 7AU
Website	https://open-past.org/

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of education', 'the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science'

What the charity does: We help advance people's knowledge, skills and wellbeing through art, history, heritage, and archaeology. Our typical users experience barriers to in-person education, including those with disabilities, limited funds, or from rural communities, and are often people who struggle to access the resources that many take for granted.

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: The organisation's purposes are: The advancement of education The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science

Geography

- **Main operating location:** East Lothian
- **Geographical spread:** UK and overseas

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£36,710	£36,668	-	2
2024-06-30	£14,477	£21,539	-	1
2023-06-30	£25,044	£21,318	-	1
2022-06-30	£15,135	£31,394	-	1
2021-06-30	£33,958	£14,575	-	2

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Accounts

APPENDIX 1



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	07	2024	To	30	06	2025

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Open Past
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number	SC047486
Charity's principal address	121a Inveresk Road, Musselburgh
	Postcode EH21 7AU

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	James Rocks-Macqueen	Executive Director		
2	Jeffery Sanders			
3	Mark Spanjer	Chair		
4	Quonya Huff			
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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

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	Constitution
Trustee recruitment and appointment	Trustee search by current trustees.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes	The advancement of education The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	We help advance people's knowledge, skills and wellbeing through art, history, heritage, and archaeology. Our typical users experience barriers to in-person education, including those with disabilities, limited funds, or from rural communities, and are often people who struggle to access the resources that many take for granted.

APPENDIX 1

Achievements and performance

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

- Completed editing of the CIDOC conference;
- Completed the Ceteran Ecomuseum project to help them develop a proposal for a social prescription cultural heritage project;
- Filmed the Aerial Archaeology Research Group conference;
- Filmed the HENEB heritage day conference in Wrexham;
- Began the 'Different Messages' video project for the Stranraer Millennium Centre;
- Completed filming and editing for Archaeology Scotland's excavation;
- Moved and took on the hosting of Scotland's Archaeology Strategy website on behalf of HES;
- Filmed and live-streamed the archaeological achievement awards in Cardiff;
- Filmed and streamed the EAA keynotes in Rome;
- Undertook additional development on the Research Frameworks website to improve promotion of stats;
- Began the Dumbreck project for North Lanarkshire Council – oral history workshops, school workshops, film, heritage trail – in person and online;
- Moved and took on the hosting of Scotland's Rock Art website;
- Have gained the contract to provide support to FAME;
- Filmed the ClfA conference in Birmingham;
- Streamed and filmed the TAFAC conference;
- Streamed and filmed the Scottish Museums Federation Conference;
- Hosted an internship through SAGSAH – intern built a text choice your own adventure game, looking at historical dying techniques.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Enough to cover monthly operating costs.

Details of any deficit

We have cash based account, so there was a slight deficit at the end of the year <2k but we remain solvent.

Donated facilities and services (if any)

n/a

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>	Doug Rocks-Macqueen	
Full name(s)	James Douglas Rocks-Macqueen	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Executive Director	
Date	30/03/2026	

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APPENDIX 1



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	07	2023	To	30	06	2024

Reference and administration details

Charity name
Other names charity is known by
Registered charity number
Charity's principal address

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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 (if any)
8				
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

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	SCVO Model SCIO Constitution (single-tier)
Trustee recruitment and appointment	The board may at any time appoint any person to be a charity trustee - by way of a resolution passed by majority vote at a board meeting.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes	"The advancement of education", "The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science"
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	Running engagement projects around history, heritage, archaeology and art e.g. • Heritage themed colouring sheet website – making humanity; • Recording and publishing conference, workshop and seminar talks on our YouTube channel – TALE.

APPENDIX 1

Achievements and performance

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

Some key highlights:

- Had an intern from Arcadia University that worked on the Making Humanity project.
- Two SGSAH interns overlapped with this period – one worked on shorts/tick toc videos for the Making Humanity Project. Another one created creative writing resources for the project;
- Video recorded and made available presentations from many different conferences e.g. ClfA, EAA, TAFAC, etc.
- Completed the Cultural Bridge project – and exchange of knowledge with an organisation in Germany – the bEAR.
- Continued to employ one part-time employee throughout the year.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Maintain sufficient reserves to ensure day-to-day running for six months

Details of any deficit

Amounts due for several projects that carried over from 2022-23 resulted in a deficit. This was expected and we are still running successfully.

Donated facilities and services (if any)

N/A

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>		
Full name(s)		
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	Trustee
Date	30/03/2025	30/03/2025

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Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1	July	2023		30	June	2024

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	1,230				1,230	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts	13,247.00				13,247	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
					-	
A1 Sub total	14,477	-	-	-	14,477	-
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	14,477	-	-	-	14,477	-
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	21,538.84				21,539	
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other					-	
					-	
A3 Sub total	21,539	-	-	-	21,539	-
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,539	-	-	-	21,539	-
Net receipts / (payments)	(7,062)	-	-	-	(7,062)	-
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(7,062)	-	-	-	(7,062)	-

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	11,916.00				11,916	
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	(7,062)				(7,062)	
						-	
						-	
	Cash and bank balances at end of year	4,854	-	-	-	4,854	-
	(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					
		Total	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B4 Liabilities				
		Total	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B5 Contingent liabilities				
		Total	-	-

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

Signature*

Print Name

Date of
approval

			30 March 2025
			30 March 2025

Section C Notes to the Accounts

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

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C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
Total			-

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)	
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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)	
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C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

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

C6 Other information

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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 £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-			-	-
	reference	-			reference	-

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	-	-	-	-	-	-
	reference error	-	-	-	reference error	-

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					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
					cross ref error	
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-
					cross ref error	
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	-	-	-	-	-	-
					cross ref error	
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net receipts / (payments)	-	-	-	-	-	-
					cross ref error	
Transfers to / (from) funds					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	-	-	-	-	-	-
					cross ref error	
Nature and purpose of funds						

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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						