

# Scottish Printing Archival Trust

Scottish Charity no. SC 012320

## Annual Report for year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016

The Trust's principal address is:

Scottish Printing Archival Trust  
46 Craiglea Drive  
Edinburgh, EH10 5PF

### Governing Document

The Scottish Printing Archival Trust is a charitable unincorporated association formed in 1988, and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our Deed of Trust. The Deed of Trust was most recently altered in February 2012.

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### Trustees

The Trustees are appointed (or their appointment is confirmed) at the Annual General Meeting. The current Trustees are:

Bob Hodgson (Chair)	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2010
Bernulf Clegg	19 <sup>th</sup> September 2000
Patrick Mark	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2002
Alistair McCleery	9 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
Helen Williams (Secretary)	19 <sup>th</sup> January 2011
Peter Laidlaw (Treasurer)	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2012
Tim Honnor	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2013

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### Charitable Purposes

The purpose of the Trust is to conserve 'knowledge and examples of Scotland's printing heritage for the benefit of the public and print/media education'. It encourages the recording of information, research, and the acquisition of material relating to the development of the Scottish printing industry. The Trust works with a range of institutions to ensure that printing archives are not lost, and to support exhibitions, publications as appropriate.

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## Summary of the Main Activities in Relation to These Objects

The Trustees held three meetings during the year, on 16 February, 14 June and 16 September 2016. The February and June meetings were held at the Merchiston Campus of Edinburgh Napier University.

The Honorary Secretary also attended the following:

- Edward Clark Trust annual meeting
- Seminar on Data Protection for Charities, at Balfour & Manson (solicitors)
- meeting with Professor Kirstie Blair, Stirling University – letterpress workshops
- Following this, Tim Honnor and Helen Williams met with Sarah Bromage, Edwin Pickstone, Harry Brooke concerning the D & J Greig Columbian Press, and the equipment (composing sticks, chases, furniture etc) and expertise necessary to organise printing workshops at Stirling University
- meeting with Gen Harrison, Property Manager, Robert Smail's Printing Works
- meeting with Dawn Henderby, Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries, concerning the potential for letterpress workshops using the Greig Columbian Press in their studio
- two meetings with Esther Rutter, Project Manager, Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature, concerning the *Canongate Stars and Stories* project running in 2016/2017, under the auspices of Edinburgh City of Literature Trust, relating to the publishing and printing heritage of the Canongate area
- meetings with Dawn Smith, Public Engagement Officer at Edinburgh Napier University, and Marian Kirton, librarian in charge of the Edward Clark Collection with a view to highlighting the riches of the Edward Clark Collection

The Secretary also held discussions with Cheryl Brown of the Scottish Business History Network regarding a survey of the whereabouts of archive material relating to the printing and publishing sector in Scotland.

A subgroup, consisting of Bob Hodgson, Peter Laidlaw, Garry Richmond and Helen Williams was formed to look ahead at planning future events, and specifically for planning activities to highlight the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Trust's formation in 2018. It met once during the year.

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## Summary of the Main Achievements of the Charity During the Financial Period

### Events

Thanks to the generous unrestricted donation of £10,000 received by the Trust from the John Watson Foundation in the previous financial year, it has been possible to undertake an events programme. These events have been organised in conjunction with other organisations.

On 9 June 2016, a joint event together with Scottish Local History Forum in their 'Walk and Talk' format was held, based around the Trust's Edinburgh Printing Trail. It was attended by over 20 people attended this. It included a guided walk looking at traces of the printing industry still visible down the Royal Mile, and the Trust is grateful to Professor David Finkelstein of the University of Edinburgh for agreeing to give a talk on the Scottish periodical press at this event. A report on the event was been

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published in the next issue of the SLHF journal *Scottish Local History*.

Two guided walks, entitled *Edinburgh in Print* appeared in the programme for the Doors Open Day weekend in Edinburgh on 24 and 25 September 2016, run under the auspices of the Cockburn Association. The bookings were managed through EventBrite website, and all 40 places were taken, and enough enquiries were received to fill a further 20 places.

The secretary also attended the 'Inky Joy' printing workshop day at St Ronan's Wells in Innerleithen, run by the National Trust for Scotland's Robert Smail's Printing Works, on 20 August 2016. Unfortunately, it rained all day, so there were very few attendees resulting in a disappointing day for all concerned.

## Website

The Trust's main website ([www.scottishprintarchive.org](http://www.scottishprintarchive.org)) was updated regularly throughout the year with items of news relating to printing industry heritage.

	Oct 2015-Sept 2016	Monthly average
Visits	3827	319
Average duration of visit	1 min 47 sec	
Bounce rate (% left after one page)	66.3%	
Actions (page views, downloads, searches etc)	2.5	
Pageviews	8030	669.2
Website searches	727	61
Downloads	351	29.25
Outlinks (following links provided to other sites)	572	47.6

## Enquiries

46 email or telephone enquiries were received October 2015-September 2016 (averaging approximately 1 per week) on a wide range of subjects.

In addition, a further 40 or so individuals contacted the Trust directly concerning the walks run for *Doors Open Day* in September 2016.

The Trust now has a Twitter account (@PrintScot), which had gained over 70 followers by the end of the financial year. It has proved a useful way of connecting with museums and industrial heritage organisations, and small presses.

The project website for the *500 years of printing in Scotland* project [www.500yearsofprinting.org](http://www.500yearsofprinting.org) remains in place: it still receives over 100 visitors per month.

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## Publications

The prices quoted are inclusive of UK postage and packing. A number of books and posters were sold this year, mainly in person at events, although some were sold through the online shop.

### Book sales

<i>500 years of printing</i>	11 copies
<i>Reputation for excellence: Edinburgh</i>	10 copies
<i>Reputation for excellence: Glasgow</i>	3 copies
<i>Reputation for excellence: Dundee &amp; Perth</i>	2 copies
<i>Reputation for excellence: Aberdeen &amp;c</i>	5 copies
<i>Poster: Rules for Compositors</i>	4 copies

In addition, 300 copies of the Edinburgh Print Trail leaflet were distributed through the UNESCO Edinburgh City of Literature information stand at the Edinburgh International Book Festival. Copies were also handed out to participants in the events which included a guided walk. Stocks of the leaflet are now down to less than 500.

### Trust titles in print:

John Gennard, *Mechanical to digital printing in Scotland: the print employers' organisation*. ISBN: 978-0-95630436-1-5. Price £25

*500 years of printing in Scotland*. ISBN: 978-0-9563043-0-8. Price £7.50

*Reputation for Excellence* series.

*Edinburgh*. ISBN: 0 95112667 9. Price £7.50

*Glasgow*. ISBN: 1 872800 06 8. Price £7.50

*Dundee & Perth*. ISBN: 1 872800 11 4. Price £7.50

*Aberdeen & Northern Counties*. ISBN: 1 872800 56 4. Price £7.50

*Edinburgh Print Trail* – leaflet. Price £4

*Rules for Compositors* – poster. Price £7.50

Helen Williams  
Honorary Secretary  
5 January 2017