Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date: 1 JAN 2018
Period end date: 31 DEC 2018

Section A  Reference and administration details

Charity name: SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

Other names charity is known by: SHAC

Registered charity number (if any): 313777

Charity's principal address:
45 THE DRIVE
ISLEWORTH
Postcode: TW7 4AA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustee name</th>
<th>Office (if any)</th>
<th>Dates acted if not for whole year</th>
<th>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>F A J L JAMES</td>
<td>CHAIRMAN (Officer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>R A JOHNSTONE</td>
<td>TREASURER (Officer)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>A E WOODMAN</td>
<td>SECRETARY (Officer)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>B T MORAN</td>
<td>JOURNAL EDITOR (Officer)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>C A COBBOLD</td>
<td>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Officer)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>S WERRETT</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>R G W ANDERSON</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>J M RAMPLING</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>A J ROCKE</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>P J FORSHAW</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>S CLUCAS</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>H CHANG</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>V M QUIRKE</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>D G HEDESAN</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>T TAAPE</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>L M PRINCIPE</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>C REINHARDT</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>S J E ROBERTS</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of governing document</th>
<th>Constitution as adopted with immediate effect at the AGM on 30 June 2018.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How the charity is constituted</td>
<td>Association of 286 members (number at year end).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee selection methods</td>
<td>New trustees are elected at the AGM. Trustees serve for 3 years after which they retire or are re-elected subject to competitive nomination. Any member may nominate any other member willing to serve. The trustees may fill casual vacancies but their choice must be ratified at the next AGM.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:
- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.
Section C  Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The scholarly study of all aspects of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy), the holding of meetings for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers, either on its own or in conjunction with other learned societies, and the publication of relevant material, especially in the Journal of the Society, currently called Ambix.

The trustees in 2018 have had due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The trustees believe that a broad understanding of the history of the chemical sciences (including alchemy) is of benefit to the public by helping them to understand the place of chemistry in society and culture over the centuries. As a learned society it aims to advance education, the arts, culture, heritage and science through scholarly and/or curatorial activity relating to the history of alchemical and chemical science in any part of the world. Specifically, the charity achieved this by the following:

The charity’s scholarly journal Ambix has for 80 years been a major means of academic scholarly exchange, and therefore is of public benefit. It is sold to institutions and libraries, as well as distributed to members* (annual membership fee in 2018 was £40, reduced to £30 for retired members of 10 years’ standing and to £25 for students). The net surplus from membership subscriptions and this publishing activity (together with any donations and interest on deposits), supports a range of further activities benefiting the public:—

(i) The Society provides study grants to members who are students and early career researchers (membership being open to anyone).
(ii) The Society funds scholarly meetings, workshops and seminars attendance at which is not confined to members.
(iii) The Society’s substantial newsletter Chemical Intelligence is available free to the general public online; it advertises and reports not only the Society’s events and activities but those of other organisations involved in the history of alchemy and chemistry. It also maintains a website with similar objectives.
(iv) Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry, an occasional supplement to Ambix, is available at no extra cost to full institutional subscribers to the relevant annual volume of Ambix and to members subscribing for the relevant year. The first supplement was also available at a subsidised price to the general public.
(v) The Society’s Morris Award, Partington Prize, and Oxford Part II Prize are awarded to scholars from time to time regardless of whether they are members of the Society.

* Save for 4 members having a special arrangement.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.
Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Meetings
The Society’s spring meeting was held on Saturday 30 June 2018 at the UCL Institute of Education, London. It was entitled “Alchemy and Print Culture.” Papers were given by Didier Kahn, Peter Forshaw, Jenny Rampling and Stephen Clucas. Around 30 people, including speakers and non-members attended the meeting which included a presentation to mark Jennifer Rampling’s service to Ambix as both Editor and Deputy Editor. The AGM was held at this meeting.

The Society’s autumn meeting was held at UCL on Saturday 24 November 2018 with papers given on a variety of topics appropriate to the Society’s interests. The speakers were Dóra Bobory, Umberto Veronesi, John Christie, Frank James, Bill Brock and Michael Jewess. Around 30 people, including speakers and non-members, attended the meeting.

Publications
Ambix: The Society published six issues of its scholarly journal Ambix in 2018. This included the delayed August 2017 issue (volume 64, number 3) with articles by Athanasios Rinotas, George Saliba, Ignacio-Miguel Pascual-Valderrama and Joaquin Perez-Pariente and Andrew Lacey and the November 2017 issue (volume 64, number 4) the 80th anniversary issue on the Future of the History of Chemistry, containing articles by Jennifer M. Rampling, Stephen T. Irish, Matteo Martelli, Angela N.H. Creager and Hasok Chang. The whole of volume 65 was also published. February 2018 (volume 65, number 1) was a special issue, Paper Tools from the 1780s to 1960s, edited by Mary Jo Nye and Stephen J. Weininger and contained articles by Wolfgang leFèvre, Michael D. Gordin, Stephen J. Weininger and Evan Hepler-Smith. May 2018 (volume 65, number 2) was a normal issue containing articles by Ignacio Suay-Matallana and Ximo Guillem-Ilobat, Mike A. Zuber, Andrei Vinogradov and Stanislav Petriashin and Amy Fisher. August 2018 (volume 65 number 3) was a special issue entitled Alchemy and the Mendicant Orders of late Medieval and Early Modern Europe, guest edited by Andrew Campbell, Lorenza Gianfrancesco and Neil Tarrant and contained articles by Neil Tarrant, Peter Murray Jones, Lorenza Gianfrancesco and Justin Rivest. The November 2018 issue (volume 65 number 4) was a normal issue containing papers by Marieke M.A. Hendriksen, Rafał T. Prinke and Mike A. Zuber, Seth C. Rasmussen and Stephen T. Irish. The 2017 issues of the journal were edited by Jennifer Rampling, with Alan Rocke as Associate Editor. In 2018, Bruce Moran was editor of Ambix with Alan Rocke and Viviane Quirke as Associate Editors.

Sources of Alchemy and Chemistry: Work on the next issue is actively underway.

Chemical Intelligence: Two issues of the Society’s newsletter were published in 2018. Issue 19 appeared in February 2018 and issue 20 appeared in October 2018. Both issues were edited by Judith Mawer. This publication advertised and reported not only the Society’s events, but those of other organisations involved in the history of chemistry. This was distributed to members by email and was made available free to the public online.

SHAC Graduate Network
For the ninth year, SHAC organised an international workshop to provide training on research skills and methodology for postgraduate students and early career researchers. The workshop “Experience and Experiment: Materiality of (al)chemical texts and objects” was hosted by the Royal
Section D

Achievements and performance

Institution, London on Friday 29 June 2018. Eight post-graduates gave papers and there was a keynote lecture from Jennifer Rampling, two roundtable discussions and a tour of the Royal Institution’s chemical texts and objects led by Head of Collections, Professor Frank James. 20 people attended the workshop which was organised by SHAC Student Representative, Megan Piorko. The use of the SHAC twitter account as well as the advent of a SHAC Post-Graduate Facebook page advertised the event and digitally connected attendees and interested parties.

Award Scheme
The Society invited applications for funding under its Award Scheme with a deadline of 31 May 2018. Following consideration by a committee, New Scholars Awards for Research were approved as follows:

Sarah Lang, Project Assistant, Zentrum für Informationsmodellierung, University of Graz, presentation of research at autumn workshop of Netzwerk Alchemie.
Karoliina Pulkkinen, PhD Student, University of Cambridge, presentation of paper at Philosophy of Science Association meeting in Seattle.
Paul Sampson, PhD Student, Rutgers University, archival research for dissertation “The Sinews of Providence: Environmental Technologies in the British Atlantic World”.
Kim Walker, PhD Student, Royal Holloway and Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, research trip to examine two major collections of Pavon cinchona barks in Meise (Belgium) and Madrid.
Mike Zuber, University of Oxford, research trip to Staatsarchiv Bamberg to study archives on alchemist Christian Wilhelm von Krohneman.

In addition, four Subject Development Awards for conferences or the like were approved as follows:

Evan Hepler-Smith, Harvard/Boston College Department of History, workshop on chemical history of environmental health.
Marike Hendriksen, Utrecht University, workshop on uncovering material knowledge at Queen’s University, Belfast.
Peter Reed, Independent Scholar, California, workshop in Oxford on the changing role of consultants in industry, 1850 to 2000.
Marie Thebaud-Sorger, Maison Française, Oxford, and Centre Alexandre-Koyré, Paris, workshop on materials biographies at the crossroad between natural sciences and humanities.

At the end of the year, £1650 had been disbursed in support of these projects, and another £2980 remained committed. All projects are scheduled to be completed by the end of the 18/19 academic year. A further £500 remained committed to a project from the 17/18 academic year.

Morris Prize
The Morris Award for 2018 has been given to Yasu Furukawa for his outstanding work on the history of chemistry and its relationship with the chemical industry, specifically for Inventing Polymer Science: Staudinger, Carothers, and the Emergence of Macromolecular Chemistry (1998) and Chemists’ Kyoto School: Gen-itsu Kita and Japan’s Chemistry (2017). The prize will be presented to Professor Furukawa at the 12th International Conference on the History of Chemistry in Maastricht in summer 2019.
Section D  Achievements and performance

Seminar Series
SHAC has supported two seminar series in 2018 which were open to all. Three meetings of the Oxford History of Alchemy and Chemistry Seminars took place in Hilary Term 2018 at the Maison Française d'Oxford (MFO) (which generously provided facilities and refreshments free of charge). Six speakers spoke on a variety of themes relating to the history of alchemy and chemistry, including alchemy in seventeenth-century Peru and the uses and misuses of carbon tetrachloride in British Homes, 1930s to 1980s. Eight “AD HOC” (Association for the Discussion History Of Chemistry) seminars took place in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at Cambridge University in 2018. Continuing the theme from autumn 2017, five seminars looked at “Order in Chemistry” with papers by Chris Campbell, Karoliina Pulkkinen, Carolyn Cobbold, Vanessa Seifert and Frank James. In autumn 2018, three seminars were held with papers by David Teplow (jointly with the Coffee with Science Group), Agnes Bolinska and Hasok Chang.

Other
The Society provided £746 for work on the final stages of the Davy Letters Project (applicant Sharon Ruston, grant awarded in 2017).
Section E  Financial review

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

To seek to maintain the reserve i.e. (assets - liabilities) in the General Fund between £5000 to £45000 (each £1500 higher until the Society is converted to a CIO). To seek to avoid any need for bail-out of the restricted funds (Sources and Morris) by the General Fund. Council increased the upper limit of the reserve in March 2019 due to uncertainty regarding future journal subscription income created by open-access Plan S.

(Achieved in 2018: with a General Fund reserve of £41,159 at year end after liabilities, and there is no foreseeable risk of such bail-out.)

Details of any funds materially in deficit

No fund is in deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F  Other optional information


Section G  Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature(s)</th>
<th>Full name(s)</th>
<th>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AE Woodman</td>
<td>Anna Elizabeth Woodman</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>08.07.2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fr. A. J. C. James</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>