

Scottish Printing Archival Trust

Scottish Charity no. SC 012320

Annual Report for year ending 30th September 2019

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. The Trust's principal address is:

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

Trustees

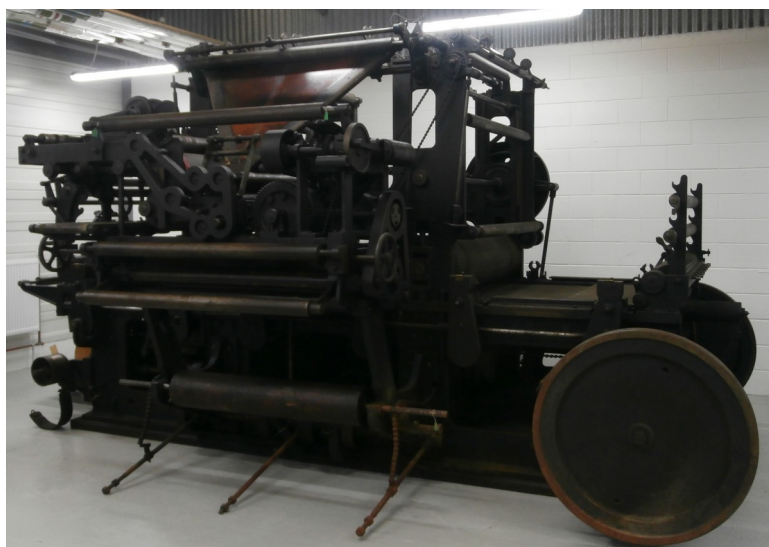
The Trustees are appointed (or their appointment is confirmed) at the Annual General Meeting. The current Trustees are:

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

During the year the Trustees held three meetings, on 5 February, 18 June and 10 September 2019 at the Merchiston Campus of Edinburgh Napier University.

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 and publications as appropriate.



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Summary of the Main Activities of the Charity During the Financial Period

Exhibition

The Trust's 30th anniversary exhibition, *More than just books*, was launched on Thursday 8 November 2018 at the Lighthouse, Mitchell Lane, Glasgow, and ran until 10 January 2019. It consisted of information panels about the printing industry in general, and the Glasgow industry in particular, as well as a small display of archival material from the Trust's collections, and artefacts loaned by Tim Honnor.



To launch the exhibition, Professor David Finkelstein spoke about the way that Scottish printers spread throughout the world. There was some press coverage in the *Glasgow Evening Times*, *Scottish Field* and the *Glasgow Herald*, and Helen Williams was interviewed for the John Beattie programme on BBC Radio Scotland. The Trust is grateful for support for the exhibition from Litho Supplies, Print Scotland, and the Watson foundation.

Later in 2019 seven of the information panels were displayed in the Merchiston campus library of Edinburgh Napier University for about six months. Two of the panels relating specifically to the Glasgow industry were displayed in the Mitchell Library in Glasgow alongside the *Making your mark* exhibition in June 2019.

Events



Helen Williams led a guided walk on the printing industry in Edinburgh's Old Town for the Old Town Association in April. She also led two guided walks on the theme of *Glasgow in print* in September, as part of the Glasgow Doors Open Day programme.

In June 2019, Trustees, former Trustees, and other interested parties were invited by National Museums Scotland to visit the Crieff Cossar Press in its new home at the Museum's store at

Granton in north Edinburgh, marking the final step in the project to preserve the machine for the nation.

Also in June Helen Williams gave a talk on the production of newspapers in the letterpress era at a meeting of Scotland's local studies librarians, and spoke about Glasgow's printing industry at the Mitchell Library in Glasgow. She also gave a talk on the origins of printing in Scotland as part of the National Trust for Scotland's programme at Gladstone's Land in Edinburgh's Lawnmarket.

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Collections

The Trust has accumulated a number of reference books relating to the Scottish industry and printing in general. These have been listed in an online catalogue: www.librarything.com/profile/PrintScot

The process of listing the Trust's collection of print trade ephemera has also begun: some of this is housed in the Edward Clark Collection at Edinburgh Napier University.

Website

The Trust's main website (www.scottishprintarchive.org) was updated regularly throughout the year with items of news, and other matters of interest. The number of visitors to the website has risen to over 350 per month, and enquiries continue to average around one per week. The followers for the Trust's Twitter account continue to grow steadily: at the end of the period they numbered 336, up more than 50 over the year.

The website for the *500 years of printing in Scotland* project www.500yearsofprinting.org is now hosted alongside the main Trust website. The bulk of the content has been transferred to the project pages on the main website (www.scottishprintarchive.org/projects/500-years-scottish-printing/) and the *500 years of printing* site consists of an introductory front page with links to the project pages for anyone who wants more information about the celebrations.

Publications

The Trust sold a number of publications both on trade terms through the shop at the Lighthouse in Glasgow during the course of the exhibition, and through the online shop. In addition copies of the *Glasgow print trail* and *Edinburgh print trail* leaflet were distributed to members of the public attending events.

The stocks of some titles have for some time been scattered and these have now been brought together in a rented storeroom, in order to complete an inventory which will assist with the consideration of the future of the publication programme.

Titles available and current prices in the online shop (inclusive of UK postage and packing):

- John Gennard, *Mechanical to digital printing in Scotland: the print employers' organisation*. £30
- *500 years of printing in Scotland*. £10
- *Reputation for Excellence* series: *Edinburgh; Glasgow; Dundee & Perth; Aberdeen & Northern Counties*. £10 each
- *Glasgow Print Trail* – leaflet. £5
- *Edinburgh Print Trail* – leaflet. £3
- *Rules for Compositors* – poster. £15

Financial position

The Trust is grateful for the generous donations received from the Watson Foundation to support its publications, website, exhibitions and other activities. The Trustees consider the available funds are sufficient for the operation of our activities for the next twelve months.

Helen S Williams, Honorary Secretary
January 2020