

Scottish Printing Archival Trust

Minutes of the meeting of the Scottish Printing Archival Trust held at 10am on Thursday 9 June 2022 at the Library of Mistakes, 33a Melville Street Lane, Edinburgh, EH3 7QB.

Present: P Mark, (Chair), P Laidlaw, G Richmond and H Williams (minutes).

1. Apologies

B Hodgson, A McCleery, T Honnor.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved.

3. Financial update

PL circulated a financial statement for the year to 30 April 2022. They showed a surplus, because of the generous donation from the John Watson Foundation, to support the production of the new edition of the *Edinburgh Print Trail* leaflet. The accounts do not show the bills for the design or the printing. There had been no other outgoings apart from the usual payments for the website.

4. Secretary's report

HW reported that David Philips of Crieff had recently died: she had attended the funeral in Perth on behalf of the Trust and conveyed the Trustees' condolences to the family.

In March she attended a letterpress workshop at Robert Smail's printing works. The review concerning its importance and the future maintenance and conservation is still in progress, but HW has not been able to follow this up further.

In April she gave a talk on the Glasgow printing industry to the Old Glasgow Club, and more recently a talk was scheduled to the Bathgate Probus Club, which had to be abandoned because of technical difficulties, and has now been rescheduled for July. She will also be leading guided walks for the Old Edinburgh Club in the near future, and has been asked to give talks on printing to two other history societies. She has also scheduled a walk to take place in Glasgow as part of the Doors Open Day festival in September.

HW is now a member of the British Museum of Printing steering group and had attended two meetings, and reported on the project. The website is still under development, and she is awaiting news of its official launch.

Publications: there has been very few sales this year. Copies of the newly printed second edition of the *Edinburgh Print Trail* leaflet were available. The pricing of Trust publications was discussed and it was agreed that the prices of John Gennard's book and the poster would remain the same, but that the price of the four volumes of the *Reputation for Excellence* series and *500 years of printing in Scotland* would be reduced to £7.50 each. There would also be an offer of all four *Reputation for Excellence* books for £25. The *Glasgow Print Trail* leaflet is currently priced at £5: this will be reduced to £4 and the new *Edinburgh* leaflet will be sold at the same price. There will also be an

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offer of both leaflets for £6. All prices include postage and packing. HW will send out free copies of the Edinburgh leaflet to supporters of the Trust.

The possibility of a launch event including a guided walk was discussed and it was agreed that September is probably the best time as the Old Town is too busy in July and August.

5 Edward Clark Trust

HW gave an update on her researches into the origins and structure of the Trust. She is also working on a paper about printers' libraries in general to present at a conference, which highlights the importance of the Edward Clark Library as the last surviving printers' library in Scotland. She is currently waiting for access to items held in the National Records of Scotland, and has arranged to visit the archives at Heriot-Watt University. She is also waiting to hear back from the City of Edinburgh Archives.

6 AOCB

Tim Honnor has indicated his intention to retire as a Trustee. The Trustees expressed their thanks to him for all his work on behalf of the Trust.

GR reported to the meeting on some of the challenges faced by the printing industry at the moment. He also reported that the whole property at 48 Palmerston Place has been let to Inter-Cultural Youth Scotland.

7 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 29 September 2022, arrangements to be confirmed.