



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month 09	Year 2023		Day 31	Month 08	Year 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

21 Lord Drive	
Pocklington	
York	
Postcode YO42 2PB	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Andrew Stephenson	Chairman		
2	David Friend			
3	Simon Howard	Secretary		
4	Paul Thornley			
5	Richard Sweeting		20 th October 2023	AGM
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)				
	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year		

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election at AGM and appointment by Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>Trustees are provided with Charity Commission Trustee guidance, a copy of the current constitution and a copy of last full year financial accounts.</p> <p>The Charity Trustees maintain overall control and responsibility, however delegate limited financial decisions (£500) and day to day operation of Charity in terms of Observatory Management and Events to a Management Committee.</p> <p>The society is in the sixth year of a minimum five-year lease for the land at Beetle Bank Open Farm on which the observatory is located along with access to a facility building for meetings (café & toilets) the use of outside areas for observing sessions and option to hire café area and other areas for fundraising events.</p> <p>There is no major risk to the society during 2024, membership numbers have been maintaining and the attendance of the meetings has good. The Treasurer resigned in October 2023 before the AGM, a handover of the accounts was carried out during 2024.</p>
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Section C Objectives and activities

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

The objectives of the CIO are to advance public education and interest in the science of astronomy and its related sciences, in the Yorkshire region, in particular by the education, encouragement and pursuit of astronomical knowledge and observational astronomy, and by such means as the trustees may determine.

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)

The York Astronomical Society help in person public events this year.

We held Management Committee and Trustee meetings as needed . The Management Committee meetings included significant Trustee presence.

Membership of the society is open to all with standard and concession annual membership fees (£30 and £15) with under 16's free.

The held a programme of paid events to raise funds for rent, infrastructure, and equipment in support of the charitable objects. As well as events primarily for the inspiration and education of the public.

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.

The society works on a totally voluntary basis. Members receive no expenses or refund of transport costs. Members give willingly of their time, experience, and their own equipment to share the awe of astronomical observation.

Section D

Achievements and performance

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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The York Astronomical Society has held 22 meeting/lectures at Beetle Bank Farm except for the AGM which we held at Priory Street Centre.

The lectures were amongst others presented by society members, university lecturers and professional speakers.

The membership of the Society remained reasonably strong with 62 members.

On 2nd September York Astronomical Society belatedly celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a full day event at the Priory Street Centre in York which was a great success and open to the General Public

We published a monthly update on the Night Sky made available to the public via the Society website. The publication is called What's Up! And we would like to thank Steve Sawyer for putting this excellent resource together for us each month.

On Saturday 28th October we put on a Star Party and talk at Boroughbridge Allotments to help them with their fundraising.

On 24th November, we held an Astronomy event for Selby Scouts at Beetlebank Observatory.

On the 27th and 28th January we hosted a resident's weekend at Beetle bank farm introducing Astronomy to young families through activities and displays.

On the 29th of January we collaborated with St Peters School York for their annual Astronomy evening, by putting on a Telescope exhibition due to unfavourable weather for observing. The speaker that evening was Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell

At the request of Sutton Bank National Park, on the 10th February we put on an Astronomy event with a talk for the education of the public and to raise society funds.

On the 30th August we held a star party for campers at Beetle Bank farm and opened the observatory for tours

We arranged events at Beetle Bank farm for the Dringhouses Scout packs, on the 29th February, 5th March and 8th March.

The observatory was maintained and is in good working order, work has been carried out on the Main AE Telescope and the mirror has been resilvered by kind donation from Martin Dawson.

Neil Moss – Neil and Facebook

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

No significant reserves

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/a

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


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Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Andrew Stephenson	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair	
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Date

17/10/2024



Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	1/9/2023	To	31/8/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Subs	1,154	-	-	1,154	1,412
Sponsorship	-	-	-	-	500
Event Entry Fees/Donations	198	-	-	198	965
YAS Meet Door Fees	1,531	-	-	1,531	1,335
Raffle	298	-	-	298	323
Donations (Assorted)	300	-	-	300	43
Just Giving	-	-	-	-	-
Sales	1	-	-	1	8
Misc	-	-	-	-	200
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	3,482	-	-	3,482	4,785
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,482	-	-	3,482	4,785
A3 Payments					
Observatory Rental	1,638	-	-	1,638	1,658
Observatory Insurance	710	-	-	710	-
Technical Observatory Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Meeting Venue Hire	396	-	-	396	630
Guest Speaker Fees	120	-	-	120	105
Association Fees	83	-	-	83	116
Observatory Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Zoom	1	-	-	1	43
Misc	15	-	-	15	45
Bank Charges	61	-	-	61	55
advertising	137	-	-	137	-
Zettle Fees	24	-	-	24	27
Event Costs	508	-	-	508	134
Sub total	3,695	-	-	3,695	2,813
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,695	-	-	3,695	2,813
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 213	-	-	- 213	1,972
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,086	-	-	4,086	2,114
Cash funds this year end	3,873	-	-	3,873	4,086

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	HSBC Account	3,751	-	-
	Cash in hand	122	-	-
		-	-	-

Total cash funds	3,873	-	-
<small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account (s))</small>	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Details			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Details			
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Details			
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Details			
Delayed Payment of 22/23 Insurance	Unrestricted funds	710	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval