

Charity No. 292076

**THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST**  
**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

BEGBIES  
Chartered Accountants  
9 Bonhill Street  
London EC2A 4DJ

**THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

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**THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST**

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019**

**Trustees**

Mr David Alford  
Mr Rex Dixon  
Mr Andrew Gould  
Ms Susan McEwen  
Mr Douglas Muir  
Mr Simon Richards

**Principal Office**

Corresponding Trustee  
Andy Gould  
56, James Street  
Selsey  
Chichester PO20 0JG

**Website Management**

Oyster Marketing & Design Ltd  
12a North Street  
Emsworth  
PO10 7DQ

**Book Distribution**

Mr John Jackson  
17 Cambridge Avenue  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire LE13 0AA

**Independent Examiners**

Begbies  
Chartered Accountants  
9 Bonhill Street  
London EC2A 4DJ

**Bankers**

Bank of Scotland  
P O Box 23688  
The Mound  
Edinburgh  
EH1 1WG

# THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

### **Administrative Details**

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2019. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 11 and comply with the Charity's Trust Deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice : Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2015.

The Trust has no paid staff and is run on a voluntary basis by the Trustees.

The Trust's website, which first became operational in 2001, was completely rewritten in 2018 to substantially improve ease of use. The website can be found at [www.rossitertrust.com](http://www.rossitertrust.com) where it has particulars of the Trust's publications, Author's Guidelines and other useful links.

There are no other formal links with any person or body, charitable or otherwise, other than those firms and individuals named on page 1 as part of the Legal and Administrative Information. From time to time individual arrangements are made for co-operation on research and related grants or for preparation of works for publication; these arise ad hoc according to the needs and circumstances relating to the researcher or author. Channels for distribution of books or other publications are selected depending upon the perceived markets for those works.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Trust originated under a provision in the will of Stuart Rossiter who died on the 19th December 1982.

The Trust is governed by a Trust Deed dated 3rd June 1985 and by an Order of the Charity Commission dated 24th January 1995 and by a Deed of Modification dated the 21st August 1995.

This was the twenty-second full year of operation for the Trust. The Trust's main objectives are set out under Objectives in this report. The Trust's financial year is the calendar year.

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the existing Trustees. It is policy to have periodic changes in Trustees for the benefit of the Trust's activities by balancing the need for continuity of experience with the need for new skills.

# THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

(CONTINUED)

### Risk Management

The Trustees undertake periodic review of risk to which the Trust is exposed. The key risks identified are:

- illness or resignation of Trustees
- financial
- damage to stock of books
- challenges to decisions of Trustees
- infringement of others' copyright
- books prices too high or print runs too short or too long
- website attacked and defaced

### Objectives

The policy objectives set out in Administrative Details of the 1995 report remain unchanged. That paragraph said:

The Trustees have found that there are many projects for research and publication which can be funded usefully within the terms of the charitable objects of the Trust; the path of progress is to move forward slowly but deliberately, and with an eye to quality of text and publication while still trying to publish what commercial interests could not afford to publish economically and which private individuals could not afford to publish privately.

The objects of the Trust are to:

- promote research into the history of the postal services and to support publication in this area to a high academic standard;
- to sell publications at a price which tends to see the return of printing cost and research expenses so that the money can be made available for new publications but which allows the public to purchase at a reasonable cost;
- to facilitate research enquiries by paying bills for photocopying and other reasonable and relevant expenditure from archives distant from the researcher where the Trustees are as satisfied as they can be that a book will result which will fall within the Trustees' publication policy;
- to have an Annual Lecture open to the public free of charge by someone who is an acknowledged expert in a field encompassed by the objects of the Trust and where possible publish an article or monograph based on the Annual Lecture;

# THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019  
(CONTINUED)

### Objectives (continued)

- to publish books year by year which cover the widest field of knowledge within the Trust's objects and not to restrict activity to any particular area.

Persons wishing to benefit from the funds of the Trust are invited to make a written application setting out a synopsis of their proposed research and publication. An application form is on the website. The Trustees then ask further questions before deciding on the merits of an application and whether the application is within the objects of the Trust and if approved can be fitted into the Trust's cash flow for the intended year of research or publication.

There are no restrictions on who can apply or on the subject within the objects; that is to say the Trust acts worldwide in respect of both.

The Trustees personally encourage applications through personal activity and publicise the ability to make applications in the published works of the Trust and on the Trust's website.

After repayment of the Trust's and author's publication and distribution costs, the proceeds of further sales are either shared with the author or more usually allocated to the income reserve. Experience with 40 books published since the Trust started operations in 1995 shows that 20 books have gone into surplus and in most cases the authors played an active role in selling their books. Research grants as such are not normally repayable; likewise small grants to have an archive or collection of research value preserved by copying are not repayable.

The Trustees consider most of their applications immediately by email to give speed of response and to avoid the cost of travel to meetings. Formal Trustee meetings are normally held three times a year.

### Charitable Purpose and Public Benefit

The charitable purpose of the Trust is advancement of the arts, culture and heritage, and education in relation thereto. This is achieved by promoting the study of postal history of all periods, places and kinds and furthering public knowledge and appreciation of it through the publication of books and reference works on postal history subjects.

### Accounts

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records appropriate to the running of the Trust and preparing annual accounts.

Accounts form part of this report and are published on the Trust's websites.

Assets of the Trust at 31 December 2019 were valued at £645,618 (2018: £580,605).  
The balance on the General Income Fund is £44,620 (2018: £41,772).

# THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019  
(CONTINUED)

### Accounts (continued)

The Trustees have:

- Established a policy that sales revenue from publications be treated as income in the year in which the revenue arises and will not be treated as capital and will be credited to the General Income Fund. Transfer from this fund to Capital are only effected when and if the General Income Fund is sufficient to meet all foreseeable costs over a two year period. This policy is consistent with making sure that money is made available to fund further projects as soon as that income has been received.
- Established a policy to have long term capital increase with consequential income increase but not at the expense of having enough annual income to fund at least two books, one research grant and the annual lecture as well as being able to pay ordinary expenses.

The Trustees are prepared to allocate income on a forward basis because by its very nature publishing work entails a long rather than short working period between approval of a project and publication. The author needs to have financial assurances that funds will be available for publication before embarking on the details of researching and writing.

There is therefore a difference between policy on income reserve (for applications which may be made in the future) and money reserved for specific projects to meet forward contractual obligations to authors.

In 2019 the Trust took informal advice from a Fund Manager who, after considering the Trust's attitude to risk, recommended the capital investment be spread followed since 2005 was still appropriate:

25% in fixed income  
25% in property  
50% in equities

The specific funds in which the Trust is currently invested are:

Fixed income - M & G Charibond  
Property - Charities Property Fund  
Equities - M&G Charifund

# THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019  
(CONTINUED)

### Accounts (continued)

As a result the Trustees redistributed the capital investment in accordance with the recommended split. Since then the Trust has continued broadly with this split as its attitude to risk has not changed. The Trustees formally review this policy each year at a Trustees meeting. The Trust has a Chartered Accountant on the Board of Trustees and consider this provides adequate safeguards of good practice and judgement. In the event that the policy is changed from that suggested by the IFA, the Trustees will take formal external advice.

### Achievements

The Postal Message Service of the French Red Cross in France and its African Colonies in World War II was the only book published by the Trust in 2019 (2018: Two); there remains a steady number of publications in the course of development. In addition one book was reprinted during the year.

Looking ahead to 2020 and beyond the Trust expect a number of the publications in development to be published.

Publications are now regularly available for sale at philatelic events, such as the York fair, Midpex and others.

A grant of £2,500 has been made to the London 2020 Stamp Exhibition.

One small grant was made to an individual to cover costs of research into postal history subjects; and a second grant was approved but not yet drawn.

The 2019 Stuart Rossiter Memorial Lecture was given by James Grimwood-Taylor entitled "The Worldwide Postal Reforms of 1838-50".

THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

(CONTINUED)

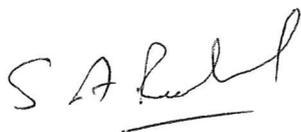
**Achievements (continued)**

The cumulative position as in December 2019 from the last quarter in 1995 is summarised by the Trustees as follows:

Books published:	44
Books published with financial assistance from the Trust	27
Books published by an Annual Lecturer privately from which the Trust benefits	1
Support for a pamphlet for a display of county postal history in a Welsh museum in 2003	1
Support for conservation for future and present research	4
Research grants taken up and paid	23
Applications for research grants approved in 2019	1
Memorial lectures	22

Six copies of books published in the UK by the Trust are deposited with the British Library and Libraries of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the National Library of Scotland, the National Library of Wales and the Library of Trinity College Dublin and in addition copies are given to the Philatelic Collections at the British Library, the Libraries of the Royal Philatelic Society London, the National Philatelic Society and the Postal History Society. Thus any member of the public may request their local library to obtain a copy for reading.

Signed on behalf of the trustees on 5th March 2020



Trustee

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

## THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

I report on the accounts of The Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund for the year ended 31 December 2019 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

### Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking of explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

M J Elliott  
Begbies  
Chartered Accountants  
ICAEW



7 Nov 2020

9 Bonhill Street  
London EC2A 4DJ

**THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

	Notes	Capital Account £	General Income fund £	2019 Total Funds £	2018 Total Funds £
<b>Income</b>					
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities					
Donations		-	-	-	15,000
Sale of Books		-	2,448	2,448	5,136
Royalties		-	97	97	108
		<u>-</u>	<u>2,545</u>	<u>2,545</u>	<u>20,244</u>
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds					
Investment Income		-	24,520	24,520	23,774
Total Incoming Resources		<u>-</u>	<u>27,065</u>	<u>27,065</u>	<u>44,018</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising Funds	2	-	1,530	1,530	1,530
Charitable Activities	3	-	4,308	4,308	26,171
Governance Costs	4	-	831	831	775
Total Resources Expended		<u>-</u>	<u>6,669</u>	<u>6,669</u>	<u>28,476</u>
<b>Net Income</b>		-	20,396	20,396	15,542
Transfers Between Funds		20,000	(20,000)	-	-
<b>Net Incoming Resources Before Other Recognised Gains and Losses</b>		20,000	396	20,396	15,542
<b>Other Recognised Gains and Losses</b>		-	-	-	-
Gains/(Losses) on Investment Assets	5	42,165	2,452	44,617	(40,986)
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<u>62,165</u>	<u>2,848</u>	<u>65,013</u>	<u>(25,444)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total Funds Brought Forward at 1 January 2019		538,833	41,772	580,605	606,049
Total Funds Carried Forward at 31 December 2019		<u>600,998</u>	<u>44,620</u>	<u>645,618</u>	<u>580,605</u>

THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Investments	5	607,891	543,274
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at Bank		37,727	37,331
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>645,618</u>	<u>580,605</u>
 <b>Represented by</b>			
Capital Account	6	600,998	538,833
Income Reserve Account	6	44,620	41,772
		<u>645,618</u>	<u>580,605</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 5 March 2020  
and signed on their behalf by:



Trustee



# THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

#### 1. Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Trust's Financial Statements.

##### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

##### **Valuation of investments**

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at Market Value at the balance sheet date. Realised and unrealised gains and losses are not separated in the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### **Incoming Resources**

Incoming Resources are recognised when receivable.

##### **Investment Income**

Investment income is received gross without deduction of tax.

##### **Resources and Grants Expended**

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include VAT which is not recoverable.

##### **Governance Costs**

Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. The costs include those related to accounting services.

##### **Stock**

Stock of books and publications are carried at nil value.

THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

<b>2. Cost of Generating Funds</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Printing , Postage and Stationery less recovered costs	-	-
Insurance	122	122
Storage of stock	1,408	1,408
	<u>1,530</u>	<u>1,530</u>
	<u><u>1,530</u></u>	<u><u>1,530</u></u>
<b>3. Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cost of books published	457	6,109
Grants for research and publications	72	5,322
Other grants made	2,500	5,000
Website Costs	422	9,492
Annual Lecture Costs	797	248
Publicity	60	-
	<u>4,308</u>	<u>26,171</u>
	<u><u>4,308</u></u>	<u><u>26,171</u></u>
<b>4. Governance Costs</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Independent Examiner's Fees	594	576
Trustees' expenses and disbursements	177	139
Bank charges	60	60
	<u>831</u>	<u>775</u>
	<u><u>831</u></u>	<u><u>775</u></u>

**THE STUART ROSSITER TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

<b>5.</b>	<b>Fixed Asset Investments</b>	<b>2019</b>		<b>2018</b>
		£		£
	<b>Market Value</b>			
	At 1 January 2019	543,274		574,260
	Additions	20,000		10,000
	Surplus/(deficit) on Revaluation	44,617		(40,986)
	At 31 December 2019	607,891		543,274

Investments are held primarily to provide an investment return for the charity.

	<b>2019</b>		<b>2018</b>
	£		£
At 31 December 2019 Investments comprised holdings in:-			
The Charities Property Fund	140,655		143,574
Charibond Charities Fixed Income Common Investment Fund	132,985		130,927
Charifund Equities Investment Fund for Charities	317,810		254,784
Charities Official Investment Fund	16,441		13,989
	607,891		543,274

The historic cost of investments held is £472,490 (2018: £452,490).

<b>6.</b>	<b>Movement in Funds</b>						
	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Gains</b>	<b>Fund</b>	
	<b>Balances</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Transfer</b>	<b>&amp; Losses</b>	<b>Balances</b>	
	<b>B/Fwd</b>					<b>C/Fwd</b>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
	Capital Account	538,833	-	-	20,000	42,165	600,998
	Income Fund	41,772	27,065	6,669	(20,000)	2,452	44,620
		580,605	27,065	6,669	-	44,617	645,618

<b>7.</b>	<b>Analysis of Net Assets between Funds</b>			
		<b>Net</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>Investments</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
		£	£	£
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
	Capital Account	591,450	9,548	600,998
	Income Fund	16,441	27,783	44,224
		607,891	37,331	645,222