

SIGNALLING RECORD SOCIETY

**Founded in 1968 for the study of Railway Signalling and Operations in the
British Isles and Overseas**

**Notice of the Annual General Meeting to be held On-line
at 11:00 am on Saturday 13th May 2022.**

Also: Officers' Report to Members

**Also: Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission &
Accounts**

***** Pre-registration for the meeting is essential *****

Please check inside for instructions and what to do if you cannot get on-line

Electronic copies of the Annual Report, including the Trustees Report to the Charity
Commission can be downloaded from www.s-r-s.org.uk/agm.

Trustees 2021 -2022

Elected in 2021 and remains in office until 2023:

John Lacy

Elected in 2021 and retire this year:

Chris Hall (Chair)

Richard Foster

Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton (Treasurer)

Steve Sharpe

Paul Armstrong

The logo for the Signalling Record Society (SRS) consists of the letters 'SRS' in a bold, stylized, black font. The letters are thick and blocky, with a slightly irregular, hand-drawn appearance. The 'S' and 'R' are connected at the top, and the 'S' and 'R' are also connected at the bottom. The 'R' has a distinctive shape with a curved top and a straight vertical stem.

The AGM will be On-line

The success of the 2021 AGM has led your trustees to decide that an on-line meeting is the most inclusive way to hold our AGM in 2022.

You need to pre-register

You will need to pre-register your intention to attend by sending an email to agm@s-r-s.org.uk no later than the 12th May.

The email should include your name and membership number which you will find on the address carrier above your name and address.

How do I attend?

You can attend the meeting from the comfort of your own home by simply logging on to the meeting shortly before the start time. Please position yourself where you will not disturb any other members of your household and where you will not be disturbed by them.

A few days before the meeting, all pre-registered members will be sent an email containing full details of how to join the meeting.

Do I need any Apps on my device?

That's up to you. If you want to install an appropriate App for the meeting you can do so beforehand. Otherwise, all you need is your normal web browser.

Will my Device be suitable?

Your computer, tablet or mobile phone should be suitable provided it can connect to the internet.

To speak to the meeting you will need a microphone. Phones, tablets and portable computers normally have these built in. External microphones can be obtained if your device doesn't have one. Don't forget to check that it is switched on and working and then muted until it is your turn to speak.

You will be able to see what is happening on your device display. If you turn the sound volume up you will be able to hear what is taking place as well.

Do I need a camera?

You do not need a camera in order to attend the on-line meeting. If you have a camera, you may be invited to turn it on when speaking. Don't forget to check beforehand that it is working!

What time does the meeting start?

The meeting will start at 11.00 am (British Summer time). You will be able to log-on to the meeting before this and you should do so in order to avoid delaying the start.

How long does the meeting take?

That is up to the members taking part. The main business usually lasts about an hour and a half but can be longer if there are many questions and contributions from the floor.

Can I telephone in?

If you prefer, you can join the meeting using your house or mobile telephone. This could prove expensive, however, if you pay for your calls by the minute!

No internet access?

Members who don't have internet access can still take part in the elections and resolutions listed on the agenda.

A voting form is printed on the back of the address carrier sheet and detailed instructions for its return are also printed on that form.

Counting of votes.

Voting forms received by the closing date stated on the form will be counted and added to the votes cast during the meeting by the members attending on-line.

The combined voting figures will then be announced and the results declared.

Will the meeting be recorded?

The entire meeting will be recorded as a means of ensuring accurate minutes can be produced. Access to the recording will be restricted to the Society officers

AGM Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chair
2. To remember our members who have passed away over the last year
3. To receive apologies for absence
4. To approve the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting
5. To address any matters arising from the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting
6. To receive the Trustees' reports to the Charity Commission for the year ended 31st December 2021
7. To adopt the Officers' reports to members for the year ended 31st December 2021
8. To elect Key Officers and Trustees – Nominations received:
 - a. Chair – C K Hall, Proposed A N Mackay Seconded D Stirling
 - b. Secretary – P S J Davenport, Proposed R Walker Seconded P Sharpe
 - c. Treasurer – Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton, Proposed R Dey, Seconded S Lowe
9. To elect additional Trustees (maximum 8). (Note that John Lacy was elected in 2021 as a Trustee for two years)
 - a. P Armstrong – Proposed A Overton, Seconded N Cordery
 - b. R D Foster, Proposed C Melton, Seconded. M Ellis
 - c. C K Hall, Proposed A N Mackay Seconded D Stirling
 - d. M R Instone, Proposed D W Garland, Seconded P Burke
 - e. S Sharpe, Proposed K Heath, Seconded K Thomas
10. To note the Trustees nomination of Jonathan Innes FCCA of Innes & Partners Limited, Livingston EH54 5FD for the appointment of Independent Examiner.
11. To announce the winner of the Colin H Betts award for 2021
12. Presentation: Volunteer Resources
13. Presentation: Archive Sub-committee
14. The next Annual General Meeting will be held on the 13th May 2023 at 11:00 am.
15. Any Other Business
16. Members Forum

Peter Davenport Acting Secretary February 2022

Annual General Meeting Saturday 15th May 2021

Minutes

1. Attendance

Owing to the coronavirus situation the meeting was held on line. To accommodate members who were not in a position to take part in this way, voting papers had been distributed with the Spring 2021 *Signalling Record*, for return in advance of the meeting. These votes have been included in the totals recorded in these minutes; a check after the meeting has confirmed that no member who returned a voting paper also voted at the meeting.

The following 39 members took part in the on-line meeting:

David Allen, Philip Barker, John Batts, Tim Bourne, Michael Brougham, Eddie Clegg, Dave Cockle, David Collins, John Creed, Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton, Peter Davenport, Neil Dickson, Edward Dorricott, Tony Elliott, Richard Foster, Hessel Franssen, Ian Fraser, David Garland, Nick Garnham*, Stuart George, Peter Gibbons, Anthony Gray, Reg Instone, Chris Jones, John Lacy*, Ian Legg, Del Lomas, John Mair*, Robert Mills, Chris Osment, John Penny, Ralph Potter, Richard Pulleyn, Mark Richards, Chris Roffey, Steve Sharpe*, Paul Thompson, Robert White and Roger Wilkins.

* had submitted voting papers and did not vote during the meeting

In addition, the following 78 members (including 4 who took part in the meeting) submitted voting papers:

Rodney Agutter, Charles Allenby, Martyn Bacon, Allan Beck, Philip Benham, Christopher Borland, Peter Bower, Christopher Brown, Richard Calasca, Ray Caston, David Clarke, Geoffrey Clear, Derek Coe, Norman Cordery, David Davidson, Anthony Davis, Philip Everett, Graham Floyd, Nick Garnham*, Allan Gauld, Kenneth Giles, Chris Hall, P Hampson, Graham Hardcastle, T Hindle, Miles Howarth, Ian Hughes, G L Huxley, Robert Jenkin, Alan Johnston, Laurence Kelly, Paul Kemp, John Lacy*, Mark Lamb, Philip Littler, Michael Lloyd, Roy Macintyre, Neil Mackay, Alan Mackie, John Mair*, Mike Marr, Graham Maxtone, Trevor Moseley, Andrew Overton, Derek Payne, Steve Peplow, Nigel Pepper, Chris Potts, Allan Pym, Martin Reynolds, Clive Robey, Sean Robitaille, Roger Sawyer, Steve Sharpe*, Keith Shaw, Martin Shaw, Ian Smith, Nigel Stevens, G Stott, Jim Summers, David Swan, Andrew Thompson, Mark Thornber, John Tinkler, Steve Tull, Francis Voisey, Andrew Wallis, Mike Walshaw, Simon Ward, Bob Welfare, Steve Westwood, Martin White, John Wickens, Ray Wild, George Wilson, Rory Wilson, Michael Yardley and Robert Young.

* attended the meeting but did not vote

2. Welcome

The meeting commenced at 11.00. John Lacy welcomed members to the meeting and explained how it would be run. Since the 2020 Annual General Meeting had had to be cancelled, this meeting would where appropriate cover the two years 2019 and 2020. In the absence of Chris Hall, John offered himself as chair of the meeting; his offer was accepted by all present. He said that the Charity Commission was happy with an on-line meeting rather than continued postponement or cancellation, even though the SRS Constitution does not explicitly allow for such meetings. He noted the gratifying numbers taking part; 37 members were at that moment logged on, while 78 voting forms had been received.

3. Members who have died in the past year

John Lacy noted the demise over the previous two years of 15 members:

Colin Bright, Rev Frank Cliff, Ian Cox, Captain Fleming, Michael Horne, Peter Jordan, Angus McDougall, Vic Mitchell, David Page, Darrol Pardoe, Rick Parkinson, Mike Pellatt, Tony Ross, Terry Weston and David Worth.

The meeting observed a period of silence and expressed its sympathy with their families and its appreciation for their contributions to the Society over many years.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Chris Hall (Chair) and the following 10 members:

Paul Armstrong, Allan Beck, Graham Cloxton, James Cunningham, Martin Elms, Alastair Galloway, Andy Overton, Roger Phelps, Jim Summers and Robin Walker

Paul Armstrong would have taken part had the chosen software not been incompatible with his browser. Graham Cloxton was in hospital and the meeting wished him a speedy recovery.

5. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

Tim Bourne proposed and Nick Garnham seconded the approval of the Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting. This was AGREED by the meeting (99 votes in favour, 8 abstentions).

6. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Trustees' reports to the Charity Commission for 2019 and 2020

John Lacy explained that these reports were the means by which the Trustees accounted for their stewardship of the Society; it was therefore not appropriate for the meeting to vote on them. There were no queries on these reports.

8. Officers' reports for 2019 and 2020

There were no queries on the Officers' reports for 2019 and 2020. The meeting AGREED to approve them (109 votes in favour, 2 abstentions). Peter Davenport and others offered congratulations to the team responsible for the *Signalling Record* and *Signalling News*.

9. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2019 and 2020

John Lacy provided some relevant explanations:

- the accounts were on a Receipts and Payments basis, so each year's accounts only covered monies actually received or disbursed in that year;
- he explained the cyclic nature of subscription increases, with surpluses in the early years balanced by deficits later in the cycle;
- subscriptions received between September and December related to the following year, and were listed in the accounts as Subscriptions in Advance;
- the budget for 2020 had been prepared before the pandemic took hold;
- the bills for the Winter 2020 *Signalling Record* did not arrive until after the New Year, so would be included in the 2021 accounts;
- he had adopted a new method of valuing the Society's stock of unsold publications etc whereby their value was written off entirely over two years, rather than a fixed percentage being written off each year.

Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton explained that, owing to continuing restrictions, the accounts had yet to be formally signed off by the Independent Examiner, though he had informally agreed them. There were no queries, and Peter Davenport thanked the Treasurer for his efforts.

10. Election of Officers

John Lacy noted that a number of Trustees had decided not to offer themselves for re-election, and expressed his appreciation of the work done by David Garland, Reg Instone, Robert Mills, Graham Cloxton and Peter Gibbons. The meeting ELECTED Chris Hall as Chair and Trustee (votes in favour 100, against 5, abstentions 4) and Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton as Treasurer and Trustee (votes in favour 107, abstentions 2). There had been no nominations for the important post of Secretary, and John Lacy urged any members interested in the post to put themselves forward without delay.

11. Election of Trustees

As there had been no Annual General Meeting in 2020 all Trustees needed to be re-elected. There had been only four nominations for a maximum of nine Ordinary Trustee posts. All were ELECTED as follows:

Paul Armstrong Votes in favour 104, abstentions 3

Richard Foster Votes in favour 106, against 1, abstentions 3

John Lacy Votes in favour 108, abstentions 1

Steve Sharpe Votes in favour 109, abstentions 1

12. Additional Rules 3.3 and 3.4

The Trustees had proposed these new rules to meet a Charity Commission requirement that the Society adopt policies on discrimination and the handling of complaints. John Penny asked whether the complaints policy was intended for complaints against Trustees, or against other members; John Lacy explained that it covered both. There was a brief discussion on how the policy should be made known; it was agreed that it should be put on the Society's website and publicised in *Signalling News*, with copies available by post on request. The proposal was seconded by John Batts and AGREED by the meeting (votes in favour 95, against 2, abstentions 12)

Post meeting note: the complaints and safeguarding procedures were added to the web site on 16 May.

13. Amended Rules 7.4 and 7.5

These amendments were designed to clarify the responsibility of the Trustees to appoint the Independent Examiner, as required by charity legislation. In response to Chris Osment, it was confirmed that wherever possible the appointment would be notified to a General Meeting in advance. The proposal was seconded by John Batts and AGREED by the meeting (votes in favour 99, abstentions 7).

14. Amended Rule 9.4

This amendment had the aim of requiring any candidate to be a Trustee to sign up in advance to a code of conduct, which will be made available to candidates on request. The proposal was seconded by Richard Pulleyn and AGREED by the meeting (votes in favour 100, abstentions 6).

15. Independent Examiner

The Trustees proposed to remain with Jonathan Innes as Independent Examiner. John Lacy and Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton noted the thoroughness with which he carried out this duty.

16. Honorary Life Membership

In view of the cancellation of the 2020 AGM the Trustees had already conferred honorary life membership of the Society on Barry Bridges and David Stirling. Reg Instone noted that Barry had served as Membership Secretary for around 20 years, while David had among many other things served as Treasurer for ten years. The meeting unanimously APPROVED the awards.

17. John Howard-Turner award

After a brief explanation of the awards, John Lacy announced the winners:

2018 – Mick Nicholson for his article on Hull Springhead (*Signalling Record* 191)

2020 – Garth Tilt for his article “Llanelly Revisited” (*Signalling Record* 198 and 199)

18. Colin H Betts Award.

The winner in 2019 was Simon Lowe for his “Review of Modern Signalling Practice” (*Signalling Record* 193).

19. New format of Signalling Record and Signalling News

Richard Foster asked for feedback from members.

Richard Pulleyn described the improvements as fantastic, and believed our journals were now among the leading society publications. He asked whether it would be possible to send the *Record* and *News* separately; it was explained that this would entail a substantial increase in postage costs (each separate posting costs over £1000). Robert White praised the excellent variety of content. Ian Legg, Mark Richards, Phillip Barker, Del Lomas and David Collins all expressed their approval. Ian asked what the distinction was between the *Record* and *News*; Richard Foster explained that *Signalling News* was intended to cover topical items without waiting for space in the *Record* to be available.

Peter Gibbons asked whether an on-line option could be offered. Richard Foster explained that the saving on printing costs would be small, while extra work would be needed from an already hard-pressed production team. Anthony Gray suggested a searchable on-line archive, and would welcome more information on planned changes to signalling. After a discussion on not pre-empting the rail industry's communications with its staff, and the propensity of plans to change, Reg Instone reminded the meeting that Andy Overton's *Signalling Digest* always began with forthcoming alterations.

Richard Foster appealed to members for contributions to the *Record*, and for someone with experience as a graphic artist or draughtsman to join the production team. He undertook to raise the suggestions made at a future Committee meeting.

Steve Sharpe expressed thanks to the publications team for the enormous amount of work they carried out every three months.

20. 2022 Annual General Meeting

John Lacy announced the date of Saturday 14 May 2022. The Trustees wished to look options including the possibility of a hybrid meeting (physical and on-line) and would decide on a venue, probably in London or the South East, in the light of their decision.

21. Any other Business

Chris Osment asked whether modern printing practice would allow the Society to update its publications when reprinting. John Lacy noted that this would not be appropriate for all publications, but agreed that the Trustees should discuss the possibility.

David Allen appealed for any members who had collections of Weekly Operating Notices to make them available to him and his team for scanning, so they could be put on the Society's website.

In response to questions from Richard Pulleyn, it was confirmed that a piece on wills and donations would appear in *Signalling News* No 10, while more work was needed on a business continuity plan.

Richard Pulleyn asked that Signal Box Registers should be kept regularly updated and available to members on line, and that the Society's diagrams and photographs should be available for members to buy as downloads as well as in hard copy. Reg Instone noted the burden on the small number of trustees, and John Lacy appealed for others to come forward to assist.

Post meeting note: Chris Hall has pointed out that there is a subscription scheme available to members only so that each time the correction sheet is updated, a revised DVD-ROM is provided containing the updated correction sheet and copies of all published volumes. There is also a fully updated Signal Box Register available on line.

Steve Sharpe noted the benefit of an on-line meeting; there were participants from Australia, Holland and Ireland, and others who could not attend a traditional meeting.

He also asked how the Society might appeal more to younger members. Tim Bourne suggested that while there was a lot of interest in signalling history among younger people, they preferred to do something rather than just read about it.

22. Members' Forum

Peter Gibbons mentioned that signallers on the Severn Valley fall into one of two camps:

- Retired signallers continuing as a hobby
- Volunteers who become interested and, sometimes, take jobs with Network Rail

Peter Gibbons drew attention to the general lack of books about signalling in book shops, especially since the demise of Ian Allan. Steve Sharpe pointed out the lack of detailed text books that contained accurate information.

Hessell Franssen offered to transcribe documents for us.

Roger Wilkins mentioned he had done presentations on the works of Samuel Telford Dutton to other organisations, citing Edward's book in the process.

A McKenzie & Holland history would be welcome if anyone can be persuaded to write one.

Post meeting note: many McKenzie & Holland records were lost in the London Blitz.

There being no further business, John Lacy thanked members for taking part, and closed the meeting at 1351.

David Garland

Acting Secretary

Reports from Office Holders for 2021

Chair, Chris Hall

This is my sixth year as Chair and I look back to 2021 as the year when things began to return to normal. From about the middle of the year our Committee meetings had returned to their normal face to face character.

Although regional meetings were impractical as face to face events we moved to virtual meetings, held via Zoom, which proved quite satisfactory, including the 2021 AGM. So much so that it is our intention to hold regional meetings in virtual form during 2022.

Attendance at model railway exhibitions, another conduit for sharing information on railway signalling, has been impossible – not by choice but because the gatherings themselves have been cancelled.

Our bookstall stock, held at Kenilworth, is now accessible again and the bookstall section of the web site is being returned to normal.

The financial impact of coronavirus on the Society has been benign: the costs of exhibitions and meetings have been avoided but the trading income is somewhat reduced. So far as our 'ordinary activities' are concerned (i.e. excluding trading), the effect has been beneficial. Improvements to the Record have continued and have raised our costs a little but overall in 2021 we showed a small surplus. Our aim is that our core operating costs should be covered by regular income and not rely on trading profits.

We have made many pleas for new volunteers to come forward – the first step towards becoming welcomed as a trustee – with little success.

Our efforts during 2020 to recruit a permanent Secretary have been successful and Peter Davenport has agreed to stand for election as a trustee at the 2022 AGM.

I will reiterate that we do need some more members to step forward to help reduce the workload that falls onto the shoulders of the small number of active volunteers running the society. In this respect I should stress that this involves doing some of the tasks that have to be done rather than just acting as a Trustee – less formality and less distraction from other activities of the Society. We also need to attract some younger and more active members to assist with some of the tasks.

Secretary (Acting), Peter Davenport

2021 has seen a transition in the way Committee meetings have been held. We have moved from a discussion held by email to an approach which sees those who are able meeting at Kenilworth with those who are unable to joining by Zoom. We have also held one meeting entirely on Zoom. These arrangements have worked well and allows our more distant Trustees to avoid a long journey to the meeting.

After a trial meeting in July, I picked up the job as Acting Secretary in September and was promptly given a set of files of records carefully maintained by David Garland.

Archive, David Garland

The year began with the archive once again closed by the renewed coronavirus lockdown. However happily the situation improved during the year: access was possible from March, pre-arranged visits for researchers restarted in late April, and Open Days (still on a pre-booked basis) were advertised from July. In all the archive was opened on eighteen days during the year, with a overall total of 36 visitors in addition to myself. It is not surprising that these figures are lower than in 2019 and earlier years – some researchers have I'm sure got out of the habit of visiting physical archives, especially as the quantity of material available through the internet constantly increases.

Assuming no further restrictions, monthly Open Days will be advertised through 2022. In addition, any researchers who cannot conveniently attend these are cordially invited to arrange a visit on another day – we have arranged with the L&NWR Society that Thursdays (rather than Wednesdays during 2021) should be set aside specifically for such visits to the SRS Archive, though other days of the week (except Wednesdays) are also possible so long as the L&NWR do not have other planned events.

We have benefitted from some significant donations during the year (were our members and others using lockdowns to clear their attics?). Highlights have included:

- A collection of signalling drawings and other material from the late Alan Brierley, donated by his partner Jenny Woodgate through Mark Hickmott and Reg Instone;
- Seven original binders containing records of LMS track circuits, donated by David Wilkinson – these appear to complete a set with others already held by the SRS or the National Railway Museum

- A quantity of material from BR(SR) and its predecessors collected by the late Geoff Metherell (Head of Rules at BR(SR) Waterloo) and donated by his son Don Metherell;
- Eleven Train Register Books from BR(ER) donated by John Tinkler;
- Details of equipment present in signal boxes in the 1980s, drawn up by Bob Ballard (then the manager of BR's Collectors Corner) and donated by him;
- A copy of John Tilly's dissertation on Level Crossing policy and a box of related papers, donated by the author;
- A quantity of BR(ER) material donated by David Underwood through the good offices of Chris Cock;
- A number of signalling diagrams rescued by Derek Soames from the old Skipton S&T office and donated by Peter Smith;
- Several Appendices and Opening Hours booklets donated by Rodney Agutter;
- Three BR(WR) Train Register Books donated by Brian Holyland;
- A large collection of Train Register Books and signalling diagrams from the Cumbria area donated by Geoff Holme, also other Train Register Books from the collection of the late Michael Andrews, all donated through Mike Norris;
- Numerous signalling diagrams drawn by John Foreman and donated through Neil Mackay.

The Society is as always most grateful to all donors, and to those who have let potential donors know of the existence of the archive and have helped them make contact and get their material to us.

Cataloguing has continued despite the difficulties – many thanks to Paul Waldron for his continued efforts, and particularly to Bruce Bennett for completing the monumental task of putting the Cullum Collection (over 7400 diagrams, plus numerous marks lists and box Instruction sheets) into new boxes and reconciling it with the lists previously put into digital form by Peter Gibbons. Happily, I can report that fewer than ten items could not be found – and these were probably folded inside others and overlooked.

We look forward to (I hope) uninterrupted access to the archive during 2022. I encourage all members who have yet to visit the archive to consider doing so – details of how to arrange a visit and how to access the catalogue may be found on the SRS website, or please feel free to write to me or send an email if you prefer.

Digital Archive, John Lacy

Material has been added to the digital archive during the course of the year and details appeared in the reports published in SRS News. There is little point in repeating everything again here.

Digitising items in our archive has continued to take a back seat, so far back in fact that I haven't been able to get to the archive variously because of covid inspired restrictions and self-imposed ones arising from my wife's health.

The digital archive catalogue is in need of an overhaul which activity is part of the overhaul of the web site. As I gradually reduce the variety of Society administrative and other activities I am involved in, I hope to have more time in 2022 to get on with the overhaul.

Photographic Collection– Paul Armstrong

Work on the Society's photographic collection continued during the year, although at one point during the year I ran out material to scan but the resumption of committee meetings at Kenilworth has meant that I have been able to access the material there and return to Southend with some of the John Talbot albums. Work has continued on these and by the end of the year I had scanned just over 10,000 negatives, prints and slides.

Donations to the Society's collection have been received from John Batts, Richard Foster, John Ingham, Daryl Pardoe, Leslie Vincent Patrick Powden, AJ Sayers BEM. The collection of John Morris's archive of photographs has been donated by Allan Pym to the Archive and will arrive in 2022, but due to its large size it will be some time before I have time to start work on this collection.

Discussions are also underway with another Society about the transfer of large collection of photographs to this Society. Further details will be publicised when formal transfer has taken place.

I wish to thank my fellow SRS members for their help during the year, which include David Garland, Bruce Bennett and Steve Sharpe

In the second half of the year the Society purchased, with copyright, in auction a collection of 150 slides. Unfortunately, some of them 3 ½ x 2 do not scan very well on the equipment that I have, but all of them have been copied. It is likely that further batches will be purchased in the future.

The problem of images in the Society's collection that the Society does not hold the copyright on is an ongoing one, meaning that they cannot be published without the copyright holder's permission. In many cases this is not known. So please if you donate photographs that you have taken to the Society's Archive could you also donate the copyright with them so they can be used to illustrate Society's publications including the Record. The Record would be much poorer without the illustrations from the Society's photographic collection.

Bookstall, John Lacy

Trading continued throughout the year but there were no new books or other publications added to our lists. As with so many activities, there just aren't enough hours available to do everything one would wish. Nevertheless, the bookstall brought in a net income of £2,984 to the Society. Not all of this is from books as a large proportion of the drawing office sales come via the Bookstall and are around 40% of that figure.

In 2020 Steve Sharpe took on part of the workload by keeping stock at his own home and popping down to his local post office to post out orders alongside the new member packs. He continued throughout 2021 and we all need to say a big thank you to Steve for doing this.

What we need is the one thing we don't generally get – a small army of volunteers to enable the workload to be spread over more of us.

I have, for a number of reasons, decided it is time for me to reduce my commitments and this report will, hopefully, be the last annual report I shall be doing as your Bookstall Manager. I took over the Bookstall temporarily in 2016 as an emergency measure when Anthony Moss died unexpectedly. Since then, I have tried to do what I can to the best of my ability but it is now time for me to step aside and allow someone else to devote their enthusiasm to the task.

SRS News 13 will have carried an advertisement for a replacement Bookstall Manager so perhaps, by the AGM, we will have a line of willing volunteer to take the job on.

Drawing Office, Ray Caston & Allan Pym

We are pleased to report another good year for the Drawing Office. Making diagrams available as electronic downloads proved popular and we thank John Lacy for providing this. Due to COVID restrictions and personal shielding we were unable to process new diagrams of which there are plenty in the pipeline. We are actively looking at means of circumventing this, and look forward to making progress. We wish to thank John Lacy, Garth Tilt, and John Hinson for their help during the years, not forgetting the sterling efforts of our draughtsman, Bernard Archer

Back Numbers and Non-commercial Publications – Steve Sharpe

Towards the end of 2020 we were notified that Steve Courten who previously dealt with the sale of back numbers, signalling and research papers would not be renewing his membership of the society. This left us needing to collect the material from him that he held on stock, which I volunteered to do having been advised that it was around 15 A4 paper sized boxes.

This would have been simple enough normally despite me being Shropshire and Steve being in Kirkcudbrightshire in the south-west of Scotland, but of course we were under all sorts of restrictions due to COVID. This was again complicated by me being under English rules and Steve being under Scottish rules, so in the end it was not until early August that I finally managed to collect everything from him, which in the end actually turned out to be closer to 35 A4 paper sized boxes. It's a good job I have a van sized vehicle with good suspension.

Since then when time allows, I have been doing a stock take of what we actually have available and placing some of it in temporary (but free!) storage to give me space. As I write this there are still a few things to sort through, but I do hope to be able to make stuff available again soon.

Please keep an eye on SRS News for updates on availability and maybe even some offers during this coming year.

Enquiries Officer, Ian Wannell

Requests for assistance continue to come in, but at a steadily declining rate. The number for 2021 was 33, (47 in 2020 and 96 in 2011). This decline is almost certainly due to the much improved and expanded website now in place. The ability to contact 'Corresponding Members' and forward on questions to them has steadily improved over the years now that virtually everyone supplies an email address, and users speak well of the help

they receive. Even where the CM is a vacant post it is usually possible to obtain assistance from a CM for an adjoining area.

FARSAP, Richard Pulleyn

The BBC has kindly provided a number of signalling related films for us to include on the FARSAP webpage. A film has been added by Nick Jones and Jim Summers that they produced for a transport exhibition in Perth. Most filming visits have had to be postponed because of the Covid pandemic, although it was possible to cover Tees Yard to Grangetown before the Teesside resignalling was commissioned.

Area Organiser North East, Richard Pulleyn

As previously reported, the first SRS Zoom meeting was arranged by the North East Group with help from John Lacy and Steve Sharpe who managed to get the online system up and running. We were joined by about 50 members from across the UK - many of whom commented that they would not have been able to attend in person because of distance. A number of North Eastern Railway Association members were also welcomed to join us. Before the meeting started we enjoyed a wide-ranging chat and exchange of information with contributions from many members.

The subject for the meeting was the former Leeds Northern line north of Leeds: Richard Pulleyn covered the history of signalling from Leeds out to Horsforth and Neil Mackay took over to cover the line northwards from Arthington - which linked in nicely with his updated "Around the Centres" article on Harrogate.

Area Organiser North West, Ken Booth

Another 'interesting' year.

November 2021 Crewe Meeting

Although all participants were primed and ready, I decided to pull the plug on this meeting due to the uncertainties over Covid, Crewe Heritage site opening issues and the nature of the venue. The available room is cramped and we do have a 'duty of care' towards our speakers and guests. To do something via Zoom presented the best option rather than just cancel again in the hope of better times to come.

Crewe Zoom Meeting Sat 20.11.2021

Following training sessions during early November with our Webmaster John Lacy (JL) we went live for the first time with no real problems. A big thank you goes to JL for all his help. Our speaker Graham Floyd (GF) presented "The rise & fall of the Power Frame". Graham was well used to Zoom which helped enormously in producing an interesting and professional presentation.

The 'Zoomers' numbered 36 plus JL, GF and myself. I understand we may have had extras who joined on the day. All feedback, including on screen voting, was positive.

Plans for 2022

As advertised in SRS News No 12 we have the remaining speaker from the cancelled meetings Andrew Gardiner via Zoom on Saturday 26th February.

Another Zoom talk has been arranged and booked for October 2022. The speaker will be Chris Bellett. Full details will be advertised in due course.

Visits Heritage North, Richard Pulleyn

There were no visits during the year

Visits Heritage South, Edward Dorricot

With the ongoing situation imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, it has regrettably not been feasible to organise any visits during 2021. However, we do have proposals in mind for when, hopefully, in the not too distant future, propitious circumstances return.

Visits Network Rail, Transport for London & Metro, Peter Adds

The situation regarding organised visits is that Network Rail will not entertain any non-essential staff visits to signalling control installations at the present time due to Covid and no doubt this bar on visits applies elsewhere. I am aware that signalling alterations are still on-going and I can only await the lifting of these restrictions before the SRS can seek to reintroduce such visits.

Membership, Steve Sharpe

The membership levels in the society continue to rise year on year with numbers this year exceeding my estimations. This is all great for the society as a whole but more work for me, there always has to be some sort of pay off doesn't there?

Referring back to last year's report we ended 2020 with 752 members (aggregate of 757 including deaths during the year), moving to this current year we have managed to reach a level which is once again the highest number of members the society has ever had with 775 members at the 31st December. That gives us an aggregate of 782 members during the year as we sadly recorded the passing of 6 members and the departure of 1 other due to ill health during the year.

Almost all of the new members continue to join the society through the website or used the website to create the form to then send to me. As with last year we have lost out on those new members who would have joined at modelling events we attend such as Guildex (Gauge O Guild) in September and the Warley Show at the NEC in November as they were both once again cancelled.

As I do each year, I would ask that if possible members share their email address with us to aid in this process for the day to day operation of the society. This is separate from the process in place for the use of the societies e-mailing list which members need to specifically opt in to and is used for more general announcements and urgent broad-based notices. Through this membership acknowledgements and queries are dealt with relatively quickly and without cost to you or the society.

For the 2021 membership year the renewal season commences for me on the 1st of September 2020. After this point all new members join until the end of 2021. From that period the breakdown of how people are paying for their membership is;

- Cheque / Cash - 26 %
- PayPal - 15 %
- Standing Order / Bank Transfer - 59 %

This does show a move towards Standing Orders and Bank Transfers over last year which is cheaper for the society when compared to PayPal and easier for me than dealing with cheques as the nearest bank to me for me to pay into is 12 miles away.

We continue to look at other methods of payment including Direct Debit, but from what we have found up to now, that is as costly as PayPal and adds more work for me. However, I have very recently been made aware of an alternate option for this that may be cheaper and will be investigated. The other trustees and I are always on the lookout for alternate payment methods that offer ease to the payer and the payee and also minimise the costs to the society.

An additional item that we had asked for with the membership renewals heading into 2022 was a date or year of birth. This is to help us better understand the age profile of the society and we will continue to maintain this information so that we can see how it changes through the years. Up to now there have been no great surprises that the general age profile is in the over the (theoretical) retirement age, but there are more of the recent joiners who fall a little below this. This may help to prove or maybe even disprove the logic that the society is getting older. For the moment we are just taking a snapshot as we have no historical information. If you have not given your date or year of birth yet, could I ask you either to email it to me on membership@s-r-s.org.uk or return the renewal form by post with it entered on the form.

Research Coordinator and Corresponding Member Network, Reg Instone

The Corresponding Members (CM) system has been in place for many years, so it was decided that it was appropriate to review arrangements to determine whether any changes were required. Initially, the CMs were invited to exchange opinions about the current status of the SRS and how it can be developed. Having reviewed the outcome, the Trustees gave their full backing to this initiative and encouraged the CMs to continue to contribute freely and openly. To help move this forward, all CMs were then invited to attend a Zoom meeting which was held in October to discuss the role of Corresponding Members - what views they may have about the CM network? Whether it is effective? And whether the CM role should be redefined?

Attendance was extremely encouraging - indeed, it was a great pleasure to meet many of the CMs, albeit only online. There was a wide-ranging discussion as a result of which recommendations were presented to the Trustees. Further meetings are now planned to discuss ways in which the SRS can move forward.

Corresponding Member GWR Plymouth Division – Ian Wannell
Only two enquiries specific to this Division received during 2021.

During the year I have spent many hundreds of hours corresponding on a wide range of subjects, exclusively electronically by email and through social media platforms. Many new documents have reached me to assist with research and most of these have all been electronic too. Research and correspondence is ongoing on a virtually daily basis and all reasonable requests for information are replied to, often resulting in an inward flow of material either at the time or at a future date when I can make my own reciprocal request for help. Owing to the huge volume of correspondence and subjects covered in a short space of time - one of the advantages (disadvantages?) of electronic communication - it is quite impossible for someone engaged in a spare-time hobby to summarise even a small proportion of the information exchanged so my report is of necessity correspondingly brief. The pertinent point is that this Society position has been active throughout the year and fulfilling our charitable objectives of freely sharing knowledge with SRS members and non-members alike.

Signalling Record & Member Publications, Richard Foster, Francis Dalrymple Hamilton & Michael Ellis

2019, 2020 and 2021 have been very busy years for our member publications team. At the beginning of 2019 we introduced the new look and very much enhanced *The Signalling Record* and the new *SRS News*. It is hard to believe that three years had gone by since this momentous change.

With issue No. 204 for Winter 2021 we have, over the three years, now completed 12 editions of the A4 format *Signalling Record*. It is rather frightening to look back and think of the amount of work that has had to be put in to create and deliver all these issues, or that we have produced so much in the time.

These 12 issues form the first volume of the A4 size *Record*. The achievement of this milestone makes it a good time to review what has been achieved. When the new format was conceived, the plan was that each issue would normally be of 36 pages, with perhaps a very occasional extended issue. In practice, over the 12 editions, we have published 512 pages of material or an average of 42 ½ pages per issue, which is quite an achievement and far beyond what it was expected to be possible to deliver to members.

SRS News has been another success story. When it was being planned it was very difficult to estimate how much material would be found for it, especially as there had not been a newsletter at all for several years. The expectation was that the issues would probably be 8 or 12 pages with perhaps an occasional 16 page edition. In practice the *News* rapidly grew a life of its own and for the past two years each normal issue has been of 24 pages, with one or two each year running to 32 pages.

SRS News provides two separate roles. Firstly, to publish essential information on what the Society is doing, the work of the trustees and officers, details of meetings and events, details of publications and other material we have for sale, and of other activities and services we offer. Secondly it provides a medium for publishing signalling news items on much shorter lead times than are possible with the *Record*, together with items of information and interest that would otherwise take up space in the *Record*, pushing out some of what we currently include, and particularly material which we would not otherwise be able to find space to publish. With *SRS News* No. 8 we made this division clearer, by giving the second part of the *News* the overall title of *Signalling Focus*. We hope you find *SRS News* and *Signalling Focus* of interest.

Having said all the above, we are very much open to suggestions and feedback on what we produce and the content of the *Record* and *News*. You would be most welcome to get in touch with comments, ideas and suggestions.

Producing all of the above costs money and strains our budgets. The economies of printing mean that the more copies we print the lower the costs of printing each copy are. The importance to the Society of producing publications of the quality and quantity of pages of the *Record* and *SRS News* can be seen from the fact that, since their introduction, Society Membership has increased by over 150, representing a 25 % increase in overall membership. This is quite an achievement with the many competing demands for people's time and money. If you would like us to sustain the current quality of what we produce, or to produce more, one of the most effective ways to do this is to go out and recruit some more members!

Where original illustrations – photographs and diagrams – are in colour, being able to reproduce them in colour considerably enhances the value and appearance of articles in the *Record*. Although the cost of colour printing has decreased in recent years, the additional cost, compared to black and white, is still quite substantial and a significant issue for small societies like ours with limited resources. Currently the cost of printing all issues of the *Record* completely in colour is unaffordable within our subscription income, without a reduction in the number of pages we can include in each issue.

For some, especially historical, articles, the content tends to be black and white, although there can often be some colour. Given a choice between more colour or more pages it is generally best value for members to print each issue of the *Record* partly in colour and partly in black and white. While this gives best value for money for members, it creates a significant amount of extra work for the publications production team as a lot of time has to be spent in arranging the pages to ensure that as many of the colour illustrations as possible appear on the colour pages. Without more volunteers to help with production, we may not be able to continue this practice in future.

The member publications do not just appear, they require a large amount of behind-the-scenes activity, and the workload stretches the capacity of our current team. Sustaining the publications now requires a considerable amount of ongoing work and producing each edition is quite a challenge and struggle for Richard Foster and Michael Ellis who carry out the bulk of the work. Our thanks are due to the following who have helped, even in a small way, with the compilation, production and checking of issues of *The Signalling Record*, *SRS News* and the *Annual Signal Box Alterations*. Apologies to anyone we have omitted:

Tim Bourne, Graham Bowring, Geoff Brown, Peter Davenport, Richard Lemon, Charles Melton, Mick Nicholson, Andrew Overton, Richard Pulleyn, John Sneider, Chris Springett.

Even with the current team, further help is needed if we are to retain the same quality and quantity of the output for the future. Would you be able to help, even in a small way? Particular needs are; help with producing page layouts to get the publications ready for the printers, and help in preparing articles for publication and editing material, finding photographs to help illustrate articles and finding new material for publication.

The 'Volunteers Needed' section of each issue of *SRS News* contains more details of the help we need. Please contact Richard Foster if you think you can help even if it is in a small way, *every little helps* – as they say! We are a very friendly team!

An even more important issue has recently emerged. Richard Foster, who organised the transition from the old A5 Signalling Record to the present Record and News, in order to help with making the changes, has provided a great deal of help behind the scenes with the publications, particularly carrying out the work in compiling, editing and preparing for production each issue of *SRS News*. This help, which was intended to cover the transition, was extended while Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton, the Editor, also took on, and got up to speed with, the role of Treasurer.

With everything settled down, it was time for Richard to step down from the Record and News work to pursue other projects for the benefit of the Society. Following discussions, it became evident that the workload of editing *SRS News* would be too much for Francis to take on. Therefore, as a temporary arrangement, Richard has agreed to take on the role of Acting Editor for *SRS News*, in order to allow the Society to continue to deliver the News to members while efforts are made to find someone to take on the role of *SRS News* Editor. However, this is very much a stop gap arrangement and will cease at the end of the year. So we are in desperate need for someone to come forward to help with or take on the role of editor for *SRS news*. Can you help? The work is very interesting and comes with the satisfaction of the work turning into print for the benefit of all.

Signal Box Registers, Chris Hall

Last year I reported that Volumes 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 have been published and volumes 2, 5A, 5B, 5C and 7 have been started. Only Volumes 5A (LNWR South of Crewe and North Staffs) and 7 (North Eastern plus H&B) have made progress in 2021: the progress on volume 5A has been in adding grid references for particular boxes and for volume 7 in getting outline agreement from NERA to use their signal box register data – more about this once we have signed the formal agreement.

One major step forward is that individual signal box register entries are now available from the *SRS* web site via the map view which shows signal boxes in their geographical positions.

There is a principal contact for each published register to follow up any further corrections which may be identified - keep these coming.

Signalling Digest Compiler's Report 2021, Andrew Overton

The full four editions of Signalling Digest were produced during the year and submitted to *The Signalling Record* editorial team, along with photographs to illustrate the items mentioned. Signalling Digest Preview was also regularly updated in the *SRS* Members area of the website to provide a more timely publication of signalling changes unconstrained by the print copy time-lag - and indeed advance information of upcoming changes. The number of views of the Preview, numbering in the hundreds, suggests that many members do access the 'real-time' website version - if you don't, perhaps you should join them?

I still receive very little unsolicited information for inclusion and notes with items requesting further details or confirmations continue to produce absolutely no responses whatsoever. It does surprise me that in a society of over 700 members, many of whom are railway professionals, that absolutely no-one can ever manage to source any information to help us accurately record the changing signalling scene. Information does not flood in to me in a publication-ready form, it often arrives as a snippet that needs following up with my sources to gain the full picture for inclusion in Digest. Is it really the case that none of our members are able to do the same with their own contacts to tie up the few loose ends that evade me?

Thanks for much of the information that I do source must go to the very many contacts I have and over the past year I have gained some valuable additional ones. The majority of these are not SRS members but nevertheless help extensively with our goals, often confidentially. But people move on or retire, so it is an ongoing process to keep contacts current - could you help? I would like to give a special mention to Branch Line Society with whom I share information, receiving a great deal of valuable material in return. It is perhaps worth saying that whilst many of the companies for whom these individuals work do not outwardly assist us by the provision of information there is a tolerance of the information which reaches us, clearly from internal sources. As a society we need to be grateful that we are afforded this access and going forward do all that we can to maintain and improve our position in the eyes of the railway signalling industry to ensure we can continue to effectively record signalling developments, being seen as still relevant and not only interested in the past.

The SRS Signal Box Alterations (SBA), John Sneider

I am continuing the task of producing the 2021 SBA, with the format including photos, and am hoping it will be ready for being including in the Summer 2022 mailing.

The sections, based on the *Signalling Atlas and Signal Box Directory* by Peter Kay, remain the same, but with the added section 8, which allows for any updates/corrections/amendments to previous SBAs.

I collate the information provided from various sources e.g., Andrew Overton's Signalling Digest, weekly operating notices and any additional information provided by members. My thanks go to all these providers.

The SBA can only cover items of information received, so if anyone has items of interest that they think could be added please e-mail them to me, I can edit to fit as required. It is helpful if the location, date and railway association are included, even better if a TRACKmaps reference is available.

If you provide any photographs it is helpful if you can include the date and where taken, a short comment about the subject and who is to be credited.

Gift Aid Administration, John Lacy

In 2021 we did some further catching up from past years as we claimed gift aid on moneys donated at meetings held in 2018 and 2019. Those meetings seem a very long time ago as there were none in 2020 or 2021 thanks to covid restrictions.

We were able to boost the main claim in 2021 as various members made appropriate declarations where we had not previously received one or where the originals had been lost prior to our present Membership Secretary taking Office. I am grateful to Steve Sharpe for the considerable efforts he put in that led to this.

I should also like to thank those members who kindly made donations during the year including those who add them to their membership subscriptions.

It has been noticeable that the majority of our new members have been able to complete gift aid declarations – thank you one and all.

The two claims lodged with HMRC in 2021 netted a very welcome contribution to our funds of £5,127.02.

Treasurer – Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton

Financially speaking 2021 has been a great year for the society, which has seen the subscription stabilise at its new level with the added benefit of a much-increased membership base. The result of these facts has seen a generous annual surplus, which needs to be considered against the background of an increase in inflation of between 6-7%. Another factor which affects us as a society will be the increased cost of ink and paper which is judged to be in the region of 6-16%. The projected increases are yet to be reflected in future invoices coming from the printers of the Record. Nevertheless, with prudent financial planning this increased cost will be managed without undue stress. Thanks to the Record now being printed in colour the membership base has gone up and it is hoped that this trend will continue.

The formal accounts are included with the Trustees report to the Charity Commission and are sufficient and appropriate to meet the Commission's requirements. However, it is perhaps, appropriate to add some extra explanations here.

On the income side there is an entry in respect of "Subscriptions received in error". For several years now we have continued to receive subscriptions from a small number of former members who paid by standing order. Our efforts to contact them have not been responded to and they were removed from our membership lists some time ago. As there is a legal obligation to return these payments if we are asked to do so, we have identified these separately in the accounts and also calculated a liability against this and previous years.

My predecessor introduced budgeting several years ago and I and the trustees are gradually refining the process so we all have a better understanding. This process of refinement is ongoing and will continue through 2022 and beyond.

On the expenditure side, some cost elements shown in 2020 have become grouped into wide ranging categories, particularly into the ones shown as "Administration" and "Membership Expenses". Costs such as the web site and IT software have been included in "Administration" and some administrative costs incurred by the Secretary and the Treasurer have been treated as part of "Membership Expenses". Archive purchases include a substantial purchase of photographs bought at auction and mentioned in Paul Armstrong's report. Bank charges include Paypal commissions and the Paypal receipts have been "grossed up" in the sales income entries. If any member requires more detail, I will be happy to provide such.

The Accounts for 2020 only included three sets of payments for the production and mailing of your journals instead of four and inflated the surplus figure in consequence. In 2021, the payments for the delayed mailing of the winter 2020 issue caught up with us and consequently the accounts for this year include five sets of payments and a much lower surplus figure.

Reserves Policy

The society holds reserves in the form of money in the bank, which it does not expect to spend in the immediate future. These are represented in the accounts as the Enterprise Fund and the Archive Fund. The Enterprise Fund is intended to allow the Society to undertake projects, such as publishing, where some preliminary investment is required and some time may elapse before this investment is recovered.

Restricted Funds

The Archive Fund is a restricted fund which is to be used solely for the purchase of archive material for the Society's archive collection. This is the only restricted fund belonging to the Society.

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Charity Commission No. 1176506

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

These are set out on the following pages 17 to 24 (numbered 1 to 8).



The Signalling Record Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Status of Charity and Governing Document

The Signalling Record Society is established by Constitution. The charity is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Charity Commission (No. 1176506).

Aims and activities

To advance the education of the public in all aspects of railway signalling, and all associated science, technology and research, in the British Isles and overseas, in particular but not exclusively by:

1. Promoting the study and preservation of information, drawings, photographs and other material through creation of a website and archive;
2. Publishing and disseminating the useful results of research;
3. Arranging meetings, visits, lectures, exhibitions and similar related activities.

The SRS maintains an archive in order to preserve (in physical or digital form as appropriate) documents and drawings related to railway signalling and make them available to the public. Regular open days are held to allow public access to the physical archive: access is also possible at other times by prior arrangement with the archivist.

The SRS maintains a website available to the public which provides a great deal of information on railway signalling, as well as providing access to the digital archive.

The SRS maintains a photographic collection which is available to the public through the Kidderminster Railway Museum.

The SRS publishes a journal *The Signalling Record* containing some of the results of members' research, and also occasional books on subjects relating to railway signalling.

The SRS arranges meetings and visits to locations of railway signalling interest, and attends relevant exhibitions.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commissioners on public benefit.

Trustees and Office Bearers

The charity Trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. The Trustees who served during the year and to the date of this report are as below.

Chris Hall	Chair	
David Garland	Acting secretary	retired at AGM, 15 th May 2021
Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton	Treasurer	
Richard Foster		
Reg Instone		retired at AGM, 15 th May 2021
John Lacy		
Paul Armstrong		
Graham Cloxton		retired at AGM, 15 th May 2021
Robert Mills		retired at AGM, 15 th May 2021
Stephen Sharpe		
Peter Gibbons		retired at AGM, 15 th May 2021

Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new Trustee, whether in place of a current Trustee who has retired or as an additional Trustee, provided that the limit of 12 Trustees has not been exceeded. At every subsequent annual general meeting, at least one-half of the Trustees shall retire from office. The number of Trustees must not exceed 12 and must not fall below 3.

The Signalling Record Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

Appointment of Trustees (continued)

The charity Trustees will make available to each new Trustee, on or before his/her first appointment:

- A copy of this constitution and any amendments made to it; and
- A copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

Achievements and performance

During the year the main achievements of the charity included:

- Public days held at the SRS archive continued to be restricted during the early part of 2021 owing to the coronavirus pandemic. As the restrictions gradually eased so the extent of opening increased although pre-booking remained essential in order to maintain social distancing. In total we managed 18 open days but the covid position reduced the number of visitors to 36.
- Donations to our archives continued to flow in during the year aggregating to 13 new archive boxes of additional material plus more material added to existing boxes. The archive catalogue, available from our web site, has expanded appropriately.
- During 2021 we expanded our photographic digital archive with some 5,000 newly scanned pictures.
- The SRS website continues to offer information to visitors and was visited on 151,315 occasions during the year, with a total of 829,704 page views. A major development in September 2021 saw the addition of much information to our map page including considerable detail for many signal boxes both past and present.
- The FARSAP series of videos produced by the Friends of the National Railway Museum and continues to be popular with no less than 9,226 viewings during the year.
- Our main means of disseminating information in printed form is through our flagship magazine '*The Signalling Record*' which is published quarterly and made available for purchase by the public. During the year the journals ran to a total of 168 pages containing a large amount of current and historical material relating to our charitable objectives and arising from research work by our members.
- To supplement this we produce a newsletter, '*SRS News*', containing news items and information relating to the operation of the CIO and containing news and information related to current activities in the signalling field. These enable us to promulgate information widely.
- The covid position led to our holding our meetings by Zoom and this made it easier for people to attend regardless of where they live – the furthest flung was in Australia.
- Our on-line Bookstall continues to offer our publications and drawings for sale. During 2021 we added the option of direct download for some of our drawings and offered this facility to customers whose computers and devices lack optical drives. The drawings are similar in style to signal box diagrams and they continue to be available in paper form as well.
- The SRS Enquiries Officer continues to receive questions from members of the public although the level of curiosity via this route declined a little in 2021. This is thought to be due to information improvements and expansion on the SRS Web site. The questions are then circulated to members with the relevant information so as to ensure the best possible quality of response.
- Some of the enquiries involve a considerable amount of research effort, often for authors seeking details or confirmation of facts. The results of these efforts often appear in books and articles published by other organisations.
- The SRS works jointly with the National Railway Museum in areas of mutual interest although this was fraught for a time in 2021 as the NRM's staff variously became home workers or were furloughed.
- Links were established with The Institution of Railway Signal Engineers (IRSE) towards the end of the year and this is expected to bring closer ties in the future.
- This year has seen an increased awareness of the Society in some areas resulting in membership numbers rising higher than at any point in the Society's past, reaching a total of 782 members at the end of 2021.

The Signalling Record Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out in pages 5 to 8. The Receipts and Payments Account on page 5 reflects a net increase in cash for the year of £4,193 (2020: £19,213).

Current Stock Value (note 6)

The Society has had in store considerable quantities of books purchased 10 or more years ago and which now sell in very small numbers each year, usually only 4 or 5 of each. It could well take many years before some of these could be sold. Opportunity has been taken to write down the value of this stock and a decision was made at the 2021 AGM to write this down to nil.

Financial Review (continued)

Reserves

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months unrestricted expenditure that allows sufficient funds to enable the ongoing work of the charity to be maintained. The General Fund on page 6 at 31 December 2021 amounted to £63,770 (2020: £59,824) which is above the required level.

Total reserves, including designated and restricted funds, amounted to £85,021 (2020: £80,828).

Reference and administration details

The Signalling Record Society
1176506

Principal office

66a Lower Wyche Road
Malvern
Worcs
WR14 4ET

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Chris Hall

Chairman/Trustee

Dated: 21 February 2022

The Signalling Record Society

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

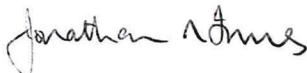
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Jonathan N Innes FCCA
Managing Director

Innes & Partners Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants

Innes House
18 Shairps Business Park
Houstoun Road
Livingston
EH54 5FD

Date: 14/03/2022

The Signalling Record Society

Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	General fund	Designated fund	Restricted funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Subscriptions		23,600	-	-	23,600	21,624
Donations - general		373	-	-	373	85
Donations to archives		-	-	247	247	20
Sale of books		2,202	-	-	2,202	7,973
Sale of back numbers and other publications		174	-	-	174	589
Sale of drawings		2,051	-	-	2,051	1,585
Sale of CDs		-	-	-	-	75
Sale of ties and binders		108	-	-	108	136
Sale of Records SRSV		877	-	-	877	-
Gift Aid Tax Reclaimed		5,127	-	-	5,127	5,032
Bank interest		471	-	-	471	370
Subscriptions paid in error		73	-	-	73	-
Miscellaneous income		-	-	-	-	797
Total income		35,056	-	247	35,303	38,286
Expenditure						
Record production		9,878	-	-	9,878	10,489
Record distribution		7,667	-	-	7,667	1,083
Membership notices and newsletters		1,931	-	-	1,931	-
Archive costs & purchases		2,248	-	-	2,248	944
Storage of Archives		4,285	-	-	4,285	3,477
Committee meetings		392	-	-	392	100
Administration		622	-	-	622	-
Advertising & Marketing		108	-	-	108	-
Register Development		67	-	-	67	-
Website & Digital Archive		-	-	-	-	195
IT Software & Consumables		-	-	-	-	259
Subscription Refunds		-	-	-	-	460
Membership Expenses		1,689	-	-	1,689	1,089
Treasurer Expenses		-	-	-	-	180
Exhibition costs		-	-	-	-	50
Cost of "other publications" sold		127	-	-	127	-
Bookstall Sales Expenses		258	-	-	258	237
Register Sales Expenses		-	-	-	-	53
Publications Sales Expenses		68	-	-	68	305
Cost of drawings sold		35	-	-	35	405
Cost of printing drawings		350	-	-	350	-
Photographic Purchases		-	-	-	-	25
Bank Charges		351	-	-	351	61
Professional Fees		210	-	-	210	-
Cost of ties and binders sold		64	-	-	64	285
Use of Scanner		-	-	-	-	500
Independent examiners fee		660	-	-	660	660
Other		-	-	-	-	216
Donation		100	-	-	100	-
Total expenditure		31,110	-	-	31,110	21,073
Surplus for the year before transfers		3,946	-	247	4,193	19,213
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year after transfers		3,946	-	247	4,193	19,213
Cash balances brought forward		59,824	17,342	3,662	80,828	61,615
Cash balances carried forward		63,770	17,342	3,909	85,021	80,828

The Signalling Record Society

Statement of Balances as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021			2020		
		Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Bank Accounts		80,828	4,193	85,021	61,615	19,213	80,828
Bank balances		80,828	4,193	85,021	61,615	19,213	80,828
Represented by:							
Unrestricted funds	4						
General fund				63,770			59,824
Designated funds	4						
Enterprise fund				17,342			17,342
Restricted funds	5						
Archive fund				3,909			3,662
				85,021			80,828

Statement of assets at 31 December 2021

Fixed assets:

Exhibition display equipment		512	512
		512	512

Current assets:

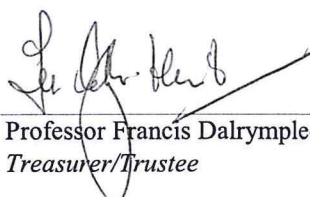
Stock	6	-	640
Gift Aid		184	878
		184	1,518

Statement of liabilities at 31 December 2021

Independent examination		780	660
Subscriptions paid in error		703	630
Subscriptions paid in advance		19,659	19,176
		21,142	20,466

The financial statements on pages 5 to 8 were approved by the Trustees on 21 February 2022 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:


 Chris Hall
 Chairman/Trustee


 Professor Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton
 Treasurer/Trustee

The notes on page 7 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

The Signalling Record Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments account as shown on page 5, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds comprise those funds which the Trustees have designated for specific purposes. The funds held within the designated funds are expected to be used over the next 24 months.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

The Signalling Record Society

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

2. Transactions with Trustees and related parties

There were no transactions with the Trustees or related parties during the year ending 31 December 2021 (2020: nil).

3. Reimbursement of expenses

No Trustees received reimbursement of personal expenses during the year to 31 December 2021 (2020: nil).

4. Unrestricted funds	Balance at	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at
	01.01.21				31.12.21
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	59,824	35,056	(31,110)	-	63,770
Designated funds					
Enterprise fund	17,342	-	-	-	17,342
Total unrestricted funds	77,166	35,056	(31,110)	-	81,112

Explanation of funds

The *General fund* represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

The *Enterprise fund* represents funds intended to allow the SRS to undertake projects, such as publishing where some preliminary investment is required and some time may elapse before this investment is recovered. Some of the funds are kept to guard against future conditions beyond the SRS's control which might increase costs or reduce income, to ensure that the SRS can withstand such variations.

5. Restricted funds	Balance at	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at
	01.01.21				31.12.21
	£	£	£	£	£
Archive fund	3,662	247	-	-	3,909
Total restricted funds	3,662	247	-	-	3,909

Explanation of funds

The *Archive fund* represents income which is to be used solely for the purchase of archive material for the SRS Archive collection.

6. Current stock value	2021	2020
	£	£
SRS books	-	279
CD's	-	361
Ties and binders	-	-
	-	640