



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

<b>From</b>	Period start date			<b>To</b>	Period end date		
	1	January	2024		31	December	2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** Society for the Study of French History

**Other names charity is known by**

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1012899

**Charity's principal address**

School of Humanities, University of Strathclyde  
 Lord Hope Building, 141 St James Road  
 Glasgow  
**Postcode** G4 0LT

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Professor Daniel Power			
2	Professor Munro Price			
3	Professor Máire Cross			
4	Dr Jackie Clarke	Chair		
5	Professor Penny Roberts			
6	Professor David Andress			
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### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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**Section B                      Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity’s trusts**

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	Association
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	Appointed by Chair of the Society in consultation with the Committee and Trustees

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

**Trustees**

The trustees oversee the finances of the society, including the Ralph Gibson Fund. They also adjudicate in the competitions for the Postgraduate Research Grants, conference grants and conference bursaries, and also in the case of applications for the Overseas Scholarships award. They consult on matters of strategic importance to the society.

**The Steering Committee of the Society for the Study of French History**

The committee runs the day-to-day affairs of the society and frequently responds to requests and proposals from other organisations and individuals. Recent work of this kind includes providing views on archival policy and preservation; lodging concerns with libraries and archives over archive closures and acquisitions policy; lobbying funding councils (the AHRC in particular). The committee meets twice a year, once in January and once at the annual conference. Its membership consists of the trustees, the officers and committee members, including postgraduate representatives. Elections of officers and committee members take place at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Officers serve for three years. In accordance with the Society's constitution, forthcoming vacancies are announced three weeks before the AGM. Nominations for vacant positions may be forwarded to the secretary, with an indication of the proposer and seconder of the application concerned.

## **Officers in 2024:**

**The Chair:** chairs the committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting of the society (which is held during the conference); corresponds with outside bodies on behalf of the society. Chair: Professor Penny Roberts, University of Warwick

**Secretary:** organises the committee meetings and the AGM; acts as a conduit between committee members; publicises and processes applications for the Postgraduate Research Grants and the Conference Bursaries; assists the chair in the correspondence with other organisations; ex-officio, on the editorial board of French History. Secretary: Dr Luc-André Brunet, Open University

**Treasurer:** manages the society's finances; reports to the AGM and the committee on the financial state of the society; collects membership subscriptions; sends out the funds awarded to successful applicants for the grants and conference bursaries. Treasurer: Dr Karine Varley, University of Strathclyde

**Conference Officer:** advises the annual conference organizer; reports to the committee on the performance of the most recent conference, on progress for the next one and finds venues and organizers for future conferences; liaises with funding bodies and other organizations over sponsorship and support. Conference Officer: Dr Ludivine Broch, University of Westminster.

**Editor of French History:** manages the journal; reports to the committee on progress in terms of copy, content, publication schedule, subscriptions and future plans. Editors: Dr Joseph Clarke, Trinity College, Dublin; Dr Claire Eldridge, University of Leeds. Associate Editors: Erika Graham-Goering, Durham University, and Dr Will Pooley, University of Bristol.

**Reviews Editor of French History:** manages the solicitation and production of book reviews for the journal; reports to the committee on flow of books for review and receipt of copy. Reviews Editor: Dr Stewart McCain, St Mary's University

**Editor of the Website:** manages the website, liaising in particular with the Editor of The SSFH Newsletter, the Secretary and the Annual Conference Organiser, liaising with the Secretary and Web Editor. Website Editor: Dr William Pooley, University of Bristol

**Social Media Officer:** manages a range of social media used by the Society, including Twitter and Facebook. Social Media Officer: Daniel Baker (King's College, London)

**Membership and Communications Officer:** this role represents an important link between the public, the Society's membership and its executive committee. It involves liaising with OUP regarding member

subscriptions; managing the Society News pages in French History; producing the annual membership newsletter; and coordinating with the wider SSFH communications team. Communications Officer: W. Jack Rhoden

**All-Ireland Liaison Officer:** acts as the principal point of contact for the Society on the island of Ireland with ordinary Society members and Irish historical bodies and academic institutions. Ireland Representative: Vacant

**Committee Members:** attend committee meetings; discuss proposals made by the trustees and the officers; consult on day-to-day issues as they arise. Current Committee Members (in addition to the officers of the Society, as above): Professor David Hopkin, University of Oxford; Professor Glenn Richardson, St Mary's University; Dr Laure Humbert, University of Manchester; Dr Alison Carrol, Brunel University; Dr Ludivine Broch, University of Westminster; Dr Sara Barker, University of Leeds; Dr Tom Hamilton, Durham University.

**Postgraduate Members:** represent the views of postgraduates to the committee. Postgraduate Members were: Alex Summers and Leon Hughes.

Independent Panels are convened to adjudicate the Society's Ralph Gibson Postgraduate Bursary award and the Undergraduate Dissertation Prize.

### **Constitution**

The original Constitution was accepted at the founding conference of the Society on 4 January 1986 and amended at the sixth Annual General Meeting held on 1 April 1992. It was again amended at the twenty-first Annual General Meeting on 3rd July 2007. To bring the Society up to date with current patterns of activity, a new amended constitution was prepared for the thirty-fourth Annual General Meeting on 10 July 2020.

Organisation and Purpose:

1. The Society for the Study of French History, referred to hereafter as 'the Society' is a permanent organisation devoted to educational and charitable objectives.
  - a. The Society is a registered charity in the United Kingdom, number 1012899
2. The aims of the Society are to advance, support and encourage the study of the history of France and the Francophone world and to **enhance** the awareness of this history among the general public in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.
  - a. In furtherance of these aims, the Society:

- i. Shall publish an associated journal, French History, and support such other publication initiatives as deemed appropriate by its committee;
  - ii. Shall hold an annual conference, and support such other lectures, meetings and public engagements as deemed appropriate by its committee;
  - iii. shall offer material assistance and incentives for the study of and research into French history conducted at Higher Education Institutions in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland; and may therefore provide grants and prizes to individuals for research and publish the useful results thereof, as well as provide grants for facilitating attendance at events for the dissemination of and engagement with research in French history.
  - iv. shall seek to encourage the teaching of the history of France and the Francophone world in the secondary and higher sectors of education in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.
3. Membership shall be open to any person, wherever resident, who is in sympathy with the aims of the Society, on payment of the annual subscription. Corporate membership shall also be available at the discretion of the committee.

Officers and Committee:

4. The Society will be governed by a Committee comprised of the Society's fixed officers, the Editors of the Society's journal, the Editors of the Society's monograph series, and other officers and members detailed below. The general composition of the Committee, and the election of any particular officers and members, will be subject to annual ratification by the AGM, and it will report on its conduct of business for the approval of the AGM.
- a. In the composition of the committee, regard shall be had to maintaining as far as possible representation of both the chronological and geographical variety of French and Francophone histories, and of the social and cultural diversity of the individuals making up the professional community.
  - b. The committee may establish sub-committees of its members to deal with Society business as it sees fit. All such sub-committees shall report directly to it.
5. The fixed officerships of the Society shall be as follows:
- a. The President shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for a term of three years, renewable once. The President shall chair the committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting of the Society; and shall represent the Society in relations with other bodies.
  - b. the Secretary shall be appointed by the committee and confirmed by the AGM for a period of three years and may be re-appointed at the end

of each such period. The Secretary shall be responsible for organising the committee meetings and the AGM; shall act as a conduit between committee members; shall publicise and process applications for funding awards; shall assist the President in correspondence with other organisations; and shall sit ex-officio on the editorial board of the associated journal French History.

c. the Treasurer shall be appointed by the committee and confirmed by the AGM for a period of three years, and may be re-appointed at the end of each such period. The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the Society's finances, disbursing awards at the direction of the trustees and committee; and shall report to the AGM and the committee on the financial state of the Society. They will also work with the Committee to ensure that the Society's accounts are audited for the Charities Commission.

d. At least two Postgraduate Representatives shall be appointed by the committee and confirmed by the AGM for a non-renewable period of two years.

6. The committee may extend its membership at its own discretion in order to take on additional functions and respond to changing practices in the field. The committee may create or amend specified roles of its members, and recruit additional or replacement members for any roles, with the exception of the fixed officerships.

7. These additional roles are outlined in a separate schedule, which may be altered by the committee as required, subject to subsequent approval by an AGM. New postholders appointed to any roles between AGMs shall serve on a provisional basis until approved by such a meeting.

8. Where vacancies arise for positions on the committee, these shall be advertised by the Secretary to the membership, and to the wider academic community, at least 2 months prior to a committee meeting or Annual General Meeting so that applications can be made.

a. All vacant posts should be advertised as widely as possible to ensure an inclusive and representative balance within the committee, and shall feature role descriptions when advertised to ensure that the expectations of the Society are clear and transparent.

9. The Society shall have a board of Trustees who shall have oversight of the finances of the Society:

a. Candidates to become a Trustee will be nominated to the President, for discussion and approval at a committee meeting, and then ratification by the AGM.

b. The board of Trustees shall comprise no fewer than four senior university academics, specialising in the history of the French and Francophone world; and ex officio the Society's Secretary; the Trustees shall choose a convenor from among their number. In case of necessity, the

board of Trustees shall have the right to co-opt members to fill vacancies, and to ensure continuity, but the names of co-opted members shall be submitted to the AGM for ratification at the first opportunity.

c. In the composition of the trusteeship, regard shall be had to maintaining as far as possible representation of both the chronological and geographical variety of French and Francophone histories, and of the social and cultural diversity of the individuals making up the professional community.

d. Trustees serve for terms of five years, renewable once subject to the approval of the AGM.

e. The Trustees will normally meet jointly with the Committee at its two annual meetings, and otherwise will conduct their business by correspondence;

f. Trustees shall decide upon major expenditures by the Society proposed by the committee; they shall also oversee the awarding and administration of grants, bursaries and other awards that may be made available from Society funds, government grants or commercial sponsorship, and decide upon the recipients of such awards that the Society offers. Where it is felt necessary, and by agreement with the committee, the Trustees may draw on the expertise of other individuals to assist in such decision-making.

g. Any Trustee with a personal interest in any such awards (including a supervisory or other academic relationship with a student applicant) shall recuse themselves from the adjudication process for that award.

#### Meetings

10. The Society will hold a minimum of two committee meetings per year, ordinarily scheduled around the Annual Douglas Johnson Memorial lecture in January and the Annual Summer Conference

a. Eight persons, or one-third of the committee, whichever is greater, will constitute a quorum for a meeting of the committee

b. Committee members can claim travel expenses to attend a committee meeting and, if necessary due to distance of travel, one night's accommodation.

11. Minutes of meetings and officer reports from committee meetings will be made freely available on the Society's website and for consultation on request.

12. An open Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held during the annual conference, with all conference attendees and members of the Society being given the opportunity to attend.

- a. The AGM will:
- i. elect a President when required, or ratify the sitting President as the chair of the meeting.
  - ii. determine whether to approve any committee actions relative to the appointment of new or replacement committee members and officers.
  - iii. determine whether to ratify the appointment or re-appointment of Trustees.
  - iv. determine the annual subscription, as well as the reduced subscriptions that will be payable by students and the unwaged.
  - v. receive and approve the accounts as presented by the Treasurer.
  - vi. receive a report from the Secretary on the committee's work and the Society's activities during the past year.
  - vii. transact any other necessary business.
- b. Fifteen persons, or one-tenth of the membership resident in the UK and Republic of Ireland, whichever is the greater, will constitute a quorum for a general meeting.
- c. A member wishing to have any matter, placed on the agenda for the AGM should inform the Secretary in writing no later than twenty-one days before the meeting.

#### Publications

13. All decisions concerning editorial personnel of the Society's journal *French History* shall be taken by consultation between the journal's current Editors, the Society President, and the Trustees, and in consultation with Oxford University Press. Any such decisions will be reported to the Committee and AGM.

- a. In taking all such decisions, and in any related processes of advertisement or solicitation, due consideration will be given to issues of equality and diversity. The initiative in managing these processes will normally be taken by the current Editors.
- b. The Editors and Review Editor of *French History* shall be appointed for an initial term of five years, renewable once, but may continue to serve pro tem after that period to ensure continuity of activity until replacements are able to take on the full range of duties. There will normally be two Editors and one Review Editor.
- c. The Editorial Board of *French History* shall be constituted by a minimum of twenty individuals from the scholarly community, appointed with regard to their collective range of expertise and international diversity, to secure the most broad-based support for the journal's activities. Editorial

Board members shall be appointed for an initial term of five years, renewable once.

d. Through the processes above, further short-term or associate positions may be created and filled, to provide career-development opportunities and to promote interest in the operation of the journal amongst earlier-in-career scholars.

14. The Society monograph series, *Studies in French History*, shall have at least two named editors, who will be senior university academics, specialising in the history of the French and Francophone world.

a. The editors shall be nominated by the Trustees and confirmed by the subsequent AGM. They shall each serve for a period of five years, and be eligible to serve for a further period of five years; and they shall not be re-eligible to serve again until a further period of five years has elapsed.

b. The editors shall manage the relationship with the publisher and report to the committee and to the AGM.

#### Membership

15. On payment of the appropriate membership fee, membership is open to all in sympathy with the aims of the Society and willing to conduct themselves in accordance with this constitution and in alignment with codes of conduct promulgated by the Society. The committee shall have the power, in case of serious or repeated breaches of such codes by a member, to revoke their membership, for a term of years, or permanently.

16. Officers, ordinary members of the committee and Trustees may be removed before the end of their terms of office only by a two-thirds majority of the committee.

17. The committee may recommend for ratification by the AGM that an individual be considered for the designation of Lifetime Honorary Member of the society, in recognition of the Society's gratitude for service in support of its charitable aims. This status does not confer any special rights or privileges beyond receipt of the normal entitlements of annual membership, at no cost to the recipient.

#### Conduct of Members and Officers

18. The Society aims to be an inclusive, welcoming, and supportive institution for all scholars.

19. The Society will provide a code of conduct, ratified by the committee, for all events which it organises, including its annual conference.

20. The Society will have a clear complaints procedure, published on its website.

#### Amending this constitution or dissolving the Society

21. A member wishing to propose changes to the Constitution should have this placed on the agenda for the AGM by writing to the Secretary no later than twenty-one days before the meeting.

a. In the event of a change in the Constitution being sought, all members will be notified and it will be raised at either a Special General Meeting to be called by the committee, or at an AGM if the matter arises no more than three months before the date of the next scheduled AGM.

b. A Special General Meeting may also be called by the Secretary on receipt of a request to that effect signed by thirty members of the Society, or when called on to do so by a majority of the committee.

c. When an SGM is called, the Secretary will make arrangements to facilitate proxy voting by members unable to attend.

d. Alterations to this Constitution shall require the assent of two-thirds of the members present and voting at an AGM, or voting in person or by proxy at a Special General Meeting.

e. At least fourteen days' notice of such a meeting must be given by the Secretary to the membership and must include notice of the alteration proposed; no alteration shall be made to paragraph 2 (aims), paragraph 22 (dissolution), or this paragraph until the approval in writing of the Charity Commissioners or other authority having charitable jurisdiction shall have been obtained; and no alteration shall be made which would have the effect of causing the Society to cease to be a charity in law.

22. The Society may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a Special General Meeting, convened for the purpose, for which twenty-one days' notice shall have been given to members. Such resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by or in the name of the Society, provided that if any property remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities such property shall not be paid to, nor distributed among the members of the Society, but shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to some or all of the Society's as the Society may determine and if, and in so far as, effect cannot be given to this provision, then to some other charitable purpose.

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

**Aims of the Society for the Study of French History**

The Society for the Study of French History was established in 1986 to encourage research and interest in all aspects of the history of France and its possessions from its beginnings to the present day. Its charitable status was recognised in 1992. The Society acts as the principal subject body within the UK and the Republic of Ireland for French history, and in that capacity lobbies governments, funding bodies and universities. Members of the Society are also very willing to speak in secondary schools on subjects related to French history.

Our principal publication is the internationally-acclaimed journal *French History*, which is published four times a year on behalf of the Society by Oxford University Press. It contains articles and book reviews authored by an international range of contributors. Members can subscribe at the specially discounted rate of £41 per annum, including annual membership of the Society. There is a concessionary rate of £20 per annum, again including annual membership, for students and senior citizens.

The Society's main event is an annual conference normally held at the beginning of July at a different UK university each year. The Society subsidises the cost of attendance from its general funds, and postgraduates are able to attend the conference at a further discounted rate. In its efforts to support and encourage the continuing study of French history the Society makes a number of financial awards. There are bursaries to postgraduates engaged in the study of French history to assist them both in their research and with conference attendance. In addition, during 2006 the Society launched two prize competitions. There are now prizes for the best dissertation or extended essay by an undergraduate in a UK university on a theme related in whole or part to French history; and a prize for the best article published each year in the journal *French History*.

The Society holds its Annual General Meeting, open to all members, at the annual conference, at which Society officers present their annual reports; the accounts are presented; changes to the composition of the committee are made; and changes to the constitution are made. All members of the Society resident in the UK or the Republic of Ireland are entitled to stand for election to the committee. The committee meets twice a year: in January, and at the annual conference in the summer.

## Grants and Bursaries

The Society for the Study of French History offers a range of grants and bursaries for postgraduate students in the UK, undertaking research in any aspect of French history:

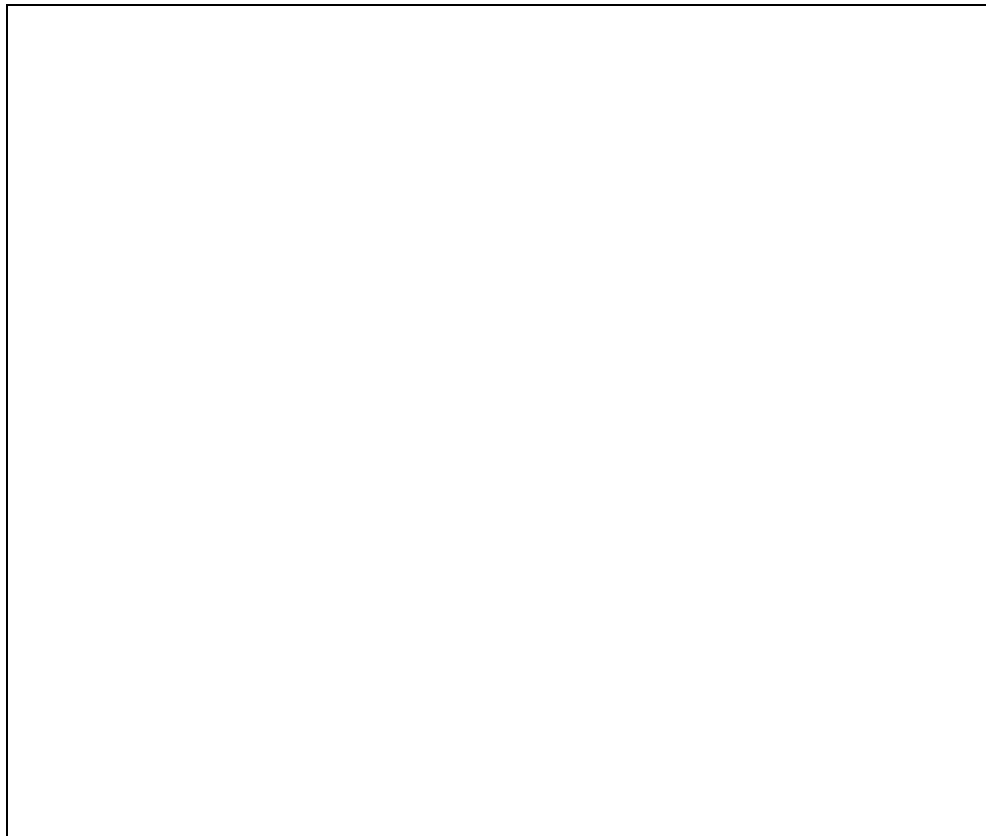
- **Research Grants:** each worth £1000, to enable to enable postgraduate students registered at a UK or Irish university working on subjects related directly to French history to undertake research trips abroad.
- **Conference Bursaries:** worth up to £300 each, to help fund travel to any conference, except the Society's own (for which a discount is already offered to postgraduates).
- **Conference Grants:** The Society for the Study of French History is also willing to entertain requests for funding assistance for whole conferences, organised by postgraduates or academics in British or Irish universities, on a subject concerning wholly or partly the history of France.
- **Postgraduate Conference Panels:** The Society welcomes proposals for the sponsorship of postgraduate panels, on any theme in French history, at overseas conferences (whether annual or one-off events). In support of such a panel, the Society is willing to contribute up to £2000 to cover the travel expenses of the participants.
- **The Ralph Gibson Bursary:** The Society offers an annual bursary of £3000 to a fourth year PhD student, to facilitate the completion of a PhD thesis in French history.
- **Visiting Scholars:** The Society is willing to consider providing up to £2000 per year to support visits by foreign scholars of French history to UK or Irish institutions, on the condition that the proposed host university is committed to underwrite essential costs. Enquiries about this scheme should be addressed to the Secretary of the Society.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.



## Section D

## Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year****Prizes**Ralph Gibson Bursary 2024

In normal circumstances the Society for the Study of French History awards one Ralph Gibson bursary each year. However, because the Society recognised that the Covid-19 pandemic and wider challenges facing the sector continued to place graduate students in extraordinarily difficult circumstances, it decided to award two in 2024. The recipients were: Bridget Hardiman and Michaela Kalcher.

Undergraduate Dissertation Prize

In 2006 the Society instituted three undergraduate prizes each year as part of its efforts to promote French history in universities. The prizes - one first prize of £300 and two supplementary prizes of £100 each - are awarded for the best final year undergraduate dissertation or extended research essay produced in a UK or Irish university in each academic year, concerning any aspect of French history, or any aspect of contemporary French Studies with a substantial historical dimension.

The SSFH committee decided to roll the 2023 competition over until the following year, in respect of the national UCU Marking and Assessment Boycott. In 2025, the judging panel considered the 2023 and 2024 cohorts for separate awards, to ensure parity.

French History Article Prize

The board of assessors recommended Niall Ó Súilleabháin as the winner of the French History Article Prize in 2024 for his article entitled: 'The meaning of miles: knighthood as social signifier in early Capetian France'. The article is available to read for free via the journal website.

**Grants**

The Society received a healthy number of applications for its grants and bursary schemes, from a wide variety of applicants at different stages of their careers. The Society spent £3890 on research and conference grants; £3399 on conference support, including the postgraduate study day and the Douglas Johnson annual lecture, and £6000 on prizes, including the Ralph Gibson bursary.

**Annual Conference**

University of Manchester 2024

The Society held a successful conference at the University of Manchester in 2024 on the theme of ‘Intimacies and the Self’. The keynote speakers were Julie Hardwick, Jérémie Foa, Clémentine Vidal-Naquet.

In addition to the regular programme of panels and plenaries, the conference also included events at Whitworth Art Gallery and conference dinner at Manchester Museum, Living Worlds Gallery.

**The Fourteenth Douglas Johnson Annual Lecture:**

The annual Douglas Johnson lecture, which is supported by the Society and the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France, was held on 22 January 2024. The lecture was given by Professor Amy Livingstone (University of Lincoln) and was entitled, ‘Adventures in the French Archives: Finding Countess Ermengarde of Brittany, c.1070-1147’.

**Membership**

Membership numbers stood at 47 paying members; non-paying postgraduate membership was at 64 in 2024. Membership of the Society includes a subscription at significantly discounted rates to the internationally-acclaimed journal *French History*, which is published four times a year on behalf of the Society by Oxford University Press. Every issue of the journal includes a ‘Society News’ section, which allows members to keep in touch with the society’s activities and includes news of forthcoming events and details of recipients of the society’s prizes and bursaries.

**Journal**

The editors of *French History* reported that the material published continues to be of a high standard and the journal has attracted some very significant articles. The journal was edited by Dr Claire Eldridge and Dr Tom Hamilton. The associate editors were Dr Erika Graham-Goering and Dr Will Pooley.

In 2024 the journal received 98 original submissions, which is an increase on 71 in 2023, 83 in 2022, 71 in 2021, and just above the 2020 level of 94. Submissions remained overwhelmingly concentrated in the United Kingdom, United States, and France. The journal accepted 53 articles in 2024, of which 30 were book reviews.

**Studies in Modern French and Francophone History Monograph Series, Manchester University Press**

Edited by Jennifer Sessions, Julie Kalman, Jessica Wardhaugh

This series is published in collaboration with the Society for the Study of French History and the French Colonial Historical Society. It aims to showcase innovative monographs and edited collections on the history of France, its colonies and imperial undertakings, and the francophone world more generally since c. 1750. Authors demonstrate how sources and interpretations are being opened to historical investigation in new and interesting ways, and how unfamiliar subjects have the capacity to tell us more about France and the French colonial empire, their relationships in the world, and their legacies in the present. The series is particularly receptive to studies that break down traditional boundaries and conventional disciplinary divisions.

Titles published in 2024:

- Talitha Ilacqua, *Inventing the Modern Region: Basque Identity and the French Nation State* (2024)
- Helen Davies, *Herminie and Fanny Pereire: Elite Jewish Women in Nineteenth-Century France* (2024)

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

#### Assets

At the financial year end, the Society held £38,282 in its National Savings investment account. This account is maintained separately from the current account, from which grants and awards are drawn and into which income from OUP and membership are paid.

#### Review of Finances

Whilst the Society has set its sights on reducing its surplus reserve funds, it does not wish to run it down too precipitously, while prudence would suggest that it should not rely on journal income from OUP continuing to rise inexorably year on year.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

#### Income

In 2024, the Society received £40,306 in profit share from OUP. Other income included £500 from the French Embassy to the UK to support the costs of speakers from France at the SSFH annual conference and a refund from the University of Manchester.

## Section F

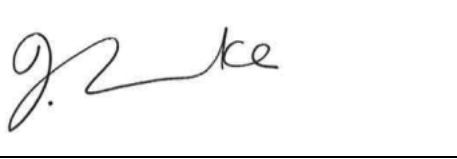
## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Dr Jackie Clarke	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	30/10/25	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name <b>Society for the Study of French History</b>	No (if any) 1012899
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## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.01.24	To	Period end date 31.12.24
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
OUP profit-share	40,306	-	-	40,306	£36,667.00
French Embassy	500	-	-	500	-
Manchester University reimbursement	2,792	-	-	2,792	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>43,598</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,598</b>	<b>36,667</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>43,598</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,598</b>	<b>36,667</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Prizes	6,000	-	-	6,000	6,500
Research/Conference bursaries	3,379	-	-	3,379	4,640
Conference grants	511	-	-	511	500
Conference support (incl annual conference)	3,400	-	-	3,400	8,079
French History expenses (incl annual prize)	7,208.14	-	-	7,208	979
Committee expenses	2,692	-	-	2,692	1,106
Audit fee	100	-	-	100	100
Bank charges	63	-	-	63	60
Website	-	-	-	-	2,500
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>23,352</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>23,352</b>	<b>24,465</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>23,352</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,092</b>	<b>24,465</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>20,246</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,579</b>	<b>12,202</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>47,541</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,341</b>	<b>35,341</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>67,787</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,920</b>	<b>47,543</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current account	67,787	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>67,787</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Restricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Endowment funds to nearest £</b>
	INVAC account	38,232	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Fund to which asset belongs</b>	<b>Cost (optional)</b>	<b>Current value (optional)</b>
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Fund to which asset belongs</b>	<b>Cost (optional)</b>	<b>Current value (optional)</b>
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Fund to which liability relates</b>	<b>Amount due (optional)</b>	<b>When due (optional)</b>
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	Jackie Clarke	Jackie Clarke	30.10.25	



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A: Independent examiner's report

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name

Society for the Study of French History

**On accounts for the  
year ended**

31 December 2024

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1012899

**Set out on pages**

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**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 for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. [The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*

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 my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 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.

## Section A: Independent examiner's report

(cont)

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*)

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 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.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Hesham Ali

Date:

28.10.25

Name:

Hesham Ali

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

ACA

Address:

Business School, University of Strathclyde

199 Cathedral Street

Glasgow G4 0QU

## Section B: Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.(E.g. accounting records have not been kept in accordance with s132 of the Charities' Act 2011 and those accounts do not comply with the requirements of the 2008 Regulations setting out the form and content of charity accounts; any material expenditure or action which appears not to be in accordance with the trusts of the charity; any failure to be provided with information and explanations by any past or present trustee, officer or employee; and any material consistency between the accounts and the trustees' annual report.)

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**