Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	January	2025	**To**	31	December	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Arctic Research Group
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1167722
Charity's principal address	29 Station Road
	Borrowash
	DERBY
	Postcode **DE72 3LG**

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	Mr Ian Frearson	Founder & Trustee		
2	Mr Bernard Frearson	Trustee		
3	Mr Simon Hall	Trustee		
4	Mr Michael Haynes	Trustee	Appointed 7th November 2025	
5	Dr Stephen Staley	Trustee		
6				
7				
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14				
15				
16				
17				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Climbing and ice travel	Neil Haycock	
Ditto	Stephen Westbrooke	
Svalbard firearms & bear safety	Chris Searston	

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

Dr Stephen Staley, Group Leader

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Nominated internally from members of the Group with a proven track record of maintaining the interests of the Group

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.

The Group continues to work to the original principals and policies set up in 2016 when Charity Status was awarded.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

1 To advance knowledge of the High Arctic environment through scientific research into all its aspects and the dissemination of the useful results for the benefit of the public.

2 To encourage the continuation of research expeditions by engaging with and taking along new young scientists on expeditions and introducing them to the rigours of field

research in this hostile environment. It is also hoped that some will be able to incorporate academic thesis work alongside their ARG research, thus contributing directly to their University courses.

3 If the objectives specified in 1 and 2 cannot for any reason be fulfilled in the short term then the Group will continue to plan for the future continuation of research expeditions and recruitment of new members who will be able to maintain the vision of the founding group.

4 The strategy of the ARG is to undertake useful, meaningful scientific research that will add to current information, benefitting both science specifically and the public generally to achieve a better understanding of the High Arctic environment. The Group's strategy has always been designed to guarantee a higher than average chance of success with all expeditions by undertaking a series of interlinked, but scientifically separate, projects. Together these should provide a better scientific understanding of the research area generally, as the individual projects are chosen on their own merit, are complementary to each other and still have merit if other projects have to be cancelled or scaled back. This strategy makes the best economic as well as scientific sense and has stood the ARG in good stead since its inception in 1988.

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

The Group positively encourages the inclusion in field research parties of a number of new young scientists and members of the public who may not otherwise get an opportunity to join a scientific expedition. This in turn helps to ensure that order that a dynamic interest in high latitudes continues for the benefit of all areas of society and academia and to better aid the protection of these fragile environments.

Where possible learned papers are produced for publication and, for all our expeditions, a full expedition report is produced that is widely disseminated (including to university libraries and on our website).

The 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.

All the members of the ARG are volunteers, giving their time and effort without charge in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. The continuing support of the members underpins the Group's work; without this support the actual hard work of identifying and selecting new members, planning, arranging, executing and financing expeditions - and both generating and publishing scientific reports - would not be possible.
The harsh climatic situations in the research areas puts an enormous strain on all equipment taken and used, which therefore requires regular replacement. Responsibility for replacing equipment also falls on the ARG members, who spend countless hours chasing leads and contacts to secure replacement equipment as required in order that successful and safe expeditions may continue.

Section D Achievements and performance

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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The first half of 2025 was spent planning, fundraising for and equipping the July 2025 ARG expedition to Tempelfjorden on the island of Spitsbergen, in the Svalbard archipelago.

Three ARG members arrived in the local town, Longyearbyen, about a week ahead of the main party to sort out logistical matters including food, fuel and tents.

The 10-person expedition safely and successfully completed scientific studies of (a) beach rubbish pollution (b) the effects on climate change of nitrogen compounds in glacial runoff (c) revisiting sites visited in 1983 to assess the impact of climate change on the flora and fauna and (d) re-digging 1983 ice pits on glacier accumulation areas to assess the state of glacial health versus 42 years previously.

The results of the flora and fauna studies were presented at an international Arctic conference in Aarhus, Denmark in early 2026.

For many of the expedition members, this was their first time in an Arctic wilderness and their first opportunity to carry our useful scientific research there.

We are pleased that the ARG has been inundated with enquiries for places on the next expedition, planned for summer 2027. Multiple additional scientific contacts have also been made for potential future collabaoration.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At the period end the ARG held £10,263 of unrestricted funds. Since its aims revolve around putting scientific expeditions into the field, the overwhelming majority of these funds will be directed toward paying for the next expedition, planned for summer 2027.

As far as possible the ARG aims to maintain a healthy positive bank balance to be able to take advantage of, for example, out of season sales of camping equipment or discounted airfares that may only be available well in advance of the expedition dates. This should produce an overall reduction in costs.

Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

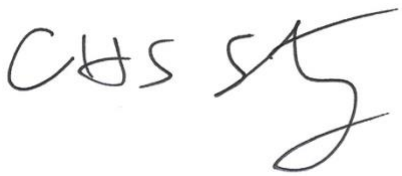
You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about: • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	Principal sources of funds in 2025 were third party donations, the receipt of the balance of a field research grant from the Svalbard Miljovernfond (environmental research fund, for the 2023 expedition work) and the receipt of Gift Aid funds from HMRC. These funds were used to pay for necessary expedition-related costs, including: • Transport to and from Heathrow • Scheduled flights to and from Longyearbyen, Svalbard • Accommodation in Longyearbyen • Hire of MV "Farm" to transport personnel and kit from Longyearbyen to the field area • Purchase of expedition food, fuel, distilled water etc • Acquisition of equipment including six modern survival suits, a pH meter, flare guns and rope. • In some cases, the more expensive categories (e.g. flights) were first paid for by members of the ARG and subsequently reimbursed. Minor recurring costs include hire of a storage container in Svalbard and ancillary costs such as website hosting and emails.

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)	Ian Frearson	Dr Stephen Staley
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Founder & Trustee	Trustee

Date	26th October 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Arctic Research Group	1167722

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01.01.2025	To	31.12.25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grant received	8 695	-	-	8 695	-
Donations	20 404	-	-	20 404	513
Gift Aid tax refund	3 700	-	-	3 700	-
Gift Aid repayment interest	227	-	-	227	-
Contribution to travel costs	478	-	-	478	-
Bank compensation payment	-	-	-	-	250
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	33 504	-	-	33 504	763
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	33 504	-	-	33 504	763
A3 Payments					
Svalbard storage	300	-	-	300	300
Expedition travel costs	13 501	-	-	13 501	150
Other expedition costs	2 347	-	-	2 347	-
IT costs	52	-	-	52	24
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	16 200	-	-	16 200	474
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Equipment purchases	3 357	-	-	3 357	
Loan repayment	5 535	-	-	5 535	
Sub total	8 892	-	-	8 892	-
Total payments	25 092	-	-	25 092	474
Net of receipts/(payments)	8 412	-	-	8 412	289
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1 851	-	-	1 851	1 562
Cash funds this year end	10 263	-	-	10 263	1 851

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	SpareBank account	715	-	-
	Barclays account	9 548	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	10 263	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

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

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	x5 survival suits	Unrestricted	-	-
	x2 base camp tents	Unrestricted	-	-
	x2 satellite phones	Unrestricted	-	-
	set of VHF radios and base station	Unrestricted	-	-
	x6 drysuits	Unrestricted	-	-
	x2 signal flare pistols	Unrestricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Mr I Frearson	26/10/2026
		Dr G Staley	26/10/2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Arctic Research Group		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1167722
Set out on pages	1 to 2		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2025**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you 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 Trust'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.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do 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 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:		**Date:**	27/10/2026
Name:	Matthew Hackett		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA		
Address:	Coates and Partners Limited 51 St John Street Ashbourne DE6 1GP		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	