

2020 Annual Report

SCOTTISH GEOLOGY TRUST

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2020 Annual Report

Inspiring people everywhere to understand, love and care for Scotland's geological heritage

Supporting Scotland's Geoparks

Scotland has four incredible Geoparks. We want these parks to prosper as places where people can experience Scotland's geology and learn about how the planet works, and where local communities can benefit from their geology and scenery.



Learn More

Campaigning for Scotland's Geology

The Trust's collective voice will promote the importance of Scotland's geology to society, raising awareness of the impact of geology and geological processes in the availability of resources, sustainability, biodiversity and future generations.



Education

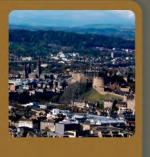
We will campaign for more geological teaching in schools and encourage more students to seek careers in geology, promoting an environmentally sustainable future for Scotland through the study of geology.



Learn More

Engaging People and Communities

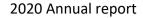
Scotland's geoheritage is truly remarkable. We're here to work with communities to promote their local geological sites and help conserve them, for all to discover and enjoy.



Learn More

Learn More







Chairman's Message

The Scottish Geology Trust was born out of a discussion at a meeting of the Edinburgh Geological Society in October 2018, followed by the first meeting of the embryonic Trust in Stirling in February 2019. An ambitious plan was hatched in the summer of 2019 to launch a new national charity that resulted in OSCR recognition on 26th November 2019.

2020 has been an amazing year for the Trust, it has succeeded beyond any of the Trustees' expectations. We have managed to get the charity into shape and now have the finances and resources to begin work. We executed the plan to get the charity up and running, maybe somewhat erratically, and in the face of an unforeseen pandemic, delivered on it.

That was the big picture the world saw.
What was invisible outside the Trust was much more important for our long term success. We started as a group of individuals with diverse experience, views of what was important, and available time,

yet we managed to synthesise a shared vision. From this we created themes which become the delivery vehicle for the Trust with clear objectives led by leaders who were personally passionate about their themes.

Much of this would not have been possible without the help of the Edinburgh Geological Society and First Scottish Trust that have provided invaluable financing during our first year and to whom we are extremely grateful.

The Scottish Geodiversity Forum supported the set up of the Trust, and on dissolution of the Forum in June, assets including scottishgeology.com transferred to the Trust.

Their support saw the hiring of our Project Manager (Caroline Gould), Fundraising & Development Manager (Chris Fancy), and Communications/Media Manager (Dr Vivien Cumming).

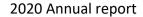
Now the Board has put together an exciting outline programme for 2021 with activities planned in four themes: Engaging People and Communities; Education; Supporting Scotland's Geoparks; and Campaigning for Scotland's Geology.

2021, despite its ominous start, looks to be a great year for the Trust as we move from setting up the Trust to delivering on our promises.

My message would not be complete without a special mention to the volunteers, staff and Trustees that put together the tremendous Crowdfunding campaign with many memorable videos. To Cara, Katie, Steph, Simon, Chris, Susan, Elizabeth, Viv, Caroline and Laura: a big thank you on behalf of the Trust.

On behalf of the Trustees I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers and donors, and we look forward to working with all of you in 2021.

Melvyn Giles, Chairman





Objectives and activities

The key objective of the Scottish Geology Trust is to inspire people everywhere to understand, love and care for Scotland's incredible geological heritage and its role in creating a sustainable future.

The Trust aims to bring together all sectors of the geological community in Scotland into a strong national voice that can campaign for change and support and encourage work at a local level. Those with an interest in and/or commitment to geology should have the chance to contribute to a national charity which will build the resources to achieve more than regional or local organisations can do by working alone. We hope that all individuals and organisations will support this and share knowledge and resources for both their benefit and public benefit.

The Trustees believe there are four key areas that require the Trust's immediate attention:

Engaging People and Communities

- Supporting Scotland's Geoparks
- Education
- Campaigning for Scotland's Geology

Engaging People and Communities

The Trust wants people to have a better chance to understand Scotland's geological story and have easy access to the sites where this can be appreciated. We want to make the connections between geological sites and the contribution that geology makes to many aspects of life in modern Scotland, our understanding of how the Earth works, and future changes to Scotland's environment and climate.

We aim to connect local communities with expertise and relevant organisations, to encourage a better awareness of the importance of Scotland's geology, and to aid communities in maximising the value of their local geology while contributing to geoconservation.

We will organise an annual Scottish Geology Festival and host the scottishgeology.com website.

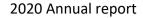
We will work with partners to create better access to and promotion of key sites.

Supporting Scotland's Geoparks

Scotland's geoparks are where geology meets the public. With over 40,000 visitors to their visitor centres every year, they provide a key interface for promoting Scottish geology.

In the short-term, the Trust will provide a focus for the promotion of the geoparks and provision of advice and information sharing. In the medium term, core funding for geoparks will be a priority, together with working with partner organisations to widen opportunities for the public to come face-to-face with geology.

The Trust will work to form a partnership building a strong case for the importance of the geoparks to society as a whole, and bring this to the attention of government,





industry, wider geological communities and the general public. The long-term focus will be on ongoing advocacy and financial support to develop geosites as visitor attractions and 'outdoor' laboratories' which may include larger areas that aspire to be geoparks or UNESCO Global Geoparks or who want to explore other innovative management models.

Education

We will work with partners such as the Geobus to support teaching about geology within the Curriculum for Excellence, looking for opportunities to work with/support teachers, highlight contexts for outdoor learning and promote geology as a career pathway.

We will provide online resources for young people to explore Scotland's geology, and inspire more adult learning about Scotland's geology through organisations such as geoparks, adult education programmes and the University of the Third Age.

Campaigning for Scotland's Geology

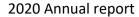
The Trust will campaign to promote the role and value of geology to society, policy makers and government. We will raise awareness of the significance of geology and geological processes on the availability of resources, global and local sustainability, risk management, including climate change, flooding and coastal erosion, and changes in biodiversity.

The Trust will campaign on behalf of Scotland's geological community, including schools, universities, geological societies, geoparks, museums and other visitor attractions, to promote geological awareness, teaching, geoconservation, research and the contribution geoscience makes to the economy. We will collaborate with key UK and international organisations to build partnerships for mutual benefit, these would include Geological Societies, universities, related charities, and government bodies.

We will support and build on Scotland's Geodiversity Charter.

Our ultimate goal is to build the Trust into a voice for geosciences in Scotland, and campaigning in the short term for funding for key projects outlined in Trusts plans. In the longer term the aim is to provide an independent input on geosciences to the Scottish Government.







Structure, governance and management

The constitution of the Scottish Geology
Trust was approved by the Scottish Charity
Regulator on 26th November 2019. A copy
of the Constitution is available on request
from the Trust's Secretary. The current
organisation is around key activities and
delivery via the Themes as illustrated
below:

Currently the lead Trustees responsible for the Themes are:

Engagement - Angus Miller

Geoparks – Laura Hamlet

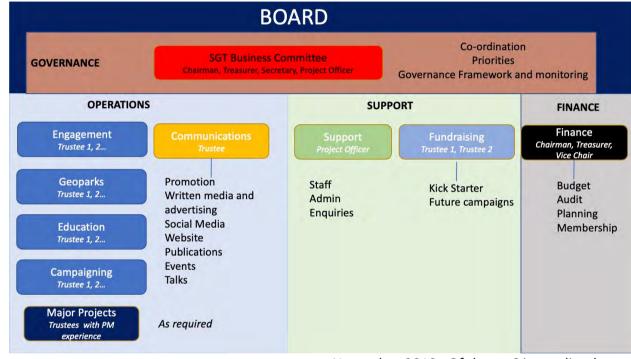
Education - Emma Smith

Campaigning – Bob Gatliff

Of the supporting groups:

Communications – Don Stewart

Fundraising – Laura Hamlet



Support – Caroline Gould (Project Manager).

Trustee recruitment and appointment

All but one of the current Trustees were significant players in the meetings that led up to the formation of the Trust in

November 2019. Of those, 6 immediately signed up to form the initial Board ahead of OSCR approval and two were subsequently co-opted on to the Board.

Emma Smith was co-opted on to the Board in mid 2020 for her knowledge of earth science education in Scottish schools.





Meet the team behind the Scottish Geology Trust



Melvyn Giles Chairman/Trustee

Formerly Earth Science Research and Development Leader at Shell.

chair@scottishgeologytrust.org



Angus Miller Secretary/Trustee

Geology tour leader, Teaching Fellow at Edinburgh University and founding Chair of the

Scottish Geodiversity Forum. secretary@scottishgeologytrust.org



Walter Semple

Treasurer/Trustee

Retired solicitor with experience of business, trust and charity law, and casework in planning and environmental issues. Former Trustee and Treasurer of the John Muir Trust.



Laura Hamlet

Trustee

Geopark Coordinator for the North West Highlands UNESCO Global Geopark.



Jez Gittins

Chair, Central Scotland Regional Group of the Geological Society and Principal Environmental Consultant at RPS.



Eileen Tisdall

Trustee

Lecturer in Biological and Environmental Science at the University of Stirling



Robert Gatliff

Trustee

Former Head of Energy and Marine Geoscience at the British Geological Survey, and President of Edinburgh Geological Society.



Don Stewart

Trustee

President of the Aberdeen Geological Society and Director at BlakesEye.



Emma Smith

Trustee

Geography, Geology and Environmental Science teacher at Gairloch High School



Caroline Gould

Project Manager

Freelance specialist in business development and marketing & communications for small nonprofits and start-ups.

project.manager@scottishgeologytrust.org University. Now an author and



Chris Fancy

Fundraising

Former head of fundraising at RZSS and RSPB Scotland, as well as Deputy Director of Development for Oxford freelancer.

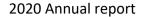
fundraising@scottishgeologytrust.org



Vivien Cumming Communications & Media

Former Research Associate in Earth Sciences at Harvard University, turned science communication specialist using storytelling and visual media to connect people to understanding the Earth.

media@scottishgeologytrust.org





Achievements and performance

There were a number of memorable achievements by the Trust over the period to the first AGM:

- OSCR approval 26th November 2019.
- Part time Project Manager (Caroline Gould) contracted April 2020. She has a great deal of specialist knowledge in start-up charities.
- Website launched in June 2020.
- Membership scheme launched in June 2020, growing to ca. 250 members by the end of 2020.
- Discussions with Scotland's geoparks on the help needed by them began over the summer of 2020.
- The Scottish Geology Festival ran during September and October with 50 online and in-person events. This included a range of free and paid events organised by Geobus, Scotland's geoparks, the Edinburgh and Glasgow geological societies and

others.

- Crowd Funding campaign launched in November with the help of a very enthusiastic group of volunteers that raised over £33,000.
- Two additional contract staff have been taken on, Chris Fancy for fundraising and Viv Cumming for media relations.

Future plans

While in 2020 we worked to set up the Trust, 2021 will be the year that we really start to change the perception of geology and its value to society in Scotland.

In each of our four Themes we have plans we will begin to execute.

Education: Will focus on providing support and online resources for schools across Scotland.

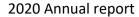
Geoparks: We will work to understand

the problems of the geoparks and try to create a fund for helping them to become sustainable.

Engagement: The Scottish Geology Festival will return bigger and better despite the pandemic. We will strive to promote Scotland's geology and connect communities interested in their geology with the needed expertise.

Campaigning: We will work to create partnerships with professional geological communities, universities, industry and government bodies and strengthen links with geoconservation. The Trust will continue to support and promote Scotland's Geodiversity Charter.

Siccar Point: 2026 is the 300th anniversary of James Hutton's birth. The Trust believes that Hutton's unconformity at Siccar Point is of international importance and should be recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. We plan to work with others to put together a plan to celebrate the anniversary of Hutton's birth by improving access to and interpretation of Siccar Point.





Additional information

We would like to thank our current membership for their support. We are reviewing the membership scheme in 2021. Membership renewal will start from June 2021.

A Thank you!

The Trust owes a big thank you to Edinburgh Geological Society, the Scottish Geodiversity Forum, the First Scottish Trust and our members for their financial support, and not least to all those that contributed to our Crowdfunding Campaign and the dedicated volunteers that drove it.

Financial review

The Accounts at 31st December 2020 show a cash resource of approximately £30,000 with an additional gift aid claim to be made. Fund raising in 2021 has made an encouraging start and is expected to increase the cash available to the trustees to carry out the aims of the Trust.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

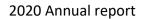
The Trust aims to maintain a cash reserve related to budget expenditure in order to avoid cash flow problems. At this stage, the reserve will be £20,000.

Details of any deficit

None

Donated facilities and services

None





Declaration

M Q-432_	
Print name	Melvyn Richard Giles
Print name	
Designation	Chairman
Designation	
_	5th February 2021
Date	





Independent Examiners report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of Scottish Geology Trust for the period ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 seeks 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

2020 Annual report

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)
 (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Alsoil Lessell

Alison Russell ACA

Name: Address:

Carn na Feidh, Kishorn,

5th February 2021

Strathcarron IV54 8XD

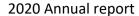
Date:



Receipts and payments accounts, from inception (26th November 2019) to 31st December 2020

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income				
Donations and Members' Subscriptions	1	14,758.92	5,673.42	20,432.34
Receipts from Fundraising Activities	2	33,458.00	-	33,458.00
Bank Interest		2.87	-	2.87
		48,219.79	5,673.42	53,893.21
Expenditure				
Charitable Activity Costs	3	15,203.91	-	15,203.91
Fundraising Costs	4	2,231.25	5,000.00	7,231.25
Ç		17,435.16	5,000.00	22,435.16
Surplus for the period		30,784.63	673.42	31,458.05
Fund Balances at 26 November 2019		-	-	-
Fund Balances at 31 December 2020	5	30,784.63	673.42	31,458.05
STATEMENT OF BALANCES				
STATEMENT OF BALANCES	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash and bank balances at start of period		-	-	-
Surplus for period as above		30,784.63	673.42	31,458.05
Cash and bank balances at end of period	6	30,784.63	673.42	31,458.05





Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the	trustees MRGQ
Signature	
Full nameWalter George Semple	Melvyn Richard Giles
Date of approval 5th February, 2021	5th February, 2021

Notes on the Accounts

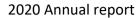
1 Donations and Members' Subscriptions

Membership costs £20 per person. Members help to inspire Scotland's people to love and preserve the nation's incredible geological heritage. There were 240 members at 31 December 2020.

Members and many others have generously provided additional donations which help to promote the science of geology, as a key agent in sustaining our environment and inspire the next generation of activist and geologists to create real, positive change.

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Members' subscriptions and donations	8,088.15	-	8,088.15
First Scottish Trust donation	-	5,000.00	5,000.00
Scottish Geodiversity Forum donation	1,089.91	673.42	1,763.33
Edinburgh Geological Society donation	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Donations from Geowalks Festival Talks	580.86	-	580.86
TOTAL	14,758.92	5,673.42	20,432.34

Income excludes Gift Aid which will be claimed in 2021. For details on restricted funds, see note 5.





2 Receipts from Fundraising Activities

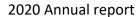
The Trust undertook a Crowdfunding initiative late in the year. At 31 December 2020, we had raised £33,458.00 from over 300 donors. Donors to our Crowdfunding campaign are as follows:

	£
Anonymous Trust	10,000.00
Geological Society of Glasgow	1,500.00
Edinburgh Geological Society	1,000.00
Major donor (anonymous)	1,000.00
All other donors	19,958.00
TOTAL	33,458.00

Income excludes Gift Aid which will be claimed in 2021.

3 Charitable Activity Costs

	£	£
Project manager		13,000.00
Finance costs		288.29
Administration costs:		
Website	1,078.44	
WebCollect charges (Member Records)	211.30	
Zoom (online meetings)	143.88	
Accounting software	12.00	
Job advertising	470.00	
Total administration costs		1,915.62
TOTAL		15,203.91





4 Fundraising Costs

	±
Consultants' Fees and Crowdfunder Support	4,762.75
Rewards and Social Media Advertising	2,468.50
TOTAL	7,231.25

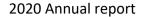
The first £5,000.00 of these costs was funded by First Scottish Trust (see note 5). The total excludes costs of £2,162.01 which relate to the period but which had not been paid at 31 December 2020 (see note 6).

5 Funds

	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31/12/2020
	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General reserves	48,219.79	(17,435.16)	30,784.63
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
First Scottish Trust Fund	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	-
Scotland's Geodiversity Charter Fund	673.42	-	673.42
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	5,673.42	(5,000.00)	673.42
TOTAL FUNDS	53,893.21	(22,435.16)	31,458.05

Nature and purposes of funds

The general reserve is to support the ongoing activities of the charity. The trustees are considering an appropriate level of Free Cash Reserve to protect liquidity.





First Scottish Trust Fund supports fundraising initiatives and planning, including hiring a part-time fundraising consultant as well as support for a crowdfunding campaign, where the Trust aims to raise at least £30,000 (see note 2).

Scotland's Geodiversity Charter Fund supports work in promoting Scotland's Geodiversity Charter.

6 Cash and bank balances

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Cash held at Triodos Bank	30,620.02	673.42	31,293.44
Cash held in PayPal account	164.61	-	164.61
TOTAL	30,784.63	673.42	31,458.05

Cash balances exclude the following costs relating to the financial period, but not paid at 31 December 2020:

Fundraising costs:	£
Consultant Fees	1,359.25
Rewards - Science Stories Ltd	600.00
Additional fundraising expenditure	202.76
Governance costs:	
Independent examination	100.00
Preparation of annual accounts	100.00

Cash balances also exclude Gift Aid receivable on donations but not claimed from HMRC at 31 December 2020.

7 Trustee renumeration and expenses

No remuneration was paid to any charity trustee or person connected to a charity trustee in the period. No expenses were paid to any charity trustee in the period.

