

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

Working to explain and improve the law and legal services

www.scolag.org

REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER SC030329

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
COMPANY NUMBER SC203019

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

Name Scottish Legal Action Group

Status A company limited by guarantee (number SC203019), incorporated on 17 January 2000 and registered as a Scottish Charity.

Address Unit 4, 18-20 Orkney Street, Glasgow, G51 2BZ

Objects To promote and advance education and knowledge of the law in Scotland. To relieve poor persons in Scotland by promoting and assisting the provision for them of legal services and improvements to existing legal services and the law which would not otherwise be available to them through lack of means.

Directors
Robert D Sutherland (Convenor)
Mark R Whittet (Deputy Convenor & Honorary Secretary)
Robin A G Bennett
Michael R Dailly
Andrew R Wilson (Editor)
Donald G Urquhart (Honorary Treasurer)
Scott McKenzie
Lindsay H Paterson
Eamon Keane

Company secretary

Robin A G Bennett

Structure The directors are responsible for the overall management and control of the charity and receive regular reports from finance and other sub-committees.

Bankers Bank of Scotland, 38 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YR.

Independent Examiner David Robertson, Chartered Accountant, 30 Curriehill Castle Drive, Balerno, EH14 5TD

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

DIRECTORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2010.

Activities and review

The activities of the Group centre around publication of the Journal, responding to consultation documents and participating in various studies and reviews, and holding meetings on subjects of interest. Our ability to continue with all of these depend on having the financial resources available to do so, and having volunteers willing to give their time and talents. It will be appreciated from reading the financial statements that the finances of the Group are modest, and that we continue to do a lot with the limited financial resources available to us. The Group is very grateful to all those who support the Group, either as subscribers, contributors, advertisers, sponsors, event speakers or Directors. It should also be said that the work of Andrew Wilson (Journal Editor) and Jan Smith (Administrator) are essential to the Group and that this is also very much appreciated.

The circulation and financing of the Journal continues to be under pressure as a result of budgetary constraints affecting many of our organisational members. These pressures have meant that much of the Directors time is taken up with considering the best way to maintain and, if possible, increase circulation of the Journal. In turn this means looking at what can be done to improve the profile of the Group and provide a service which is valued by its members.

The Group's financial investment in Scottish Legal News Limited continues to be seen as being very useful in promoting our activities. It has also produced a financial benefit to the Group in the year following this Report period, which is in line with our original hopes. We also receive regular royalty payments from the Publishers Licensing Society.

At the beginning of 2010 SCOLAG held a joint conference with LSA on the subject of the Gill Review. This conference was very well attended. During the year the Board agreed to re-design its website. The newly designed website has since been launched. It was also decided to start a SCOLAG Group on Facebook as a way of trying to improve communication and maintain the profile of the Group. It is to be hoped that these and other developments will lay the groundwork for future years.

Robert Sutherland
Convener

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

DIRECTORS REPORT (CONT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

Directors and their interests

Details of the directors who served during the year are as follows :

Robert D Sutherland (Convenor)
Mark R Whittet (Deputy Convenor & Honorary Secretary)
Robin A G Bennett
Michael R Dailly
Andrew R Wilson (Editor)
Donald G Urquhart (Honorary Treasurer)
Scott McKenzie

During the year, Andrew R Wilson was paid remuneration and commission as detailed in the notes to these accounts. No other director has a financial interest in the company.

Directors responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that year. In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

- 1 select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 2 make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 3 state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 4 prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (as revised 2006).

Approved by the directors on 31 August 2011 and signed on their behalf by:



Robin A G Bennett
Director/Company Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE DIRECTORS OF
SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2010 which are set out on pages 5-6.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The charity's directors 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. The charity directors consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts 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 we 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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :
 - 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 Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to obtain a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Robertson
Chartered Accountant
30 Curriehill Castle Drive
Balerno
EH14 5TD
1/6 September 2011

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
		£	£
<i>Incoming resources</i>			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Bank interest		-	63
Donations	2	5,035	1,896
		-----	-----
		5,035	1,959
		-----	-----
Incoming resources from charitable activities			
Trading activities		27,053	28,387
		-----	-----
Total incoming resources		32,088	30,348
		-----	-----
<i>Resources expended</i>			
Charitable activities		26,795	30,490
Governance costs	3	2,740	2,831
		-----	-----
Total outgoing resources		29,535	33,321
		-----	-----
Net income/(expenditure)		2,553	(2,973)
Fund balance brought forward		5,666	8,639
		-----	-----
Fund balance carried forward		8,219	5,666
		=====	=====

The notes on pages 8 and 9 form part of these accounts

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2010

	Note	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
		£	£
INVESTMENTS	5	5,026	5,026
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	2,159	998
Cash at bank		10,431	11,662
		-----	-----
		12,590	12,660
CREDITORS :			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	9,397	12,020
		-----	-----
		3,193	640
		-----	-----
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		8,219	5,666
		=====	=====
NET ASSETS			
Represented by :			
FUNDS	8	8,219	5,666
		=====	=====

These financial statements were approved by the directors on 31st August 2011 and signed on their behalf by:



Robin A G Bennett
Director/Company Secretary

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT ON PAGE 7

The notes on pages 8 and 9 form part of these accounts

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2010 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under subsection 1 of section 249A of the Companies Act 1985. Members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with subsection 2 of s249B. The directors acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221 of the Act and preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its results for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 226 of the Act, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts so far as applicable to the company.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (as revised 2006).

Approved by the board of directors on 31 August 2011 and signed on their behalf by:



Robin A G Bennett
Director/Company Secretary

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They are in accordance with applicable accounting standards and comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" as revised October 2006.

The funds of the organisation are unrestricted funds and, as such, are expendable at the discretion of the board in furtherance of the objects of the company.

Subscription income received during the year is allocated over the period to which the subscription applies. All other income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it is received.

The company, by virtue of its recognition by the Inland Revenue as a charity is not assessable to Corporation Tax

The company is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
	£	£

2 Grants and donations received

Faculty of Advocates	-	900
Law Society of Scotland	900	900
Alexander Kidd's Executry	2,800	-
Sundry donations	1,335	96
	-----	-----
	<u>5,035</u>	<u>1,896</u>
	=====	=====

3. Governance costs

Administration and accountancy charges

	<u>2,740</u>	<u>2,831</u>
	=====	=====

4. Payments to directors

During the year payments were made/due to the directors in respect of journal editorial and design fees, advertising commission and web design fees as follows :

A Wilson	14,700	16,583
	-----	-----
	<u>14,700</u>	<u>16,583</u>
	=====	=====

In addition a sum of £23 (2009 £499) was paid to the above directors as recompense for expenses incurred in the course of their duties as directors.

SCOTTISH LEGAL ACTION GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
	£	£
5. Investments		
Scottish Legal News Ltd, 26 ordinary shares of £1 each	26	26
Cash advanced to Scottish Legal News Ltd	5,000	5,000
	-----	-----
	<u>5,026</u>	<u>5,026</u>

Scottish Legal News Ltd was incorporated on 3rd June 2008. The Group holds 26% of the issued share capital. The accounts to 30 June 2010 disclosed a loss of £379 (2009 : £1,156).

6. Debtors

Trade debtors	<u>2,159</u>	<u>998</u>
---------------	--------------	------------

7. Creditors : amounts falling due within one year

Prepaid subscriptions	4,618	9,315
Accrued charges	4,779	2,705
	-----	-----
	<u>9,397</u>	<u>12,020</u>

8. Unrestricted funds

Total incoming resources	32,088	30,348
	-----	-----
Direct charitable expenditure	26,795	30,490
Other expenditure	2,740	2,831
	-----	-----
	<u>29,535</u>	<u>33,321</u>
	-----	-----
Net movement in funds	2,553	(2,973)
Balance brought forward	5,666	8,639
	-----	-----
Balance carried forward	<u>8,219</u>	<u>5,666</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2010</u>	£	<u>2009</u>	£
<i>Income</i>					
Subscriptions		21,595		20,349	
Advertising		2,180		5,024	
Bank interest received		-		63	
Grants and donations	2	5,035		1,896	
Publishers' licensing fees		2,811		2,728	
Sundry income		422		106	
		-----		-----	
		32,088		30,348	
		-----		-----	
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>					
Publication costs					
Printing and distribution		11,474		12,645	
Editor's fees		13,090		13,090	
Editor's expenses		203		292	
Advertising commission		807		2,977	
		-----		-----	
Promotional costs		25,574		29,004	
Web expenses		-		100	
General expenses		600		600	
		182		539	
		-----		-----	
		26,795		30,243	
		-----		-----	
<i>Other expenditure</i>					
Professional fees		450		430	
Administration costs		2,290		2,401	
		-----		-----	
		2,740		2,831	
		-----		-----	
<i>Total resources expended</i>		29,535		33,321	
		-----		-----	
<i>Net movement in funds</i>					
Fund balances brought forward		2,553		(2,973)	
		-----		-----	
		5,666		8,639	
		-----		-----	
<i>Fund balances carried forward</i>		8,219		5,666	
		=====		=====	