

Scottish  
**Poetry**  
Library

Bringing people  
and poems together



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**his** was a transformative year for the SPL with new appointments to the roles of Director, Chair and Company Secretary. Our schools activity, special projects and events programme brought new audiences to poetry, which helped to grow our library collection, number of borrowers and engagement with our online resources. Stewart Conn's poem 'The Well-Spring' (on the back cover) reflects on some of the challenges faced by the SPL as the result of staff departures and retirement.

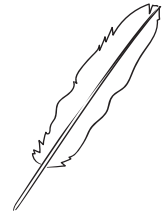
**Asif Khan,**  
**Director**

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Your support helped us

Host **92** events

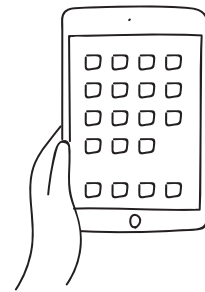
Involving **164** poets



Encourage nearly

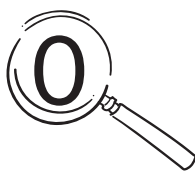
**1,000,000**  
people to

visit our website



Give **142,000** downloads of  
free poetry resources

Add **2,020** items to our  
catalogue



Welcome **447**  
new borrowers



Loan books **2,624** times

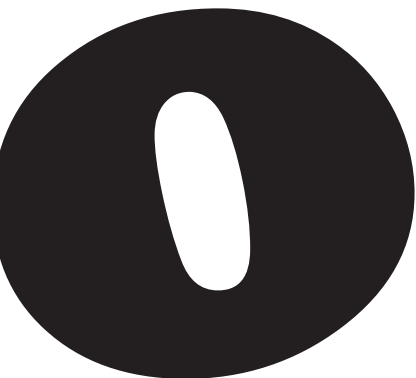


**T**he Living Voices project, engaging residential care homes, delivered to carers and librarians in Aberdeen, South Ayrshire and Perth and Kinross. Development activity also took place with library services in Midlothian, Fife, Borders and East Lothian.

from April 16

**W**e were a host venue for the Edinburgh Art Festival programme. Librarian Julie Johnstone curated a display of concrete poetry exploring links to abstract art.

July - August 16



**O**ur second edition of the *Tools of the Trade* anthology was presented to nearly 900 graduating doctors. SPL Board member Dr Gavin Francis was a guest selector for the Edinburgh International Book Festival, which included a *Tools of the Trade* themed event.

July-August 16

**I**n support of the the 14-18 NOW initiative, we delivered 'Ghosts of War' school classes at Edinburgh Castle in partnership with National Museums Scotland. We were also a major partner in the planning of *Wilfred Owen's Edinburgh 1917-2017*, which organised a series of events to mark the war poet's transformative stay in the capital.

September 16



## A year of achievements

**f**or National Poetry Day the SPL partnered with Edinburgh College and promoters Neu! Reekie! for a programme of poetry, music and animation featuring National Poet for Scotland Jackie Kay, who also launched a writing competition for the college's students and staff.

October 16



**T**he SPL was awarded the prestigious Creative Edinburgh Creativity Award for The Library Is Open! Drag Queen Poems event programmed with Iain Morrison and Jean-Francois Krebs.

November 16



**W**e co-published the third of our Late Style series entitled *Whatever the Sea: Scottish Poems for Growing Older*. This anthology, edited by Assistant Librarian Lizzie MacGregor, was launched during the Luminare Festival.

October 16

**P**oetry By Heart Scotland recital competition engaged schools with regional heats in Perth, East Dunbartonshire, Glasgow and Edinburgh. The final hosted by The National Galleries of Scotland was won by Dominic Bogle from St. Columba's in Glasgow.

March 17



Catherine Lockerbie, guest selector of Best Scottish Poems 2016 online anthology.

## Income

2016 - 2017

2015 - 2016

### Donations and legacies

Donations	2,413	1,100
Creative Scotland Revenue Grant	305,666	305,666
City of Edinburgh Council	4,493	4,362
Subscriptions and covenants	11,675	13,012
Gift aid (tax claim)	1,800	4,707
Creative Scotland - Capital Project	0	133,750
Other grants - Capital Project	0	167,280

### Charitable activities

Creative Scotland National Poet	11,000	11,000
Creative Scotland - Living Voices	0	5,939
Creative Scotland - Other grants	8,500	0
Events Programme	3,317	2,589
Education Programme	640	1,318
Trusts (projects)	1,200	14,028
Trusts and foundations - Living Voices	0	26,084
National Poetry Day	4,766	6,000
Publications	1,465	8,592
Ancillary income	19,589	7,161
Use of building	1,639	1,240
Sundry receipts	9,205	4,253
Interest received	314	813
<b>Total income</b>	<b>387,682</b>	<b>721,539</b>

## Expenditure

### Raising Funds

Marketing (newsletters, annual report, publicity)	12,748	11,454
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### Charitable activities

Projects and activities costs	70,455	80,935
Staff costs	239,952	232,781
Premises costs	32,718	25,708
Running costs	42,268	31,614
Legal and professional fees	111	3,154
Bad and doubtful debts	3,905	0
Interest and finance charges	1,020	896
Depreciation	4,561	2,003
Auditor (Governance costs)	4,410	5,735
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>412,148</b>	<b>394,280</b>

# SPL Annual Accounts

## Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2017

<b>Fixed assets (tangible)</b>	<b>1,637,264</b>	<b>1,628,292</b>
Current assets (stock, debtors, cash)	113,876	162,934
Creditors falling due within one year	(24,461)	(40,081)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>89,415</b>	<b>122,853</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>1,726,679</b>	<b>1,751,145</b>
<b>Financed by: capital and reserves</b>		
General funds (reserves)	45,765	38,405
Designated Funds (including fixed assets)	1,643,696	1,643,724
Restricted Funds	37,218	78,016
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>1,762,679</b>	<b>1,751,145</b>

## SPL Board

### Honorary Officers

Annette Bruton, **Chair**  
(from Nov 16)  
Ian Wall, **Chair** (to Nov 16)  
John Gillies, **Company Secretary** (from Nov 16)  
Ann Matheson, **Company Secretary** (to Nov 16)

### Trustees

Jenni Fagan (from Feb 17)  
Gavin Francis (to Nov 16)  
David Lanc  
Gordon Moir  
Helena Nelson (to Jan 17)  
Kyra Pollitt  
Nuala Watt (from March 17)  
Martyn Wade  
Hamish Whyte (to Jan 17)

### Auditors

Alexander Sloan,  
Chartered Accountants  
(Edinburgh)

### Bankers

Bank of Scotland  
(Edinburgh)

### Solicitors

Gillespie Macandrew  
(Edinburgh)

### SPL Staff 2016-17

Asif Khan, **Director**  
(from June 16)  
Robyn Marsack, **Director**  
(to May 16)  
Julie Johnstone, **Librarian**  
(to Jan 17)  
Lizzie MacGregor,  
**Assistant Librarian**  
Mary Wight,  
**Senior Library Assistant**  
(to July 16)  
Emily Prince, **Library Assistant** (from June 16)  
Kristy Davis, **Archivist and Cataloguer** (to Oct 16)  
Brenda Fox, **Accountant**  
Lilias Fraser,  
**Projects Manager**  
Colin Waters,  
**Communications Manager**  
Jennifer Williams,  
**Programme Manager**  
(to Dec 16)  
Georgi Gill, **Learning Manager** (to Jan 17)  
Gillian Hamnett,  
**Library Administrator and Duty Manager**  
Elizabeth Welsh, **Saturday Duty Manager**

### Volunteers

Nigora Asaeva  
Ford Brownlie  
Kayleigh McGarry  
Jemma Davies  
Anneke Van Belle  
Jackie Anderson  
Carol Farrelly  
Rachel Rankin  
Ceilan Hunter-Green  
Frederick Alexander  
Chloe Elder  
Deborah Chu  
Emily Waugh  
Lewis Wade  
Jamie Redgate  
Roslyn Potter  
Rachel Morgan-Bruce  
Daniel Leyland  
Clea Morris  
Emanuela Militello  
Matthew Fellion  
Jacqueline Whymark  
Xiao Liu  
Beverley Ho  
Caitlin Ross  
Myriam Boran  
Tessa Oh  
Raphaella Ashford  
Alexei McDonald  
Sheena Black

### Honorary Presidents

Douglas Dunn  
Liz Lochhead  
Michael Longley  
Aonghas MacNeacail

### SPL funders

City of Edinburgh Council  
Creative Scotland

### SPL projects sponsors

Baring Foundation  
Birlinn Ltd.  
British Council  
Edwin Morgan Trust  
Gaelic Books Council  
John Mather Charitable Trust  
Literature Europe Live  
National Library of Scotland  
National Galleries of Scotland  
Poetry Association of Scotland  
Polish Cultural Institute (London)  
Raymond Raine  
Scottish Library and Information Council  
The Medical and Dental Defence Union of Scotland  
The Royal College of General Practitioners (Scotland)

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## The Well-Spring

Since the former priestess's departure  
a sea-change has taken place:  
after years of loyal endeavour,  
the ranks of the handmaidens  
have been thinned. May their successors,  
the new custodians, in due course  
prove their dexterity as water-drawers;  
and retain the wellspring, a continuing  
source of replenishment, untainted;  
its silver bucket untarnished. Meanwhile,  
giving the imagination free rein, may they  
preserve their predecessors' vigour and grace,  
midway between figures on a Keatsian urn  
and Matisse's dancers, in their ecstatic ring.

**Stewart Conn**