

Your Committee is pleased to ANNOUNCE:

THE SCOTTISH POTTERS ASSOCIATION IS NOW A CHARITY [SCIO]

At the March 2018 AGM it was proposed that the SPA apply to the Office of The Scottish Charities Register (OSCR) to become a charity. A new constitution document was produced following the official template (19 pages) and an application was submitted. After some discussion with OSCR, Companies House and the Scottish Government and amongst the SPA Committee, and with several helpful volunteer advisors the charity was registered on 19th November 2018.

The SPA is now a registered Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

Our charity number is SC048850 with an accounting date of 30th November

The text below is extracted from the new constitution and explains who we are.

*“The **organisation’s purposes** are: the advancement of the Arts and Culture and in furtherance of this;*

- 1.1 *To promote and encourage the making, appreciation and development of Scottish pottery and ceramic craft, art and culture.*
- 1.2 *To provide information and opportunities for communication and collaboration between ceramic makers, artists and the public.*
- 1.3 *To work in partnership with other organisations.*
- 1.4 *To provide and promote Equal Opportunities such that; the organisation will not discriminate based on race, sex, disability, sexuality, age or based on political, religious or other opinions. As and if required by funders and/or members, the fuller Local Authority Equal Opportunities policies may be adopted.*

Powers

The organisation has power to do anything which will further its purposes or is conducive or incidental to doing so.

No part of the income or property of the organisation may be paid or transferred (directly or indirectly) to the members - either during the organisation’s existence or on dissolution - except where this is done in direct furtherance of the organisation’s charitable purposes. “

The New Constitution in full will be made available as a downloadable pdf file from the SPA website or may be asked for by email from

Steve Hay (sjhay@btinternet.com).

As a charity the SPA will gain advantages in that it is now a legal entity, like a citizen or a Limited Company. The SPA will be able to own property, hire staff or make contracts etc. The duties of the members and trustees (Committee members) are to

support the purposes outlined above and to abide by the Constitution, including the requirement to hold an AGM each year and to submit an annual report and accounts to OSCR.

The recognition of the SPA as a charity reflects the many years of voluntary work that SPA members have donated since being established in 1974. We hope that the members of the Scottish Potters Association will continue to support the charity in future, by further donating some of their time and expertise and by participating in our exhibitions, workshops and public events. Please contact your committee if this change to the structure of the SPA is not to your liking and you wish to resign your membership.

We hope that you will all support the charitable purposes stated above and we encourage you to help promote our charity into the future through your contacts and social media and through your ideas for future endeavours. At the next AGM when we meet at Tulliallen in March 2019, and in all future years, your Committee and Office Bearers will require to be re-elected or replaced by volunteering members. Please give thought to your participating in this way as the future of the SPA is in your hands. Our thanks go to all who have advised and assisted in our now successful efforts to achieve charitable status.

With best wishes to all for the new year.

Committee of the Scottish Potters Association (SPA)

The Scottish Potters Association is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO, number SC048850) registered with the Office of the Scottish Charities Register.