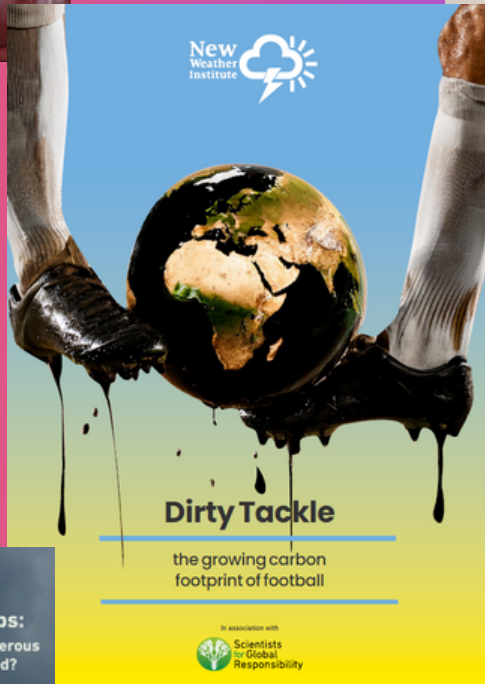


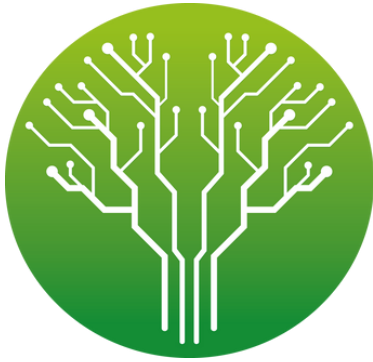


Scientists for Global Responsibility

Annual Report 2024-25



Part of the campaign awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize



Front Cover Photos:

- Photo of Baroness Natalie Bennett, author of a journal article published by SGR in November 2024
- Cover of SGR's Responsible Science Journal no. 6, April 2024
- Cover of Dirty Tackle report, February 2025
- Advert for SGR's 2024 Conference on 'Defusing Carbon Bombs'
- Prof Peter Newell speaking about the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty at our 2024 Conference.

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March 2024 to February 2025
inclusive

STAFF

Executive Director:

Dr Stuart Parkinson

Assistant Director:

Andrew Simms MSc

Education Director:

Dr Jan Maskell CPsychol

Finance and Membership Manager:

Dr Emily Heath

Communications Assistant:

Liam Killeen (1)

Rowan Harris (2)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr Philip Webber (Co-Chair)

Dr Jan Maskell CPsychol (Co-Chair)

Dr Emily Heath (Secretary)

Dr Keith Baker

Dr Stuart Parkinson

Nico Edwards (3)

Simon Reed FIAP (4)

ADVISORS:

Nico Edwards (4)

Philip Inglesant

Fiona McOwan

Paul Dorfman (3)

(1) Until July 2024

(2) From August 2024

(3) From January 2025

(4) Until January 2025

SUMMARY

SGR's mission – to promote responsible science and technology – continues to be essential. Science in the US is under attack from a hostile government acting in the interests of fossil fuel and big tech capitalism. In the UK and Europe we are also seeing increasing disinformation and hostility to net zero targets. Military budgets (and their carbon footprints) are ever-increasing, while measures to tackle social and environmental problems are short of investment.

During the reporting period, SGR has tackled some of these issues head on. Our main achievements include the following:

- We published a new in-depth report highlighting the enormous carbon footprint of football (similar to annual greenhouse gas emissions of the whole nation of Austria!), and the role of sponsorship in fuelling high-carbon lifestyles;
- We embarked on a new project on military greenwash;
- Our previous work on military carbon emissions continued to have widespread influence internationally;
- We analysed the major rises in UK military spending for the British branch of the Global Campaign on Military Spending;
- We co-authored (with the Conflict & Environment Observatory, CEOBS) a submission to Environmental Audit Committee inquiry on climate security.
- We actively supported campaigns against nuclear weapons, the militarisation of space, and military influence on education.

- During the run up to the UK general election, leading SGR figures published policy recommendations for the incoming UK government.
- Through our annual conference on 'Defusing Carbon Bombs' and presentations at numerous events, we provided valuable information on issues including the climate crisis, nuclear risks, the militarisation of science and technology, emerging technologies, and environmental behaviour change.
- Our website has continued to be a valuable resource for decision-makers, campaigners, academics, journalists and students, with 115,000 page views over the reporting period - a new record.

We would like to thank our membership, our trust funders, and individual donors – all have been essential in SGR's successes.

We also thank our staff and volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.

Stuart Parkinson, *Executive Director*

Philip Webber & Jan Maskell, *Co-Chairs*

PROJECTS AND CAMPAIGNING

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MILITARY

The latest stage of SGR's work in this area is a two-year project (until June 2026) focused on military greenwash, funded by Marmot Charitable Trust and the Martin Ryle Trust.

Stuart Parkinson is researching examples and trends in greenwashing in military-industrial sectors. The focus is on military climate strategies and activities in four key areas: measuring & reporting GHG emissions; emissions reduction targets; technologies for reducing military emissions; and strategies for reducing military emissions.

Stuart spoke about some of these issues at a conference at Queen's University Belfast, as well as at SGR's 2024 conference.

SGR's previous research on military carbon emissions continues to be very influential. Most notably, it was quoted in the State of Palestine's submission to the International Court of Justice climate hearing. It also continues to be widely cited in academic publications including *Nature*, as well as by campaigners, journalists and military organisations such as the European Defence Agency.



Nico Edwards (pictured) has also continued her work on military and climate issues. She published several articles including a feature on 'Eco-friendly fire' in *New Internationalist*, and co-authored a

'Primer on Militarism and Climate Crises' with War Resisters International Climate Justice Working Group. In addition, she helped to organise the Global Week of Action for Peace and Climate Justice in September, involving more than 100 online and offline events and actions across five continents.

CHALLENGING MILITARISATION, WAR AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

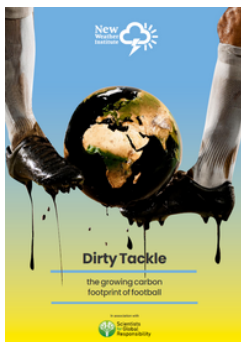
Stuart Parkinson analysed the major rises in UK military spending in both the Spring and Autumn budget statements, for the British branch of the Global Campaign on Military Spending (of which he is a steering committee member).

Stuart gave a talk on the military and universities at 'Teaching peace in HE' conference, Portsmouth University (April).

Phil Webber spoke at a webinar on the UK nuclear weapons programme, and Stuart Parkinson gave a talk on demilitarisation at a conference in London. Both events were organised by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

SGR supported a protest against UK militarisation of space outside the Ministry of Defence, organised by a new coalition of peace groups called Space Watch UK (<https://spacewatch.uk/>).

Phil Webber updated his analysis of the devastating bombardment of Gaza, drawing some new conclusions, especially about the role of the US and UK arms industries. SGR also continued to highlight the dangers of escalation in the Russia-Ukraine war, especially the risks from nuclear weapons.



In February 2025, SGR and the New Weather Institute (NWI) published a new, in-depth report called *Dirty Tackle*, which estimates that the annual carbon footprint of football is approximately 64-66

million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e). This is similar to annual greenhouse gas emissions of the whole nation of Austria.

Included within this total are emissions due to a wide range of activities, including stadium energy use, construction and renovation, merchandise, and fan and team travel to matches. It also includes - for the first time - an estimate of the induced emissions due to sponsorship deals with high carbon corporations, including oil and gas companies, and airlines. These account for a whopping 75% of football's total carbon footprint, mainly through increasing sales of polluting products. The research highlights the key role that the world's most popular sport plays in encouraging high carbon lifestyles.

The report achieved a great deal of media coverage including in the *Daily Mirror*, *The Ecologist*, *Business Green*, numerous sports media outlets, and international media. The report was written by Stuart Parkinson with Andrew Simms.

Andrew Simms oversaw the publication for other reports on fossil fuel sponsorship of sports, as part of the Badvertising campaign to challenge the promotion of high carbon lifestyles.

SGR co-authored (with the Conflict & Environment Observatory, CEOBS) a submission to Environmental Audit Committee inquiry on climate security.

In the run up to the UK general election in July 2024, leading scientists from SGR collaborated on a blog outlining some policy recommendations for the incoming government. Issues covered included climate change, energy, military and security, and AI.

SGR co-signed campaign letters on a wide range of climate and energy issues, including:

- opposing the Rosebank oil field project in the North Sea;
- opposing UK government funding of new nuclear power stations;
- supporting climate activists who are GPs being struck-off by the General Medical Council;
- opposing ocean geoengineering;
- supporting the Climate & Nature (CAN) Bill.

Andrew Simms spoke at climate events including a panel discussion on 'Are climate negotiations fit for purpose?' at a 'Love Your Planet' conference at University College London in February (pictured below).



PROJECTS AND CAMPAIGNING (CONTINUED)

SUSTAINABLE FOOD

Jan Maskell continued to contribute to Closing Loops - a five-year North Lancashire-based project funded by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund. The project aims to reduce waste in the food system and develop a thriving local food system that is healthy, resilient and fair.



The project coordinates sustainable food related activities, including gleaning, composting, education and working with chefs and caterers.

SCIENCE4SOCIETY TEACHING RESOURCES

SGR maintained its standalone website of education resources at www.s4s.org.uk. This provides valuable downloadable materials which can be used by teachers to run classroom activities promoting the responsible use of science and technology, and sustainable living.



Among the most popular resources are 'Food Trump Cards'; printed packs can be ordered from SGR.

FAIR LIFESTYLE TARGETS

SGR maintained its Fair Lifestyle Targets online resource which encourages scientists and others to pledge to align their lifestyles to a global fair share of resources and carbon emissions.

RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE CONFERENCE 2024

SGR held its annual conference online again in order to maximise membership participation from around the country. 85 people attended the event, and hundreds more watched videos of the presentations later.

The conference was entitled 'Defusing carbon bombs - how do we stop remaining dangerous fossil fuels from being burned?'

The main speakers were:

Prof. Mark Z. Jacobsen
Prof Peter Newell,
Dr. Veronica Wignall
and Dr. Stuart Parkinson.



The conference took as its starting point the problem of 'carbon bombs': massive fossil fuel extraction projects, each capable of releasing at least one billion tonnes of carbon dioxide if its contents are burnt completely. There are currently over 400 such projects worldwide, which are still being pursued even though climate scientists have pointed out the extreme risks of continuing their exploitation.

The overall feedback on the event from participants – via questionnaire and individual comments – was generally very positive.

The conference was followed by a short Annual General Meeting for SGR members.

COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA

SGR's work received a high level of media coverage during the reporting year.

Our research on military carbon emissions was quoted in a wide range of publications, including the *Guardian*, *BBC Inside Science* and *New York Times*. Andrew Simms' campaigning activities on fossil fuel sponsorship of sports was widely reported in the sports media and general news media in the UK and abroad. Stuart Parkinson's article 'Urgent action is needed to curb Trump's anti-climate agenda' was published in *University World News*.

SGR staff and directors contributed to numerous academic publications, including a book chapter on 'Militarism and the climate emergency' by Stuart Parkinson.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We continued to run two email lists – SGRforum and SGRupdate – as well as using social media channels including LinkedIn, YouTube, Facebook and Instagram to promote our activities. The SGR Board decided to phase out our use of X/Twitter due to the rising levels of hate speech and increasingly extreme politics of its owner, Elon Musk.

Including social media accounts run by staff and committee members, at year end, we had nearly 30,000 followers in total, an 8% increase over the previous year. Growth has slowed due to the number of people leaving X/Twitter, but has been offset by a successful transition to Bluesky.

SGR WEBSITE

SGR's website continued to be one of the main ways we communicate with the world.

There were 115,000 page-views during the reporting period, an impressive 22% increase over the previous year, and a new record for us. Among the most popular pages were: "The point of no return: how close is the world to irreversible climate change?" (viewed 32,500 times); and 'Gaza: one of the most intense bombardments in history?' (8,000).

RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE JOURNAL

In April 2024, we published the sixth edition of the *Responsible Science* journal, with 28 pages of high-quality material.

There were 10 featured articles, including:

- 'Gaza: One of the most intense bombardments in history?';
- 'War, climate breakdown and economic injustice: Tackling the triple crisis';
- 'The point of no return: How close is the world to irreversible climate change?';
- 'Why is behaviour change a better bet than techno-optimism?';
- 'Degrowth and green growth: what's the difference for rapid climate action?', and
- 'Nuclear power and net zero: Too little, too late, too expensive.'



ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

STAFF

Stuart Parkinson continued as Executive Director, Andrew Simms as Assistant Director, Emily Heath as Finance and Membership Manager, and Jan Maskell as Education Projects Director. Rowan Harris became our Communications Assistant in August, following Liam Killeen’s departure to focus on his PhD. The staff team are pictured below with SGR’s Co-Chairs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024-25 was our second year of operating as a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG), co-ordinated by a Board of Directors. Five Directors continued for the whole year: Phil Webber and Jan Maskell (Co-Chairs), Keith Baker, Emily Heath and Stuart Parkinson. Simon Reed was a director until his resignation in January 2024, at which point Nico Edwards was appointed as the sixth member of the Board.

The board was supported by several advisers: Fiona McOwan, Philip Inglesant and Nico Edwards (until January 2025) and Paul Dorfman (from January 2025).

ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

Our environmental footprint remained very low, with no commuting to work, and no flights or car journeys taken by staff for SGR business purposes.

We have continued to encourage members to opt for digital communications to reduce paper usage and delivery miles.

In August 2024 we moved out of the office we had been renting in Lancaster, and since then all SGR staff have worked from home, further reducing our overall environmental footprint.

The four Lancaster-based staff met regularly over lunch in a local vegan cafe. Zoom was used for online meetings - including SGR’s 2024 Responsible Science conference.



DR. STUART PARKINSON Executive Director	ANDREW SIMMS Associate Director	DR. EMILY HEATH Finance & Membership Manager	DR. PHIL WEBBER Co-Chair	ROWAN HARRIS Communications Assistant	DR. JAN MASKELL Co-Chair & Education Projects
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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Over this reporting period (1 March 2024 to 28 February 2025), income increased significantly compared to the previous year, while expenditure remained about the same. Income exceeded expenditure by nearly £18,000, partly thanks to a very successful fundraising appeal with donations from supporters doubled by the Martin Ryle Trust.

A detailed breakdown of our income and expenditure is shown in the tables and figures.

INCOME

Income from grants, donations, bank interest and the annual appeal were all higher than in the previous year, while other income, including from consultancy work, reduced slightly.

Overall, income increased by nearly £22,000 (35%) compared to the previous year. That included around £2,500 of delayed income from the 2023 appeal.

- We received project-related grants (including overheads) of:
- £7,500 from the National Lottery Climate Action Fund for the Closing Loops (sustainable food) project;
 - £15,000 from the Marmot Charitable Trust for our work on climate change and the military;
 - £15,000 from the New Weather Institute for a new project on the climate impact of sports.

We received grants towards core costs from The Martin Ryle Trust (MRT) totalling £4,270. The MRT also kindly agreed to double donations from our 2024 appeal, resulting in our best ever appeal fundraising total.

At the end of the reporting period, we had 589 members and supporters

OVERALL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS	
Opening balance 01.03.24	£26,873
Income	£83,756
Expenditure	£65,692
Income minus expenditure	£17,993
Closing balance 28.02.25	£44,938

*NB All figures rounded to the nearest pound;
totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.*

INCOME	2023-24	2024-25
Membership subscriptions	£17,405	£16,766
Annual appeal	£5,675	£17,800
Grants	£32,231	£41,660
Donations	£2,746	£5,376
Publications, lectures, consultancy, etc	£2,324	£965
Other income	£1,547	£1,190
Total	£61,927	£83,756

EXPENDITURE

Our overall expenditure in 2024-25 was similar to the previous year.

We continued to work on the Closing Loops and Military and Climate projects, and began a new project on Sports and Climate.

Communications Assistance (i.e. a part-time role focusing on SGR’s social media output) is funded from grants received in previous years with expenditure shown separately in our accounts this year.

The decision to vacate our office and have all staff working from home from September 2024 has reduced some of our core costs.

A smaller print run of our journal was possible thanks to approximately one-third of our total membership having opted to receive the journal digitally.

SGR ended the 2024-25 financial year with a significantly higher level of reserves, equivalent to about 9 months core operating costs.

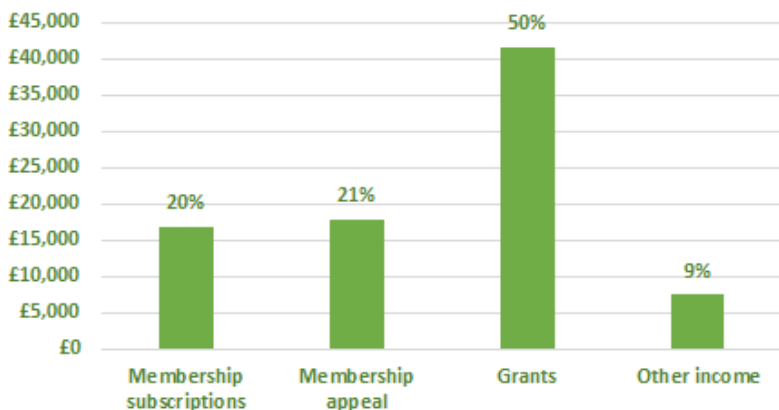
As ever, our finances continue to depend on the success of grant applications and the generosity of donors.

We are very grateful to all who supported SGR’s work this year.

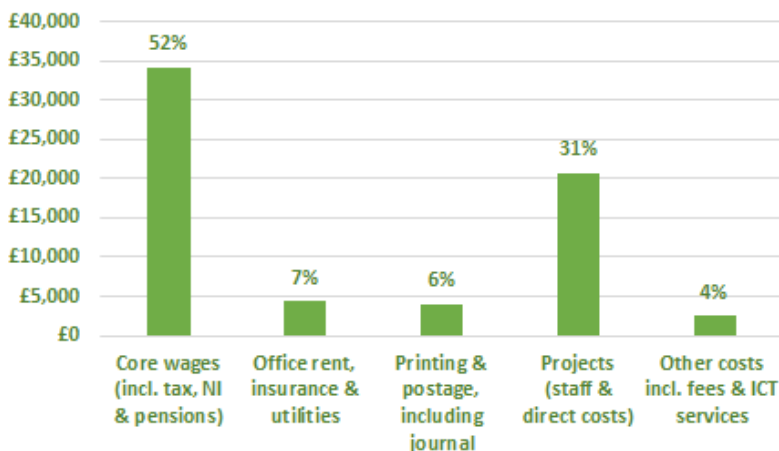
EXPENDITURE	2023-24	2024-25
Core wages (incl. NI & pensions)	£38,550	£34,147
Office rent, insurance, utilities	£6,079	£4,384
Printing & postage, incl. Responsible Science journal	£5,224	£4,021
Other core costs	£3,981	£2,473
Science 4 Society project	£75	£0
Sports & Climate project	£0	£6,242
Communications Assistance	£0	£3,605
Military & Climate project	£3,927	£4,821
Closing Loops project	£8,160	£6,000
TOTAL	£65,996	£65,692

NB All figures rounded to the nearest pound; totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.

INCOME 2024-25



EXPENDITURE 2024-25



SGR
responsible science

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