

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

COMPANY NUMBER: 03326816
CHARITY NUMBER: 1061229

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**THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Full name of the charity

The British Society for the History of Mathematics

Company registration number

03326816

Charity registration number

1061229

Governing document

Memorandum and Articles of Association

Trustees

Dr Máté Szabó (from 25 March 2023 to 15 April 2024)
Dr Jane Wess (from 9 February 2024 to 31 December 2024)
Professor Sarah Hart (until 31 December 2024)
Professor June Barrow-Green (until 31 December 2024)
Mr Simon Gardiner (until 9 July 2025)
Dr. Ciarán Mac an Bhaird
Professor Christopher Hollings
Dr Deborah Kent
Ms Dorothy Leddy
Dr Brigitte Stenhouse
Mr Tony Mann (since 13 February 2024)
Mr David Wilkinson (since 1 January 2025)
Patrick J Burchell, FCCA (since 4 April 2025)

Registered office

c/o Andrew Thurnburn & Co., 38 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU

Independent Examiner

Andrew Thurnburn, FCA, 38 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank, Carfax, 1 – 5 High Street, Oxford OX1 4AA

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The British Society for the History of Mathematics (BSHM) is a private company limited by guarantee without share capital use of 'Limited' exemption, incorporated on 3 March 1997 and registered as a charity on 13 March 1997. The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association, as amended from 4 April 2025 by a resolution at an EGM held on that date. In the event of the company being wound up each member is required to contribute £1.

Organisational structure

All Trustees are Directors, and all Directors are Trustees. The Directors are the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, plus at least two others. The affairs of BSHM are administered by a Council that comprises Directors and Co-opted members. Co-opted members are appointed by the Directors, but are not themselves Directors. There may be any number of Co-opted members. Council meets approximately quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of BSHM. At present Council has eight Directors and three Co-opted members from a variety of backgrounds relevant to BSHM's work. Sub-committees, working parties or panels are set up as and when required to deal with specific matters, and all officers report to Council at each of its meetings.

The agreement with Taylor & Francis which came into force on 1 January 2006 continues to provide benefit to BSHM and its members. An editorial board for the *British Journal for the History of Mathematics* (BJHM) provides support and assistance to the *Journal* Editor. The *Journal* is published on behalf of the Society by Taylor & Francis – the current publishing agreement came into effect at the beginning of 2017.

All Directors, Co-opted members and administrators are volunteers and receive no remuneration for their services. BSHM has no employees.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected to serve for one year at the Annual General Meeting. The President may not serve more than three consecutive years as President. The other Trustees, other than the two who have been appointed as Treasurer and as Secretary, may not serve more than five consecutive years.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees receive an overview of the organisation and key documents such as the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Annual Report and Statement of Financial Affairs, and receive informal advice and assistance in familiarising themselves with their new role. They also receive information directly from the Charity Commission on the responsibilities of Trustees.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees has a public liability insurance policy to cover all members against claims while working on Society business. An informal risk assessment is conducted as part of the planning process for each activity and all steps necessary are taken to minimise any risks to participants, organisers, meeting venues or the general public.

Objectives and Activities

The Society's charitable objects are:

- (1) to promote and encourage research in the history of mathematics and the dissemination of the results of such research;
- (2) to promote and develop for the public benefit, awareness, knowledge, study and teaching of the history of mathematics; and
- (3) to promote the use of the history of mathematics at all levels in mathematics education in order to enhance the teaching of mathematics for the public benefit.

The Society organises conferences and meetings, publishes a *Journal* in conjunction with a leading academic publisher, disseminates information about research and research findings in the history of mathematics and related fields, and promotes general activities in the history of mathematics.

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Continued)

Achievements and Performance

Presidential Report for 2024

During 2024, we organised and supported many successful meetings: Research in Progress (March), the Pi Day Quiz (March), the Kelvin meeting jointly with the LMS (June), a meeting in memory of David Singmaster (September), Black Heroes of Mathematics (October), and our annual meeting at Gresham College (October). Our Meetings Coordinator, Brigitte Stenhouse, is to be thanked and congratulated for pulling all of these together.

We have given out funds through our Small Grants Scheme, and have also part-funded the Novembertagung, the annual European meeting for research students in the history of mathematics. We have continued to support our HiMED lecturers to give talks in schools about the history of mathematics, and we have again awarded our undergraduate essay prize and our schools essay prize.

This year has seen some turnover in the people who help to run the society: Troy Astarte stepped down as Web Admin, to be succeeded by Meg Briers; Máté Szabó left council upon taking up a new job in California; Jane Wess has stepped down as Secretary; Simon Gardiner has similarly stepped down as Treasurer, but will stay on as a Trustee of the society while the handover to the new Treasurer is completed. At this AGM, we also see the end of Sarah Hart's year as Immediate Past President, following an immensely successful term as President of the society. Finally, but certainly not least, June Barrow-Green has stepped down from council after having served the society in various capacities for over 30 years. Very many thanks to all of the people named here.

A society like ours could not run without the hard work and good humour of the volunteers who continue to make up its council, and who contribute to its successes in other ways. An enormous thank you to them all.

Christopher Hollings, President, December 2024

Membership Secretary's report 2024

The following table shows the number of BSHM members paying subscriptions to the Society for 2024, and for the previous two years.

	2024	2023	2022
Ordinary	130	137	153
Retired/Concession	101	100	111
Under 25 years	8	15	18
from CSHPM	35	43	47
Total	274	295	329

	2024	2023	2022
External Subscriptions			
Historia Mathematica	48	49	54
CSHPM	24	29	28

BSHM and the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Mathematics (CSHPM) allow members of either Society to take our reciprocal membership of the other. BSHM members may also subscribe to the journal *Historia Mathematica* through the Society.

I took over as Membership Secretary from Dr Ken Lord in January 2024, and I would like to place on record my gratitude to Dr Lord for his support and advice. I am also grateful to Simon Gardiner and David Wilkinson for their assistance.

Tony Mann, BSHM Membership Secretary, August 2025

**THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Continued)**

Journal Editor's report 2024

The *British Journal for the History of Mathematics* continues to serve the Society's charitable aims by publishing research on a wide spectrum of topics in the history of mathematics and its uses in education.

Volume 39 (2024) contained ten research articles ranging from ancient to contemporary topics, plus obituaries, reports of the Society's meetings, and Society news.

Readership of the journal has been increasing more or less steadily since 2021 (the earliest year for which I have data). In 2024 the journal achieved 23766 downloads (up from 21287 in 2023). The top locations of downloads were the United States, the United Kingdom, and China, in that order.

I would like to thank Nicolas Michel, who took on the role of Book Reviews Editor late in 2024. The role had been vacant for the previous 20 months, with a consequent dearth of reviews in Volume 39 of the journal. I am also grateful to the editorial board for their support in encouraging and refereeing submissions. The staff at Taylor & Francis have as always done much to ensure the successful running of the *Bulletin* by their support and hard work. Finally, many thanks are due to all those who submitted work for consideration: the *BJHM* depends on its contributors and we are very pleased that we have continued to attract excellent submissions from many parts of the world.

Isobel Falconer, Editor, August 2025

Services

The BSHM arranges activities as described under Objectives and Activities on page 3. None of the Society's services or activities includes regulated work activities with children or vulnerable adults.

Principal Funding Sources

The principal source of funding currently is voluntary donations in the form of membership subscriptions. The publishers Taylor & Francis make a contribution towards the editorial expenses of the *Journal*. All funds received are applied directly to work in the furtherance of meeting our charitable objects.

Plans for Future Periods

Trustees continue to work towards a growth in membership, with particular effort being applied to bringing in students and younger graduates. In line with these aims and with the desire to offer a flexible and inclusive series of meetings each year, the Trustees provide a mix of online-only, hybrid, and in-person-only events, so as to reach the broadest possible audience to promote the history of mathematics. The Trustees conducted a review of processes and policies of the society in 2024, to ensure that they remain fit for purpose. As a result we adopted revised Articles in April 2025.

Investment Policy

The council decided in 2019 to invest part of the Society's reserves in 1-2 year fixed rate deposits in order to benefit from higher interest rates. In 2023, this policy continued with 6 to 12 month fixed rate deposit accounts until in 2024 we moved all our liquid funds into accounts with Lloyds Bank. The Society has no monies held in speculative investments.

**THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Continued)**

Reserves Policy

Monies not allocated to be used in the current year are to be deposited at a favourable rate of interest with a UK bank covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. All funds are held in a form suitable for use in the short to medium term.

Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

Charity and company law require the Board of Trustees, as Trustees and the Directors of the company, to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the results for the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Board of Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Board of Trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006;
- safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities; and
- compliance with the UK's Anti Money Laundering and Combatting Funding of Terrorism legislation.

Status of the BSHM as a Company

The company is a registered charity and is thereby exempt from income tax and corporation tax on its income and gains.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005).

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 17 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
David Wilkinson – *Director and Trustee*

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The British Society for the History of Mathematics (the Charitable Company) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Charitable Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

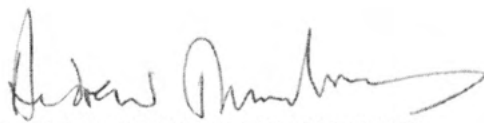
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).
- (4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland – FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Andrew Thurnburn
Andrew Thurnburn & Co.
Chartered Accountants
38 Tamworth Road
Croydon CR0 1XU

17 September 2025

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds:			
Investment Income		883	1,982
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities:			
Conferences & academic meetings		1,763	532
Historia Mathematica subscriptions		1,960	2,040
Membership subscriptions		6,174	6,459
Reciprocal membership - CSHPM		680	756
Journal Income		5,146	4,798
Donations & miscellaneous		95	392
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		16,701	16,959
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Resources Expended on Charitable Activities:			
Awards & Projects		2,043	1,970
Publications	3	4,824	4,693
Advancing charitable interests	4	5,750	3,344
Governance costs	5	1,837	1,409
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		14,454	11,416
Net Income for Year		2,247	5,543
Fund Balances Brought Forward		98,221	92,678
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		100,468	98,221

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	4,568	3,702
Cash at bank and in hand		106,015	104,425
		<u>110,583</u>	<u>108,127</u>
 Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	7	(10,115)	(9,906)
 NET ASSETS		<u>100,468</u>	<u>98,221</u>
 Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	8	100,468	98,221
Restricted funds	9	-	-
		<u>100,468</u>	<u>98,221</u>

In preparing these financial statements:

- (a) the directors are of the opinion that the company is entitled to the exemption from audit conferred by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006;
- (b) no notice has been deposited under Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- (c) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:
 - (i) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and
 - (ii) 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 profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 17 September 2025.



.....
David Wilkinson - Director and Trustee

**THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The British Society for the History of Mathematics is a private charitable company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number is 03326816 and the registered office address can be found on page 2.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the Financial Statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", the Companies Act 2006 and the revised Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted: these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated: these are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted: these are funds which are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations are recognised as they are received except in the case where they relate to a specific future project, in which case they are deferred until the commencement of that project.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Subscriptions received in advance of next year are carried forward in the balance sheet and will be included in the Statement of Financial Activities for the following year.
- Other income, including publication sales and conference and academic meetings income, is included in the accounts when receivable.

Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

Taxation

As a charity, the company is not normally liable to corporation tax and has incurred no charge this year.

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(Continued)

3. PUBLICATION COSTS	2024	2023
	£	£
Journal Costs	2,400	2,400
Historia Mathematica	2,424	2,293
	<u>4,824</u>	<u>4,693</u>
 4. ADVANCING CHARITABLE INTERESTS	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Conferences and academic meetings	5,144	2,741
External relations	170	170
Insurance	185	96
Website	251	337
	<u>5,750</u>	<u>3,344</u>
 5. GOVERNANCE COSTS	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Bank Charges and Interest	418	88
Council Expenses	202	538
Accountancy	903	695
IT Costs	291	75
Other Costs	23	13
	<u>1,837</u>	<u>1,409</u>
 6. DEBTORS	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Other debtors	4,568	3,702
	<u>4,568</u>	<u>3,702</u>
 7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Subscriptions received in advance	3,063	2,646
Other Creditors	8	-
Accruals	7,044	7,260
	<u>10,115</u>	<u>9,906</u>

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(Continued)

8. UNRESTRICTED RESERVES	General Fund £	Designated HiMEd Fund £	Designated John Fauvel Fund £	Total £
At 1 January 2024	70,288	21,404	6,529	98,221
Income	16,701	-	-	16,701
Expenditure	(14,454)	-	-	(14,454)
At 31 December 2024	<u>72,535</u>	<u>21,404</u>	<u>6,529</u>	<u>100,468</u>

DESIGNATED FUNDS

The John Fauvel Fund

This fund was established in 2001 as a result of a bequest from the late John Fauvel who was a very active member, former President of BSHM and long-term Newsletter (now *Journal*) Editor. The money was provided for Council to use as it sees fit without restriction in order to enable the society to promote its charitable objects and to increase opportunities for others to participate in activities related to the history of mathematics.

The History of Mathematics Education (HiMEd) Fund

This fund was established as a result of a number of generous donations and bequests. The money was provided for council to use as it sees fit without restriction to enable the Society to promote its charitable objects and to enhance its work in promoting the greater use of history in mathematics education. From 2015 the fund is being used to provide subsidies for 'Student'/'Under 25' attendance at BSHM events and since 2021 it provides the funding for the HiMEd Awards in the History of Mathematics.

9. RESTRICTED RESERVES

Our remaining restricted reserves (£700 as at 31 December 2022) were fully expended in calendar year 2023.

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(Continued)

10. LAST YEAR COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Investment Income	1,982	-	1,982
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities	14,977	-	14,977
	<u>16,959</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,959</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Charitable Activities	9,307	700	10,007
Governance Costs	1,409		1,409
	<u>10,716</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>11,416</u>
Net Income for the year	6,243	- 700	5,543
Fund Balances Brought Forward	91,978	700	92,678
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD	<u>98,221</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,221</u>