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

### ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

COMPANY NUMBER: 03326816 CHARITY NUMBER: 1061229



#### THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS

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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

3326816

#### Charity registration number

1061229

#### **Governing document**

Memorandum and Articles of Association

#### **Trustees**

Dr Troy Astarte (since 1 January 2019)

Professor June Barrow-Green

Dr Isobel Falconer

Dr Christopher Hollings (until 31 December 2019)

Dr Snezana Lawrence

Ms Dorothy Leddy

Dr Ken Lord

Dr Mark McCartney

Dr Klaas Sijbrandij

Dr Fenny Smith

Professor Robin Wilson (since 1 January 2019)

#### Registered office

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

#### **Independent Examiner**

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

#### **Bankers**

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

#### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, 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. In the event of the company being wound up each member is required to contribute £1.

#### Recruitment and appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are elected to serve for one year at the Annual General Meeting. The President and those Trustees not appointed to an officer post may not serve more than three consecutive years in that capacity. The Board of Trustees establishes a Nominations Committee each year to advise on suitable potential Trustees but there is also an established procedure whereby names of other candidates may be put forward for election.

#### 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.

#### Organisational structure

The charity has a Board of Trustees of up to 14 members who meet approximately quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The Board consists of 8 officers, 3 members elected at the AGM and up to 3 additional members co-opted by the Board. At present, the Board has 11 members from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. Subcommittees, working parties or panels are set up as and when required to deal with specific matters and all officers report to the Board at each of its meetings.

An Administrative Assistant provides support for the Treasurer and Membership Secretary. The agreement with Taylor & Francis which came into force on 1 January 2006 continues to provide benefit to the Society and its members. An editorial board for the *British Journal for the History of Mathematics* provides support and assistance to the *Journal* Editor and a Journal Management Board oversees the working of the agreement. The Journal is published on behalf of the Society by Taylor & Francis – a new publishing agreement came into effect at the beginning of 2017.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The Society's charitable objects are:

- (1) to promote and encourage research into the history of mathematics and the dissemination of the results of that research;
- (2) to develop awareness of the history of mathematics for the public benefit; and
- (3) to support teachers and lecturers at all levels of mathematics education to incorporate the history of mathematics into their teaching, enriching their students' experience.

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.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

#### Presidential Report for 2019

I am pleased to report that throughout 2019 the Society has continued to remain in a very healthy state, in terms of its activities, its membership and its finances. As the Statement of Financial Activities shows, financially we continue to be on a solid footing, and as the membership report shows our total membership remains steady.

This year has seen the launch of the Taylor & Francis Early Career Essay Prize (which is generously funded in its totality by T&F). Part of this prize will be to be appointed as a social media co-ordinator for the society. This prize will not only help to promote and reward work at graduate level but will also help to increase the visibility of the Society in the wider academic community. This visibility comes both from the existence of prize itself and in the creation of a social media co-ordinator to help further increase the society's impact on social media networks.

The Society now has a set of awards which supports the study and promotion of the history of mathematics at secondary school level (the BSHM-Plus Prize), undergraduate level (The Undergraduate Essay Prize) and at postgraduate level. On top of this is the now long running Neumann book prize awarded to a popular book on the history of mathematics; and the fact that the LMS Hirst Lecture for the History of Mathematics is now awarded jointly by the LMS and BSHM.

All these prizes help to fulfil our charitable aims by promoting the history of mathematics in the educational and wider community. However, they also have the attendant benefit of bringing the Society to the attention of the wider community. This latter point is important as it helps to enable us to maintain and increase our membership base, which further, helps is to fulfil our charitable aims.

At the beginning of 2019 the BSHM Bulletin was re-branded as the British Journal for the History of Mathematics, following an increase in the size of the editorial board in 2018. The refreshed title emphasizes the national base of the journal, while maintaining clear branding as the journal of our Society. The widening of the editorial board to include a range of international academics will help to increase the global reach of both the journal and the Society. I would like to thank the journal editor Benjamin Wardhaugh for his work with T&F in thinking through, and implementing, the changes to the journal.

Over the last year we have continued to have a successful range of events. In January there was a BSHM lecture in Belfast run in conjunction with the NI Science Festival and the Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society. This was followed in February by Research in Progress in Oxford; the Hirst lecture in London in March; a day on the History of Recreational Mathematics at Birkbeck, London in May; our Rewley House meeting, in Oxford, this year on the Mathematics of Populations. In August was the Maynooth conference on the History of Mathematics in Ireland; September saw us contribute to the Stokes200 Conference in Pembroke College, Cambridge. In the autumn we have had our annual Gresham lectures in London, and a day celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Savilian Professors of Geometry at Oxford. Finally, was our Christmas meeting in December.

A large number of people have been involving in the organisation of these meetings, including Chris Hollings, Brigitte Stenhouse, Sarah Hart, Ciarán Mac an Bhaird, Philip Beeley and Robin Wilson. I want to thank them for all their work. Further, Isobel Falconer, our Meetings Co-ordinator, has been involved in many of the above meetings, sometimes taking a supporting role, and sometimes very heavily engaged. I want to thank her for the work she does in this regard.

Chris Hollings stepped down from serving a four-year term of duty on Council in 2019, I want to thank him for all his work on Council and for the Society.

I also want to thank all the other members of Council who I have had the pleasure of serving with during 2019. As I said last year, it is only since I have been serving as President (and hence been copied in on a much wider range of correspondence) that I have gained an insight into the substantial amount of time and effort that Council members put into ensuring the Society continues to run both smoothly and effectively. Without their commitment and enthusiasm, the Society would be unable to function.

#### Membership Secretary's report 2019

#### The Numbers

	2019	2018	2017
UK members	223	212	218
Overseas members	85	98	93
Total	308	310	311
Ordinary	138	137	136
Retired/Concession	110	113	116
Under 25	8	3	4
from CSHPM	44	53	51
Prize Winners	8	4	4
Total	308	310	311
External Subscriptions	2019	2018	2017
Historia Mathematica	54	55	60
CSHPM	16	19	15
Direct debit payments	159	157	159

#### Notes

The membership numbers continue around the 300 level (where we have been for recent years).

We had 159 members who paid by direct debit, which is the method most helpful to BSHM in terms of administrative time. Other methods of payment (cash, cheques and online) are spread over the year and take much more time per transaction for our administrative volunteers to administer.

Ken Lord, Membership Secretary

18 October 2020

#### Journal Editor's report 2019

The *British Journal for the History of Mathematics* (formerly the *BSHM Bulletin*) 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 34 (2019) contained eleven research articles ranging from prehistory to the twentieth century, plus book reviews and reports of the Society's meetings. Following the previous year's move to full peer review of all research articles published, the decision was made – with the agreement of the BSHM's Council and of the publisher, Taylor & Francis – to change the title to *British Journal for the History of Mathematics*. It was hoped that this would give a clearer sense of the publication's aims and profile, and help to attract high-quality submissions.

The editor is grateful to Isobel Falconer for her work on book reviews and meetings reports, and 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 *Journal* 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.

#### Benjamin Wardhaugh, Journal Editor

19 October 2020

#### **Services**

BSHM arranges activities as described under Objectives and Activities on page 3. None of the Society's services or activities includes work 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 are working towards a growth in membership, with particular effort being applied to bringing in students and younger graduates. This will lay down a basis for continuity into the future. The Trustees have adopted a very positive approach to co-operation with other societies and related disciplines in order to promote the history of mathematics in a flexible way. Areas such as mathematics education, the history of computing and computation, the history of statistics and the marking of significant relevant anniversaries have received particular attention recently and will continue to do so.

#### **Investment Policy**

Historically BSHM retained all its funds in deposit accounts. However, given the continued low interest environment, Council has 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. It has no monies held in speculative investments.

#### **Reserves Policy**

Monies which are not allocated to be used in the current year are held in reserves at the most favourable rate of interest obtainable. 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 Directors, 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.

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.

#### **Status of the 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 5 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:
Klaas Sijbrandij – Director and Trustee

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

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2019 which are set out on pages 9 to 14.

#### Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having been satisfied that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with s386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the
    accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of
    the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised
    2005) have not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

5 December 2020

## THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		_	_	_	_
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds:					
Investment income		260	-	260	28
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities:		0.070		0.070	4.000
Conferences & academic meetings		2,379	_	2,379	4,323
Historia Mathematica subscriptions Membership subscriptions		1,944 6,810		1,944 6,810	1,980 7,499
Reciprocal membership – CSHPM		629		629	7,499 794
Journal income		4,328	_	4,328	4,817
Donations & miscellaneous		1,210		1,210	325
Boriation a micronariocae					
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		17,560		17,560	19,766
RESOURCES EXPENDED Charitable Activities:					•
Awards & Projects	2	2,237	700	2,937	886
Publications	3	4,599	-	4,599 6.150	4,218
Advancing charitable interests Governance costs	4 5	6,150 3,136		6,150 3,136	7,789 3,655
Governance costs					
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		16,122	700	16,822	16,548
Net Income for Year		1,438	(700)	738	3,218
Fund Balances Brought Forward		69,396	2,100	71,496	68,278
FUND DAY ANGEO CARRIED FORWARD		70.001	4 400	70.004	74.400
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		70,834	1,400	72,234	71,496

### THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	£	2019 £	£	2018 £
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	6	2,721 75,221	2	3,079 74,777	L
Craditara, Amazanta fallina			77,942		77,856
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7		(5,707)		(6,360)
NET ASSETS			72,234		71,496
Represented by: Unrestricted funds Restricted funds	8 9		70,834 1,400		69,396 2,100
			72,234		71,496

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 5 December 2020.

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Klaas Sijbrandij			
Director and Trustee			

## THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

#### 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 2019 (Continued)

3.	PUBLICATION COSTS	2019 £	2018 £
	Journal costs	2,549	1,985
	Historia Mathematica	2,051	2,233
		4,599	4,218
4.	ADVANCING CHARITABLE INTERESTS	2019	2018
	Conferences and academic meetings	£ 4,920	£ 6,273
	Publicity	270	530
	External relations	170	170
	Insurance	293	293
	Website	498	523 ———
		6,150	7,789
			<u> </u>
5.	GOVERNANCE COSTS	2019	2018
	Bank Charges and Interest	£ 130	£ 148
	Council Expenses	2,135	2,635
	Accountancy	678	657
	IT Costs	167	144
	Other Costs	26 	71 ———
		3,136	3,655
6.	DEBTORS	2019	2018
	Other debtors	£ 2,721	£ 3,079
	Other debtors		3,079
7.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2019 £	2018 £
	Accruals	5,707	6,360
		5,707	6,360

# THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (Continued)

8.	UNRESTRICTED RESERVES	General Fund £	Designated Neil Bibby Fund £	Designated John Fauvel Fund £	Total £
	At 1 January 2019 Income Expenditure	40,298 17,560 (15,724)	22,569 (398)	6,529	69,396 17,560 (16,122)
	At 31 December 2019	42,134	22,171	6,529	70,834
9.	RESTRICTED RESERVES				
	Neumann Prize At 1 January 2019 Income				<b>£</b> 2,100
	Expenditure				(700)
	At 31 December 2019				1,400

#### **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 Neil Bibby Fund

This fund was established as a result of a donation by Mrs Katherine Bibby in memory of her son, Neil, who died in 2002. This was augmented by a generous bequest from Mrs Bibby when she died a year later. Neil was a very enthusiastic BSHM Council member and meeting organiser who was deeply committed to all aspects of the society's work, especially the educational aspects. 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.

#### **RESTRICTED RESERVES**

As a result of generous donations received in 2016, the value of the biennial Neumann Prize, for a book on the History of Mathematics aimed at a general audience, was increased to £1,000 per award. These donations, shown as restricted reserves, part funded the past three awards and will part fund the next two awards.

# THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (Continued)

#### 10. LAST YEAR COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2018 £
Investment Income Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities	28 19,738	-	28 19,738
	19,766		19,766
RESOURCES EXPENDED Charitable Activities Governance Costs	12,893 3,655	-	12,893 3,655
	16,548		16,548
Net Income (Expenditure) For Year Fund Balances Brought Forward	3,218 66,178	2,100	3,218 68,278
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD	69,396	2,100	71,496