

THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Royal Numismatic Society was founded in 1836 under the name of The Numismatic Society of London, receiving a Royal Charter in 1904, since when it has been called The Royal Numismatic Society. It is governed by its Bylaws. It is a registered charity (no. 221850). The Society is established for the purpose of encouraging the study of the coinage of all countries and its history.

The trustees of the Society for the year ended 31st December 2020 were the officers and members of Council:-

President: Roger Bland
Vice Presidents: Martin Allen and Helen Wang
Honorary Vice President: Andrew Burnett
Secretaries: Henry Flynn and Megan Gooch
Treasurer: Peter Knapton (until June 2020); Paul Hill (from June 2020)
Librarian: Bradley Shepherd
Members: Jennifer Adam
Matthew Ball
Simon Glenn
Stanley Ireland
Abigail Kenvyn
Marcus Phillips (editor, *Numismatic Chronicle*)
Clare Rowan (editor, Special Publications)

In March 2020 the Society's affairs were disrupted by the Covid 19 pandemic. The only physical meetings that were possible were those in January and February. The meetings in March, April and May were cancelled, while those in June, October, November and December were held on Zoom. The AGM which would normally have been held in June was postponed.

Council met in person in February and on Zoom in April, June, October and December. All officers (with the exception of the Treasurer) and members of the Council agreed to serve for a further year from October 2020 because it was not possible to hold an AGM in June.

The President is elected at an AGM, for a period of up to five years. All other Officers and members of Council are normally elected at an AGM for a period of one year. The Byelaws require the election of three new Council members each year, but that was waived in 2020 because it was not possible to hold an AGM due to the pandemic.

Together with Marcus Phillips, Richard Ashton and Susan Tyler-Smith continued as joint editors of Numismatic Chronicle and Tyler-Smith was also a joint editor of Special Publications together with Clare Rowan. Ashton and Tyler-Smith are not Officers or Trustees of the Society.

The registered address of the charity is c/o Dept. of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London WC1B 3DG. The Society's activities are governed by its Charter and Byelaws, and Regulations. A new version of the Bye-Laws were approved by the Privy Council in August 2019.

The Society normally holds meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, from January to June and October to December at the Institute for Advanced Legal Study, Russell Square, but see above. A substantive paper is read.

The Society publishes *The Numismatic Chronicle* each year, which is distributed free to Fellows. Copies are also available for sale to the general public and Spink & Son Limited distribute them and Special Publications on behalf of the Society. A digital newsletter is published eight times a year before each meeting. Fellows also receive the Money & Medals newsletter by email.

The Society also produces a series of Special Publications; 3 titles were published in 2020 in 5 volumes:

SP 56 Sheedy, Kenneth A. and Davis, Gillan, *Metallurgy in Numismatics 6 - Mines, Metals, and Money: Ancient World Studies in Science, Archaeology and History* (edited by Roger Bland)

SP 57 Crisà, Antonino, Gkikaki, Mairi and Rowan, Clare (eds.), *Tokens: Culture, Connections and Communities* (edited by Clare Rowan)

SP 58 Burnett, Andrew, *The Hidden Treasures of this Happy Island - A History of Numismatics in Britain from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment*. 3 vols. (edited by Roger Bland)

This work, in three volumes, was published jointly with the British Numismatic Society and is, by some margin, the most ambitious publication undertaken by the Society.

SP 59 Nurpetlian, Jack, *Coinage in the Orontes Valley of Syria (1st century BC - 3rd century AD)* was published in January 2021.

The Society holds a substantial library, jointly with the British Numismatic Society, housed at The Warburg Institute in Woburn Square, London. An agreement was concluded with the Warburg in November 2019, whereby the management of the Library is to be transferred to the Warburg, while the two societies retain ownership of the books.

The Society administers nine Grant and Prize Funds, using money donated to the Society for specific purposes. From these moneys, grants and prizes totalling [Paul to add figure] were awarded to individuals and organisations. The Society is a member of the International Numismatic Commission and is affiliated to the British Association of Numismatic Societies.

The trustees consider that the Society's various activities further its purposes for the public benefit. They have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Decisions regarding the distribution of Grants, either from the Society's General Funds, or from the Designated or Restricted Funds are taken at the regular Council Meetings, after considering the recommendations of relevant Council officers or subcommittees. The level of General Funds is normally maintained at an amount between two and three years normal annual expenditure. The Society's total funds amounted to £[Paul to add figure] at 31 December 2019. Its finances are kept under review by a Finance and Investment Sub-Committee.

The Society is financed by an annual subscription payable by both private and institutional fellows, with a reduced subscription for full-time students, together with income from investments. The full annual subscription is £45 and the student rate £20. The officers of the Society offer their services on a voluntary basis, although a paid administrator does work for the Society for normally one day per week. In this way, governance costs are kept to a minimum.

The Society's website is at <http://numismatics.org.uk>. The Society currently has about 550 fellows.

Approved by the Council, and signed on its behalf by:

M. Gooch, Hon Secretary
Date: November 2021

H. Flynn, Hon. Secretary
Date: November 2021