Officers and Council

- At the Anniversary Meeting on 23 November 2018 the Officers of the Society were re-elected.

- Under By-law XXII, Dr Z Laidlaw (Honorary Secretary) retired early in August 2018. Dr A G Harris, BA, MA, MDiv, DPhil was elected in her place.

- Under By-law XV, Dr A W M Smith PhD was elected Honorary Co-Director of Communications.

- The Members of Council retiring under By-law XX were Professor J Barrow, Professor E Chalus and Professor P Skinner. Dr A Budd, BA, MA, MA, PhD, Professor C W Marsh, BA, PhD and Professor H J Nicholson, BA, MA, PhD were elected in their place.

- The Society’s administrative staff consists of Dr Sue Carr (Executive Secretary, Dr Katherine Foxhall (Research and Communications Officer), and Ms Imogen Evans (Administrative Secretary). Dr Christopher Kissane (Research and Communications Office left the Society in February 2019) and Ms Kerry Manning (Administrative Secretary) left the Society in June 2019.

- Moore Kingston Smith were re-appointed auditors for the year 2018-2019 under By-law XXXIX.

- Brewin Dolphin Securities were re-appointed to manage the Society’s investment funds.

Overview of Activities of the Society during the financial year (1 July 2018-30 June 2019):

During 2018-19 the Society continued to support excellence in History teaching in schools and universities and to foster historical research undertaken by postgraduate students and postdoctoral researchers within and beyond the UK. Our programme of public lectures and symposia in and outside London brought new historical research findings to a broad audience of both professional and non-professional historians. The Society’s engagement with publishing expanded in new directions alongside continued support for our Camden, Studies in History and Transactions outputs. The Royal Historical Society’s ambitious programme of work to promote equality, diversity and inclusion in historical study and research has informed discussions and strategic thinking in many university History departments and cultural organizations in the UK and attracted the attention of learned societies in other Humanities and Social Science disciplines.

Both in our own right and collaboratively with organisations such as the Economic History Society, the Historical Association and History UK, the Royal Historical Society has worked actively to promote History in schools, to foster improvements in UK History students’ experiences of the transition from school to university and to support high-calibre university-level History teaching. The report of the Education Policy Committee (below) draws attention to several aspects of this programme of activities. Substantial progress has been made on the
open access Teaching and Learning Portal, which the Society plans to launch, initially with a focus on university teaching of History, in autumn 2020. July 2019 saw the society make its second annual Jinty Nelson Award for Inspirational Teaching and Supervision in History to Professor Julia Crick (King’s College London). Additionally, a new RHS Prize for Innovation in Teaching was awarded for the first time, to Drs James Baker and Sharon Webb of the University of Sussex.

The Royal Historical Society fosters excellent research at multiple levels, most notably by sponsoring public lectures and events, by funding early career historians, by responding to UK and international policy consultations and as a publisher. The programme of public lectures approved by the General Purposes committee for the financial year 2018-2019 featured six London-based lectures, including the annual Colin Matthew Memorial Lecture, which is organised, in conjunction with Gresham College and this year featured Professor Tom Williamson speaking on ‘How Natural is Natural? Historical Perspectives on Wildlife and the Environment in England’. The annual programme also saw the Society sponsor a campus-visit by Council members and a public lecture by Professor David Arnold on ‘Death and Modern Empire: The 1918-19 Influenza Epidemic in India’ at the University of Strathclyde (September 2018) and a campus visit and symposium on ‘Reflections on the Centenary of the First World War’ at the Open University (May 2019). Podcasts which can be accessed from the Society’s website (https://royalhistsoc.org/category/podcasts/) make many of these lectures freely available to students and the general public.

The Transactions of the Royal Historical Society (volume 28) brought hard-copy versions of many of the public lectures read at the Society’s regional and London events to the membership as well as to a wider national and international audience. Institutional subscriptions to Transactions also include access to our Camden volumes—three of which were published in this session. 2018-19 witnessed not only the publication of the 100th volume in the Society’s longstanding Studies in History series (Boydell & Brewer), but also substantial work towards publication (in October 2019) of the first volume in our fully open access New Historical Perspectives book series (University of London Press), a collaboration with the Institute of Historical Research. Also undertaken in collaboration with the IHR, the Society’s online Bibliography of British and Irish History was prepared for the introduction of a new bibliographic platform (BBIn), which we hope will, in 2019-20, enhance the operation of this vital resource for students and researchers. Substantial attention has also been devoted by the Society in this session to assessing the potential impact of new open access mandates being formulated by key UK and European funders for researchers who receive financial support for their research. The Policy pages of our website (https://royalhistsoc.org/policy/publication-open-access/) provide open access to the Society’s working papers and reports on this important new frontier in the publishing landscape. The expertise of our new Digital Committee is significantly enhancing the Society’s ability to engage with these new developments in research and publication.

Support for early career historians lies at the heart of the Society’s activities each year, and 2018-19 was no exception to this long-established rule. The Research Support Committee’s peer-review of applications submitted by PhD students and early career researchers resulted in disbursement of £62,512.46. As detailed in the committee report below, a total of 199 awards by the Royal Historical Society allowed researchers from 42 UK and 5 international institutions - the latter supported by a generous subvention from the Past & Present Society - to conduct original historical research or to share their research findings at conferences, while a further 41 awards to conference organisers supported the attendance of early career historians at UK
events. A few selected examples of conference attendance funded by the Society, drawn from the comprehensive list of awards recorded in the committee’s report, convey the diversity and range of the research being undertaken by the next generation of historians. Panarat Anamwathana (University of Oxford) presented research at the World Economics History Congress in Massachusetts, Iona Baker (University of Glasgow) attended the ‘Ruling Sexualities: Sexuality, Gender and the Crown’ conference at Winchester, Fabienne Chamelot (University of Portsmouth) travelled to France for ‘(De)constructing Colonial Archives’, Mattias Eken (University of St Andrews) presented at the annual meeting of the US-based Society for Military History, Georgina Fitzgibbon (University of Birmingham) presented at the 31st annual Medieval Studies Symposium: ‘On the Road: Medieval Travel and Travellers’ in Indiana, Ivona Posedi (University of Lincoln) attended the 21st Congress of the Association Internationale pour l’Histoire du Verry in Istanbul and Sha Zhou (King’s College, London) attended ‘Oral History @ Work: Recording Change in Working Lives’ in Swansea. The continued generosity of the Society’s former President, Professor Peter Marshall, allowed us again to augment the Society’s annual award of the Centenary postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute of Historical Research with a year-long Marshall Fellowship as well.

The Society has, in the past decade or so, played an increasingly proactive role in research policy engagement, in an effort to ensure that the needs of Humanities and Social Science researchers such as historians are taken into account in discussions in which the STEM subjects often dominate. Members of the Research Policy Committee were for example actively engaged in the consultation process surrounding and the framing of the REF2021 exercise. The committee’s chair has also worked to enhance the dissemination of accurate information about REF2021 to our stakeholders. Important work has also been undertaken by the Society’s Research and Communications officer, in conjunction with the Research Policy Committee, to research and disambiguate the impact of new GDPR requirements for historians. The Society will publish an open access guidance document based on this research in the coming session.

The Council members who serve on our Membership Committee have undertaken very substantial duties on behalf of the Society in peer-reviewing applications for the Membership and Fellowship. The addition of 368 new Members and Fellows in the past session has seen our total membership rise to 4,381. We have begun to explore much more systematically who is (and who is not) applying for the Membership and Fellowship, as part of a broader effort to support the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) alongside the Society’s commitment to excellence. Vice Presidents Professor Frances Andrews and Professor Olivette Otele have taken up key briefs that support these goals. Our work in this area has very much been assisted by the publication in October 2018 of the Society’s Race, Ethnicity & Equality: A Report & Resource for Change and its publication in November 2018 of Promoting Gender Equality in UK History: A Second report and Recommendations for Good Practice. Both reports are available to download without charge from the Society’s Policy pages (https://royalhistsoc.org/policy/). The Society’s working group on Race, Ethnicity & Equality continued to work throughout the session. A summary of the impact of the working group and its report in the year since the report’s publication is in preparation for the November 2019 Council meeting.

Sustaining and expanding the Society’s membership plays a vital role in maintaining our financial base and also enhances our ability to speak effectively for the full range of historical practice and practitioners. The Finance Committee’s report notes the many demands on our coffers. Our investment income makes a significant contribution to our ability to provide substantial funding for early career historians’ research activities and publications. We have
also been proactive in seeking additional funding for specific time-limited projects, and in this context gratefully acknowledge awards from the Economic History Society, the Linbury Trust, the Marc Fitch Foundation, the Past & Present Society and the Raising Trust. The full list of our donors (below) provides a forceful reminder of the many individuals whose generosity also underpins the Society’s activities. These annual gifts, together with the income from bequests made by former Fellows and Members, allow the Royal Historical Society to sustain our traditional programme of activities while being innovative in our approach to the development of new initiatives.

EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE 2018-19 (Chair: Professor Kenneth Fincham)

The Education Policy Committee meets three times a year to consider all matters relating to History Education from secondary schools through to postgraduates. Our membership consists of three elected councillors and nine officers, very ably supported by four co-opted members who bring to our discussions a wealth of expertise and insights. The quartet is Dr Peter D'Sena (History UK, and the former History Subject lead at HEA); Dr Michael Maddison (in times past Ofsted’s National Adviser for History, now representing the Historical Association); John Siblon, a teacher at City & Islington College, PhD student in History at Birkbeck and a member of the Society’s Race and Ethnicity working party; and Dr Andrew Foster, a former Vice-President of the Society and Chair of the Committee 2007-9.

Alongside developing its own strategic planning and initiatives, the committee keeps a close eye on government policy and responses to official consultations. The claims that humanities’ degrees represent poor value for money, plus the recommendations of the Augar Report, make it imperative that the Society and the Fellowship develop a plausible narrative on the good quality of teaching and benefits of a history degree. We had a valuable discussion, in September, of the results the Student Academic Experience Survey, which showed that History (alongside Philosophical Studies) scored extremely well on most measures of teaching quality, although this did not translate into the degree as ‘good’ value for money, as a result of ‘low’ contact hours. We hope to share this data, and its implications, later in the year.

The Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) is now a standing item at meetings of Education Policy as well as Council as we track the twists and turns in its development. This year saw the second subject-level pilot, the results of which are due to be published in October 2019; we also await the outcome of HESA’s review of subject classification, which we hope will allow history to be judged as a free-standing discipline and not bundled up with subjects such as Archaeology and Classics. Most significantly of all, Dame Shirley Pearce has conducted an independent review of TEF, in accordance with the Higher and Research Act of 2017, which has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Education and its recommendations will receive parliamentary scrutiny in due course. In November 2018, the Committee nominated five fellows for Shirley Pearce’s panel, but in the event her choice fell elsewhere. We responded to her ‘Call for Views’ in early 2019 on the future of TEF, and our full submission is available on the website. While noting some positive developments associated with the TEF juggernaut, notably the greater resource now put into teaching provision, we expressed our unease that TEF as currently devised would not achieve its four objectives. Nevertheless, it seems likely that TEF, in one form or other, will remain a central feature of the HE landscape: the new Secretary of State has publicly committed the government to TEF, and has proposed another TEF assessment at provider level in 2020.
In May 2017 we began work on creating a Teaching and Learning Portal for the Society’s website, and over the last year we have made significant progress, finalising its structure and beginning to populate its various sections: a hub for web links, module handbooks on innovative topics, thoughts and good practice for teachers, a tab on transition through HE, and others for students and for careers within and beyond the discipline. We are keen for contributions from the Fellowship and others, which will maximise the portal’s appeal and utility. The working group includes a number of co-opted members from the Fellowship, and I record here my gratitude to the team in pushing this project towards completion. Our aim is to launch the portal by November 2020.

Part of the committee’s brief is to monitor the health of postgraduate history. This year we have examined the distribution of PGs across the country, and noted a lack of equal opportunities, especially for part-time students, a finding we intend to pursue. Once again, we sponsored the ‘New to Teaching’ day conference at the University of Manchester, on 10 September 2019, organised by Peter D’Sena, a member of the committee. Attendance was rather small, notwithstanding the offer of travel bursaries, and we intend to review the conference’s structure and content for 2020. Following the British Academy symposium in June 2018 which addressed poor levels of numeracy, in November 2019 Dr Judy Stephenson, Secretary of the Economic History Society, addressed the committee on quantification skills for history students, a problem that the EHS intends to tackle at secondary schools.

As for our own active interest in history in schools: in May, we invited John Blake, a Member of the Society, to share his thoughts on the need for effective resourcing and oversight of the history curriculum programme in schools; we continue to work closely with the Historical Association, and the Chair of Education Policy is now a member ex officio of the HA’s new HE Committee, which aims to co-ordinate the work of the Society, History UK and the HA itself in supporting the teaching of history in secondary schools and the transition to university. Our anniversary year sponsorship of seven schools to enter the HA’s Quality Mark scheme is nearing completion, and we look forward to hearing about the benefits that these schools have derived from their participation, with the possibility of a second tranche of sponsorship to follow. In March 2019 we convened a very successful meeting of the A level Awarding Bodies, who last met under our auspices in December 2016. In attendance, for the first time, was SQA, who briefed us on Highers and Advanced Highers in Scotland. We also reviewed the impact of the new A level and GCSE curricula, and the discussion raised several themes (the BAME attainment gap; methods of assessment) for debate at our next curriculum conference in March 2020.

So it has been a busy and productive year for the Committee, and from this September we have adopted the practice of an annual audit of our activities, to ensure that our finite time and resources are applied, to best effect, to a very broad range of initiatives and responsibilities.

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, 2018-19: (Chair: Dr Alana Harris)

The remit of this committee ranges across many activities of the Society. It receives suggestions from Fellows and Council for paper-givers and makes recommendations to Council on the Programme of Lectures, taking into account the need for a balanced offering in terms of chronological and geographical spread. In addition to the regular sessions held at UCL and outside London, it is also responsible for the Prothero Lecture, the Colin Matthew Lecture and the Gerald Aylmer Seminar.
The programme of lectures and visits for 2019 was confirmed, including regional symposiums to be held at the Open University in May and at Nottingham Trent University in September. Proposals for 2020 and 2021 were discussed and speakers invited, with these now confirmed. The Committee continues to review the purpose and success of both the Society’s lectures and visits, and to consider ways of increasing their reach, for example through podcasting, repeat lectures and holding workshops for postgraduate students and early career researchers alongside visits and symposia. The Committee was pleased to receive several proposals for regional symposia and would like to encourage more departments to make such proposals. The 2019 Gerald Aylmer Seminar (held on 22 February 2019) focused on ‘Digitality in the Archive: Preservation, Research and Engagement’. This event, jointly organised by The National Archives (Kew), the Institute of Historical Research and the Royal Historical Society, provides an excellent annual opportunity for engagement with the archive sector.

The Committee is also responsible for the appointment of assessors for the Society’s prizes and receives their reports and recommendations for award winners. It regularly reviews the terms and conditions of the awards and has begun to analyse these forms of recognition through an intersectional equality, diversity and inclusion lens. The Society is extremely grateful to members of Council for their hard work in reading entries and selecting the prize winners.

This year the Committee has also considered broader administrative and developmental issues aimed at raising the Society’s profile within the academic community. The Society’s online presence has been enhanced by its Twitter feed and blog, as well as improved digital newsletters and routine mailings. Work on the society’s IT systems has continued, with a particular focus on improving online applications for membership, grants and prizes, and the implementation of online payment systems.

Meetings of the Society

At ordinary meetings of and public lectures sponsored by the Society, the following papers were read:

Prothero Lecture: ‘Saladin’s Spin Doctors’, Professor Carole Hillenbrand (6 July 2018)

‘Eastern Eurasia without borders: from the Türks to the Mongols’, Professor Naomi Standen (21 September 2019)

‘Death and the Modern Empire: The 1918-19 Influenza Epidemic in India’, Professor David Arnold (5 October 2018)

The Colin Matthew Memorial Lecture for the Public Understanding of History: ‘How Natural is Natural? Historical Perspectives on Wildlife and the Environment in England’, Professor Tom Williamson (17 October 2018). These lectures continue to be given in memory of the late Professor Colin Matthew, a former Literary Director and Vice-President of the Society.

Presidential Address: ‘Material Turns in British History. Part II: Corruption: Imperial Power, Princely Politics and Gifts Gone Rogue’, Professor Margot Finn (23 November 2018)

‘Charles the Bald, the Origins of the Medieval Castle and the End of the Carolingian Empire’,
Prizes

The Society’s annual prizes were awarded as follows:


The judges’ citation read:

This rich and thoughtful article follows the experiences of ‘liberated Africans’ after the formal abolition of the slave trade, as the seizure of ‘prize negroes’ from slave ships opened a complicated chapter in the establishment of their rights and status. Based on detailed and wide-ranging research, tracking histories between Britain, South Africa and Brazil, the article reaches beyond existing debates to consider the experience of those who were liberated by the anti-slave patrols in the Atlantic ocean: the ways in which they understood and negotiated a way through the legal processes that faced them, and their claims to what Richards refers to as ‘unguaranteed entitlements’ in their transition from enslavement. Achieving a satisfying balance between specific cases and more general reflections, the article makes an important contribution to research, offering fresh ways of thinking about the topic and exploring the fascinating context of the port cities of Salvador da Bahia and Cape Town as testing grounds for the impact of abolition and the future prospects of the ‘liberated Africans’.

The judges named a proxime accesit:


The judges’ citation read:

With a rich base in archival work, this article explores the position of Moroccan military veterans in Spanish policy under Franco. Wright demonstrates that certain categories of disabled Moroccan veterans actually received higher levels of state support than their Spanish counterparts, but that this reflected attitudes towards them shaped by paternalism and distinctive understandings of their masculinity. Ideas about race and gender also contributed to anxieties about relationships between Moroccans and Spaniards in the period after the Civil War, which Spanish bureaucrats even tried to sabotage on occasion. Wright argues that the treatment of Moroccan veterans can be read as part of Francoist heightening of the status of Spanish masculinity, and also as a part of its management of the Moroccan protectorate. The article is well written and grounded in detailed research, offering an original and well-articulated contribution to scholarship on modern Spain, gender, race and disability.
The David Berry Prize for an article on Scottish history for 2019 attracted seven entries and was awarded to Philip Loft for an article ‘Litigation, the Anglo-Scottish Union, and the House of Lords as the High Court, 1660-1875’, *Historical Journal*, 61 (2018), 943-967.

The judges’ citation read:

The judges thought that this was a very accomplished treatment of an ambitious topic, marked by a maturity of approach. It deftly analyses a substantial source base to advance new arguments about not only eighteenth-century legal history but, above all, the nature of the composite British state after the Union of 1707. The article investigates Scottish cases brought before parliament, as part of a wider body of 8,500 appeals over the period, a sample of which is analysed here. The analysis demonstrates that the number of Scottish appeals grew after 1745, and that from the 1760s Scots increasingly lobbied for legislation to promote their fisheries and linen industries. Appeals were often used as a way of forcing compromise on parties that ensured that Westminster affected only the localities and individuals involved in a case. The author convincingly argues that local interests co-opted the state in defence of their interests, thereby keeping their autonomy, as often in England too, and also briefly draws comparisons with appellate courts elsewhere in Europe, notably Castile.

The Gladstone Book Prize for a first book on non-British history attracted twenty eight entries.

The Prize for 2019 was awarded to Duncan Hardy for a volume *Associative Political Culture in the Holy Roman Empire: Upper Germany, 1346-1521* (Oxford University Press: 2018).

The judges’ citation read:

This is an outstanding first book and it deserves the highest of praise. Hardy builds an ambitious and convincing thesis about the structure and workings of the Holy Roman Empire in the late medieval period, arguing that it is best understood in terms of various forms of political association. This is a significant and original contribution to the historiography of the period and region. It encourages scholars to consider sixteenth-century Germany not only through the lens of the Reformation but in terms of underlying late-medieval political structures and practices. The writing is clear and precise throughout, and the author reveals a deep knowledge of the archival sources. The organisation of the book allows its argument to build steadily, and the high quality of the writing and analysis is sustained from start to finish (it also has a gorgeous front cover). *Associative political culture* fills a gap in the existing literature and deserves to be very widely read.

The Rees Davies Prize for the best dissertation submitted as part of a one- year full-time (or two-year part-time) postgraduate Master’s degree in any United Kingdom institution of Higher Education, attracted seven entries.

The Prize for 2019 was awarded to Robert Fitt (University of Birmingham) for a dissertation ‘Texan textbooks: Cranks, Conservatives and the Contest for America in High School History, 1976-1986’.

The judges’ citation read:
This piece is beautifully written, and the prose shows real verve. In a well-argued way, it makes a significant historiographical intervention based upon the analysis activism around school textbooks. This allows the author to argue for a more germinal understanding of ideology, looking at the ways in which cultural shift occurs and redefining the scope of peripheral actors to influence that shift. There is a strong archival source base and the argument is strongly supported throughout. The dissertation features interesting discussions around the use of history, and the ways in which the shaping of narratives can influence conceptions of political norms and shape broader consensus. At times, I felt there could have been a little more agency shown for those who read the textbooks, though the focus was clearly on the authors and activists who altered the text. This was outstanding work and a real pleasure to read.

The judges named a proxime accesit:

Leanne Smith (University of Sunderland) for a dissertation “In the Revolution of Times, the Changes will run their round out, and then the Lord will come to Reign” John Rogers: A Fifth Monarchy Man’s Commonwealth of Saints’.

The judges’ citation read:

This was a very strong and meticulously detailed intervention into debates around republicanism in early-modern England. The dissertation shows an excellent command of the historiography and seeks to offer a more nuanced understanding of how religious thoughts influenced and intertwined with discussions of radical political change. Through close engagement with Rogers’ output, the dissertation explores the reflexive influence of millenarian beliefs on the febrile political climate of the seventeenth century and also the lingering influence of classical political philosophy. I enjoyed the rich discussions on concepts of political liberty and liberty of conscience, which showed an insightful mind at work and in conversation with their sources.

The Whitfield Prize for a first book on a subject within a field of British or Irish history attracted twenty seven entries.

The Prize for 2019 was awarded to Ryan Hanley for a volume Beyond Slavery and Abolition: Black British Writing, c.1770-1830 (Cambridge University Press: 2018).

The judges’ citation read:

This year’s submissions for the Whitfield Award featured rigorous and innovative works of historical research, many of which will endure among classic studies in their fields. That said, Ryan Hanley’s superb study, Beyond Slavery and Abolition: Black British Writing, c.1770-1830, stands apart for its audacious engagement with debates on the cultural positioning of black participants in British literary, political, and intellectual culture during a transitional period in British domestic and imperial history. Hanley's rich and lively examination shows that black authors engaged in a comprehensive range of topics, from legal debates, the nature of celebrity, religious controversy, spiritual memoir, radical politics, to epistemology – extending far beyond the abolitionist paradigm that historians have long assumed and thus have tended to impose. Like their fellow intellectuals, black authors disagreed with each other, they led debate, cultivated their style, and courted new readers. We have Hanley to thank for drawing renewed attention to these voices, and for showing us why these authors mattered then.
The Royal Historical Society Jinty Nelson Award for Inspirational Teaching and Supervision in History for 2019 was awarded to Professor Julia Crick (King's College London)

The judges’ citation read:

Professor Julia Crick receives the Jinty Nelson Award in recognition of her superlative contribution to the teaching and mentoring of younger generations of historians. Palaeography is challenging but integral to the subject of history. It underpins so much else in the field, and manuscripts in particular are windows onto much that would otherwise be inaccessible. Professor Crick has spent a life time advocating the importance of Palaeography to the global academic community and has demonstrated this specifically through her teaching and mentoring. Throughout her career (including appointments at the universities of Cambridge and Exeter, and in her current position at King's College London), Professor Crick has been a wonderful teacher, not just of Palaeography, but also in training students of any level to think critically, to ask questions, and to build historical arguments based on visual and physical evidence. Professor Crick's classes at the undergraduate and graduate levels bring history and palaeography to life and she mentors research students in the same way, whether they are at King’s or elsewhere, in History or in another discipline. Crick treats her students more like peers than pupils, which creates a sense that the work can be valued and taken seriously even from a very early stage. Crick's commitment to the transfer of knowledge from generation to generation is especially evident in her establishment of networks and events that highlight postgraduate research. She has frequently organised seminars, symposia and conferences which include equal space for early career researchers. Over the course of her career, Professor Crick has demonstrated a wide-ranging and sustained commitment to inspiring and training new generations of historians to excel.

The inaugural Royal Historical Society Innovation in Teaching Award for 2019 was awarded to: Dr Sharon Webb and Dr James Baker (University of Sussex)

The judges’ citation read:

Over the last four years Drs Webb and Baker have delivered a series of first-year digital history workshop/lectures taken by all undergraduates at the University of Sussex in either History or Art History. These radically update the notion of the ‘historian’s craft’ to include the skills and practices required to engage critically with online sources (both inherited and born digital). The programme is a unique response to the challenges posed by the changes in historical research and debate, designed to turn history undergraduates into digitally savvy, expert navigators of this new landscape of knowledge. What sets the series apart is the self-conscious way in which it seeks to intervene in the history curriculum more generally. By building a skills/apprenticeship model into first-year teaching, it lays the foundations for the development of advanced approaches in the second and third year. The guiding narrative is to move gradually from ‘Doing History in the Digital Age’ to ‘Doing Digital History’ – taking students from referencing, search, and using online databases to compiling datasets, digitisation, and making data visualisations. It is this accumulation of skills, and layering of multiple approaches, that creates a comprehensive and sophisticated understanding. Second-year students move on to modules on the analysis of historical networks and the technologies of print, and then in the
third year to a co-taught module on digital archiving. These same skills are also re-enforced in teaching by colleagues across the degree. The first full cohort of students introduced to these skills in their first year have now graduated. Standards of research and practice have improved across the board.

The winner of the History Today 2018 Prize was not notified at the time of publication of this annual report:

The History Scotland prize was not awarded in 2018. The award will be made every second year from 2019.

The German History Society, in association with the Society, agrees to award a prize to the winner of an essay competition. The essay, on any aspect of German history, including the history of German-speaking people both within and beyond Europe, was open to any postgraduate registered for a degree in a university in either the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland.

No prize for 2018 was notified at the time of publication of this annual report

The Frampton and Beazley Prizes for A-level performances in 2018 were awarded to the following on the basis of nominations from the examining bodies:

**Frampton Prize**

AQA: Lucia Neirotti (King Edward VI Five Ways School, Birmingham)

WJEC: Sophie Wright (Caerleon Comprehensive School, Newport)

**Beazley Prize**

SQA: Jack Liddall (Trinity Academy, Edinburgh)

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE 2018-19: (Chair, Mr Richard Fisher)**

The Publications Committee remains responsible for the ongoing programme. Professor Richard Toye, represents the Society’s interests on New Historical Perspectives, while Professor Andrew Spicer edits Transactions, and they share responsibility for Camden volumes. Professor Roey Sweet is Academic Editor of the Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH), and Professor Jane Winters and Professor Heather Shore are Co-Convenors of the New Historical Perspectives Series (replacing Professor Simon Newman and Professor Penny Summerfield in 2019).

The Publications Committee has been much occupied with Open Access publishing protocols throughout 2018-2019, and the Society’s considerable activities in this sphere are noted
elsewhere in the Annual Report. The launch in the coming year of the first volumes in the Society’s major Open Access initiative New Historical Perspectives will be an important moment in the Society’s long publishing history.

Transactions, Sixth Series, Volume 28 was published during the session, and Transactions, Sixth Series, Volume 29 went to press.

In the Camden Fifth Series British Envoys to the Kaiserreich, 1871-1897, Volume II: 1884-1897, ed Markus Mösslang (vol. 56) and The Rise of Labour and the Fall of Empire. The Memoirs of William Hare, Fifth Earl of Listowel, ed Harshan Kumarasingham (vol. 57) were published during the session.

The Letters of Paul de Foix, French Ambassador at the Court of Elizabeth I, 1562-1566 (vol. 58) ed. David Potter went to press during the session.

The past twelve months have seen a fairly steady flow of good quality proposals, some in an advanced state of preparation. The calendar is currently filled, though the Literary Directors continue to welcome new proposals for texts which relate to any area of British history.

As in previous years, volumes in the Camden Series were offered to the membership at a favourably discounted price. Many Fellows and Members accepted the offer for volumes published during the year, and the advance order for further volumes to be published in the year 2018-2019 were encouraging.

2019 has been dominated by the adoption of the new bibliographic platform BBIn, replacing the commercial platform Adlib. This has been a protracted process, necessitating a long and frustrating period of construction and testing of the new platform in order to ensure that it met the specific and complex needs of BBIH. This in turn led to a substantial reduction in the number of records created over the past year. New editorial work flows are in place and work on addressing the backlog will be complete by the end of December 2019. I would like to thank the IHR team – Philip Carter, Simon Baker, Sara Charles and Peter Salt – for their stamina and determination in seeing this through. The new platform already has additional functionality – such as the ability to search by publication type (book, book chapter, article) and links to book reviews. Brepols is also developing a new user-interface (currently undergoing testing) which will provide a more intuitive access point to the Bibliography in the future.

DIGITAL COMMITTEE, 2018-19: (Chair: Professor Jane Winters)

A provisional meeting of the Digital Committee was held in July 2017, and it began to meet formally from February 2018. It has a remit to advise the Society on the maintenance and development of its digital presence; to inform the Society about developments in digital historical research and pedagogy; to consider digital skills training provision for historians; and to foster connections between the Society and other organisations concerned with digital research and the preservation and delivery of digital cultural heritage. In addition to one elected councillor and six officers, the committee draws on the expertise and guidance of four co-opted members: Dr Adam Crymble (Chair, Programming Historian Ltd.), Eirini Goudarouli (Digital and Technology Research Lead, The National Archives of the UK), Tim Hitchcock (Professor of Digital History, University of Sussex) and Pip Willcox (Head of Research, The National Archives of the UK).
One of the main items of business for the committee in 2018-19 was consideration of the Society’s online presence, including its social media accounts but more significantly its online application and payment systems. There has been considerable work during the year to increase the Society’s online reach and to improve the management of its digital relationships with members, fellows and applicants for membership, grants and prizes.

The committee had substantial input into the planning and delivery of the 2019 Aylmer Seminar, on ‘Digital and the archive: preservation, research and engagement’. In a break from tradition, the seminar was held in the impressive new events auditorium at The National Archives in Kew. Planned as the first of a series of events with a digital history focus, the seminar considered the past, present and future of digital archives; the challenges of preserving and providing access to digital archives; and the use of digital tools and methods for public engagement. It also presented ground-breaking digital research ranging from the sixteenth century to the present day.

Finally, the committee has fed into the Society’s discussions on open access and REF 2021. It will continue to monitor open access developments as they affect digital research and publishing, and to advocate for the appointment to REF panels of additional members and assessors with digital expertise at the appropriate point in the cycle.

RESEARCH SUPPORT COMMITTEE 2018-19

The Committee met four times in the course of the year to distribute research funds to early career historians (primarily research students but also recent PhDs not yet in full-time employment), as well as holding a meeting to review the Committee’s strategy and the various funding schemes. The Committee considers all the applications received and this year made 199 awards to researchers from 42 different institutions across the UK and 5 institutions outside the UK. 26 of these grants were to support research within the UK, 67 to support research outside the UK, and 61 to allow advanced doctoral students and early career researchers to attend conferences in order to deliver papers. The Martin Lynn Scholarship was awarded to two research students to support research in Africa. In addition, the Committee made 41 awards to conference and seminar organisers, to support the participation and attendance of early career researchers in their events and to fund sessions designed to develop students’ skills for academic employment. The research topics funded by the Committee reflect the Society’s contribution to a wide spectrum of sub-fields within the historical discipline, as well as to interdisciplinary research with a substantial historical component. Successful applicants’ end-of-award reports show how Society funding enables early career researchers to conduct original archival research and to gain feedback on their work in international settings. The quality of applications is very high and not all applications can be funded. Research support funds have however been enhanced by a generous grant of £5000 from Past & Present, part of which was used this year to provide support for four researchers registered at institutions outside the UK. We also benefit from a generous bequest from the late Professor Christopher Holdsworth. The Society expresses its deep gratitude for this generosity in assisting our initiatives.
Research Expenses within the UK

- Calum Aikman (University of Edinburgh), Archives in Oxford and Coventry, April 2019
- Edward Armston-Sheret (Royal Holloway, University of London), Archive visits in Edinburgh, July 2019
- Joshua Bilton (King’s College London), Archives in Leeds, March-April 2019
- Andrew Blendl (University of the Highlands and Islands), Archives in Edinburgh, August 2018
- Apurba Chatterjee (University of Sheffield), British Library, August 2018
- Edward Armston-Sheret (Royal Holloway, University of London), Archive visits in Edinburgh, July 2019
- Joshua Bilton (King’s College London), Archives in Leeds, March-April 2019
- Andrew Blendl (University of the Highlands and Islands), Archives in Edinburgh, August 2018
- Apurba Chatterjee (University of Sheffield), British Library, August 2018
- Emma Copestake (Royal Holloway, University of London), Archives in London, December 2018
- Pola Durajkska (University of York), Archive visits in London and Yorkshire, June 2019
- Timothy Ellis (Teesside University), Archive visits in Dublin, June-July 2019
- Michael Hally (University of Edinburgh), Archives in Southampton, April 2019
- Yuhei Hasegawa (University of Exeter), Archives in London and Chichester, June-August 2019
- Louise Heren (University of St Andrews), Archive visits in Scotland, May 2019
- Theo Jensen (University of Oxford), Archive visits in London, July 2019
- Robert Johnston (University of Edinburgh), Archive visits in London and Oxford, June 2019
- Kunihiko Kanasaki (University of Exeter), Archive visits in Scotland, July-August 2019
- Elen Keen (Bangor University), National Library of Wales and Bodleian Library, several trips in 2018
- Meghan Kobza (Newcastle University), Archives in London, Norwich, Exeter, Northampton and Alnwick, April 2019
- Pok Lai (Percy) Leung, (University of St Andrews), Archive visits in London, September-October 2019
- Andrew McTominey (Leeds Beckett University), Archives in Manchester, Liverpool, Cardiff and London, February 2019
- Michael Nelles (University of Southampton), Archives in Bath, Oxford and Reading, July-August 2018
- Yoko Onodera (University College London), Archive visits in Bristol, Bath, Wakefield and Leeds, June 2019
- Hatice Polat (University of Cambridge), Archives in Durham, February-March 2019
- Jasmine Proteau (University of Oxford), Archives in Reading and London, January-February 2019
- Benjamin Schneider (University of Oxford), Archives UK-wide, December 2018-April 2019
- Matthew Seddon (Lancaster University), Archive visits in London, May – June 2019
- Emil Sokolov (University of Exeter), Archives in Bristol, Oxford and Manchester, January-June 2019
- Rowan Thompson (Northumbria University), Archives in Cambridge, January 2019
Research Expenses Outside the UK

- Jak Allen (University of Kent), Archives in USA, April - May 2019.
- Katherine Ambler (King’s College London), Archives in Zambia, May-June 2019
- Nathaniel Andrews (University of Leeds), Archives in Spain, August-September 2018
- Valentina Aparicio (University of Edinburgh), Archive visits in Brazil, December 2019
- Roisin Astell (University of Kent), Archives in France and Belgium, September 2018
- Molly Avery (London School of Economics), Archives in USA and South America, August – September 2019
- Alexander Aylward (University of Leeds), Archives in Australia, May 2019
- Dominic Barker (University of Oxford), Archives in USA, April-May 2019
- Nick Batho (University of Edinburgh), Archives in USA, November-December 2018
- Catriona Bide (University of East Anglia), Archives in USA, April 2019
- Jules Brown (University of Cambridge), Archives in South Africa, July-August 2018
- Joel Butler (University of Oxford), Archives in France, March-April 2019
- Anne Caldwell (University of Kent), Archives in Israel, August 2018
- Bert Carlstrom (Queen Mary University of London), Archives in Spain, March 2019*
- Hao Chen (University of Cambridge), Archives in USA, April-June 2019
- Hao Chen (University of Cambridge), Archive visits in USA, June 2019
- Aaron Clift (University of Bristol), Archives in France, September 2018
- Fé De Jonge (SOAS University of London), Archive visits in London, France and Turkey, June 2019-February 2010
- Hanna de Lange (University of St Andrews), Archive visits in Denmark, October 2019
- Nova Dejardin (University of Oxford), Archives in Venice, October 2018
- Sophy Gardner (University of Exeter), Archives in the United States, September 2018
- Panagiotis Georgakakis (University of St Andrews), Archive visits in France, Sweden, Germany and London, August – November 2019
- Lucian George (University of Oxford), Archives in Poland, Ukraine and Czechoslovakia, July-October 2018
- Kaoutar Ghilani (University of Oxford), Archive visits in Tunisia & Algeria, June & September 2019*
- Sage Goodwin (University of Oxford), Archives in USA, March-April 2019
- Devin Grier (University of Edinburgh), Archives in USA, February 2019.
- Emma Hatto (University of Southampton), Archives in Slovenia, September-October 2018
- Carmel Heeley (Queen Mary University of London), Archives in Germany, March and June 2019
- Natalie Hill (University of Oxford), Archives and interviews in the United States, July-September 2018
- Lucy Hulls (University College London), Archive visits in USA, July 2019
- Marina Ini (University of Cambridge), Archives in Malta and France, December 2018-March 2019
- Sadie Jarrett (Bangor University), Archive visits in USA, October 2019
- Hannah Jeans (University of York), Archives in USA, January & April 2019
Alexandra Jordan (University of Durham), Archives in France, March 2019
Holger Kaasik (University of St Andrews), Archives in Rome, January & June 2019
Chloe Kattar (University of Cambridge), Archives in Lebanon, June 2019
Thomas Kelsey (King’s College London), Archives in the United States, September 2018
Cosmin Koszor (Oxford Brookes University), Archive visits in Romania, May – June 2019
Yui Chim Lo (University of Oxford), Archive visits in India, January 2020*
Mario Maritan (University College London), Archive visits in Austria, June 2019
Annalisa Martin (Birkbeck College, University of London), Archive visits in Germany, October-November 2019
Sabrina Meneghjini (De Montfort University), Archive visits in USA, May 2019*
Fiona Milne (University of York), Archives in USA, June 2019
Russell Moul (University of Kent), Archives in Kenya, September 2018
Naosuke Mukoyama (University of Oxford), Archival visits and digital reproductions in Russia & Kazakhstan, January 2019
Beatrice Pestarino (University College London), Archives in Cyprus, June 2019
Blanche Plaquevent (University of Bristol), Archival visits in Amsterdam, February 2019
Laura Quene (University of Cambridge), Archive visits in USA, June 2019*
Sasha Rasmussen (University of Oxford), Archive visits in Russia, June-August 2019*
Bethany Rebisz (University of Reading), Archival visits and oral interviews in Zimbabwe and Kenya, February-April & May-July 2019
Tom Roberts (University of Liverpool), Archival visits in Venice, January-March 2019
Eva Schalbroeck (University of Cambridge), Archives in Belgium, September-October 2018
Joy Slappnig (Royal Holloway, University of London), Archives in India, December 2018
Sarah Slator (Oxford Brookes University), Archives in South Africa, September 2018**
Noah Smith (University of Kent), Archives in Belgium, March 2019
Laura Stefanescu (University of Sheffield), Archive visits in Italy, July 2019
John Sutcliffe IV (University of Leeds), Archive visits in France, October – November 2019*
Han Tame (University of Kent), Archives in France, June 2019.
Valentina Tomassetti (University of Warwick), Archival visits in Venice, January-March 2019
Momoko Uchisaka (University of Sheffield), Archives in Italy, July 2018
Felix Wadsworth (University of Edinburgh), Archives in Ireland, July and December 2018
Mrinalini Venkateswaran (University of Cambridge), Archives in USA, February & April 2019
Abdulhafiz Wando (King’s College London), Archives & oral interviews in Nigeria, October 2019
- Rebecca Whiting (University of Glasgow), Archives in the United States, September-October 2018
- Thomas Wilkinson (London School of Economics), Archival visits in India, Pakistan and USA, December 2018-July 2019
- Michael Yeo (University of Oxford), Archives in USA, April 2019
- Mariana Zegiannini (School of Oriental and African Studies), Archives in China, April 2019
- Amanda Zhang (University of Oxford), Archives in China, June – July 2019

**Research Expenses for students at institutions outside of UK**

- Karina Benazech (Paris Research University), Archives in Ireland, June-September 2019*
- Michael De Ruyter (Flinders University), Archives in India and the UAE, October 2018*
- Ryna Ordynat (Monash University), Archives in UK, July 2019*
- Saara Penttinen (University of Turku, Finland), Archival and site visits in UK, February-April 2019*

**Conference Travel**

- Darinee Alagirisamy (Hong Kong University), Global Urban History Conference 2019, Leicester, 10-13 July 2019*
- Panarat Anamwathana (University of Oxford), World Economic History Congress 2018, Massachusetts, 29 July – 3 August 2018
- Roisin Astell (University of Kent), Ritual and Religion in the Medieval World, USA, 30-31 March 2019
- Desmond Atkinson (University of Exeter), 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies, USA, 09-12 May 2019
- Iona Baker (University of Glasgow), Ruling Sexualities: Sexuality, Gender and the Crown, Winchester, 9 – 12 July 2018
- Emily Barker (University of Greenwich), The Society for the History of Children and Youth 2019 “Encounters and Exchanges”, Australia, 26-28 June 2019
- Krysten Blackstone (University of Edinburgh), European Early American Studies Association: The Making and Unmaking of Identities and Connections in Early America and the Atlantic World, 1650 – 1850, 14-16 December 2018
- James Brocklesby (Liverpool John Moores University), British International History Group, Exeter, 30 July – 1 August 2018
- Esther Brot, (King’s College London), BSECS Postgraduate & EC Conference, Aix-en-Provence, 3 September 2018
- Esther Brot (King’s College London) International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS) International Congress on the Enlightenment, Edinburgh, 14-19 July 2019
- Janine Bryant (University of Birmingham), On the Road: Medieval Travel and Travellers, USA, 22-23 March 2019
o William Burgess (Queen Mary, University of London), Books, Readers and Reading: Celebrating 250 Years of the Leeds Library, Leeds, 20 – 22 September 2018

o Fabienne Chamelot (University of Portsmouth), (De)constructing Colonial Archives: Perspectives, Practice and Contemporary Debates, France, 27-28 June 2019

o Rachel Chin (University of Exeter), Society for French Historical Studies 65th Annual Conference, USA, 4 - 6 April 2019

o Alison Clarke (University of Liverpool), A Matter of Access – Collections and their Visibility, London, 24-25 June 2019

o Polly Corrigan (King’s College London), Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies 2018, USA, 6-9 December 2018

o Laura Crawford (Loughborough University), Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers 2019, USA, 3-7 April 2019

o Victoria De Lorenzo (University of Glasgow), 2nd Annual Conference of Imperial Entanglements: Trans-Oceanic Networks in British and Spanish Colonialism and their Legacy, Acapulco, 12-15 July 2018

o Manikarnika Dutta (University of Oxford), BASAS Annual Conference 2019, Durham, 3-5 April 2019

o Mattias Eken (University of St Andrews), Society for Military History, 2019 Annual Meeting, USA, 9-12 May 2019

o Guy Fassler (University of St Andrews), 42nd Annual Conference of the Historical Society of Israel, Israel, 5 March 2019

o Danielle Fatzinger (University of Glasgow), XVIth International Congress of Celtic Studies, Wales, 22-26 July 2019

o Georgina Fitzgibbon (University of Birmingham), On the Road: Medieval Travel and Travellers, Indiana University 31st Annual Medieval Studies Symposium, USA, 22-23 March 2019

o Anna Lujz Gilbert (University of Exeter), Reading the Ministry, 1520-1848, Aberdeen, 29 November-01 December 2018

o Yaron Golan (Manchester Metropolitan University), Raymond Williams Society Annual Conference, Manchester, 26-27 April 2019

o Michael Hahn (University of St Andrews), Metaphor, Making, and Mysticism. 2019 Annual Conference of Mystical Theology Network, USA, 28 February-3 March 2019

o Ryan Hale (University of East Anglia), ASEEES 50th Annual Convention, Massachusetts, 6-9 December 2018

o Antony Kalashnikov (University of Oxford), Second Session of the International Forum for Young Scholars of Soviet and Post-Soviet History and Culture, Russia, 28 November – 01 December 2018

o Sarah Kenny (University of Birmingham), Biennial Conference of the Society for the History of Children and Youth, Sydney, 26-28 June 2019

o Helen Kilburn (University of Manchester), Enslaved: People of the Historic Slade Trade, USA, 8-9 March 2019

o Claudia Kreklau (University of St Andrews), Monarchy and Modernity, Cambridge, 7-9 January 2019
o Emilie Lavallee (University of Oxford), Categories, Boundaries, Horizons - 12th Biennial ANZA MEMS Conference, Sydney, 5 – 8 February 2019
o Helena Lopes (University of Oxford), Nordic Association for China Studies Biennial Conference, Norway, 13-14 June 2019
o Emily Mayne (University of East Anglia), Renaissance Society of America (RSA) Annual Meeting 2019, Canada 17-19 March 2019
o Shaun McGuiness (Bangor University) International Medieval Congress 2019, Leeds, 1-4 July 2019
o Christian Melby (King’s College London), North American Conference on British Studies, USA, 25-28 October 2018
o Antonia Miejuk (Durham University), The Annual Conference of the Canadian Association of Slavists, Canada, 1-3 June 2019
o Elizabeth Miller (King’s College London), Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference 2019, USA, 13-17 March 2019
o Christoph Nitschke (University of Oxford), 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, USA, 20-22 June 2019
o Imogen Peck (University of Bristol), North American American Conference on British Studies, USA, 25-28 October 2018
o Ivona Posedi (University of Lincoln), 21st Congress of the Association Internationale pour l’Histoire du Verre, Istanbul, 3-7 September 2018
o Aditya Ramesh (School of Oriental and African Studies), European Conference on South Asian Studies, Paris, 24-28 July 2018
o Mitchell Robertson (University of Oxford), Remaking American Political History, USA, 6-7 June 2019
o Philip Robinson (University of Manchester), Symbols, Signs and Meanings in Russian Music, Italy, 9-12 July 2019
o Liam Ryan (University of Bristol), North American Conference on British Studies, USA, 25-28 October 2018
o Morgan Seag (University of Cambridge), American Society for Environmental History 2019 Conference, USA, 10-14 April 2019
o Hanna Smyth (University of Oxford), Reflections on the Commemorations of World War One, New Zealand, 22-23 November 2018
o Tabitha Stanmore (University of Bristol), 54th International Congress on Medieval, USA, 9-12 March 2019
o Helen Sunderland (University of Cambridge), Society for the History of Children and Youth 2019 Bi-annual Conference: Encounters and Exchanges, Cambridge, 26-28 June 2019
o Emanuela Vai (University of York), 18th Biennial Conference on Baroque Music, Italy, 10-15 July 2018
o Brian Wallace (King’s College London), North American Conference on British Studies, USA, 25-28 October 2018
o James Watts (University of Bristol), North American Conference on British Studies, USA, 25-28 October 2018
o Leonie Wieser (Northumbria University), Socially-Engaged Public History, Practice, Ethics and Politics, Bristol, 26 January 2019
o Malgorzata Wloszynska (University of Southampton), Lessons and Legacies Conference Seminar: Forgetting the Holocaust in the Era of Global Holocaust Remembrance, Washington, 1-4 December 2018
o Matthew Woolgar (University of Oxford), EuroSEAS 2019, Berlin, 11-13 September 2019
o Michael Yeo, (University of Oxford), Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference 2019, USA, 21-24 March 2019
o Lidia Zanetti-Domingues (University of Oxford), International Medieval Congress, Leeds, 1-4 July 2019
o Giulia Zanon (University of Leeds), Renaissance Society of America (RSA) Annual Conference, Canada, 17-19 March 2019
o Luca Zenobi (University of Oxford), Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Canada, 17-19 March 2019
o Sha Zhou (King’s College London), 3rd China-Europe Research Platform Workshop: Chinese in Europe: New Mobilities and Developments, Barcelona, 22-24 November 2018
o Sha Zhou (King’s College London), Oral History @ Work: Recording Change in Working Lives, Swansea, 5-6 July 2019

Conference Organisation

o Mark Bennett, Weapons in Society, Leeds, 26 September 2019
o Meg Boulton, Angels in the Medieval World, York, 1-2 June 2019
o Rachel Bryant Davies, Discourses of Power in Nineteenth-Century Archives, Durham, 8 – 9 February 2019
o Louise Clare, The Falklands/Malvinas: War, Media and Society-History and Legacy, Manchester, 25 – 26 April 2019
o Jordan Claridge, Sowing the Seeds, London, 15 June 2019
o Eloise Davies, The Body and Politics, Cambridge, 18 – 19 March 2019
o Emma Day, The Regulated Body, Oxford, 18 October 2019
o Rachel Delman, Women and Materiality in Medieval and Early Modern Scotland, Edinburgh, 26 April 2019
o Maro Dotulong, Reopening the “Opening of Japan”: a Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Meiji Ishin, Oxford, 3-10 May 2019
o Jessica Douthwaite, Scotland’s Cold War: Contested Nuclear Policies, Publics and Places since 1945, Glasgow, 11-12 April 2019
o Saffron East, Anti-racism in Britain: Histories and Trajectories, University College London, 24-25 April
Charlotte Faucher, Chronicling the War: Re-imagining French-ness: Memoirs of the French, External Resistance, Manchester, June 2019

Georgios Giannakopoulos, Britain as the European Home of Modern Liberty in the 19th and 20th Centuries, Durham, 9-10 September 2019

Caroline Goodson, The State of the City: Current Approaches to Urbanism in Early Medieval Italy, London, 31 May 2019

Becca Grose, Keeping it in the Family? Exploring Familial Tension and Rupture in the Ancient & Early-Medieval Mediterranean (Postgraduate and ECR Conference), Reading, 24-25 April 2019

Joseph Harley, Domestic Production and Work in Poor British Homes, c.1650 – 1850, Derby, September 2019

Karen Harvey, Epistolary Bodies, Leicester, 24 May 2019


Purba Hossain, Across Colonial Lines: Empire, Commodities and Movements, Leeds, 18th September 2019

Sarah Kenny, Rethinking Disruptive Sex from the 19th to the 21st Century, London, 15-16 April 2019

Gregory Lippiatt, Noblesse Oblige?: Barons and the Public Good in the Middle Ages, Norwich, 3-4 April 2019


Carmen Mangion, Landscapes and Environments, London, 6-7 June 2019

Marie Molloy, Women and Slavery: Agency and Constraint in the Slaveholding South Manchester, 19 January 2019


Caitlin Naylor, Time and History in the Medieval World c.800-1300, Aberystwyth, 26-28 June 2019

Amanda Niedfeldt, Arts Patronage in Modern America, Oxford, 26-28 June 2019


Andrew Phemister, Activist Histories of Ireland: Historical, Transnational, and Contemporary Perspectives, Oxford, 12-13 July 2019

Joshua Ravenhill, Belonging in Late Medieval Cities, York, 28-29 June 2019

Arica Roberts, Gender & Sexuality: Identities & Intersectionalities, Reading, 29 March 2019

Benjamin Schneider, Labour in History & Economics: Migration, Markets and the Work Environment, Oxford, 22 – 23 April 2019

Tim Shephard, Music and Visual Culture in Renaissance Italy, Sheffield, 13-15 June 2019

Liam Stowell, States, Empires and Global Spaces: Visions of Order beyond Liberal Internationalism, Manchester, 8 November 2019
Sarah Ward Clavier, Reading, Writing, and Collecting: Books and Manuscripts in Wales, 1450 – 1850, Brecon, 24-25 April 2019

Robin Whelan, Beyond Eusebius and Augustine: Rethinking Christian Political Thought in Late Antiquity, Liverpool, 18-19 June 2019

David Wilson, The Problem of Piracy: An Interdisciplinary Conference on Plunder by Sea across the World from the Ancient to the Modern, Glasgow, 24-26 June 2019

Hannah Young, Negotiating Empire: Women, Economic Practice and Colonialism, Manchester, 23 November 2019

*These grants were generously funded by the Past & Present Society
**This grant was generously funded by the Martin Lynn scholarship fund
***This grant was generously funded by the Christopher Holdsworth fund

RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE, 2018-19 (Chair: Professor Jonathan Morris)

The Research Policy Committee advises the Society on all aspects of the research environment. It coordinates its relations with all the main bodies related to research funding and policy, manages its responses to government initiatives, and maintains relationships with other History and Humanities associations to lobby in the interests of the discipline. Over the past year, the main activities and concerns of the committee have been as follows:

REF 2021 – Research Excellence Framework:

The Society has continued to engage actively with the framing of the REF2021 exercise. The Chair of the Research Policy Committee coordinated the RHS response to the second consultation on the draft Guidelines for Submission and the Panel Working Practices documents which was discussed at both Research Policy Committee and at Council, prior to submission in October 2018. This focussed on concerns over equality and diversity, notably in terms of staff selection practices and the tariffs for so-called ‘special circumstances’ such as maternity. It also called for greater clarity in the guidelines over the handling of interdisciplinary outputs, double-weighting, and the understanding of impact. This response is available on the Society’s website.

Following publication of the final versions of the Guidelines and Working Practices documentation, the Society published a slide set presented by the Chair of Main Panel D (which includes History) explaining their decisions, with a set of annotations explaining the significance of these for History. The Society also placed a version of the REF 2014 Sub-Panel report on the website which includes valuable documentation on best practice and output types that it hopes will help guide units in their submissions to REF2021. The Society is currently monitoring the publication of the Codes of Practice produced by submitting institutions, and their application and impact upon the careers of historians.

GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation

The attention of the Research Policy Committee was drawn to the ways in which archives and universities are responding to the EU inspired GDPR regulations, by the former VP Research, Professor Mary Vincent. Concern was expressed that ethics committees within HEIs were adopting an overly cautious approach in relation to considerations of privacy and legitimate
historical research. The Research Policy Committee, informed by input from its representatives from the National Archives, is now working on producing an advisory document pertaining to the implications of GDPR for historians, with the intention that this can be used by researchers to inform their own practice, and to assist them in explaining the position to archivists, ethics committees, and in the training of new entrants to the profession.

**Open Access**

The Publications Committee has taken the lead on Open Access for the RHS, but the Research Policy Committee continues to discuss this issue and provide input into RHS positions.

**Research Councils**

The Committee continues to monitor the activities of research funders, and takes part in the annual meeting of councils and history bodies convened by the Economic History Society. The RHS expressed concern to the ESRC over its failure to fund history proposals.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE 2018-19: (Chair: Professor Huw Pryce)**

The Membership Committee assesses all applications for the Fellowship, Membership and Postgraduate Membership and recommends to Council the applicants who in its view meet the criteria for election. It also reviews procedures relating to applications.

Over the year ending on 30 June 2019, 117 Fellows and 251 Members were elected, and the total membership of the Society on that date was 4,381 (including 2,382 Fellows, 673 Retired Fellows, 143 Emeritus Fellows, 80 Corresponding and Honorary Fellows, 12 Honorary Vice Presidents, 30 Associates, 855 Members and 190 Postgraduate Members).

Since February 2017 the Membership Committee has received breakdowns by gender of applications for the Fellowship, Membership and Postgraduate Membership. The breakdown for applications in the year ending 30 June 2019 was as follows: Fellowship – 113 male, 84 female; Membership – 100 male, 54 female; Postgraduate Membership – 93 male, 65 female. This represents a significant increase in the numbers of female applications for the Fellowship and consequent closing of the gender gap compared with the previous year (129 male, 49 female). However, the ratio of male and female applications for the Membership remained at about 2:1, and the higher numbers of male than female applicants for the Postgraduate Membership contrasted with almost equal numbers the previous year.

In the Queen’s Birthday Honours the following honour was given:

Dr Lucy Worsley (Fellow) was appointed OBE for Services to History and Heritage.

In the New Year’s Honours List, the following honours were given:

Professor Robert Bartlett (Fellow) was appointed CBE for services to History.

David Olusoga (Member) was appointed OBE for services to History and community integration.
Dr Kate Tiller (Fellow) was appointed OBE for services to Local History.

Council was advised of and recorded with regret the deaths of five Fellows, five Emeritus Fellows, nine Retired Fellows and one Associate Member.

Reverend Canon M R Austin Emeritus Fellow
Dr L J F Ashdown-Hill Fellow
Professor A Carr Retired Fellow
Dr R J A I Catto Fellow
Dr S Chaudhury Retired Fellow
Professor C R Cole Emeritus Fellow
Dr C S L Davies Fellow
Reverend H A R Edgell Associate
Professor D K Fieldhouse Retired Fellow
Professor I G Jones Retired Fellow
Professor C H Lawrence Retired Fellow
Professor R Lowe Retired Fellow
Professor D Lowenthal Emeritus Fellow
Professor J Lynch Retired Fellow
Dr W P Maret Retired Fellow
Dr K Marsh Fellow
Dr A L Murray Retired Fellow
Professor E S Richards Fellow
Dr I Roy Emeritus Fellow
Dr F H W Sheppard Emeritus Fellow

The following were elected to the Fellowship of the Society:

Kristine Alexander, BA, MA, PhD
Richard Allen, MA, MLitt, PhD
Jennifer Altehenger, BA, DPhil
Sarah Ansari, BA, MA, PhD
Judi Atkins, BA, MA, MA, PhD
Harriet Atkinson, BA, MA, PhD
Michael Auslin, BS, MA, PhD
Stuart Aveyard, BA, MA, PhD
Paul Ayris, BA, MA, PhD
Marco Barducci, PhD
Nicholas Barnett, BA, MRes, PhD
Christina Bashford, BA, MMus, PhD
Michael Bechthold, PhD
Michael Bender, MA, PhD
Justin Bengry, BA, MA, PhD
Joshua Bennett, MA, MSt, DPhil
John Bew, BA, MPhil, PhD
Zoltan Biedermann, BA, MA, PhD
Jonathan Black, BA, MA, PhD
Clive Bond, BA
Charles Bow, BA, MA, PGDHS, PhD
Caroline Bressey, BA, PhD
Claire Brock, BA, MA, PhD
Katharine Burn, BA, PGCE, MSc, Dphil
William Butler, PhD
Melissa Calaresu, BA, MA, PhD
William Campbell, BA, PhD
Gilly Carr, BSc, MPhil, PhD
Brian Casey, BA, PhD
Megan Cassidy-Welch, BA, MA, PhD
Paul Chandler, BA, STL, DippLittLat, PhD
Nandini Chatterjee, PhD
Themis Chronopoulos, PhD
Nicola Clark, PhD
Donal Coffey, LLB, PhD
Lisa Colton, BMus, MA, PhD
Christy Constantakopoulou, BA, MA, DPhil
Hannah Cornwell, BA, PhD
Emily Corran, BA, MA, PhD
Lila Costabile, MPhil PhD
Pamela Cox, BA, PhD
Tom Crook, BA, MA, PhD
Katherine Cross, BA, MSt, PhD
James Crossland, BA, PhD
Michael Cullinane, BA, MA, PhD
Tom Cutterham, BA, MSt, PhD
Giuseppe De Luca, PhD
Bruno De Nicola, PhD
Rohan Deb Roy, PhD
Donald Dickson, BA, MA, PhD
Alistair Fair, BA, MA, PhD
Mark Fenemore, BA, MA, PhD
Jacob Field, MA, MLitt, PhD
Michael Finch, BA, MSt, DPhil, FHEA
Catherine Flinn, BA, MSc, MA, PhD
Aimee Fox, BA, MA, PhD
Marvin Fried, BA, MA, PhD
Leigh Gardner, DPhil
Stella Ghervas, BA, MA, PhD
Gary Gibbs, BA, MA, PhD
Edward Gillin, BA, PhD
Helen Glew, BA, MA, PhD
Eric Golson, BA, MA, PhD
James Goodchild, BA, MRes, PhD
Tim Grady, PhD
Christine Grandy, BA, MA, PhD
Jane Hamlett, BA, MA, PhD
Emma Hanna, BA, PhD
Trevor Harvey, BSc, MA, MBA, PGCE, PhD
Gordon Heath, BTh, MDiv, PhD
Andrew Mumford, BA, MA, PhD
Gavin Murray-Miller, BA, MA, PhD
John Newman, BA, PhD
Onyeka Nubia, LLB, LLM, PhD
Glen O’Hara, MA, MSc, PhD
Rosamund Oates, MA, PhD
Justin Olmstead, BA, MA, PhD
Daphna Oren-Magidor, PhD
Thomas Otte, MA, PhD
Estelle Paranque, PhD
Matthew Parker, BA
Sarah Pedersen, BA, MA, PhD
Mark Pendleton, BA, PhD
Sara Pennell, BA, MS, DPhil
Sarah Peverley, BA, PhD
Kavita Puri
Viviane Quirke, DPhil
Raluca Radulescu, BA, MPhil, PhD
Eleonora Rava, PhD
Sara Read, PhD
Matthias Reiss, PhD
Catherine Richardson, PhD
Eleanor Robson, BSc, MA, DPhil
Anna Ross, PhD
Tobias Rupprecht, PhD
Deborah Ryan, BA, PhD
Lucy Sandler, BA, MA, PhD
Laura Sangha, BA, MA, PhD
Raffaella Santi, MA, PhD
Elizabeth Savage, BA, MA, PhD
Otto Saumarez Smith, PhD
Betty Schellenberg, BA, Bed, MA, PhD
Michael Scott, PhD
Richard Scully, BA, DPhil
Uditi Sen, DPhil
Caroline Sharples, BA, MA, PhD
Jane Shaw, BA, MA, MDiv, PhD
William Sherman, PhD
Malcolm Shifrin, ALA, MA
Gajendra Singh, MA, MSc, PhD
Christopher Smith, BA, MA, PhD
Mark Smith, BA, MA, PhD
Jonathan Smyth, BA, PhD
Ian Speller, BA, MSc, PhD
Malcolm Spencer, BA, DPhil
Judith Spicksley, BA, MA, PhD
Christian Steer, BA, MA, PhD, FSA
Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite, PhD
Gregory Taylor, BA, LLB, LLM
Gregor Thuswaldner, BA, MA, PhD
Charles Tieszen, BA, MDiv, ThM, PhD
Jane Tolerton, BA
Marhta Vandrei, MA, PhD
Dora Vargha, PhD
Geraldine Vaughan, PhD
Jan Vermeiren, MA, PhD
John Wade, BA, MA, PhD
Matthew Walker, BA, MA, PhD
Mark Wallace, BA, MA, PhD
John Walliss, BA, MA, PhD
Paul Watt, BMus, MA, PhD
Alexander Woolf, BA, MPhil, PhD
Neil Younger, PhD
David Zersen, BA, BD, MDiv, DMin, MA, EdD

The following were elected to the Membership of the Society:

Ann-Marie Akenhurst, BA, MA, PhD, PGCE
Darinee Alagirisamy, BA, PhD, PGDE
Rosamaria Alibrandi, MA, PhD
Christopher Baker, BSc, MSc, MA
Gordon Barrett, BA, PhD
Jacqueline Bemmer, MLitt, DPhil
Ranit Bhuyan, BComm
Nicholas Blake, BA
Gary Buck, BSc, MSc, PhD
Shawn Bullock, BSc, Bed, Med, MA, PhD
John Burke, BA, MA, PhD
Diane Burstein, BA
Natalie Butler, BA, MA
Stephanie Christelow, MA, PhD
Chun Kei Chow, PhD
Sajed Chowdhury, MA, DPhil
Alison Creber, BA, MA, PhD
Caroline Cox, BA, MSc
Gillian Crea, BA, MA
Patrick Crocco, BA, LLB, MSc, LLM
Michael Davies, MA, PGCE
Ian Dawson, BA, MA, PGCE
Olivia Dee, BA, MA, PhD
Robert Dempsey, BA, Bed, MA
Steven Dieter, BA, MA
Matthew Eddy, BA, MDiv, MA, PhD
Misha Ewen, PhD
Andrew Flinn, BA, MA, PhD
Georgios Giannakopoulos, PhD
Boris Gershkov, PhD
Oliver Hadingham, BA, MA
Megan Hall, BA
Katherine Harlow, BA, MPhil, PhD
Amanda Harvey
Antony Harvey, BA, GCCI, CertEd
Stephanie Howard-Smith, BA, MA, PhD
Erin Jessee, BA, MA, PhD
Thomas Johnston
Peter Pincemin Johnstone, BA, LLM, MA, PhD
Charles Jones, BA, MLitt, PhD
Omer Khan, BA, MA
Lukasz Korporowicz
John Latham-Sprinkle, BA, MA, PhD
Adrian Lee, BA, BSc, MSc
David Lees, PhD
Su Lin Lewis, PhD
Judith Loades, BA
Philip Lyon, BSc, MA, PhD
Mihaela Martin, PhD
Emma McCauley-Tinniswood, BA, MLitt
Barbara Mellor, BA
Keith Milne, BA, PGCE
Chris Moores, PhD
Laura Moretti, PhD
Eric Morier-Genoud, BA, MA, PhD
Joanne Norcup, BA, MA, PhD
Frederick O’Dell, BSc, MSc
Michelle O’Mahony, BA, MPhil
Carole O’Reilly, PhD
Raphael Oidtmann, MA, MCL, MSt
David Olusoga, BA, MA
Stephanie Paladini, PhD
Hannah Parker, BA, MA, PhD
Matthew Parker, BA
Timothy Peacock, MA, MLitt, PhD
Christopher Perry, BA, BA, MA
Harry Raffal, BA, MA
Joan Redmond, BA, PhD
Richard Reid, BA, PhD
Meredith Riedel, DPhil
John Rochester, BA, MA
Curtis Ross, BA
Martin Ruehl, BA, MA, PhD
Carolyn Sanzenbacher, BA, MA, PhD
Ilaria Scaglia, PhD
Alexander Scott
Asif Shakoor
Jack Skelton-Wallace, BA, MA, PGCE
Helen Snelson, BA, MSc, PGCE
Gregory Slyszy, BA, MSc, MSt, PhD
Philip Star, BA, PGCE
George Thomas
Shelley Tickell, BA, MA, PhD
Robert Tuxford
Chrissie Twigg, BA, MBA
Gonzalo Velasco-Berenguer, PhD
Joseph Viscomi, PhD
Marilla Walker, BA, PGCE
John Wallis, BSc, MA
Sarah Ward-Clavier, BA, DPhil
James Wearne, BSc, PhD, FLS
Harriett Webster, PhD
Katherine Wilson, MA, PhD, PGCE
Andrew Winrow, MA, DPhil, MBBS
Taras Young, BA, MSc
Natalia Zajac, BA, MA, PhD

The following were elected to the Postgraduate Membership of the Society:

Hardy Acosta-Cuellar, MA (Tulane University)
Keith Alcorn, MA (Royal Holloway, University of London)
Nicholas Alderton, BA, MA (Cardiff University)
Katherine Ambler, BA (King’s College London)
Panarat Anamwathana, BA, MPhil (University of Oxford)
Molly Avery, BA, MSc (London School of Economics)
Christopher Baldwin, BA, MA (University of Toronto)
Dominic Barker, MA (University College London)
Maria Bastiaio, MA (Universidade Nova de Lisbon)
John Beales, MA (University of Bristol)
Jessica Becker, BA, MA (Columbia University)
Lloyd Belton, MA, MSc (University of Leeds)
Michael Bennett, MA (University of Sheffield)
Joshua Bilton, PhD (King’s College London)
Ashleigh Black, MA (University of Aberdeen)
Krysten Blackstone, MA, MSc (University of Edinburgh)
Amie Bolissian Mcrae, MA (University of Reading)
Lacey Bonar, MA (West Virginia University)
Sarah Boote-Powell, MA (University of Warwick)
James Brocklesby, BA, MRes (Liverpool John Moores University)
Ross Brooks, BA, MA (Oxford Brookes University)
Gregory Buchanan, BA (University of Tasmania)
Robert Bullock (University of Huddersfield)
Hillary Burgardt, BA, MA (Swansea University)
William Burgess, BA, MA (Queen Mary, University of London)
Martin Carlino, BA (University of Oxford)
Bert Carlstrom, MA (University of Liverpool)
Todd Carter, MSt (University of Oxford)
Laura Channing, BA, MPhil (University of Cambridge)
Patcharaviral Charoenpacharaporn, MSt (School of Oriental and African Studies)
Chih-En Chen, MA (School of Oriental and African Studies)
Anotida Chikumbu, MA (University of Zimbabwe)
Jennifer Chochinov, MA (King’s College London)
Alexander Collin, BA (University of Amsterdam)
Cosmin Koszor, BA, MA (Oxford Brookes University)
Simon Kirkpatrick, MLitt (University of Dundee)
Rachel Kowalski, BA, MA (King’s College London)
Flamur Krasniqi, MSc (London School of Economics)
Nicholas Leah, BA (University of Oxford)
Sundeep Lidher, MA, MSt (University of Cambridge)
Vanessa Lim, BSc, MA (Queen Mary, University of London)
James Lloyd, BA, MA (University of Exeter)
Andrew Lunt, BA, MRes (University of Leeds)
Chandan Mahal, BA, MA (Queen Mary, University of London)
Laura Mainwaring, BA, MSc (University of Leicester)
Andrea Mancini, MA (University of Macerata)
Mario Maritan (University College London)
Nenad Markovic, MA Charles University, Prague)
Christopher Marshall, BA, MA (University of Wales Trinity St David)
Hannah Martin, MA (Northumbria University)
Shaun McGuinness, MA, LLB (Bangor University)
Jennifer McHugh, BA, MA (Lancaster University)
Daniel McKay, BA, LLB (University of Cambridge)
Liam McLeod, BA, MA (University of Birmingham)
Bethany McNamara-Dale, MSt (University of Oxford)
Samantha Middleton, MA (University of Portsmouth)
Elizabeth Miller, BA, MA (King’s College London)
Erin Moody, BA (University of Glasgow)
Tanner Moore, BA, MA (Purdue University)
Themba Mtwazi, BA (University of Kent)
Katherine Murray, BSc, BA, MA (Swansea University)
Saarang Narayan, MSt (University of Oxford)
Maanik Nath, BSc, MPhil (London School of Economics)
Michael Nelles, BA, MA (Institute of Conservation)
Luis Nicolau Marques da Silva, MA (University of Madeira)
Felix Oberhalzer, BA (University of St Andrews)
Ryna Ordynat, BA, MA (Monash University)
Patricia Osborne, Keele University)
Grace Owen, BA, MA (University of Birmingham)
Sada Payir, BSc, MA (University of Oxford)
Saara Penttinen, Ma (University of Turku)
Rhys Phillips, MA (University of Portsmouth)
Calum Platts, BA, MPhil (University of Cambridge)
Thom Pritchard, BA, MA (University of Edinburgh)
Xiaoping Qi, BA, MA (University of St Andrews)
Sukanya Raisharma, MA (University of Oxford)
Sukanya Raisharma, MA (University College London)
Roseanna Ramsden, BA, MA (Northumbria University)
Bethany Rebisz, BA, MA (University of Reading)
Claire Rioult, MA (University of Warwick)
Hallam Roffey, BA, MA (University of Sheffield)
Christopher Rouse, BA, MA (University of Birmingham)
Eleanor Russell, BA (University of Cambridge)
Benjamin Schneider, BA, MSc (University of Oxford)
Zoe Screti, BA, MA (University of Birmingham)
Andrew Searle, BA, MA (University of Birmingham)
Jayne Shaw, BA, MA (University of Huddersfield)
Johanna Sinclair, BA (University of Oxford)
Stuart Smedley, BSc, MA (King’s College London)
Stuart Smith, BA (Kingston University)
Anne Stokes, BA, MSc (University of Manchester)
Therese Sunga, MSt (University of Manchester)
John Sutcliffe IV, BSc, MA (University of Leeds)
David Tallon, BA, MA, MSc (University of Reading)
David Toman, BSc, MSc (University of Oxford)
Elisabeth Trischler, MA (University of Leeds)
Kevin Tufnell, BA, MA (University College London)
Steven Turner, MA (University of Wales Trinity St David)
Panagiotis Tzovaras, BA, MA
Mrinalini Venkateswaran, BA, MA (University of Cambridge)
Jessica Venner, MA (Birkbeck, University of London)
Yasmin Vetter, MLitt (University of Birmingham)
Lewis Wade, BA (University of Cambridge)
Scott Wakeham, BA, MA (King’s College London)
Owen Walsh, BA, MA (University of Leeds)
Karina Wendling, MA (University of Strasbourg)
Shamara Wettimuny, MSc (University of Oxford)
Tom Wilkinson, MSc (London School of Economics)
Amanda Williams, BA, MA (University of Leeds)
Fu Yidong, MA (Nanjing University)
Victoria Yuskaitis, BA, MA (King’s College London)
Tom Zago, BA (University of Cambridge)

FINANCE COMMITTEE 2018-19 (Chair: Professors Margot Finn and Sarah Hamilton)

The Finance Committee approves the Society’s accounts each financial year and its estimates for the following year. This year, as before, the accounts were professionally audited by Moore Kingston Smith. They are presented on the RHS website together with the Trustees’ Annual Report.

The Society’s annual expenditure of £426K was broadly in line with the Society’s financial plans for the year. As planned, the Society operated a deficit of some £40K.

This deficit is in part due to fall in the Society’s income on 2017-18 levels of £57K. As reported last year, the Society’s income in 2017-18 benefited from a one-off legacy of £50K from Professor Christopher Holdsworth. The pattern of continued decreases in income from royalties, as predicted in previous years reports, also continued, with a decrease of £10k on 2017-8 levels. The vagaries of the market for the on-line digitized back catalogue of the Society’s publications mean that Cambridge University Press is unable to forecast income accurately but the finite size of this market means that royalty income from this source is likely to continue to decline. There was a small increase in subscriptions income of £8k. In the light
of the Society’s position, it therefore took the decision to raise subscription levels for 2019-20; subscription levels will be reviewed again for 2021-22.

At the same time there was an increase in expenditure of £15k. The increase was in two main areas. Firstly, an increase of £7k in grants for awards. Secondly, a small increase of £5K in the cost of publications; this arose mainly from the additional cost of running two publication series at once, as support for the Society’s new open-access series, New Historical Perspectives, increased at the same time as the Society entered the last full year of the Studies in History series.

The value of the Society’s investments rose to £3.45 million in June 2019, an increase from the previous year's figure of £3.38 million. The Society, as in previous years, drew £78,000 from the portfolio to support its activities. The Society's portfolio is invested for the long-term and members of Finance Committee are confident that the current spread of investments is appropriate. Finance Committee maintained the Investment Policy first approved in 2013-4.

This policy continues to emphasize the important role played by income from the investment portfolio in supporting the Society’s activities, and notes that it is managed with the objective of preserving (and ideally enhancing) its real value over time. Such a strategy ensures a balance between the needs of current and future beneficiaries. The Policy will be reviewed again in 2019-20.

In recent years the Society has been in able up to build up its reserves significantly, largely as a result of the performance of its investments in the financial markets, but also due to windfall income from the digitisation component of its publishing agreement with Cambridge University Press. The Finance Committee recognises that the coming years will be much more challenging financially, as the windfall income from the digitisation component of the publishing agreement with Cambridge University Press continues to decline, whilst the outlook for investments, upon which the Society relies for almost a fifth of its income, becomes more uncertain. The substantial investment in changes to the Society’s IT systems is now largely complete. However, the Society continues to have to respond to the challenges of a changing professional environment with the higher education sector, and recognises that these interventions require continued investment in staffing in order to represent the Society’s membership’s interest in wider policy debates as well as continue its financial support for early career researchers. At the same time, the Society seeks to expand its membership. The Society therefore anticipates continuing to hold substantial reserves in the expectation that they will be drawn down in future years to cover a series of planned in-year deficits. Given the importance of one-off donations to its financial health, the Society notes the need to put higher levels of fund-raising on a more sustainable level in the medium term in order to ensure support for its activities in the future.

Council records with gratitude the benefactions made to the Society by:

- Dr I W Archer
- Dr G Bakker
- Mr R K Bhuyan
- Professor D P Branch
- Professor D H V Brogan
- The Reverend Dr P A Butler
- Dr C G V Coutinho
- Dr A Dighton
Dr D L Drakeman
Professor Sir David Eastwood
Professor Sir Geoffrey Elton
Professor M C Finn
Dr L K J Glassey
Professor H W G Gneuss
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