



Registered Charity No.: 206888

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2017

The Royal Historical Society

Reference and Administrative Information

Members of Council:

Professor P Mandler, BA, AM, PhD	President - Officer (to November 2016)
Professor M C Finn, BS, PhD	President - Officer (from November 2016)
A Smith, BA, MA, PhD	Honorary Secretary – Officer (to November 2016)
Z Laidlaw, BA, MA, PhD	Honorary Secretary – Officer from November 2016)
Professor A P Spicer, BA, MA, PhD	Literary Director - Officer
Professor E Griffin, BA, MA, PhD	Literary Director - Officer (to November 2016)
Professor R J Toye, BA, PhD	Literary Director - Officer (from November 2016)
Professor S M Hamilton, BA, MA, PhD	Honorary Treasurer - Officer
Professor J C Fox, BA, PhD	Honorary Director of Communications - Officer (to November 2016)
A R Green, MA, PhD	Honorary Director of Communications - Officer (from November 2016)
Professor F E Andrews, BA, PhD	Vice President
S L Bardgett, BA	Vice President
Professor R A Burns, MA, DPhil	Vice President (to November 2016)
Professor S J Connolly, BA, DPhil	Vice President (to November 2016)
Professor L C Fincham, MA, PhD	Vice President (from November 2016)
Professor S P Newman, BA, MA, PhD	Vice President
Professor M T Vincent, MA, DPhil	Vice President
Professor J S Barrow, MA, DPhil	Councillor
Professor E H Chalus, BEd, MPhil, PhD	Councillor
M Collins, BA, MA, PhD	Councillor (from November 2016)
Professor C R E Cubitt, BA, MA, PhD	Councillor
Professor Dr K Friedrich, MA, PhD	Councillor
Professor O P Grell, BA, MA, PhD	Councillor
Professor J S Henderson, BA, MA, PhD	Councillor (to November 2016)
Professor A H Pryce, MA, DPhil	Councillor
A P Roach, BA, MA, DPhil	Councillor (from November 2016)
S P Sivasundaram, MA, MPhil, PhD	Councillor
Professor P E Skinner, BA, MPhil, PhD	Councillor
Professor M J Stoyle, BA, DPhil	Councillor (to November 2016)
Professor P Summerfield, BA, MA, DPhil	Councillor (to November 2016)
Professor N Tadmor, BA, MA, PhD	Councillor
Professor J F Winters, BA, PhD	Councillor (from November 2016)

Executive Secretary:

S E Carr, PhD

Administrative Secretary:

M F M Ransom, BA

Registered Office:

University College London
Gower Street
London WC1E 6BT

Charity registration number:

206888

Auditors:

Kingston Smith LLP
Chartered Accountants
Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London EC1M 7AD

Investment managers:

Brewin Dolphin
12 Smithfield Street
London EC1A 9BD

Bankers:

Barclays Bank Plc
27 Soho Square
London W1A 4WA

The Royal Historical Society
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 30 June 2017

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds	Unrestricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	2017	£	£	£	2016
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	2	19,876	-	-	19,876	46,109	-	1,500	47,609
Investments	6	90,751	-	-	90,751	90,700	-	-	90,700
Charitable activities									
Grants for awards		-	-	14,000	14,000	-	-	12,000	12,000
Grants for publications		-	-	-	0	5,000	-	-	5,000
Subscriptions		146,269	-	-	146,269	156,829	-	-	156,829
Royalties		119,419	-	-	119,419	70,878	-	-	70,878
Other		404	-	-	404	2,086	-	-	2,086
		376,720	-	14,000	390,720	371,602	-	13,500	385,102
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds									
Investment manager's fees		21,254	-	657	21,911	20,252	-	626	20,878
Fundraising consultancy		780	-	-	780	2,718	-	-	2,718
Charitable activities									
Grants for awards	3	76,583	-	21,474	98,057	95,339	-	17,976	113,315
Lectures and meetings		36,425	-	-	36,425	31,653	-	-	31,653
Publications		100,309	-	-	100,309	108,055	-	-	108,055
Library		11,045	-	-	11,045	13,671	-	-	13,671
Membership services		80,709	-	-	80,709	103,705	-	-	103,705
Total Expenditure	4a	327,105	-	22,131	349,236	375,393	-	18,602	393,995
		333,795	10,323	-	344,118	(23,815)	(737)	-	(24,552)
Net gain / (loss) on investments									
	6		10,323	-	344,118	(23,815)	(737)	-	(24,552)
Net Income / (Expenditure) before transfers									
		383,410	10,323	(8,131)	385,602	(27,606)	(737)	(5,102)	(33,445)
Gross transfers between funds		(7,354)	-	7,354	-	(5,331)	-	5,331	-
Net Movement in Funds									
Balance at 1 July		376,056	10,323	(777)	385,602	(32,937)	(737)	229	(33,445)
		3,097,508	84,192	2,844	3,184,544	3,130,445	84,929	2,615	3,217,989
Balance at 30 June		3,473,564	94,515	2,067	3,570,146	3,097,508	84,192	2,844	3,184,544

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

The Royal Historical Society

Balance Sheet at 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 £	2017 £	2016 £	2016 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	5		3		116
Investments	6		3,219,415		2,884,538
			3,219,418		2,884,654
Current Assets					
Debtors	7	22,673		29,453	
Cash at bank and in hand		371,982		324,931	
		394,655		354,384	
Less: Creditors					
Amounts due within one year	8	(43,927)		(54,495)	
Net Current Assets			350,728		299,890
Net Assets			3,570,146		3,184,544
 Represented By:					
<i>Endowment Funds</i>					
	10				
A S Whitfield Prize Fund			63,189		56,307
The David Berry Essay Trust			31,326		27,885
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
	11				
A S Whitfield Prize Fund			1,199		1,384
P J Marshall Fellowship			-		-
The David Berry Essay Trust			868		960
The Martin Lynn Bequest			-		500
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>					
Designated - E M Robinson Bequest	12		160,971		144,227
General Fund	13		3,312,593		2,953,281
			3,570,146		3,184,544

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 (effective January 2015).

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Council on
and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Professor M C Finn - **President**

.....
Professor S M Hamilton - **Honorary Treasurer**

The Royal Historical Society
Cash Flow Statement at 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
	£	£
Cash flows provided by operating activities		
Net income for the year	385,602	(33,445)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	113	113
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	6,780	51,179
Increase in creditors	(10,568)	12,269
Unrealised (gain) / loss on investments	(344,118)	24,552
Net cash generated by operating activities	37,809	54,668
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of investments	1,007,537	563,342
Purchase of investments	(998,296)	(554,265)
Net cash from investing activities	9,241	9,077
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	47,050	63,745
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	324,931	261,187
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	371,982	324,931

The Royal Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

1 Accounting Policies

The Royal Historical Society is a charity incorporated by Royal Charter in England and Wales. The registered office is University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT.

Basis of Preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Going Concern

The trustees have assessed whether the use of going concern and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of the approval of these financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charitable company's forecasts and projections and have taken account of pressures on fee income. After making enquiries, the trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its

Income

All income is recognised when there is entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grant income

Grant income is deferred only where the donor has specified that it may only be used for a future period or has imposed conditions that must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement to the grant.

Subscription income

Subscription income is recognised in the year it became receivable with a provision against any subscription not received.

Donations and other voluntary income

Donations and other voluntary income are recognised when the Society becomes legally entitled to such monies.

Royalties

Royalties are recognised on an accruals basis in accordance with the terms of the relevant agreement.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Grants payable

Grants payable are recognised in the year in which they are approved and notified to recipients.

The Royal Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

1 Accounting Policies (Continued)

Cost of raising funds

The costs of generating funds are those costs of seeking potential funders and applying for funding.

Allocation of costs

Indirect costs are those costs incurred in support of the charitable objectives. These have been allocated to the resources expended on a basis that fairly reflects the true use of those resources within the organisation.

Library and Archives

The cost of additions to the library and archives is written off in the year of purchase.

Pensions

Pension costs are charged to the SOFA when payments fall due. The Society contributed 12.5% of gross salary to the personal pension plan of two of the employees.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Any surplus/deficit arising on revaluation is included in the Statement of Financial Activities. Dividend income is accounted for when the Society becomes entitled to such monies.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated by reference to the cost of fixed assets using a straight line basis at rates considered appropriate having regard to the expected lives of the tangible fixed assets. The annual rates of depreciation in use

Furniture and equipment	10%
Computer equipment	25%

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted:

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects of the Royal Historical Society at the

Designated:

These are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted:

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes defined by the benefactor and within the

Endowment:

Permanent endowment funds must be held permanently by the trustees and income arising is separately included in

The purpose and use of endowment, restricted and designated funds are disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. In the view of the trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

i. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less.

ii. Debtors and Creditors

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest.

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

2 Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2017 £
Donations via membership	7,563	-	7,563
Gladstone Memorial Trust	-	-	-
Martin Lynn scholarship	-	-	-
Sundry income	7,882	-	7,882
Gift Aid reclaimed	4,431	-	4,431
	<u>19,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,876</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2016 £
Donations via membership	9,235	-	9,235
Gladstone Memorial Trust	-	-	-
Martin Lynn scholarship	-	1,500	1,500
Sundry income	6,389	-	6,389
Rausing Trust donation	25,000	-	25,000
Gift Aid reclaimed	5,485	-	5,485
	<u>46,109</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>47,609</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2017 £
RHS Centenary Fellowship	15,726	-	15,726
Research support grants (see below)	41,000	848	41,848
A-Level prizes	800	-	800
AS Whitfield prize	-	1,000	1,000
Gladstone history book prize	1,000	-	1,000
P J Marshall Fellowship	-	15,736	15,736
P J Marshall Fellowship - in respect of 2015-16	-	3,890	3,890
David Berry Prize	-	-	-
Alexander Prize	250	-	250
Rees Davies Prize	250	-	250
HA grants/Young Historian Scheme	150	-	150
Staff and support costs (Note 4a)	17,407	-	17,407
	<u>76,583</u>	<u>21,474</u>	<u>98,057</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2016 £
RHS Centenary Fellowship	15,726	-	15,726
Research support grants (see below)	55,232	1,000	56,232
A-Level prizes	400	-	400
AS Whitfield prize	-	1,000	1,000
Gladstone history book prize	1,000	-	1,000
P J Marshall Fellowship	-	15,726	15,726
David Berry Prize	-	250	250
Alexander Prize	250	-	250
Rees Davies Prize	250	-	250
HA grants/Young Historian Scheme	604	-	604
Staff and support costs (Note 4a)	21,877	-	21,877
	<u>95,339</u>	<u>17,976</u>	<u>113,315</u>

During the year Society awarded grants to a value of £41,848 (2016 - £56,232) to 162 (2016 - 186) individuals. The decline in the amount awarded in grants in 2016-17 reflects a decline in the quality of applications received compared to those received in the previous year.

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

3 Grants for Awards (Continued)

Grants Payable	2017	2016
	£	£
Commitments at 1 July	2,843	2,468
Commitments made in the year	80,500	90,834
Grants paid during the year	<u>(79,554)</u>	<u>(90,459)</u>
Commitments at 30 June	<u>3,789</u>	<u>2,843</u>

Commitments at 30 June 2017 and 2016 are included in creditors.

4a Total Expenditure

	Staff Costs £ (Note 4b)	Support Costs £ (Note 4c)	Direct Costs £	2017 Total £
<i>Raising funds</i>				
Investment manager's fee	-	-	21,911	21,911
Fundraising and consultancy services	-	-	780	780
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
Grants for awards (Note 3)	9,174	8,233	80,650	98,057
Lectures and meetings	9,174	4,802	22,449	36,425
Publications	15,011	15,093	70,205	100,309
Library	5,004	4,802	1,239	11,045
Membership services	<u>45,034</u>	<u>35,675</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,709</u>
	<u>83,397</u>	<u>68,605</u>	<u>197,234</u>	<u>349,236</u>

	Staff Costs £ (Note 4b)	Support Costs £ (Note 4c)	Direct Costs £	2016 Total £
<i>Raising funds</i>				
Investment manager's fee	-	-	20,878	20,878
Fundraising and consultancy services	-	-	2,718	2,718
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
Grants for awards (Note 3)	10,150	11,727	91,438	113,315
Lectures and meetings	10,150	6,841	14,662	31,653
Publications	16,608	21,500	69,947	108,055
Library	5,536	6,841	1,294	13,671
Membership services	<u>49,825</u>	<u>50,817</u>	<u>3,063</u>	<u>103,705</u>
	<u>92,269</u>	<u>97,726</u>	<u>204,000</u>	<u>393,995</u>

4b Staff Costs

	2017	2016
	£	£
Wages and salaries	70,524	78,653
Social security costs	6,084	6,827
Other pension costs	<u>6,789</u>	<u>6,789</u>
	<u>83,397</u>	<u>92,269</u>

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

4c Support Costs	2017	2016
	£	£
Stationery, photocopying and postage	28,115	18,855
Computer support	17,785	39,735
Insurance	1,385	1,333
Equipment	328	-
Telephone	389	340
Depreciation	113	113
Auditor's remuneration	9,071	7,950
Other	11,418	29,400
	<u>68,605</u>	<u>97,726</u>

Charitable activity costs are apportioned by the charity on the basis of staff time.

The average number of employees in the year was 3 (2016 - 3). There were no employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 in this year or in the previous year.

During the year travel expenses were reimbursed to 45 (2016: 26) Councillors attending Council meetings at a cost of £10,419 (2016 - £6,964). No Councillor received any remuneration during the year (2016 - £Nil).

During the year the Society agreed exceptionally to recognise the additional work required of the Honorary Secretary for the implementation of the new systems associated with the design of the new website and the move to online systems for applications for fellowship, membership and applications for research funding through an annual payment of £4,000 to the Honorary Secretary's employer to be used for buy out from teaching duties. This payment has been agreed for a time limited period, namely 2015/16 to 2018/19.

Key management personnel include the Trustees, Chief Executive (and senior staff reporting directly to the Chief Executive). The total employee benefits of the charity's key management personnel were £nil (2016: £nil).

5 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment £	Furniture and Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 July 2016	<u>33,224</u>	<u>1,134</u>	<u>34,358</u>
At 30 June 2017	<u>33,224</u>	<u>1,134</u>	<u>34,358</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 July 2016	33,224	1,018	34,242
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>113</u>
At 30 June 2017	<u>33,224</u>	<u>1,131</u>	<u>34,355</u>
Net Book Value			
At 30 June 2017	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
At 30 June 2016	<u>-</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>116</u>

All tangible fixed assets are used in the furtherance of the Society's objects.

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

6 Investments	General Fund £	Designated Robinson Bequest £	Whitfield Prize Fund £	David Berry Essay Trust £	Total £
Market value at 1 July 2016	2,653,775	144,227	57,691	28,845	2,884,538
Additions	918,432	49,915	19,966	9,983	998,296
Disposals	(926,934)	(50,377)	(20,151)	(10,075)	(1,007,537)
Net loss on investments	<u>316,589</u>	<u>17,206</u>	<u>6,882</u>	<u>3,441</u>	<u>344,118</u>
Market value at 30 June 2017	<u>2,961,862</u>	<u>160,971</u>	<u>64,388</u>	<u>32,194</u>	<u>3,219,415</u>
Cost at 30 June 2017	<u>2,449,849</u>	<u>133,144</u>	<u>53,258</u>	<u>26,629</u>	<u>2,662,879</u>
				2017	2016
				£	£
UK Equities				1,179,322	1,064,700
UK Government Stock and Bonds				438,660	416,307
Overseas Equities				1,551,696	1,290,770
Uninvested Cash				<u>49,737</u>	<u>112,761</u>
				<u>3,219,415</u>	<u>2,884,538</u>
Dividends and interest on listed investments				90,670	89,800
Interest on cash deposits				<u>81</u>	<u>900</u>
				<u>90,751</u>	<u>90,700</u>
				2017	2016
				£	£
7 Debtors				19,872	19,967
Other debtors				7,213	7,072
Royalty debtor				<u>(4,412)</u>	<u>2,414</u>
Prepayments				<u>22,673</u>	<u>29,453</u>
				<u>22,673</u>	<u>29,453</u>
All debtors are financial instruments and are measured at present value					
				2017	2016
				£	£
8 Creditors: Amounts due within one year				22,494	30,544
Sundry creditors				1,766	2,164
Taxes and social security				1,769	2,337
Subscriptions received in advance				900	-
Deferred income				<u>16,998</u>	<u>19,450</u>
Accruals				<u>43,927</u>	<u>54,495</u>
				<u>43,927</u>	<u>54,495</u>

Included within Sundry creditors is an amount of £577 (2016: £577) relating to pension liabilities.
All Creditors, except for accruals, are financial instruments and are measured at present value
Deferred income relates to publications income received in advance.

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

9 Lease Commitments

The Society has the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases which expire:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Under 1 year	6,744	6,744
Within 1 - 2 years	6,744	13,488
	<u>13,488</u>	<u>20,232</u>

10 Endowment Funds

	Balance at 1 July 2016	Investment Gain	Balance at 30 June 2017
	£	£	£
A S Whitfield Prize Fund	56,307	6,882	63,189
The David Berry Essay Trust	27,885	3,441	31,326
	<u>84,192</u>	<u>10,323</u>	<u>94,515</u>
	Balance at 1 July 2015	Investment Gain	Balance at 30 June 2016
	£	£	£
A S Whitfield Prize Fund	56,798	(491)	56,307
The David Berry Essay Trust	28,131	(246)	27,885
	<u>84,929</u>	<u>(737)</u>	<u>84,192</u>

A S Whitfield Prize Fund

The A S Whitfield Prize Fund is an endowment used to provide income for an annual prize for the best first monograph for British history published in the calendar year.

The David Berry Essay Trust

The David Berry Essay Trust is an endowment to provide income for annual prizes for essays on subjects dealing with Scottish history.

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

11 Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 July 2016 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 June 2017 £
A S Whitfield Prize Fund	1,384	-	(1,438)	1,253	1,199
P J Marshall Fellowship	-	14,000	(19,626)	5,626	-
The David Berry Essay Trust	960	-	(219)	127	868
Martin Lynn Bequest	500	-	(848)	348	-
	<u>2,844</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>(22,131)</u>	<u>7,354</u>	<u>2,067</u>
	Balance at 1 July 2015 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 June 2016 £
A S Whitfield Prize Fund	1,564	-	(1,417)	1,237	1,384
P J Marshall Fellowship	-	12,000	(15,726)	3,726	-
The David Berry Essay Trust	1,051	-	(459)	368	960
Martin Lynn Bequest	-	1,500	(1,000)	-	500
	<u>2,615</u>	<u>13,500</u>	<u>(18,602)</u>	<u>5,331</u>	<u>2,844</u>

The transfer from the General fund to the Restricted fund represents a correction to the fund balances arising from the investment portfolio analysis.

A S Whitfield Prize Fund Income

Income from the A S Whitfield Prize Fund is used to provide an annual prize for the best first monograph for British history published in the calendar year.

P J Marshall Fellowship

The P J Marshall Fellowship is used to provide a sum sufficient to cover the stipend for a one-year doctoral research fellowship alongside the existing Royal Historical Society Centenary Fellowship at the Institute of Historical Research.

The David Berry Essay Trust Income

Income from the David Berry Trust is to provide annual prizes for essays on subjects dealing with Scottish history.

The Martin Lynn Bequest

This annual bequest is used by the Society to give financial assistance to postgraduates researching topics in African history.

12 Designated Fund

	Balance at 1 July 2016 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Investment Gain £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 June 2017 £
E M Robinson Bequest	144,227	4,534	(4,996)	17,206	-	160,971
	Balance at 1 July 2015 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Investment Gain £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 June 2016 £
E M Robinson Bequest	145,907	4,492	(4,944)	(1,228)	-	144,227

The Royal Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017 (Continued)

12 Designated Fund (continued)

E M Robinson Bequest

Income from the E M Robinson Bequest is to further the study of history and to date has been used to provide grants to the Dulwich Picture Gallery.

13 General Fund

Balance at 1 July 2016	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Investment Gain	Transfers	Balance at 30 June 2017
£	£	£	£	£	£
2,953,281	372,187	(322,109)	316,589	(7,354)	3,312,593
Balance at 1 July 2015	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Investment Gain	Transfers	Balance at 30 June 2016
£	£	£	£	£	£
2,984,539	367,109	(370,449)	(22,587)	(5,331)	2,953,281

The transfer from the Restricted fund to the general fund represents a correction to the fund balances arising from the investment portfolio analysis.

14 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2017
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	3	-	-	-	3
Investments	2,961,862	160,971	2,067	94,515	3,219,415
	2,961,865	160,971	2,067	94,515	3,219,418
Current assets	394,655	-	-	-	394,655
Less: Creditors	(43,927)	-	-	-	(43,927)
Net current assets/(liabilities)	350,728	-	-	-	350,728
Net Assets	3,312,593	160,971	2,067	94,515	3,570,146
	General Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	116	-	-	-	116
Investments	2,653,775	144,227	2,344	84,192	2,884,538
	2,653,891	144,227	2,344	84,192	2,884,654
Current assets	353,884	-	500	-	354,384
Less: Creditors	(54,495)	-	-	-	(54,495)
Net current assets/(liabilities)	299,390	-	500	-	299,890
Net Assets	2,953,281	144,227	2,844	84,192	3,184,544

The Royal Historical Society

Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2017

The members of Council present their report and audited accounts for the year ended 30 June 2017. The information shown on page 1 forms a part of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Society was founded on 23 November 1868 and received its Royal Charter in 1889. It is governed by the document 'The By-Laws of the Royal Historical Society', which was last amended in January 2016. The elected Officers of the Society are the President, four Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Director of Communications, and not more than two Literary Directors. These officers, together with twelve Councillors constitute the governing body of the Society, and therefore its trustees. The Society also has three executive officers: an Executive Secretary, an Administrative Secretary and a Research and Communications Officer.

Appointment of Trustees

The identity of the trustees is indicated above. All Fellows and Members of the Society are able to nominate Councillors; they are elected by a ballot of Fellows. Other trustees are elected by Council.

The President shall be *ex-officio* a member of all Committees appointed by the Council; and the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Director of Communications, and the Literary Directors shall, unless the Council otherwise determine, also be *ex-officio* members of all such Committees.

In accordance with By-law XVII, the Vice-Presidents shall hold office normally for a term of four years. One of them shall retire by rotation, in order of seniority in office, at each Anniversary Meeting and shall not be eligible for re-election before the Anniversary Meeting of the next year. In accordance with By-law XX, the Councillors shall hold office normally for a term of four years. Three of them shall retire by rotation, in order of seniority in office, at each Anniversary Meeting and shall not be eligible for re-election before the Anniversary Meeting of the next year.

At the Anniversary Meeting on 27 November 2015, the Vice-Presidents retiring under By-law XVII were Professor R Burns and Professor S Connolly; Professor K C Fincham was elected in their place. The Members of Council retiring under By-law XX were Professor J Henderson, Professor M Stoye and Professor P Summerfield. In accordance with By-law XXI, Dr M Collins, Dr A Roach and Professor J Winters were elected in their place. Professor E Griffin retired as Literary Director: in accordance with By-law XVIII, Professor R Toye was appointed in her place. Professor J Fox retired as Honorary Director of Communications, in accordance with By-law XVIII, Dr A Green was appointed in her place. Dr A Smith retired as Honorary Secretary, in accordance with By-law XXII, Dr Z Laidlaw was appointed in his place.

Trustee training and induction process

New trustees are welcomed in writing before their initial meeting, and sent details of the coming year's meeting schedule and other information about the Society and their duties and responsibilities. They are advised of Committee structure and receive papers in advance of the appropriate Committee and Council meetings, including minutes of the previous meetings. Trustees are already Fellows of the Society and have received regular information about the Society including the Society's Newsletter; a copy of the Society's annual report and accounts is posted on the Society's website. They have therefore been kept apprised of any changes in the Society's business.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Professor H Pryce – Chair (from November 2016)
Professor J Barrow
Dr M Collins (from November 2016)
Professor S Connolly – Chair (to November 2016)
Professor C Cubitt
Professor J Henderson (to November 2016)

RESEARCH SUPPORT COMMITTEE:

Professor F Andrews – Chair (from November 2016)
Dr S Bardgett – Chair (to November 2016)
Professor E Chalus
Professor K Friedrich (from November 2016)
Professor O Grell
Dr S Sivasundaram (from November 2016)
Professor M Stoye – Chair (to November 2016)
Professor N Tadmor

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mr A Broadbent (co-opted)
Professor S Connolly (to November 2016)

The Royal Historical Society
Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Dr N Draper (co-opted)
Professor J Henderson (to November 2016)
Professor H Pryce
Professor P Skinner
The six officers (President – Chair)

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:

Professor S Newman – Chair
Dr J Barrow
Professor K Friedrich
Professor O Grell
Professor J Henderson (to November 2016)
Dr A Roach (from November 2016)
Professor P Summerfield
Professor J Winters (from November 2016)
The six officers

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

Dr Z Laidlaw – Chair (from November 2016)
Dr A Smith – Chair (to November 2016)
Ms S Bardgett
Professor C Cubitt (to November 2016)
Professor S Newman
Dr A Roach (from November 2016)
Dr S Sivadundaram (to November 2016)
Professor N Tadmor
The six officers

EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE:

Professor A Burns – Chair (to November 2016)
Professor K Fincham – Chair (from November 2016)
Professor F Andrews
Dr M Collins (from November 2016)
Dr P Corthorn (to November 2016)
Mr P D'Sena
Dr A Foster
Mr M Fordham
Dr M Maddison
Dr S Sivasundaram
Professor P Skinner
Professor P Summerfield (to November 2016)
Professor M Vincent
The six officers

RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE:

Professor M Vincent
Dr S Bardgett
Professor A Burns
Professor E Chalus
Professor C Cubitt
Professor K Fincham (from November 2016)
Professor K Friedrich (from November 2016)
Dr V Johnson
Dr H Steele
Professor M Stoye (to November 2016)
Professor N Tadmor
Professor A Thompson
Professor J Winters (from November 2016)
The six officers

STUDIES IN HISTORY
EDITORIAL BOARD:

Professor V Harding - Convenor
Dr D Coffman
Mr P Coss
Professor B Doyle
Dr E Griffin – Literary Director (to November 2016)
Dr R Hammersley (to July 2015)

The Royal Historical Society

Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2017

Professor S Hamilton – Treasurer
Professor D Power
Dr B Riege
Professor A Ryrie
Dr G Rowlands
Professor R Toye – Literary Director (from November 2016)

NEW HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES EDITORIAL BOARD:

Professor S Newman – Co-convenor
Professor P Summerfield – Co-convenor
Dr C Alston
Dr D Andress
Dr D Coffman
Dr I Forrest
Professor T Harper
Professor G Rowlands
Professor A Ryrie
Dr H Shore
Professor R Toye – Literary Director
Dr N Zacek

Delegation and reporting of financial information

The Council delegates to the Finance Committee financial plans (currently on a three-year basis) and regular review in-year of performance against the annual budget; regular review of income received and payments made; regular review of membership numbers; initial review of the Society's audit and accounts; regular review of the Society's risk strategy (and amendment where necessary); and regular review and oversight of the performance of the Society's investments. The Society's Investment Managers report regularly to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee delegates to the President and Treasurer approval of all payments. The Finance Committee delegates to the Executive Secretary processing of payments and receipt of income from members.

REMUNERATION POLICY

The Society has adopted a remuneration policy which governs the reward and recognition of those who undertake work on its behalf. It is governed by the following principles, that is the need to ensure delivery of the Society's objectives; to attract and retain a motivated workforce with the skills and expertise necessary for organisational effectiveness; to ensure that remuneration is equitable and coherent across the Society; that the policy takes account of the purposes, aims and values of the Society, and that pay levels and pay increases are appropriate in the context of the interests of our beneficiaries.

The Society relies on volunteers from among its Fellows to act as elected Officers, Councillors and Vice-Presidents. In many of its activities it also relies on the goodwill of Fellows and others interested in the study of the past. Officers give their services freely although their expenses on behalf of the Society (usually travel to the Society's meetings and events) are refunded. In addition the Society has agreed exceptionally to recognise the additional work required of the Honorary Secretary for the implementation of the new systems associated with the design of the new website and the move to online systems for applications and payments for fellowship, membership and applications for research funding through an annual payment of £4,000 to the Honorary Secretary's employer to be used for buy out from teaching duties. This payment has been agreed for a time limited period, namely 2015/16 to 2018/19.

The Society has three salaried staff (Executive Officers), and also pays a stipend to the Series Editor of the *Studies in History* Series and to certain individuals for work on the Society's *Bibliography of British and Irish History*. The Society has therefore adopted the administrative pay scales used in London universities to ensure that pay scales are both attractive and equitable for the remuneration of its Executive officers.

Remuneration for the year ended 30 June 2017 comprised salary and pension contributions for Executive Officers and an annual payment to the Honorary Secretary's employer. There are no other pecuniary benefits for senior or other staff at the Charity.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The trustees are satisfied that they have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed, that they have taken action to mitigate or manage those risks and that they have systems in place to monitor any change to those risks through a risk policy and risk register, compiled on a probability/impact index, and reviewed regularly throughout the year.

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Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2017

At the time of writing there are no risks considered to be high on this index, but the trustees have identified three risks as 'moderate': a possible drop in the investment portfolio value of more than 20%; the loss of rent-free accommodation at University College London (UCL); and the loss of key executive staff.

These risks are managed as follows: the Society maintains a diversified investment portfolio, managed by professional fund managers and administered according to the Society's investment policy; two members with experience of investment finance have been co-opted on to the Finance Committee of the Council in order to ensure detailed scrutiny of the management of the portfolio; the Society keeps the terms of its accommodation agreement with UCL under regular review (the Society contributes to UCL's Library in return for rent-free accommodation), but as the reputational cost to UCL of ending the arrangement would be considerable, rapid change is unlikely; the Society acknowledges its reliance on a small number of key executive officers, and that their loss is likely to be disruptive and therefore seeks to mitigate against the potential impact through documentation of key processes and the introduction of management processes to ensure staff are supported.

OBJECTS, OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society has referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing its aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The Society remains the foremost society in Great Britain promoting and defending the scholarly study of the past. The Society promotes discussion of history by means of a full programme of public lectures and conferences, and disseminates the results of historical research and debate through its many publications. It represents the interests of historical scholarship to various official bodies. It also speaks for the interests of history and historians for the benefit of the public.

The Society offers grants to support research training, and annual prizes for historical essays and publications. It produces (in conjunction with Brepols Publishers and the Institute of Historical Research) the *Bibliography of British and Irish History*, a database of over 590,000 records, by far the most complete online bibliographical resource on British and Irish history, including relations with the empire and the Commonwealth. The *Bibliography* is kept updated, and includes near-comprehensive coverage of works since 1901 and selected earlier works.

The Society's specific new objectives for the year are set out in 'Plans for Future Periods' below.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Grants

The Society awards funds to assist advanced historical research by distributing grants to individuals. A wide range of individuals are eligible for these research and conference grants, including all postgraduate students registered for a research degree at United Kingdom institutions of higher education (full-time and part-time). The Society also considers applications from individuals who have completed doctoral dissertations within the last two years and are not yet in full-time employment. The Society's Research Support Committee considers applications at meetings held regularly throughout the year. In turn the Research Support Committee reports to Council. This year the grants budget was £61,000.

The Society was also able to award its Centenary and Marshall Fellowships this year. Those eligible are doctoral students who are engaged in the completion of a PhD in history (broadly defined) and who will have completed at least two years' research on their chosen topic (and not more than four years full-time or six years part-time) at the beginning of the session for which the awards are made. Full details and a list of awards made are provided in the Society's Annual Report.

Lectures and other meetings

During the year the Society held meetings in London and at universities outside London at which papers are delivered. Lectures are open to the public and are advertised on the website; downloads of the records of most lectures are available from the website. In 2016-17 it sponsored sessions at the Teesside University, the University of Leeds and the University of Chester. It continues to sponsor the joint lecture for a wider public with Gresham College. It meets with other bodies to consider teaching and research policy issues of national importance. Together with The National Archives, it organised the annual Gerald Aylmer seminar, between historians and archivists. Full details are provided in the Annual Report.

Publications

During 2016-17 the RHS has delivered an ambitious programme of publications – a volume of *Transactions*, two volumes of edited texts in the *Camden Series* and further volumes in the *Studies in History Series* have appeared. It has continued its financial support for the *Bibliography of British and Irish History*. The *Bibliography* is offered to all universities at institutional rates, and

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Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2017

made available free to members consulting it at the Institute of Historical Research. The Society's membership who are not attached to an academic institution are able to subscribe to the Bibliography at a preferential rate.

Library

The Society continues to subscribe to a range of record series publications, which, with its other holdings, are housed either in the Council Room or in the room immediately across the corridor, in the UCL History Library. A catalogue of the Society's private library holdings and listings of record series and regional history society publications (Texts and Calendars) are available on the Society's website.

Membership services

In accordance with the Society's 'By-laws', the membership is entitled to receive, after payment of subscription, a copy of the Society's *Transactions*, and to buy at a preferential rate copies of volumes published in the *Camden* series, and the *Studies in History* series. Society Newsletters continue to be circulated to the membership twice annually in an accessible format. The membership benefits from many other activities of the Society including the frequent representations to various official bodies where the interests of historical scholarship are involved.

Investment performance

The Society holds an investment portfolio with a market value of about £3.22 million at 30 June 2017 (2016: £2.96 million). The Society currently 'draws down' £78,000 *per annum* from the portfolio to support its work (a figure that has not increased for many years). This draw down is in keeping with the Society's investment policy which sets down that over the long term "the investment objective is to generate a return on the portfolio at least equal to inflation after drawdown, so that the value of the portfolio is at least maintained in real terms, while incurring an acceptable level of risk". The investment policy is intended to ensure that over the long term the level of draw down ensures a balance between the needs of current and future beneficiaries. Both the investment policy and level of draw down are reviewed annually, in the light of the investment climate and the Society's financial needs.

During the year Brewin Dolphin plc continued to act as investment managers. They report all transactions to the Honorary Treasurer and provide regular reports on the portfolios, which are considered by the Society's Finance Committee, which meets three times a year. In turn the Finance Committee reports to Council. A manager from Brewin Dolphin is invited to attend two Finance Committee meetings a year. As reported last year, the Society has a 'flat fee' arrangement with Brewin Dolphin. The Society assesses investment performance against the WMA Private Investors Balanced Index (Total Return). The Society can afford to take a long view of its investment portfolio and is confident that its investment strategy remains prudent. The drawdown in 2016-17 was around 2.4% (measured against the portfolio value at year end). The growth in value of the portfolio in real terms in 2016-17 (that is after allowing for drawdown and the June CPI figure) was around 1.12%; this increase reflects general market conditions.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results

The Society generated a surplus of £41,484 (2016-17, deficit of £8,893) before gains on investments. This surplus was mainly accounted for by the fact that despite 1) the rise in royalties of £48.5k (these vary year on year; it should be noted that the vagaries of the overseas market for the on-line back catalogue mean Cambridge University Press are unable to forecast income accurately but royalties are predicted to decline in the longer term); 2) the underspend of £20k in research support grants due to a decline in the quality of applications received compared to previous years; 3) the reduction in spend of £23K on membership services due to in large part to the reduction in expenditure on development of IT systems for the Society's back-office functions. The increase in income and these savings in expenditure were offset by 1) a reduction of £27K in income from donations; this was predicted and is due mainly to the one-off receipt of £25K from the Rausing Trust in 2015-16; 2) a fall of £10k in income from membership subscriptions, which occurred despite an increase in the total membership, and is due mainly to an increase in the number of those paying reduced-rate subscriptions (postgraduate members, ordinary members and retired fellows) as a proportion of the total membership. The Society continues to bear substantial costs for the production of the Bibliography of British and Irish History (the cost to the Society is estimated to be around £21,250 over the next year). The Society is likely to run a substantial deficit in 2017-8: it will incur the cost of running two monograph series at once in 2017-8, having launched *New Historical Perspectives* in 2015-16 at the same time as winding down the *Studies in History* series; the Society intends to use its 150th Anniversary in 2018 to publicise its activities and launch a new campaign to increase membership and donations. The Society continues to maintain a reasonable cash reserve as a result of the accumulated surplus of the previous few years; the Society expects to enter a period over the next few years when it declares significant in-year deficits which will be funded by this accumulated surplus.

The Royal Historical Society

Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2017

Fixed assets

Information relating to changes in fixed assets is given in note 5 to the accounts.

Reserves policy

Council has reviewed the reserves of the Society. The Society currently has £3,312,590 in free reserves, and Council is satisfied that the Society has adequate coverage.

The reserves are held in the Society's investment portfolio. The Society is dependent on the income from its investment portfolio to fund almost one-quarter of its current charitable activity (the remaining income flowing from membership subscriptions, donations, and publishing income, the latter subject to considerable fluctuation), and this dependence on investment income is budgeted to continue for the foreseeable future. To safeguard the core activities in excess of the members' subscription income, Council has determined to establish unrestricted, general, free reserves to cover three years' operational costs (approximately £1,050,000).

The Society's restricted funds consist of a number of different funds where the donor has imposed restrictions on the use of the funds which are legally binding. The purposes of these funds are set out in Notes 10-13.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Council will continue to develop its strategy designed to improve communications both with the membership and the wider public. It will also continue to finalise work on the automation of some of its administrative processes (including the management of postgraduate grants and applications for and payment of subscriptions for membership / fellowship). As reported last year, in 2016 the Society launched a new publication series, *New Historical Perspectives*, in conjunction with the Institute of Historical Research; this will publish both monographs and edited collections and is open to scholars at all stages of their career; publications will be available as both hard copy and on-line Open Access digital publications. The Society has decided to end its support from 2018/19 for the *Studies in History* publication series, once proposals which have currently been accepted have been published. Council has launched a new fund-raising campaign designed to allow it to sustain and extend its activities over the medium to long term; further work is planned by the officers and Executive Officers of the Society over the course of the year of the Society's 150th Anniversary in 2018. Council will continue to monitor closely how policy and funding changes at the national level are likely to impact on the work of historians. Council continues to pay considerable attention to current policy initiatives that affect the teaching of History in schools, colleges and universities. Council also continues to pay particular attention to monitoring equality and diversity issues amongst students and teachers of History. It will also continue to monitor the challenges currently faced by local archives in an uncertain funding environment. It will also continue to offer support for wide-ranging workshop/seminar/lecture events outside London each year, some to be held at universities, and some run by consortia of local universities and other academic institutions. Council will continue to review the role, function, and membership of its committees.

The Society intends to maintain its current high level of financial support for postgraduate and other young historians (in part thanks to the generous support of *Past and Present*). It will continue to support the stipends for the Centenary and Marshall Fellowships (and will continue to be involved in the selection procedure for the Fellowships, organised by the Institute of Historical Research).

As noted above, the Society anticipates running deficits in future years in order to fund these developments and its other activities, following a period in which it has built up a cash surplus.

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council is responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.)

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Council is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

The Royal Historical Society
Report of the Council (the Trustees) (Continued)
For the year ended 30 June 2017

- state whether applicable accounting standards, including FRS 102, have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether a Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applies and has been followed, subject to any material departures which are explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Royal Charter. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Council is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In determining how amounts are presented within items in the statement of financial activities and balance sheet, the Council has had regard to the substance of the reported transaction or arrangement, in accordance with generally accepted accounting policies or practice.

AUDITORS

Kingston Smith LLP has indicated their willingness to continue in office and a proposal for their re-appointment will be presented at the Anniversary meeting.

By Order of the Board

.....
Honorary Secretary

Dr Z Laidlaw

Date: