

Company Registration No. 9330
Registered Charity No. 235313

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Annual Report and Accounts

**for the year ended
30 June 2019**



Registered office
5th Floor, Church House
90 Deansgate
Manchester
M3 2GP



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The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Trustees (directors) who served during the period

Dr Susan Hilton

Dr Diana Leitch MBE

Chris Baker

Professor Tony Jackson

Peter Hilton MBE

Trevor Rees

Greg Mauchline

Professor Graham Booth

Christopher Boyes

David Brailsford

Dr Ronald Catlow

Joanna Lavelle

Professor Kenneth Letherman

Patricia McWilliam-Fowler

Professor Desmond Winterbone

Peter Barnes

Dr Angus McDougall

Dr David Shreeve

Professor Sir Netar Malik

Chairman and President

appointed 27 September 2018

Immediate Past President

Vice President

Vice President

Honorary Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Editor of Memoirs (Ex Officio)

Chairman of Arts Section

Chairman of Science and Technology Section

Chairman of Social Philosophy Section

Chairman of Young People's Section

Resigned 27 September 2018

Resigned 27 September 2018

Company Secretary

Peter Hilton MBE

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

PO Box 356

38 Mosley Street

Manchester

M60 2BE

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue

West Malling

Kent

ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Sue Hutchinson FCCA

Beever and Struthers

Chartered Accountants

St George's House

215-219 Chester Road

Manchester

M15 4JE

Investment managers

Brewin Dolphin

1 The Avenue

Spinningfields Square

Manchester

M3 3AP

President's Report

I was honoured to take over the role of President in September 2018 from my very efficient predecessor, Dr Diana Leitch, and have attempted to keep up her excellent work over the previous 2 years. It has been a busy but enjoyable year, and I have been aided by all the members of the Council, who put in so much time and hard work for the Society - Vice-Presidents Chris Baker and Tony Jackson have provided invaluable advice and support, as have the Honorary Secretary Peter Hilton and the Honorary Treasurers Trevor Rees and Greg Mauchline, all of whom are staying in their roles during the coming year (though we are seeking a replacement for Peter Hilton, who has completed his term of office). The section Chairs – Desmond Winterbone (Science and Technology), Patricia McWilliam-Fowler (Arts), Peter Barnes (Social Philosophy), and Angus McDougall (Young Peoples) have all run their committees efficiently, and provided the lectures for each section in good time, and are very advanced into the planning of more for the next season – and beyond. Prof Graham Booth has produced another set of Manchester Memoirs, which is available free to all members online, and the book is full of very interesting and detailed information about the Society's activity over the previous year. Elected Council Members Chris Boyes, David Brailsford, Ronald Catlow, Joanna Lavelle, and Kenneth Letherman have all contributed ideas and practical help in many ways.

The 2018 AGM was held on 27 September, followed by a very interesting talk from the outgoing President Dr Diana Leitch. Council itself organised 6 lectures (see the summary of each for details), along with two Christmas social events. There were also five extra-mural visits during the year. The Science & Technology section organised seven lectures, and three afternoon seminars; the Arts section had seven lecture slots, and three theatre visits, along with one guided Peterloo walk; the Social Philosophy section organised six lectures; the Young Peoples Section produced three lectures specifically aimed at sixth formers and undergraduates, as well as attracting many of our regular members. The quality and depth of each event was universally high, in keeping with the ongoing tradition of the Lit & Phil. As we approach our 238th year since the Society was founded (in 1781), the events planned for the coming season look very much to be of the same high standard. This is the result of the hard work of each of the Sections, and I thank each Section committee for their continuing enthusiasm and time.

At the end of 2018, our two professional administrative staff, Julie Brockenshaw and Kathryn Slater both decided, for completely different reasons, to move on to pastures new, and finished work with us at Christmas. We wish them well in their new careers. In October interviews were held for their replacements and we were very pleased to have such a high calibre of applicants. Six were shortlisted and interviewed, and we offered the jobs to two candidates – Rachel Croft and Aude Nguyen Duc. They both have extensive experience in event and office administration and have been working tirelessly and enthusiastically ever since, with many creative ideas. Their marketing experience, IT skills, and many other talents have helped the Lit & Phil to run even more efficiently, and we are very grateful to them for all they do for the Society.

Thanks also go to Malcolm Brown (a member of the Lit & Phil) who has given me much help in the organisation of the Council Lectures, along with Chris Boyes and David Brailsford. Vice President Chris Baker also continues to analyse much statistical information - regarding attendance at lectures, cost per lecture, and much else, which helps us to plan our way forward. We are also in the process of evolving a major strategic plan, in order to produce realistic and achievable goals for the coming five years. Thanks again to Malcolm Brown for facilitating this and giving us the benefit of his professional experience. I realise that such plans have been made several times in the last 16 years, but many restrictions, mainly financial, and lack of time (we are volunteers, after all) have meant that many aspirations have been unachievable. However, I hope that good things will emerge, which will benefit the Society in the short and long-term – especially as there are increasing numbers of societies and organisations who have similar events to ours, which are providing competition. The role of social media is also a fast-emerging factor, and we are trying to keep up with this as much as possible. For example, a morning seminar on the use of Twitter has been organised for July.

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Social activities are also important for many of our members, and we continue to arrange an evening meal after most lectures, to which about 30 members, on average, attend. They are excellent ways of getting to know fellow members and have some interesting conversations. Just before Christmas two members' 'drop-ins' were held again at the Council offices, where members got together for refreshments and drinks. At the second one we were able officially to say goodbye to our administrators, who were leaving us, and also welcome our current staff. Over the spring and summer of 2019 several extra-mural visits have been held, in and around the city centre (see Council lecture summary for details), which have proved popular. I hope to continue to have similar events in 2020, and several are in the advanced stage of preparation.

Lecture venues are mainly at the Royal Northern College of Music, and the Manchester Conference Centre, but other venues are still being actively considered. There are many venues in the city, but the cost of most are beyond our budget/do not have catering/have access problems, etc. Following on from the first members' survey in 2017/18, there is also an ongoing second survey, which will be reported upon at the 2019 AGM. We listened carefully to the comments of the first survey and tried to respond to as many of these as were practical. We value comments and suggestions at any time of the year, of course.

The Treasurers have continued to review the Society's finances and regularly report on these at each meeting of Council. They regularly review our investment portfolio with our investment advisers, Brewin Dolphin, and report their findings to Council. The Society continues to be funded by the investment income, along with members' subscriptions. Membership numbers have fallen a little this year, and Council is continuing to look at ways to reverse this trend, whilst giving members value for their subscription fees.

We have expanded the use of the larger of our offices at Church House on Deansgate. As well as holding committee, Council, and other meetings there, it has been used for seminars, as it can hold about 30-35 people comfortably. IT facilities are now working well, so we hope to use the space more fully in the future.

Looking to the future, I am sure that Council and the Section Committees will continue to produce excellent topics and lecturers, of interest to many of our members. We encourage any member who wishes to take part in a committee to put their names forward. Due to the constitution of the Society, terms of office come to an end. Professor Kenneth Letherman has reached the end of his term on Council in September and I thank him for all he has done for the Society over many years. Professor Graham Booth, our Manchester Memoirs editor, continues to produce an excellent record of the lectures given in a particular year. I thank him for his tireless work on this. Our Honorary Librarian, Mrs Christine Chappelle, continues to sort and catalogue our archives on a weekly basis throughout the year, so, many thanks to her.

Our termly brochures are currently being composed, and it will have a new look this year (for the 2019-20 academic season). A copy was sent to all members in August and it will be launched to the wider public on the 6th September, which happens to be John Dalton's birthday. As always, full information about the lectures and events is on the website – www.manlitphil.ac.uk and a monthly newsletter is sent out, containing news, up-dated details about the Society's activities.

Finally, I wish to thank all our loyal members for their continuing support of this great Society, and hope that membership will continue to be renewed – as well as all new members who have joined during the last season.

Dr Susan R Hilton M.B. Ch. B., DRCOG, MA, FPPH
President 2018-2020

Treasurer's Report

The statutory accounts presented later in this Annual Report comply with the Charity SORP (FRS 102). To aid members understanding of these accounts, I have included in my report a detailed Income and Expenditure statement for the year ended 30 June 2019.

Overall 2019 was a year of transition. In December we saw the departure of both of our office staff and the arrival of two new staff. Both were recruited with a view to reviewing our operation and looking for ways to raise the profile of the Society and attract new members. In the second half of the year we saw an increase in expenditure on promotional and marketing activities as well as salaries for the new staff as part of our new strategy. Clearly at this stage in terms of 2019 results it is too early to tell if our new approach will generate additional income but this is something we will be monitoring during 2019/20.

Another change we saw during 2019 was a revision of our investment strategy. At our review meeting with our investment advisers Brewin Dolphin, we gave a clear instruction that the Society would look at returns from our investments both in terms of income generated and capital appreciation, not just income. This provided them greater flexibility in terms of their investment decisions for our portfolio. During 2019 we saw a reduction in income from our investment but an increase in the value of our portfolio's capital value. We intend to pursue this strategy in the best interests of the Society.

Paying Member numbers have fallen slightly in the year to 2019 compared to 2018 however with a 4% increase in our subscription rate for the year, saw a small increase in subscription income. Whilst this is a satisfactory position, we still want to increase our paying membership base. This is something we will continue to work towards during 2020.

Therefore, whilst an increase in our deficit in 2019 compared to 2018 is at first sight disappointing when taken in context of above comments and our ongoing control of Society running costs we can take satisfaction from our performance for the year.

Trevor Rees

Honorary Treasurer

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Income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
INCOME		
Subscriptions and Gift Aid	30,427	29,371
Investment income	41,560	44,337
Donations & legacies	313	75
Other income	165	111
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	72,465	73,894
Expenditure		
<u>Function costs</u>		
Functions and meeting costs	16,624	15,668
Printing of Memoirs & Programmes/Promotional Expenses	5,775	3,926
	22,399	19,594
<u>Office costs</u>		
Rent and services charges	14,536	13,042
Heat and light	260	565
Website	2,507	2,081
Maintenance/office improvements	1,319	1,898
Staff costs	32,729	28,385
Library	-	-
Stationery and photocopying	1,493	1,585
Postage, telephone and equipment hire	1,589	2,036
Insurance	1,875	1,974
Depreciation	-	1,098
Sundries	1,062	292
	57,370	52,956
<u>Society costs</u>		
Legal and professional fees	964	1,064
Independent examination fee	2,400	2,493
Investment management fee	9,915	9,986
Bank charges/PayPal	895	861
	14,174	14,404
TOTAL COSTS	93,943	86,954
Net operating deficit	(21,478)	(13,060)
Net investment gains	33,921	23,534
Net movement in funds	12,443	10,474

Lectures arranged by Council

During the 2018/2019 season there has been a series of very varied lectures featuring the wide breadth of interests of members of the Society, and often drawing in members of the public. There were six lectures, and several other events.

The lecture summaries -

27 September 2018 - 'Men of Warrington': Influence and Deeds in North West England - Dr Diana Leitch MBE

The 2018 AGM of the Society took place on Thursday 27 September, followed by the first **Council Lecture** of the 2018-19 season, entitled **'Men of Warrington': Influence and Deeds in North West England**. Dr Diana Leitch MBE, who had just handed over the Presidency to Dr Susan Hilton, presented a fascinating history of the men of this town, and their families, during the late 18th and early 19th century, when it was a thriving industrial hub. Names such as Barnes, Percival, Aikin and Gaskell all originated from Warrington, and were to influence the creation of institutions such as the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, further humanitarian causes and education in Manchester as well as to create one of the biggest foundries and chemical works in the NW region. The brothers, William and Samuel Gaskell, and their cousin, Holbrook Gaskell, all descended from sailcloth manufacturers in Warrington. Dr Thomas Percival and Reverend Thomas Barnes were two of the founders of the Lit and Phil (Percival was the Society's first President). Their relationship to Joseph Priestley, the Roscoe family, the engineer, James Nasmyth, and the builder of the Portico Library, David Bellhouse, were explored as was the influence of the Warrington Academy on them all. Samuel Gaskell FRCS, the younger brother of Unitarian minister William, husband of Elizabeth Gaskell, was a founder of the professional association that became the Royal College of Psychiatrists and gave his name to Gaskell House in Manchester. Many of their descendants also played a significant part in Manchester and the North West in general and leave lasting influences.

25 October 2018 – 'Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking – The Mass Exploitation of Human Misery' – Sir Peter Fahy

On 25 October 2018, Sir Peter Fahy - Former Chief Constable Greater Manchester Police, and currently working with a number of charities, as well as being an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Manchester, presented a lecture entitled 'Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking - The Mass Exploitation of Misery'. He outlined the often unseen victims of these growing crimes, which are partially being driven by the greatest mass movement of people the world has ever experienced driven, by conflict, population growth and economic inequality, and was very clearly informed by his experiences as Chief Constable of Greater Manchester and his work with charities Retrak and Hope for Justice with victims in Africa. The estimates are that there are at least 40 million victims around the world, with 1.2 million in Europe. Case studies from Ethiopia and Uganda were given as examples, with consequences such as 48 Ugandans committing suicide due to their captivity.

Even in the UK, there are problems such as workers in secret cannabis farms, waste recycling, etc. Accommodation is very often cramped, dirty, with extremely basic amenities, minimal income, and poor provision for basic nutrition. Personal documents such as passports are often withheld by employers, giving little chance to 'escape' from their appalling conditions.

In 2015 the government introduced the Modern Slavery Act, in order to protect highly vulnerable victims from this appalling abuse of their rights, and Sir Peter described how this is starting to have a positive effect. However, Sir Peter felt that we in the developed world still need to have a more radical and co-ordinated approach to hold back the tide of exploitation. He also outlined the way that the

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charities such as 'Retrak' and 'Hope for Justice' are working hard to promote awareness of Modern Slavery in the 21st Century.

19 February 2019 – Professor Sir Liam Donaldson – 'Polio – the Rocky Road to Zero'

On Tuesday 19 February 2019, we were very honoured to welcome Professor Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer for England, and the United Kingdom's Chief Medical Adviser, from 1998-2010. He had produced landmark reports setting health policy and legislation in stem cell research, quality and safety of health care, communicable disease control, patient empowerment, poor clinical performance, smoke free public places, medical regulation, and organ and tissue retention. He is now the World Health Organisation's Envoy for Patient Safety, Chairman of the Independent Monitoring for the Polio Eradication Programme, and amongst many other things, is Chancellor of Newcastle University.

Sir Liam's interest in the disease of polio began when, in 1953, a friend of his, at the age of 3, developed polio. In 1956, the injectable forms of vaccination against this tragic disease had just become available, and in 1962, the oral vaccine was introduced. Before that time, one could see pictures of long rows of children, each in an 'iron lung' keeping them alive, as their respiratory muscles had ceased to work. As more and more countries encouraged mass vaccination, the disease was almost eradicated worldwide. However, in the 1980s a goal was set by the World Health Assembly to permanently eradicate it in every country. At the start of the campaign, there were 350,000 polio cases worldwide, but by the late 2010s the figure was in the low 20s. However, in a few countries, the combination of conflict, terrorism, poverty and misinformation impede progress (Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria being extreme examples). However, even in the poorer countries near-total eradication is still possible, given enough enthusiasm – for example, in India, 174,000,000 children can be immunised in three days, these sessions being repeated several times a year. Sir Liam emphasised the highly infectious nature of the disease - one case of paralytic polio can infect between one hundred and over a thousand other individuals.

So, for the past 8 years, there has been a monitoring board, of which Sir Liam is the chairman, made up of representatives from 5 organisations – Rotary International, the World Health Organisation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CDC (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention), and UNICEF. Polio is 99% eradicated, but the last 1 % is great challenge, due to multiple factors. What of the future? Possible solutions were posed, but the key is education, and ownership of the importance of eradication of this disease by each country.

14 March 2019 - 'The Dig Greater Manchester Community Project – Archaeology for all'- Professor Michael Nevell

On Thursday 14 March 2019, the Society had the great pleasure of welcoming Professor Michael Nevell of the University of Salford, where he is Head of Archaeology, at the Centre of Applied Archaeology, in the School of Environment and Life Sciences. He has a special interest in the archaeology of the industrial period (industrialisation and archaeological theory, building archaeology, community archaeology, and Romano-British landscape), and is also, among many other things - author of at least 50 books and articles; Trustee of the Council for British Archaeology; Chair of the Association for Industrial Archaeology.

The lecture described how the 'Dig Greater Manchester Community Project' ran from 2011 to 2016. It aimed to provide local communities access to their own heritage through a variety of site and schools-based activities on Local Authority owned land within every borough of Greater Manchester (including Blackburn with Darwen). It also aimed to raise awareness of the past at a local community

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level and to promote its exploration by that community, whilst providing additional skills in accessing and interpreting heritage and building a sense of ownership and understanding. During its 5 years the project offered over 6500 schools places and 3000 community volunteer places to get involved in archaeology, including programs for groups not usually associated with archaeological projects.

The ideas for the project evolved from some previous research in 2000, when people of all ages who were involved in archaeological digs, were asked what they felt were the important elements of future digs. So, the objective of the project was to bring awareness to the public of the importance of archaeology, to encourage participation in an archaeological dig, and to understand the importance of what can be discovered on 'public land'. There were digs in every local authority in Greater Manchester (11 of them) initially, then more extensive areas were excavated in two of them. The project involved children from the primary and secondary sector as well those in further education, and included a wide range of activities before, during and after the digs. There was particular emphasis on inclusion of every sector of society.

There was extensive feedback and analysis of the project, proving the long-lasting benefits gained by many participants, including benefits to physical and mental health. There were also many publications and press/media involvement. It was seen that local communities felt empowered to take ownership of their heritage in a very positive way, including the formation of and/or extension of several local archaeological societies.

15 May 2019 – the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society Percival Lecture - 'University cultural engagement in the 21-st century- case studies from the Directors of the Whitworth and Manchester Museum' – Alistair Hudson and Esme Ward respectively

The Lit & Phil's annual Percival Lecture took place on Wednesday 15 May 2019, hosted by the University of Manchester (The Percival Lecture originated shortly after the Second World War, and now, Manchester, along with the University of Salford and the Manchester Metropolitan University sponsor this lecture on a rotational basis once every 3 years). We were very pleased indeed that this year the event took place in the beautiful Grand Hall of the Whitworth Art Gallery. We were very fortunate to have not one, but two very prestigious speakers – Alistair Hudson, the Director of the Whitworth and Manchester Art Galleries, and Esme Ward, the director of Manchester Museum. Both had taken up their posts in early 2018 and have some very exciting plans for their respective institutions. Their chosen title was as above, and we heard about how both the Art Gallery and the Museum are increasingly engaging with the citizens and students of Manchester, in ways which are relevant to the 21st Century, along with preserving our past heritages in both traditional and diverse ways.

Esme Ward spoke passionately about the history, and also the future of the Manchester Museum, which was originally opened in 1887, and now houses 4.5 million objects (greatest number in UK). The museum is widely used for teaching all ages, and for research. The aspiration is that by 2022, when current building work finishes, the museum will create co-working spaces for environmental charities that share their mission and vision for environmental education and action, and become the UK's most inclusive, imaginative and caring museum. Esme is also Strategic Lead for Culture for the GM Ageing Hub and, with their support, is developing the world's first Centre or Agency for Age Friendly Culture, to profile and share expertise and practice, build local and international partnerships and seek to influence sector thinking and policy around the value of culture to active ageing and generational cohesion. The Museum is currently working with many different cultural and ethnic communities to develop the new extension (entitled 'Hello Futures'), and this is working well.

Alistair Hudson also spoke with obvious enthusiasm about his plans for the Whitworth Art Gallery, and wants to imaginatively build on the recent wonderful development of the institution, and the very creative use of the space, alongside the surroundings of the adjacent park. He is very keen to promote the concept of 'useful art' – that art should be a tool for social change and education, and not just be an object of contemplation, though it is very important, of course, to maintain the latter.

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He emphasised that he wanted to attract all sections of society and all ages and make the Gallery as relevant as possible to the 21st Century.

6 June 2019 – the Manchester Lecture – ‘Heritage, World Heritage and UNESCO: A view from the North-west of England’ - Henry Owen-John

Our annual Manchester Lecture always features a speaker who is an expert in an aspect of the life of Manchester and the surrounding area, and we were very privileged to welcome Henry Owen-John on Thursday 6 June 2019, at the Manchester Conference Centre. He is an archaeologist by profession, and Head of International Advice at Historic England, the government’s adviser on all aspects of the historic environment of England. This role involves him in providing advice to government and others on how the terms of international heritage conventions which have been ratified by the UK government can be met.

He started with the broader picture and explained the role of UNESCO’s involvement in World Heritage. UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) was founded in 1945, with the mission of creating a ‘Culture of Peace and Non-violence’, the central theme being ‘peace’. There are 195 member states and it is based in Paris. UNESCO was tasked by The Hague Convention of 1954 to protect damage to cultural building caused by conflict. Examples of such sites were given, e.g. when Abu Simbel in Egypt was threatened to disappear by the Aswan Dam construction, the ancient monuments were moved to a higher site. UK examples of the current 1092 World Heritage Sites are the island of St Kilda, the Palace of Westminster, Ironbridge, and the Jurassic Coast. In total there are 31 sites in UK, and its independent territories. The process of applying to become a World Heritage Site was outlined, though sometimes the strict rules around the responsibility of being one can be impossible to maintain. For example, it was proposed that the city of Manchester should be a site, but the restrictions on new buildings would have been not economically viable. However, the Lake District is a new ‘site’, being inaugurated in March 2018, and UNESCO work closely with other organisations in that area, such as the National Trust – further details were given, especially the importance of community engagement and support. The City of Liverpool was admitted to the World Heritage list in 2004, and currently Jodrell Bank is the latest UK nomination, with the decision being made in July 2019.

Other Council Events during the 2018-19 season (Members only)

13 and 18 December 2018 – Christmas ‘Drop-ins’ at the Lit & Phil offices on Deansgate. These 2-hour social events, with drinks and refreshments, went well. At the second one, we said good-bye to our two administrative staff, Julie and Kat, who were both leaving that Christmas after several years of loyal service. We also welcomed our two new staff Rachel and Aude.

27 March and 4 April 2019 – Guided Tours of the Leonardo da Vinci Exhibition at the Manchester Art Gallery – 2 groups of over 24 members each time booked in for this very informative private tour of a fascinating insight into 12 of the original drawings of da Vinci, on loan to Manchester Art Gallery for a few months. We were led by a very experienced volunteer guide who gave a fascinating and detailed description of each of the precious sketches.

1 July 2019 – Backstage Tour of the Royal Exchange Theatre, with a talk from their resident Elders Company and Elders Mondays scheme– 14 members attended this interesting backstage tour of the Manchester Royal Exchange tour, led by two of our very own Lit & Phil members, Stella Lowe and Anne Fitzpatrick, who are volunteer guides at the Royal Exchange. It was fascinating to hear a history of the theatre, and see the costume room, which has a very busy schedule of 4-5-week preparation time for each production, often creating original costumes from designer’s drawings. We also saw the wig department, along with samples of various gruesome body parts, and use of theatrical ‘blood’! We then heard all about the enterprising ‘Elders Company’ which attracts over-50s from the local community and has been very successful, as well as the open access ‘Elders Mondays’ (see their website).

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25 July 2019 – Guided tour of Manchester's 'Churches Past and Present', with Andrew Derbyshire, a very experienced and knowledgeable Manchester guide – A group of 15 members were present, on the hottest day of the year (several others were unable to make it that day). We started at Manchester Cathedral, which stands on the site of the original 7th Century building, though very much rebuilt over the centuries since. In 2021 it will be 600 years since Henry V signed the charter to establish it as a collegiate church. Andrew then walked us chronologically past the significant buildings and sites of religious activity in the area, past Chetham's School and library, into Salford where the significance of the Sacred Trinity Church was explained, through to the banks of the Irwell, back over to Parsonage Gardens and the origins of that name, past the site of St. Mary's Church (now gone), on to St. Ann's Church in the square of that name, up to the Cross Street Chapel (Unitarian), and on to Albert Square. We then walked past the Friends Meeting House (where the Quakers meet), viewed the Hidden Gem (Roman Catholic), and ended outside John Rylands Library, where there are many rare Christian artefacts as well as books. It was an informative and enjoyable tour, rounded off with lunch at the Lit & Phil rooms at Church House.

5 August 2019 – Tour around the new Royal Horticultural Society's garden 'RHS Bridgewater' – The garden is in the final stages of construction, and this was a specially arranged pre-opening look at progress so far – 19 members were shown round by two very knowledgeable guides (one of whom had played in the gardens as a child!). Over the 2-hour visit we were informed about the history of the site, and that the gardens had lain mostly unmanaged for over 100 years (there had been a Garden Centre for a few years and also the Scouting Movement had held camps there in the recent past). The Hall had been demolished in 1949 after many years of neglect. Therefore, we were asked to use our imagination (with the aid of maps and photos) as to how the original magnificent Worsley 'New' Hall and Gardens must have looked at one time, with a view over manicured gardens and the surrounding area. The Earl of Ellesmere and his family had owned it and lived there occasionally. When the RHS took it over about 3 years ago it was a jungle of self-seeded trees and plants, with deer roaming freely (some still do, as we saw from the hoofprints as we went around!). However, over the last 2 years amazing efforts have been made and the Phase 1 clearing, building and replanting work is well under way, to transform the place into the largest walled gardens in Europe, with the initial opening to the public planned for 2020. Many specialist, educational, and therapeutic parts of the gardens are in active progress and we felt very privileged to be able to see what is happening there, right on or doorstep, and for the benefit of all the residents of Greater Manchester and beyond.

Council Lectures planned for 2019-20

24 September 2019 - RNCM - 18.30 – AGM, then at 19.30 - Prof Des Winterbone - An Unusual Announcement: Carlo Crivelli's 'An Annunciation with St Emidius (1484)'

Thursday 24 October 2019 - RNCM - 19.00 - HH David Stockdale - 'Crime and Punishment – Why do we punish offenders?'

Friday 13 December 2019 - RNCM – Lit & Phil Christmas Concert – Café Band and Wyn Davies - 17.30 for drinks, refreshments, then concert starts 18.30.

Tuesday 18 February 2020 – RNCM – 19.00 - Prof Trevor Robbins – Our Mysterious Frontal Lobes – and their role in Human Mental Disorders

Monday 16 March 2020 – RNCM – 19.00 - Jonathan Walton - Science, Politics and Adventure in Antarctica

Monday 27 April 2020 – RNCM – 19.00 - Prof Linda Merrick – 'The Value of Performing Arts, Education and Training in a changing world'.

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Monday 18 May 2020 – RNCM – 19.00 - Mark Honigsbaum – The 1919 Flu epidemic and the lessons we learned from it'

Thursday 4 June 2020 – 19.00 – MCC - Manchester Lecture - Lord Jim O'Neill of Gatley – The Northern Powerhouse – where are we now?

Percival Lecture 2020 – details to be announced.

Dr Susan R Hilton M.B. Ch. B., DRCOG, MA, FPPH
President 2018-2020

Lectures arranged by the Arts Committee

We have endeavoured to offer a range of lectures across the spectrum of the Arts. A summary of our 2018-19 season's programme is below.

15 October 2018 - The Alderley Edge Landscape Project by Professor John Prag. A fascinating look at the rich complex history of geology, archaeology, early mining and social history, of Alderley Edge. This was also the Margaret Pilkington Memorial Lecture – a tribute to the first Chair of the Arts Committee when it was founded in 1970, and the L&Ps first woman President.

8 November – Art on Death Row by Mary Vaughan. The lecture reviewed the motivation and difficulties of death row artists in the USA and showed some of their work. Following the lecture, the L&P was presented with a beautiful work of art donated to the Society by one of those artists.

4 December – Women Artists, their emergence into the light by Christine Musgrove. The lecture charted the place of women in art from medieval times to the present day, highlighting how women artists highly regarded in their life-time were written out of art history in the 19th and 20th century – but how social attitudes have changed that view so that women have emerged with recognition as artists, curators, art historians and policy makers.

29 January 2019 – Film Poetry: Humphrey Jennings and British Wartime Propaganda by Dr Alan Sennett. The lecture asked whether propaganda can be poetic, exploring two of Jennings' Film Unit Productions.

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27 February 2019 – A Grand Gothic Magic Lantern Entertainment by Dr Jeremy Brooker. A talk on the history of the magic lantern as a form of popular entertainment followed by a magic lantern show featuring a Victorian triple lens lantern and original hand-painted slides.

On 1 May and 23 May 2019 we commemorated Peterloo. The first event was in two parts – words and music from the Free Radicals and a look at this event through a graphic novel, with the narrative taken directly from original historical sources, by Dr Robert Poole, Paul Fitzgerald and Eva Schlunke. The second event was a guided walk, visiting the site of the massacre, with tour guide Ed Glinert, followed by refreshments and a Q and A session at our headquarters – Church House on Deansgate.

New Season's Programme – 2019-20

15 October 2019 – No Regrets: The life and times of Edith Piaf lecture, illustrated with examples of her songs by Derek Blyth

6 November 2019 – Place names and the medieval landscape in the Manchester Area by Alan Crosby.

28 November 2019 – George Bernard Shaw as music/opera critic by Anthony Ogus

30 January 2020 – Beethoven's 9th Symphony – Myth, Music and Message –by Michael Downes

February 2020 – John McGrath, Artistic Director and Chief Executive of the Manchester International Festival

9 June 2020 – Raphael of Urbino: Artist and Architect by Shirley Smith

The Arts Section has also organised a number of theatre visits to the Royal Exchange with refreshments and a talk beforehand at Church House, plus the chance to discuss the plays afterwards, over coffee.

Patricia McWilliam-Fowler
Chairman - Arts Committee

Lectures arranged by the Science and Technology Committee

This session has been an active one for the committee: we have implemented the 2018-19 programme that was developed last year, and we have planned the programme for 2019-20. In addition to these basic activities we have 'established' afternoon seminars in the Small Conference Room of the Lit & Phil in Church House.

The 2018-19 Programme has run very effectively, with some quick manipulation to ensure each slot is filled - as far as members are concerned it has progressed like a swan, but there was a lot of paddling going on beneath the surface. You will see that the committee actually supported seven talks when the basic allocation was for six lectures. The lectures are listed below:

- 9th October 2018 ***Climate's Holy Trinity: how cogency, tenacity and courage could yet deliver on our Paris 2°C commitment*** by Kevin Anderson. This was a typically controversial delivery that put in context the fact that Climate Change must be treated as a Worldwide problem that knows no physical boundaries. By chance the lecture was given the day after the publication of the IPCC Special Report "Global Warming in 1.5°C"
- 30th October 2018 ***The Elimination of Cervical Cancer by 2050 - reality or blissful thinking*** by Margaret Stanley. The lecturer described how most/all cases of cervical cancers are caused by variants of the human papilloma virus (HPV). She explained how a vaccine could make women in the developed world resistant to the virus (still a disease with a significant death rate in UK). She then described the difficulties of vaccinating women in developing countries, where the mortality rate is unacceptably high. The presenter also emphasised that the vaccine should also be given to men.
- 27th November 2018 ***Air Pollution and Public Health: emerging hazards and improved understanding of risk*** by Frank Kelly. This lecture was extremely topical following the 'dieselgate' scandal of false readings from automobile tests. The presenter showed that while the physical size of particulates from many sources had decreased significantly their effect on human health had not. This was basically because small particles (about 2.5 micron) could progress deeper inside the lung. Also, while researchers had tended to concentrate on exhaust particles many others were now becoming important (brake dust, tyre dust, etc).
- 11th December 2018 ***Predictability beyond the Weather Forecast*** by Adam Scaife. The presenter showed that it is possible to predict year to year differences in average weather well in advance, especially for winter seasons. The predictions are based on an average of many simulations, each starting from different early November conditions. This demanding operation required the use of the Met Office supercomputer. It was discovered although each run does not reliably predict the late winter conditions the average of over 20 runs does. This ability to see these trends is useful for the transport industries, and energy utilities.
- 14th February 2019 ***Battery and Electrical Storage Technologies: the next generation of energy storage*** by Greg Offer. The speaker described recent and current work by his large research group which involves industry as well as academia. He warned of the unreality of headlines promising revolutionary advances: in practice there are incremental changes that accumulate to produce significant progress. In fact, most "breakthroughs" are based on 20-year-old research. It is now expected that battery powered electric vehicles will dominate the mass market for transport in the future as batteries rapidly become cheaper. This change is also driven by the need for emission improvements. China will be a major player in the global market and cobalt supply may be a critical factor. His final slides covered the opportunities for improvement in existing technology and potential developments, discussing possible "disruptions" and the opportunities from this, especially for newcomers in existing markets.

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- 6th March 2019 ***Genomics - the power to revolutionise healthcare*** by Bill Newnan. Newman said that of some 8000 rare diseases (<1 in 2000 people affected) about 80% are genetic and the result of single gene abnormalities but genetic testing is available for less than 1000 of these. Making a genetic diagnosis can remove diagnostic uncertainty and direct appropriate clinical investigation as well as preventing unnecessary investigations. Broadly speaking genetic disease may be the result of rare mutations of major effect leading to single gene, which might require the sequencing of the whole genome (WGS). Initially, it took 13 years and over £2 billion to sequence the whole genome (or most of it). It is estimated that the cost of WGS is about \$1000 now, and it can be accomplished in a day or two. The speaker summarised by emphasising that the very rapid advances which have been made in recent years have been dependent on phenomenal developments in DNA sequencing technology and a corresponding reduction in cost. He cautioned that the significance of many genetic variants is still unclear and that a given variant does not always have the same impact in different individuals. Nevertheless, responsible application of genetic technology has the potential to transform healthcare.
- 8th May 2019 ***Thinking like a Vegetable - how do plants decide what to do?*** by Ottoline Leyser FRS. Plants seem to have an uneventful life, literally, 'rooted' to the spot; however, they are intelligent 'beings' that have an ability to adapt in ways animals cannot imagine. This static existence means they cannot run away when 'attacked' by predators, so it is appropriate to have a distributed processing system - rather than a single brain like an animal. It is this distributed, more democratic, processing system that has been examined by the lecturer. Leyser explained that plants need to 'analyse' their environment and respond accordingly. Plant growth is controlled by *meristems* at the tips of growth, and plants can activate or repress these via a plant hormone called *auxin*, produced at the tip of the plant. Leyser then explained that plants allocate their resources to maximise the number of 'grandchildren' in an unpredictable world. This results in them having flexible growth habits; but these properties do not align with human requirements, which want the resources to maximise the harvested part (e.g. seed). This brings about a less flexible growth habit; digestible, nutritious seed, which is retained on the plant and maximally resourced. An excellent example of how humans have modified a plant is corn on the cob: the natural plant has a small seed head, whereas the cultivated plant produces a large head with large seeds.

In addition to these traditional presentations the section has sponsored two seminars. These were:

- 2 October 2018 ***Solid, liquid and vapour - where do you draw the line?*** by John Proctor. It was held in the Small Meeting Room in Church House on the afternoon of and attended by 20 members of the Society. The presenter described the conventional understanding of the three states of matter and then gave an account of recent work by himself and others of new discoveries, understanding and modelling of fluid behaviour under extremes of pressure and temperature.
- 8 May 2019 ***The two cultures revisited: reframing the post-truth society*** by Dame Ottoline Leyser. This was held in the SMR at Church House. It was attended by about 20 members. Dame Ottoline developed the theme originally discussed by CP Snow that there was a gulf between those practising the sciences and arts.

You can see from the above report that we have had an active year. We felt we had put together a relevant, contemporary programme demonstrating the major areas exercising scientists and technologists: this has been reinforced by the number of times our presenters have been called upon by the media to comment on developments in their subjects. We have been extremely lucky that people have been willing to give freely of their time to keep us informed about their subjects.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

We have developed a programme of a similar range and quality for next year and this is summarised below. Provisional titles are given for the lectures.

- 10 October 2019 *Immunology* by Daniel Davis
- 30 October 2019 *Coral Reefs* by Callum Roberts
- 3 December 2019 *Suicide Prevention* by Louis Appleby
- 23 January 2020 *Fairground rides* by Brendan Walker
- 3 March 2020 *Fusion Power* by Kieran Gibson
- 20 April 2020 *Micro/nano-satellites* by Craig Underwood

Committee for 2019-20

Chris Baker (approx 2012)
Dianne Bamber (May 2018)
Minaxi Desai (May 2017)
Susan Hilton (President - ex-Officio)
Melissa Lord (co-opted)
Paul Miller (February 2017)
Peter Williams. (Secretary) (February 2019)
Desmond Winterbone (Chair) (October 2016)

Corresponding members

Barbara Adam
Michael Sinnott,
Brian Tyler

Proposed new members

Professor Jim Thomas (replacing Brian Tyler - Chemistry)
Anon (replacing Mike Sinnott - Life Sciences)

Finally, I must thank all members of the committee for their help in bringing together the programmes and then ensuring that they are executed efficiently. I like to feel that we have operated as a team with me acting *primus inter pares*. We will be losing two longstanding members of the committee because their terms have come to an end.

- Michael Sinnott who was Chairman before me. Mike made a tremendous contribution to the committee and its programmes, both by introducing many subjects in the life sciences and, lately, writing extremely erudite reports on lectures. We hope that Mike can continue to help us as a corresponding member.
- Brian Tyler who has been Secretary during both Mike Sinnott's and my term as Chairman. Brian has been the person who has ensured a disorganised Chairman can appear to be in charge - I have a horrible feeling he will be able to state 'après moi, le déluge'.

Desmond Winterbone, FREng
Chairman - Science and Technology Committee

Lectures arranged by the Social Philosophy Committee

We began our season early this year as one lecturer, James Burke, lives in France and it was necessary to pick a date when he was already visiting the UK. Under the title *The Future Isn't What It Used to Be* he talked, in September, about his 'Knowledge Web' which links people and ideas throughout time and locations. In September Sir David Dalton spoke to members on *The NHS at 70* describing its origins and its developments and then took a brief look at its future.

In November Mrs Angela Bebb opened the archives of her company, Universal Aunts, to provide an interesting view of *A Social History of Women between the Wars*. She described the changing values of society mirrored in the types of work the agency was asked to carry out - from escorting children to their boarding schools, providing housekeepers and butlers and creating a flying school for ladies to transporting a poodle from London to Korea. In some contrast to this, Jane Davies OBE addressed the Society in early January on *Building a Knowledge Economy* where she looked at how a knowledge economy works, what the roles of science parks and areas of innovation are and how their business models work. She focussed on Manchester and Belfast and looked at how their approaches differ.

In late January we heard Dr Zoe Wyrko lecture on *Intergenerational Learning* which concentrated on a Channel Four programme in which she led an investigation into how older adults and younger children can help each other. She described how each was able to help the other and on the way our society views ageing and what must be done to change those views in order to benefit all ages. Finally, in March, we were visited by Nick Card, the senior projects manager at the Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology. His title was *Secrets of the Ness of Brodgar* which is a stone-age complex in the heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site. He described the work carried out there showing how it has opened the eyes of the world on how our Neolithic ancestors lived.

Peter Barnes
Chairman - Social Philosophy Committee

Lectures arranged by the Young People's Committee

Following comments last year, we scheduled all of our lectures this year to take place before Easter, in order to avoid the schools' examination preparation period. Members of the Committee have talked to groups of pupils at several local schools for their opinions on suitably attractive topics and also on timing. These discussions have been very instructive.

As usual we had three events this year.

On 12 November, Professor Tony Freemont, Clinical Professor of Bone and Joint Pathology at the University of Manchester, made a welcome return visit, this time giving a lecture on "Osteoarthritis: how new 'precision medicine' will cause a revolution in the management of an old disease"

He focussed on osteoarthritis and new ways of investigating and treating this very common condition. He bravely delivered the lecture, while balancing on a very innovative crutch, having a few weeks earlier had an operation on his own foot – to treat his own osteoarthritis – and talked about how he had developed his particular condition – genetically, and also from extreme weight-bearing exercise in earlier life.

He described different ways of looking at cell and molecular biology, advances in biomechanics, regenerative medicine, biomaterials, nanotechnology, and personalised medicine. These will be realities in the near future, as part of the management of osteoarthritis, with much more emphasis on genomics.

On 4 February Professor David Hornby, of the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology at the University of Sheffield, spoke on "Molecular Surgery with CRISPR-Cas9". He explained in detail this complicated topic, "Clustered Regularly Interspersed Short Palindromic Repeats" which concerns the bacterial control of viral infections. Cas9 is an enzyme which enables bacterial defence against disease and, as such, suggests a promising development in molecular medicine. It was a complicated but fascinating story.

Finally, on 19 March Professor Sheena Cruickshank, Professor in Biomedical Sciences and Public Engagement at the University of Manchester, gave the Ramsden Lecture "On You, Inside You: the amazing and horrible world of parasites". For the squeamish this was perhaps an unwelcome revelation about parasites affecting many of us (although sometimes without obvious deleterious effect). She extended her topic to include parasites on animals and even plants, which also led to some rather distasteful (though fascinating!) illustrations. Parasites, which of course derive their life support from their hosts, range in size from the minute (an eyebrow parasite) to quite large (a tape worm).

All of these events had a very good attendance from Young People, many of whom posed excellent questions to the speakers. As in previous years we arranged pizza and a drink to be available to the Young People before each lecture as well as a supper for members and guests afterwards.

It has been pointed out to us that the first Young People lecture took place on 5 January 1921, and we are considering how best to celebrate the centenary of this event.

I am grateful to members of Council and the Committee for their help during my time in hospital and convalescence.

Angus McDougall
Chair - Young People Committee

Trustees' / Directors' report

The Trustees present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019 and confirm that they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Objectives and activities

As determined by the Society's memorandum and articles of association the Society is established for the object of promoting the advancement of education and the widening of public interest in and appreciation of any form of literature, science, the arts and public affairs through a series of public lectures presented throughout the year. The programme for the current year to 30 June 2020 is at an advanced stage and should be as varied and interesting as in previous years.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Review of activities

We have included separately, details of our activities in separate reports from our Sections which are:

- Arts Section
- Science and Technology Section
- Social Philosophy Section
- Young Peoples Section

In addition, there are lectures arranged by Council and a report is included for these activities.

As in previous years the Society again enjoyed a very varied and interesting programme throughout the year.

Achievements and performance

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, founded on 28 February 1781, is the second oldest learned society in Britain. Many of the founding members were medical men, resident in the King St, Piccadilly area of the city; the earliest meetings took place in a room in the original Cross St Chapel, but in 1799 the Society moved to 36 George Street, which remained its home until the Blitz of 1940. From 1960-1980, the Society enjoyed the facilities of its rebuilt home, but since 1981 has not had its own premises; today it operates from an office and small library on Deansgate.

By the 1860s, membership had expanded to over 200 and included prominent merchants, engineers, and manufacturers. Women were not admitted to membership until the beginning of the 20th century. Many famous scientists, engineers, physicists and mathematicians have been members of the Society, the most famous being John Dalton, the 'father of modern chemistry', a member from 1794 until his death in 1844. Much of his original research was done in a laboratory at the Society's George Street House.

Other notable past members include Dalton's gifted pupil James Prescott Joule, Peter Mark Roget, the originator of the Thesaurus; William Fairbairn the engineer; Henry Roscoe the chemist; Ernest Rutherford the nuclear physicist; Joseph Whitworth the precision engineer as well as Professor Tom Kilburn and Alan Turing, computing pioneers and Professor Sir Bernard Lovell. At the time of writing Alan Turing has just been named as the prominent scientist to feature on the proposed new £50 note.

Our achievement is our ability to produce lectures and events of the highest calibre on a wide and varied number of topics. To appreciate this, you need to visit our website to be able to review for yourself the programme for our 2018/19 session.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

To focus on the performance levels, rather than view this statistically, an appreciation of our history is worthwhile. On our website in the 'Archived News' section you can read an article entitled 'The Olden Days at the Lit & Phil' by Marjorie Ainsworth. This article was written by our longest serving member who joined in 1955. Reading the article and considering our current activities in the light of this should indicate to members a high level of current performance and a high standard to maintain.

Financial review

The Treasurer's report on pages 5 and 6 sets out the financial performance for the year. 2018-19 was another year of close control of the Society's costs as we continue to face the challenge of generating more income from membership subscriptions. This, together with a reduction in investment income following a more turbulent year in global stock markets resulted in our year end deficit being worse than in 2018 (£21,478 compared to £13,060).

Investment policy and returns

The Society has adopted a total return approach for its investment portfolio. As permitted by the Society's memorandum and articles of association, the trustees have given Brewin Dolphin discretion to manage the portfolio within an agreed risk profile working towards a target return.

Investment income amounted to £41,560 (2018 – £44,337).

Risk management

Systems and controls have been and are being established to mitigate risks and will be periodically reviewed to ensure that they meet the needs of the Society.

Safeguarding

As an educational charity which engages with young people for some events, Council is fully aware of its responsibilities towards younger people and to this end has a Safeguarding and Child Protection policy which is reviewed annually.

GDPR

The Society is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation applicable from May 2018.

Reserves policy

Reserves consist of an expendable endowment fund; that is a fund whose primary purpose is to generate income to fund the Society's activities, but may also be used directly for charitable purposes in case of necessity or good reason.

The fund currently enables the investment return to support the Society's activities at the rates of return achievable in the market. The trustees will continue to manage reserves by careful stewardship of the Society's resources and controls over expenditure.

Memorandum and Articles of Association

These were updated and revised two years ago and were approved at the AGM of the Society on 7th November 2017.

Structure, governance and management

The Society is a registered charity and is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The guarantee of each Trustee is limited to £10 and is payable in the event of the Society being wound up and being unable to meet its debts and liabilities. The organisation is overseen by a Council, whose members are elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting in accordance with the articles. The President and Vice Presidents serve for a period of two years. The Chairman of each Section is a full member of Council by the right of that office. Council meets at least five times a year. The Society's officers meet approximately ten times a year to supervise the operational activities undertaken by the administrators.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Trustees

The Trustees who served in the year are set out on page 2. Trustees are all familiar with the operations of the Society, and are guided by the officers in matters relating to their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, budgets and the financial performance of the Society. Trustees are encouraged to attend external training events, where these may be appropriate to their role.

Independent Examiners

A resolution to reappoint Beever and Struthers as Independent Examiners to the Society is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

During the year the Trustees agreed that the Society was exempt from the need for an audit and continued with the decision to have an Independent Examination undertaken.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

United Kingdom company law requires the directors of a charity (namely the trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of that financial year and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in operation;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011 and Charities SORP (FRS102). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

In accordance with Company Law, as the Society's directors, we confirm that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant information of which the Society's Independent Examiners are unaware
- as the directors of the company we have taken all steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Society's Independent Examiners are aware of that information



Peter G. Hilton

By order of the Trustees
Secretary

Council – 19 August 2019

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30 June 2019 which are set out on pages 23 to 31.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sue Hutchinson, FCCA
Beever and Struthers
Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors
St George's House
215-219 Chester Road
Manchester M15 4JE



Date:

2 October 2019

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Statement of Financial Activities / Income and Expenditure Account Year ended 30 June 2019

		UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	
	Note	2019 £	2018 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2	313	75
Other income	2	165	111
Investments	3	41,560	44,337
Charitable activities	4	30,427	29,371
TOTAL		<u>72,465</u>	<u>73,894</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	5	(9,915)	(9,986)
Charitable activities	6 & 7	(84,028)	(76,968)
TOTAL		<u>(93,943)</u>	<u>(86,954)</u>
NET CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		(21,478)	(13,060)
Realised and unrealised profits on investments		33,921	23,534
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>12,443</u>	<u>10,474</u>
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		1,498,865	1,488,391
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>1,511,308</u>	<u>1,498,865</u>

All the above results derive from continuing operations. There are no other recognised gains and losses other than the results for the above year.

The notes on pages 25 to 31 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Balance sheet Year ended 30 June 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	-	-
Investments	10	1,481,716	1,452,760
Investment in Subsidiary	11	100	100
		<u>1,481,816</u>	<u>1,452,860</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		-	-
Tax repayment due		-	5,365
Prepayments and accrued income		1,116	1,223
Cash at bank and in hand		36,683	47,117
		<u>37,799</u>	<u>53,705</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	12	(8,307)	(7,700)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>29,492</u>	<u>46,005</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,511,308</u>	<u>1,498,865</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds			
Expendable endowment fund		1,511,308	1,498,865
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,511,308</u>	<u>1,498,865</u>

For the year ending 30 June 2019, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the companies Act 2006.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

These financial statements on pages 23-31 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees at a Council meeting held on 19 August 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

P HILTON

Secretary

T REES

Treasurer

Company Registration Number 9330.

Registered Charity Number 235313.

The notes on pages 25 to 31 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 June 2019

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, with the exception that investments are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance and comply 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 (FRS102) and SORP (FRS102) 2015, the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. The Society constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees are not aware of any matters that affect the Society's abilities to continue as such and have sufficient funds in cash and liquid investments to meet liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

The accounts have been prepared on a full accruals basis and are presented in £ Sterling. All assets and liabilities have been measured at their fair value in both 2019 and 2018.

Incoming Resources / Debtors and Prepayments

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities and include:

- **Investment income**
Investment income is accounted for when receivable.
- **Legacies**
Legacies and donations are accounted for when receivable by the Society.
- **Subscriptions**
Subscriptions are accounted for when receivable and include the Gift Aid tax recoverable.
- Any debtors or prepayments due to the Society are valued at the amount due net of any applicable discounts.

Resources Expended / Creditors

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and includes:

- **Charitable expenditure**
Charitable expenditure includes all expenditure directly related to the objectives of the Society.
- **Governance Costs**
Governance costs represent expenditure incurred in the management of the Society's assets and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.
- Any creditors for which the Society is liable are based upon obligations arising from some past event or service provided which has not been settled in cash by the year end.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds arise where the use has been restricted by the donor or by the terms of an appeal.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2019

Unrestricted funds

The expendable endowment fund represents funds whose primary purpose is to generate income to fund the Society's activities but may also be used directly for charitable purposes in case of necessity or good reason.

Tangible fixed assets

During the year the Society undertook a review of its tangible fixed assets. As a result of this review, the remaining net book value of assets was fully written off and a capitalisation threshold for individual assets acquired in the future was set at £5,000. All assets acquired below this figure will be written off to the Income & Expenditure account in the year of acquisition.

Any items requiring capitalisation will be written off over their useful life. For computer equipment this will be straight line over three years and for all other assets, straight line over ten years.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains and losses are shown in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The company is a registered charity and therefore exempt from taxation.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year to which they relate.

Cashflow Statement

The Society has taken advantage of the exemption referred to in FRS102, Section 7, in not preparing a cashflow statement.

2. Donations and sundry income

	2019 £	2018 £
Donations and legacies	313	75
Other income	165	111
	<u>478</u>	<u>186</u>

3. Income from investments

	2019 £	2018 £
Listed investments	<u>41,560</u>	<u>44,337</u>

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) **Year ended 30 June 2019**

4. Income from charitable activities

	2019	2018
	£	£
Subscriptions and Gift Aid	<u>30,427</u>	<u>29,371</u>

5. Costs of generating funds

	2019	2018
	£	£
Investment management fees	<u>9,915</u>	<u>9,986</u>

6. Costs of charitable activities

	2019	2018
	£	£
Costs of Society's activities	<u>84,028</u>	<u>76,968</u>

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2019

7. Analysis of total resources expended

	2019 £	2018 £
Charitable expenditure		
Rent	14,536	13,042
Heat & light	260	565
Legal & professional fees	964	1,064
Website & IT charges	2,507	2,081
Maintenance expenses/office improvements	1,319	1,898
Staff costs	32,729	28,385
Functions and meetings costs	16,624	15,668
Library	-	-
Printing of memoirs & programmes/ Promotional Expenses	5,775	3,926
Stationery and photocopying	1,493	1,585
Postage, telephone and equipment hire	1,589	2,036
Insurance	1,875	1,974
Depreciation	-	1,098
Independent examination fee	2,400	2,493
Bank & PayPal charges	895	861
Sundries	1,062	292
Total	84,028	76,968

8. Information regarding employees

	2019 No	2018 No
Average number of employees during the year:		
Administration	2	2

The full time equivalent number of staff was 1.3 in 2019 (1.2 in 2018). Both staff members work on a part-time basis.

	£	£
Staff costs comprise:		
- Salaries	32,331	27,814
- Employers Pension contribution	398	571
	32,729	28,385

No employee received total employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

No Trustees or person related or connected by business to them, has received any remuneration from the Society during the year. No expenses were paid to any trustee during 2019 (2018: £0).

9. Tangible fixed assets for use by the society

The remaining net book value of assets was fully written off during 2018 and a capitalisation threshold for individual assets acquired in the future was set at £5,000. All assets acquired below this figure will be written off to the Income & Expenditure account in the year of acquisition. No purchases were made during 2019 in excess of this new threshold.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2019

10. Investments held as fixed assets

	2019 £	2018 £
Total investments		
Market value at 1 July 2018	1,452,760	1,459,485
Additions at cost	262,715	465,365
Disposals at carrying value	(267,680)	(495,624)
Net gain on valuation	33,921	23,534
	<u>1,481,716</u>	<u>1,452,760</u>
Market value at 30 June 2019	<u>1,481,716</u>	<u>1,452,760</u>
Being at market value:		
Listed investments	<u>1,481,716</u>	<u>1,452,760</u>
Historical cost at 30 June 2018	<u>1,264,008</u>	<u>1,266,260</u>

Investments were revalued at middle market value at the year-end as determined by Brewin Dolphin.

The investment portfolio is structured as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Direct investment	204,272	210,456
Indirect investment	1,277,444	1,242,304
	<u>1,481,716</u>	<u>1,452,760</u>

The investments held as fixed assets are subdivided as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Investment assets in the UK	734,675	866,141
Investment assets outside the UK	747,041	586,619
	<u>1,481,716</u>	<u>1,452,760</u>

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2019

11. Investment in Subsidiary

	2019 £	2018 £
Investment in MLP Publications	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

The investment represents 100% of the Ordinary Share Capital of 100 shares of £1 each of the Company. MLP Publications Ltd is currently dormant. The Company number is 01667171.

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019 £	2018 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>8,307</u>	<u>7,700</u>

13. Operating lease commitments

The lease commitments relate to our lease for the office premises at Church House, Deansgate which commenced in April 2016 for a maximum 10 year term with a break clause after five years.

The total of future minimum lease payments at the end of the reporting period, for each of the following periods:

	2019 £	2018 £
Not later than one year	9,312	9,312
Later than one year and not later than five years	6,984	16,296
Later than five years	nil	nil
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No commitment beyond five years has been recognised as the lease contains a break clause at this time.

14. Related parties

There were no related party transactions with the Trustees during the year (2018: nil)