

# Annual Review 2016

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*A forum for natural history*



PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

The  
**LINNEAN  
SOCIETY**  
of London



# President's Review | 2016

**2016 has been a year of change in the Linnean Society of London, within Officers and the staff (particularly the role of Treasurer moving from Professor Gren Lucas OBE Hon FLS to Deborah Wright FLS), and a change in journal publisher from Wiley to Oxford University Press.**

The year saw us celebrate the extraordinary contribution of Gren Lucas as Treasurer over a phenomenal 21-year period; we salute his incredible commitment and thank him for leaving the Society in a good financial position, ready to rise to the considerable future challenges

due to the ongoing uncertainty over the continued tenure of the five learned societies at our location in Burlington House.



Our programme of events has been as popular as ever, from lectures on megafaunal extinctions to the botany of Christmas. The Society also expanded its regional reach, holding our first meeting in the US, at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University in Boston USA, while continuing regional lectures around the UK. Our collaboration with the other Courtyard Societies in Burlington House continues to grow, with International Women's Day Tours, Courtyard Lates, and Open House London. Our Education team has also been part of a number of fantastic events, including a BioBlitz at Brompton Cemetery, hosting the awards ceremonies for our BioMedia Meltdown Competitions (generously funded by John Lyon's Charity) and hosting a stand at Fun Palaces, where around 500 people extracted DNA from strawberries in a single day! You can find out more about our *Linnean Learning* educational initiatives later in this review.

Our three journals continue to provide an excellent body of research papers, whether botanical, zoological or biological. The Linnaeus Link project, together with visits

to and downloads from our Online Collections ([www.linnean-online.org](http://www.linnean-online.org)), show that these play a prominent role in research for scientists and historians. Our collections have also secured funding (in collaboration with University College, London) through the cutting-edge European Union READ (Recognition and Enrichment of Archival Documents) project, which is seeking to take OCR (Optical Character Recognition) to an exciting new level, by recognising and transcribing handwritten text. Our Adopt-LINN scheme snowballed in 2016, with over £10,000 pledged for the conservation of some of our Library's exquisite books.

The Society continues to provide research grants to facilitate work in taxonomy and systematics, and is proud to have presented awards and medals to a remarkable series of scientists in 2016. Of course there is anxiety over the implications of the BREXIT vote for EU collaboration and funding, and the Society is fully supportive of the Royal Society of Biology's lobbying in this regard. Although there are challenges to be confronted over the coming period, the Society is in my view in good health and long may that continue.

**Professor Paul Brakefield FRS**



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# Research & Sponsorship

The Society continues to deliver on its key strategic objective of inspiring and supporting the scientific study of the natural world, achieving this in various ways by providing publication and grant opportunities, as well as responding to many research enquiries received through the Library, and providing access to the Society's unique Collections.

## RESEARCH JOURNALS

All three of the Society's journals (*Zoological*, *Biological* and *Botanical*) are holding their relative positions within their fields, with greater than 98% returning subscribers. The journals support the hybrid model: Authors may choose the Open Access option if they wish, although the rate of take-up has been low (not more than 4% for any of the three journals).

The *Biological Journal* received increased media attention in 2016, particularly due to Ingrid Boucaud's paper on vocal negotiation over parental care in zebra finches, 'How excessive tweeting lets dad off the hook' (Altmetric score 155), and Warren Booth and Gordon Schuett's paper on the current state of our understanding of the phylogeny of parthenogenesis in snakes, with an Altmetric score of 204 and climbing.

Two lavishly illustrated special issues of the *Botanical Journal* focused on monocot families (bromeliads, 181: 3 and palms, 182: 2).

APG IV (181: 1), the updated system of flowering plant classification, has already been highly cited—ResearchGate recently reported that APG IV has had 4,213 reads and been cited 185 times.

The two papers that made the biggest splashes in the *Zoological Journal* were both published in August: Mike Benton's paper on Chinese Pareiasaurs (extinct reptiles) was featured on Yahoo News, while Maria Gold and colleagues' paper on the Dodo was featured even more widely. With an Altmetric score of 406, this was the 'most talked about' paper of 2016.

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SPONSORSHIP

The Society aims to promote the study of all aspects of the natural world, with particular emphasis on evolution, taxonomy and biodiversity. This is achieved in part by awarding grants for research work, the main source being the Systematics Research Fund (SRF), which the Society administers in collaboration with the Systematics Association, the parties contributing £22,509 and £7,400, respectively. We were delighted to announce in April, from the 149 eligible applications, the 31 recipients of the 2015/16 SRF awards, encompassing a wide range of plant, fungal and animal species across global geographies. Supported projects included:

- MELINDA GREENFIELD's 'Interactions between ants, fungi and the ant-plant *Myrmecodia beccarii*'
- PASCHALIA KAPLI's 'Evolutionary history of the desert lizard *Mesalina watsonana* in the Iranian Plateau'
- ANDREA WAESCHENBACH's 'Molecular systematics of Great Barrier Reef bryozoans'

**The Attenborough Award:** Introduced in 2014 and named in honour of Sir David Attenborough Hon FLS, this year's award for the best field work project from last year's SRF recipients was awarded to Sonia Rowley (USA) for her project entitled 'Exploration and systematics of twilight reef Gorgonian corals at Pakin Atoll, Micronesia'.

## FUTURE FUNDING

The Society will strive to make further funding available to inspire and support research into the natural world—although current returns on capital invested make this challenging.

However, in conjunction with the continued health of the journals and their resulting revenue (having changed publishers in 2017 from Wiley to Oxford University Press), our aim is to secure grant funding in the education and public engagement sectors with a view to inspiring the next generation of biologists.



*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:* Scientific research sponsored in the Great Barrier Reef; Corals project in Micronesia given the Attenborough Award 2016; Zebra finches causing a stir in the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*

# Collections & Heritage

**2016 was a busy year for Librarian Lynda Brooks and the Library team at the Society, with many items requested for loans and exhibitions, a plethora of tours for a variety of groups and a record 4,650 email enquiries.**

## LINNAEUS LINK

Linnaeus Link, an international Union Catalogue for Linnaean publications and managed by the Society, continues to grow. There are now 16 Partner institutions contributing their records to the catalogue, with Google Analytics revealing more than 160,000 individual page views over the year, the most numerous being from the UK, the US, Spain, Germany, Italy, India and Russia.

The 2016 Linnaeus Link Partners' Meeting took place at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in April, and was held in conjunction with the European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (EBHL) Meeting. Feedback was hugely positive, and both groups want to continue this joint format in the future. The 2017 Meeting will be hosted by the Conservatory and Botanical Garden of the City of Geneva as part of the BGCI's 6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress.

## ADOPTLINN

One of the highlights of 2016 was the launch of AdoptLINN in February, spearheaded by the Deputy Librarian, Elaine Charwat, and supported by the Society's Conservator, Janet Ashdown. A fantastic £10,200 was pledged in 2016 to conserve 25 books, many of which

are folios and larger. Conserving and repairing these large volumes in-house with limited space and equipment is very difficult, and the money raised through the AdoptLINN initiative has made it possible to send these beautiful books out to an external conservation bindery.

## COLLECTION CONSERVATION

The Linnaean herbarium cabinet has been conserved using funds (£4,318 raised by year end) contributed by the Fellowship in honour of Prof Gren Lucas' OBE time as Treasurer of the Society and it will soon be on display in a purpose-built glass case.

Two conservation students from Camberwell's MA Conservation course in London have volunteered during 2016. Joey Shuker completed a condition survey of part of the Society's photographic collection and Solange Masher has spent a day each week working on two watercolour paintings and a number of books.

The Society's founder, James Edward Smith's miscellaneous collection of mounted lichens has been re-organised by Dr Holger Thues FLS and been placed in new folders and returned to the Smith Herbarium. One specimen has also been confirmed as a type specimen.

## DIGITISATION

Andrea Deneau, the Society's former Digitisation Project Officer, has returned from maternity leave to take up the newly-created part-time post of Digital Assets Manager and has been focussing on an audit of the Society's Online Collections. The latest addition to the Online Collections are the Linnaean Manuscripts (project generously funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation) which

went online in early 2016. There were 6.6 million Online Collections page requests compared with 4.8 million in 2015, reflecting the enormous interest in the Linnaean Manuscripts.

The Society joined the EU-wide READ project (Recognition and Enrichment of Archival Documents), which aims to “revolutionize access to handwritten documents”. A grant of £11,000 has been provided to the Society to support its activities under this project, and so far we have transcribed 42 of our manuscripts to test and train the handwritten text recognition (HTR) software, *Transkribus*.

Through READ, the Society hosted its second digitisation conference ‘What Should Be in Your Digital Toolbox?’, in partnership with UCL’s *Transcribe Bentham* initiative. Videocasts are available via the Society’s YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/linneansociety](https://www.youtube.com/linneansociety)).

## COLLECTIONS ON SHOW

The Society was delighted to be involved in loaning items from our Collections to several high-profile exhibitions during the course of 2016, highlighting the international appeal and importance of the Society’s holdings:

- The **Linnaean manuscript** *Notes on the ontogeny of flowers and leaves* was installed in the exhibition *Image Knowledge Gestaltung* mounted by the Humboldt University, Berlin.
- The **John Dory** (*Zeus faber* L.) featured in the Wellcome Trust’s exhibition *Making Nature*.

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*TOP:* Nikolaus Jacquin’s stunning *Plantarum rariorum Horti Caesarei Schoenbrunnensis* conserved through an AdoptLINN donation by Jenny Grundy FLS; *BOTTOM:* Robert Brown’s microscope in *Einstein’s Legacy* at the Science Museum, London



- Robert Brown's microscope was on display in the Science Museum's *Einstein's Legacy* exhibition.
- John Lewin's **Thylacine painting** was part of Tate Britain's *Art and Empire* exhibition.
- Francis Buchanan-Hamilton's **paintings of Nepalese plants** were on display at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

## VOLUNTEERS

Our dedicated team of volunteers continues to contribute time and expertise in various roles within the Library and Archives team:

- **GINA DOUGLAS HON FLS** continues in her role of Honorary Archivist. She is doing extensive work with our material from International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- **DAVID PESCOD HON FLS** is transcribing important elements of the Council Minutes and the list of gifts to the Society.
- **HAZEL MARSDEN FLS** is transferring records of the Society's manuscripts, currently on catalogue cards and making the information searchable which will improve accessibility.
- **ALAN BRAFIELD FLS** continues the important task of sorting and listing recently received archive material.
- **PIA WILSON** helps with the AdoptLINN initiative, as well as cataloguing material donated to the Society by Professor John Cloudsley-Thompson.
- **SHEILA MEREDITH** is cataloguing the Society's Darwin/Wallace material and has completed almost half of the collection during this year. There are now 140 records in the online catalogue.
- **LAYLA FEDYK**, a botanical artist and qualified Archivist, is a new volunteer and she is cataloguing the Society's original artworks on

paper. She has almost completed a listing of the illustrations which accompany the Society Papers, which will greatly facilitate access for researchers and the public.

## GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

The Society's newly appointed permanent Archivist, Liz McGow, has started work on auditing the archive collections in order to produce a large scale cataloguing program, and identifying any material requiring conservation work. The wider aim of this cataloguing work is to open up the archives to the public for the first time and enable access to detailed descriptions of this incredible material.

The digitisation projects of the last several years and the creation of the Online Collections have made them available to everyone around the globe. This is reflected in a record number of email enquiries being received and dealt with this year—4,650 [4,200 in 2015], as well as increased demand for Society material for exhibitions and more requests for images for publication.

The Library and Collections team (alongside our fantastic volunteers) has made significant progress in cataloguing two major book donations, from the Charles Darwin Trust and from Professor John Cloudsley-Thompson and interest in these collections is beginning to build.



37. From New Amsterdam; common, but very durable.  
38. From Otaheite; wore by the young dancers of both sexes.



Liz McGow, our Archivist, has the enviable task of exploring the Society's extensive archive collections with the aim of improving opportunities for researchers and the public. Liz has already uncovered some gems!

Within the manuscript collection is an unassuming volume which, on closer inspection, contains more than just plain text. Entitled 'A catalogue of the different specimens of cloth collected in the three voyages of Captain Cook....' and published in 1787 by Alexander Shaw, the book contains 39 samples of 'tapa' (cloth produced from the bark of trees) collected from the Pacific Islands during Cook's voyages. Varying in colour, size and texture, the samples are accompanied by descriptions and anecdotes from the explorers of the samples' origins. It is unclear how Shaw came to own them, or why he was producing these volumes, but it indicates the level of interest and appeal of items connected to the famous voyages of the great Captain Cook.

The Society also holds particular regard for this item, as Cook was of course accompanied on this expedition by Daniel Solander, one of Carl Linnaeus' disciples, as well as Sir Joseph Banks, who was instrumental in the purchase of the Linnaean collections by his friend, Sir James Edward Smith, who went on to found the Linnean Society in 1788. There is also a lovely inscription in the front of the book by the donor, Richard Chambers:

From Richard Chambers—F.L.S.—and the first schoolmaster who endeavoured to get knowledge out of the right end, instead of whipping it in at the wrong!! *Floreat semper, Societis utilitis!!* [May such a useful Society flourish forever!!]

# Events & Engagement

**It has been a year of technological changes: a brand new website, a new-look version of our online update *Linnean News*, and a YouTube channel for videocasts of the Society's public lectures on the natural world.**

**Our partnerships with the Royal Society of Medicine, the Systematics Association, and the London Evolutionary Research Network continued, welcoming renowned speakers like Professor David Rollinson FLS, Dr Aoife McLysaght, and former senior producer and director for BBC, Jeremy Taylor, among others.**

## PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Dr Zerina Johanson FLS kicked off the Spring-Summer season with her talk on the ‘Evolution of Vertebrate Reproduction’. Dr Aljos Farjon’s FLS FRGS ‘Ancient Oaks’ filled both the Meeting Room and Library. Meanwhile Professor Jane Francis amazed the public by revealing ‘Antarctica’s Climate History’. Some of our other standout events included:

- **ANDREA WULF AND *THE INVENTION OF NATURE*.** Fresh from her win of the Royal Society Science Book Prize 2016, Andrea Wulf FLS FRGS gave our Founder’s Day lecture about Alexander von Humboldt, the subject of her multi-award-winning book *The Invention of Nature*. She has also won The *LA Times* Book Prize 2016 and the Costa Biography Award 2015, to name just a few.

- ‘**THE BOTANY OF CHRISTMAS’ BY DR MARK NESBITT FLS** closed the events programme as the most successful lunchtime lecture since the series started in 2014. Mark’s charming botanical chronicles fascinated not only those in attendance but more than 700 viewers on YouTube.

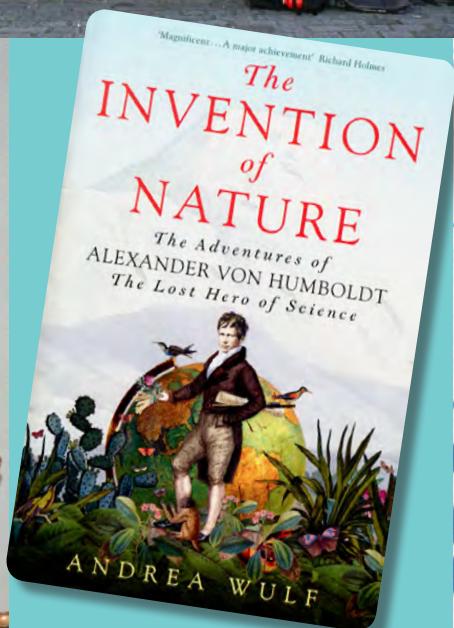
## CONFERENCES & DEBATES

Exchange of information and promotion of scientific debate is one of the Society’s main aims. 2016 saw a number of fantastic conferences and day meetings including:

- The Society’s first US-based meeting, at the **Arnold Arboretum** of Harvard University (Boston, Massachusetts). Welcomed by Professor Dianne Edwards CBE FRS PPLS, Fellows met for three days to discuss Evolution, Biogeography, Natural History and Museum Collections. A total of 21 lectures delighted the delegates, accompanied by tours around the Arboretum run by our host, Professor William (Ned) Friedman. Twenty-eight Fellows were formally admitted and Dr Sandy Knapp FLS was presented with the Linnean Medal for her services to science. Virtual Issues of our three scientific journals were produced to celebrate the occasion: [www.linnean.org/Boston-Virtual](http://www.linnean.org/Boston-Virtual)
- ‘**Growing the Grass Classification: Systematics, Ecology and Evolution**’, a two-day conference to celebrate grass taxonomist Derek Clayton’s 90th Birthday, which drew over 30 lecturers and 56 delegates globally from this discipline.

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**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** The ‘Growing the Grass Classification’ conference delegates at Burlington House; Professor Jane Francis, Director of the British Antarctic Survey (courtesy J. Francis); Author Andrea Wulf speaks about *The Invention of Nature* for our Founder’s Day lecture



- ‘**Debating Matters**’, a competition for sixth formers organised by the Institute of Ideas and supported by the Wellcome Trust, presented schools with an innovative approach to debating contemporary issues. The Society hosted the London Inner 2015/2016 regional final in March 2016.
- ‘**What Should be in Your Digital Toolbox?**’ was the second annual conference on digitisation and digital assets in the academic world, hosted at the Society in collaboration with the *Transcribe Bentham* initiative at University College London. With Professor Melissa Terras of UCL giving the keynote speech, the two-day event showcased cutting-edge collaborative transcription technologies developed as part of the EU-funded READ project.

## BUILDING & COLLECTIONS TOURS

The public and Fellows alike continued to be drawn to the ‘secret world’ of the Linnaean collections, with seven **TREASURES TOURS** attracting 100 people, resulting in over £300 donated to Library funds.

**OPEN HOUSE LONDON** has become a staple in the Society’s calendar. Last year saw 1,190 visitors flow through our doors in a single day and included a special ‘performance’ by a youthful Mr Charles Darwin.

The five Courtyard Societies (the Geological Society of London, Royal Society of Chemistry, Royal Astronomical Society, the Society of Antiquaries and the Linnean Society) and the Royal Academy of Arts held a number of **COURTYARD LATES** in July 2016, highlighting that Burlington House is a cultural hub for the arts and the sciences. The Society’s after-hours tours were fully subscribed—so watch this space for more Courtyard Lates in 2017.





## GOALS FOR ENGAGEMENT

Our intention is to attract the research community through our scientific symposiums and to cover topics of wider interest for the general public. Our regional events are expanding thanks to networks in Cardiff, Plymouth, Manchester and Leeds. In 2016, Manchester University joined us in the organisation of the Society's Annual Irene Manton Lecture to celebrate the contribution of women in science, while the Society supported Leeds University's Manton Lecture, under their Athena Swan programme.

In seeking to attract young researchers, partnerships have been established with the London Evolutionary Research Network (LERN), the Centre for Ecology and Evolution (CEE) and the MSc programme in Plant and Fungal Taxonomy, Diversity and Conservation, delivered by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Queen Mary University of London. Such partnerships, in addition to the collaboration with the Courtyard Societies of Burlington House and the Royal Academy of Arts, help broaden the Society's constituency and increase our impact simultaneously.

Our aim is to continue to build our audiences through social media and videocasts, with our ultimate goal being to develop the Society as a 'go to' place for scientific events for all, welcoming ideas for topics and speakers.

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*CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT:* A young Charles Darwin entertained visitors at Open House London 2016; Open House London saw a huge number of visitors through the door in a single day; Public 'Treasures Tours' of the Linnaean Collections are always fully booked

# Biologists of the Future

2016 saw a lot of change for *Linnean Learning*. Dr Rhys Grant, a former biochemical researcher at Cambridge University, took over as Education and Public Engagement Officer from Hazel Leeper, who left the Society to pursue a career in teaching.

*Linnean Learning* began an extensive outreach program of presenting at local and national science festivals, and the education team recruited a group of volunteers to assist with our events and resources.

## BIOLOGY RESOURCES: CATERING FOR EVERYONE

The Linnean Society has previously produced an extensive array of educational resources, including worksheets, practicals, posters, and our highly popular primary education Loan Kits. Science education, however, should not be limited to those at school or enrolled in formal courses, and should instead encompass everyone with an interest in learning. As such, the education team developed *CaféLinn: Biology in the Kitchen*, a series of experiments that can be done at home, using nothing but household items, to teach and engage lay audiences with biological principles and general science topics.

These new experiments ('recipes') were trialled at Cambridge Big Biology Day in October, where they proved to be highly popular. Over 1,000 people of all ages took part in our exhibit, with queues

forming throughout the afternoon so that attendees could enjoy our activities. Many parents actively collected all the instruction sheets on offer so that they could reproduce the experiments at home. The Society has received fantastic feedback, with many praising the fact that we had produced practical resources requiring no specialist knowledge, equipment, reagents or kits. We are currently developing further experiments on additional topics to expand the *CaféLinn* series before its launch in early 2017.

## IMPACTFUL EVENTS

Our annual education events have improved this year, increasing in both strength and popularity. As well as our stand at the Association for Science Education (ASE) Conference, the Society also participated in Brompton BioBlitz, a public event to study biodiversity in London's Brompton Cemetery. Rhys Grant represented the Society at the UK-Japan Young Scientists Workshop in Cambridge to enthuse teenagers with scientific careers. *Linnean Learning* also ran workshops about Charles Darwin for the Westminster Super Scientists event, and contributed to the British Ecological Society Summer School.

Our Student Lectures were remarkably successful this year, with **SIMON WATT**'s lecture 'Why We Die' selling out and **DR HELEN SCALES**' lecture 'Exploring Ocean Wonders' over-running by an hour to accommodate interesting discussion and questions.

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*CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:* A future biologist tests pH levels at our stand at Cambridge Big Biology Day; UK-Japan Young Scientists Workshop, Cambridge; Dr Helen Scales, in the field, gave a popular lecture on marine biology as part of our Student Lecture Series (© Amy McDermott)



*Linnean Learning* is now developing hands-on exhibits for local and national science festivals. We've run art-meets-science activities to teach classification and plant reproduction; had over 500 people extract DNA from strawberries; explored careers in biodiversity and environmental forensics; and demonstrated simple experiments for the home. Over the course of the year, at least 5,000 people have directly taken part in our education events, with over 40,000 people reached through online event promotion. The second part of our BioMedia Meltdown Project (generously funded by John Lyon's Charity) also concluded in 2016; you can read more about this on p. 20.

## STRATEGIC SCIENCE: LOAN KITS & BIOLOGY ONLINE

In 2017, *Linnean Learning* will expand on our resources by creating a new Loan Kit on evolution, alongside concepts for a kit on microscopy/microbiology. Additionally, an interactive, web-based resource is also being created to provide careers advice to students, using career information and data provided by our Fellows.

The Education team will promote the Society and enhance its reach through presenting at additional science festivals and events. Concurrently, we will increase our online presence through heavily promoting our education Twitter account, particularly to the public (follow us [@LinneanLearning](#)), and through advertising and distributing the new *Linnean Learning* Video Series via social media.

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*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:* Our fantastic team of volunteers, led by Education and Public Engagement Officer Dr Rhys Grant (second from right); The results of our 'Shell-less Egg' experiment; Young scientists test the new rubbery eggs and learn about osmosis





At the end of 2016, Ross Ziegelmeier (former Project Leader for the BioMedia Meltdown Project) began work on 15 educational videos that aim to connect our Collections with the National Curriculum. Three series will be produced, aimed at primary and secondary students, and the general public.

The first series, 'The Curious Cases of Linnaeus' will aim to make the connection between Carl Linnaeus' findings and contemporary science. The second series, entitled 'Tools of the Trade', will use the Society's artefacts to explore the process of scientific investigation, using stylised filming techniques to offer a more unusual interpretation of our collections. These videos will be accompanied by educational resources that will allow students to look at curriculum topics in a different way, using our historic artefacts, books and specimens. Series three will explore five topics as voted for by our followers on social media.

Each series will be hosted on the Society's YouTube channel, as well as handed out physically on memory sticks. The aim of this project is to highlight the importance and relevance of our collections for the study of natural science for everyone of all ages.

The videos will also enable the Society to share fascinating items from its holdings with a greater number of people than can currently be achieved through its already established and very successful Treasures Tours. We know first hand how fantastic our collections are and we are keen to share them with future biologists!

**LEFT:** James MacLaine FLS, of London's Natural History Museum, filming the video series

@LinneanLearning  
engagement rate



2.60%

(Twitter average = 0.07%)

BioMedia Meltdown  
competition entries

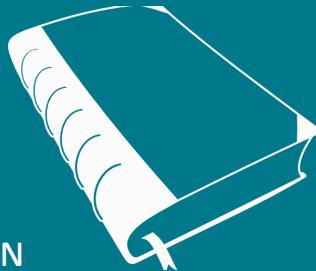
499

Email enquiries to our  
research library

4,650



MONEY  
PLEDGED TO  
**ADOPTLINN**  
SCHEME  
FOR BOOK  
CONSERVATION



£10,200

Returning subscribers to Linnean  
Society journals



Social

INCREASE IN  
**FACEBOOK** FOLLOWERS  
/LINNEANSOCIETY

45%



# Media

INCREASE IN  
**TWITTER FOLLOWERS**  
@LINNEANSOCIETY

62%



Audience reached through  
onsite events



3,420

Online education resource  
downloads

10,633

MANUSCRIPTS TRANSCRIBED  
THROUGH EU-FUNDED READ  
PROJECT

43

38 Events throughout 2016  
(not including education!)

PEOPLE REACHED ONLINE  
VIA EDUCATION EVENTS AND  
PROMOTION



40,000

Money spent collaboratively  
on scientific awards and  
grants

£29,909



# Special Projects

In amongst all of the research, digital asset management, events, publications and educational activities already in progress at the Linnean Society, we sometimes find space for a few extra projects.

## **THE LORD TREASURER OF BOTANY**

In 2016, the Society published the first in-depth biography of its founder, first President and purchaser of the Linnaean Collections, Sir James Edward Smith. Despite his influence on the botanical, and scientific world in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Smith is a relatively unsung figure in modern times. His purchase and move to London of Carl Linnaeus's vast specimen collections, library and manuscripts helped to make the city the capital of botanical study.

As part of the Smith Correspondence Project, Archivist Tom Kennett spent two years producing a comprehensive catalogue of Smith's extensive network of letters, which provided the basis for the biography. Cataloguing the 3,500 letters within the correspondence showed that there was a pressing need for a fresh interpretation of Smith's life and work, and *The Lord Treasurer of Botany* was underway.

Producing the book itself took over three years, from research, to writing, to publication, and was managed by Special Publications Manager Leonie Berwick. Picture research, editing and photography were also carried out by Tom and Leonie. The book was officially

launched on 24 May 2016 at the Society's Anniversary Meeting, to coincide with the retirement of long-serving Treasurer Prof Gren Lucas, who had championed the book throughout.

To publicise the project Tom gave several lectures about Smith at the Society, London Metropolitan Archives and Norwich Castle, and the team also made a promotional video.

## **THE BIOMEDIA MELTDOWN PROJECT**

The BioMedia Meltdown Project was an 18-month initiative aimed at Key Stage 3 students (11–14 yrs) in John Lyon's Charity's beneficial areas in London. Managed by Ross Ziegelmeier, the project gave students the opportunity to develop a better understanding of natural science through a creative approach within the context of a competition. The competition was focussed on two main National Curriculum topics (Evolution and Ecosystems) and sought to be accessible to students of all abilities and interests. The main objective of this project was to inspire and engage young people from all walks of life and abilities in the fields of biology and natural history.

The project evaluation showed that both young people and teachers felt the program was indeed inspiring, and of academic value. Five of the eight schools that took part in the 2015 competition took part again in 2016, indicating that 62.5% of teachers saw academic value in running the project again. The project saw a dramatic increase in the number of entries received across the two competitions, from 37 entries in 2015 to 499 in 2016. Participation was further improved through the workshops run at the schools which reached 1,106 students, with CPD sessions reaching 63 teachers.

The Society wishes to build upon the success of the project by developing it further. Requests from schools to take part in the BioMedia Meltdown 2017/18 have already been received, and a project extension proposal submitted John Lyon's Charity was generously approved in early 2017.

**It's an intellectual challenge for young people—it pushes them to places that ordinarily the curriculum might not take them to.**

**Daniel Patrick Coyle | Head Master, Newman Catholic College**

**The students were impressing me every day with what they were doing.**

**Guillermo Esteban | Head of Science, Newman Catholic College**

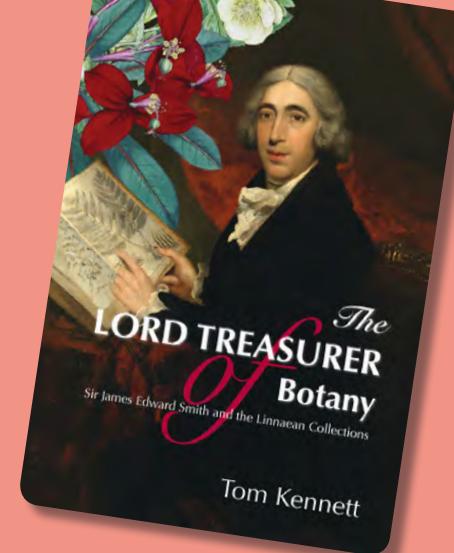
**It's really helped them to demonstrate their knowledge, and also reinforce their knowledge.**

**Andrew Rugg | Head of Science, Greenford High School**

**The kids were so enthused with the project, they all wanted to take part. It raised the profile of our school and community and gave an opportunity for the underdog to be seen.**

**Himakshi Patel | Science Teacher, Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College**

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** First place group category winners of the BioMedia Meltdown 2016 from Newman Catholic College, with speaker Dr Erica McAlister (NHM, London); Author of *The Lord Treasurer of Botany*, Tom Kennett; The first in-depth biography of Sir James Edward Smith



# Recognising Excellence

Through sponsorship and awarding medals, the Society acknowledges and encourages excellence in all aspects of the biological sciences, with particular emphasis on evolution, taxonomy, biodiversity conservation and sustainability.

## Categories

**THE LINNEAN MEDAL:** For services to science

**THE DARWIN-WALLACE MEDAL:** For major advances in evolutionary biology

**THE BICENTENARY MEDAL:** In recognition of the work of a biologist under 40 years of age

**THE JOHN SPEDAN LEWIS MEDAL:** For a significant and innovative contribution to conservation in the UK

**THE TRAIL-CRISP AWARD:** For an outstanding contribution to biological microscopy, published in the UK

**THE HH BLOOMER AWARD:** Awarded to an amateur naturalist for an important contribution to biological knowledge

**THE JILL SMYTHIES AWARD:** A £1,000 prize to a botanical artist for outstanding illustrations

**THE IRENE MANTON PRIZE:** A £1,000 prize and work of art for the best doctoral thesis in botany

**THE JOHN C. MARSDEN MEDAL:** A £1,000 prize for the best doctoral thesis in biology

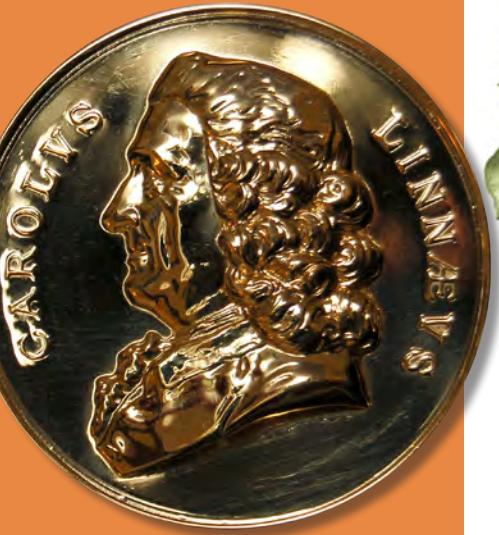
## MEDAL & AWARD WINNERS 2016

- **Linnean Medal in the Field of Botany:** Dr Sandra Knapp, *Natural History Museum, London*
- **Linnean Medal in the Field of Zoology:** Professor Dame Georgina Mace, *University College, London*
- **Darwin-Wallace Medal:** Professors Pamela Soltis and Douglas Soltis, *University of Florida and Florida Museum of Natural History*
- **Bicentenary Medal:** Professor Anjali Goswami, *University College, London*
- **John Spedan Lewis Medal:** Dr Edgar Turner, *University of Cambridge*
- **John C. Marsden Medal:** Dr Thomas Halliday, *University College, London*
- **Trail-Crisp Award:** Dr Imogen Sparkes, *Exeter University*
- **HH Bloomer Award:** Howard Matcham
- **Jill Smythies Award:** Anita Barley
- **Irene Manton Prize:** Dr Christopher Williamson, *Natural History Museum, London*

Further details can be found on our website, while full citations are available in the October 2016 issue of *The Linnean* (32[2]: 34–42).

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*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:* **Medal and Award Winners—(LEFT TO RIGHT)** Prof Dame Georgina Mace (FRONT), Dr Thomas Halliday (BACK), Dr Anjali Goswami (FRONT), Prof Paul Brakefield FRS PLS (BACK), Dr Edgar Turner, Anita Barley, Dr Christopher Williamson, Dr Imogen Sparkes and Profs Pamela and Douglas Soltis; Anita Barley's award-winning botanical illustration for *Erythrina acanthocarpa*; Linnean medal: Dr Sandra Knapp receives the Linnean Medal in Boston



# Financial Review

**The Summary Accounts show a lower income figure this year as there wasn't a very large legacy or donation, as there was last year, with the Dr Rosemary Lowe-McConnell bequest. However, it is the first year that the Society reached an income of one million pounds without such a large gift. Expenditure apparently increased by £183,612, however, this figure includes a very large figure that will be explained later in the report under DCLG Expenses. The expected deficit for the year was £122,303.**

## FELLOWS, DONATIONS CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS

There were 2,418 paying Fellows at the end of the year, with a further 25 Associates and 31 Student members. There were 142 new Fellows having been elected (and paid up) during the year. There were 20 resignations and 17 deaths. The full total number of members, with Honorary and other non-paying members included, now stands at 2,608, compared with 2,566 at the end of 2015. Currently there are 98 defaulters who need to pay their dues by 24 May 2017. The total Contributions Income rose to £130,906 from £129,856 in 2015. It is sincerely hoped that all the Fellows who are in arrears will pay up promptly.

The Society greatly appreciates those Fellows who have generously signed the Gift Aid Form, as it has allowed the Society to recover

£7,500 to support its aims and objectives.

The Society received a generous bequest from the estate of Dr RN Bamber of £5,000. Generous donations were received from Prof SJ Hughes of £2,032.50, an anonymous donor of £2,000, Jenny Grundy of £1,015, and Dr Clifford Nelson of £253.77.

The Society is most grateful to all those donors who have supported the Society during the year for their great generosity. It cannot be said often enough how valuable such generous legacies and gifts are to the Society in helping to carry out its many programmes and having them properly funded.

## PUBLICATIONS

It was very pleasing to receive the vital income from the Society's Joint Publishing Account with Wiley which was up this year to £737,960 compared with £674,563 in 2015.

This is the last year that Wiley will be our partner in this venture as a new contract has been won by Oxford University Press (OUP), starting on January 1st 2017 to publish our Journals. It is appropriate here to thank all of the Wiley team who have given the Society many years of first class support and service.

The Society's fine Editorial teams are led by Professor Mark Chase FRS as Editorial Secretary, with the very active Editors, Emeritus Professor John Allen, for the *Biological Journal*, Professor Mike Fay for the *Botanical Journal*, and Dr Louise Allcock for the *Zoological Journal*. Our Editors are fully supported by their review teams and the dedicated team at Wiley. Everyone is to be congratulated on the smooth transition and hand over to the OUP team during 2016.

## **INVESTMENTS**

### ***Investment Policy***

The general aim is to enhance the value of both capital and income on a long term sustainable basis. Investments are to be of a prudent nature, offering no more than a moderate risk and avoiding more speculative investments.

There were some interesting changes in the management companies over the year; our nominated advisor Gregor McNie started the year working for Ashcourt Rowan, this company was bought by Towry, which itself has been acquired by Tilney. Neither these changes nor the Brexit vote in the middle of the year and the consequence, in the reduction of the value of the pound against other currencies, has greatly disturbed the value of Society's share holdings. As indicated in last year's Annual Report a considerable portion of Dr Rosemary Lowe-McConnell's legacy has been used to purchase more shares. The Book value of the Shares was increased by £116,233 from £2,009,352 to £2,125,585 by the end of the year. The Market value showed a steady increase in value to £3,001,660 compared with £2,422,066 at the end of 2015. The return on investments as a whole was 4% compared with 3% last year. The increased investment income available to the General Fund is £49,001 compared with £32,352 for 2015 showing a steady improvement for a change.

The total income from all investments, both for the General and Trust and Special Fund was £ 80,703 compared with £58,167 earned last year.

## **DESIGNATED FUNDS**

The Mortgage Liability Fund stands at £267,000 to meet the outstanding mortgage repayments which amount to £267,383. Special

Library Expenses provision stands at £6,470. The Development fund stands at £200,000. It is expected the Development fund will be spent over the next 4 years.

## **RESERVES POLICY**

The Society's general reserve is held to facilitate cash flow and to enable the Society to continue to operate effectively in the event that income be significantly reduced. The general reserve is also held to provide funding for projects which have not attracted external funding. The Trustees consider that a minimum of 5 months of operational expenditure should be held in the general reserve which currently amounts to approximately £400k to £600k. In addition the Society holds designated reserves to reflect funds spent on fixed assets and to earmark funds for planned future expenditure. The current balance on the general reserve amounts is just over £1M which the Trustees consider reasonable in the context of budgeted costs.

## **REMUNERATION POLICY FOR SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

Remuneration for the Senior Management Team is reviewed and approved by the Honorary Officers of the Society, on the advice of the Honorary Treasurer, taking into consideration current trends in like-organisations. The Officers of the Society are (re)-elected annually.

# Accounts

The full accounts were prepared to conform to the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP – FRS 102). However, for Fellows, the layout of the text and summary accounts has been maintained as far as possible, in a similar format to previous years.

**The Use of Rooms:** Despite a great deal of hard work by Victoria Smith, Buildings and Office Manager, ably supported by Tatiana Franco, Room Hire Manager, this year has seen quite a large reduction in Income from this source. The Income received this year was £35,558 compared with £48,459 last year. This drop was mainly due to the loss of two very regular users of the Society's facilities through their demise. Catering yielded £6,947 compared with £5,658 last year.

**Financial Contributions** towards Grant Expenditure was up this year to £9,209 compared with £7,186 in 2015. This was due in part to the contribution from The Systematics Association of £7,400.

**Royalty Income** was well up this year at £2,259 compared with £621 last year, thanks to Leonie Berwick chasing the Publishers Licensing Society for £1,698 in back payments to the Society.

**Contributions to Special Library Expenses:** This is a new heading for this year to cover two new initiatives. The first, launched by Elaine Charwat, the Society's Deputy Librarian, in late 2015, was AdoptLINN, where financial contributions were sought from Fellows who have agreed to adopt a worn or fragile outstanding volume that needs conservation and preservation action. Adopters contributed £8,500 during the year. The second initiative, launched

by Glenn Benson, the Society's Curator of Artefacts, at the Anniversary Meeting in honour of Gren Lucas' 21 years as Treasurer, was for the Conservation and display of Linnaeus's Herbarium Cabinet. £4,318 has been raised for this task. The total income raised under this heading was £13,260 this year compared with £495 for last year.

**Contributions to Library Facilities:** This year's figure of £1,438 was slightly down on last year's total of £1,752. A special grant was given to the Library team of £10,833 as part of an international project called READ to teach software to recognise handwriting, as mentioned earlier. This has been accounted for in the Trust and Special Funds accounts.

**Contributions to Meetings:** The Society received £3,000 in generous contributions this year. Wiley contributed £1,000 and the New Phytologist contributed £2,000 towards the Linnean Society Meeting at the Arnold Arboretum in the United States, compared with nil last year, but matching the £3,000 received in 2014.

The **Other Income:** The figure of £4,431 includes an exchange rate gain from the US dollar account of £2,880 generated by the weak pound.

As with the Income, the Expenditure figures show the net situation at the end of the year, for example, the Scientific Meetings heading shows a net cost to the Society of £19,703. The Actual Expenditure was £34,911 with an income of £15,208 that includes the donations mentioned above. The expenditure under this heading was nearly double that of last year's as the result of holding the very successful meeting in the USA. Last year's, expenditure was £11,026.

**Medal and Engraving Costs:** As indicated last year the Society had to replenish its stock of medals and so the expenditure for this year rose to £4,122, compared with £189 last year.

Overall expenditure for the **Library** was slightly up at £12,981 compared with £10,709 last year. This includes the conservation work and purchase of conservation materials under the AdoptLINN scheme.

The cost found under **The Linnean** heading also includes the cost of the Annual Report, which was again lower this year at £8,579 compared with £10,083 last year. Similarly for the cost of production and dispatch of **PuLSe**, Leonie Berwick is to be congratulated as she was able to find savings and so this year's costs were £8,630 compared with £9,630 for 2015.

**Payroll Costs:** As indicated in last year's Annual Report this figure continues to climb with a total this year of £444,477 compared with £409,526 in 2015. It covers all the staff employment costs and their pension schemes, which pleasingly most of the staff have taken up.

**Training Costs** returned to a more average figure this year at £3,182 compared with £2,341 last year.

**Financial Services** costs this year were lower than last year at £6,998 compared with £11,552 in 2015.

**Legal and Related Professional Fees:** These high figures continue to reflect the Society's share of the legal fees for the ongoing discussions with HMG with regard to the rent. This year the total expenditure under this heading was £62,515 compared with £68,762 last year.

**Mortgage Interest Payments for Toynbee House** were £10,753 for the full fourth year, this compares with £11,416 for 2015.

**Printing, Stationery, Postage and Telephone** costs were slightly up on last year at £21,832 compared with £21,095 last year.

**Office Equipment Costs** for the year were £370 compared with £521 in 2015. Equipment transferred to assets for depreciation for the year amounted to £12,371.

**Photocopying Costs** were also down at £1,356 compared with £2,075 last year. A new photocopier was bought for the Library which has resulted in lower running costs.

The **General Rates** grew again this year to £30,235 from £29,510 and still includes a levy in support of the 'Heart of London' Programme. Water Rates were only slightly up on last year at £1,040 compared with £1,020 in 2015.

**Gas and Electricity Costs** were significantly down again this year at £11,415 compared to £14,519 last year. Unfortunately, our utility suppliers are still not billing the Society correctly despite efforts by Victoria to sort this out.

**Repairs, Maintenance and Renewals of Contracts:** The figure of £33,270 for this year is down on the previous year, which was £35,146.

**Depreciation Costs** went up this year to £38,310 compared to last year's figure of £35,454. This was as a result of new equipment bought as mentioned earlier.

**Committee Expenses:** These again arose this year as a full year of the new wider constituency of Council member's expenses were funded, as explained last year. This year the figure was £19,008

compared with £16,634 in 2015. Miscellaneous Expenses were also slightly up at £3,882 compared with £3,067 for last year.

**Affiliation Fees and Subscriptions** were slightly lower than last year at £1,006 compared with £1,207 the previous year. The Royal Society for Biology dues for the year were £3,641 compared with £3,605 in 2015.

**Grants and Awards** given out this year amounted to £29,909, compared to £29,484 last year. The Systematics Association contributed £7,400 to this total.

As mentioned earlier in this report and as in the two previous Annual Reports, the Society, collectively, with four Courtyard Societies, is still in negotiation with the Landlord, HMG, with regard to the **Rent**. Victoria Smith remains the minute Secretary for the meetings of this group. Expenditure and Contingencies under this heading for this year consist mainly of the Insurance and Fire Alarm costs, as well as the Service charge. However, a very large estimated rent addition has been added to cover the due rents for the years that the Courtyard Societies have been in discussion with HMG. It is therefore with-out comparison to last year's figures at £258,755.

**Website and Hosting Costs** rose this year with the collapse of the support company employed by the Society and the need to rapidly build a new system which is now coming on-line with significant improvements. Priya Nithianandan, Alicia Fernandez and the team are to be congratulated for the speed they were able to save the data and find a new support company when they realised our previous company was about to collapse! Including £23,539 for the Society's new website, the final overall cost for the year was £53,611 compared with £36,808 last year.

**Education Costs** for the year were £9,857, but this does not include expenditure covered by the extended and most generous grant from the John Lyon's Charity of £40,309 paying for the BioMedia Meltdown Project covered earlier.

Various pieces of equipment were purchased during the year that have been transferred to the **Office Equipment** heading under tangible assets which are being depreciated in accordance with the Society's depreciation policy.

**Health and Safety Costs** were similar to last year's at £1,029 compared with £1,199 in 2015.

**Toynbee House:** Maintenance and running costs for the year were £9,958 compared with £6,125 last year.

**Irrecoverable VAT** for the year was £4,951 compared with £13,000 in 2015.

All other expenditure costs were in line with their budget headings.

It is most appropriate at this point to thank all the Officers and Staff for being, as usual, so careful in control of expenditure in their areas of responsibility. Finally, it is particularly appropriate to thank the Financial Controller, Priya Nithianandan, for his careful and constant oversight of all the Society's financial activities.

# Summary Accounts

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

GENERAL FUNDS	2016	2015
INCOME	£	£
CONTRIBUTIONS	130,906	129,856
TAX RECOVERED	7,500	7,488
PUBLICATIONS *	737,960	674,563
BACK ISSUES (NET)	151	709
OTHER PUBLICATIONS (NET)	596	703
CONTRIBUTION TOWARD GRANT EXPENDITURE	9,209	7,186
INVESTMENT INCOME	49,001	32,352
DONATIONS RECEIVED	5,708	8,950
LEGACIES RECEIVED	5,000	288,328
USE OF ROOMS	35,558	48,459
ROYALTIES	2,559	621
CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SPECIAL LIBRARY EXP	13,260	495
CONTRIBUTION TO LIBRARY FACILITIES	1,438	1,752
CONTRIBUTION TO MEETINGS	3,000	-
OTHER INCOME	4,431	4,552
CATERING (NET)	6,947	5,658
FELLOWS APPEAL	-	21
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,013,224</b>	<b>1,211,693</b>

EXPENDITURE	2016	2015
	£	£
SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS (NET)	19,703	11,026
MEDALS	4,122	189
LIBRARY EXPENDITURE	12,981	10,709
<i>THE LINNEAN</i>	8,579	10,083
<i>PULSE</i>	8,630	9,630
SALARIES AND NATIONAL INSURANCE	444,477	409,526
TRAINING	3,182	2,341
FINANCIAL SERVICES	6,998	11,552
LEGAL AND RELATED PROFESSIONAL FEES	62,515	68,762
MORTGAGE INTEREST – TOYNBEE HOUSE	10,753	11,416
PRINTING, STATIONERY, POSTAGE AND TELEPHONE	21,832	21,095
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	370	521
PHOTOCOPYING	1,356	2,075
GENERAL RATES	30,235	29,510
WATER RATES	1,040	1,020
ELECTRICITY AND GAS	11,415	14,519
REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND RENEWALS	33,270	35,146
DEPRECIATION	38,310	35,454
COMMITTEE EXPENSES	19,008	16,634
MISCELLANEOUS	3,882	3,067

<b>EXPENDITURE cont'd</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
CLEANING AND REFUSE	1,019	667
AFFILIATION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,006	1,207
SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY DUES	3,641	3,605
LINNEAN & SYSTEMATICS GRANTS	29,909	29,484
DCLG ** EXPENSES (RENT, INSURANCE AND FIRE ALARM)	258,755	121,126
WEBSITE AND HOSTING COSTS	53,611	36,808
PROVISION FOR VAT	4,951	13,000
EDUCATION	9,857	15,286
HEALTH AND SAFETY	1,029	1,199
TOYNBEE HOUSE MAINTENANCE EXP	9,958	6,125
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>1,116,394</u></b>	<b><u>932,782</u></b>

**EXCESS OF INCOME OVER  
EXPENDITURE**  
**BEFORE REFURBISHMENT &  
PROJECT COSTS**

**£(103,170)**      **£278,911**

\* Publication Income includes Editorial costs netted off of £96,364 (2015:  
£99,303) which were incurred by the Society.

\*\* Department for Communities and Local Government.

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>BEFORE REFURBISHMENT &amp; PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>£(103,170)</b>	<b>£278,911</b>
<b>REFURBISHMENT COSTS</b>		
EXPENSES RELATING TO BURLINGTON HOUSE	9,992	1,155
	<b>£9,992</b>	<b>£1,155</b>
<b>PROJECT COSTS</b>		
IT CONSULTANT AND HARDWARE FOR PROJECTS	821	1,200
THE LINNAEUS LINK PROJECT	5,749	5,991
ANDREW W. MELLON SUPPORTED THE LINNAEAN MANUSCRIPTS PROJECT: EXPENDITURE	-	70,282
ANDREW W. MELLON SUPPORTED THE LINNAEAN MANUSCRIPTS PROJECT: INCOME	-	(70,282)
BIOMEDIA MELTDOWN PROJECT SUPPORTED BY JOHN LYON'S CHARITY	40,309	22,737
BIOMEDIA MELTDOWN PROJECT SUPPORTED BY JOHN LYON'S CHARITY	(40,309)	(22,737)
READ PROJECT	5,929	-
READ PROJECT	(10,833)	-

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	£	£
BIOGRAPHY OF SIR JAMES EDWARD SMITH	11,297	5,610
BIOGRAPHY OF SIR JAMES EDWARD SMITH	(3,822)	-
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>£9,141</b>	<b>£12,801</b>
 <b>NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		
<b>BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>	<b>£(122,303)</b>	<b>£264,955</b>
 <b>RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS</b>		
INCOME RECEIVABLE UNSPENT AND HERITAGE ASSET GIFT DURING THE YEAR	111,699	1,384,936
 <b>INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>		
(LOSS)/GAIN REVALUATIONS AND DISPOSALS OF FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS	424,575	(104,121)
	424,575	(104,121)



# Balance Sheet

	2016	2015
	£	£
<b>ASSETS</b>		
HERITAGE ASSETS *	1,551,000	1,451,000
INVESTMENTS	3,001,660	2,422,066
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (EQUIPMENT AND REFURBISHMENT)	204,822	208,927
FIXED ASSETS LAND AND PROPERTY	544,376	559,465
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ASSETS	(8,253)	246,525
LONG TERM LIABILITIES	<u>(267,383)</u>	<u>(275,732)</u>
	<u>£5,026,222</u>	<u>£4,612,251</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
GENERAL	1,128,626	931,775
DESIGNATED (1) (4)	998,246	1,067,720
ENDOWMENTS (2)	688,979	588,316
RESTRICTED (3)	<u>2,210,371</u>	<u>2,024,440</u>
	<u>£5,026,222</u>	<u>£4,612,251</u>

## NOTES:

- (1) Designated Funds are those funds which have been earmarked for specific purposes by the Trustees and, together with the General Funds, comprise the Unrestricted Funds.
- (2) Endowments represent capital funds where only the income arising may be spent.
- (3) Restricted Funds may only be spent for the purposes prescribed by the donors.
- (4) A Fixed Asset Fund has been set up as a separate designated reserve from 2013 to represent the extent to which the Society's general reserve has been utilised to acquire

fixed assets. This ensures that the balance on the general reserve gives a better indication of the funds available to the Society.

\* In accordance with FRS 102, donated heritage assets have been included at valuation. These are held on trust and cannot be sold.

## Trustees' Statement

The Accounts above are a summary of information extracted from the Society's annual accounts. For a full understanding of the Society's financial affairs, the full Annual Accounts, Audit Report and Trustees' statutory Annual Report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from the Executive Secretary. The full accounts, on which the auditors have given an unqualified opinion, were presented to the Audit Review Committee and signed by the Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees on 13 March 2017.

On behalf of the Trustees  
D WRIGHT FLS

## Auditors' Statement

The summary accounts above have been extracted from the full financial statements on which we have given the following unqualified audit opinion. In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2016 and of its incoming resources and resources expended for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

KNOX CROPPER,  
Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditors  
8/9 West Court, London, EC4M 9DN  
13 March 2017

## Public Benefit

The Linnean Society seeks to interact with all those interested in the natural world by fusing new research with the rich history of its unique scientific and heritage holdings. Our aim is to encourage and communicate scientific advances through our three world-class journals, special publications and events, as well as reaching out to future biologists through schools and public engagement programmes. Support and recognition is given to those engaged in scientific study through grant schemes, and through medals and awards.

## Strategic Aims

The Council, Officers and Committees of the Society have continued to use the Strategic Plan, first laid out in 2008, revised in 2012, and to be re-visited in 2017, as a tool for guidance and management leading to achievement of the strategic goal of the Society as stated in its original Charter:

### **The Cultivation of the Science of Natural History in all its Branches.**

- 1. Be an inspiration for the scientific study of natural history and widen the appeal of the Society**
- 2. Be an informed, independent voice in matters relating to natural history**
- 3. Be a forum for our Fellows and others interested in natural history**
- 4. Be a centre for the study of natural history**
- 5. Provide long-term user access to the Society's rooms at Burlington House**



# People

## President ✦

Prof Paul Brakefield FRS

## Vice Presidents

Prof Juliet Brodie

Prof Simon Hiscock

Dr Malcolm Scoble

Prof Max Telford

## Treasurer ✦

Ms Deborah Wright

## COUNCIL

### *The Officers* (✦)

### *Vice Presidents*

Ms Rosie Atkins

Dr Paul Bates

Dr Francis Brearley

Dr Maarten Christenhusz

Ms Laura D'Arcy

Prof Jeffrey Duckett

Prof Michael Fay

Dr Zerina Johanson

Dr Christopher Michaels

Dr Paul Smith

Dr Rosie Trevelyn

Dr Mark Watson

## SECRETARIES

### *Scientific* ✦

Prof Simon Hiscock

Dr Malcolm Scoble

### *Editorial* ✦

Prof Mark Chase FRS

### *Collections* ✦

Dr John David

### *Strategy*

Prof David Cutler

## COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

### **Editorial**

Prof Mark Chase FRS

### **Finance**

Ms Deborah Wright

### **Library & Collections**

Dr John David

### **Programmes**

Dr Malcolm Scoble

### **Taxonomy & Systematics**

Prof David Cutler

### **Education**

Prof Simon Hiscock

### **Medals, Awards & Grants**

Prof Paul Brakefield FRS

## THE TEAM

### **Executive Secretary**

Dr Elizabeth Rollinson

### **Librarian**

Mrs Lynda Brooks

### **Deputy Collections Manager / Librarian**

Mrs Elaine Charwat (until Nov 2016); Dr Isabelle Charmantier

### **Archivist**

Ms Liz McGow

### **Special Publications Manager**

Ms Leonie Berwick

### **Education & Public Engagement Officer**

Ms Hazel Leeper (until June 2016); Dr Rhys Grant

### **Education Project Officer**

Mr Ross Ziegelmeier

### **Financial Controller & Membership Officer**

Mr Priya Nithianandan

### **Buildings & Office Manager**

Ms Victoria Smith

### **Communications & Events Manager**

Ms Alicia Fernandez

### **Room Hire & Membership Assistant**

Ms Tatiana Franco

### **Conservator**

Ms Janet Ashdown

### **Botanical Journal Assistant**

Mr Hassan Rankou

### **Archivist *emerita***

Ms Gina Douglas

# Looking Forward | 2017

**“Darwin and Wallace provided a framework by which we understand the diversity of life on Earth. But there is no equation sitting there in Darwin’s *Origin of Species* that you apply and say ‘What is this species going to look like in 100 years or more?’. Biology isn’t there yet with that kind of predictive precision.”**

—Neil deGrasse Tyson

We have a parallel situation with the Linnean Society as we try to look forward, after 140

years in our bespoke home at Burlington House. Reflecting Darwin and Wallace’s theories of evolution, which were of course first presented



at the Society, we must also continue to adapt and evolve. Some change is always inevitable. So the Society is entering a year of intense planning activity which will involve Officers, Council, Committees and Staff, as well as any interested Fellows, who will all come together for a Strategic Planning Day on 20 October 2017, led by the Strategic Planning Officer, Professor David Cutler PPLS.

We will be looking into initiatives to help build our student members’ constituency, now that the requirement for formal election has been waived for Student Associates and Associates.

We will continue to support the scientific research community through provision of grants and publication opportunities, and will explore potential synergies through collaboration and strategic alliances with other organisations focused on the natural world, with a view to leveraging our respective resources and expertise.

Special projects for which we would like to attract funding include:

- *From Card to CALM:* Transferral of the card record index (ca. 3,033 cards) of our manuscript holdings to a fully searchable and standards-based catalogue. The manuscripts collection concerns the history of biology from the mid-1750s and is an invaluable resource for scientific research.

- *The Günther Albums:* A major collection, contained in 39 large volumes, of printed illustrations, drawings, photographs and printed ephemera on terrestrial and marine fauna of all regions, amassed by Albert C.L.G. Günther (1830–1914), 13th President of the Linnean Society.

The early part of 2017 will see efforts redoubled to complete refurbishment of the basement area to create the *Linnean Learning Lab* and install new state-of-the-art environmentally controlled cabinets in the library also, so facilitating maximum educational and public engagement activity at Burlington House.

**Dr Elizabeth Rollinson**

Executive Secretary

## **WHO WE ARE**

The Linnean Society of London embraces the entire sweep of the natural world, encompassing science, history and art. Our Fellowship ranges from leading professional scientists to amateur naturalists, artists and historians.

## **WHAT WE DO**

We publish three academic journals and other quality publications, as well as hosting meetings and events for scientists and the general public. We provide free education resources for primary school students to tertiary level and beyond, and we support scientific excellence through awarding grants and medals.

## **WHERE WE CAME FROM**

Founded in 1788, we were built on the collections and library of the great Swedish taxonomist, Carl Linnaeus. An historic institution with a modern focus on biodiversity, evolution, taxonomy, science policy, conservation and sustainability, we are proud of our past and enthusiastic about our future.

**OUR FULL ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS CAN BE VIEWED ON THE  
UK CHARITY COMMISSION'S WEBSITE FROM JUNE 2017**

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