

# Annual Review 2018

*A forum for natural history*



PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

The  
LINNEAN  
SOCIETY  
of London



# President's Review | 2018

**In May 2018, I was honoured to take over the reins of the Presidency from Professor Paul Brakefield FRS. Looking back, 2018 was a busy and productive year, as you will see from the contents of this Annual Review.**

The Society is fortunate to have such dedicated staff and volunteers, who are delivering our charitable purpose through a broadening portfolio of activities and resources for our Fellows and the public alike, encompassing all ages, backgrounds and geographies. It is wonderful to reap the benefits of all the staff being able to work together much more effectively following the relocation of those previously based



at Toynbee House to our main premises at Burlington House.

A highlight of 2018 has been the establishment of the Discovery Room, which acts as a mini-museum (showcasing the Darwin and Wallace Collection) as well as a place to host meetings and workshops. The Society also boasts fantastic new display cases throughout the building, thanks to generous grants from the Wolfson and Garfield Weston Foundations. Our outreach activities have extended to Wales and Scotland, as well as other parts of England, and initiatives celebrating diversity and inclusivity, themes about which I am very passionate, began in 2018. The scientific lecture programme at Burlington House has been well-received (including collaborative events with the surrounding Courtyard Cultural Campus), alongside joint meetings with other societies and institutions.

Our flagship art-meets-science BioMedia Meltdown outreach project (BMM) culminated in a brilliant celebration evening; thanks to all those involved who made this

event so special for all the students and their families. I am pleased that the Society is in a position to maintain BMM for at least a further two years, as the initial funding from John Lyon's Charity concluded last June.

It's been great to see so many more of the Society's unique collections becoming accessible online, via the archive catalogue, articles, videos and podcasts. This is an important public benefit that reaches far beyond the walls of Burlington House, and opens the Society up to diverse, wide-ranging audiences.

Our research journals are prospering under Oxford University Press, helping to bolster the Society's financial reserves as we move forward in securing our long-term tenure at Burlington House.

Our governance review will be completed during 2019, and I look forward to honing the Society's vision over the next year for a vibrant and increasingly accessible future!

**Dr Sandra Knapp**



## CONTENTS

RESEARCH & SPONSORSHIP	4
COLLECTIONS & HERITAGE	8
CULTIVATING ENGAGEMENT	12
ENCOURAGING DISCOVERY	16
OUR FELLOWSHIP	18
SPECIAL PROJECTS	22
RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE	24
FINANCIAL REVIEW	26
PUBLIC BENEFIT & STRATEGIC AIMS	31
PEOPLE	32
LOOKING FORWARD	35

# Research & Sponsorship

Following our motto ‘to learn the ways of nature’, the Society spent 2018 supporting a wide array of global research projects and onsite researchers, as well as managing the first full year of our journals after their transfer to Oxford University Press.

## RESEARCH JOURNALS

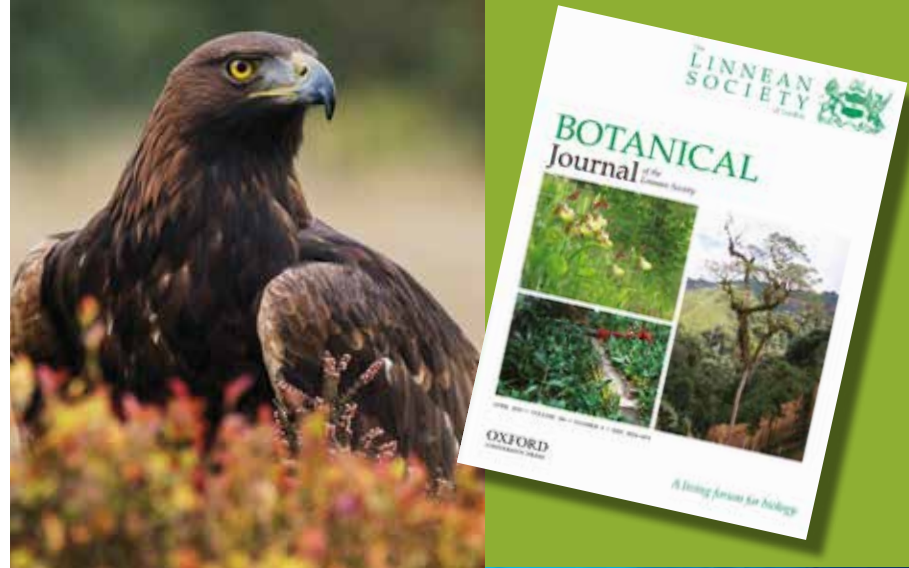
In 2018, our journal publisher, Oxford University Press (OUP), worked hard to solve the production issues associated with our transfer to them, alleviating a lot of the stress to our stalwart Editors, Prof Mike Fay, Prof John Allen and Prof Louise Allcock. Some problems have continued, but measures are in place to eliminate these. Unfortunately, due to taking on highly demanding administrative duties at her university, Louise has stepped down as Editor of the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*. Dr Maarten Christenhusz, former founding editor of *Phytotaxa* and currently Deputy Editor of the *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society*, took over from Louise on 1 November 2018. The transfer of duties to Maarten has gone smoothly thus far. We are pleased to report that sales are in line with forecasts. The journals continue to support the hybrid model (whereby *Open Access* options are available), although the rate of take-up continues to be low. We are pleased that OUP participates in a number of free or heavily-reduced rate access initiatives, such as INASP, eIFL and Research4Life, ensuring that non-profit research institutions in developing nations have access to critical research.

The *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* maintained its quality with its impact factor rising to 2.532, but we were saddened to learn of the death of Prof ‘Sam’ Berry, who not only edited the journal in its early years but was also a one-time President of the Society. As a tribute, the ‘R. J. Berry’ virtual issue was produced, drawing together Sam’s written contributions to the journal. The two papers that had the highest impact with the general public (as measured by Altmetrics) were both by Japanese authors: the anti-predator behaviour of a caterpillar and the feeding adaptations of a diving beetle. High-impact papers included reviews of speciation genomics, the effect of changes in body mass on locomotion, and the possible evolutionary role of human body odour. The journal published several papers relevant to conservation (e.g. river dolphins, golden eagles, tree snails, magnolias) as well as the evolutionary genetics of invasive species (e.g. frogs and lizards) and we expect these ‘applied’ areas to expand.

The *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* has had a good year with two special issues, *Orchid Conservation—Science and Practice* and *Legume Morphology*, and virtual issues on New World monocots, the first female Fellows and next-generation sequencing (the last two being jointly produced with the *Biological* and *Zoological Journals*). High-profile papers featured a review of orchid trade (legal and illegal), the effect of climate change on spider orchids (with >350 years of data), convergent evolution in high-elevation lupins, identification of plants from a 16th-century herbarium using “ancient DNA” and a new classification of lichenized fungi. The impact factor increased by 37% to 3.124 (the highest to date), with the journal ranking 36th out of 223 journals in the category *Plant Sciences*, an increase of 26 places from last year.

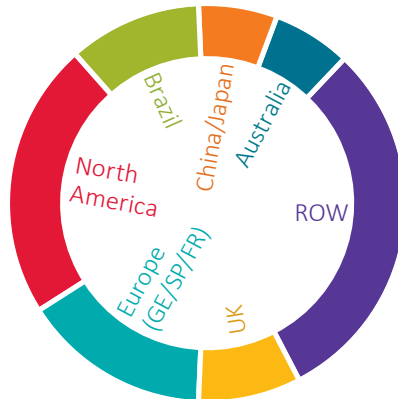


2018 was a productive year for The *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, with the publication of over 100 articles. High-profile papers featured phylogenetic studies on deep-sea annelids from the tropical Pacific, a phylogenetic study of manta and devil rays, an overlooked sun fish, a study on silky ant eaters and a methodological paper testing the use of repetitive DNA elements in phylogenetic studies using hominids as a case study. One important study found that Linnaean taxonomy is a better-than-expected reflection of underlying evolutionary patterns. The impact factor remained more-or-less unchanged at 2.685 (versus 2.711 the previous year) and the journal is still one of the top journals in the category *Zoology* (16th out of 167).



## WIDE-REACHING SCIENCE

The Society's three journals receive cutting edge papers from a wide range of authors around the globe (RIGHT), reflecting both the diversity of our research communities and the natural world itself.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Conservation of golden eagles in the *Biological Journal*; The April issue of the *Botanical Journal*; A phylogenetic study of manta rays in the *Zoological Journal* (Images: Shutterstock)



## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SPONSORSHIP

Retaining its focus on taxonomy/systematics, evolutionary biology and biodiversity, the Society, together with the Systematics Association, co-administers the Systematics Research Fund, the parties contributing £33,474 and £7,000, respectively. From the 167 eligible applications, we were delighted to announce the 31 recipients of the 2017/18 SRF awards, ranging from £770 to £1,500, encompassing a wide range of plant and animal species across global geographies and habitats. A full listing of the recipients and their project titles can be found on the website. Examples of projects supported include:

- **EMILY FOUNTAIN'S** 'Identifying cryptic speciation in sloths and re-evaluating their conservation status'
- **SERGI TABOADA'S** 'A new symbiotic relationships between a carnivorous sponge and its annelid host'
- **KATHRYN HALL'S** 'Co-evolutionary studies of the gyliauchenid fish parasites and their microbiomes'
- **BRITTNEY OLENIACZ'S** 'Spiders in North American Cretaceous Amber'
- **LOUBAB ZEDANE'S** 'On the evolution of fog-harvesting plant adaptations: a study of the South African genus *Eriospermum*'

**The Attenborough Award 2018** (for the best field work project from last year's SRF recipients) was awarded to Marco Lukic, a self-funded PhD student from the Croatian Biospeleological Society and Department of Biology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, for his project entitled *Systematics and biogeography of the troglobiotic genus Verhoeffiella (Collembola: Entomobryidae)*. This was the first detailed morphological and molecular study on Dinaric cave Collembola, serving to elucidate their unresolved taxonomy. Marko found two species, *Verhoeffiella longicornis* and *V. verdemontana*, in the same cave in Bosnia and Herzegovina with significantly different troglomorphic traits, raising questions about the evolution and adaptive value of such traits in a subterranean environment. This work has been accepted for publication in *Invertebrate Systematics*.

---

*FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:* The John Topp Legacy supports field work on butterfly fauna in the southwest Pacific (courtesy John Tennent); A successful Systematics Research Fund project studies cryptic speciation in sloths (courtesy AIUNAU Foundation)



## THE SOCIETY ALSO PRESENTED TWO AWARDS FROM ITS DESIGNATED FUNDS, WHICH ARE MADE POSSIBLE FROM SPECIFIC BEQUESTS:

The **Anne Sleep Award**, which is provided to young scholars to assist with biological research in the Middle or Far East, was won by Liping Dong, an Assistant Researcher in the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology in Beijing, China, for her study on fossil lizards, entitled *A new varanid from the Early Eocene of China, with implication on evolution of Varanidae*. Funds of £2,730 will facilitate Liping's 21-day stay in the UK working with Professor Susan Evans at UCL, and will include comparison with specimens held at the Natural History Museum, London.

The **Dennis Stanfield Memorial Fund Award** (£2,000), for botanical research on tropical African plants, was won by Megan K. Sullivan, a PhD student (Cullman Fellow) at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, for her project entitled *Seedling ecology in a dynamic ecosystem using selective logging as a natural experiment in Gabon*. This grant will facilitate paying a field assistant in Gabonese forests for four months, while other funding for this project has already been sourced through Megan's Fellowships with Tropical Resource Institute and the New York Botanical Garden.

The **John Topp Legacy**, which is for amateur or professional botanists or entomologists (with priority for any who serve or have served in Her Majesty's Royal Navy or the Army) to undertake studies in the field, was awarded for the first time, with a grant of £2,500 to John Tennent, a former member of the Army's Special Investigations Branch, and H. H. Bloomer Award winner in 2017, to facilitate his field work on the distribution and diversity of butterfly fauna on the scattered islands of the southwest Pacific.

## A VALUABLE RESOURCE IN LONDON

In 2018, our Library attracted just over 300 researchers, 65 of them new readers. The richness of the collections means that the topics of research were diverse and varied, ranging from Turkish botanists looking at Linnaean and Smithian herbarium type specimens, to Danish biographers studying Linnaeus' copies of 17th-century botanical works. In total, 450 books and 275 manuscripts were sourced for researchers, and over 700 enquiries were fielded. A more unusual research visit entailed the cast of *The Wider Earth*, looking at Darwin material to inform their play on Darwin's voyage on HMS *Beagle*.

The attendance of workshops and conferences by the Collections team is invaluable, as it highlights the existence of our collections to an audience of academics and researchers. An American historian at one such workshop was made aware of our Insch Tea Library; amazed by its richness, she plans to come back next year for more focused research.

The compiling of an upcoming book of the Society's 'treasures' unearthed items worthy of more investigation: two Fellows actually went on to publish papers related to artworks chosen for the book.

## AIMING TO GO FURTHER

The Society is undoubtedly keen to commit more resources to supporting young researchers, and will do this by continuing to provide grants as above, as well as by providing travel grants to students to allow them to attend conferences, and free training opportunities through workshops in the Society's Discovery Room.

# Collections & Heritage

A year of change for the Collections team, we said good-bye to our long-standing Librarian, restructured the team, and welcomed two new members of staff. As always we endeavoured to promote access to the collections through tours, new displays, attending conferences, and collaborating with external organisations, while preserving them thanks to schemes like AdoptLINN and PRISM.

## CHANGES IN THE TEAM

The Collections team saw some monumental changes in 2018. Archivist Liz McGow left on maternity leave in February, and Vida Milovanovic started as Liz's cover in April, on a year's contract. Former Deputy Librarian Elaine Charwat joined the team for six months as Library and Archives Assistant, to help with cataloguing serials and archival material. In July, we said a sad good-bye to Librarian Lynda Brooks, who was retiring after 11 years at the Society, though we did not lose Lynda's invaluable knowledge altogether as she has decided to return as a volunteer. Following Lynda's retirement, the Collections team was restructured, with the appointment of Dr Isabelle Charmantier as Head of Collections. Isabelle will manage the new Librarian Dorothy Fouracre (from September), Archivists Liz McGow and Vida Milovanovic, Conservator Janet Ashdown and Digital Assets Manager Andrea Deneau.

## LINNAEUS LINK

2018 saw over 148,000 page views of Linnaeus Link, the international union catalogue for Linnaean works, managed by the Society. Currently, 17 partner institutions contribute records. Top users were from the US, UK, India, Spain and France, indicating the project's value internationally.

In June, the Society's Librarians attended the 22nd Linnaeus Link Partners meeting, in conjunction with the European and Botanical Horticultural Libraries (EBHL) and the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL) annual meeting at the New York Botanical Garden. The EBHL and CBHL also celebrated anniversaries (25th and 50th respectively) and interest from several potential new partners emerged from this meeting.

## ADOPTLINN & PRISM

With the inclusion of manuscripts, artworks, and artefacts into AdoptLINN at the Anniversary Meeting in May, 2018 has been a very good year for the scheme, with £7,490 raised. Items adopted included a 1499 edition of one of Carl Linnaeus' *Ortus Sanitatis* (or *Garden of Health*), 26 early 18th-century Indian zoological drawings collected by Thomas Hardwicke, Edward Lear's *Parrots* (1832), and the copy of Per Krafft's 1776 portrait of Linnaeus in the Meeting Room. We are immensely grateful to all our AdoptLINN donors, whose names feature on our online catalogues and on our website.

The priority this year has been conserving and re-housing Society founder James Edward Smith's Carpological Collection. This was made possible by a grant from the Arts Council England's PRISM (Preservation of Industrial and Scientific Material) Fund. The





termination of the PRISM scheme in 2019 means that the project has to be completed in one year (March 2019).

## PROMOTING OUR HERITAGE

The team enthusiastically promoted the collections at various conferences and workshops on conservation (AIC, NatSCA), library and archives (*Unlocking the Archives for Scientists* at the Royal Society, EBHL), and history of science (ESHS, SHNH). A Lunar Lecture was given by Dr Isabelle Charmantier on botanical classification at Erasmus Darwin's House in Lichfield, and our stand at the annual History Day in Senate House, UCL was a success.

We also enjoyed highlighting the diversity of the Society's Collections via blogging and promotion through social media, linking to widespread campaigns like #NHEphemera (ephemera in natural history collections) in February, and the annual nationwide *Explore Your Archive* in November.

## DIGITAL ASSETS

The stunning Buchanan-Hamilton watercolours from Mysore and Smith's Supplemental Herbarium specimens have joined our Online Collections. We have also partnered with The Watercolour World ([www.watercolourworld.org](http://www.watercolourworld.org)) and will be adding images to its repository, starting with the Buchanan-Hamilton Nepalese watercolours.



*TOP:* Lynda Brooks FLS (LEFT) attends the EBHL meeting in New York with Honorary Archivist Gina Douglas (CENTRE) and Head of Collections Dr Isabelle Charmantier (RIGHT); *BOTTOM:* Re-housed specimens from J. E. Smith's Carpological Collection, thanks to a grant from the PRISM Fund

In response to growing digital demand, an upgrade to our current digitisation equipment was approved in 2018, and the increasing popularity of our Online Collections has led to an upsurge in image requests, resulting in some changes to our repro structure and charges. An internal digital assets audit is enabling us to better understand what we hold and what we can offer to our users.

## RAISING FUNDS

The Library has had a terrific year fundraising: our book trolley raised £568, whilst donations from Treasures Tours and tours for paying groups took over £2,100. Tours for educational groups and staff from other institutions continue to be offered for free. Including AdoptLINN and PRISM, the Library raised over £11,500 for the care of its collections.

## LIBRARY & ARCHIVE VOLUNTEERS

**The Linnean Society owes a great debt to our team of volunteers, who not only help to care for our holdings but uncover new information as well:** Pia Wilson and Lynda Brooks FLS undertook vital cataloguing of incoming books and journals, helped by Sheila Meredith who completed the cataloguing of the Darwin and Wallace Collection.

Gina Douglas Hon FLS continues in her role of Honorary Archivist. Anne Courtney completed cataloguing the bound and loose letters, while Fiona Byers catalogued certificates of recommendation up to 2004. David Pescod Hon FLS continues to list gifts to the Society, now from the 1852–61 Presents Book.

John Abbott is helping with the conservation of AdoptLINN items, including 146 drawings from the St Vincent Botanical Gardens

collected by Alexander Anderson (1800s).

Honorary curators Glenn Benson, Ollie Crimmen, Sue Ryder and Mark Spencer have provided invaluable help with queries and guidance, as well as undertaking surveys of our specimens and artefacts.

Enthusiastic Kings College MA History students Taylor Harwood and Kristen Wellborn carried out an internship of 100 hours between January and April, cataloguing the letters of Pleasance Smith and producing a podcast (<https://soundcloud.com/user-679811756/lady-pleasance-smith>).

## COLLECTIONS PLANNING

Our objectives continue to be guided by our recent Collections Strategy, and 2019 will see the team writing an overarching Collections Development Policy, as well as finishing the conservation and rehousing of the aforementioned Carpological Collection.

The ongoing cataloguing of books, serials, archives, and artefacts will continue, alongside development of a video to welcome visitors to the Society. Digitally, we are looking forward to the installation and use of new scanning equipment early in 2019, which will enable us to both produce better images for internal and external use, and collaborate more effectively with external organisations.



**Our annual Conversazione event for Fellows had a special theme in 2018. After much fundraising and hard work, we were finally able to put Linnaeus' herbarium cabinet (affectionately monikered 'Herbie' within the Society) on display for the first time in many years.**

The team, led by curators Dr Mark Spencer and Glenn Benson, aimed to display Linnaeus' newly-conserved herbarium cabinet in time for the special Fellows' event. Showcased in the Society's foyer, the display case was set up with text, images and faux pressed herbarium specimens to show the importance of the cabinet as a working tool in Linnaeus' toolkit. Conserved in honour of the retirement of Prof Gren Lucas OBE FLS as Treasurer, the work was kindly sponsored by the Fellowship; funding for the display case was provided by the Garfield Weston Foundation.

While it may look like just a cupboard, it has played an integral role in the way pressed plant specimens are arranged and studied. Unlike earlier herbaria that were kept in bound books, Linnaeus stored his specimens mounted on loose sheets of paper, cut to fit the cabinet shelves, allowing him to remove specimens for easy comparison with new plant material being sent from round the world.

Curator of Artefacts Glenn Benson gave a fantastic talk about the history of the cabinet and new information that had emerged during its conservation by Tristram Bainbridge. The display is now a stop on our popular Treasures Tours.

# Cultivating Engagement

Our eclectic range of events throughout 2018 brought in new audiences. Alongside our Lunchtime Lectures, Cultural Campus events and series of evening meetings, we hosted the premiere of the documentary *Symbiotic Earth* and re-established our Annual Field Trip, in conjunction with the Field Studies Council.

## BROADENING AUDIENCES

2018 saw the third annual Courtyard Late in which all the Societies around Burlington House participate (the themed evening joins together our Cultural Campus). The theme was 'Resources', and our 'G & Tea' event examined the role of plants as botanical ingredients through gin tasting and tea making. Simultaneous lectures focused on the roles of algae and yams in a sustainable future, medicinal plants and plants as poisons.

Our popular Founder's Day lecture was given by Philip Mould OBE FLS, presenter of the BBC's *Fake or Fortune*, who explored how plants in paintings have offered clues in some of the greatest art discoveries in the 20th century. Other well-attended lectures included Dr Mark Benecke on *Forensic Entomology*, Dr Zanna Clay on *Great Apes and Minds* and Nick Lane on *A Bioenergetic Basis for the Three Domains of Life*.

## AT HOME & IN THE FIELD

Our first day meeting in 2018 was held in memory of Andrew Sheppy FLS who had passed away suddenly in 2017. A Fellow since 1979, Andrew's work in conservation breeding and livestock genetics was celebrated at the event. Also celebrated during the year was the life and work of James Petiver, a 17th-century apothecary and naturalist who had an impact on multiple fields of natural history; 2018 marked the tercentenary of his death. Our annual *Conversazione* for Fellows celebrated the unveiling of Linnaeus' newly-conserved Herbarium cabinet (see *Collections & Heritage*).

Later in the year the Society held its annual field trip, alongside the Field Studies Council, exploring and studying the ecology around Scotland's stunning Isle of Cumbrae.

## ENGAGING WITH COLLECTIONS

As always the team worked hard to engage the public with the Linnean Society's rich holdings through tours, displays and blogs. The installation of new display cases, thanks to funding from the Wolfson and Garfield Weston Foundations, helped to enhance the Society's events with mini-exhibitions tailored to suit topics (such as our meetings on naturalist Thomas Pennant, or the Society's first female Fellows). New display cabinets in the Discovery Room also showcase our Darwin and Wallace Collection, alongside key items from the Linnaean Collections and the Society's history.

---

*CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM (LEFT):* Some of the Society's first female FLS: Emma Turner, Marian Farquharson and Grace Frankland; Participants enjoy the Society's first event focusing on diversity—the election of the Society's first female FLS, and women in science overall



## ADDRESSING DIVERSITY: WOMEN IN SCIENCE

March 2018 saw the Society's first event solely dedicated to diversity in science. The year was also the 230th anniversary of the Society, and we took the opportunity to shine a light on the milestone that was the election of the first female Fellows in 1904.

The event, which was fully booked, included a keynote address by Prof Athene Donald DBE FRS. Lectures looked into the stories of the Society's first female Fellows, imposter syndrome, women who collect and describe plants, and the experiences of women in the field today. Participants submitted their questions for a Q&A with speakers and left 'advice for their younger selves'. The event was capped off with bespoke cocktails named for three of our ground-breaking female Fellows.

We hope this will be the first in a long line of events to address equality and inclusivity in science; our event in March 2019 will celebrate the contributions of ethnic minorities to the study of natural history.







Our increasingly in demand guided educational tours included yearly visits from American and Japanese universities, as well as students from the Royal Drawing School who took inspiration from our collections. Combined with our ever popular monthly **Treasures Tours**, we attracted a total of 835 visitors keen to learn more about Linnaeus and the Society.

Thank you for the enlightening visit to the Linnean Society collections. Everyone was amazed by this incredible time capsule of botany, nomenclature and much more. Your enthusiastic guidance brought everything to life and will be remembered by all.

## MERCHANDISE

The Society has around 5,000 visitors every year, through events, library, room hire and walk-in visitors, all of whom provide a key market for Linnean Society merchandise.

Currently we sell a limited selection of merchandise, consisting of cards and postcards, ties, bags, books, medals and make-your-own badges. There has been an increase in merchandising profits over the past four years, due to a very slight expansion in the range of items, changes to display location and a push to get the Society's

name out to the general public. The income from merchandising was £366.50 in 2015, compared to £1,906.23 in 2018, with over £400 from the sale of cards with animal and flower designs, generously provided by Jenny Grundy FLS.

Open House London continues to be our biggest event, which attracted 1,814 visitors and garnered £450 from merchandising. We hope to continue to expand our range over the next year to realise the potential of this market.

## INCLUSIVITY IS KEY

Addressing diversity was predominant in 2018, and the Society organised its first conference promoting women in science, celebrating not only the Society's first women Fellows, but the role of women in science today.

We are striving towards making our programme even more diverse and accessible, keen to be a vital arena in which to learn about natural history, encompassing all backgrounds and levels of study.

In 2019 we are holding a day meeting celebrating the contributions of ethnic minorities to natural history (touched upon in our series of blog posts during Black History Month), as well as our first ever student conference.

---

*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP, FAR LEFT:* Enthusiastic young fundraisers at our 2018 Open House London event; BBC presenter Philip Mould OBE FLS gave our Founder's Day lecture to a packed house; Our fantastic field trip to the Isle of Cumbrae

# Encouraging Discovery

Linnean Learning has flourished in the last year, reaching brand new audiences online with our exciting array of videos and podcasts (the former with over 35,000 views), visiting new schools with the BioMedia Meltdown Competition and exhibiting at the Green Man Festival with 20,000 festivalgoers! Sadly, we said goodbye to Biomedica Meltdown Project Officer Elisa Jones this year, but welcomed Education Project Assistant Zia Forrai.

## IMPROVING ACCESS

There are so many different organisations that are working hard to improve access, understanding and engagement with education and nature at all levels, and it's a great privilege to be able to work with them throughout the year. From working with family groups and younger students at the Royal Institution and Westminster Abbey, to university students with the British Ecological Society and London's Natural History Museum, the Society is showing its capacity to act as a truly inclusive forum for natural history.

We're pleased to be working with the primary science network and the Association for Science Education to reach more schools and develop new resources to support teachers and encourage young people to discover more about the natural world. Our online resources were downloaded over 11,939 times in 2018, and our

Discovery Kit loan scheme continues to be a fantastic resource for primary schools; a new Evolution Discovery Kit is being trialled with teachers.

## FORUMS & FESTIVALS

For educational events, the Discovery Room is proving to be an excellent space for a whole variety of engagement. It acts as a mini-museum as well as a place to host meetings and intimate workshops. We've held six botanical art classes in the room this year, an exploration of public engagement with a group from the London International Youth Science Forum and utilised the room as a creative space for the Big Draw event.

However, the Linnean Learning team also goes beyond the Society walls. This year we took part in conferences and events in Cambridge, Birmingham, Leeds and Sheffield, and were particularly excited to exhibit the *Museum of Lost Species* at the Green Man Festival in the Brecon Beacons, Wales. A fictional museum, it displayed stories about extinct species that implied extinction would 'keep the museum in business' and that increasing biodiversity loss would be positive. Reversing the message had the desired effect of making people stop and think; Society staff asked visitors for their reactions and how they could aid conservation efforts as individuals. We hope to get the museum back out to other festivals in the future.

---

*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:* Students take part in one of our student skills workshops; A young 'protester' gets in the spirit and tries to close down our *Museum of Lost Species* at the Green Man Festival; The winning entry for our Carl Linnaeus portrait competition





## CHAMPIONING STUDENT SKILLS

2018 also saw the launch of our Linnean Learning student skills series. We hosted three workshops for research students to develop vital transferable skills. This included tackling imposter syndrome, communicating research effectively and thesis writing (the latter held in January 2019). Workshop sizes were varied, ranging from 5 to 30 students.

## PICTURE PERFECT

While our portrait of Carl Linnaeus was due to be cleaned and conserved under the Society's AdoptLINN scheme, the team ran a competition for 8–11 year olds to create a new portrait to hang in its place. After receiving around 200 amazing entries, the finalists were shortlisted and the winner was 11-year-old Leo, a student from London.

## COMING UP

We're looking forward to making further use of the Discovery Room in 2019, trialling CPD sessions in science for primary school teachers, and looking into the potential of workshops for the public. Our aim is to help open up the Society to more visitors and inspire even more passion in nature. We will also be hosting the Linnean Society's first Student Conference, with lecture and poster competitions, and have a great roster of digital content lined up for 2019. A series of 'bite size' productions will introduce key new characters who will act as storytellers for the Society, and there will be an increased focus on the marketing of our media.



# Our Fellowship

Enhancing the diversity of our Fellowship is a key imperative for the Society. Gender balance was brought into sharp focus by the day meeting in March devoted to the first 15 female FLS, while the contributions to the study of natural history by people of African/Caribbean origin were celebrated during Black History Month.

## CURRENT GROWTH

The Society's esteemed Fellowship continues to grow, with 123 FLS newly-elected and paid up in 2018, bringing the total number of members to 2,871. It's especially encouraging to see increasing numbers of Student Associates, rising by 37 in 2018 to 107. Around 10% of FLS live in London, 55% in rest of UK and 35% in the Rest of the World, across all continents; we even have FLS working in Antarctica!

## CELEBRATING OUR FELLOWS

We celebrate the involvement and achievements of all our Fellows.

- Notable in 2018 was the election to, and admission of, the Society's new President **Dr Sandra Knapp PLS** as an International Honorary Member to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- **Prof David J. Mabberley AM** was awarded an Honorary Doctorate (DSc *honoris causa*) by Macquarie University in September, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to horticultural science.

- **Prof Lena Struwe** [Rutgers University] was presented with the Charles Edwin Bessey Teaching Award by the Botanical Society of America. She has also made simple taxonomic tools available: *Manual: The Naming of Plants: explanations and examples* (2018).
- **Dr William A. Weber** [University of Colorado, Boulder] botanist, 100 years old, has been honoured with three lifetime achievement awards in lichenology and bryology: the prestigious Acharius Medal, the Elizabeth Britton Award and the Chicita Culberson Award. There are more than 40 plant, moss and lichen species named for him.
- **Dr Maarten J. M. Christenhusz**, **Prof Michael F. Fay** and **Prof Mark W. Chase** published the phenomenal *Plants of the World: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Vascular Plant Families* and presented it to a full house at the Society.

## IN REMEMBRANCE

Sadly, we lost a number of eminent FLS during the year, most notably two past Presidents, namely **Prof Sam Berry**, an evolutionary biologist and former editor of the *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, and the botanist **Sir David Smith**, who did much to widen the Society's reach. Our oldest Fellow, the plant physiologist **Prof David Goodall** (elected FLS in 1945), at the age of 104, travelled from Australia to Switzerland to end his life. We also lost the colourful **Jill, Duchess of Hamilton**, a journalist by profession but hugely committed to the natural world, developing the *Flora for Fauna* project exhibited at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2007, Linnaeus' Tercentenary Year.

## WORDS OF WISDOM

As part of our blog series for Black History Month, Sudanese Fellow Professor Maha Ahmed Kordofani spoke about her Fellowship ("It is a place where great minds meet and great ideas are born") and offered some words of wisdom to younger researchers:

Be free in your pursuit of knowledge and give knowledge freely. Your path is not as much about titles and achievements as it is about the betterment of yourself and of humanity.

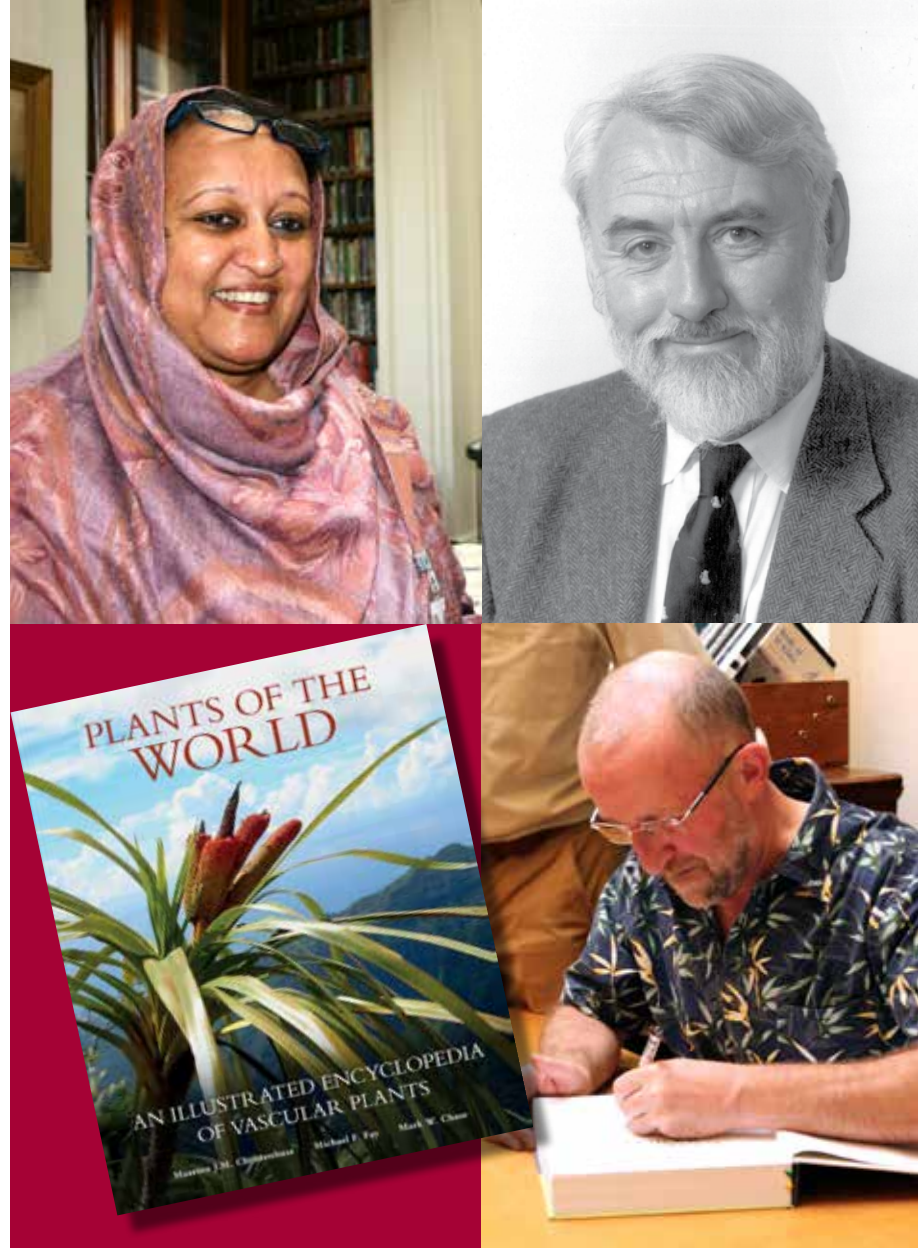
## ENHANCING MEMBERSHIP

As our President stated in her review, diversity is a point of focus for the Society going forward. The Society set up a Membership Working Group in 2018 to explore ways of enhancing membership, both recruitment and retention, with the aim of increasing our gender and ethnic diversity, and building on our younger constituency. A conference celebrating the contributions of ethnic minorities to natural science in early 2019 will explore why only 4.4% make it as Professors, when 23.9% of students studying biosciences are minority ethnic.

Please let us know your views on what more you feel the Society can do for you, as well as on how you might engage with the Society's mission.

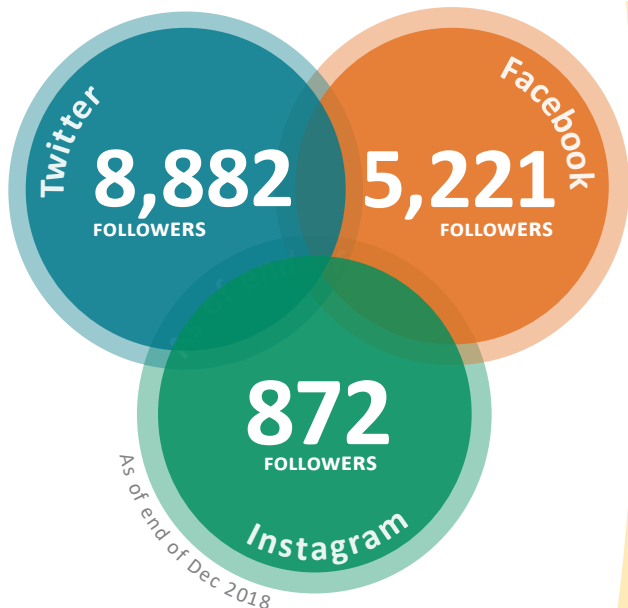
---

*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:* Prof Maha Ahmed Kordofani FLS blogs for the Society; Prof Sam Berry PPLS, past President of the Society; Prof Michael F. Fay FLS signs his book at a Society event; The phenomenal publication *Plants of the World* (Kew Publishing)





# Social Media



## Top Tweet

#OnThisDay in 1753 'Species Plantarum' by Linnaeus was published, the 1st publication to consistently apply the binomial system to the naming of plants. #taxonomy #plants

**46,620** impressions

**£33,474**

Support to the  
**SYSTEMATICS  
RESEARCH FUND**



**18,715**

Views of the Linnean  
Learning Video Series

Students reached through  
**workshops, fun days and  
festivals**



**5,943**

**11,939**

Downloads of our  
**ONLINE RESOURCES**  
through TES and STEM  
e-Library



Visitors to the  
**Linnaean Collections**



**643**



45 Linnean Society  
events



Catalogue searches of our  
library collections

12,005

Entries into the  
BIOMEDIA MELTDOWN  
PROJECT

1,149



1,064

Images added to our  
online collections

Views of Linnean Society  
lectures on YouTube

50,883



£1,906.23

Made via merchandise  
(compared to £366.50 in  
2015)

You really helped make the event a success and I could see how much people of all ages enjoyed making prints and the animation; there were some brilliant films.

--BioMedia Meltdown workshop

I just wanted to express our great thanks for the fascinating and enthusiastic tour of your amazing collections.

To see *Homo sapiens* printed in the first edition of the book where the term was first coined—what a privilege.

--Feedback from tours

“The best well-kept  
secret in London.”

# Special Projects

Alongside all of our other activities, research and conservation work, the Society's special projects aim to increase engagement with our own collections and history, and natural history in general.

## THE BIOMEDIA MELTDOWN PROJECT 2018–19

The BioMedia Meltdown Project (BMM), the Society's art-meets-science outreach competition for 11–14-year-olds, continued to go from strength to strength this year. Under the dedicated leadership of BioMedia Meltdown Project Officer Elisa Jones, the project saw an increase in participation as the team delivered over 72 workshops this year, with more than 20 secondary schools and 12 other educational establishments now involved. The addition of BioMedia Meltdown Outreach Assistant Zia Forrai and volunteer Klara Mari Bornman have enabled the project to continue to grow.

In workshops delivered by the team, students were challenged to create an animation exploring how scientists are working towards conserving species, or to design prints that show symbiotic relationships. The workshops have been well received by students, teachers and families around London. The project is also now in partnership with *ArtsMark*. *Artsmark* is the creative quality standard for schools, awarded by Arts Council England, recognising commitment to high quality arts and cultural education.

The team also ran sessions at two different *Fun Palaces* events this year, an annual nationwide campaign that aims to fuse combinations



of science, tech, digital, heritage, arts, crafts and sports activities to engage with local communities. Additionally there were further activities at Open House and at Brompton Cemetery Open Day. With over 1,149 entries, this BMM has been the most successful to date.

Thank you so much for delivering two very well received STEM workshops. It was great to get such good attendance including interested parents/carers.

Sarah Smith, Libraries Development Manager,  
London Borough of Brent

While, sadly, Elisa Jones left the Society at the end of 2018, the project will be taken up by Daryl Stenvoll-Wells early in 2019, who will oversee the BMM at the Cheltenham Science Festival for the first time in June.

### LINNEAN LEARNING PODCASTS

After the successful launch of the Society's first three educational video series (which continues to be added to), we sought to build on this success in 2018 with a series of podcasts targeting audiences on other online platforms.

The podcasts covered many internal events: the Society's 230th anniversary celebrating our first female Fellows; two King's College

*TOP:* Ross Ziegelmeier interviews forensic entomologist Dr Mark Benecke for our podcast series; *BOTTOM:* Students produce their own prints looking into topics like symbiosis and extinction.

London MA History students exploring our archives in search of Lady Pleasance Smith; and podcasts supporting our onsite lecture series, such as *Murder Mystery* by **Dr Mark Benecke FLS** and *Climate Change Threatens Beds (Coralline Algae) of Biodiversity* by **Dr Leanne Melbourne**.

Other podcasts have also been produced looking into current research, like *The Space Potato*, which investigates how plants have aided space exploration. **Dr Maria Zytaruk** (University of Calgary) follows the story of seed packet exchange in the 18th century in *Seed Packet Secrets*. In *Magic, Myths, Medicine and the Lost Remedies*, speakers **Julian Harrison** (lead curator of the British Library's most successful exhibition *Harry Potter: A History of Magic*), **Prof Monique Simmonds OBE** (Deputy Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew) and **Valerie Thomas** (medical herbalist) look into the historical overlap between these differing schools of thought.

So far, 26 experts have been interviewed in order to produce 16 podcasts (with ten published in 2018), which have accumulated over 1,200 listens. This is a new platform for the Society; the aim for the future is to streamline content into shorter stories. The podcasts will continue to support all aspects of the Society's activities, focussing primarily on its plant and animal specimens.

The Society has now appointed Ross Ziegelmeier in the post of Multimedia Content Producer. He will be responsible for all future productions of podcasts and videos, and will oversee digital content projects and collaborations.

# 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 2018

- **Linnean Medal in the Field of Botany:** Prof Kamaljit Bawa, *University of Massachusetts*
- **Linnean Medal in the Field of Zoology:** Dr Jeremy Holloway, *Natural History Museum, London*
- **Linnean Medal in the Field of Biology:** Prof Sophien Kamoun, *University of East Anglia*
- **Darwin-Wallace Medal:** Prof Josephine Pemberton, *University of Edinburgh Institute of Evolutionary Biology*
- **Bicentenary Medal:** Dr Edwige Moyroud, *University of Cambridge*
- **John Spedan Lewis Medal:** Marcella Corcoran, *Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew*
- **Irene Manton Prize:** Dr Alexander Hetherington, *University of Oxford*
- **John C. Marsden Medal:** Dr Thais Nogales da Costa Vasconcelos, *University College London & Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew*
- **Trail-Crisp Award:** Dr Andrew Chick, *University of Cumbria*
- **H. H. Bloomer Award:** Dr Dan Danahar, *Dorothy Stringer School*
- **Jill Smythies Award:** Niki Simpson and Juliet Williamson

Full citations are available in the October 2018 issue of *The Linnean* (34[2]: 31–43). [www.linnean.org/thelinnean](http://www.linnean.org/thelinnean)

---

*MEDAL AND AWARD WINNERS:* **Medal and Award Winners**—(FRONT ROW L TO R) Juliet Williamson, Prof Kamaljit Bawa, Dr Edwige Moyroud, Dr Thais Nogales de Costa Vasconcelos, Marcella Corcoran; (MIDDLE ROW L TO R) Daniel Huston (Attenborough Award 2017), Dr Alexander Hetherington, Prof Josephine Pemberton, Niki Simpson, Dr Andrew Chick; (BACK ROW L TO R) Prof Sophien Kamoun, Dr Dan Danahar, Dr Jeremy Holloway, Prof Paul Brakefield FRS PPLS, President Dr Sandra Knapp





# Financial Review

The Society has seen a modest increase in both its income (£2,140,280; 2017: £2,125,241) and expenditure (£1,449,821; 2017: £1,210,994) in 2018. This has supported the development of a diverse range of activities undertaken in fulfilment of our charitable mission. The Society has also been able to increase its unrestricted reserve funds (£3,589,302; 2017: £3,096,356), in line with its Reserves Policy, which strikes a balance between ensuring a sustainable financial position and use of funds for our charitable purpose.

## INCOME

Largely supported by moving the Society's journals to Oxford University Press, income from our activities in advancing scientific knowledge and understanding rose again in 2018 to £1,731,660 (2017: £1,697,661). The Society enjoys strong support from its membership, with continued growth in numbers of Fellows from 2,770 (2017) to 2,872. This is reflected in an increase in Members Contributions, despite not claiming Gift Aid for 2018 due to a change in tax rules.

Grants, donations and legacies continue to play an important role in the development of the Society's portfolio of charitable activities, notably in education and outreach. In 2018, the Society received a generous unrestricted bequest from the estate of Jan Pingree FLS, and several anonymous donations. Funds received through AdoptLINN have helped support conservation of our collections, and a PRISM grant from Arts Council England has enabled curation

of carpological material. John Lyon's Charity funded the first two years of the highly successful BioMedia Meltdown project. This grant came to an end in 2018, and the Society decided to continue this innovative educational outreach project for a further two years, using funds from General Reserves. The creation of the Society's Discovery Room at Burlington House was made possible by generous grants from the Wolfson and the Garfield Weston Foundations. The Society is most grateful to all those funders and donors who have generously supported the Society during the year. This additional income plays a crucial role in helping extend the Society's public engagement and other charitable activities.

The Society's Investment Policy is to enhance the value of both capital and income on a long-term basis, with prudent investments offering no more than moderate risk. The Society continues to receive good advice and management of its investments from Tilney, with a return on investments as a whole in 2018 of 3.7% (2017: 4.3%), reflecting the volatility of the market during the year. Total investment income rose to £105,303 (2017: £96,494), showing a steady increase.

## EXPENDITURE

99.5% of the Society's £1,449,821 expenditure was used in support of its charitable objectives, with £7,821 spent on managing investments to raise funds. The many activities of the Society in safeguarding and promoting our heritage collections, advancing scientific knowledge and understanding, and engaging the public and educational outreach, are highlighted within the pages of this *Annual Review*. These activities, and their costs, are detailed in the *Annual Report and Accounts*.

The cost of running the Society's premises, excluding rent, came to £190,101 in 2018 (2017: £182,236). There was a significant increase



in 2018 in Ministry of Housing Community and Local Government (MHCLG) costs, and there has been continued uncertainty over back rent, dating to the renewal point of the current lease in 2015. The rent liability from 2015 onwards has been estimated, and necessarily remains ring-fenced in reserves while the Society waits to hear from the landlord, MHCLG. Expenditure on salaries for core staff fell slightly to £569,089 (2017: £569,668), with employment costs amounting to 50% of total expenditure for 2018.

For the year under review, the Trustees report a surplus of £334,329 (2017: £1,160,143), and Net Assets at year-end of £6,520,694 (2017: £6,186,365). The reduction in surplus was due to increases in expenditure for charitable activities associated with education and our heritage collections, and also to an unrealised loss on investments during the year of £356,329.

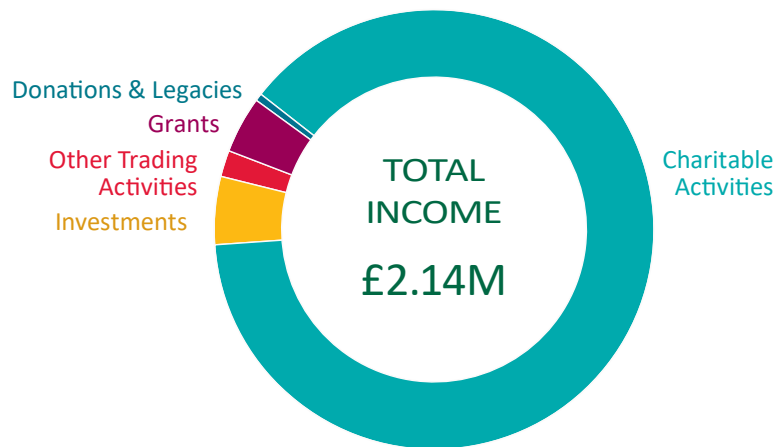
## RESERVES

The Society's reserves are split between Endowment (£675,968), Restricted (£2,355,424), and Unrestricted Funds (£3,589,302). Restricted Funds (excluding Heritage Assets of £1,556,475, which are held in trust and cannot be monetised) contributed £27,837 to the £77,287 (2017: £64,083) given in research sponsorship. Within Unrestricted Funds, £1,405,254 (2017: £1,391,179) has been set aside as Designated Funds to cover future expenditure associated with the Society's buildings, and other financial liabilities, including that associated with the lease at New Burlington House. The General Reserve Fund stands at £2,184,048 (2017: £1,705,117); this is held to facilitate cash flow, enable continued operation if income falls, and to fund projects internally. The Trustees consider the current balance reasonable in the context of budgeted costs and uncertainty over continued occupation of New Burlington House.

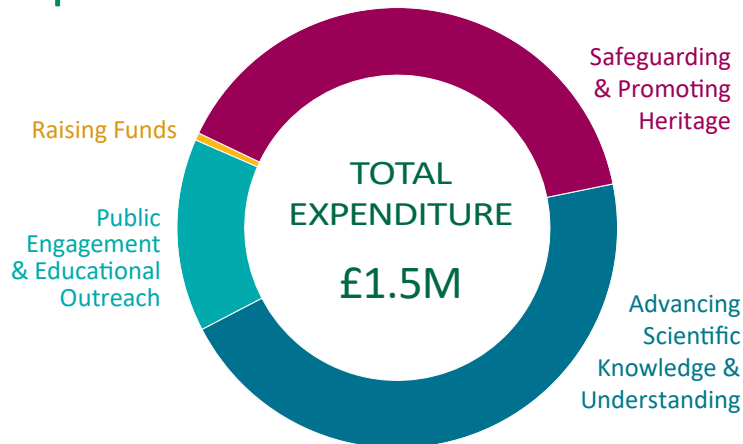




## Income



## Expenditure



## Summarised Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA)

	2018	2017
	£	£
<b>INCOME FROM</b>		
GRANTS	91,384	122,167
DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	11,530	10,933
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS	148,196	146,724
SAFEGUARDING & PROMOTING OUR HERITAGE COLLECTIONS	11,552	7,939
ADVANCING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING	1,731,660	1,697,661
INVESTMENTS	105,303	96,494
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	40,655	43,323
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>2,140,280</b>	<b>2,125,241</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>		
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
SAFEGUARDING & PROMOTING OUR HERITAGE COLLECTIONS	579,607	447,271
ADVANCING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING	659,742	646,066
ENGAGING THE PUBLIC & EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH	202,651	105,159
RAISING FUNDS	7,821	12,498
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,449,821</b>	<b>1,210,994</b>

## SOFA Cont'd

	2018	2017
	£	£
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>		
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE GAINS (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	690,459	914,247
GAINS (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	(356,130)	245,896
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>334,329</b>	<b>1,160,143</b>

## Summarised Balance Sheet

<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
HERITAGE ASSETS	1,556,475	1,551,000
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	756,206	742,131
INVESTMENT AT MARKET VALUE	3,419,134	3,266,539
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>5,731,815</b>	<b>5,559,670</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
DEBTORS	508,473	472,156
SHORT TERM DEPOSITS	984,163	932,617
CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	1,877,502	1,782,931
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>3,370,138</b>	<b>3,187,704</b>

## Balance Sheet Cont'd

	2018	2017
	£	£
<b>OTHER LIABILITIES</b>		
CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	(2,331,471)	(2,302,633)
CREDITORS DUE AFTER ONE YEAR	(249,788)	(258,376)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>6,520,694</b>	<b>6,186,365</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
ENDOWMENT FUNDS	675,968	746,961
RESTRICTED FUNDS	2,255,424	2,343,048
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	3,589,302	3,096,356
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>6,520,694</b>	<b>6,186,365</b>

The Society's Summarised Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet are presented here in a simplified format designed to give an overview of the Society's financial situation. These reconcile with the full financial accounts, which were prepared to conform to the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP – FRS 102). These, and a more detailed Financial Review, are included in the Society's *Annual Report and Accounts*. This statutory document also includes the summarised accounts with comments added to aid cross-reference with previous reports. The *Annual Report and Accounts* can be downloaded from the Society's website ([www.linnean.org/annualreport](http://www.linnean.org/annualreport)), and a paper copy can be supplied upon written request to the Executive Secretary.




---

*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:* Education & Public Engagement Manager Joe Burton presents prizes to our portrait competition winner, Leo; Dr Zanna Clay talks about her research on bonobos and chimpanzees; Brittney Oleniacz's SRF project studies spiders in North American Cretaceous amber (image supplied); Lady Pleasance Smith's letters became the focus of a podcast



## Public Benefit

The Linnean Society contributes to scientific, cultural, economic and social well-being nationally and internationally through a broad programme of activities. Our unique biological collections and historical resources—and our strong focus on biodiversity conservation and sustainability, and science outreach—support the care and understanding of our planet. The Society's key contributions to public benefit are:

- Safeguarding and promoting the Society's heritage collections, through cataloguing, conservation and digitisation, improving access to primary information, making collections freely available to view online.
- Advancing and disseminating knowledge through three world-class research journals, and providing support and recognition through grant schemes and awards to emerging scientists and naturalists.
- Engaging the public through regular tours of the collections, conferences and free monthly public lectures, while our educational programme, which fuses science, history and art, reaches out to students of all ages and backgrounds, providing free resources in schools, in Burlington House and online.

The Society's activities contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through support for the natural world, and through unique resources that illuminate environmental and social change. The Society connects academia with a diverse public, informing UK government policy and promoting the international profile of the UK as a pre-eminent international hub for expertise about the natural world.

## 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 revisited 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.**

Led by Strategic Planning Officer, Professor David Cutler PPLS, the Strategic Plan was reviewed by members of Council, Officers and Committees of the Society, together with the staff, in October 2017, and a number of proposals were followed up in 2018, especially with regard to governance and membership. In the interim, Professor Cutler continues to ensure that the Society's Committees regularly monitor their responsibilities under the plan, and look ahead to develop the plan as circumstances change.

- 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 for natural history**
- 5. Provide long-term user access to the Society's rooms at Burlington House**

# People

## **President** ✧

Prof Paul Brakefield (until May); Dr Sandra Knapp (from May)

## **Vice Presidents**

Dr Olwen Grace  
Dr Blanca Huertas  
Prof Paul Henderson  
Dr Malcolm Scoble

## **Treasurer** ✧

Deborah Wright;  
Dr Mark Watson (from Dec)

## **COUNCIL**

### *The Officers* (✧)

#### *Vice Presidents*

Dr Maarten Christenhusz  
(resigned Oct)

Dr Colin Clubbe

Dr Nick Crumpton  
(resigned Oct)

Prof Alan Hildew

Prof Dame Georgina Mace FRS

Dr Christopher Michaels  
(resigned Oct)

## **SECRETARIES**

### **Scientific** ✧

Prof Simon Hiscock  
Dr Malcolm Scoble

### **Editorial** ✧

Prof Mark Chase FRS

### **Collections** ✧

Dr John David

### **Strategy**

Prof David Cutler

Dr Silvia Pressel

Dr Paul Smith

Dr Rosie Trevelyan

Dr Mark Watson

Stephanie West

## **THE TEAM**

### **Executive Secretary**

Dr Elizabeth Rollinson

### **Head of Collections**

Dr Isabelle Charmantier (Deputy Librarian until July)

### **Librarian**

Lynda Brooks (until July);  
Dorothy Fouracre

### **Archivists**

Liz McGow; Vida Milovanovic

### **Special Publications Manager**

Leonie Berwick

### **Digital Assets Manager**

Andrea Deneau

### **Education & Public Engagement Manager**

Joe Burton

### **Multimedia Content Producer**

Ross Ziegelmeier

### **BioMedia Meltdown Manager**

Elisa Jones (until Nov); Daryl Stenvoll-Wells (from 2019)

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

Priya Nithianandan

### **Buildings & Office Manager**

Helen Shaw

### **Communications & Events Manager**

Dr Leanne Melbourne

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

Tatiana Franco

### **Conservator**

Janet Ashdown

### **BioMedia Project Assistant**

Zia Forrai

### **Botanical Journal Assistant**

Dr Hassan Rankou

### **Office Cleaner**

Fatima Mendoca

## CURATORS

<b>Fish, Shells &amp; General Zoology</b>	Oliver Crimmen
<b>Insects</b>	Suzanne Ryder
<b>Plants</b>	Dr Mark Spencer
<b>Artefacts</b>	Glenn Benson
<b>Archivist <i>emerita</i></b>	Gina Douglas

## EDITORS

<b><i>Biological Journal</i></b>	Prof John A Allen
<b><i>Botanical Journal</i></b>	Prof Mike Fay
<b><i>Zoological Journal</i></b>	Prof Louise Allcock/ Dr Maarten Christenhusz
<b><i>Synopses Series</i></b>	Dr John Crothers & Dr Peter J. Hayward
<b><i>The Linnean</i></b>	Gina Douglas
<b><i>PuLSe</i></b>	Leonie Berwick
<b><i>Book Reviews</i></b>	Dr Maria Vorontsova (until April)

---

## Committee Membership

*The Executive Secretary and Strategic Planning Officer, as well as The Officers (✧), are ex officio (e.o.) members of all Committees.*

*Our Committee members are drawn from a wide variety of institutions.*

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Prof Mark Chase FRS, the Editorial Secretary (Chairman)  
The Editors (e.o.) & editorial staff  
Representatives from the publisher, OUP  
Dr Rebecca A. Farley-Brown, FSC

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dr Mark Watson, the Treasurer (Chairman)  
The Financial Controller (e.o.)  
Giles Coode-Adams  
Edward Banks  
Edward Hoare

Prof Gren Lucas OBE  
Dr N. Keith Maybury

### COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

Dr John David, the Collections Secretary (Chairman)  
The Curators (e.o.)  
Library & Collections, and Education & Public Engagement staff  
John Collins (retired Dec)  
Gina Douglas  
Gillian Furlong  
Susan Gove  
Andrea Hart  
Dr D. J. Nicholas Hind  
Tom Kennett  
Chris Mills  
Dr Richard Preece  
Dr Mark Watson

## PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE

Dr Malcolm Scoble, Scientific Secretary (Chairman)

Events & Communications Manager (e.o.)

Education & Public Engagement Manager (e.o.)

Head of Collections (e.o.)

Prof Jeff Duckett

## EDUCATION & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Prof Simon Hiscock, Scientific Secretary (Chairman)

Education & Public Engagement, and Library & Collections staff

Lyn Baber

Kat Elbourne

Prof Beverley Glover

Suzie Kelpie

Geoff Lockwood

Kat Nillson

Dr Jane Taylor

Sarah Thomas

## TAXONOMY & SYSTEMATICS COMMITTEE

Prof David Cutler, Chairman (Stephanie West from 2019)

As appropriate, representatives from research institutions, universities, museums with natural history collections and other bodies concerned with taxonomy and systematics, and biodiversity and conservation, participate in this committee.





# Looking Forward | 2019

**“Fundamental progress has to do with the reinterpretation of ideas.”**

—Alfred North Whitehead  
(1861–1947)

The Society is looking forward to a vibrant and increasingly accessible future, where enhanced diversity and inclusion are imperatives. Our President, Dr Sandra Knapp, is keen to ensure these remain high on our agenda. We will be launching our new Discovery Room with an official

event in 2019; please do check out this excellent space in Burlington House, which is ideal for a variety of engagement, across all age ranges. If you have any



additional suggestions or ideas we would love to hear from you.

Fully aware that visiting London may not be possible for some of our growing global audience, we continue to promote the Society through outreach. By generating much more digital content than ever before, as well as making more of our collections, catalogues, archives and educational resources freely accessible, we aim to engage with a wide variety of users.

The upcoming year is likely to see a number of significant challenges and will undoubtedly be a year of transition. We anticipate the recommendations of the governance review, which will be carefully considered by Council and should provide positive suggestions for a new way of working, suitable for the larger charity we are becoming. The world of scientific publishing is also presenting challenges, the most recent being that of *Plan S*, the initiative for Open Access publishing that was launched by *Science Europe* in

September 2018. Given the Society's heavy dependence on its publishing revenues, we must monitor the impact of Open Access carefully and continue to work closely with our publishing partner, Oxford University Press. As we move forward, it is essential that we find ways to diversify the Society's revenue stream, but this will be no mean feat in practice. One great boost for our Society would be to grow the Fellowship, and the recently convened Membership Working Group is actively considering the best approach. You can all help by encouraging your colleagues and friends to join the Society.

We are also working hard with the other Courtyard Societies to put the Society's tenure at Burlington House on a more secure footing. Resolving this issue, which has inhibited the Society's medium-to-long term planning, will allow us to focus more effectively on our charitable objectives, maximising our public benefit, and making sure we are able to cater fully to academic audiences and all those with a passion for the natural world. We look forward to engaging with you all!

**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 host 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.

**DOWNLOAD OUR FULL ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS AT [WWW.LINNEAN.ORG/ANNUALREPORT](http://WWW.LINNEAN.ORG/ANNUALREPORT)**

**Twitter:** @LinneanSociety | @LinneanLearning

**Facebook:** /LinneanSociety

**YouTube:** /LinneanSociety

**Instagram:** linneansociety

**The Linnean Society of London | Burlington House | Piccadilly | London W1J 0BF**

**Tel: +44 (0)20 7434 4479 | Email: [info@linnean.org](mailto:info@linnean.org) | Web: [www.linnean.org](http://www.linnean.org)**



Charity Reference No. 220509 | VAT Registration No. 512524678



Linnean*Learning*