

**THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL**

And

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the Year Ended 31 December 2019

UNAUDITED

Registered Charity No. 1014370  
Company No. 12722

## ***THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY***

---

<b>INDEX</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Notice of Annual General Meeting and Agenda	1
Report of the Council	2– 6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 – 12
Independent Examiner's Report	13 - 14

## **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2019**

### **Notice of Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 4.00 p.m. on 13 June 2020 online with Zoom.

### **Agenda**

- 1) Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2019
- 2) New members of the Society
- 3) Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2019
- 4) Secretaries' Reports
- 5) Election of President and Members of Council
- 6) Appointment of former President as Vice President for life
- 7) Vote of Thanks
- 8) Prof. Aditi Lahiri (Oxford) *Converging evidence for morpho-phonological pertinacity: diachrony and experimental psycholinguistics*

The Honorary Secretary for Publications (Transactions) is, as always, eager to receive articles from members and non-members, for publication in the journal. The Honorary Secretary for Publications (Monographs) is similarly actively seeking monographs to appear in the Society's Publications series. Potential contributors should contact her to discuss proposals.

Council draws the attention of members to the provision whereby members of the Society of twenty or more years standing, who have retired from full-time employment, may, on application to the Council, and at its absolute discretion, be given continued membership without further payment of subscriptions. Members should write to the Membership Secretary in the first instance.

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

### REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019

Registered Charity No. 1014370

Company No. 12722

#### President:

Prof. A. LAHIRI, B.A., M.A., D.Phil., F.B.A.

#### Vice Presidents:

Prof. S. ADAMSON, M.A.  
Prof. W. AYRES-BENNETT, M.A., D.Phil.  
Dr E.K. BROWN, M.A., Ph.D.  
Prof. Sir JOHN LYONS, M.A., Litt D, FBA.  
Prof. P.H. MATTHEWS, M.A., Litt.D., F.B.A.  
Prof. F.R. PALMER, M.A., D.Litt., FBA, MAE.  
Prof. N. SIMS-WILLIAMS, M.A., Ph.D., FBA.  
Prof. N. VINCENT, M.A., FBA.

#### Ordinary Members of the Council:

Prof. S.C. COLVIN, B.A., M.Phil., D.Phil.	Prof. F. PLANK, M.A., M.Litt., Dr.phil.habil.
Prof. K.P. CORRIGAN, B.A., Ph.D.	Dr S. PULLEYN, M.A., D.Phil., LL.M., F.R.Hist.S.
Prof. E. DICKEY, A.B., M.A., D.Phil., F.B.A.	Dr J. ROBINSON, B.A., B.Sc., M.A., M.Sc., Ph.D.
Prof. S. FITZMAURICE, B.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.	Prof. P. SIMS-WILLIAMS, M.A., Ph.D., FBA.
Dr H. GIBSON, Ph.D.	Dr P. STILES, M.A., Dip.Comp.Philol., D.Phil.
Dr C. M. MacROBERT, M.A., D.Phil.	Prof. L. SYLVESTER, M.A., Ph.D.
Prof. L. MARTEN, MA., Ph.D.	Dr S. WATTS, M.A., Ph.D.
Dr S. MEHL, B.G.S., M.A., Ph.D.	Dr D. W. E. WILLIS, Ph.D. M.A., M.Phil., D.Phil.
Dr. R. MEYER, MA., M.Phil., D.Phil.	Dr S. WOLFE, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.
Prof. M.-B. MOSEGAARD HANSEN, M.A., Ph.D., Dr.Phil., Fellow of Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters	Dr L.C. WRIGHT, M.A., D.Phil.

#### Hon Treasurer:

Prof. P. K. AUSTIN, B.A.(A.S), Ph.D., Ph.D. *honoris causa*.

#### Hon Secretaries:

Prof. K. FISCHER, Ph.D.  
Miss Z.-J. AINSWORTH, B.A., M.St.(for Student Associates)  
Dr R.K. ASHDOWNE, M.A., D.Phil. (for Membership)  
Dr M. GREEN, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (for Publications)  
Prof. L. MARTEN, M.A., Ph.D. (for Publications)

**Website:** <http://www.philsoc.org.uk>

#### Accountants:

Mazars LLP, Chartered Accountants,  
The Pinnacle, 160 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 1FF

**Bankers:** Barclays Bank plc, 1 Pall Mall East, London, SW1Y 5AX

#### Agents and Publishers for the Society:

Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2DQ

#### Registered Office:

The Centre of African Studies  
SOAS, University of London  
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

### REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019

The Philological Society is the oldest learned society in Great Britain devoted to the scholarly study of language and languages. It was established in its present form in 1842, consisting partly of members of a society of the same name established at the University of London in 1830.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Society is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 2 January 1879. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association which were most recently amended at an Annual General Meeting held in London on 7 May 1999.

The Trustees of the Society, that is, directors listed with Companies House, are constituted by its President, who is appointed at an Annual General Meeting for a period of three years (renewable for one further year only), the Vice-Presidents, who are appointed for life at an Annual General Meeting, the other Officers, and up to twenty ordinary members of Council, who are elected annually at an Annual General Meeting.

### OBJECTIVES

The objects of the Society are to investigate and promote the study and knowledge of the structure, the affinities, and the history of languages, and to apply all the profits (if any) or other income of the Association for the promotion of the above object, without payment of any dividend to the members of the Association, and the doing of all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

### ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOCIETY 2019

During 2019 the Society held eight meetings, at which the following papers were read:

18 January, Dr Melanie Green (Sussex) & Dr Gabriel Ozon (Sheffield) *A spoken corpus of Cameroon Pidgin English: compilation, applications and next steps*

15 February, Prof. Larry Hyman (Berkeley) *Function of vowel length in language: phonological, grammatical and pragmatic consequences*

8/9 March, (Wolfson College, Oxford) *Early Career Researcher Forum* Late-stage doctoral students and early career researchers presented their work in 20-minute talks

9 March, (Wolfson College, Oxford) Prof. Rudolf Wachter (Basel) *Dialectology in the 21st century: new insights in Ancient Greek and Swiss German*

10 May (British Academy, London) *Anna Morpurgo Davies Lecture* Prof. Antonella Sorace (Edinburgh) *Why language learning opens the mind: old prejudices, trendy myths, and new research*

15 June (Murray Edwards College, Cambridge) *AGM and lecture on English grammar in honour of Lord Quirk*. Prof. Bas Aarts (UCL) *Oblique predicative constructions in English*

18 October 2019 Prof. Philomen Probert (Oxford) *Ancient Greek enclitics: some new light from ancient grammarians*

15 November (University of Glasgow) Presentations by postgraduate researchers E. Jamieson (Edinburgh), Eleanor Smith (Dundee) and Julia Moreno (Glasgow) followed by a round table discussion chaired by Prof. Jennifer Smith (Glasgow) *The Sociolinguistics of Scotland*

During the year, vols. 117.1, 117.2, and 117.3 of Transactions of the Philological Society were distributed to members.

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

### REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 (continued)

Travel grants were awarded to five postgraduate students and two early career researchers, to assist them in presenting papers at conferences, or in fieldwork.

The Society continued in 2019 to make audiovisual recordings of papers delivered at meetings, and, with the speakers' permission, to make the recordings available on Youtube for public viewing.

Five MA bursaries of £5,000 p.a. were awarded to students in linguistics or philology, following a competitive application process. In addition three PHD Bursaries were made and one Bursary was made from the Martin Burr fund (which Council has dedicated to support mature students and early career researchers). One of the five MA bursaries was awarded from the Anna Morpurgo Davies fund (one bursary per year may be awarded from this fund to support a student working on ancient languages).

The Society made a financial contribution to the English Grammar Day at the British Library, which took place on 8 July 2019; and to a project *Linguistics in Modern Foreign Language (MFL) A-levels* which works with teachers in over 40 UK secondary schools to expose students of MFL A-levels to linguistics.

In 2018, the Society made a financial contribution to the UK Linguistics Olympiad to support its work in encouraging language-study in schools in 2019.

The Society continued a blog which is hosted on a Wordpress webpage. It is curated by the Secretary for Student Associates and all members are encouraged to contribute items of interest.

On 31st December 2019 the Society had 641 Members comprising 454 Ordinary Members, 56 Life Members, and 131 Student Associates (in December 2018 the total figure was 635).

### ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2020

Six meetings are scheduled for 2020, as follows:

10 January, Prof. Erich Round (Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena; University of Queensland) *Sound change and analogy in morphological paradigms: Why automated inference is on the horizon*

7 February, Prof. Hendrik De Smet (Leuven) *What predicts productivity? Theory meets individuals*

7 March, (Somerville College, Oxford) Prof. Louise Esher (CNRS, Toulouse) *Analogical change and paradigmatic irregularities in Gascon*

27 April, (Cardiff, Temple of Peace) Joint public event with British Academy *The historical development of the Welsh language from the Middle Ages to the present*

1 May, Prof. Jeff Good (University of Buffalo) *Modelling the development of the morphologically hybrid nature of the Bantu Final Vowels*

13 June (Newnham College, Cambridge) *The President's lecture and AGM* Prof. Aditi Lahiri *Converging evidence for morpho-phonological pertinacity: diachrony and experimental psycholinguistics*

Further travel grants will be made available to research students presenting papers at conferences or undertaking fieldwork.

## **THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

---

### **REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 (continued)**

The Society intends to award further MA bursaries in 2020, and continues to welcome donations to the Anna Morpurgo Davies bursary fund.

#### **IMPACT OF COVID-19**

The Council does not feel that COVID-19 will affect the performance of the Society with meetings and presentations being held virtually.

#### **RESERVES**

The Council's policy is to maintain the level of resources both now and for future generations that will, together with other income, generate sufficient funds to enable the publication of special interest publications and promote other projects in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Total reserves held at 31 December 2019 amounted to £669,468 (2018: £604,461).

#### **INVESTMENTS**

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the Society has the power to make any investments as the directors see fit. The policy of the directors has been to invest the Society's funds so as to produce a regular and sustainable level of income. Funds are invested in a combination of cash deposits, managed funds and quoted equities. Performance over 2019 has resulted in a small increase in value overall, broadly in line with the market performance as a whole. The funds are held in order to generate an income which has remained stable in 2019. Details of investments held at 31 December 2019 are given in note 7 to the accounts.

#### **STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They accept responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## ***THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY***

---

### **REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 (continued)**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Council on 13 June 2020 and signed on their behalf by



**Prof. K. Fischer**  
Hon. Secretary



## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) For the Year Ended 31st December 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership subscriptions	3	12,971	10,633
Donations			
Investment income	4	7,929	7,467
Publications and journals	5	77,055	51,421
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>97,955</u>	<u>69,521</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>			
Charitable activities	6	<u>48,069</u>	<u>61,903</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>48,069</u>	<u>61,903</u>
<b>MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR -</b>			
Net incoming resources before gains/(losses)		49,886	7,618
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:			
Unrealised gain	7	<u>15,121</u>	<u>(22,663)</u>
Net movement in funds after gains/(losses)		65,007	(15,045)
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January		604,461	619,506
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 December</b>	8	<u><u>669,468</u></u>	<u><u>604,461</u></u>

The notes on pages 9 to 12 also form part of these financial statements.

All amounts derive from continuing operations.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2019

(A company limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital)

Company No: 12722

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
<b>INVESTMENTS AT VALUATION</b>	<b>7</b>	209,359	194,238
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Accrued income		1,487	1,298
Publications		68,055	42,784
Gift aid		-	-
Bank deposit accounts		396,447	372,481
		465,989	416,563
<b>CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>			
Subscriptions paid in advance		1,380	2,380
Creditors and accruals		4,500	3,960
		5,880	6,340
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			410,223
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		669,468	604,461
<b>GENERAL FUNDS - All unrestricted</b>			
Revaluation reserve	8	104,356	89,235
Realised funds	8	535,770	483,382
Martin Burr Fund	8	29,342	30,342
Anna Morpurgo Davies Bursary Fund	8	-	1,502
		669,468	604,461

The notes on pages 9 to 12 also form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31 December 2019 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 2019 and of its surplus for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of sections 393, 394 and 395 of the Act and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the financial statements so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provision of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Council and authorised for issue on 13 June 2020 and signed on its behalf by



**Prof. A. Lahiri** President

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2019**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**a. Legal status of the charity**

The Philological Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantees is limited to £1 per company member of the charity. The address of its registered office and principal place of business is disclosed in the company information.

The principal activity of the charity is investigate and promote the study and knowledge of the structure, the affinities and the history of languages.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling and this is the functional currency of the charity.

**b. Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards unless otherwise stated. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice: 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 15), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities and Companies Acts.

**c. Going concern**

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees consider this basis to be appropriate, having reviewed the forecasts for twelve months from the date of signing these accounts. The trustees are confident that the charity will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due during the next twelve months.

**d. Investments**

Investments are shown at valuation. The difference between cost at date of acquisition and the value at the balance sheet date is shown in an unrealised gain.

**c. Donations and Subscriptions**

Donations and subscriptions are credited to the accounts of the Society in the year in which they are receivable.

**d. Royalties**

Royalties from the sale of publications and journals are included as income in the year in which the relevant publications were sold.

**e. Publication costs**

The cost of publications is treated as expenditure of the year in which it is incurred and no account is taken of unsold stock at the balance sheet date.

**f. Resources expended**

Charitable expenditure

This represents expenditure incurred on activities in furtherance of the charity's objects (which includes support costs).

Governance costs are now included in charitable expenditure. Costs incurred are those relating to the organisation and running of the charity itself rather than its charitable objects and includes Council Meeting expenses and costs associated with the preparation of the annual Report and Financial Statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2019 (continued)**

**g. Debtors**

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**h. Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**i. Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**j. Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**k. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees may be required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities and financial statements, the Trustees do not consider there to be any significant judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty which could influence the reader's understanding of the financial statements.

**2. Trustees and Employees Remuneration**

No emoluments of any kind have been paid or are payable to members of the Council. Travelling expenses and reimbursements of travel and conference costs paid to 16 members of the Council (2018: 5) in the year totalled £2,686 (2018: £322). The Society has no paid employees.

A number of council members are associated with SOAS. The society rents a meeting room and the provision of other services from SOAS with the transactions totalling £502 (2018: £1,196) being at arm's length.

**3. Voluntary income**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Membership subscriptions and events	12,971	10,633
	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2019 (continued)**

**4. Investment income**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	£	£
Income from investments	6,856	6,640
Interest on deposits	1,073	827
	<u>7,929</u>	<u>7,467</u>
	<u><u>7,929</u></u>	<u><u>7,467</u></u>

**5. Incoming resources from publications**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	£	£
Royalties from sales of publications	-	1,295
Royalties from sales of journals	77,055	50,126
	<u>77,055</u>	<u>51,421</u>
	<u><u>77,055</u></u>	<u><u>51,421</u></u>

**6. Charitable Activities**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	£	£
Meeting and speaker costs	5,903	6,484
Publication costs	2,421	6,118
MA Bursaries	28,005	34,000
Student and Conference support	1,669	2,406
Robins Prize	1,013	500
Subscriptions	617	575
Website	205	120
Payment to UK Linguistics Olympiad	-	5,000
Payment to Linguistics Anglia Ruskin	-	785
Bank charges	147	87
Independent examiner's fee	4,740	4,620
Travel and subsistence	2,599	1,078
Sundry expenses	750	130
	<u>48,069</u>	<u>61,903</u>
	<u><u>48,069</u></u>	<u><u>61,903</u></u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2019 (continued)**

**7. Investments**

	31 December 2019		31 December 2018	
	Cost £	Market Value £	Cost £	Market Value £
Municipal and General Securities Charibond Fixed Interest Shares	30,000	27,967	30,000	27,570
Municipal and General Securities Limited 6,190 Charifund Units	5,002	102,797	5,002	88,147
Lloyds shares 693 Ordinary	-	433	-	359
Barings UK Growth & Income Charity Fund	20,000	22,334	20,000	20,355
Common Investment Fund Income Shares	50,000	57,807	50,000	57,807
	<u>105,002</u>	<u>211,338</u>	<u>105,002</u>	<u>194,238</u>

**8. Reconciliation of Movements in Funds**

	Revaluation Reserve £	Realised Reserves £	Martin Burr Fund £	Anna Morpurgo Davies Bursary Fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2019	89,235	483,382	30,342	1,502	604,461
Net Incoming Resources	-	52,388	(1,000)	(1,502)	49,886
Loss arising on revaluation of investments	15,121	-	-	-	15,121
At 31 December 2019	<u>104,356</u>	<u>535,770</u>	<u>29,342</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>669,468</u>

**Designated Funds**

The Martin Burr Fund is available to support activities for which regular funding is not available in a given year. Anticipated uses include support for mature students undertaking an MA in linguistics or philology, or grants to enable independent scholars and retired members to attend meetings of the Society or other academic events.

The Anna Morpurgo Davies Bursary Fund was set up in late 2014 named after the late Anna Morpurgo Davies, a former Chair of Comparative Philology at Oxford and President of the Society and will be used for the award of an annual MA bursary.

All funds are unrestricted.

**THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL**

And

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the Year Ended 31 December 2019

UNAUDITED

Registered Charity No. 1014370  
Company No. 12722

## ***THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY***

---

<b>INDEX</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Notice of Annual General Meeting and Agenda	1
Report of the Council	2– 6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 – 12
Independent Examiner's Report	13 - 14



## **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2019**

### **Notice of Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 4.00 p.m. on 13 June 2020 online with Zoom.

### **Agenda**

- 1) Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2019
- 2) New members of the Society
- 3) Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2019
- 4) Secretaries' Reports
- 5) Election of President and Members of Council
- 6) Appointment of former President as Vice President for life
- 7) Vote of Thanks
- 8) Prof. Aditi Lahiri (Oxford) *Converging evidence for morpho-phonological pertinacity: diachrony and experimental psycholinguistics*

The Honorary Secretary for Publications (Transactions) is, as always, eager to receive articles from members and non-members, for publication in the journal. The Honorary Secretary for Publications (Monographs) is similarly actively seeking monographs to appear in the Society's Publications series. Potential contributors should contact her to discuss proposals.

Council draws the attention of members to the provision whereby members of the Society of twenty or more years standing, who have retired from full-time employment, may, on application to the Council, and at its absolute discretion, be given continued membership without further payment of subscriptions. Members should write to the Membership Secretary in the first instance.

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

### REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019

Registered Charity No. 1014370

Company No. 12722

#### President:

Prof. A. LAHIRI, B.A., M.A., D.Phil., F.B.A.

#### Vice Presidents:

Prof. S. ADAMSON, M.A.  
Prof. W. AYRES-BENNETT, M.A., D.Phil.  
Dr E.K. BROWN, M.A., Ph.D.  
Prof. Sir JOHN LYONS, M.A., Litt D, FBA.  
Prof. P.H. MATTHEWS, M.A., Litt.D., F.B.A.  
Prof. F.R. PALMER, M.A., D.Litt., FBA, MAE.  
Prof. N. SIMS-WILLIAMS, M.A., Ph.D., FBA.  
Prof. N. VINCENT, M.A., FBA.

#### Ordinary Members of the Council:

Prof. S.C. COLVIN, B.A., M.Phil., D.Phil.	Prof. F. PLANK, M.A., M.Litt., Dr.phil.habil.
Prof. K.P. CORRIGAN, B.A., Ph.D.	Dr S. PULLEYN, M.A., D.Phil., LL.M., F.R.Hist.S.
Prof. E. DICKEY, A.B., M.A., D.Phil., F.B.A.	Dr J. ROBINSON, B.A., B.Sc., M.A., M.Sc., Ph.D.
Prof. S. FITZMAURICE, B.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.	Prof. P. SIMS-WILLIAMS, M.A., Ph.D., FBA.
Dr H. GIBSON, Ph.D.	Dr P. STILES, M.A., Dip.Comp.Philol., D.Phil.
Dr C. M. MacROBERT, M.A., D.Phil.	Prof. L. SYLVESTER, M.A., Ph.D.
Prof. L. MARTEN, MA., Ph.D.	Dr S. WATTS, M.A., Ph.D.
Dr S. MEHL, B.G.S., M.A., Ph.D.	Dr D. W. E. WILLIS, Ph.D. M.A., M.Phil., D.Phil.
Dr. R. MEYER, MA., M.Phil., D.Phil.	Dr S. WOLFE, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.
Prof. M.-B. MOSEGAARD HANSEN, M.A., Ph.D., Dr.Phil., Fellow of Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters	Dr L.C. WRIGHT, M.A., D.Phil.

#### Hon Treasurer:

Prof. P. K. AUSTIN, B.A.(A.S), Ph.D., Ph.D. *honoris causa*.

#### Hon Secretaries:

Prof. K. FISCHER, Ph.D.  
Miss Z.-J. AINSWORTH, B.A., M.St.(for Student Associates)  
Dr R.K. ASHDOWNE, M.A., D.Phil. (for Membership)  
Dr M. GREEN, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (for Publications)  
Prof. L. MARTEN, M.A., Ph.D. (for Publications)

**Website:** <http://www.philsoc.org.uk>

#### Accountants:

Mazars LLP, Chartered Accountants,  
The Pinnacle, 160 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 1FF

**Bankers:** Barclays Bank plc, 1 Pall Mall East, London, SW1Y 5AX

#### Agents and Publishers for the Society:

Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2DQ

#### Registered Office:

The Centre of African Studies  
SOAS, University of London  
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

### REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019

The Philological Society is the oldest learned society in Great Britain devoted to the scholarly study of language and languages. It was established in its present form in 1842, consisting partly of members of a society of the same name established at the University of London in 1830.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Society is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 2 January 1879. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association which were most recently amended at an Annual General Meeting held in London on 7 May 1999.

The Trustees of the Society, that is, directors listed with Companies House, are constituted by its President, who is appointed at an Annual General Meeting for a period of three years (renewable for one further year only), the Vice-Presidents, who are appointed for life at an Annual General Meeting, the other Officers, and up to twenty ordinary members of Council, who are elected annually at an Annual General Meeting.

### OBJECTIVES

The objects of the Society are to investigate and promote the study and knowledge of the structure, the affinities, and the history of languages, and to apply all the profits (if any) or other income of the Association for the promotion of the above object, without payment of any dividend to the members of the Association, and the doing of all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

### ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOCIETY 2019

During 2019 the Society held eight meetings, at which the following papers were read:

18 January, Dr Melanie Green (Sussex) & Dr Gabriel Ozon (Sheffield) *A spoken corpus of Cameroon Pidgin English: compilation, applications and next steps*

15 February, Prof. Larry Hyman (Berkeley) *Function of vowel length in language: phonological, grammatical and pragmatic consequences*

8/9 March, (Wolfson College, Oxford) *Early Career Researcher Forum* Late-stage doctoral students and early career researchers presented their work in 20-minute talks

9 March, (Wolfson College, Oxford) Prof. Rudolf Wachter (Basel) *Dialectology in the 21st century: new insights in Ancient Greek and Swiss German*

10 May (British Academy, London) *Anna Morpurgo Davies Lecture* Prof. Antonella Sorace (Edinburgh) *Why language learning opens the mind: old prejudices, trendy myths, and new research*

15 June (Murray Edwards College, Cambridge) *AGM and lecture on English grammar in honour of Lord Quirk*. Prof. Bas Aarts (UCL) *Oblique predicative constructions in English*

18 October 2019 Prof. Philomen Probert (Oxford) *Ancient Greek enclitics: some new light from ancient grammarians*

15 November (University of Glasgow) Presentations by postgraduate researchers E. Jamieson (Edinburgh), Eleanor Smith (Dundee) and Julia Moreno (Glasgow) followed by a round table discussion chaired by Prof. Jennifer Smith (Glasgow) *The Sociolinguistics of Scotland*

During the year, vols. 117.1, 117.2, and 117.3 of Transactions of the Philological Society were distributed to members.

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

### REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 (continued)

Travel grants were awarded to five postgraduate students and two early career researchers, to assist them in presenting papers at conferences, or in fieldwork.

The Society continued in 2019 to make audiovisual recordings of papers delivered at meetings, and, with the speakers' permission, to make the recordings available on Youtube for public viewing.

Five MA bursaries of £5,000 p.a. were awarded to students in linguistics or philology, following a competitive application process. In addition three PHD Bursaries were made and one Bursary was made from the Martin Burr fund (which Council has dedicated to support mature students and early career researchers). One of the five MA bursaries was awarded from the Anna Morpurgo Davies fund (one bursary per year may be awarded from this fund to support a student working on ancient languages).

The Society made a financial contribution to the English Grammar Day at the British Library, which took place on 8 July 2019; and to a project *Linguistics in Modern Foreign Language (MFL) A-levels* which works with teachers in over 40 UK secondary schools to expose students of MFL A-levels to linguistics.

In 2018, the Society made a financial contribution to the UK Linguistics Olympiad to support its work in encouraging language-study in schools in 2019.

The Society continued a blog which is hosted on a Wordpress webpage. It is curated by the Secretary for Student Associates and all members are encouraged to contribute items of interest.

On 31st December 2019 the Society had 641 Members comprising 454 Ordinary Members, 56 Life Members, and 131 Student Associates (in December 2018 the total figure was 635).

### ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2020

Six meetings are scheduled for 2020, as follows:

10 January, Prof. Erich Round (Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena; University of Queensland) *Sound change and analogy in morphological paradigms: Why automated inference is on the horizon*

7 February, Prof. Hendrik De Smet (Leuven) *What predicts productivity? Theory meets individuals*

7 March, (Somerville College, Oxford) Prof. Louise Esher (CNRS, Toulouse) *Analogical change and paradigmatic irregularities in Gascon*

27 April, (Cardiff, Temple of Peace) Joint public event with British Academy *The historical development of the Welsh language from the Middle Ages to the present*

1 May, Prof. Jeff Good (University of Buffalo) *Modelling the development of the morphologically hybrid nature of the Bantu Final Vowels*

13 June (Newnham College, Cambridge) *The President's lecture and AGM* Prof. Aditi Lahiri *Converging evidence for morpho-phonological pertinacity: diachrony and experimental psycholinguistics*

Further travel grants will be made available to research students presenting papers at conferences or undertaking fieldwork.

## **THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

---

### **REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 (continued)**

The Society intends to award further MA bursaries in 2020, and continues to welcome donations to the Anna Morpurgo Davies bursary fund.

#### **IMPACT OF COVID-19**

The Council does not feel that COVID-19 will affect the performance of the Society with meetings and presentations being held virtually.

#### **RESERVES**

The Council's policy is to maintain the level of resources both now and for future generations that will, together with other income, generate sufficient funds to enable the publication of special interest publications and promote other projects in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Total reserves held at 31 December 2019 amounted to £669,468 (2018: £604,461).

#### **INVESTMENTS**

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the Society has the power to make any investments as the directors see fit. The policy of the directors has been to invest the Society's funds so as to produce a regular and sustainable level of income. Funds are invested in a combination of cash deposits, managed funds and quoted equities. Performance over 2019 has resulted in a small increase in value overall, broadly in line with the market performance as a whole. The funds are held in order to generate an income which has remained stable in 2019. Details of investments held at 31 December 2019 are given in note 7 to the accounts.

#### **STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They accept responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## ***THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY***

---

### **REPORT of the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2019 (continued)**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Council on 13 June 2020 and signed on their behalf by



**Prof. K. Fischer**  
Hon. Secretary

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) For the Year Ended 31st December 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership subscriptions	3	12,971	10,633
Donations			
Investment income	4	7,929	7,467
Publications and journals	5	77,055	51,421
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>97,955</u>	<u>69,521</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>			
Charitable activities	6	48,069	61,903
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>48,069</u>	<u>61,903</u>
<b>MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR -</b>			
Net incoming resources before gains/(losses)		49,886	7,618
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:			
Unrealised gain	7	15,121	(22,663)
Net movement in funds after gains/(losses)		65,007	(15,045)
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January		604,461	619,506
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 December</b>	<b>8</b>	<u><b>669,468</b></u>	<u><b>604,461</b></u>

The notes on pages 9 to 12 also form part of these financial statements.

All amounts derive from continuing operations.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

## THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2019

(A company limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital)

Company No: 12722

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
<b>INVESTMENTS AT VALUATION</b>	<b>7</b>	209,359	194,238
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Accrued income		1,487	1,298
Publications		68,055	42,784
Gift aid		-	-
Bank deposit accounts		396,447	372,481
		465,989	416,563
<b>CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>			
Subscriptions paid in advance		1,380	2,380
Creditors and accruals		4,500	3,960
		5,880	6,340
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			410,223
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		669,468	604,461
<b>GENERAL FUNDS - All unrestricted</b>			
Revaluation reserve	8	104,356	89,235
Realised funds	8	535,770	483,382
Martin Burr Fund	8	29,342	30,342
Anna Morpurgo Davies Bursary Fund	8	-	1,502
		669,468	604,461

The notes on pages 9 to 12 also form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31 December 2019 the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 2019 and of its surplus for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of sections 393, 394 and 395 of the Act and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the financial statements so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provision of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Council and authorised for issue on 13 June 2020 and signed on its behalf by



**Prof. A. Lahiri** President



**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2019**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**a. Legal status of the charity**

The Philological Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantees is limited to £1 per company member of the charity. The address of its registered office and principal place of business is disclosed in the company information.

The principal activity of the charity is investigate and promote the study and knowledge of the structure, the affinities and the history of languages.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling and this is the functional currency of the charity.

**b. Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards unless otherwise stated. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice: 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 15), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities and Companies Acts.

**c. Going concern**

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees consider this basis to be appropriate, having reviewed the forecasts for twelve months from the date of signing these accounts. The trustees are confident that the charity will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due during the next twelve months.

**d. Investments**

Investments are shown at valuation. The difference between cost at date of acquisition and the value at the balance sheet date is shown in an unrealised gain.

**c. Donations and Subscriptions**

Donations and subscriptions are credited to the accounts of the Society in the year in which they are receivable.

**d. Royalties**

Royalties from the sale of publications and journals are included as income in the year in which the relevant publications were sold.

**e. Publication costs**

The cost of publications is treated as expenditure of the year in which it is incurred and no account is taken of unsold stock at the balance sheet date.

**f. Resources expended**

Charitable expenditure

This represents expenditure incurred on activities in furtherance of the charity's objects (which includes support costs).

Governance costs are now included in charitable expenditure. Costs incurred are those relating to the organisation and running of the charity itself rather than its charitable objects and includes Council Meeting expenses and costs associated with the preparation of the annual Report and Financial Statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2019 (continued)**

**g. Debtors**

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**h. Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**i. Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**j. Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**k. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees may be required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities and financial statements, the Trustees do not consider there to be any significant judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty which could influence the reader's understanding of the financial statements.

**2. Trustees and Employees Remuneration**

No emoluments of any kind have been paid or are payable to members of the Council. Travelling expenses and reimbursements of travel and conference costs paid to 16 members of the Council (2018: 5) in the year totalled £2,686 (2018: £322). The Society has no paid employees.

A number of council members are associated with SOAS. The society rents a meeting room and the provision of other services from SOAS with the transactions totalling £502 (2018: £1,196) being at arm's length.

**3. Voluntary income**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Membership subscriptions and events	12,971	10,633
	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2019 (continued)**

**4. Investment income**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	£	£
Income from investments	6,856	6,640
Interest on deposits	1,073	827
	<u>7,929</u>	<u>7,467</u>
	<u><u>7,929</u></u>	<u><u>7,467</u></u>

**5. Incoming resources from publications**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	£	£
Royalties from sales of publications	-	1,295
Royalties from sales of journals	77,055	50,126
	<u>77,055</u>	<u>51,421</u>
	<u><u>77,055</u></u>	<u><u>51,421</u></u>

**6. Charitable Activities**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	£	£
Meeting and speaker costs	5,903	6,484
Publication costs	2,421	6,118
MA Bursaries	28,005	34,000
Student and Conference support	1,669	2,406
Robins Prize	1,013	500
Subscriptions	617	575
Website	205	120
Payment to UK Linguistics Olympiad	-	5,000
Payment to Linguistics Anglia Ruskin	-	785
Bank charges	147	87
Independent examiner's fee	4,740	4,620
Travel and subsistence	2,599	1,078
Sundry expenses	750	130
	<u>48,069</u>	<u>61,903</u>
	<u><u>48,069</u></u>	<u><u>61,903</u></u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2019 (continued)**

**7. Investments**

	31 December 2019		31 December 2018	
	Cost £	Market Value £	Cost £	Market Value £
Municipal and General Securities Charibond Fixed Interest Shares	30,000	27,967	30,000	27,570
Municipal and General Securities Limited 6,190 Charifund Units	5,002	102,797	5,002	88,147
Lloyds shares 693 Ordinary	-	433	-	359
Barings UK Growth & Income Charity Fund	20,000	22,334	20,000	20,355
Common Investment Fund Income Shares	50,000	57,807	50,000	57,807
	<u>105,002</u>	<u>211,338</u>	<u>105,002</u>	<u>194,238</u>

**8. Reconciliation of Movements in Funds**

	Revaluation Reserve £	Realised Reserves £	Martin Burr Fund £	Anna Morpurgo Davies Bursary Fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2019	89,235	483,382	30,342	1,502	604,461
Net Incoming Resources	-	52,388	(1,000)	(1,502)	49,886
Loss arising on revaluation of investments	15,121	-	-	-	15,121
At 31 December 2019	<u>104,356</u>	<u>535,770</u>	<u>29,342</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>669,468</u>

**Designated Funds**

The Martin Burr Fund is available to support activities for which regular funding is not available in a given year. Anticipated uses include support for mature students undertaking an MA in linguistics or philology, or grants to enable independent scholars and retired members to attend meetings of the Society or other academic events.

The Anna Morpurgo Davies Bursary Fund was set up in late 2014 named after the late Anna Morpurgo Davies, a former Chair of Comparative Philology at Oxford and President of the Society and will be used for the award of an annual MA bursary.

All funds are unrestricted.

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Philological Society

I report on the financial statements of The Philological Society for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

## **Basis of independent examiner's report**

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

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Philological Society

## Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of The Philological Society in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Vincent Marke

Mazars LLP  
The Pinnacle  
160 Midsummer Boulevard  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1FF

Date: 23 October 2020