

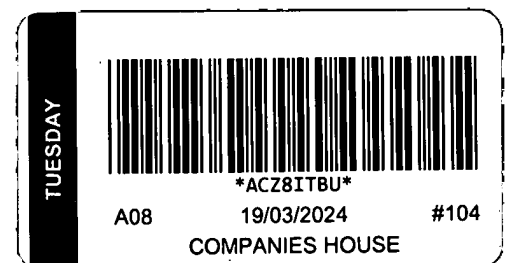
**Manchester
Lit&Phil**

**Manchester Literary and
Philosophical Society**

**Annual Report and
Accounts
for the year ended
30 June 2023**

Registered office
COLONY Jactin House
24 Hood street, Ancoats
Manchester M4 6WX

Company Registration No. 9330
Registered Charity No. 235313



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Reference and administrative details

Trustees (directors) who served during the period:

Peter Wright
Ian Cameron
Cigdem Balim
Christine Mbarga
Trevor Rees
Dhun Daji
Michael Tso
Dianne Bamber
Peter Carstensen
Manju Bhavnani
Alan Wareham
Charlotte Lanigan
Jim Thomas

Celia Baker

Dr Susan Hilton

President

Peter Wright

Independent Examiner

Helen Binns FCA
Beever and Struthers
Chartered Accountants
One Express
1 George Leigh Street
Manchester
M4 5DL

Company Registration Number:

Charity Registration Number:

Principal Office:

Chairman and President

Immediate Past President and Vice-President

Honorary Secretary – Elected 19 September 2023

Honorary Treasurer (elected 25 April 2022)

Honorary Treasurer

Elected 24 January 2022

Elected 20 September 2022

Elected 20 September 2022

Elected 24 July 2023

Elected 24 July 2023

Elected 24 July 2023

Elected 24 July 2023

Chair – Science and Technology Section
Committee

Chair – Arts Section Committee (elected 2nd
August 2022)

Chair– Social Philosophy Section Committee
(elected 2nd August 2022)

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Investment managers

Brewin Dolphin
1 The Avenue
Spinningfields Square
Manchester
M3 3AP

00009330

235313

COLONY Jactin House

24 Hood Street, Ancoats

Manchester M4 6WX

President's Report

Overview

In 2022/23 we made some progress towards delivering the key aims of our adopted Strategic Plan, focusing on growing and diversifying our audiences and Society membership.

Our successes included:

- An integrated and expanded programme of events with some excellent speakers and topics attracting bigger and more diverse audiences
- Introduction of a popular new Philosophy Forum
- A tentative return to social activity
- Better marketing of events through our new website and media
- Improved recruitment
- A consultancy study into our structure and operations
- Publication of our study into links with the slave trade
- Development of links with like-minded organisations.

Council adopted a comprehensive Business Plan for the year that set out detailed proposals for improving governance, management, programme, marketing and finance. But delivery in many of these areas was interrupted and progress was disappointing.

Problems arose from the loss of key Council officers through resignation and sickness and our failure to find suitable replacements. As a consequence, our communications and working links were overstretched and often ineffective. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those Society members and staff who worked through this difficult period to sustain our programme and enhance our reputation.

In difficult economic times and a competitive world our financial viability remains under threat. We have the plans in place to address this and are now focused on the recruitment of key individuals to support delivery.

The Year Ahead

Council will be restructured, taking account of the findings of our consultancy study and our experience from the past year, to accelerate the delivery of our adopted strategic aims and to secure our financial viability.

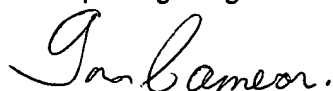
A new President will be appointed to succeed me at the end of my term of office.

A new Executive Group will be established within Council to manage the key elements of our Society, including management of our professional staff and volunteers, our commercial activities, our programme and our marketing.

The roles of Officers and elected members of Council will be refreshed, and a support network of volunteers will be established to support Council, our Sections and our Office.

Our recruitment campaign is well advanced. Recruits will bring fresh ideas and techniques to our operations while respecting the great traditions of the Lit & Phil.

Ian Cameron



President (to 14 August 2023)

Treasurer's Report

As mentioned in the President's report, 2022-23 has been a difficult year for the Manchester Lit & Phil (MLP). Internal and external constraints meant that the Society had to adapt to changing circumstances and plans. Overall, our financial performance is largely consistent with our original plans, the Society had a net operational deficit of £105,189 in the year, in line with a budget of £109,666. However, how the money was spent hasn't been necessarily be in line with our original plans though decisions were made through the appropriate channels and procedures.

During 2023, the key elements of our change strategy and their impact on our financial performance were as follows:

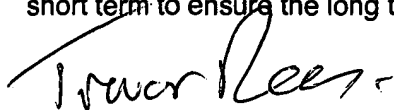
- Development of the new website and branding – the website was delivered on time by Spy Studio. Additional costs were approved to develop a few features that were not in the original website developer's remit.
- Website on-going maintenance – additional budget was approved to ensure the website regular maintenance, and thus ensuring its longevity.
- Change in promotional activities – decision was made to abandon termly printed programmes, to save costs. This decision didn't have any negative outcomes in terms of new memberships or events attendance. The budget was used instead fund other promotional activities, such as partnering with The Mill, a local newspaper.
- Working with KiN – Council approved additional budget to continue working with KiN until end of 2023, a business development agency that MLP worked with end of 2022 using funds received from the Skills for Growth scheme. KiN has been advising and supporting Council and staff through this period of changes.
- Staff costs – the original plan was to develop the assistant role to a manager role, but the structural re-organisation and review of staff roles was delayed, so this hasn't happened.
- Increased revenue from membership and ticket sales. As noted in last year's Accounts, MLP isn't claiming Gift Aid on our subscription income. Subscription income in 2023 increased from £27,179 to £35,237. At the same time, income generated by ticket sales rose from £4,831 in 2022 to £8,040 in 2023.

While this latest point is encouraging, it is clear that the income from subscriptions and ticket sales will not be enough to ensure the financial viability of our operations. There are plans to 1. diversify our income streams in the medium term, 2. decrease our expenditures.

Like last year, funding our operations comes from investment portfolio. While in 2022 market uncertainties combined with additional withdrawals caused the net value of our portfolio to fall, 2023 saw a small improvement. We have continued to make additional withdrawals from the fund through the year to fund our change programme, but the net value of our portfolio rose by £77,368. The short-term outlook for markets looks promising and we remain confident that in the medium to long term, markets will continue to recover and so will the value of our investment portfolio.

We will be working more closely with Brewin Dolphin in 2023, by giving them more visibility on cash expenditures and more regular contact.

In conclusion, 2023 was a year which saw the Society continue to control its expenditure within its budget and make investments to help us deliver the strategic plans. But it is clear that MLP cannot continue operating at the current level of deficit, and that actions should be taken in the short term to ensure the long term survival of the organisation.



Trevor Rees
Honorary Treasurer

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions and Gift Aid	35,237	27,129
Investment income	23,220	22,448
Donations & legacies	567	6,000
Other income	8,148	5,550
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	67,172	61,127
Expenditure		
<u>Function costs</u>		
Functions and meeting costs	29,300	31,183
Research costs	140	835
Printing of Memoirs	2,294	1,827
Programmes/Promotional Expenses	8,092	11,538
	39,826	45,383
<u>Office costs</u>		
Rent and services charges	11,406	10,000
Office relocation	-	322
Heat and light	-	-
Website and IT costs	8,379	16,501
Staff costs	87,413	75,495
Library	17	15
Stationery and photocopying	530	556
Postage, telephone and equipment hire	612	1,615
Insurance	1,570	1,231
Sundries	186	152
Repairs and renewal	105	-
Website amortisation charges	3,698	-
	113,916	105,887
<u>Society costs</u>		
Legal and professional fees	4,853	66
Independent examination fee	2,358	2,770
Investment management fee	8,842	10,796
Bank charges/PayPal	2,566	1,627
	18,619	15,259
TOTAL COSTS	172,361	166,529
Net operating deficit	(105,189)	(105,402)
Net investment (losses)/gains	77,368	(184,764)
Net movement in funds	(27,821)	(290,166)

Trustees' / Directors' report 2022-23

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 and confirm that they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities SORP (FRS102).

Objectives and activities

As determined by the Society's memorandum and articles of association the Society is established for the object of promoting the advancement of education and the widening of public interest in and appreciation of any form of literature, science, the arts and public affairs through a series of public lectures presented throughout the year.

In 2022-23, the Society delivered nearly twice the number of events compared to last year. These events were a mix between the usual talks, and smaller scale events, such as the very popular Philosophy Forum sessions.

The programme for the Autumn term of our 2023-24 programme year is close to being finalised. It will include the usual talks but also smaller scale events, which will provide more opportunities for attendees to explore ideas together.

From January 2024 onwards, the Society will introduce a themed approach to programming. The first theme selected is 'Environment'. Good progress has been made, with one high-profile speaker already booked.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. In particular, the delivery of our annual lecture programme educates members of the public, including young persons as described earlier in the annual report.

Achievements and performance

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, founded on 28 February 1781, is the second oldest learned society in Britain. Many of the founding members were medical men, resident in the King St, Piccadilly area of the city; the earliest meetings took place in a room in the original Cross St Chapel, but in 1799 the Society moved to 36 George Street, which remained its home until the Blitz of 1940. From 1960-1980, the Society enjoyed the facilities of its rebuilt home, but since 1981 has not had its own premises. Today it operates from a shared office space based in Ancoats. To facilitate this, our archives have been stored at a facility specialised in heritage storage in Oxfordshire.

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

Other notable past members include Dalton's gifted pupil James Prescott Joule, Peter Mark Roget, the originator of the Thesaurus; William Fairbairn the engineer; Henry Roscoe the chemist; Ernest Rutherford the nuclear physicist; Joseph Whitworth the precision engineer as well as Professor Tom Kilburn and Alan Turing, computing pioneers and Professor Sir Bernard Lovell.

Our achievement is our ability to produce lectures and events of the highest calibre on a wide and varied number of topics. To appreciate this, you need to visit our website to be able to review for yourself the work the society has done and proposes to do in the future.

Review of activities

As in previous years the Society again enjoyed a very varied and interesting programme throughout the year. Detailed below are reports from our sections detailing the activities during the year:

1. Arts

Committee membership

Celia Baker is Chair. Joanna Lavelle, David Shreeve and Patricia McWilliam-Fowler will be stepping down this year. Tony Jackson and Edwina Dyson have agreed to stay on an extra year to ensure continuity but will need permission from Council to stay on. Other members are Manju Ghosh and Jim Howell. We will need to attract new members.

2022/23 Season Events

19 September 2022 – Theatre Group - Group discussion about The Glass Menagerie with Tony Jackson and Joanna Lavelle
1 November 2022 – Lynne Gibson MBE - Double Dutch "Still Life"
9 and 30 November 2022– Tours of Manchester Art Gallery (MAG) with John Ward
16 December 2022 - The Figgy Pudding Collective - A celebration of the music of Christmas
25 January 2023 – Professor Hannah Barker - Exploring the past through objects: Religious faith in Northern towns during the Industrial Revolution
3 April 2023 – Theatre Group - Group discussion about 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof'
19 April 2023 - Theatre Group – Group visit to 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' at the Royal Exchange Theatre
25 April 2023 – Theatre Group – Post visit discussion
4 May 2023 – Frank Vigon - Renaissance Architecture
20 May 2023 – Theatre Group – Group visit to 'Can't Pay Won't Pay' at the Royal Exchange Theatre
22 May 2023 – Theatre Group - Post visit discussion
8 June 2023 – Dr Claire Reddeman - A Curious Person's Guide to Digital Art.
15 August 2023 - Tour of International Anthony Burgess Foundation

Celia Barker
Chair – Arts Committee

2. Science and Technology

This year has seen an enjoyable programme of events from Science and Technology and the Climate Change subgroup. There were five standard events and four climate change seminars. All are listed below.

The highlight of the season was the Dalton Lecture in March at the RNCM, where we awarded the Dalton Medal to Sir Paul Nurse. There were 142 attendees in total and a group of us, including Sir Paul, had an excellent meal afterwards at the Midland Hotel. Reports have been written for all events and submitted for inclusion in the Memoirs.

On 19th March members of the committee attended the Rochdale Science Festival, organised by Mohammed Rahman, Founding Director of the Rochdale Science Initiative. This was a very stimulating experience, with families from different ethnic backgrounds enjoying the various science related activities on offer. The Manchester Lit & Phil stall was well attended and provided much entertainment. A further event on July 23rd, again organised by Mohammed, will also be attended by members of the committee. It is hoped that we will contribute to other such events in the future.

2022/23 Season Events

5 Oct 2022	Catherine Noakes	Pandemic resilience: How to control a virus
6 Dec 2022	Laurence Harwood*	How can we achieve a sustainable nuclear fuel cycle?
18 Jan 2023	Simon Hiscock	The secret of biodiversity and evolution in plants
8 March 2023 (Dalton Lecture)	Sir Paul Nurse	What is life?
12 April 2023	Helen Fricker	Demystifying Antarctica: What we've learned and what comes next
18 May 2023	Peter Sasieni	Revolutionising cancer screening
* Postponed until next season		

Climate Change Seminars

26 Sept 2022	Seminar	Reducing your carbon footprint: Electric Vehicles
28 Nov 2022	Seminar	Reducing your carbon footprint: air and ground source heat pumps
20 Feb 2023	Seminar	Reducing your carbon footprint: food and climate change

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to Minaxi Desai who has retired as committee member and has made many valuable suggestions for speakers over the years. Also, to Martin Hunt and Brian Tyler for all their efforts on the Climate Change Subgroup. Thanks also to Diana Leitch for all her work in obtaining the engraved Dalton medal at short notice for presentation at the Dalton Lecture. Lastly, but by no means least, many thanks go to Lesley Roberts who has been a very efficient secretary and will be much missed. Her hard work, whilst battling with ill health, has been much appreciated.

Committee membership

Changes in the committee for the 2023-2024 programme are as follows:
Dianne Bamber is to step down as Chair as the 3-year term of office has been completed.
Jim Thomas is to replace Dianne Bamber as Chair.
Lesley Roberts is to step down as Secretary. As yet there is no replacement.
Minaxi Desai has retired from the committee.
We have a new member: Dr Ambrose Smith.

Committee for 2023-2024

Jim Thomas Chair (Feb 2019)
Dianne Bamber (May 2018)
President (President -ex-Officio) – this may be subject to change under a new structure
Melissa Lord (co-opted)
Paul Miller (Feb 2017)
Peter Williams (Feb 2019)
Desmond Winterbone (October 2016)
Lesley Roberts (March 2021)
Martin Hunt (July 2021)
Tea Milanovic (May 2022)
Ambrose Smith (May 2023)

Dianne Bamber
Chair – Science and Technology Committee

3. Social Philosophy

2022/23 Season Events

A full programme of lectures and visits took place. Details as follows –

18 October 2022 – ‘Between God and Atheism’ – Philip Goff and Jack Symes headed a lively philosophical debate. Venue – Bridge 5 Mill.

29 November 2022 – ‘Global Citizen: reporting for duty’ - Engineer Yewande Akinola presented an inspiring look at the changing face of living in a connected world, and the opportunities it brings. Venue – National Football Museum.

9 February 2023 – ‘Will humans become extinct through climate change?’ – Dr Anders Sandberg – an informed look at this possibility; and if so, when? Venue – Halle St Peters.

15 March 2023 – ‘The Great Miss Lydia Becker’ – Joanna Williams – a detailed look at the 19th Century original campaigner for women’s votes, and many other rights. Venue – Cross Street Chapel.

6 April 2023 – ‘Can routine screening for Down’s Syndrome be ethically justified?’ – Professor Becki Bennett – a thought-provoking bioethical debate around all screening in the antenatal period. Venue – Halle St Peters.

10 May 2023 – ‘Feminist activism in Greater Manchester: past, present and future’ - Helen Pankhurst and Joanna Williams - discussed the Pankhurst family legend, and the ongoing fights for women’s rights in many walks of life, along with a lively debate from the audience. Venue – International Anthony Burgess Foundation, Manchester.

During the year the Philosophy Forum has met regularly, every 4-6 weeks, taking the form of a seminar group, discussing a themed paper each time. This is administered by the Philosophy Forum administration group, headed by Christopher Burke.

Committee membership

I am currently the Chair, with the committee comprised of Philip Hulme (Secretary), Peter Barnes, Sheila Whitaker, Pierre Waugh, Vienna Borowska and John Waterton, along with Ian Cameron, the Society President, who is an ex-officio member.

John Waterton has recently joined the committee so will need to be formally elected. We would also be happy to consider applications from other members who wish to join the committee. The Philosophy Forum administration group is headed by Christopher Burke, along with Peter Barnes, Robert Mears, John Pilkington, Ian Cameron and me.

Dr Susan Hilton
Chair – Social-Philosophy Committee

4. Council

Council delivered seventeen events in total, including eight formal lectures and a range of other events including visits and social gatherings. There was generally considered to be a good range of topics, a high quality of speakers overall and a number of exceptional events.

13th September – Welcome Back Social – Members were entertained in perfect evening sunshine on the roof of our Ancoats office building, with a number of eminent guests including the Irish Consul.

20th September – AGM – Our AGM was held at The Royal Northern College of Music, followed by a reception for members

20th September – Why Performing Arts Still Matter in a Changing World – Prof Linda Merrick of the RNCM delivered an entertaining and thought provoking lecture with musical input from her talented students.

29th September – Avro Tour – Our former President, Sue Hilton led a popular and informative tour of the Avro Museum.

13th October – The Northern Powerhouse: Where Are We Now? – Lord Jim O'Neill of Gatley delivered a tour de force presentation of his personal involvement with successive governments and his hopes for the future.

2nd November – Manchester: What Changed and What Comes Next? – Journalists John Harris and Hannah Al-Othman debated Manchester's recent past and future opportunities.

16th February – Free Speech: Its Past, Present and Future – Jacob Mchangama and Paul Cartledge addressed the challenges and complexities of free speech in the age of cancel culture.

4th March – Young Plato – screening of this modern classic at Home.

21st March – Collecting and Interpreting 'Ancient Egypt' at Manchester Museum – Curator Dr Campbell Price gave an informative and highly entertaining talk on the history of Egyptology and the success of the Museum's Golden Mummies exhibition.

22nd March – Golden Mummies of Egypt Tour – Dr Price led a guided tour of the exhibition for members.

26th April – Technology: a Tool and a Mirror – Prof Caroline Jay presented our annual Percival Lecture on behalf of the University of Manchester.

2nd May – Golden Mummies of Egypt Tour – By popular demand Dr Price kindly led a second tour.

18th May – Jodrell Bank Tour – Members enjoyed a fascinating tour of our world famous observatory.

23rd May – Pandemic as a Portal: Remembering Covid, Re-imagining Society – Prof Mark Honigsbaum gave a thought provoking analysis of Covid and our future response to pandemics.

29th June – Tour of RHS Garden, Bridgewater – Members were treated to an insight into the development of this beautiful recent addition to the attractions of Manchester.

9th July – Kindness and Integrity: Leadership in a Troubled World – Our President chaired an international conversation with Prof Akbar Ahmed and Prof Karin Vogt in a collaborative event with Islamic Festival organisers MACFEST.

26th July – Annual Section Meetings – Our Sections met at the Anthony Burgess Foundation to hear progress reports and to discuss our events programme over a buffet supper.

Programme events for 2023/4 have been scheduled for the Autumn and are in preparation for the Spring and Summer.

Ian Cameron
President (to 14 August 2023)

Financial review

2022-23 was a year of transformational changes for the Society. While we have not made as much progress as we would have hoped due to a lack of resources, a recruitment plan is in place to have the capacity to deliver the changes the Society need to undergo to ensure its sustainability.

From a budget point of view, it means that adjustments were made. Budgets were reallocated when appropriate to where the funds were needed. The deficit is much smaller than expected, and the Society stayed in control of its finances and kept in line with budget in a period of upheavals.

Details of this have been provided in the Treasurer's report.

Investment policy and returns

The Society has adopted a total return approach for its investment portfolio. As permitted by the Society's memorandum and articles of association, the trustees have given Brewin Dolphin discretion to manage the portfolio within an agreed risk profile working towards a target return. During 2023, investment income was £23,220 (2022 - £22,448) and the value of our portfolio, including cash held with investors at 30 June 2023 was £1,278,059 (2022 - £1,318,772).

Risk management

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

Safeguarding

As an educational charity which engages with young people for some events, Council is fully aware of its responsibilities towards younger people and to this end has a Safeguarding and Child Protection policy which is reviewed annually. In January 2023, the Society became a member of SafeCiC, a charity specialising in providing support to organisations on Safeguarding matters. Work is underway to review our Safeguarding policy as per their recommendations.

GDPR

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

Reserves policy

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

The Society has used the capital of the fund to support the Society's growth ambitions over the past couple of years. The Society aims now at reducing its use of the capital.

The trustees will continue to manage reserves by careful stewardship of the Society's resources and controls over expenditure.

All of the Society's reserves (£1,317,240 at June 2023 and £1,345,061 at June 2022) are unrestricted for use by the Society as it sees fit. All reserves are considered free and liquid as they are represented by listed investments that can be realised quickly through their sale. The investment values have recovered over the course of the year to pre-pandemic levels.

Memorandum and Articles of Association

These were updated, revised and approved at the AGM of the Society on 7 November 2017.

Structure, governance and management

The Society is a registered charity and is incorporated under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. The guarantee of each Trustee is limited to £10 and is payable in the event of the Society being wound up and being unable to meet its debts and liabilities. The organisation is overseen by a Council, whose members are elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting in accordance with the articles. The President and Vice Presidents serve for a period of two years.

The Chairman of each Section is a full member of Council by the right of that office. Council meets at least five times a year. The Society's officers meet approximately ten times a year to supervise the operational activities undertaken by the administrators.

With the post-pandemic 'return to normal', governance and management of the Society has slowly returned to their pre-pandemic state:

1. Staff have been given flexibility over working arrangements, with just one day per week needed to be worked from the offices at Colony.
2. Office and Council meetings were held either remotely using video technology or hybrid, with a mix of online and in-person attendance; and
3. Our AGM for 20 September 2022 was held in person for the first time in two years.

We will continue to monitor our working arrangements as we hope to provide more opportunities for all involved in the running of the Society to meet and work face-to-face.

Trustees

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

Trustees are recruited from our membership base. The Memorandum and Articles of Association determine the length of office for Trustees. As periods of office come towards their expiry date, succession is planned via discussion with members to identify candidates and then, if required, a vote by members at the AGM to appoint them to the Board.

In 2022-23, the Society had a number of Trustees slightly under the number set out in its Articles of Association. Recruitment proved to be difficult. The Society received support from an external consultancy agency, KiN, and also, appointed at the Council meeting on 24th January 2023 a group called the 'Operational Plan Working Group' to work in this issue. As mentioned in the President's report above, a plan is underway to restructure Council and for recruitment for the new roles.

Independent Examiners

A resolution to reappoint Helen Binns FCA as Independent Examiner to the Society was approved at the Annual General Meeting.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

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

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

irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

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

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant information of which the Society's Independent Examiners are unaware
- as the directors of the company we have taken all steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Society's Independent Examiners are aware of that information
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

Ian Cameron



By order of the Trustees
President (to 14 August 2023)

Council – Monday 14th August 2023

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

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30 June 2023 which are set out on pages 15 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

HE BINNS

Helen Binns, FCA
Beever and Struthers
Chartered Accountants
One Express
1 George Leigh Street
Manchester
M4 5DL

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Statement of Financial Activities / Income and Expenditure Account Year ended 30 June 2023

		UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3	567	6,000
Other income	3	8,148	5,550
Investments	4	23,220	22,448
Charitable activities	5	35,237	27,129
TOTAL		67,172	61,127
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	6	(8,842)	(10,796)
Charitable activities	7 & 8	(163,519)	(155,733)
TOTAL		(172,361)	(166,529)
NET CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		(105,189)	(105,402)
Net (losses)/gains on investments		77,368	(184,764)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(27,821)	(290,166)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		1,345,061	1,635,227
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,317,240	1,345,061

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

The notes on pages 17 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Balance sheet As At 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	-	-
Investments	11	1,257,410	1,265,750
Investment in Subsidiary	12	100	100
Intangible assets	13	33,281	-
		<u>1,290,791</u>	<u>1,265,850</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	14	1,935	1,841
Cash at bank and in hand		35,876	86,364
		<u>37,811</u>	<u>88,205</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	15	(11,362)	(8,994)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>26,449</u>	<u>79,211</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>1,317,240</u>	<u>1,345,061</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds			
Designated Expendable Endowment	18	1,317,240	1,345,061
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,317,240</u>	<u>1,345,061</u>

For the year ending 30 June 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities

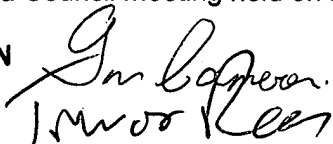
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the companies Act 2006.

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

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

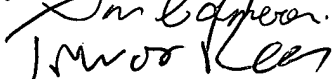
These financial statements on pages 18 to 25 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees at a Council meeting held on Monday 14th August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

I CAMERON



President

T REES



Treasurer

Company Registration Number 9330.
Registered Charity Number 235313.

The notes on pages 17 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 June 2023

1. Charity status

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charitable company in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

COLONY Jactin House
24 Hood street, Ancoats
Manchester M4 6WX

2. Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes. The accounts are presented in sterling (£). The accounts for the subsidiary company have not been consolidated as the subsidiary is dormant and the balances are not considered material.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern nor any material areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charitable company.

Incoming Resources / Debtors and Prepayments

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

- **Investment income**
Investment income is accounted for when received.
- **Legacies**
Legacies and donations are accounted for when receivable by the Society.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 30 June 2023

- **Subscriptions**

Subscriptions are accounted for when receivable and include the Gift Aid tax recoverable.

Like last year, we have not made a claim for Gift Aid, due to increased income from ticket sales to the public. This decision was made based on current tax legislation for Charities, donations and benefits for donors.

- **Debtors**

Any debtors or prepayments due to the Society are valued at the amount due net of any applicable discounts.

Resources Expended / Creditors

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

- **Charitable expenditure**

Charitable expenditure includes all expenditure directly related to the objectives of the Society.

- **Governance Costs**

Governance costs represent expenditure incurred in the management of the Society's assets and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

- **Creditors**

Any creditors for which the Society is liable are based upon obligations arising from some past event or service provided which has not been settled in cash by the year end.

- **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and Cash Equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structures

- **Restricted funds**

Restricted funds arise where the use has been restricted by the donor or by the terms of an appeal. The Society currently has no restricted funds.

- **Unrestricted funds**

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

- **Tangible fixed assets**

The Society capitalises individual assets with a cost in excess of £5,000. All assets acquired below this figure will be written off to the Income & Expenditure account in the year of acquisition.

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

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 30 June 2023

- **Intangible asset**

The website costing £36,979.20 are stated in the Balance Sheet less accumulated amortisation. The website is amortised on a straight-line basis over 10 years, its estimated useful life.

Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets so as to write off the cost less any estimated residual value over the website expected useful life as follows:

Asset class: Website

Amortisation method: 10 years straight line

- **Investments**

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

- **Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and income and gains of the charity are exempt from taxation to the extent they are applied to the charitable objectives.

- **Operating Leases**

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

- **Cashflow Statement**

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

3. Donations and sundry income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations and legacies	567	6,000
Other income	108	719
Ticket sales	8,040	4,831
	<u>8,715</u>	<u>11,550</u>

4. Income from investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Listed investments	<u>23,220</u>	<u>22,448</u>

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 30 June 2023

5. Income from charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Subscriptions and Gift Aid	35,237	27,129

6. Costs of generating funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Investment management fees	8,842	10,796

7. Costs of charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Costs of Society's activities	163,519	155,733

8. Analysis of total resources expended

	2023 £	2022 £
Charitable expenditure		
Amortisation	3,698	-
Rent	11,406	10,000
Office relocation	-	322
Heat & light	-	-
Legal & professional fees	4,853	66
Website & IT charges	8,379	16,501
Staff costs	87,413	75,495
Functions and meetings costs	29,300	31,183
Research costs	140	835
Library	17	15
Printing of memoirs	2,294	1,827
Programmes/ Promotional Expenses	8,092	11,538
Stationery and photocopying	530	556
Postage, telephone and equipment hire	612	1,615
Insurance	1,570	1,231
Independent examination fee	2,358	2,770
Bank & PayPal charges	2,566	1,627
Sundries	186	152
Repairs and renewal	105	-
Total	163,519	155,733

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 30 June 2023

9. Information regarding employees and trustees

	2023 No	2022 No
Average number of employees during the year:		
Administration	2.9	2.9

The full-time equivalent number of staff was 2.9 in 2023 (2.3 in 2022). Two staff members work on a full-time basis and one on a part time basis.

	£	£
Staff costs comprise:		
- Salaries	82,940	71,644
- Employers Pension contribution – defined plan	4,356	3,511
- Employee expenses		340
Legal medical expenses	15	
Meals	69	
Transportation	34	
	87,413	75,495

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

There are no Key Management Personnel other than the Trustees.

No Trustees or person related or connected by business to them, has received any remuneration from the Society during the year. No expenses were paid to any trustee during 2023 (2022: £0).

10. Tangible fixed assets for use by the society

The Society has a capitalisation threshold for individual assets acquired at £5,000. All assets acquired below this figure are be written off to the Income & Expenditure account in the year of acquisition. No purchases were made during 2023 in excess of this threshold.

11. Investments held as fixed assets

	2023 £	2022 £
Total investments		
Market value at 1 July 2022	1,265,750	1,617,238
Additions at cost	475,993	936,116
Disposals at carrying value	(561,701)	(1,102,840)
Net gain/(loss) on valuation	77,368	(184,764)
Market value at 30 June 2023	1,257,410	1,265,750
Being at market value:		
Listed investments	1,257,410	1,265,750
Historical cost at 30 June 2023	1,197,686	1,251,621

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

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 30 June 2023

The investment portfolio is structured as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Direct investment	556,402	662,434
Indirect investment	701,008	603,316
	<u>1,257,410</u>	<u>1,265,750</u>

The investments held as fixed assets are subdivided as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Investment assets in the UK	309,751	404,609
Investment assets outside the UK	947,659	861,141
	<u>1,257,410</u>	<u>1,265,750</u>

12. Investment in Subsidiary

	2023 £	2022 £
Investment in Manchester Literary and Philosophical Publications Limited	100	100

The investment represents 100% of the Ordinary Share Capital of 100 shares of £1 each of the Company. Manchester Literary and Philosophical Publications Limited is currently dormant. The Company number is 01667171. The net assets of the company at 30 June 2023 was £100 (2022: £100)

13. Intangible assets

	Website £	Total £
Cost		
At 30 June 2022	-	-
Additions	36,979	36,979
At 30 June 2023	36,979	36,979
Amortisation		
At 30 June 2022	-	-
Charge of the year	3,698	3,698
At 30 June 2023	3,698	3,698
Net Book Value		
At 01 July 2022	-	-
At 30 June 2023	33,281	33,281

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 30 June 2023

14. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	1,935	1,841

Debtors relate to sundry amounts that were prepaid on services delivered to the Society at 30 June 2023.

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts payable	-	1,586
Accruals and deferred income	8,982	7,408
Brewin Dolphin	2,380	-
	11,362	8,994

16. Operating lease commitments

The Society has no operating lease commitments.

17. Related parties

There were no related party transactions with the Trustees during the year (2022: nil)

18. Statement of Funds

Unrestricted Funds	1 July 2022	Incoming Resources	Expenditure	Net gains/ (Losses)	Accumulated amortisation	30 June 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Expendable Endowment	1,345,061	67,172	(168,663)	77,368	(3,698)	1,317,240
Total Funds	1,345,061	67,172	(168,663)	77,368	(3,698)	1,317,240
Unrestricted Funds	1 July 2021	Incoming Resources	Expenditure	Net gains/ (Losses)	Accumulated amortisation	30 June 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Expendable Endowment	1,635,227	61,127	(166,529)	(184,764)	-	1,345,061
Total Funds	1,635,227	61,127	(166,529)	(184,764)	-	1,345,061