

Annual Report of the Society for Libyan Studies 2017–2018

The address of the Society is:

c/o The British Academy, 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

The Society maintains a website at <http://www.societyforlibyanstudies.org>.

The General Secretary may be contacted by email at gensec@societyforlibyanstudies.org or by telephone at 020 3174 2412.

The Society is a Registered UK Charity, no. 259262, founded in 1969 with the object of promoting studies in regard to Libya and adjacent regions in North Africa and the Mediterranean. In this regard, it seeks through its activities:

- to support and undertake research relating to the history, antiquities, culture, languages, literature, art, institutions, customs and natural history of Libya and adjacent regions in North Africa and the Mediterranean;
- to organize and promote research in, and upon, Libya and its adjacent regions for these purposes;
- to cooperate with other organizations sharing the same fields of interest;
- to arrange for the publication of research in these fields;
- to hold lectures and meetings, to publish an annual journal (Libyan Studies) and other publications which will enhance and promote public knowledge of all aspects of Libyan culture and society and those of adjacent regions in North Africa and the Mediterranean.

The Society is governed in accordance with Rules first adopted in 1969 and subsequently modified in 1974, 1982 and 2010. The Society is recognized by the Charity Commission as an unincorporated association. The President is elected at the Annual General Meeting for a term of four years; the Chairman is elected for a period of three years, which may be extended to a maximum of five years; the Honorary Secretary, the Treasurer, the Head of Mission and the Editor of the Society's journal are elected annually and may be re-elected without limit; the remainder of the Council is composed of up to eight Ordinary Members who are elected annually and may be re-elected, subject to a maximum continuous period of service of four years. In proposing Ordinary Members for election, the Council seeks to secure as wide a range of skills within its fields of interest as possible. The Officers and Council, who constitute the trustees of the charity, confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant-making policy for the year.

The Society receives the major part of its funds from the British Academy. This relationship is currently governed by a Letter of Agreement between the parties, dated 17 November 2016 and relating to the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2020. Apart from various forecasting and reporting requirements, this letter specifies that the funds provided by the Academy (received in turn from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) are to be used 'to benefit the UK research endeavour'. This corresponds only in part to the objects of the Society ('to promote studies in regard to Libya'). It is therefore incumbent upon the Council to confirm that the grant payments from the British Academy have been applied in accordance with both the terms of the Letter of Agreement between the Academy and the Society, and the aims and objectives of the Society as stated in its rules and declared to the Charity Commission for England. Council confirms that, in respect of the accounts presented herewith, this is so.

The Officers and Council on 31 March 2018 were as follows:

Officers

President:	PROFESSOR ROBERT FOLEY, BA, PHD, FBA
Vice Presidents:	PROFESSOR GRAEME BARKER, CBE, FBA, FSA SHIRLEY STRONG, MBE
Chair:	PROFESSOR DAVID ATKINSON, BSc, PhD
Honorary Treasurer:	PHILIP KENRICK, MA, DPHIL
Honorary Secretary:	CORISANDE FENWICK, BA, MA, PHD, FSA
Head of Mission:	PAUL BENNETT, MBE, BA, HON.DLITT, FSA, CIFA
Editor, Libyan Studies:	PROFESSOR ANNA LEONE, MA, PHD

Council:	AHMED BUZAIAN, BA, MA SALEM EL-MAIAR, BSc, MBA, MPhil PROFESSOR MARTA MIRAZÓN LAHR, BA, PhD GHAZI GHEBLAWI, MBBCH, MSc PETER MEYER, MBA, MA PROFESSOR WEN-CHIN OUYANG, BA, BEd, MA, MPhil, PhD PROFESSOR LOREDANA POLEZZI, MA, PhD EMERITUS PROFESSOR CHARLOTTE ROUECHÉ, MA WILLIAM WOOTTON, BA, MPhil, DPhil, FSA
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General Secretary: PAULINE GRAHAM
Honorary Librarian: DAWN WRIGHT, BA, DIPLIB
Publications Manager: VICTORIA LEITCH, BA, MPhil, DPhil

Research Grants Committee

The Chair
The Honorary Treasurer
The Honorary Secretary
The Head of Mission
PROFESSOR KEVIN MACDONALD, BA, PHD, FSA (Committee Chairman)
SAUL KELLY, BA, PHD

Publications Committee

The Chair
The Honorary Treasurer
The Honorary Secretary
The General Secretary
Editor of Libyan Studies
Publications Manager
PROFESSOR WEN-CHIN OUYANG, BA, BED, MA, MPhil, PHD

Research Grants Awarded

As in 2016–17, the Society received more applications and from a wider field than hitherto. After due consideration to quality, the Society's remit and the Academy's Strategic priorities, the following grants were awarded:

October 2017

Dr Evan Hill (Belfast)

Cultural use of molluscs at Haua Fteah (NE Libya) during the last Interglacial, 135,000 to 115,000 years ago.
£1,593

Dr Andy Merrills (Leicester)

Kingship and Kinship in Moorish North Africa. - £1,640

Dr Katie Manning (KCL)

The origins and spread of the Neolithic in North Africa. - £7,500

Dr Sam Nixon (UEA)

Communities, economies and exchange networks along the medieval caravan routes of the pre-Sahara: investigation of the oases centre of Tamdult, southern Morocco -£3,878

March 2018:

Katelin McCullough (UNC-Chapel Hill)

Women in Roman Cyrenaica: Female Images from Cyrene held at the British Museum - £2000

Prof. Charlotte Roueché (KCL/ ICS)

Inscriptions of Roman Cyrenaica: proof state - £2,863

Leila Araar (UCL)

Photogrammetry and Rapid Documentation at Volubilis Archaeological Project Morocco - £800

Dr. Corisande Fenwick (UCL)

Mobility, identity and community in Christian North Africa - £7500 (2nd year of a 4-year grant)

Society Projects

In 2015, the Society implemented as a strategic priority a long-term digital programme that would make available online the rich materials on Libyan history and archaeology in its Archive at the University of Leicester. Significant progress has been made during 2017-18. The archive is now available for use and access, and advice on accessing the online catalogue can be found via this weblink:

<http://www.societyforlibyanstudies.org/resources/archive/>. The archive is also accessible for visitors (again, instructions for booking and access are on the same webpage). This initiative represents clear progress for the Society. The books, correspondence, photographs, maps, reports and other materials that constitute our archive are now conserved and catalogued. This unique resource is accessible in person, and the nature and range of these materials are searchable online. This initiative advances our capacity to serve as a centre for research into Libya and its adjacent regions markedly. We are very grateful to the University of Leicester and to Prof. David Mattingly and temporary archivists, Ms Leanne Harrington, Ms Sarah Woods and Mrs Jane Sellek, assisted by the John Dore Scholars, Dr. Niccolò Mugnai and Ahmad Buzaian, for their great help with this project. We are also grateful to Prof. Charlotte Roueché (of Kings College London) who has also been central to progressing this project.

A further element of our digital programme has been a large-scale collaborative project established between the Society, King's College London and the University of Leicester to create a digital research platform called *Libyca: an open-access research tool for Libya's history and heritage* and to begin the process of digitising and publishing online the SLS archive. The Society funded the initial step, which is a professionally prepared catalogue of the Society's holdings in Leicester. This is being done in partnership with the Library at the University of Leicester, where the Archives are held, and will offer basic archival information via the Library catalogue; this project was started last year. Although it was slightly delayed by changes in staff, the catalogue, with helpful descriptions, should be accessible online by the end of 2018. The next phase is to use the information from the catalogue to build a digital research platform (*Libyca*), working with King's Digital Laboratory at King's College London. This will not only present the catalogue of the Archive, but also allow for the steady enhancement of the information, and addition of materials (photographs, plans, notebooks, letters) in digital form. Rather than attempting to obtain funding for the immediate digitisation of the entire archive, the Society proposes a series of projects which will allow researchers to work on particular sections of the archive, to enrich and publish them online; some such projects are already in hand, and others are invited. Under the supervision of Corisande Fenwick, UCL BA student, Dannie Smith-Suarez, digitized the plans from David Whitehouse's Ajdabiya excavations as part of her dissertation research. The Society is particularly keen to encourage more student research projects of this kind.

The *Libyan Antiquities At Risk (LAaR)* project ended in May 2017. Its primary target was the recording and dissemination of information about Libyan funerary sculptures of the Hellenistic, Roman and late Roman periods, which are under threat of being sold on the illegal art market. It addressed this by setting up an online photographic reference collection, which is now accessible via a platform hosted and managed by the University of Leicester IT Services, <https://laar.le.ac.uk/>. Two papers detailing the results of LAaR's first phase have been published in *Libyan Studies* and *Quaderni di Archeologia della Libia*. Options for funding a second phase of the project are still being explored.

The *Libyca* and *LAaR* projects are related closely to the *Heritage Gazetteer of Libya* created by Charlotte Roueché, Hamed Walda and Will Wootton with support from King's Digital Laboratory. The data were originally collected to support the online publication of Greek and Latin inscriptions from Libya. The first such initiative was the *Inscriptions of Roman Tripolitania*, published in 2009 (<http://inslib.kcl.ac.uk/irt2009/>); the materials collected have been enriched with further information, particularly from the Guides to *Cyrenaica* and *Tripolitania* by Philip Kenrick, published by the SLS, and from the materials contributed to the *Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World* by David Mattingly. This online, freely accessible gazetteer of Libyan heritage (<http://www.sls gazetteer.org/>) was launched at an international workshop – Libya Matters – held in partnership with the Centre for Hellenic Studies at King's College London in October 2016. It is already being used in the online publication of a second corpus of inscriptions, by colleagues in France and Italy, published in summer 2017 (<https://igcyr.unibo.it/>). The data are also being exposed to a wider community through Pelagios, <http://commons.pelagios.org/about/>. The Gazetteer will be used as a searching aid for materials in *Libyca*, and also by the new North African Heritage Archive Network (NAHAN) to organise the participation of the Society's Archive within the wider transnational project. Finally, the information in the Gazetteer continues to be augmented: current work at King's Digital Laboratory will enable members of the SLS to upload images of sites and monuments and make them accessible via the Gazetteer.

Fieldwork and Post-Excavation Research

The Society has extended its remit to sponsor fieldwork and research projects that fit within its current scheme: '*Social and Cultural Interactions Across North Africa*'.

The flagship project sponsored by the Society at Bulla Regia in Tunisia is now in its second year. The project (directed by Corisande Fenwick and Mohameddine Chaouali) combines multiple techniques – remote sensing, photogrammetry, excavation and bioarchaeological analysis – to reconstruct the urban development of Bulla Regia from its Numidian origins to its abandonment in the Middle Ages and to understand the diet, nutrition, health, lifestyle, origins and mobility of its late antique inhabitants. A full field season was held in September 2017 to investigate a newly-discovered church and cemetery at risk from a housing development and to train Tunisian students in rapid documentation techniques. The results are published in the next issue of *Libyan Studies* (2018). The Society also awarded seed and post-excavation funding to a range of other field projects addressing key debates in Paelolithic, Neolithic and Islamic archaeology in Egypt (Merimde Beni Salama), Tunisia (northern Sahara) Sudan (Jebel Moya), and Morocco (Tamdult); reports will be published in future volumes of *Libyan Studies*.

The political situation in Libya still prevents the resumption of field projects but the Society continues to assist scholars in this country and in Libya to study and promote Libyan heritage. In addition, members of the Society are active with a range of initiatives designed to assist the Department of Antiquities of Libya with capacity-building and training in cultural resource management, to help build a brighter and more peaceful future for Libya. Dr Bennett, our Head of Mission, was able to make two field trips to Libya. The first in September 2017 to assist Libyan colleagues with the successful backfilling of the Haua Fteah cave and the second in early May 2018 to attend an important international conference on the rebuilding of Benghazi following the shocking aftermath of major armed conflict in and around the city. During these short visits to eastern Libya, he managed to meet with many of our colleagues in the Department of Antiquities and the Universities of Benghazi, Tocra and Al Baida and supported applications by the Department and the Boy

Scouts Movement of Libya for funding for heritage-related projects from the Prince Claus Fund; applications that were successful.

Archaeological fieldwork by our Libyan colleagues continues to take place. Dr. Bennett visited University training excavations at Balagrae and Tocra and was shown the results of two emergency excavations, the first at Apollonia, following winter storm damage, and the second on the campus of the University of Al Baida, where new buildings were being constructed. The results of the interventions are impressive and the principal investigators Dr Ahmed Emrage and Mohammed Touati have been encouraged to submit papers on their work to *Libyan Studies*. Brief field trips around Cyrene and Apollonia on both occasions revealed a shocking amount of illegal development in extremely sensitive archaeological zones, even within the boundaries of the World Heritage Site. Much of the building was for housing, particularly holiday homes, but an expansion of agriculture and industry was also evident.

The work of the Desert Migrations Project (directed by David Mattingly, University of Leicester) was completed under the aegis of the ERC-funded Trans-Sahara Project and the publications are now well advanced. The first volume on Saharan Trade appeared with Cambridge University Press in 2017, the second volume on Burials, Migration and Identity should appear in 2018, and the final pair of volumes (on Mobiles Technologies and Urbanisation/State Formation) are now both submitted and under review. A Society grant to Aurélie Cuénod (University of Leicester) supported the scientific analysis of lead isotopes in Garamantian copper; the results will be published in the final Trans-Sahara volume.

A series of capacity-building projects have also been initiated in Libya and Tunisia with the support of the Society. One such example is the new collaborative project 'Training in Action: From Documentation to Protection of Cultural Heritage in Libya and Tunisia' established by Corisande Fenwick (UCL), Anna Leone (Durham University) and William Wootton (KCL) in collaboration with the Libyan Department of Antiquities, the Tunisian Institut National du Patrimoine and the Society for Libyan Studies and funded by the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund. The project has already trained more than 40 staff from Libyan and Tunisian national heritage organisations in rapid documentation techniques (GIS, photogrammetry, UAV survey) and preventative conservation and heritage management, many of whom are now participating in advanced training and conducting mini-projects where they are putting the skills learnt into practice.

Lectures

This year the Society organised four lectures at the premises of the British Academy, King's College London and at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL. These were as follows.

25 April 2017	Dr Efthymia Nikita, School of Archaeology, University of Sheffield The Institute of Archaeology	The Garamantes of Fezzan as a case study for Late Holocene desert-induced stress and human mobility across the Sahara Desert
10 October 2017	Professor Anna Leone, Durham University at the British Academy	The necropolis of Cyrene: ancient development and modern threats to one of Libya's key sites
30 November 2017	Professor David Atkinson, University of Hull at the British Academy	Transforming Terra Incognita with 'Colonial Science' in Italian Libya
6 February 2018	Hisham Matar At Kings College London	A reading and discussion of his writing, including <i>The Return</i> (2016)

Publications

Libyan Studies continues to be published on behalf of the Society by Cambridge University Press, and the 2017 issue (vol. 48) was produced under the editorship of Anna Leone. In 2018, the first issue of the redeveloped journal will be published: this extends the journal's coverage to wider geographical remit include other North African countries and the southern Mediterranean to underscore North Africa's pivotal role in the Mediterranean from prehistory to today.

The Society's monographs are now almost exclusively being produced as e-books and Print-on-Demand, which makes significant savings on production costs, and the quality of the digital printing continues to improve. All publications are also produced as ebooks and we are now also discussing producing online only publications – to make further savings on titles that would be very expensive to print and distribute, particularly to North African regions, thus freeing up money for publishing more books. *Trade in the Ancient Sahara and Beyond*, Edited by D. J. Mattingly, V. Leitch, C. N. Duckworth, A. Cuenod, M. Sterry, C. Cole came out in November 2017 and was co-published with Cambridge University Press. This book is the first in a four-volume series looking at ancient Saharan history and archaeology, and focuses on re-assessing the evidence for trade across the pre-Islamic Sahara, to paint a much more dynamic picture of a very well connected region. Also to be published in 2018 is the volume by Mftah A. M. Ahmed *Rural Settlement and Economic Activity: Olive oil, wine and amphorae production on the Tarhuna Plateau during the Roman period*. This volume offers new perspectives on economic activity and settlement patterns based on the results of the Tarhuna Archaeological Survey and confirms that the Gebel Tarhuna was one of the most vital areas in Tripolitania for the production of oil and wine. This volume will be the first in the Society

for Libyan Studies Open Access Monograph series, set up to enable research to be accessible immediately by the entire research community. *An Engraved Landscape: the rock carvings of the Wadi al-Ajal, South West Libya*, by Tertia Barnett will be published later in 2018, as a printed monograph and ebook. This substantial volume promises to be *the* reference volume on Saharan rock art for a great many years to come. It presents the first detailed account of a previously unknown collection of rock carvings from south west Libya and examines the place and significance of rock art within a landscape that has undergone profound physical, visual, and cultural change over the last 8,000 years. The Society has now also opened up a new list of Society Sponsored Monographs, the first being *Architectural Decoration and Urban History in Mauretania Tingitana* by Niccolò Mugnai, published in Rome by Edizioni Quasar in 2018, and featuring the Society's logo in recognition of a Society grant that helped fund its publishing costs.

The Society continues its commitment to producing Open Access publications. The journal, *Libyan Studies*, published with Cambridge University Press, remains, from 2016, a hybrid Open Access journal, meaning that it publishes some articles available only to subscribers, plus Open Access articles which may be accessed on-line by anyone without charge. A new series, the Society for Libyan Studies Online Monographs, will be started later in 2018 with the publication of the groundbreaking research carried out by Libyan archaeologist Mftah A. M. Ahmed (see above). The Society is also continuing to make some of its older publications available as Open Access ebooks. This Open Access monograph series was launched in December 2016 with the publication of David Mattingly's *Archaeology of Fazzan* volumes 1, 2 and 3, with volume 4 being launched online in 2018. The three volumes from the Sabratha excavations are also now available. Further Monographs are in preparation and will be announced to members when they go online.

The Society website book tab is a useful summary of where the Society is with its publications. 1) Silphium Press: the more popular titles continue to be published under this imprint, and we have a new Archaeological Guide on Algeria in production, written by Philip Kenrick. 2) Society Monographs: these include excavation reports and conference volumes, under two separate series – Society for Libyan Studies Monographs and Society for Libyan Studies Conference Volumes. 3) Society CUP Monographs: currently including the Trans-Sahara volumes (Edited by D. J. Mattingly). 4) Society Sponsored Monographs: books published by other publishers but sponsored through the Society's grant system and featuring the Society's logo. 5) Open Access: This section is principally for the publication online of the Society's older publications, available to members and non-members for digital download, including *The Archaeology of Fazzan* series and *Excavations at Sabratha*. And finally, 6) *Libyan Studies*: the Society's journal, co-published with Cambridge University Press.

Archive

As outlined above, work on the cataloguing and digitization of the Society's archive at the University of Leicester has accelerated as part of the various digital initiatives described above. A further grant of £2,600 was also contributed to the expense of conserving the McBurney archive of Libyan prehistoric material housed in Cambridge University.

Library

The Society has appointed Dr Celeste Gianni (SOAS), as Library Fellow, and she is currently reviewing and evaluating the Society's holdings in the library of the School of Oriental and African Studies. We hope to encourage more use of this distinctive resource through developing an improved and wider profile for our collection.

The Society Website

The address of the Society's website is <http://www.societyforlibyanstudies.org>.

Membership

On the 1 January 2018, the Society had 220 individual members of which 52 are living overseas. Cambridge University Press has reported that volume 47 of *Libyan Studies* attracted 63 'traditional' subscriptions (print with online access). A further 19 institutions are classed as 'migrations' which are institutions that previously took a traditional subscription but which now access the journal through a consortium. There are now 1,887 institutions with access to *Libyan Studies* through Cambridge consortia packages. These figures are down on those for the previous year (2,326), due mainly to institutions lost in Asia, which are not however research intensive. Cambridge University Press stress in their report that their position as a quality not-for-profit academic press has, in recent years, become stronger in regions such as Australasia, Europe and North America, and they are retaining business in regions where commercial presses are not.

At the Annual General Meeting in December 2017, Prof. David Mattingly had served on the Council for four years in succession and was not eligible for re-election. There was therefore one vacancy on the Council and Professor Loredana Polezzi MA PhD was elected as an ordinary member. At the end of the financial year (31st March), Dr Philip Kenrick stepped down as Honorary Treasurer, a post he has held for ten years and was replaced by Dr Alex Wilshaw BA DPhil.

The Society wishes to thank the British Academy, the Institute of Archaeology, UCL and Kings College London for the use of rooms and facilities.

Dr Corisande Fenwick, Honorary Secretary

Finance for the Year Ended 31 March 2018

THE SOCIETY FOR LIBYAN STUDIES

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2018

2016–17		£	£	2017–18	£
	INCOME				
77,607	British Academy grant		71,054.00		
5,639	Subscriptions		5,762.61		
5,056	Book sales		5,901.03		
1,635	Journal sales		2,109.00		
606	Bank interest		343.08		
466	Donations/other grants		718.85		
40	Miscellaneous ¹		40,230.21		
91,049	Total income			126,118.78	
	EXPENDITURE				
10,875	1. Research grants²		Total:		25,386.60
4,892	D. Atkinson: 'Colonial science' ... in Italian Libya		—		
—	J. Rowland: The Western Nile Delta		6,381.00		
—	C. Fenwick: Bulla Regia excavation		7,500.00		
5,983	Grants under £5,000		11,505.60		
8,416	2. Library/Archive		Total:		17,648.62
	Library: review collection at SOAS ³		495.00		
	Archive: cataloguing and conservation ⁴		17,153.62		
56,157	3. Communications and outreach		Total:		31,869.85
3,095	Conferences		—		
23,627	Digital initiatives ⁵		1,265.64		
2,719	Journal production: <i>Libyan Studies</i>		5,634.92		
1,957	Meeting expenses, including entertaining		1,551.60		
3,957	Production costs: new monographs ⁶		12,263.73		
9,475	new Silphium volumes		—		
1,120	Recurrent costs: storage/despatch of books ⁷		756.64		
1,397	print-on-demand		329.50		
213	royalties to authors		321.01		
7,465	Honorarium, Publications Manager		7,547.52		
158	Publicity other than website		366.00		
974	Website maintenance and development		1,833.29		
11,910	4. Establishment		Total:		11,971.46
246	Bank charges		213.22		
10,500	Fees, General Secretary		10,620		
169	Insurance		171.71		
995	Office expenses		896.36		
—	Sundries		70.17		
2,572	5. Travel		Total:		1,263.49
628	Foreign		—		
1,944	UK		1,263.49		
89,931	Total expenditure			88,140.02	
1,119	<i>Surplus (deficit) of income over expenditure</i>			37,978.76	
91,049				126,118.78	
	Accounted for by:				
(3,956)	Increase (decrease) in Publications Reserve			19,576.27	
11,523	Increase (decrease) in allocated grants held over year-end (B - A)			808.00	
7,532	A: awarded in previous year, withdrawn from Reserve	19,055.00			
19,055	B: newly awarded but not yet spent, added to Reserve	19,863.00			
(6,448)	Increase (decrease) in general funds			17,594.49	
1,119				37,978.76	

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2018

ASSETS		
2017		2018
£		£
64,777.96	Virgin Money Account	93,121.04
820.92	NatWest Current Account	10,758.20
506.51	PayPal Account	204.91
66,105.39	TOTAL IN CASH	104,084.15
1,118.51	Increase (decrease) for the year	37,978.76
	<i>Represented by:</i>	
17,188.22	GENERAL FUND	34,782.71
29,162.17	RESERVE FUNDS: publications	48,738.44
19,755.00	grants allocated but not yet spent	20,563.00
<u>21,414.37</u>	Stock of publications, valued at cost	<u>13,668.46</u>
87,519.76	TOTAL ASSETS	117,752.61
	LIABILITIES	
<u>19,755.00</u>	Grants allocated but not yet spent	<u>20,563.00</u>
67,764.76	Balance of assets and liabilities	97,189.61

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. This figure includes £28,000 received from other sources for the Trans-Sahara volumes and £12,230.21 in grants paid in previous years but returned unspent (mainly on the Desert Migrations Project in 2011).
2. The total actually awarded during the year was £26,960.
3. This is the first part of a project to review the Society's library collection with a view to conservation, where desirable, elimination of titles already held by SOAS and a possible transfer of some items to the Archive.
4. Most of this was dedicated to the Society's Archive at the University of Leicester, but £2,600 was also contributed to the expense of conserving the McBurney archive of Libyan prehistoric material in Cambridge.
5. Digitization (for open access) of three volumes on *Sabratha*.
6. £7,000 of this was covered by separately received funds for the *Trans-Sahara* volumes.
7. On the recommendation of Oxbow Books, our principal distributor, excess stocks of slow-moving titles have been drastically reduced; storage costs should therefore continue to diminish. The excess stock is housed temporarily by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, while the Council considers making gifts of its publications to appropriate recipients.

Reserves policy

The Society has few financial commitments which cannot be terminated at short notice, since it has no direct employees and does not own or rent premises; it has not therefore been considered necessary to retain a reserve of potential winding-up costs.

At any one time it may be holding grants which have been awarded but not yet taken up by their recipients, and for practical reasons some of these (typically awarded in February for projects to be undertaken in the summer) are usually held over the end of the financial year (31 March). Such sums are shown above as a restricted reserve.

The Society has historically set aside funds for publications arising (usually several years later) from fieldwork that it has supported. These are shown as a Publications Reserve, with the intention that they may be used to support (any) publication costs, but NOT new fieldwork.

Book collection

The holdings of the Society housed in the library of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, on 19 April 2018 (22 June 2017) amounted to 679 (636) titles (including Arabic titles, but with journal runs represented as single items) plus 116 pamphlets. The corresponding figures on 15 June 2016 were 602 titles and 116 (116) pamphlets. As the current review of our library holdings proceeds, these figures may be expected to change significantly (both through the discard of unnecessary duplicates and through the identification of additional titles hitherto incorrectly catalogued). The Society did not have an active acquisition policy for its book collection during the year under review; it received volumes by gift and by exchange and works sent for review were generally also added to the collection.

Change of Treasurer

This will be the last set of annual accounts prepared by myself as Honorary Treasurer. I have been privileged to serve the Society in this capacity for ten years, which I promised to do. My successor (co-opted by Council from 1 April, to be proposed for election at the 2018 AGM) is Dr. Alex Wilshaw of St. John's College Cambridge.

P. M. Kenrick, *Honorary Treasurer*

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY FOR LIBYAN STUDIES (UK Registered Charity no. 259262)

I report on the accompanying accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

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.

Christopher Allen, Honorary Independent Examiner

36 Denton Close, Oxford. OX2 9BW

15 May 2018