

Annual Report of the Society for Libyan Studies 2018–2019

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 'phone 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. 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;
- to organize and promote missions to Libya 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.

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 2019 were as follows:

Officers

President:

PROFESSOR ROBERT FOLEY, MA, PhD, ScD

Vice Presidents:

PROFESSOR GRAEME BARKER, CBE, FBA, FSA

SHIRLEY STRONG, MBE

Chair:

PROFESSOR DAVID ATKINSON, BSc, PhD

Honorary Treasurer:

ALEX WILSHAW, MA PhD

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:

SALEM EL-MAIAR, BSc, MBA, MPhil

PROFESSOR MARTA MIRAZÓN LAHR, BA, PhD

GHAZI GHEBLAWI, MBBCh, MSc

PETER MEYER, MBA, MA

SAM NIXON, MA PhD

CHARIS OLSZOK MA PhD

PROFESSOR LOREDANA POLEZZI, MA PhD
EMERITUS PROFESSOR CHARLOTTE ROUECHÉ, MA
WILLIAM WOOTTON, BA, MPhil, DPhil, FSA

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

Research Grants Awarded

As in previous years, 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 2018

Dr Anna Walas (University of Nottingham)

Understanding social and cultural interactions on the North African frontier: a study of unpublished materials from the Roman military base at Bu Njem. .

£980

Dr Michael Brass (UCL)

The UCL-UoK Expedition to the Southern Bezira (Sudan); Mobility, identity and interaction of pastoral peoples with the Nile Valley.

£4,810

February 2019

Lorena Gazotti (University of Cambridge)

Governing the 'immigration nation': development, humanitarianism and migration politics in Morocco

£800 (travel award).

Dr Corisande Fenwick (UCL)

Mobility, Identity and Community in Christian North Africa. Renewal of Bulla Regia grant

£7,500 (3rd year of a 4 year grant)

Dr Mathew Hobson/Dr Muftah Hddad (University of Leicester)

Opening Access to Libya's Digital Heritage

£3000

Prof David Mattingly/Muftah Hddad (University of Leicester)

The Tarhuna Archaeological Survey (TAS2019)

£2,863

Dr Evan Hill (QUB)

Analysis of archaeomalacological material from the Eusperides project

£2,000 (follow-on funding)

Dr Marthe Achtnich (University of Oxford)

Mobility Economies: rethinking migrants' journeys through Libya
£1,996 (follow-on funding)

Dr. Corisande Fenwick (UCL)

Mobility, identity and community in Christian North Africa
£2,000 (follow-on funding)

Research

The Society has extended its remit to support primary research in Libya and the broader North African region (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Niger, Mali, Chad, Sudan) and to explore connections between North Africa and the Mediterranean or sub-Saharan Africa. Preference is given to Humanities and Social Sciences projects which fit within the Society's current research schemes: 1) Society and environment across North Africa from deep prehistory to the present; 2) Migration, diaspora and identity in North Africa; 3) Governance, security and conflict in North Africa.

The flagship project sponsored by the Society at Bulla Regia in Tunisia is now in its third year. The project (directed by Corisande Fenwick and Moheddine 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 second full field season was held in September 2018 and focused on the excavation and analysis of a substantial Roman and late antique cemetery associated with a church. The Society also awarded seed and post-excavation funding to a range of other projects addressing key debates in prehistoric Sudan (Jebel Moya), Hellenistic and Roman Libya (Euesperides, Tarhuna, Bu Njem) and contemporary Morocco and Libya; reports will be published in future volumes of *Libyan Studies*.

Although the political situation prevents the resumption of fieldwork in Libya, the Society continues to assist scholars in this country and in Libya to study, promote and protect Libyan heritage through a number of initiatives. Members of the Society are actively assisting with the training of a new generation of Libyan cultural resource managers and, in concert with the eastern and western Department of Antiquities, helping to shape a sustainable model for cultural protection for a future Libya at peace with itself. In 2018-19, Dr Bennett, the Society's Head of Mission reported that there was an easing of tensions between east and west and a relative peace was being enjoyed in the eastern part of the country after months of intense fighting. The French Mission held a workshop in Tripoli in March 2019 and Dr Bennett had planned a trip to take tourists to Lepcis Magna and Sabratha, as well as to help out on training excavations at Tocra and Balagrae. Subsequently, however, the political situation in Libya, particularly around Tripoli, has gone from very bad to critical and at the time of writing it is not possible for UK researchers to visit the country.

Much positive work has been conducted by our Libyan colleagues in these challenging conditions. At Cyrene, which was placed on the endangered list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 2017, a new Controller has made huge progress in removing graffiti, litter and vegetation from the site. He and others have mounted an education program to encourage families to visit the World Heritage. Public lavatories have been opened in central locations and a small café near the Sanctuary of Apollo overlooking the Byzantine baths complex. A response was sent to UNESCO in May setting out recent improvements, establishing a 'buffer zone' for the protection of the core site and suburbs, and putting forward improvement plans for the future. Reports on the other Libyan World Heritage Sites, Lepcis Magna, Sabratha and Ghadames have been prepared by Department staff in Tripoli, a Department now under the Chairmanship of Dr Mohammed Shakshuki. In Benghazi, a plan by a local Football Club to develop new shops in the Selmani District, close to southern defenses of Euesperides (the first city, founded in c. 570 BC) has been evaluated by Department staff. Following-on from the fieldwork, the development footprint has been carefully repositioned to protect the ancient site. Dr Ahmed Hussein, Chairman of the Eastern Department, has also secured an agreement with the Football Club that they will build a fence to protect the archaeological site and provide a building to house security staff. Archaeological fieldwork continues to take place and successful training excavations were run at Tocra and Balagrae (Al Baida) by Ahmad Emrage of the University of Benghazi and Mohammed Touati of the University of Al Baida.

The combined work of the Desert Migrations Project and ERC-funded Trans-Sahara Project (directed by David Mattingly, University of Leicester) continues to be published as a joint venture between the Society and Cambridge University Press. The second volume in a four-volume series on Trans-Saharan Archaeology ('Burials, Migration and Identity in the Ancient Sahara and Beyond') appeared in January 2019, and volume 3 on

'Urbanisation and State Formation' and volume 4 on 'Mobile Technologies' should both be published in 2020.

A series of capacity-building projects continue in Libya and Tunisia with the support of the Society. One such example is the collaborative project 'Training in Action: From Documentation to Protection of Cultural Heritage in Libya and Tunisia' established by Anna Leone (Durham University), Corisande Fenwick (UCL) 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 70 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 projects where they are putting the skills learnt into practice. The Society has also provided support to the Endangered Archaeology of the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA) project, a collaboration between the Universities of Oxford, Leicester and Durham through a small grant to Dr Matthew Hobson and Dr Muftah Hddad. The grant will fund a trial of a low-bandwidth, open-source, bilingual Arabic-English version of the EAMENA database in Libya and test its suitability for recording archaeological sites and threats to their preservation in areas with poor communication infrastructure.

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.

May 2018	Dr Joanne Rowland, University of Edinburgh	New Perspectives on Egyptian Pre-history – a view from the Western Nile
October 2018	Professor Loredana Polezzi, University of Cardiff	Looking Across: images of Libya through Italian Eyes
December 2018	Dr Corisande Fenwick, UCL and Dr Moheddine Chaouli, INP	The Tunisian-British Bulla Regia Project
February 2019	Dr Marthe Achtnich, University of Oxford	Immobility in Crisis, migrants' journeys in Libya and Malta

Publications

Libyan Studies continues to be published on behalf of the Society by Cambridge University Press, and the 2018 issue (vol. 49) was produced under the editorship of Anna Leone. Victoria Leitch, the Publications Manager continues to discuss new ways of improving the journal with CUP, to maximise its potential in the modern world: for instance it is now possible to publish additional data online as a complement to the printed articles, and articles are published online through First View ahead of the printed version.

The Society's monographs are now systematically produced as e-books and printed on Print-on-Demand digital printers, which makes significant savings on production costs. The ebooks are now also for sale not only through the Society's website for members, and through Oxbow our distributor, but also now through JSTOR (with future plans to distribute our Open Access titles through JSTOR which will significantly widen our readership). The Publications Manager is constantly checking quality and costs of printing to ensure all our publications are produced to a high quality at the best prices possible. **Burials, Migration and Identity in the Ancient Sahara and Beyond**, edited by M.C. Gatto, D. J. Mattingly, N. Ray and M. Sterry came out in January 2019 and was co-published with Cambridge University Press. This book is the second in a four-volume series looking at ancient Saharan history and archaeology, and presents the state of the field of funerary archaeology in the Sahara and its neighbouring regions and sets the agenda for future research on mobility, migration and identity. The Society's Silphium Press imprint (for more popular titles) published *Classical Antiquities of Algeria, a Selective Guide*, written by Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès, Claude Sintès and Philip Kenrick, in March 2019, with an accompanying article in *Current World Archaeology* magazine. This guide shows readers or tourists the spectacular ancient moments in Algeria and celebrates its ancient past. *An Engraved Landscape: the rock carvings of the Wadi al-Ajal, South West Libya*, by Tertia Barnett was finally published in 2019, as a printed monograph and ebook. This volume was launched at a Society for Libyan Studies event at UCL, when the author presented her work followed by a panel discussion and a reception. The book has been very well received by reviewers and will be a lasting reference and gold standard title for the Society.

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, started in

2018 with the publication of the groundbreaking research carried out by Libyan archaeologist Mftah A. M. Ahmed (*Rural Settlement and Economic Activity*). 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, as well as *The Christian Monuments of Libya*. Further Monographs are in preparation and will be announced to members when they go online.

A further new initiative, launched on the Society's website, is the dissemination of Arabic translations of Society publications. *Libyan Archaeological Guides: Tripolitania*, by Philip Kenrick, has been translated into Arabic and the printed book distributed in North Africa, but you can now also access this Arabic version online. We are also starting to disseminate Arabic versions of articles from *Libyan Studies* that our Libyan colleagues have kindly translated into Arabic. These are available on our website, and there will hopefully be many more in future.

The Society's website is a useful summary of where the Society is with its publications, under the books tab and the journal tab. 1) Silphium Press: the more popular titles continue to be published under this imprint. 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) Arabic Publications: this will be dedicated to the Open Access distribution of Arabic translations of Society publications. 6) 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. 7) *Libyan Studies*: the Society's journal, co-published with Cambridge University Press.

SLS Information Resources

Over the last few years the Society has been working to assess and deploy the important holdings in its archives and its library: the need for this has become increasingly apparent when records held in Libya itself are at such risk. In 2018-19 it was decided to formalise this responsibility by creating a post of Honorary Archivist (currently Professor Charlotte Roueché of King's College London). Our overall intention is to conserve our holdings, and to make them as easily accessible as possible, in order to encourage their use.

Library

The Society's library is held on our behalf by the Library of the School of Oriental and African Studies, in an arrangement of great mutual benefit. In 2018 the Society appointed Dr Celeste Gianni (SOAS), as Library Fellow to review and evaluate the Society's holdings. She produced an extremely useful report, inventorying 920 items, of which only 138 have duplicates at SOAS; she also identified to the Library items which needed repair.

As a result, we have now made public a full and searchable catalogue of our holdings

<https://www.zotero.org/libsoc/items>. The collection is of considerable historical interest, and Dr Gianni is preparing to publish an article on its development.

The Archives

The Archives of the Society have accumulated steadily and continue to do so. They were originally assembled at the University of Newcastle, in 1988; in 2012 they were transferred to the University of Leicester, where they are housed in a building belonging to the School of Archaeology and Ancient History. From 2016 the Society funded a professional catalogue of the Archive, which was undertaken very efficiently in partnership with the Librarians of the University; the archivists also did valuable work in tidying and conserving the items. Work on the Society's archive at the University of Leicester continued in 2018-19, with the catalogue now available online via the University of Leicester and the Society's website. <http://www.societyforlibyanstudies.org/resources/archive/>. We are grateful to a number of individuals who have deposited new materials with the archive. Intending donors are asked to contact the Society's General Secretary in the first instance.

While this catalogue provides an essential finding aid for items within the archive, it is not in itself easily enriched. In late summer 2018, King's Digital Laboratory (KCL) reworked the catalogue into a database resource which can be easily searched and augmented. The Laboratory had already built the Society's Heritage Gazetteer of Libya (<https://www.sls gazetteer.org/>); it was decided to include the archive data within the same platform, for simplicity and ease of maintenance. The materials became available in spring 2019, at <https://www.sls gazetteer.org/browse/>. The Society is currently developing an active exchange of data with the WikiMedia Foundation. They are interested in deploying the high-quality data in the archive; the Society is interested in giving users of the Gazetteer access to images of monuments in Libya which use our digital identifiers. From autumn 2019, the aim is to encourage students to work alongside the John Dore Scholar (currently Dr Ahmed Buzaian) and a new temporary archivist; they will

add more materials, including digital images, and improve the quality of the existing data. In this way, the Society hopes to encourage researchers to engage with this exceptional resource on Libyan heritage, to carry out their own research and, at the same time, enrich the resource for researchers and the public.

The Society Website

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

Membership

On the 1 January 2019, the Society had 219 individual members of which 53 are living overseas.

At the Annual General Meeting in December 2018, Dr Ahmed Buzaian and Professor Wen-chin Ouyang, who had served on the Council for four years in succession were not eligible for re-election. There were therefore two vacancies on the Council and Dr Sam Nixon MA PhD and Dr Charis Olszok MA PhD were elected as ordinary members. Dr Alex Wilshaw MA PhD, who was co-opted as Honorary Treasurer in March 2018 was formally elected at the meeting. Mr Oliver Kimberley FCA Oliver was appointed as Independent Examiner to replace Mr Christopher Allen who had stood down from the role. The Society wishes to thank the British Academy and the Institute of Archaeology, UCL for the use of rooms and facilities.

Finance for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

The Hon. Treasurer's statement of account follows

Dr Corisande Fenwick
Honorary Secretary

SOCIETY FOR LIBYAN STUDIES

Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31st March 2019

2017-18		2018-19
£		£
INCOME		
71,054	British Academy grant	76,502
—	Business Development Fund Grant	6,500
5,763	Subscriptions	5,786
2,109	Journal sales	1,977
5,901	Book sales + postage	3,713
343	Bank interest	524
719	Donations/gift aid	32,659
40,230	Miscellaneous	0
<u>126,119</u>		<u>127,661</u>
EXPENDITURE		
25,387	Research grants:	25,586
17,649	Library/Research collections	2,330
17,154	Archive: cataloguing and conservation	2330
495	Archive digitisation	0
3,751	a) Communications and outreach	5,095
—	Conferences/fellowships	
366	Publicity other than website	75
1,833	Website maintenance/development	2195
1,552	Lecture/meeting expenses	2825
28,119	b) Publications	31,459
1,265	Digitisation old books	3239
757	Storage/despatch of books	867
329	Print-on-demand costs	2529
321	Royalties on book sales	216
7,548	Publications Manager	7,676
5,635	Journal production	8,716
12,264	Production of monographs/silphium books	3,590
0	Special projects	4,626
11,971	Establishment	12,285
213	Bank charges	206
10,620	General Secretary's remuneration	10,800
172	Insurance	172
896	Office expenses	1,107
70	Sundries	0
1,263	Travel	2,544
1,263	UK	2,544
88,140	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	79,299
37,979	Surplus for the year	48,362

SOCIETY FOR LIBYAN STUDIES

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2019

2017-18		2018-19
£		£
93,121	Virgin Money Account	93,645
10,758	NatWest Current Account	56,729
205	PayPal Account	2,835
104,084	Total Cash	153,209
<u>13,668</u>	Stock of publications, valued at cost	<u>13,151</u>
0	Creditors due within one year	17,623
<u>20,563</u>	Grants allocated but not yet paid out	<u>3,700</u>
20,563	Current liabilities	21,323
<u>97,189</u>	Total assets less current liabilities	<u>145,037</u>
	Represented by:	
34,783	General fund	54,725
13,668	Stock	13,151
48,738	Publications fund	77,161
<u>97,189</u>		<u>145,037</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1) Reconciliation of net funds

17,188	General Fund brought forward	34,783
21,414	Stock brought forward	13,668
<u>29,162</u>	Publications fund brought forward	<u>48,738</u>
67,765		97,189
37,979	Surplus for year as reported	48,362
-21,414	Opening stock	-13,668
13,668	Closing stock	13,151
<u>-809</u>	Other (Move on B A allocated grants/ rounding)	<u>3</u>
<u>97,189</u>	Closing net assets	<u>145,037</u>

2) Donations includes £32,000 restricted donations for translation of 'Libya Archaeological Guides : Cyrenaica', and 'Classical Antiquities of Algeria'.

3) Journal production include £3,015 late invoiced expense.

4) Publications special projects includes translation (see above) and indexation of 'Burials, Migrations and Identity' a joint SLS-CUP project.

5) Current reserve levels reflect major initiatives of digitisation and translation that have been funded and in progress prior to invoicing.

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 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 30 April amounted to 707 titles plus 116 pamphlets. The corresponding figures on 19 April 2018 were 679 titles and 116 pamphlets.

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.

Alexis Wilshaw, *Honorary Treasurer*

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY FOR LIBYAN STUDIES

(UK Registered Charity no. 259262)

I report to the Council on my examination of the accounts of the Society for Libyan Studies ("the Society") for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts 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 attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Oliver Kimberley ACA, Honorary Independent Examiner

22 Upper Brook Street, London W1K 7PZ

10 September 2019