

Annual Report of the Society for Libyan Studies 2019-2020

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

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 organisations 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, 2010 and 2019. The Society is recognised 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 2020 were as follows:

Officers

President:	PROFESSOR ROBERT FOLEY, MA, PhD, FBA
Vice Presidents:	PROFESSOR GRAEME BARKER, CBE, FBA, FSA SHIRLEY STRONG, MBE
Chair:	PROFESSOR DAVID ATKINSON, BSc, PhD
Honorary Treasurer:	OLIVER KIMBERLEY, MA, ACA
Honorary Secretary:	CORISANDE FENWICK, BA, MA, PhD, FSA
Head of Mission:	PAUL BENNETT, MBE, BA, HON.DLITT, FSA, CIFA
Honorary Archivist:	EMERITUS PROFESSOR CHARLOTTE ROUECHÉ, MA
Editor, Libyan Studies:	VICTORIA LEITCH, BA, MPhil, DPhil

Council:	SAM NIXON, MA PhD CHARIS OLSZOK MA PhD PROFESSOR LOREDANA POLEZZI, MA PhD NICHOLE SHELDRIK MA, PhD
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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 Jonathan Hill, MA, PhD

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:

January 2020

Ahmed Buzaian

Fazzan Project/DMP Finds – Funds to protect the British archaeological stores at the Museum of Jerma in Fazzan: £800

February 2020

Thomas Hinkel (University of St Andrews)

The Political Economy of Migrant Smuggling; the case of conflict in the Sahel: Travel Grant- £800

Dr Lorena Gazzotti (University of Cambridge)

Borders of rights: governing child mobility at the Spanish-Moroccan border: Pilot Project - £3000

Professor Cyprian Broodbank (University of Cambridge)

Oued Beht Archaeological Project (Khemisset Province, Morocco): Team Based Research Award - £7,000

Dr Corisande Fenwick (UCL)

Mobility, Identity and Community in Christian North Africa. Renewal of Bulla Regia: 4th year of a 4 year grant - £7,500

Dr Charlotte Roueché (KCL) and Dr Corisande Fenwick (UCL)

Mapping Roman Libya: Team Based Research Award - £ 11,028.32

Research

The Society supports primary research in Libya and the broader North African region (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Niger, Mali, Chad, Sudan) as well as research that explores 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 final year of excavations. 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 third full field season was held in September 2019 and focused on the excavation and analysis of a substantial Roman and late antique cemetery associated with a church. The Society also awarded seed-funding to a range of other projects addressing key debates in Neolithic Morocco, child migration in contemporary Morocco. It also awarded funds for a new research project on the Society's Archive and the creation of a linked post at UCL named the Kathleen Kenyon Fellow in Libyan Cultural Heritage.

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 third volume in a four-volume series on Trans-Saharan Archaeology (Urbanisation and State Formation in the Ancient Sahara and Beyond) appeared in January 2020, and volume 4 should be published later in 2020.

A series of capacity-building projects continue in Libya and Tunisia with the support of the Society. Dr Paul Bennett, the Society's Head of Mission, reports that the military situation in Libya remains critical and it has been impossible for the Society to resume fieldwork in the country. What was a civil war between militia based in the east and west of the country has now become a proxy-war for outside forces, principally Egypt supporting a coalition of interests backing eastern forces led by Halifa Haftar, and Turkey coming to the rescue of the beleaguered internationally recognised Government in Tripoli. A siege of the city was recently lifted and the front line has now moved to Sirte. Meanwhile with most oil terminals in the hands of Halifa Hafta, dwindling exports, and Covid -19 present in Tripoli and Benghazi, the economy of Libya is in freefall and hardship is being experienced by everyone.

Although this terrible situation prevents us from entering the country, members of the Society continue to assist scholars in this country and in Libya to study, promote and protect Libyan heritage through a number of initiatives. Foremost amongst these have been Training in Action: From Documentation to Protection of Cultural Heritage in Libya and Tunisia (TiNA) and Endangered Archaeology in Libya and the Middle East (EAMENA) both funded by the UK Government's Cultural Protection Fund. The Training in Action project 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 is now complete. It trained 72 staff from Libyan and Tunisian national heritage organisations in rapid documentation techniques (GIS, photogrammetry, UAV survey) and heritage management, many of whom are now leading new research and training in these skills. EAMENA, a collaboration between the Universities of Oxford, Leicester and Durham continues to train specialists in the use of new remote sensing technologies to create a Sites and Monuments record for the country and to use that record with ground survey and continued monitoring to protect Libya's archaeological heritage. In 2019-20, the Society worked with EAMENA by funding the successful trial of a low-bandwidth, open-source, bilingual Arabic-English version of their database in Libya. A third project funded by the ALIPH Foundation, seeks to train members of the Department of Antiquities and others to produce World Heritage Management Plans for Libya's five World Heritage sites. On-line training for this programme is due to start in September 2020. Finally, the Society provided support to the Museum of Jerma through a small grant for conservation and protection of its archives, including materials from the British excavations conducted by Charles Daniels and David Mattingly under the Society's auspices.

Our colleagues in Libya remain active. University training excavations are continuing at Tocra and Balagrae with excellent results. We are encouraging Dr Ahmad Emrage and Mohammed Touati leading the excavations to publish interim reports in forthcoming issues of Libyan Studies. Despite an alarming amount of illegal development, Departments of Antiquities in Benghazi and Tripoli are actively working to protect World Heritage sites with programmes of site maintenance and outreach in the community, this with extremely limited funds but the enthusiastic support of local volunteers and the Boy Scouts of Libya. All five of Libya's World Heritage sites are on the UNESCO Endangered List but the Departments are working hard to improve the situation and have submitted a list of new sites for consideration by the World Heritage Committee, including the Haua Fteah cave and the ancient city of Ptolemais.

Two extremely welcome items of news were the appointment of Dr Hafeed Walda as the Hon Ambassador to the permanent Libyan delegation to UNESCO and the selection by the American Mission to Libya of Dr Ahmad Emrage as a Fulbright Scholar to teach at Oberlin University for a year. Hafeed's appointment is inspired. Formerly based at King's College, University of London and a long-term member of the Society, he is a major force for good and will work tirelessly in support of Libya and Libyan heritage. Ahmad's selection is also welcomed and well-deserved. Lecturer in Archaeology at the Universities of Benghazi and Tocra, with a PhD from Leicester University, he has appeared in dispatches many times for his work at Tocra, Apollonia and the Haua Fteah.

Lectures and Events

This year the Society organised two lectures at the premises of the British Academy and the UCL Institute of Archaeology as well as the well attended 50th Anniversary Society for Libyan Studies Conference hosted by the UCL Institute of Archaeology which featured 12 papers by Society Members on the latest Libyan research in the humanities and social sciences from deep prehistory to the desert explorers to the Libyan novel and modern migration flows; it was followed by concluding remarks from Sir Vincent Fean and Prof. Charles Tripp FBA. The events were as follows

May 2019	Dr Tertia Barnett, University of Edinburgh	Engraved Landscapes: rock carvings in the Wadi al-Ajal, Libya. Lecture and panel discussion.
October 2019	The Society for Libyan Studies 50 th Anniversary Conference	Fifty Years of British Collaborative Research
December 2019	Prof. Jonathan Hill, Kings College London	Libya and the Arab Spring in North Africa. 50 th Anniversary Society Reception

Publications

Libyan Studies continues to be published on behalf of the Society by Cambridge University Press, and the 2019 issue (vol. 50) was produced under the editorship of Anna Leone. The executive Editor, who manages production, Victor Leitch, is now also taking over as academic editor, but guest editors will be invited in future to help shape the journal.

The Society's monographs are now produced as e-books and print-on-demand, which makes significant savings on production costs. *Building the Countryside: rural architecture and settlement in Tripolitania during the Roman and Late Antique periods* by Nichole Sheldrick will be published at the end of the year, a masterly synthesis of old and new data tracking the history of land use and socio-cultural structures. *Urbanisation and State Formation in the Ancient Sahara and Beyond*, edited by M. Sterry, D.J. Mattingly, came out in early 2020 and was co-published with Cambridge University Press. This book is the third 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 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. The Society is also continuing to make some of its older publications available as Open Access ebooks. In 2019/20 the following titles were released online: *Excavations at Surt*; *The Libyan Desert Natural Resources and Cultural Heritage*; *Ghirza: A Libyan Settlement in the Roman Period*; *Excavations at Sidi Khrebish Benghazi (Berenice) Volume III, Part 1, Volume III, Part 2, Volume IV, Part 1*; *The Several Buildings of Lepcis Magna*. We continue to disseminate Arabic translations of Society publications. This year, *Libyan Archaeological Guides: Cyrenaica*, by Philip Kenrick, has been translated into Arabic, with the help of a generous donation by Marigold Norbye and Olwen Macnay. and the printed book will be distributed in Tunisia and Libya and made available online.

The Society's website provides a summary of the Society's publications under the books tab and the journal tab. 1) Silphium Press: popular titles are 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 is dedicated to the Open Access distribution of Arabic translations of Society publications. 6) Open Access: online versions 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.

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 identified the rarest items and those most in need of conservation. In 2019/20 the Society applied for a British Academy Business Development Fund grant to fund work on digitising the rarest items; unfortunately, shortly after our receiving the news that the grant had been awarded, Coronavirus forced the closure of the SOAS library. It is not easy to say when access for this kind of activity will become possible.

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. They can be visited by appointment. The catalogue is 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.

In Spring 2019, the archive data was integrated into the Society's Heritage Gazetteer of Libya by King's Digital Laboratory (KCL) 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 John Dore Scholar (currently Dr Ahmed Buzaian) started to work on a more granular description of the Archive materials and began a programme of digitisation; this has been interrupted by the Coronavirus emergency. Funds have also been allocated for the employment of an archivist to continue the cataloguing of the archive; this will commence once the situation allows. In spring 2020 the Society appointed a Kathleen Kenyon Fellow, Dr Valeria Vitale, who is an expert on digital representation of archaeological data; she worked with UCL undergraduates to add more materials to the archive, including digital images, and improve the quality of the existing data. Our aim is to create a pathway which other students might follow, in order to engage more young people with the study of Libyan heritage. More broadly, the Society hopes to encourage researchers to engage with this exceptional resource on Libyan heritage, to carry out their own research and, in so doing, to enrich the resource for researchers and the public.

One consequence of lockdown has been that many people, including several of our members, have been looking at their own archives, and considering what to do with them. Our response has been to create the **Society for Libyan Studies Flickr Photo Library** for members to post their photographs, and also to add information to other images: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/societyforlibyanstudies/albums/with/72157714829632516>. Members are gradually responding to this initiative: tantalisingly, many of their most interesting images are not in digital form, so we are advising on various approaches to digitisation.

The Society Website

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

Membership

On the 1 January 2020, the Society had 216 individual members of which 54 are living overseas.

At an Extraordinary General Meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting on the 5 December 2019, the position of Honorary Archivist was added to the list of Officers of the Society. At the Annual General Meeting, Emeritus Professor Charlotte Roueché was appointed to the position. Prof. Marta Mirazòn Lahr, Salem Elmaiar, Peter Meyer and Dr Ghazi Gheblawi, who had served on the Council for four years in succession were not eligible for re-election. Dr Nichole Sheldrick was elected as an ordinary member and Dr Sam Nixon and Dr Charis Olszok were re-elected as ordinary members. Dr Alex Wilshaw, Honorary Treasurer and Dr Will Wootten did not present themselves for re-election. Mr Oliver Kimberley, formerly Honorary Examiner, was appointed as Honorary Treasurer and Mr Colm Walls was appointed Honorary Examiner.

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

Finance for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

The Hon. Treasurer's statement of account follows

Dr Corisande Fenwick
Honorary Secretary

The Society for Libyan Studies
Statement of Financial Activities
Year Ended 31 March 2020

	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
INCOME		
British Academy Grant	70,594	76,502
Business Development Fund Grant	14,960	6,500
Subscriptions	5,408	5,786
Journal sales	2,230	1,977
Book sales and postage	7,250	3,713
Bank interest	704	524
Donations/gift aid	8,777	32,659
Miscellaneous	147	0
TOTAL INCOME	<u>110,070</u>	<u>127,661</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Research grants	27,555	25,586
Library/Research collections	29,310	2,330
Archive: cataloguing and conservation	26,593	2,330
Archive digitisation	2,717	0
Communications and outreach	10,874	5,095
Events inc 50th Anniversary	3,427	0
Publicity other than website	430	75
Website maintenance/development	3,250	2,195
Lecture/meeting expenses	3,767	2,825
Publications	57,390	31,459
Digitisation old books	1,456	3,239
Storage/despatch of books	748	867
Print-on-demand costs	6,442	2,529
Royalties on book sales	250	216
Publications Manager	10,704	7,676
Journal production	3,881	8,716
Production of monographs/silphium books	2,945	3,590
Special projects	30,964	4,626
Establishment	19,758	12,285
Bank charges	331	206
General Secretary's remuneration	11,409	10,800
Insurance	175	172
Office expenses	1,343	1,107
Accountancy	6,500	0
Travel	491	2,544
UK	491	2,544
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>145,378</u>	<u>79,299</u>
DEFICIT -/ SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	<u>-35,308</u>	<u>48,362</u>

The Society for Libyan Studies
Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2020

	31/03/2020	31/03/2019
	£	£
ASSETS		
Virgin Money Account	94,349	93,645
NatWest Current Account	25,263	56,729
PayPal Account	2,808	2,835
Total Cash	<u>122,420</u>	<u>153,209</u>
Stock of publications, valued at cost	<u>12,366</u>	<u>13,151</u>
Total Assets	<u>134,786</u>	<u>166,360</u>
LIABILITIES		
Creditors due within one year	11,087	17,623
Grants allocated but not yet paid out	<u>14,755</u>	<u>3,700</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>25,842</u>	<u>21,323</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>108,944</u>	<u>145,037</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>		
General Fund	32,814	54,725
Stock Fund	12,366	13,151
Publications Fund	<u>63,764</u>	<u>77,161</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>108,944</u>	<u>145,037</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Reconciliation of Funds

Year to 31 March 2020	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
General Fund brought forward	54,725	34,783
Stock Fund brought forward	13,151	13,668
Publications Fund brought forward	<u>77,161</u>	<u>48,738</u>
Total funds at start of year	145,037	97,189
Deficit-/surplus for the year	-35,308	48,362
Movement in stock	-785	-517
Roundings	0	3
Total funds at end of year	<u>108,944</u>	<u>145,037</u>

2. Special Projects include research development work to extend the reach of the Society and broaden its impact.

3. Grants Awarded include:

An emergency award granted to provide funds to protect the British Archeological stores at the Museum of Jerma in Fezzan; and

A new fellowship - the Kathleen Kenyon Fellowship - to develop the Society's archives in Leicester.

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 in respect 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 frequently 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 future publication costs, but not new fieldwork.

Book collection

The Society held 947 items in its book collection, which is housed in the library of the School of Oriental and African Studies ("SOAS") University of London. The library is currently closed due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

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; works sent for review were generally also added to the collection.

Oliver Kimberley *Chartered Accountant, 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 2020.

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.

Colm Walls *Chartered Management Accountant*
36 Lancet Lane, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9SA
September 2020