

Annual Review 2020



20th Anniversary of the Rodley Nature Reserve



The photographs of Rodley Nature Reserve on the front and back covers of the Review were taken by Barbara Murphy and are reproduced with her kind permission.

*This issue of the Review contains two reports on
LPLS grants in support of Rodley:
by Peter Mill on the Downy Birch Copse Project (p 31)
and by Peter Murphy on The First Twenty Years (p 35)*



**Leeds Philosophical
and Literary Society
Annual Report and Review
2020**

The 200th Annual Report of the Council
at the close of the session 2019-20

*presented to the Annual Meeting held on
3rd December 2020*

and

Reviews of events and of grants awarded in 2020

THE LEEDS PHILOSOPHICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY, founded in 1819, has played an important part in the cultural life of Leeds and the region. In the nineteenth century it was in the forefront of the intellectual life of the city, and established an important museum in its own premises in Park Row. The museum collection became the foundation of today's City Museum when in 1921 the Society transferred the building and its contents to the Corporation of Leeds, at the same time reconstituting itself as a charitable limited company, a status it still enjoys today.

Following bomb damage to the Park Row building in the Second World War, both Museum and Society moved to the City Museum building on The Headrow, where the Society continued to have its offices until the museum closed in 1998. The new Leeds City Museum, which opened in 2008, is now once again the home of the Society's office. In 1936 the Society donated its library to the Brotherton Library of the University of Leeds, where it is available for consultation. Its archives are also housed there.

The official charitable purpose of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society is (as newly defined in 1997) "To promote the advancement of science, literature and the arts in the City of Leeds and elsewhere, and to hold, give or provide for meetings, lectures, classes, and entertainments of a scientific, literary or artistic nature". The Society is keenly interested in cultural developments in Leeds and the region, and is constantly looking for new ways to further its aims.

Application forms may be obtained from the Hon Treasurer and are also to be found on the Society's website.

Website: www.leedsphilandlit.org.uk

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**THE LEEDS PHILOSOPHICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY LIMITED
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Constitution Company limited by guarantee
Registered number 177204
Registered charity number 224084

Governing document Memorandum and articles adopted 2 July 1997

Members of Council (who are trustees for charity law and directors for company law)

President G E Blair BSc, PhD
Vice-president C J Hatton BSc, PhD, FInstP
Treasurer I W Smith HonFLeedsCM
Secretary J E Lydon BSc, PhD
Other Council members D I Bower MA, DPhil, MInstP (Retired 5th December 2019)
Eveleigh Bradford BA (Resigned 5th December 2019)
R J Bushby BSc, DPhil
Janet Douglas BA, MA
K T Hall BA, PhD, MA (Retired 5th December 2019)
R Jakeways BSc, PhD, MInstP
Cllr Elizabeth Nash
A C T North BSc, PhD, FInstP
C M Taylor BSc(Eng), MSc, PhD, DEng, FEng, FIMechE, FCGI
Mollie Temple CBE, BA, MA, DUniv, DEd
Rachael Unsworth MA, PhD (Appointed 5th December 2019)

Registered Office c/o Leeds City Museum
Cookridge Street
Leeds LS2 8BH

Website www.leedsphilandlit.org.uk

Bankers Lloyds Bank
65 - 68 Briggate
Leeds LS1 6LH

Investment advisors Investec Wealth and Investment
2 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7QP

Accountant Katharine Widdowson FCA
406 Otley Road
Leeds LS16 8AD

THE LEEDS PHILOSOPHICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY 200TH ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019-2020

The Council presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2020. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and with the requirements of the Society's memorandum and articles.

CONSTITUTION

The Society is a company limited by guarantee governed by its memorandum and articles of association. Membership is open to anyone on payment of an annual subscription which is due on 1 October each year. Only those members who have paid or have been elected to Honorary Membership are entitled to vote at the AGM. In the event of the Society being wound up, every person who is a member, or who has been a member within one year, is liable to contribute to the debts and liabilities of the Society a sum not exceeding £10.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The members of the Council are considered to be both directors for Companies Act purposes and trustees for Charities Act purposes. One third of the members of Council retire by rotation at each Annual General Meeting (normally held in December), when appointments or reappointments are made. The Council has powers to co-opt to its membership. *Membership of the Council takes into account the need to have members with expertise to cover the variety of activities of the Society.* All members of the Society are notified prior to the AGM of the names of the Council members who are due to retire and are invited to submit nominations. At the AGM on 5 December 2019 Dr Rachael Unsworth was elected to Council; Dr Hatton, Dr Jakeways and Cllr Nash were re-nominated.

The Officers of the Society are elected by and from the members of Council at the first meeting of Council following the Annual General Meeting; at the Council meeting on 9 January 2020, Dr Lydon was re-elected as Secretary, Professor Blair was elected as President, Dr Hatton as Vice-President and Mr Smith was elected as Treasurer.

Council met on six occasions during 2019-2020 in the Civic Hall and on line by Zoom. Parts of its business were delegated to the following committees: Grants, Events, Exhibition and Museums, chaired respectively by Dr Hatton, Dr Lydon, Mrs Temple and Dr Hatton. The committees are required to act in accordance with the Society's Aims and Policies, and their recommendations are put to the Council for its approval.

Mr Norman Madill has continued as Assistant Secretary, managing the Society's links with its members and other necessary administrative matters. Mrs Sue Clarke, has continued as the Assistant Treasurer, administered the day-to-day financial transactions of the Society including applications for membership.

COVID-19 Coronavirus

In March 2020 COVID-19 afflicted the UK and the government took decisive action. The Society's Council took the decision to adhere to all government advice and instructions, consequently the following actions have been taken.

Since 18th March all public lectures, outings and dinners were cancelled; Council meetings have been conducted via video conferencing; and opportunities for public meetings/talks hosted on Zoom have been piloted.

The Treasurer has received regular briefings from Investec, the Society's investment advisers during the period of the pandemic and continued to keep Council briefed.

MEMBERSHIP

During the course of the 2019/20 year, the Society lost 5 members (through death & resignations) and gained 7 new members; at the end of September membership totalled 150 including 2 associate members.

THE SOCIETY'S AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

General

The Society aims to promote the advancement of science, literature and the arts in the city of Leeds and its immediate area. In furtherance of this aim, which Council believes to be of benefit to the public in this area, the Council's policy has been to disburse its income as follows by:

- providing a programme of free public lectures relevant to the Society's aims
- supporting the work of the City of Leeds Museums & Galleries
- supporting other activities in Leeds of a scientific, literary or artistic nature
- providing grants for purposes of research, publication, or artistic performance.

Grant-making policy

In making grants to promote the advancement of the Society's aims, the Council places particular emphasis on (but does not limit its grants to) the support of activities which directly benefit the citizens of Leeds or assist those engaged in academic and scholarly activities relating to Leeds and its immediate area. It does not give grants in general support of students on taught courses. The value of grants is normally in the range £100 to £2,000, although this limit may be exceeded in special circumstances. The Council is keen to support new endeavours by the award of 'pump-priming' grants.

The Society's archives

The Society's archives are held in the Special Collections section of the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, where they are available for public consultation.

The Society's events

The calendar year 2019 marked the Society's bicentenary involving celebrations culminating in a series of events taking place during the early part of 2019-2020 financial year – of note the day conference and celebration dinner. These are listed below and reports of those taking place this calendar year will be included in the 2020 Annual Review.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Events

The regular monthly events covered a wide range of topics as usual and were well supported both by Society members, guests and members of the public. The lectures from October to March took place in the afternoon in the City Museum. The other meetings were held at University House. Events marked * were related to the bicentenary.

The following events took place:

- Bicentenary Conference *
- Professor Simon Phillips. *Why grass is green and blood is red - what we, and the things around us, are made of*; organised jointly with the University
- Bicentenary Celebration Dinner*
- Annual General Meeting and dinner at University House. After dinner entertainment: Alan Harris Band

- Priestley Lecture. Professor Piers Forster *From Climate Science to Climate Action?*
- Book launch. *William Gascoigne (1612 - 44) Leeds Astronomer* by David Sellers*
- Dr Dan Franks. *The evolution of menopause in resident killer whales*
- Professor Mark Harris. *Hot topic: Update on the recent outbreak of a novel Coronavirus: Perspectives on the virus and public health*
- Dr Christine Holdstock. *History of dyes from Ancient Egypt to Leeds*
- Annual Science Fair in the Leeds City Museum
- *The Search for a Coronavirus Vaccine*. YouTube talk and discussion followed by a Zoom Question and Answer with Professor Nicola Stonehouse of the Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology
- Professor Julian Rushton. Zoom lecture *Beethoven's mistake (Wagner). But was it a mistake?* (This was sadly aborted due to technical difficulties and is to be rearranged.)

Grants

As a result of COVID-19, several successful applicants had to cancel or defer the activity for which they had received funding: the Committee decided to adopt a common policy for all such cases. Accordingly it was decided that, when the event, as applied for, could not be met due to the government's virus restrictions on public events, the grant should be returned to the Society in full, the Society would consider contributing to those expenses incurred before lockdown, and the Society would also look favourably on a subsequent application should the event be rescheduled after the government's restrictions had been lifted. Consequently 5 recipients returned all or part of their grants.

During the year the following grants were awarded by the Society:

- John Mee, £500 to support the Alive & Kicking Theatre Company's *The Seven Hunters*, a whole class participation drama for primary school children.
- Alice Barber, £500 to support 8 performances of *Unsung*, an acclaimed piece of theatre pioneering female figures from science, the military and the arts: partial refund of £350 returned.
- Martin Staniforth, £500 to contribute to the 30th anniversary appeal to purchase a work of art for the Stanley and Audrey Burton Gallery and to support an inaugural ensemble in residence in the University School of Music.
- Elvi Piper, £500 to support 43 performances of *Hansel and Gretel* in Leeds Central Library's Room 700 over Christmas 2019.
- Dr Rachel Conroy, £500 to support the purchase of a group of discovered drawings by Thomas Chippendale snr and jnr for the Chippendale Society.
- Dr Peter Mill, £500 to establish a copse, primarily of Downy Birch, in the dragonfly area of Rodley Nature Reserve.
- Bobbie Millar, £1,475 to provide selected primary schools in Leeds with an introduction to the musical properties of rocks.
- Carl Hutton, £500 to support the Leeds Lit Fest partnership create a website for its annual festival.
- Dr David Thornton, £1,000 to support the publication of *Leeds: a Biographical Dictionary*.
- Jillian Johnson on behalf of Leeds Baroque, £1,000 towards their 20th anniversary concert programme: partial refund of £568 returned.
- Peter Spafford on behalf of Leeds Festival Chorus, £1,500 to support the commission of a new work from Jonathan Dove to be performed at Leeds Town Hall in November 2020.

- Claire Roberts, £250 towards a second performance of a new work written for the Consort of Leeds at the Ilkley Literature Festival: full amount refunded.
- Olivia Race on behalf of Front Room Productions, £600 to support performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the Walled Garden at Temple Newsam Estate in August: full amount refunded.
- Bruce Davies on behalf of BasementArtsProject, £400 towards the publication of 100 copies of a book, *On The Corner*, featuring the work of four local artists.
- Katie Pearce on behalf of West Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra, £1,000 to support a production of Puccini's *Le Villi* at Sunny Bank Mills in March.
- Max Farrar on behalf of the David Oluwale Memorial Association, £500 to support a Leeds city centre walk with music and poetry: full amount refunded.
- Geoff Wain on behalf of MathsWorldUK, £1,086 to create new exhibits for use at science fairs around the UK.
- Adam White on behalf of the Leeds Art Fund, £1,114 to support the publication of *Thomas, Lord Darcy and the Tudor House of Temple Newsam*.
- Cath Brooke, £750 to facilitate Skippko Community Research Team sessions at the Local and Family History Library, Leeds.
- Matthew Bellwood, £500 to enable the publication of a new book about Headingley, telling the story of the area through the words of local residents.
- Leeds City Council, £122 a contribution to the Leeds Museum for the purchase of the miniatures of Lady Gascoigne's war medals.

The Leeds City Museum

We have continued to enjoy a good relationship with the staff of the Museums, to whom we are most grateful for their collaboration. The Museums Committee, comprising representatives from the Society's Council and the Leeds Museums Service, provides a valuable opportunity to discuss collaboration in the planning of events and the best use of grants for supporting the museum. Although the Committee has not met formally this year, liaison has continued through regular reports to Council from John Roles, Head of Museums and Galleries, and following Mr Roles' retirement, by Yvonne Hardman, the Acting Director. There has also been informal contact with staff of the museums and funding through the Grants committee of Museum projects.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Society's budget aims to fund all its events (lectures, dinners, trips etc) and grants from its income, the two major streams of which are the dividend income and subscriptions. The events expenditure is substantially offset by income. This budget omits the payment made during the year to the investment advisers which means that annually overall expenditure often exceeds income. This year has been an exceptional year positively in respect of additional cost for activities as part of the Bicentenary celebrations, but also we have experienced the unfortunate impact of the pandemic with lectures and events being cancelled and a few grants have been returned.

Dividends from investments within the financial year amounted to £12,563 (a reduction of 14% on the previous year, probably as a result of COVID) and subscriptions and donations (including gift aid refund) to £4,098. Total income was £18,549 (a 12% reduction on the previous year). Total expenditure was £32,256 (7% more than that in the previous year). There were 18 grants awarded during the financial year, though 5 have been returned in part or full. The net grants sum paid was £11,477. The Bicentenary Fund stood at £2,155 at the beginning of the financial year and the net spend during the year on Bicentenary activities was £6,660, involving a transfer of £4,505 from the General Fund.

The total value of the Society's investment portfolio (investments and cash held) declined substantially this year due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and now stands at £441,257, a decrease of 10.16%.

The Society's financial position has been monitored regularly by the Council.

Reserves policy

The Society's reserves comprise an unrestricted fund derived from past benefactions and its annual subscriptions, including the proceeds from the sale of the Philosophical Hall to Leeds City Council in 1921. The fund increased in value over the years as income exceeded expenditure and the value of investments increased. Since the Society adopted its new constitution in 1997, Council's aim in the medium term has been to fund its activities as described above and to sustain/increase the capital value of its investments whilst using all the annual dividend income to promote the in-year activities. The Society's income and expenditure do, however, vary from year to year depending on several factors. This year income and expenditure has been impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic. The Council therefore considers it prudent to hold modest liquid reserves with Lloyds Bank.

Investment policy

There are no restrictions in the Society's Memorandum and Articles on the Society's power to invest. The Council's investment objectives are to maintain a level of dividend income sufficient to contribute substantially to the Society's activities, while promoting the capital value of its invested assets over the long term. To this end, it is the Society's normal practice to reinvest realised gains on its assets. The Council has delegated the management of its investments on a discretionary basis to Investec Wealth and Investment.

Risk management

- 1) **Income:** The investment managers pursue an active investment policy to generate income on the Society's behalf. The outcomes are regularly reviewed by the Trustees.
- 2) **Expenditure:** Expenditure on individual events and grants usually represents a small part of total expenditure and risks are minimised by standard procedures for authorisation of all financial transactions. The potential risks at the Society's events are considered as part of the planning for them, and appropriate steps are taken, including the arrangement of Public Liability insurance as necessary.
- 3) The quality of the Society's events and the outcome of grants that have been awarded are reviewed by the Trustees, and details published in the Annual Review, so as to ensure that all the Society's activities are of a high standard consonant with its Aims.

The Society has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing this Directors' Report.

*Approved by the members of the Council on 5 November 2020 and signed on their behalf by
G E Blair (President) and J E Lydon (Secretary)*



THE LEEDS PHILOSOPHICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY LIMITED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Note	2020 General Fund £	2020 Designated Fund £	2020 Total Funds £	2019 General Fund £	2019 Designated Fund £	2019 Total Funds £
Income from:							
Subscriptions and donations		4,098		4,098	4,367		4,367
Investments		12,563		12,563	14,579		14,579
Charitable activities	2	1,888		1,888	2,232		2,232
Total income		18,549	-	18,549	21,178	-	21,178
Expenditure on:							
Investment management fees		4,309		4,309	4,480		4,480
Charitable activities	4	21,287	6,660	27,947	20,829	4,945	25,774
Total expenditure		25,596	6,660	32,256	25,309	4,945	30,254
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets:							
Realised	6	(13,089)		(13,089)	2,413		2,413
Unrealised	6	(27,382)		(27,382)	16,550		16,550
Total gains		(40,471)	-	(40,471)	18,963	-	18,963
Net income for the year		(47,518)	(6,660)	(54,178)	14,832	(4,945)	9,887
Transfers between funds	9	(4,505)	4,505	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(52,023)	(2,155)	(54,178)	14,832	(4,945)	9,887
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances brought forward		512,332	2,155	514,487	497,500	7,100	504,600
Fund balances carried forward		460,309	-	460,309	512,332	2,155	514,487

The Society had no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above.

The notes on pages 12 to 17 form part of these accounts.

THE LEEDS PHILOSOPHICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY LIMITED
BALANCE SHEET
30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Note	2020 Total funds		2019 Total funds	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible	5		3,247		4,545
Investments	6		441,257		486,108
Current assets					
Debtors	7	1,140		1,314	
Cash at bank and in hand		17,508		25,757	
		<u>18,648</u>		<u>27,071</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,843)		(3,237)	
Net current assets			<u>15,805</u>		<u>23,834</u>
Total net assets			<u>460,309</u>		<u>514,487</u>
Funds					
General Fund - unrestricted		460,309		512,332	
Designated Fund - Bicentenary Grant Fund	9	-		2,155	
Total charity funds			<u>460,309</u>		<u>514,487</u>

For the year ended 30 September 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No member eligible to do so has required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 30 September 2020 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

Directors' responsibilities:

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

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

Approved by the Members of Council on 5 November 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

G E Blair

President

I W Smith

Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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) and the Companies Act 2006.

The 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 note.

b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Society. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be used solely for a particular activity by the Society.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the Society has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions relating to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Subscriptions and donations are recognised when receivable. Investment income is included when it is receivable, and includes any recoverable income tax.

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure on charitable activities is set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Tangible and intangible fixed assets

Tangible and intangible fixed assets are initially recognised at their transaction value and depreciated from the date they come into use over their estimated useful life.

Website - straight line over 5 years

f) Fixed assets investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing market price. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and the opening carrying value or the purchase value if acquired during the year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and the carrying value. Realised and unrealised gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. Accrued income and tax recoverable is included at the best estimate of the amount receivable at the balance sheet date.

h) Cash at bank and in hand

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

i) Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Society has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount. Grants payable are recognised when the application has been approved, the recipient has been told of that approval and if applicable has accepted the terms related to the grant offered.

j) Going concern

The trustees have prepared financial projections taking into consideration the current economic climate and its potential impact on the sources of income and planned expenditure. They have a reasonable expectation that adequate financial resources are available to enable the Society to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and have adequate contingency plans in the event that income streams are reduced. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on the basis that the Society is a going concern.

k) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

	2020	2019
	£	£
2 Income from charitable activities		
Events and lectures	1,683	2,232
Publication sales	205	-
	<u>1,888</u>	<u>2,232</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

3 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and the cost of key management personnel

There were no employees of the charity during the year or the previous year.

The key management personnel are the trustees. No remuneration was paid to any trustee during the year or the previous year. No travel expenses were reimbursed to trustees (2019: £nil). On occasion a trustee may act as agent for the Society, make a purchases on its behalf and be reimbursed for this expenditure, eg payment for stationery . Such expenditure is not related to the services provided by the trustees so is not disclosed.

The assistant secretary and assistant treasurer received honoraria as disclosed in note 4.

	2020		2019	
	General	Bicentenary	General	Bicentenary
	£	£	£	£
4 Expenditure on charitable activities				
<i>Grant making</i>				
Projects or organisations (15 grants; 2019: 10 grants)	10,882		5,800	
Individuals (2 grants; 2019: 2 grants)	473		1,200	
Leeds City Council (1 grant; 2019: 1 grant)	122	(868)	2,350	2,650
University of Leeds (no grant. 2019: 1 grant)	-		750	
	<u>11,477</u>	<u>(868)</u>	<u>10,100</u>	<u>2,650</u>

The grant recipients are listed in the Annual Report for the year.

Events and lectures

Events and lectures	2,160	964	2,810	315
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Publications

ISBNs for future publications	-	-	-	35
Booklets published in bicentenary year	-	2,441	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35</u>

Other charitable activities

Bicentenary conference	-	619	-	-
Bicentenary celebration dinner	-	3,381	-	-
Launch of Gascoigne publication	-	123	-	-
Science Fair banner	-	-	-	99
Martin & Synge - Blue plaque and reception	-	-	-	626
Exhibition to mark Bicentenary	-	-	-	313
Publicity for Bicentenary events	-	-	-	453
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,123</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,491</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	2020		2019	
	General £	Bicentenary £	General £	Bicentenary £
4 Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)				
<i>Support costs</i>				
Annual Review	320		286	
Membership leaflets	-	-	-	272
Promotional pens	-	-	-	182
Postage and stationery	863	-	515	-
Insurance	433	-	459	-
Accountancy	670	-	670	-
Honoraria for assistant secretary and assistant treasurer	4,000	-	4,000	-
Website hosting and maintenance	54	-	678	-
Amortisation of website cost	1,298	-	1,298	-
Other expenses	12	-	13	-
	<u>7,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,919</u>	<u>454</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>21,287</u>	<u>6,660</u>	<u>20,829</u>	<u>4,945</u>

5 Intangible fixed assets	Website £
Cost	
At 1 October 2019 and at 30 September	<u>6,492</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 October 2019	1,947
Charge for the year	<u>1,298</u>
At 30 September 2020	<u>3,245</u>
Net book value	
At 1 October 2019	<u>4,545</u>
At 30 September 2020	<u>3,247</u>

6 Fixed asset investments

	Listed Investments £	Cash for investment £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Market value at 1 October 2019	456,349	29,759	486,108	471,513
Less:				
Disposals at opening market value	(111,069)	-	(111,069)	(60,940)
Investment management fees	-	(4,417)	(4,417)	(4,445)
Add:				
Acquisitions at cost	104,613	-	104,613	33,802
Cash reinvested	-	(6,596)	(6,596)	29,628
Net gains on revaluation	(27,382)	-	(27,382)	16,550
Market value at 30 September 2020	<u>15 422,511</u>	<u>18,746</u>	<u>441,257</u>	<u>486,108</u>
Historical cost at 30 September 2020	<u>394,559</u>	<u>18,746</u>	<u>413,305</u>	<u>420,310</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
6 Fixed asset investments (continued)		
Disposals:		
Proceeds	97,980	63,353
Book value at 1 October 2019	(111,069)	(60,940)
Realised gain / (loss)	<u>(13,089)</u>	<u>2,413</u>

All fixed asset investments are held in the UK, in nominee accounts by the investment managers. Details of the investment portfolio are as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Unit and investment trusts holding UK and non-UK equities	291,368	320,620
Gilts, bonds and fixed interest stocks	131,143	135,729
Cash held by investment managers	18,746	29,759
	<u>441,257</u>	<u>486,108</u>

Material investments worth more than 5% of portfolio

The portfolio includes 6 (2019: 6) unit or investment trusts worth between 5% and 8% of the total portfolio value.

	2020	2019
	£	£
7 Debtors		
Investment income	829	1,082
Prepaid expenses	311	232
	<u>1,140</u>	<u>1,314</u>

	2020	2019
	£	£
8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Grants approved but not yet paid	500	500
Accrued expenses	2,343	2,737
	<u>2,843</u>	<u>3,237</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

9 Designated Fund	At 1 Oct			At 30 Sept
Current year	2019	Transfer in	Payments	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bicentenary Grants Fund	2,155	4,505	(6,660)	-
Designated fund - previous year	At 1 Oct			At 30 Sept
Bicentenary Grants Fund	2018	Transfer in	Payments	2019
	£	£	£	£
Bicentenary Grants Fund	7,100	-	(4,945)	2,155

Council set aside funds to support the promotion of activities associated with the bicentenary year of the Society in 2019.

10 Analysis of net assets between funds at the year end

	General	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds
			£
Analysis of net assets between funds			
Intangible assets	3,247	-	3,247
Investments	441,257	-	441,257
Net current assets	15,805	-	15,805
Total net assets	460,309	-	460,309
	General	Designated	Total
	£	£	Funds
			£
Analysis of net assets between funds - previous year			
Intangible assets	4,545	-	4,545
Investments	486,108	-	486,108
Net current assets	21,679	2,155	23,834
Total net assets	512,332	2,155	514,487

11 Post Balance Sheet Events

From March 2020 the UK has suffered restrictions on its activities as a result of COVID-19. In common with almost all charities, The Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society has been significantly impacted by this event, and as a result the expected activity in the charity may be affected by the restrictions on social interaction in the short and medium terms.

Council has not taken the impact of COVID-19 into account in assessing the carrying value of its assets. Council considers that COVID-19 does not affect their assessment of going concern as disclosed in note 1.

The year's finances at a glance 2019-2020

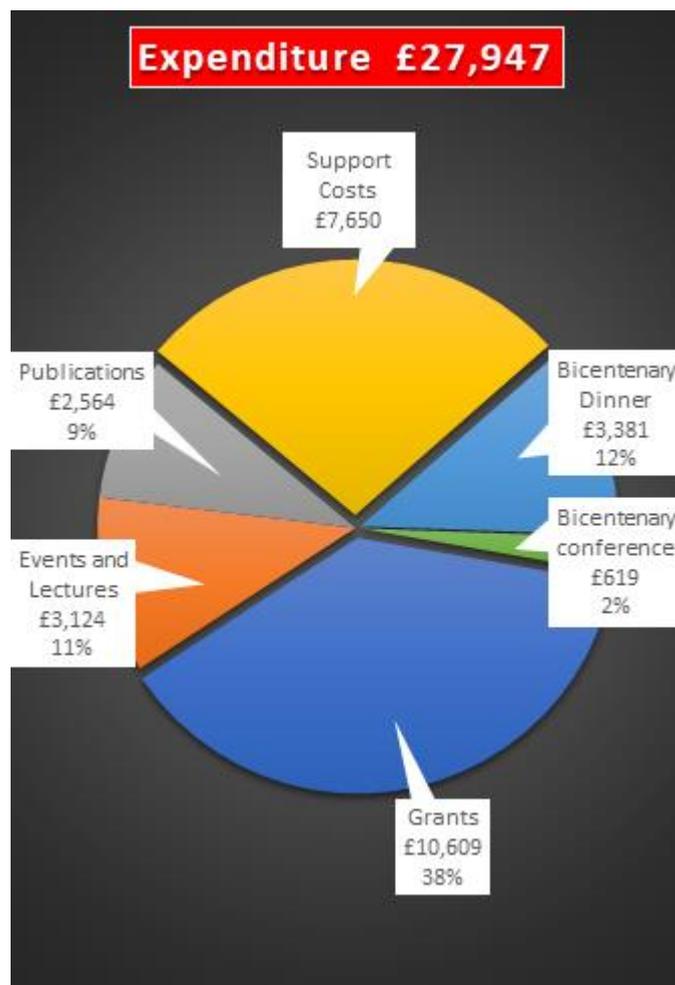
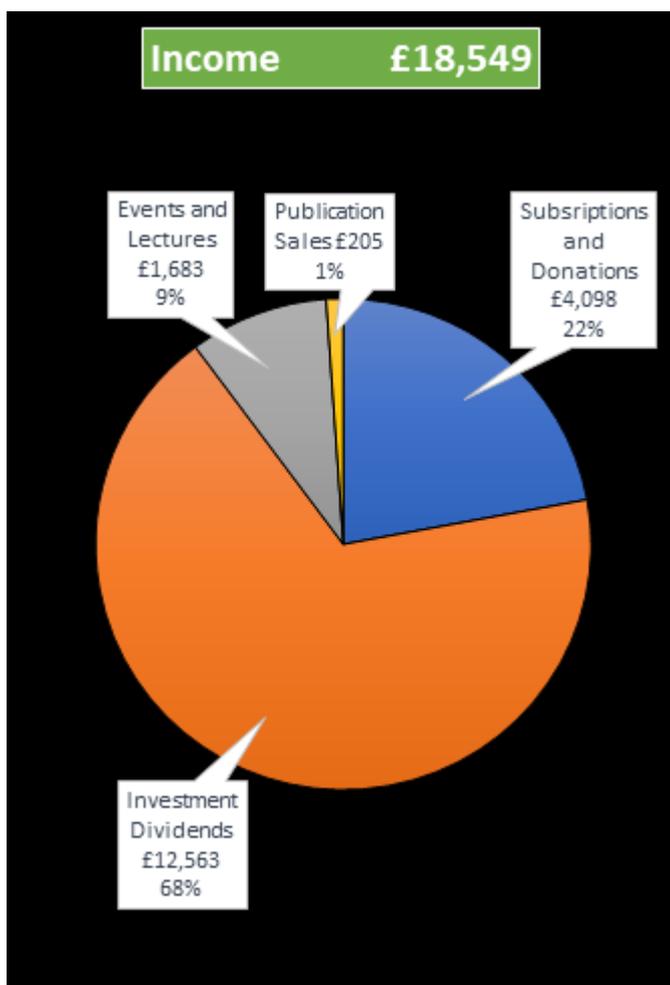
We are required by law to set out our finances in the form given in the preceding pages. It may, however, be helpful to set the Society's finances during the financial year in a different context. The Society sets a broad budgetary aim of funding its grants, events and administration from subscription and dividend income during any financial year. To this end a budget is drawn up and approved by Council to attempt to achieve a balance between income and expenditure determined on a receipts and payments basis for the financial year, with a modest surplus. The pie charts for income and expenditure during the 2019-2020 financial year are presented below. The data is based upon accounts of the Society as presented. Note that the expenditure shown in the chart omits the Investment Management fee, which has been subtracted directly from the investment capital, as in other recent years.

Dividends within the financial year amounted to some 68% of the income, and subscriptions (including gift aid) 22%. The difference between the events income and expenditure is accounted for by hospitality extended to guests as part of our Bicentenary celebrations. The main reduction in income has been brought about by the lack of activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's expenditure, therefore, exceeds income by a not inconsiderable sum as the excess expenditure for the Bicentenary drawn from reserves exceeded the sum held in the Bicentenary designated fund.

In 2019-20 eight grants were eventually awarded to outside bodies. The grants paid totaled £10,609

Warren Smith
Treasurer



Presidents

(since the foundation of the Society)

1820-26	John Marshall	1922-24	Arthur J Grant, MA
1826-28	Revd W H Bathurst, MA	1924-26	Walter Garstang, MA, DSc, FZS
1828-31	Michael Thomas Sadler, MP	1926-28	Edwin Hawkesworth
1831-33	William Hey	1928-30	F W Branson, FIC
1833-35	James Williamson, MD	1930-32	E O Dodgson
1835-37	Revd Joseph Holmes, MA	1932-34	A Gilligan, DSc, FGS
1837-40	Revd Richard Winter Hamilton	1934-36	R Whiddington, MA, DSc, FRS
1840-42	Adam Hunter, MD	1936-39	Hugh R Lupton MC, MA
1842-45	John Hope Shaw	1939-46	W M Edwards, MC, MA
1845-50	Revd William Sinclair, MA	1946-48	E A Spaul, DSc, PhD
1850-51	William West, FRS	1948-50	W L Andrews
1851-54	Revd Charles Wicksteed, BD	1950-52	J N Tetley, DSO, LLD
1854-57	John Hope Shaw	1952-54	Terry Thomas, MA, LLD, BSc, PhD
1857-58	James Garth Marshall, FGS	1954-56	H C Versey, DSc, FGS
1858-59	Revd W F Hook, DD	1956-58	H S Vick, JP
1859-61	Revd Alfred Barry, MA	1958-60	H Orton, MA, BLitt
1861-63	Thomas Pridgin Teale, FRS	1960-62	Sir George Martin, LLD, JP
1863-66	Revd Thomas Hincks, BA	1962-64	E J Wood, MA
1866-68	Charles Chadwick, MD	1964-66	R D Preston, DSc, FInst P, FRS
1868-72	John Deakin Heaton, MD	1966-68	J le Patourel, MA, DPhil
1872-74	Revd Canon Woodford, DD	1968-70	G P Meredith, MSc, MEd, PhD
1874-76	J I Ikin, FRCS	1970-72	J G Wilson, MA, PhD, FInst P
1876-78	Revd J H McCheane, MA	1972-74	J Taylor, MA
1878-81	T Clifford Allbutt, MD, FRS	1974-76	H Henson, DSc, PhD, FRES
1881-83	Revd John Gott, DD	1976-78	P R J Burch, MA, PhD
1883-85	J E Eddison, MD	1978-81	R Reed, MSc, PhD
1885-86	Edward Atkinson, FLS	1981-83	Lord Marshall of Leeds, MA, LIB
1886-89	Thomas Marshall, MA	1983-85	B R Hartley, MA, FSA
1889-92	Thomas Pridgin Teale, MA, FRS	1985-87	D Cox, BA, ALA
1892-94	Revd J H D Matthews, MA	1987-89	B Colville, MB, BS, FRCGP
1894-96	Revd Charles Hargrove, MA	1989-91	I S Moxon, MA, BA
1896-98	Edmund Wilson, FSA	1991-93	R F M Byrn, MA, PhD
1898-00	Nathan Bodington, MA, LittD	1993-95	Mrs J E Mortimer, BA
1900-02	J H Wicksteed, President InstME	1995-97	A C Chadwick, BSc, PhD, DSc, CBiol, FIBiol, FRGS
1902-04	Arthur Smithells, BSc, FRS	1997-99	O S Pickering, BA, BPhil, PhD, DipLib
1904-06	J E Eddison, MD	1999-03	P J Evennett, BSc, PhD, Hon FRMS
1906-09	E Kitson Clark, MA, FSA, MInstCE	2004-07	M R D Seaward, MSc, PhD, DSc, FLS
1909-11	Revd J R Wynne-Edwards, MA	2007-10	C J Hatton, BSc, PhD, FInstP
1911-12	C T Whitmell, MA, BSc, FRAS	2010-13	A C T North, BSc, PhD, FInstP
1912-14	P F Kendall, MSc, FGS	2013-16	Joyce M Hill, BA, DPhil, DUniv., FEA, FRSA
1914-17	Revd W H Draper, MA	2016-19	C J Hatton, BSc, PhD, FInstP
1917-19	James E Bedford, FGS		
1919-22	Sydney D Kitson, MA, FSA, FRIBA		

Life Members

Byrn, Dr R F M

Day, N

Moxon, I S

Mr J Roles, Head of Leeds Museums and Galleries,
was elected as an Honorary Life Member in July 2020,
but sadly died in November

Subscribing Members, as at 31.12.2020

Adamthwaite, Professor A P

Algar, D

Andrews, Professor R A

Archenhold, W F

Bailey, Ms L

Barker, Ms J

Bassant, M

Beddows, Professor C G

Blair, Professor G E

Blair, Dr M

Bourdillon, Ms A L

Bower, Dr D I

Bradford, Mrs E J

Bradford, J M

Briggs, M

Britten, E A

Brooke, Miss C

Brown, Mrs C

Bushby, Professor R J

Butlin, Professor R K

Byde, Dr C

Chadwick, Mrs A L

Chadwick, P R P

Chesters, Dr M S

Childs, Professor W R

Clark, Mrs E A

Clarke, Ms S

Collins, C J

Conaboy, A

Cook, Mrs D

Crosswell, R

Cruse, J

Dagg, Dr M

de Pauw, Dr K

de Pennington, Mrs J

Dodson, Mrs H I

Douglas, Ms J

Drewett, Dr R

Drife, Dr D

Eastabrook, Ms G

El-Hassani, M R

Evans, Ms L

Evennett, Dr P J

Eyres, Dr P J

Farmer, P J

Fletcher, Dr C R

Gibson, Ms N

Golphin, Dr P

Grady, Dr K

Hall, E *

Hall, Dr K

Hammond, Dr C

Hann, Professor M A

Harrison, Mrs H

Harrison, M R

Hatton, Dr C J

Henderson, Professor P J F

Higgins, Dr S J

Hindmarch, Professor I

Holdstock, Dr C R

Hollings, Mr C

Hope, Professor T E J

Jakeways, Dr R

Jenkins, Professor E W

Jurica, Miss J

King, Dr M H

Knapp, Dr D G

Lance, Professor C E

Larkin, B

Lawson, P W G

Lewis, Dr E L V

Lydon, Dr J E

Lynch, Ms K

McCleery, Dr I

McTurk, Professor R

Madill, N

Marchant, Dr P

Meadowcroft, M

Meredith, Professor P

Midgley, C.

Mill, Dr P J

Millner, Professor P A

Morgan, C J

Morgan, Professor G J

Müller, A E W

Murphy, K

Nash, Cllr Mrs E A

Newiss, Miss J

North, Professor A C T

Oakshott, Ms J, MBE

Paterson, Dr A

Peat, Dr D W

Pheby, Dr H

Pickering, Dr O S

Powell, M

Radford, Dr A

Ramsay, Ms G V

Rastall, Professor G R	Sellers, D	Turton, Dr A
Rawnsley, Dr S J	Shaw, K	Unsworth, Dr R
Reeves, Ms R, MP	Slomson, Dr A	Wain, G
Reynolds, P	Smith, W	Wainwright, M
Richardson, Professor B F	Stafford, Professor P A	Wainwright, Mrs P
Rivlin, Dr M	Stephenson, Mrs A	Watson, Professor A A
Roberts, Professor K J	Sunderland, Dr P	Webster, I C
Robson, Ms R M	Sutcliffe, Mr J R	Wesley, Mrs J
Roche, Mrs G M	Suter, Mrs P A	West, A
Rushton, Professor J G	Sutton, Dr S L	Westhead, Professor D R
Salinger, Dr D	Swire, Ms L M P	Widdowson, Mrs J
Sargent, D *	Tannett, P G	Wilson, Miss C A
Savage, Professor M D	Taylor, Professor C M	Winn, P
Seaward, Professor M R D	Temple, Mrs M	Wood Robinson, Mrs V
Selby, B	Thornton, Dr D	Woodhead, Miss S
Sellen, Dr D B	Turney, Dr J	Wright, Dr P G

* Designates Associate Member

We note with regret that two members of the Society,
Miss E Cooper and Professor D Dowson, died during 2020.

Current Members of Council

President	Professor Eric Blair
Vice-president	Dr Chris. Hatton
Treasurer	Mr Warren Smith
Secretary	Mr Michael Meadowcroft
	Ms Janet Douglas
	Dr Robin Jakeways
	Cllr Elizabeth Nash
	Mr Brian Selby
	Emeritus Professor Chris. Taylor
	Dr Rachael Unsworth
	Professor David Westhead



Reports of Events held during 2020

Editor's note: the events described below cover the calendar year 2020 and therefore differ from those listed in the Annual Report section of the Review, which are for the financial year 1 Oct. 2018 to 30 Sept. 2020. Events for October-December 2019 were reported in the Annual Review 2019

***The evolution of menopause in resident killer whales* Dr Dan Franks**

23 January 2020

Female killer whales go through menopause. Why females of some species cease ovulation before the end of their natural lifespan is a longstanding puzzle in life history evolution. In humans, as well as some natural populations of cetaceans and insects, reproductive aging occurs much faster than somatic aging and females exhibit prolonged post-reproductive lifespans. Determining the underlying mechanisms has proved to be a significant challenge.

In a fascinating lecture that marked the new display of a reconstructed pilot whale skeleton in Leeds City Museum, funded by the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, Dr Dan Franks (University of York) addressed these important questions in behavioural ecology in fish-eating resident killer whales, which he and colleagues at the Center for Whale Research in Washington State USA have been studying in the northern Pacific waters for many years. These whales live into their 80's to 90's but the females cease reproduction and enter the menopause around halfway through their lives. This raises questions about the evolutionary utility of these females since they can no longer pass on their genes to offspring. This is in contrast to other mammals such as elephants who also live to similar ages, but the females continue to reproduce. This has led to the so-called Grandmother Hypothesis in resident killer whales whereby older females preserve their genetic legacy by taking care of non-descendant kin (i.e. grandchildren). In addition, the menopause prevents competition between calves that would be born to mother and grandmother. Over time, this allows grandmothers more time to devote to their grandchildren. If this all sounds somewhat familiar and akin to the human condition, there is more! Killer whale grandmothers know best! They lead the pod in hunting for salmon using their experience and provide indirect assistance to all the members of the pod, helping to preserve it. Dr Franks provided an excellent insight into the social structure of resident killer whales and their interactions with their environment.

Eric Blair

***Hot Topic: Update on the recent outbreak of a novel Coronavirus: Perspectives on the virus and public health* Professor Mark Harris**

11 February 2020

In what proved to be the penultimate “in-person” LPLS talk of 2020, we learned about the early identification and spread of the agent that was to be the cause of the Coronavirus pandemic. Professor Mark Harris, an expert on human virus diseases in the University of Leeds, described the possible origins of SARS-CoV-2 (then termed 2019-nCoV) in a “wet” market in Wuhan, Hubei Province in China that sold seafood and live animals. The first reports of cases of severe respiratory disease in the area appeared around early December 2019 and by the end of December 2019, the causative agent had been identified as a Coronavirus. The World Health Organisation (WHO) temporarily named this virus 2019 novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) on 12 January 2020 and then on 12 February 2020, officially named the infectious disease Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Perhaps we in the audience were some of the first people to hear the official WHO name that Professor Harris had just

learned and which has now defined our lives and societies. In March, the virus was officially named Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

Professor Harris explained how viruses are constructed, how they enter cells of our bodies and the diseases they cause. We also learned how respiratory viruses are transmitted and how a measure of transmission (the so-called R number, which now dominates news bulletins) defines how readily viruses transmit from an infected person to susceptible recipients. At the time of the lecture that number was considered to be around 3 for SARS-CoV-2, meaning that a rapid spread of the virus could be predicted. We also learned how rapidly the genetic material of the virus (a molecule of RNA of about 29000 bases) had been sequenced and published by Chinese scientists in late January 2020. This showed that SARS-CoV-2 contained sequences from bat coronaviruses, suggesting that the virus had perhaps been generated by a bat virus jumping species into a human and recombining with a human coronavirus. The precise origins of SARS-CoV-2 are still a matter of debate.

The many questions generated by Professor Harris's talk ranged around possible drugs that could block the growth of the virus in people to the prospects for the development of a vaccine. The 100 or so members of the audience received an excellent briefing on what would, sadly, become the dominant theme of 2020.

Eric Blair

History of dyes from Ancient Egypt to Leeds Dr Christine Holdstock
27 February 2020

The history of dyes is fascinating and this lecture was packed with interesting detail. Dr Holdstock described ancient dyeing materials and processes, dating from the time of the Pharaohs, through medieval times to the development of modern colour chemistry. She spoke of the importance of the Leeds Department of Colour Chemistry and Dyeing, and ended with some present-day developments.

Social status has always been identifiable by clothing and rare and exotic materials for colouring cloth have been in high demand since the beginnings of recorded human history. Stories of the sources and trade routes, in some cases covering vast distances, went hand in hand with the closely guarded secrets of the dye vat.

The majority of early dyes were obtained from plants and the best-known must be the indigo dye obtained from the woad plant. The extraction process involved fermentation with urine and potash – and the smell of the vats was so offensive that dye manufacturers were usually banned from operating within the walls of medieval cities.

I had heard of other ancient plant dyes, like madder and saffron - but not *weld* (otherwise known as dyer's rocket). This Mediterranean herb was the ancient source of a vivid dye. With an alum mordant to aid the dyeing process, it produces a glowing primary yellow on wool and silk and was widely used by high status Romans. In contrast, the dyers of Lincoln created the well-known greyish green cloth, famously adopted by Robin Hood's band of outlaws, by first dyeing cloth with woad and then over-dyeing with weld.

In Medieval Europe, there were no satisfactorily light-fast red dyes which could be obtained from plants. The brightest available colour was obtained from a strange source, the tiny scale insect called kermes, which was originally found living on oak trees in the Middle East. The production of this

scarlet dye spread westwards along the Mediterranean coast into Europe. The vivid scarlet cloth it produced was ten times as costly as any other available fabric and was used notably by cardinals in the church – and to dress redcoats in the military.

Dr Holdstock outlined the way in which the Conquistadores in the New World came across the brighter source of red dye used by the Aztecs. This came from a similar scale insect, cochineal, which fed on cactus plants rather than oak trees. When it was introduced into Europe, it rapidly replaced kermes and became a significant export.

The other major dye imported from the new world was the black stain obtained from the red heartwood of the *bloodwood tree* – haematoxylin. Usually known as *logwood* because this was the form in which it was shipped to Europe. A ship loaded with logwood was valuable enough to be a target for pirates. For decades, this was the only way to produce light-fast black fabric. It was used for dyeing both cloth and leather and was impervious to both rain and sunlight – and was the reason why most umbrellas were black. Incidentally, the dye, haematoxylin, played a crucial role in the origins of cytology because it selectively stains chromosomes and nuclei. When mixed with eosin, it forms the most widely used stain in current medical diagnosis. When a pathologist is examining a tissue from a suspected cancer, the histological section he examines will probably have been stained with H&E (although the impact of selective dyes on biology and medicine is another story).

In conclusion, Dr Holdstock outlined the impact of synthetic dyes produced from coal tar derivatives, which have now provided a more or less complete colour spectrum. She mentioned the importance of the Leeds Department of Colour Chemistry and Dyeing, from its beginning over 130 years ago. As an indication that developments in dye chemistry are by no means over, she ended by demonstrating new thermochromic dyes which change colour according to the temperature.

John Lydon

Annual Science Fair

7 March 2020

The Annual Science Fair in the City Museum this year took place at a potentially difficult time. Coronavirus had entered the country and the number of visitors was significantly down on previous years. Usually we have some 1400 visitors, but this year we had about 900. Not a disastrous drop, but significant. A week later, in our usual week, and matters might have been noticeably different.

However, we put on a good show for the visitors and the many youngsters who came with their parents had a variety of activities to entertain and inform them. They clearly were enjoying themselves and, with any luck, they might have learnt something at the same time.

For wildlife we had Rodley Nature reserve with the perennially popular cage of unperturbed harvest mice, tanks of small water life and owl pellets that children love taking apart to see what the owls had had for breakfast. The Discovery Centre Natural History team had a number of interesting, but not live, items and the Woodland Trust enthused their visitors with the joys of, and the very necessary promotion of woodlands to help with Climate problem. There was also a stand enthusing visitors with the splendid and healthy activity of Birdwatching.

The astronomers were there as always with an excellent collection of models, pictures and telescopes. Had the Sun shown its face visitors could have looked through a very special telescope to see flare activity on the edge of solar image. Alas the Sun always manages to be absent on these occasions!

The Royal Statistical Society managed to bring statistical matters to life with a number of interactive activities that the children enjoyed. We all need to understand the rudiments of statistics these days to help counter the dodgy stuff put out by politicians and other people. Hard Science was represented by the indefatigable Association for Science Education with, this year, a water-based set of experiments both to puzzle and inform visitors. Nobody got wet in the process!

New this year was the British Heart Foundation who had leaflets about heart health and a game for children that arrived a bit late but was keeping the small visitors very busy hitting giant red corpuscles hard with their fists! Quarry Arts were there as usual with amazing musical rocks hacked out of the Dales and cut to size to make splendid xylophones.

The Museum's Educational Service was well represented with a number of operating mechanical models showing various methods of how to achieve locomotion. The Leeds Phil and Lit had a stall with information about the Society, published booklets for sale and a very informative poster about some Leeds based Nobel Prize winners.

Last but by no means least Maths World brought along an incredible variety of mathematically based gadgets for visitors to play with and learn of the joys of mathematics. Maths is not always enjoyed by school children but with Maths World at the helm they cannot but help to be enthused! Finally, we are indebted, as always, for the very generous use of the Arena in the Museum for the day and for the ever-helpful staff who do a splendid job of keeping things running smoothly.

Robin Jakeways

***The Search for a Coronavirus Vaccine* Professor Nicola Stonehouse**

30 July 2020 held via Zoom

This talk adopted a new format for LPLS in which a pre-recorded talk was posted on YouTube for members to view, followed by a Q&A session with Professor Nicola Stonehouse (University of Leeds), an expert on vaccines against viruses.

At the time of the talk, there were around 140 candidate vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) in development, several of which were close to being used clinically. Professor Stonehouse discussed how vaccines are made, how they work and how long they take to develop. Important concepts like herd immunity through vaccination were explained in detail. The last successful vaccine to be approved and introduced in the UK for a viral disease, the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine (aimed to eradicate cervical cancer in women), was described. The time-lines for the development of the HPV vaccine stretched over at least a decade from completion of research to the start of the vaccination programme. This poses a challenge for a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine to be developed in time to impact on the current pandemic. The current state of research on COVID-19 vaccines was described including the various systems for delivering SARS-CoV-2 proteins into the body. Overall, this provided an excellent opportunity to understand the problems and potential achievements of rapid research into vaccines against viral pathogens.

Eric Blair

***Europeans in Britain in World War II* Professor Wendy Webster**

22 October 2020 held via Zoom

In her lecture, Professor Webster offered us a timely reminder that Britain was not entirely fighting alone in 1940. Not only does our Anglo-centric view of the world downplay the part played by Imperial and Dominion forces but even more rarely are the contributions of our European neighbours acknowledged. The major purpose of Ms Webster's research was to remedy this latter oversight. Eight governments in exile were based in London and put whatever resources they still had at the disposal of the British Government including the remnants of their armed forces. There were six exiled armies stationed in Britain, from France, Belgium, Poland, Norway, Holland and Czechoslovakia, some fighting in their own battalions, others integrated into the British Army.

What was so refreshing about the lecture was the way the speaker wove together general empirical data with vignettes and anecdotes from the diaries, letters and reminiscences of ordinary men and women. In some of the key war-time episodes usually thought of as demonstrating British pluck, our European allies played a vital role. The Dunkirk Spirit was not confined to Britons: the Dutch Navy, half the Belgian fishing fleet and dozens of French fishing vessels participated in the Evacuation. The most successful squadron during the Battle of Britain was the Polish 303 Squadron, and with experienced British pilots in short supply, a fifth of Fighter Command were not British. Even Churchill's famous V-sign was an invention of the Belgian Victor de Laveley.

I do not know if there was an intended subtext to Professor Webster's story of war-time togetherness but it did illustrate how no country is ever truly an island.

Janet Douglas

Annual Priestley Lecture

held jointly by Mill Hill Chapel, the Leeds Library and the LPLS

26 November 2020 held via Zoom

***Edward Jenner – the Man Who Changed the World* Professor Gareth Williams**

Who would have imagined that millions of people today owe their life to a dead cow? Blossom, whose skin now hangs on the wall at St. Georges Medical School library, London, may seem an unlikely heroine but it was thanks to her that Edward Jenner, an 18th century country doctor, was able to carry out an experiment that changed medical history. At the time that Jenner was carrying out this work, one in three people died from smallpox which remained one of the biggest mass killers in history until well into the 20th century when it claimed 300 million victims.

Jenner was intrigued by claims that local milkmaids who had first contracted cowpox did not seem to fall victim to smallpox. Scraping pus from cowpox blisters on the hands of Sarah Nelmes, a milkmaid who had milked Blossom regularly, Jenner scratched this material into the skin of an eight year old boy and found that the child became immune to smallpox.

It was an experiment that would have raised eyebrows today, but is a milestone in medical history. Taking its name from *vacca*, the Latin name for 'cow', the procedure became known as vaccination and, with the world currently struggling in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have all become acutely aware of its importance.

In a gripping lecture, Gareth Williams, former Dean of the Medical School at the University of Bristol and now Emeritus Professor of Medicine and English explored the life and legacy of Jenner showing that, although he was by no means the first to attempt vaccination, he was the first to publish his work and so introduce the procedure into the medical mainstream. Within only a few years, the technique had spread around the world, leading Thomas Jefferson to say of Jenner in 1806: “You have erased from the calendar of human afflictions one of its greatest. Yours is the comfortable reflection that mankind can never forget that you have lived.”

Not everyone however, held Jenner in such high regard. He was opposed by the plots and machinations of jealous scientific rivals, who tried to undermine his work and keep this provincial doctor excluded from metropolitan scientific circles. Vaccination was also denounced by some on religious grounds and by others as an intrusion by the state into individual political freedom when vaccination was later made compulsory for infants. Far from being a recent phenomenon, it would seem that ‘anti-vaxxer’ sentiment has a long history.

The climax of Jenner’s legacy came in 1979 when the World Health Organisation declared smallpox to have been officially eradicated. Speaking in 2012, the broadcaster Andrew Marr said that “No human being who has ever lived has saved more lives in history than the simple country doctor from Gloucestershire” and praised the museum that now stands in Jenner’s original home in Berkeley, Gloucestershire as being one of the five most important sites in world history. Sadly however, this museum now faces an uncertain future and it would be a sad irony if the COVID-19 pandemic were to sound the death knell for this memorial to the birthplace of vaccination.

As well as campaigning on behalf of saving the Jenner Museum, Professor Williams has also argued in the BMJ that a statue of Jenner, which was unveiled by Prince Albert in 1858 before being carted off to Kensington Gardens, should be restored to its original site in Trafalgar Square.

With the subject of the pandemic and disease so prominent, it came as no surprise that the lecture was followed by a multitude of engaging questions. Attendance was also impressive, with over 70 participants, including viewers in Cambridge and New York City – a very encouraging sign that the rapid adoption of social media forums such as Twitter and new technological platforms such as Zoom by LPLS in response to the pandemic has been successful in broadening both our reach and appeal. With news breaking by the day of the development of vaccines against COVID-19, the subject of this year’s Priestley Lecture has never been more timely.

Kersten Hall

AGM (virtual meeting held via Zoom)

3 December 2020

Reports received by January 2021 on Grants awarded by the Society

Rudi Leavor's Cantata 'Enosh' ['Mankind']

£800 to Dr Stephen Muir towards the costs of a full premiere of Enosh

Organising the full premiere of Rudi Leavor's cantata 'Enosh' was a gargantuan task involving an orchestra of 50, chorus of 32, soloists, two organists, and a team of volunteer assistants. What galvanised this c.100-strong team was a feeling of solidarity with the underlying message of Rudi's music: fostering understanding and mutual respect through the exploration of common goals like freedom, justice for refugees, resisting despotism, seeking a common sense of human compassion.

Rudi's fascinating account of the motivations behind 'Enosh' - at rehearsals and in the concert programme consolidated this musical community. Whilst many of the singers had large-group choral experience, only two understood the Jewish tradition. For the orchestra, the intriguing styles and colours of music that had emerged from Rudi's intimate knowledge of Jewish texts, melodies and harmonies was revelatory.

Two performances took place: Saturday 6 July and Tuesday 9 July 2019. Attendance was excellent in comparison to my experience of similar such ventures (348 and 387 respectively). Initially, both performances were to take place at Left Bank Leeds in June 2019. Unfortunately, the venue announced its temporary closure for emergency maintenance during the same period, though fortunately with plenty of notice. This turned out to be something of a blessing in disguise, allowing us to cultivate two very different audiences and double the exposure and impact of Rudi's powerful music

Two alternative venues were secured: the Price Hall, Bradford Grammar School (6 July) and St George's Church, Leeds (9 July). In Bradford a very diverse audience attended, including representatives from the local Muslim community who had worked alongside Rudi for the previous ten years. In Leeds, many came from the city's Jewish community, allowing for a surprisingly vibrant atmosphere and a pleasing level of inter-community dialogue during the interval and at the end.

LPLS funding to cover venue hire was of 'mission critical' importance in light of the enforced changes of location. Without the security of being able to book different venues well in advance, the project would have lacked focus, publicity would have been last-minute and ineffectual, and audiences would probably have been very poor. Because both Rudi and I are 'old boys', and in recognition of Rudi's achievements, the Grammar School provided the hall at next to no cost, a remarkable gesture of support.

However, owing to the church's Leeds city-centre location and popularity as a venue, St George's hire fee alone slightly *exceeded* the funding provided by LPLS. Fortunately, the two very different audiences resulting from changing venues led to far higher box-office income than anticipated, and thus the shortfall was covered. Moreover, whilst St George's Church and the well-known St George's Crypt charity (supporting the homeless) are now separate legal entities, they still occupy the same site and work closely together. Supporting one inevitably supports the other.

Thus, the shared aims of the church and charity sit extremely comfortably alongside the philosophy of Rudi Leavor's 'Enosh', making St George's perhaps the most fitting venue for the concert imaginable.

Stephen Muir

Leeds: a Biographical Dictionary

£ 1,000 to support the publication of Leeds: a Biographical Dictionary

In 1865 Revd Richard Vickerman Taylor published his *Biographia Leodiensis*, more popularly known as *Leeds Worthies*. Over the years several short biographical studies have appeared but none came near the depth and extent of Taylor's work. It seemed appropriate then that, after 155 years, another extensive biographical work was due. *Leeds; a Biographical Dictionary* with over 870 entries attempts to do just that. This book covers those men and women who were born in Leeds and went on to greatness in their specific fields; those who came to Leeds and made a significant contribution to the development of the town; and the nationally famous who came there to visit.

Some names leapt out: national figures like Joseph Priestley and Richard Oastler; Benjamin Gott who revolutionised wool textile manufacturing; Matthew Murray who launched the engineering industry in Leeds; Montague Burton, 'the tailor of taste'; Michael Marks who launched Marks & Spencer with the simple slogan, 'Don't ask the price, it's a penny!' And there were the world famous; politicians like Churchill, artists like Turner, musicians like Paganini, nationalists like Louis Kossuth, each making their visits. Charles Dickens came, though his thoughts were not particularly complimentary, finding Leeds 'a beastly place', whilst Sarah Siddons, the tragic muse, found it 'the most disagreeable town in His Majesty's dominions'.

Another actress, but one Leeds had reason to be proud, was Adelaide Neilson. Born in St Peter's Square, Leeds, she rose to command the stages on both sides of the Atlantic. Said to be capable of demanding up to £700 a week at the height of her fame in the 1870s, it was claimed she had no English rival in the last half of the nineteenth century. Another Leeds woman with a claim to fame was Lucy Osburn, who today is considered to be the founder of modern nursing in Australia.

What of those Leeds men whose influence cannot be ignored and yet are now unknown in the city of their birth? Sir John Hawkshaw's favourable report on the proposed Suez Canal led to its being built. Benjamin Latrobe from Fulneck trained as an architect, went to the United States and found himself employed to restore the Presidential house after the British had virtually destroyed it in 1814. It is said that he produced one of the greatest interiors in the history of neoclassicism in America and into the bargain, painted the building white, giving us for all eternity, the White House.

And there were those Leeds would have preferred not to be associated with the city. Owey Madden was born in Quarry Hill, never lost his Leeds accent but moved to America to become one of the founding fathers of the New York Mafia! Mary Bateman, the Yorkshire Witch, though not born in Leeds, performed her nefarious murderous deeds there. She did ultimately benefit the town; William Hey dissected her body in public in 1809 and earned £80 14s. 0d. for Leeds Infirmary!

David Thornton

The Seven Hunters

£500 to support the Alive & Kicking Theatre Company's interactive project for children

The Seven Hunters is an interactive drama and speaking & listening project aimed at Year 5/6 children in primary schools. It explores the mysterious, real-life disappearance in December 1900 of a team of three lighthouse keepers from Flannan Isle in the Outer Hebrides. It provides rich opportunities for 'in role' playfulness, creativity identifying and solving problems together, storytelling and writing.

Prior to the COVID-19 emergency, with the Society's support we were able to build on pilot work (2019) and successfully launch The Seven Hunters drama flexibly for schools as either a one or two session event. We worked with a total of seven different classes across five primary schools. During the first UK Lockdown, the project was necessarily (and remains) paused until face-to-face delivery can resume. In the meantime, however, it provided inspiration for an alternative project, Fred the Fisherman of Filey, which we developed in response to school closures specifically for 'live online' delivery with vulnerable and key worker children in school and with children and families isolating at home. It was aimed in this instance at younger primary age children but worked well with mixed age and even inter-generational groups. It drew on a particular segment of The Seven Hunters, a dangerous episode when children encounter the ominous 'blue men of the Minch'.

With Fred the Fisherman, children were drawn in to help tell the story and then to use all their creative and imaginative powers to save Fred with brilliant stories, poems, pictures...*It was a beautiful day when Frederick went out in his rowing boat. The sun was up, the waves were calm and the fishing was going well. And then it happened! Frederick felt the wind go cold, the waves began to break over each other and the sun disappeared behind dark clouds. From the bottom of the ocean hands were stretching up ready to pull Frederick down, down, down unless* And that's where you come in. Help save Frederick! Thanks to an allocation of emergency funding, we were able to work with over 200 children on Fred the Fisherman during a total of 30 sessions in 15 different school and home settings.

Vivienne Hughes

Friends of University Art and Music (Leeds) 30th Anniversary Appeal

£500 for an Appeal for funds for the Friends' support of Art and Music in the University of Leeds

The grant contributed to the successful Appeal by the Friends to raise £10,000 in their 30th anniversary year to provide funding to enable The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery to purchase a work by a significant 20th century woman artist for their collection and to support an ensemble in residence in the University's School of Music.

Funds for the Appeal were raised from grant-giving bodies and from a series of prestigious events. These included a gala dinner and auction at University House, the FUAM 30th Anniversary Music Lecture given by Dr Bryan White, and a gala concert by Laura van der Heijden ('cello) and Katya Apekisheva (piano) before an appreciative audience in the Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall. A number of other events planned for the year, including an 'In Conversation' between artist and Leeds graduate Sutapa Biswas and curator, writer and speaker Nima Poovaya-Smith, a fund-raising garden party, and a sale of artworks had to be cancelled because of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. We hope to programme these events next year.

Despite the curtailed events programme, the Appeal exceeded its target and the Gallery is now in a position to purchase Sutapa Biswas's work *Synapse 1*, which was recently on display in the Gallery as part of the exhibition celebrating 70 years of the School of Fine Art, History of Art and Cultural Studies at the University. The School of Music has postponed the selection of an ensemble in residence because of the pandemic but will take this forward as soon as it is able to. Further monies raised from postponed events will be used to support the Gallery and the School of Music.

Martin Staniforth

The Downy Birch Copse Project

£500 to the Trustees of Rodley Nature Reserve

On behalf of the Trustees of Rodley Nature Reserve, I wish to thank the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society for the grant of £500 towards the cost of the Downy Birch Copse Project. This project involved clearing the vegetation on the north side of two of the existing dragonfly ponds and establishing a copse to increase the insect diversity of the area and provide foraging and roosting habitat for the dragonflies. The copse was planted in February 2020, just before lockdown. It comprises almost 200 Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*), chosen because of the damp nature of the area as it is on the flood plain of the River Aire. The trees were planted about two metres apart; some have been planted in small clumps. A woodland ride runs through the centre, providing good habitat for hawking dragonflies and also public access. A small number of other species of tree were planted around the periphery to further increase the biodiversity of the area – Crab Apple (*Malus sylvestris*), Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), Bird Cherry (*Prunus padus*) and Alder Buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*). The Alder Buckthorn was planted as it has the additional benefit of being the host plant of the Brimstone Butterfly (*Gonepteryx rhamni*), which is present on the reserve. A few English Bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) were also planted. Unfortunately, lockdown brought an end to the work before it could be completed. The copse was flooded in March but survived and is doing well.

Work resumed in the autumn and the area is being cleared of any remaining couch grass and nettles before further planting is carried out. A Grey Willow (*Salix cinerea*) will be planted next to each of the above two ponds to provide oviposition sites for the potential arrival of the Willow Emerald Damselfly (*Chalcolestes viridis*), which lays its eggs in branches of Willow above water. This damselfly first appeared in England in 2007, since when it has spread northwards, already reaching Yorkshire. When the copse is clear of perennial weeds, the site will be planted with a mixture of woodland wild flowers and grasses that will bloom in spring and early summer.

I also wish to thank the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society for previous grants that have helped towards establishing the dragonfly ponds area. In 2019 we were awarded the status of ‘Dragonfly Hotspot’, based on a combination of a good dragonfly assemblage, easy access and facilities for visitors, expertise on hand and an active local community keen to be involved with dragonfly conservation and events.

Peter Mill

Leeds Baroque 20th Anniversary Concert Season

£1000 to Leeds Baroque, towards their 20th anniversary concert (initially) reduced to £432

Like many other performing arts organisations, results of the COVID-19 pandemic dealt Leeds Baroque's 20th Anniversary season a devastating blow with only our March concert able to go ahead as it was sufficiently early in the month to beat the "lockdown". We were however able to use funds from our grant to support this concert, providing support of our professional colleagues' fees (including the legendary Baroque trumpeter Crispian Steele-Perkins) and production of advertising material that appeared in the classical music press (art work attached). The concert was well received by the public and attracted an audience of 144; this figure included a pleasing number (25) of students who are provided with free tickets.

We would like to thank the Society for their very valuable support in what has been a particularly hard year.

Jillian Johnson

Commission by the Leeds Festival Chorus of a new work by Jonathan Dove

£1500 awarded to support the above commission to be performed at Leeds Town Hall in Nov. 2020

In January, 2020, the Leeds Festival Chorus (LFC) was awarded the grant towards the costs of commissioning a new work by Jonathan Dove, the full cost of which is £20,000. That work has now been completed and will be published by Peters. It is a choral work in nine parts for Soprano and Tenor Soloists, Children's Chorus, Adult Mixed Chorus and Orchestra, entitled 'The Tin Soldier'. The text has been written by Ian McMillan and is based on the fairy tale 'The Steadfast Tin Soldier' by Hans Christian Anderson. The first performance was scheduled for 21st November, 2020, at Leeds Town Hall as part of the Leeds International Concert Series, the other work in the concert being Mozart's C Minor Mass.

The LFC has not been able to meet physically for rehearsal since March 2020 because of the pandemic. However, they have been regularly meeting for rehearsal by Zoom which has enabled them to do a lot of preparatory work. A rehearsal by Zoom is a curious process in which individual chorus members have to mute themselves – singing together on-line is not possible because of problems of synchronisation. Thus, the conductor, Simon Wright, has to play the accompaniment and give direction to a chorus which he cannot hear – and individual chorus members can only hear themselves, though they can see each other. Plainly this is less than ideal but better than nothing.

On one occasion, the chorus was joined by Jonathan Dove and Ian McMillan who spoke with enthusiasm about the enjoyment that they had had in this partnership: they had not worked together before. Jonathan Dove also supplied a *Sibelius* copy of the work. *Sibelius* is a computerised programme to assist composition; any composition on *Sibelius* can be played back, so this was, in effect, a recording of the work which the chorus could use in rehearsal.

Currently, the LFC is investigating the possibility of live rehearsals with small numbers which will also be streamed to members at home. Arrangements have yet to be confirmed and are further



jeopardised by the second wave of COVID19. In any case, they will not now be used to prepare ‘The Tin Soldier’ because the performance of this on November 21st has had to be cancelled. Discussions are under way to find a new time and place for the premiere; this is unlikely to be at Leeds Town Hall which is going to be closed in 2021 for refurbishment which will take two years. The LFC will keep the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society informed of progress and meanwhile would like to repeat their thanks for the generous grant that they have received.

Peter Coltman

MathsWorldUK outreach activities

£1086 awarded to MathsWorldUK to create new exhibits for use at science fairs around the UK.

When the request was made for this grant, MathsWorldUK had created a touring exhibition which was about to be set up in the Winchester Science Centre which was to be host for four months. Our exhibition was due to open on March 17th, which was the day that the Winchester Centre closed because of the COVID virus. The touring exhibition remained set up, unvisited, for about six months and the planned tour of other centres had to be abandoned. The exhibits are now in storage. At the same time we had a small exhibition which was used for fairs around the country including the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society Science Fair. We took part in that but all the planned fairs since then have been cancelled. We asked for the grant to replicate two exhibits so that they would be in both the touring exhibition and the fairs. Because of the changed circumstances brought about by the virus pandemic we have had to change our plans and are now planning to set up an exhibition, called MathsCity, in the centre of Leeds. That exhibition will be about twice the size of the touring exhibition and will initially remain in place for a year. There is now no need to replicate the two pieces of equipment for the foreseeable future but there are other exhibits which would be more appropriate for the new plans. I obtained permission from the LPLS to make a small change in the use of the grant and two new exhibits have now been ordered. They are Truchet cubes (a very popular exhibit in MoMath, New York) and Prince Rupert’s cube, an interesting geometrical puzzle. We expect delivery by the end of the year. It is, of course, sad that none of our exhibits have been used since last March and the earliest that we hope to open in Leeds is April 2021.

On a more positive note, the receipt of the grant, together with other income, enabled us to draw down the rest of an anonymous donation from the United States which gave us £125,000 provided that we matched it from other sources.

Geoffrey Wain

The Headingley Postie

£500 to Matthew Bellwood to enable the publication of a new book about Headingley, telling the story of the area through the words of local residents.

The Headingley Postie is a new book about the Headingley area, created in collaboration with local residents. It consists of photos, poems, articles, quotes and interviews, gathered by community artists Alison Andrews and Matthew Bellwood. It is the culmination of two years of community focussed arts engagement in the local area.

The book has been curated by Matthew Bellwood and features original illustrations by Leeds artist Daisy Hance and photographic portraits of local people and places by Lizzie Coombes. The project has been supported by Leeds Library and Information Services, who have supplied us with photos of old Headingley from the Leodis website, along with scans of images and documents pertaining to the area.

The book is currently with Wingfinger Graphics, a local Graphic Design firm, who are dealing with the layout and printing of the material. Copies will be given out free of charge to all those involved in the project. This includes residents at Grove Park Care Home, members of St Chad's Lunch Club and Dementia Café, and children at Shire Oak Primary School. Remaining copies will be distributed via HEART community arts centre on Bennett Road and Headingley Library and Community Hub on North Lane. The library service will also archive copies of the book in the Local and Family History Department for future reference

The timeline for the project has been slightly delayed by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. An application submitted to the Leeds Community Fund was not processed for seven months, which meant that we were not able to start work on the project as soon as originally planned. We had originally planned to launch in October, but we have rescheduled this to Spring 2021.

One of the aims stated in the original application was to create a launch event for the book. This would be an opportunity to thank the contributors and share the work more widely with local councillors and press etc. We still hope that this will take place, but have revised the date at which this will be possible to spring next year, to take into account the current COVID-19 restrictions. We have also recently created a sound walk around the footprint of the old Leeds Zoological and Botanical Gardens and our current aim is to host an outdoor event to publicise both projects at Sparrow Park in Headingley in May 2021.

A new webpage will be added to the project website (www.365LeedsStories.org) to document the book and its creation, as soon as the printed copies are returned from the printer.

Matthew Bellwood

Lady Gascoigne's war medals

£122 to Leeds City Council for the purchase of the miniatures of Lady Gascoigne's war medals for the Leeds Museum

With the assistance of a grant of £121.52 from the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, Leeds Museums and Galleries were able to secure at auction the miniature dress medals once belonging to Lady Gascoigne of Lotherton Hall.

Lady Gascoigne and her husband, Sir Alvary Gascoigne, hold an incredibly important place in the history of Lotherton Hall, as it was they who gave the estate and its contents to Leeds City Council in 1968, allowing it to become the well-loved institution it is today. Ever modest people, they did not wish the house to become a sort of mausoleum to the family, of which Sir Alvary was the last descendent to bear the Gascoigne name. Subsequently many objects that speak to the social and family history of Lotherton, rather than the arts, were not acquired alongside the house as part of the gift to Leeds. However, from the early 1990s the importance of the family – to Lotherton, the local community and in their own right – has been increasingly recognised. Repatriating objects to reflect

this has therefore been a key priority. For this reason, the opportunity to acquire Lady Gascoigne's awards was not one to be passed up, even with the pressures of limited time to fundraise before the auction, not to mention the challenges of national lockdown. Leeds Museums and Galleries are immensely grateful for the financial support we received from the LPLS in this endeavour, especially in the circumstances. The bid to obtain the full-scale medals was sadly unsuccessful, so it was of great relief to secure the dress miniatures the following day.



The medals are representative of Lady Gascoigne's patriotism, selflessness and dedication to good causes – something she had in common with many of her in-laws. The majority were earned during the Great War, where she served in France as a V.A.D. nurse. She was mentioned in dispatches, as signified by the oak leaf attached to the Victory Medal. Additionally, there is her OBE from 1934, earned just prior to her marriage for her work assisting in the patriotic duty of settling young Yorkshiremen in British colonies, especially Canada.

The medals are set to be used in an expanded display at Lotherton in 2021. This concerns Florence Nightingale (a relative and Godmother of Lady Gascoigne's mother-in-law) and nursing more generally.

Adam Toole

Rodley Nature Reserve - The First Twenty years

£800 towards the printing costs of a new book "Rodley Nature Reserve - The First Twenty Years"

The Society's grant of £800 has been used to assist with the printing costs. The Reserve was officially opened by Michael Meacher, the then Minister for the Environment on 28th July 2000 and it was felt that a book documenting how it came into being; how the wetlands were created from rough grassland at the old water treatment works and how the Reserve had developed over the first twenty years would be of great interest to many people as well as being a valuable historical account. It would never have happened but for the support of Yorkshire Water who own the land and whose vision it was to create a nature reserve here when the water treatment works were decommissioned in 1994.

The fact that there are colour photographs on almost every page brings the book to life and will enable the reader to see how the habitats have developed over time, the wildlife that has been attracted and how the Reserve has become an important community asset as well as an educational resource for local schools. A supply of 200 bound copies has now been received from the printer at a cost of £2,200. It has been made available to the Reserve's volunteers from 2nd November and is being advertised on social media and at the Reserve from Monday 9th November. The announcement of a national lockdown from 5th November means that it will only be available by post initially as the Visitor Centre remains closed for the foreseeable future. When it was announced earlier in the year that such a book was being planned there was a lot of interest locally and we have no doubt it will prove to be very popular. There have certainly been a lot of advance orders.

We must thank the Society for all their support over the years and for their help with this publication.

Peter Murphy

Thomas, Lord Darcy and the Tudor House of Temple Newsam

£1,114.00 to Adam White towards the cost of publication of the above book

Unfortunately, I have had severe health problems during the year which have limited my ability to pursue my roles in the project.

Meanwhile, the coronavirus restrictions have made it impossible to complete two tasks which are needed to complete the publication. My two former colleagues at Temple Newsam, James Lomax and Anthony Wells-Cole, and I have to undertake a thorough examination of Temple Newsam in the light of the newly transcribed documents which form the basis of the text in order to compile a list of the surviving features of the house which date from Lord Darcy's time. Then these features have to be photographed for use as illustrations. The same has to be done at Temple Hirst, the surviving fragment of Lord Darcy's other house which stands a few miles down the River Aire from Temple Newsam. Access to Temple Newsam has been severely restricted during the pandemic and is altogether impossible at Temple Hirst which is used as an old people's home.

However, my general health is now much better than it was and the coronavirus restrictions will hopefully be lifted soon. This should make it possible for us to complete the publication before the end of the year. In the meantime, we ask the LPLS to bear with us in view of our difficulties.

Adam White





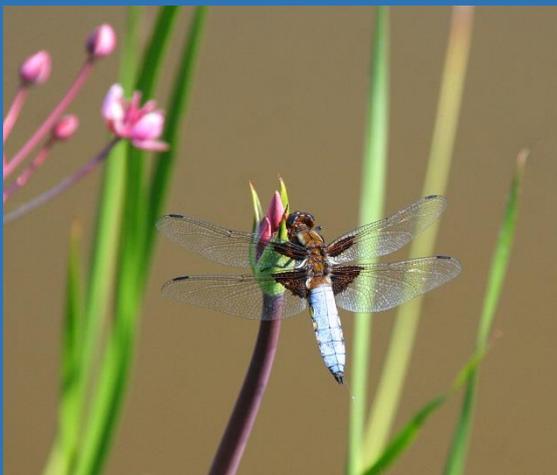
Some of the sights on Rodley Nature Reserve



Kingfisher on the reedbed



Small Tortoiseshell on Field scabious



Broad-bodied Chaser male dragonfly



Pair of Roe deer on the Duck Marsh