

Genesis Research & Education Foundation

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st December 2021

Charity No.: 1081334

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Legal & Administrative Information

Trustees

Mr Adrian Umpleby	(Chairman)
Mr Stephen Alliband	(Treasurer)
Dr Paul Burgess	(Secretary)

Advisors to the Trustees

Mr Matt Hudson
Mrs Madeline Umpleby

Director

Dr David Ellis

Principal Office

Genesis Research & Education Foundation
PO Box 300
London
SE11 5WP

Independent Examiner

Mr Ziqi Yang
Academy House
136 Hills Road
Cambridge
CB2 8PA

Bankers

Santander UK plc
Bridle Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4GB

Solicitors

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
EC1Y 8AB

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31st December 2021. This report is prepared in accordance with the Trust Deed and complies with the applicable law.

Status & Objects

Genesis Research & Education Foundation is a Charitable Trust. Its Trust Deed was dated 6th November 1998, and modified by a Supplementary Deed dated 10th June 2000. It became a Registered Charity on 29th June 2000.

The objects of the Charity are as follows:

- (A) The advancement of research and education in disciplines relating to the origin and development of the universe, of life, and of man and civilisation.
- (B) The advancement of the Christian religion, with particular reference to the relationship between the Christian religion and science, archaeology, ancient history, medicine and philosophy.
- (C) The relief of sickness, poverty and hardship, especially by applying innovative scientific and technological methods to areas such as agriculture and medicine, methods which may be developed through research carried out under object (A).

and these objects are to be fulfilled within the United Kingdom or elsewhere in the world as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Organisational Structure

Genesis Research & Education Foundation is governed by three Trustees, supported by two formal Advisors to the Trustees. The Trustees & Advisors receive no payment for their work, nor do any members of their families.

The Trustees mandate an executive Director who is responsible for the day to day running of the Charity. The Director in turn co-ordinates a team of key volunteers. The Charity does not employ formally salaried workers; but those working on projects are remunerated or given honoraria, the Director regularly so.

We have bases in central London and in Cambridge, both of which welcome visitors. Our library, museum & laboratory facilities are divided between the two locations.

Our beneficiaries are specialist groups of research scientists & archaeologists, university students, school children, and the wider public in general.

Much of our work is in the UK; but other aspects are carried out in Europe, and the Middle & the Far East, amongst other places.

The Charity has a reserves policy, reviewed by the Trustees annually, allowing the Charity to continue operating for at least 3 months, should all funding suddenly cease, and much longer if the Charity's substantial reserve of assets were to be progressively sold.

Progress Report

The work this year has continued from bases in both central London and Cambridge. Students, academics & the general public usually have access there, by appointment, to our library and museum collections, and also the opportunity to meet members of our team involved in primary research supported by the charity, and thereby to take part in evidence-based discussions & presentations. However, the ongoing coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic (COVID-19) has made that difficult this year, but has, nevertheless, allowed us space to make new preparations for the return of visitors, especially with work on museum specimens.

Public demonstration presentations are one of our signature activities, as inspired by the Royal Institution lectures started in the 19th century by Michael Faraday. These have needed to continue online, because of covid, where we have made use of multimedia slideshows shared via videoconferencing on Zoom. Presentations have covered aspects of cosmology, archaeoastronomy, the archaeology of Israel, and the relationship between art & archaeology. We were also able to give online presentations to private groups, including creating a virtual tour of the Mesopotamian & Levantine galleries in the British Museum.

As for many other organisations, the silver lining of the covid pandemic is that this online approach has created the opportunity for us to reach new audiences, including those living in more distant regions of the UK and abroad (in our case in Europe & Asia); and for older and infirm people to be able to join us too, as well as those just wanting to drop by and sample. Also, discussion seems to have been facilitated hereby, perhaps through a new immediacy in the connection between the speaker and individual audience members; and by the option of direct messaging in real-time. (Indeed, such discussion has often gone on quite intensively for several times the length of the formal presentations themselves.) Furthermore, working online has helped us with mentoring students and others, where ad hoc resources are more readily shared. All this is leading to a new strategy, as the pandemic gradually recedes, that of offering a hybrid approach of both online and in-person events, on into the future.

One of the most significant uses of the online approach this year was the opportunity to help sponsor and to facilitate practical support for a major international scholarly conference on Levantine archaeology, in which team members also took part. Monies have gone towards a grant for the publication of the papers from this conference too.

Work on our library has continued, as usual. This included the acquisition of some 65 additional hard-copy monographs, with books in the categories of palaeoanthropology, Levantine archaeology, and apologetics & scepticism being the most frequently purchased this time. The most expensive acquisitions were technical academic books on Palaeozoic plant fossils; the origin of symbolism in humans; and a photo-catalogue of ancient Middle Eastern coins. Subscriptions were maintained to some 15 leading current journals, from across the fields of science & archaeology, and also in some cases their interface with various theological viewpoints.

Our museum collection has been expanded with some 680 new objects, mostly fossils and some modern biological specimens; several objects of archaeological origin; and a number of casts, replicas & models. These specimens are for demonstration purposes, as identification standards, and some are for use in research.

Geological specimens included a wide-ranging collection of impact crater breccias from across the world, with their relevance to understanding events contributing to the extinction of the dinosaurs. Also, sulphur balls from the Dead Sea area, and copper ore from the ancient mines at Eilat, with their relevance to Levantine archaeology.

Palaeontological specimens have included casts of early amphibia & reptiles, and of William Buckland's original *Megalosaurus* jaw, the first non-avian dinosaur to be validly named; also, of hominoid jaws and skulls, including a first generation cast of *Australopithecus africanus* ("Mrs Ples"), and a 3D print of *Homo naledi*. Diverse fossils of the British Chalk, London Clay, and Crag deposits provided typological specimens from these sections for our *Geological Column Project*. A specimen of the fossil lobe-finned fish *Eusthenopteron* is of special interest for discussions about the origin of tetrapods. Biological specimens included population samples of three polymorphic species of marine gastropods used in the costly production of the ancient dye Royal Purple, which was employed in making attire for emperors and kings. Archaeological objects, mostly from Israel under Antiquities Authority license, included a sample of partially divided hacksilber – currency used before coins; first century AD coins of Herod the Great, Pontius Pilate, Festus & Aretas IV, providing authentications of those individuals; and a range of terracotta ware, including a decanter, bowl, juglets, pilgrim flask & a torch to illustrate life in those same times. Quality manuscript facsimiles of the *Codex Vaticanus* and the *Codex Alexandrinus* have aided study.

It should be reasserted that each object in our Museum has been legally and ethically acquired, to the best of our knowledge, with a particular educational or research concept in mind. For the antiquities (of greatest concern, because of the especially fragile nature of the archaeological record), objects were from museum deaccessions, old private collections, certified dealers & regulated professional auctions, with licences as appropriate.

Much curation work has been carried out on this Museum collection throughout the year. Indeed, as custodians of these treasures for future generations, it is our honoured responsibility to track & record the provenance of each object carefully; to ensure it is properly curated; and to make objects readily accessible for visitors & available for loan to other institutions.

With regard to research, in addition to writing and to work on the literature, fieldwork this year was somewhat more confined, because of the pandemic, to expeditions in the south and east of England. In the field of geology, the Weald in Surrey, and the Crag deposits in Suffolk were studied and sampled. In the field of evolutionary genetics, we continued to support a long-term project on the brightly coloured western European Grove Snail, *Cepaea nemoralis*, in the central Pyrenees, although fieldwork there was not possible this year. Instead, research work was carried out on cryptic versus aposematic colouration in caterpillars of the Cinnabar Moth (*Tyria jacobaeae*), and in the adults of the Six-Spotted Burnet Moth (*Zygaena filipendulae*), both as found on the chalklands of the South Downs in Sussex. In these species, which are distasteful to birds, it was discovered that individuals are camouflaged against the flowers of the plant species they eat /choose to rest upon in the evenings, when viewed from a distance, but display warning colouration at close quarters – a fascinating dual protection against visual predators, where the same colouration is used both to hide and to startle. This raises the remarkable possibility that, beyond the use of colouration in thermal regulation and camouflage, the black & yellow banding pattern of many *Cepaea* shells may act similarly, with the patterning reminding predators of the warning colouration of wasps and bees, (or even locally Cinnabar caterpillars), in a superstimulus, Batesian mimicry effect.

Work continued supporting the *Egypt in Israel Project* too, although again it was not possible to have a formal archaeological field season in Jerusalem this summer.

New items of equipment were acquired in the course of the work, the most important being a powerful iMac, as part of an upgrade to our collection of computer hardware. Amongst many other things, this machine has helped in the preparation of videos, and in hosting online work reliably. Further lighting and green screen equipment has allowed us to broadcast from more than one locality. Quantities of storage trays of various types, as well as transport boxes, have aided in the curation of museum objects and of journal issues.

The main sponsorships this year were contributions towards an academic publication, and towards a museum abroad; ongoing living expenses for workers in the UK and further afield; and for books and fossil samples that were given away for educational purposes. A team member was also sponsored to attend a technical symposium on radiocarbon dating.

More generally, we've continued to network & collaborate with individuals, projects, universities, museums, and similar charitable organisations worldwide. This year we've particularly worked with, or supported, those in other parts of the UK, Germany, Italy, USA, Bolivia, Israel & the Far East.

As always, a central aim has been to place into the hands of the public, as objectively as possible, primary evidence relating to diverse questions from across the field of Origins, in order that people might come to their own conclusions, through being fully and accurately informed. These matters are important since they contribute to the foundational philosophies of human society. Once again, many have benefited over the last year, including beyond intellectual knowledge alone, some even in life-changing ways.

The Trustees are therefore glad to confirm that all of our activities have been directed towards public advantage, and that neither they, nor their families, have gained any material benefit.

Reporting Serious Incidents

The Charity Commission requires that the trustees of a charity with annual income greater than £25 000 report serious incidents. The Trustees understand "serious incidents" to include the following:

- Significant fraud, theft or loss of funds.
- Significant sums of money or other property donated to the charity from an unknown or unverified source.
- The charity (including individual staff or trustees or both) has any known or alleged link to a proscribed organisation or to terrorist or other unlawful activities.
- A person disqualified from acting as a trustee has been or is currently acting as a trustee of the charity.
- The charity does not have a policy for safeguarding its vulnerable beneficiaries (e.g. children and young people, people with disabilities and the elderly /old people.)
- The charity has no vetting procedure to ensure that a trustee or member of staff is eligible to act in the position he or she is being appointed to.
- Beneficiaries have been or are suspected of being abused or mistreated.
- The charity has been subject to a criminal investigation or an investigation by another regulator or agency; or sanctions have been imposed or concerns raised by another regulator or agency (e.g. the Health and Safety Executive, or Ofsted).

The Trustees hereby report no such incidents.

Report Approval

Report approved by the Trustees, 22nd October 2022.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Adrian P. Umpleby
Chairman

Receipts & Payments Account for year ended 31st December 2021

RECEIPTS	£	£
Income Receipts		
From voluntary sources:		
Donations – individuals	21 913	
Donations – organisations	2 017	
Gift Aid	3 230	
Conference fees	2 118	
Miscellaneous:		
Unprocessed donation	325	29 603
TOTAL RECEIPTS		29 603
PAYMENTS	£	£
Charitable activity direct expenditure		
Equipment:		
Office, museum, laboratory & general	1 440	
General consumables	50	
Fieldwork	81	
Mobile	141	
Computer hardware	2 649	
Computer software	740	
Computer consumables (incl. ISP fees)	1 125	
Specimens:		
Biological, geological, palaeontological & archaeological	9 081	
Media:		
Books, journals & maps (incl. e-books)	3 109	
Audio (CD/SFX), video (DVD) & slides	17	
Photographic library (digital)	132	
Information (education & research):		
Stationery	257	
Postage & packaging	119	
Telephone & communications	703	
Conference fees	107	
Support:		
Membership & subscriptions	126	
Donations & honoraria	2 903	
Research grants	1 500	
Environment (carbon offset)	155	
Miscellaneous:		
Unprocessed donation	325	24 760

Other payments

Vehicle costs	2 014	
Insurances	556	
Licences & miscellaneous fees	255	
Training	129	2 954

TOTAL PAYMENTS		27 714
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Net receipts for the year	1 889
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Bank Current Account & Cash Balance as at 31st December 2020	1 832
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Bank Current Account & Cash Balance as at 31st December 2021	3 721
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Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31st December 2021

(numbers in brackets are from 2020 statement)

	£	£
Monetary Assets		
Bank Account	(1 832) 3 721	
Cash Tin	(0) 0	
SUB-TOTAL	(1 832)	3 721
Other Assets		
Furniture		
Office, library, museum & laboratory	(180)	160
Equipment		
Office, museum, laboratory & general	(2 150) 2 950	
Electrical	(1 500) 1 200	
Fieldwork	(1 050) 900	
Audio, photographic, video, film & art	(1 150) 900	
Computer hardware & software	(1 000) 4 050	10 000
Specimens		
Biological, geological, palaeontological & archaeological	(60 950)	68 200
Media		
Books, journals & maps	(10 150) 10 700	
Audio tapes & CDs, slides, videos & DVDs	(800) 650	11 350
Transport		
Vehicles	(700)	700
TOTAL	(81 462)	94 131
Liabilities		
TOTAL	(0)	0
NET ASSETS	(81 462)	94 131

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Genesis Research & Education Foundation

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Genesis Research & Education Foundation (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (CA2011). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year ended 31 December 2021 under section 144(2) of the CA2011. I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the CA2011 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.

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.

Name: Mr Ziqi Yang ACA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):

Chartered Accountant with Audit Qualification
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (Member No. 2981257)

Address: Academy House, 136 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 8PA

Date: 23rd October 2022

Signed: