

# THE FLAG INSTITUTE

England & Wales · Charity number 1152496

## Details

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Other names	FI
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2013-06-19
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	84 Norwood Grove Beverley HU17 9HS
Phone	07531266713
Email	<a href="mailto:info@flaginstitute.org">info@flaginstitute.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.flaginstitute.org">www.flaginstitute.org</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN ALL ASPECTS OF FLAGS AND VEXILLOLOGY.

**Activities:** The Flag Institute is a forum to research and inform about Vexillology (the Study of Flags). It does this by way of public meetings, scholarly publications and archiving of authoritative flag information from around the world. It helps communities design new flags maintains the UK local flag register and advises HM Government, national and international organizations on flags and flag protocol.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Armed Forces/emergency Service Efficiency, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL AND OVERSEAS
- Australia
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Bermuda
- Canada
- Chile
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Hungary
- India
- Isle Of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Jersey
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Russia
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- United States
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£14,723	£12,111	-	-
2024-03-31	£13,616	£21,188	-	-
2023-03-31	£13,339	£17,454	-	-
2022-03-31	£12,124	£13,160	-	-
2021-03-31	£22,504	£14,154	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>The Revd Canon John Hall</b>	Chair	2012-01-01
GRAHAM MICHAEL PADRUIG BARTRAM FFI		2013-06-04
Jonathan Jarratt		2024-11-16
Lesley Barbara Ross		2015-11-28
Monsieur Roger Ourset		2022-11-26
Philip Stephen Tibbetts		2016-11-19

**THE FLAG INSTITUTE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152496

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# Accounts

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### Overview

The Flag Institute was founded on 23rd April, 1971 and is the UK's leading research and documentation centre for flags and flag information and Europe's largest vexillological membership organisation, totalling 399 members.

The Flag Institute is legally managed by the trustees, elected by all members, who in turn appoint officers, as needs require, who in turn form a council to administer the Institute's activities.

The Flag Institute maintains and manages the national United Kingdom Flag Registry. This is to ensure there is a definitive record of those United Kingdom flags which exist, both nationally and regionally. The flags so listed then become exempt from planning permission as laid out in The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2021.

Members receive the journal, Flagmaster, and are entitled to attend the meetings of the Institute. The Institute's Library is in the process of digitisation to allow all members an easier, wider and more accessible viewing of documentation for study planned to be viewable via the Members' Area of the web site.

The Institute provides vexillological services to HM Government in the UK and to many other organizations around the world, including the United Nations. These services include advising on the use of flags, designing new flags and collating information on flags of the world.

### President

Captain Malcolm Farrow OBE FFI FCMI RN

### Trustees

*The constitution of the Flag Institute allows for a maximum of 10 Trustees, each elected for a 3 year period.*

Lesley Ross	2022-2025
Philip Tibbetts	2023-2026
Roger Ourset	2023-2026
Graham Bartram	2024-2027
John Hall	2024-2027
Jonathan Jarret	2024-2027

### Registered Information

The Flag Institute  
84 Norwood Grove  
Beverley  
East Riding of Yorkshire  
HU17 9HS

The Flag Institute is an active member of the international vexillological organization, FIAV (Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques).

Registered as an incorporated Charity (CIO) in England and Wales (No. 1152496)

## **Chief Executive: Leigh Wetherall**

The past year has been one of steady progress and renewal for the Flag Institute, with developments across our digital systems, membership engagement, publications, and events all contributing to a stronger and more visible organisation.

### *Digital Systems and Communications*

Our website continues to serve as the Institute's primary public platform, though the planned redevelopment project has been placed on hold while we await the availability of our contracted web developer. In the meantime, routine updates and maintenance ensure that the site remains functional and secure.

This year we began implementing Beacon CRM, which will streamline membership management, renewals, and communications, and ensure better integration with our online systems. We also completed our transition from X (Twitter) to Bluesky, where engagement is already growing, alongside regular updates via Facebook and Dispatch. Together, these channels have strengthened our connection with members and the wider public.

### *Events and Conferences*

Our Spring 2025 Conference in York was a highlight of the year, bringing members together for a rich day of talks, fellowship, and celebration. Planning is well underway for the Winter 2025 online conference, which will continue our commitment to accessibility and international participation. Looking ahead, we have secured sponsorship for the Spring 2026 Conference in Bristol, ensuring a strong foundation for future events and demonstrating the value external partners place on our work.

### *Publications and Editorial Work*

Flagmaster remains the flagship of the Institute's publications. Issue 170, published in June, was particularly well received for its depth of research and diverse range of topics, while Issue 171, scheduled for December, will continue that momentum. I am grateful to the editorial team for their dedication and to all contributors whose articles enrich the journal.

### *Membership and Engagement*

Our membership has remained stable, with encouraging signs of renewal and international interest. This year saw the introduction of the Young Vex membership scheme, created to inspire and support a new generation of flag enthusiasts. We have also improved member access to resources, including the full Flagmaster archive, recorded conference presentations via Vimeo, and "What's New in the Library" updates.

### *External Engagement and Outreach*

The Institute's visibility continues to grow through media contributions, partnerships, and outreach activity. Highlights include participation in national discussions about the symbolism and meaning of flags, as well as early exploration of professional PR support to help us reach a broader audience in the coming year..

## **Social Media Report: *Bernard Muscat***

On 27 July 2025 we shared our final post on X (formerly Twitter), directing followers to our new Bluesky account. Some people expressed disappointment about our decision to leave X. We decided not to close our account so nobody else can take over the username and impersonate us. We had 6,341 followers on X as of 29 October 2025.

We have 1.6k followers on Facebook, and 281 followers on BlueSky, with the latter closely resembling X in user experience and platform design.

## **Flagmaster: *Jos Poels***

Flagmaster, the biannual journal of the Flag Institute, was published according to schedule twice during the reporting year — in November 2024 and October 2025 — as Flagmaster No. 169 (Winter 2024, 56 pages) and Flagmaster No. 170 (Summer 2025, 52 pages). During January and June, Ian Sumner served as Interim Chief Editor. The print run was reduced from approximately 650 to 400 copies, reflecting the continued transition of Flag Institute members toward digital subscriptions. Membership of the Editorial Board changed during the reporting year. Ian Sumner and Sheila Collins stepped down, and the Board welcomed new members Peter Kelly, Neil McKenzie, and Jan Gyllenbok. The current Editorial Board comprises Malcolm Good, Andrew Kaley, Theun Okkerse (Design), Jos Poels (Chief Editor), and Leigh Wetherall. The Editorial Board operates independently of the Flag Institute Board. The views expressed in Flagmaster are those of individual contributors. For each issue, the Board holds two online meetings to discuss editorial policy, review proposed content, and plan future editions. The magazine's content consists of a combination of commissioned and unsolicited contributions, with the majority originating from commissioned work. No complaints regarding the content of Flagmaster were received from members or readers during the reporting year.

## **Treasurer's Report: *Andrew Kayley***

This is my first year as Treasurer of the Flag Institute. During my first year I have implemented changes that have reduced the Administration costs of the charity and reduced the numbers of copies of Flagmaster magazine that are printed. I have registered the Flag Institute with HM Revenue & Customs to enable Gift Aid to be claimed on eligible membership subscriptions. Our claims boosted the charity's income by over £3,000.

The outcome of these changes is that, for the first time in 4 years, the Flag Institute had a £2,612 excess of income over expenditure. I will continue to look at ways to maximise the Flag Institute's income and to identify cost savings where possible.

*A summary of the Financial statement is issued in the financial appendix to this document.*

## William Crampton Library Report: Ian Sumner



The indexing of the digitised files continues to progress. At 1 October 2025 this work is around 60 per cent complete, and the Library collection now includes over 62,000 catalogued items. These are listed in an online catalogue (.xls format), which is free to search, sort and download from the Flag Institute website. The increased discoverability that digitisation provides has resulted in the rapid satisfying of user enquiries from around the world. The next step, making items available to view and/or download within the limits of copyright and data protection legislation, is still under review, and will not be completed until indexing is complete.

### **Chairman's final word: *John Hall***

Behind the scenes of every organisation, no matter how serene it may seem from the surface is a hive of activity and hard work going on behind the scenes. The Trustees of the Institute would like to particularly thank Ian and Maggie Summer for their huge efforts in dealing with the digitalisation of the library and assistance with Flagmaster during Jos's illness. Mention should also be made of the sterling work of our Chief Executive, Leigh Wetherall in not just organising our splendid meetings, but also being the representative of the Institute on number of occasions and events requiring major negotiating skills. And a special mention to our Treasurer Andrew Kayley who has set the Institute on a sound financial footing. These are but some, the teamwork of the Institute is magnificent, and the institute is lucky to have a splendid set of members, to make it what it is!

As the events of the Summer have shown us, flags are never far from the public mind and the Institute through research and information sharing has done it's part to prove accurate and informed information on these occasions for the benefit of the general public and the advancement of Vexillology.

**Presented to the AGM of the Institute**

**Held via zoom 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Hall'.

The Revd Canon John Hall FFI FF BA Hons  
Chairman of the Trustees of the Flag Institute



# THE FLAG INSTITUTE

## Financial Summary

1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Opening Cash Balance on 1 April 2024 £13 063 20

### INCOME

<u>Membership Income</u>		<u>2023-2024</u>
UK Classic	£	4 289 00
Digital	£	1 606 00
World Classic	£	1 702 00
Europe Classic	£	1 476 00
Individuals & Book Sales		£ 10 024 80
Trade & Groups	£	915 00
Registered Flagmakers	£	500 00
<b>Total =</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>10 488 00</b>
Gift Aid refund	£	3 145 58
Conference tickets	£	495 00
Book Sales & Shipping charges	£	458 32
Other Sales	£	94 00
Donations	£	25 00
Account correction	£	17 50
Library Rent refund		£ 252 00
Debit Card cashback	£	0 31
<b>TOTAL=</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>14 723 71</b>

### EXPENDITURE

<u>Flagmaster Printing &amp; distribution</u>		<u>2023-2024</u>
Edition No. 168	£	3 163 91
Edition No. 169	£	2 488 54
<b>Total =</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>5 652 45</b>
Library Archive	£	2 112 00
Administration	£	1 964 69
Member Conferences	£	790 00
I.T. Services	£	568 68
Postages	£	386 31
Liability Insurance	£	240 07
Card processing fees	£	192 50
Stationery	£	144 77
Society Membership	£	60 00
Travel costs		£ 307 57
FI Trademark renewal		£ 250 00
Other Costs		£ 158 17
Refunds		£ 27 00
<b>TOTAL =</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>12 111 47</b>

Difference between Income and Expenditure = £ 2 612 24 **-£7 571 63**

Closing Trade Balance at 31 March 2025 = £15 675 44

### CASH STATEMENT

Bank Account	£	15 574 16
Square receipts	£	101 28

Total Cash balance at 31 March 2025 = £15 675 44

I certify that to the best of my knowledge these figures represent a true and accurate statement of the Flag Institute's financial accounts.

*A. Kayley*

Andrew Kayley (Treasurer)

**THE FLAG INSTITUTE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152496

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# Accounts

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## Overview

The Flag Institute was founded on 23rd April, 1971 and is the UK's leading research and documentation centre for flags and flag information and Europe's largest vexillological membership organisation, totalling 399 members.

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## President

Captain Malcolm Farrow OBE FFI RN

## Trustees

*The constitution of the Flag Institute allows for a maximum of 10 Trustees, each elected for a 3 year period.*

Graham Bartram	2021-2024
John Hall	2021-2024
Lesley Ross	2022-2025
Philip Thompson	2022-2025
Philip Tibbetts	2023-2026
Roger Ourset	2023-2026

## Registered Information

The Flag Institute  
84 Norwood Grove  
Beverley  
East Riding of Yorkshire  
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The Flag Institute is an active member of the international vexillological organization, FIAV (Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques).

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## **Chief Executive: Leigh Weatherall**

Overall and in the background officers of the Flag institute have worked hard, preparing to upgrade our website, digitalising our library and making sure *Flagmaster*, our 'flagship publication' is published on time and to an extremely high content. During the year the Institute was represented at a joint conference in December with the Heraldry Society of Scotland in The Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh and in the Spring Conference at the Conway Hall in London. It was represented at ICV 30 and associated General Assembly of FIAV in Beijing, Peoples Republic of China, by member, John Cartlidge in August 2024. Sadly, financial pressures meant we were unable to retain the services of Kath Kearney as a paid administrator. On behalf of the Trustees and the whole Institute we want to public thank her for her excellent work and wish her well for the future.

## **William Crampton Library: Ian Sumner**

Following our move from central Hull in August 2023, the Library collection was placed in storage. We then prepared the contents of 300 file boxes for scanning by an experienced local company. The digitised files are all now returned, and further sorting and cataloguing is in progress. At 1 October 2024 this work is around 40 per cent complete, and the Library collection now includes over 50,000 catalogued items. These are listed in an online catalogue (.xls format), which is free to search, sort and download from the Flag Institute website, greatly increasing their discoverability worldwide. The next step, currently under investigation, is to make as many items as possible available to view and/or download within the limits of copyright and data protection laws.

## **Website: Maggie Sumner**

Content development has been suspended over the past year while work continues to upgrade the current Wordpress site and to identify and secure more robust hosting arrangements.

## **Social Media Report: Bernard Muscat**

We have continued to use social media to engage with our audience, often with mentions of flags on tv or in popular culture, updates about flag design competitions, and questions meant to generate engagement, such as asking what the collective noun for flags should be. The most popular reply to that one was 'a flutter of flags'.

As of 1 November 2024, we have 1,609 followers on Facebook, (2023:1500) and 6,658 followers on X. (2023: 6407).

## **Flagmaster: Jos Poels**

The biannually flag magazine *Flagmaster* has been published according to schedule twice in the report year November 2023 and October 2024: *Flagmaster* 167 (Winter 2023, 48 pages) and *Flagmaster* 168 (Summer 2024, 56 pages).

The members of the editorial board have changed. Prof. James Floyd and Bernard Muscat decided to leave. Welcomed in the board is Sheila Collins. Currently the board consists of: Sheila Collins, Malcolm Good, Andrew Kaley, Theun Okkerse (design), Ian Sumner (sub-editor), Jos Poels (chief editor) and Leigh Wetherall.

The editorial board operates independent from the Flag Institute board. The views expressed in the magazine are those of individual contributors. For every issue the editorial board held two zoom meetings where publishing policy was discussed, as well as possible new articles. *Flagmaster's* content is a mixture of commissioned and unsolicited work. However, most of the submissions are the result of commissioned work.

During the report year no complaints were received by members/readers about the content. On the contrary, several compliments have been given to the editorial board for the quality of the magazine.

The decision has been made that the printing run of *Flagmaster* – with the forthcoming issue 169 – goes down from around 650 now to 400.

### **Treasurer's Report: *Andrew Kayley***

A summary of the Financial statement is issued in the financial appendix to this document.

### **Chairman's final word: *John Hall***

The trustees again would like to publicly acknowledge the support and hard work of so many of the Institute's members in making the Institute the success that it is. It has been particularly pleasing for the Institute to visit 'north of the border' last November, the for the first time for many year. We are grateful to the hospitality of the Scottish Heraldry Society on that occasion. It is always difficult to name individual for particular thanks, when the Institute is a team, but this year we would like to acknowledge and give thanks for the hard work of our outgoing Treasurer Philip Thompson, and Administrator Kath Kearney. Thanking them both for their hard work and for ensuring a smooth transfer to new arrangements.

**Presented to the AGM of the Institute**

**Held via zoom 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024**



The Revd Canon John Hall FFI FF BA Hons  
Chairman of the Trustees of the Flag Institute



# FLAG INSTITUTE

## Financial Statement

1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Bank Account opening balance £20,634.83

Paypal open Balance

**Opening Balance 1st April 2023 £20,634.83**

### TRADING STATEMENT

	INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
		2022-2023		2022-2024
Income Square	£6,991.89	£9,177.41	Admin	£4,443.92 £3,132.01
Bank Income	£6,624.83	£4,162.00	Library	£7,217.42 £3,268.54
			Flagmaster	£5,375.05 £5,287.98
			FI Meetings	£3,060.50 £4,728.01
			FI Refunds	£27.00 £181.00
			FI other cost	£1,064.46 £857.17

TOTAL INCOME £13,616.72 £13,339.41 TOTAL EXPENSES £21,188.35 £17,454.71

Difference between Income and Expenses **-£7,571.63** -£4,115.30

**Closing Balance of Trade 31st March 2024 £13,063.20**

### CASH STATEMENT

Bank Account £13,063.20

Deposit £0.00

Paypal £0.00

**CASH Balance 31st March 2024 £13,063.20**

I certify that to the best of my knowledge these figures represent a true and accur

PA Thompson  
Treasurer

**THE FLAG INSTITUTE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152496

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# Accounts

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### Overview

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*The Institute was founded on St. George's Day, 23 April, 1971.*

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John Hall	2021-2024
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## **Chairman's Overview: *John Hall***

As we begin the new Carolinian age, the public has, it seems, been intrigued by changes in symbols that had otherwise seemed fixed for an entire lifetime. Bank notes, stamps, even post boxes are changing and flags are no different. There has been a rapid growing public awareness of the power of flags as visible nonverbal expressions of communication and as living and evolving symbols of nations and local communities. The coronation in May and the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine/Russia and Palestine/Israel show the public use flags to express an opinion or show solidarity; which has been remarkable. The continuing process of creating county flags in the United Kingdom and the revision of state flag designs in the United States, point to the importance of good design to inspire; reflect the ideals of the local populations and open the door for vexillological understanding. In many ways the Institute's role to educate, inform and advise is even more required and called upon than it has ever been. We continue that work, through the publication of *Flagmaster*; our website and social media outputs; and by beginning to digitalise the materials of our library to allow greater access to all. Overall, 2023 has been a very good year for flags, vexillology and most importantly the Flag Institute.

## **William Crampton Library: *Ian Sumner***

The Library was obliged to quit its rented premises in central Hull at the end of August, and is currently in accessible storage, pending a further decision by the Trustees. We continue to index and develop the William Crampton Library collection in support of the Flag Institute and the wider vexillological world. The catalogue, free to view or download in .xls format on the FI website, now indexes over 40,000 items. The digitisation project continues to develop. The first tranche of material to be digitised, largely consisting of personal papers and articles, was sent off to a local Hull company in the middle of September. The second tranche, more personal papers and all the FI correspondence and administrative documents, is currently being prepared. The third tranche will consist of the country files, and any other remaining material.

## **Website: *Maggie Sumner***

Work continues to develop all aspects of the Flag Institute website: content, structure, accessibility, search ranking and more. 'UK Flag protocol' and 'Union Jack or Union Flag'; remain our most popular pages, while our attention in the past twelve months has focused in particular on three key areas.

- 1 Calendar: updated and extended coverage of official UK flag-flying days:
- 2 *Flagmaster* archive: now fully compatible with text-to-speech and translation software
- 3 Proceedings of the 27th International Congress of Vexillology, edited by Ian and Margaret Sumner (Kingston-upon-Hull: Flag Institute, 2022): 42 illustrated papers, now published and free to view online

## **Social Media Report: *Bernard Muscat***

The last AGM was the day before the finale of #WorldCupOfFlags2022, so we didn't get to report on the winner: the Welsh flag beat the Brazilian flag very soundly in the final.

We registered 11,083 votes in total, averaging 462 votes/poll. 42% of the total votes were cast in the final.

We raised £42 for the Halo Trust, and made £45.93 for the Flag Institute. We decided to absorb Stripe transfer costs, so when 1 donation came in after we had made the transfer to the Halo Trust, we figured it was ok not to do another transfer of just £4, since we absorbed the transfer costs.

Confirmation of transfer made: <https://twitter.com/FlagInstitute/status/1603353795689332736>

Our [ko-fi.com](https://ko-fi.com) page is still active in case we want to use it for anything else: <https://ko-fi.com/flaginstitute>

Other than that, the usual mischief on Twitter: flag polls, memes, news of when flags appear on tv shows or in popular culture, drooling over flags at Glastonbury, the Eurovision, the Proms, and Historic Counties Day.

As of October 2023 we have 6,477 followers on Twitter, and 1.5k followers on Facebook.

## Membership Report: *Kath Kearney*

Three tables are given below:

**Table 1:** Documents various items pertaining to the current state of the membership in terms of membership numbers in various categories, and changes since October 2017

**Table 2:** Shows a breakdown of countries in which we have a presence

**Table 3:** Shows the number of members in different regions within the UK

Table 1									
	Mar 19	Oct 19	Apr 20	Oct 20	Oct 21	Apr 22	Nov 22	Apr 23	Nov 24
Active Members	434	417	390	388	410	428	424	433	417
New Members	24	28	24	28	68	30	32	30	29
Exchange Membership	17	17	17	16	17	17	17	17	17
Complimentary Membership	16	16	16	15	15	15	15	14	13
Life Membership	52	50	50	49	47	46	46	43	42
Group Membership	6	4	6	5	3	1	2	1	1
Classic Membership	284	273	248	241	258	267	246	257	253
Digital Membership	38	36	37	43	54	65	80	84	75
Trade Membership	16	16	12	14	11	13	14	13	14
Register British Flagmakers	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4	4
Overseas Members	148	144	131	130	145	150	153	155	153
UK Members	286	274	259	258	265	278	271	278	265
Countries	32	34	32	32	33	35	35	35	34
Members with Email	376	366	338	344	369	385	382	395	382

- Of the 29 new members joining since 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 7 Digital, 20 Classic and 2 Trade Memberships. 24 are UK members, 3 Europe and 2 from the rest of the world.

- Of the 75 Digital members, 39 are UK members, 9 Europe, 25 World, 1 life member and 1 exchange member.

<b>Table 2</b>		
<b>Country</b>	<b>Members Present</b>	
	<b>April 2023</b>	<b>November 2024</b>
Argentina	1	1
Australia	12	12
Belarus	1	1
Belgium	5	4
Canada	7	8
Chile	1	1
Czech Republic	4	4
Denmark	3	3
Estonia	1	1
Finland	1	1
France	6	6
Georgia	1	1
Germany	10	10
Greece	1	1
Hungary	1	1
Israel	1	1
Italy	7	8
Japan	2	2
Luxembourg	1	1
Malta	1	1
Mexico	1	1
Netherlands	6	8
New Zealand	3	2
Norway	4	4
Poland	1	0
Portugal	1	1
Republic of Ireland	6	6
Russia	1	1
South Africa	2	2
Spain	5	5
Sweden	1	1
Switzerland	5	5
Ukraine	1	1
United Kingdom	278	265
USA	51	47

<b>Table 3: United Kingdom 265</b>	
England	232
Channel Islands	4
Northern Ireland	0
Scotland	21
Wales	8

## **Flagmaster: *Jos Poels***

In the report year November 2022 – October 2023 Flagmaster has been published twice to deadline: Flagmaster 165 (Winter 2022, 56 pages) and Flagmaster 166 (Summer 2023, 56 pages). The members of the editorial board are: Malcolm Good, Prof. James Floyd, Andrew Kaley, Bernard Muscat, Theun Okkerse (design), Ian Sumner (sub-editor), Jos Poels (chief editor) and Leigh Wetherall. For every issue the editorial board held two zoom conferences where publishing policy was discussed, as well as possible new articles are being discussed. Articles are a mixture of commissioned and unsolicited work. However, most of the work is commissioned work. Since issue 166 the section Speaker's Corner has been abolished due to a lack of flag-minded people who wanted to give an opinion on a flag related topic.

## **Chief Executive's Report: *Leigh Wetherall***

I am now a year into the role of CEO after a three-year hiatus of the role at FI. My convenery duties continue with delivering the FI Spring 2023 Conference at the Victory Services Club, London. Speakers in London included Military Historian, Mick McTiernan present Choosing a flag for the Cretan State; Dr. Mario Jareb, Croatian historian, scientific advisor from the Croatian Institute of History and vice-president of Matica Hrvatska, deliver a book presentation 'From Checkerboard to Tricolor: Development and Use of the Croatian Coat of Arms and Flag Throughout the Centuries'; and who also donated 50 copies of his book to the FI; Rachel Phelan, Textile Conservator present Flying High at St Patricks. Conservation during Covid; and Erik Nystul of NAVA and the Design Review Subcommittee of the Utah State Flag Task Force present A Beehive Flag for the Beehive State: The Origins of Utah's New State Flag.

The Winter FI Winter 2023 Conference was held in partnership with The Heraldry Society of Scotland. A first time the two organisations had come together in collaboration to deliver a joint conference. Something to be celebrated. Celebrated it was at the Presidents' Dinner. The conference was opened by the Rt. Hon. Lord Provost and Lord Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh, Councillor Robert Aldridge and with speakers Carrick Pursuivant in Ordinary Sheriff George Alexander Way of Plean CSt.J FSA(Scot) FRSA; Gordon Rutter, Officer to the Convenery of the Incorporated Trades of Edinburgh; Sheila Collins, Founder of the Edinburgh Exiles Society and Boxmaster of the Incorporation of Candlemakers of Edinburgh; Fraser Thompson, Trustee of the Scottish Flag Trust; Kevin Greig, Fellow of both The Heraldic Institute and of The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Associate Craft Member of the Society of Heraldic Arts, Philip Tibbetts OJ OSS 大將軍 MA (St And) FSAScot FFI AV APMP, March Pursuivant Extraordinary, Court of the Lord Lyon and Flag Institute Communities Vexillologist; Alasdair Hutton OBE TD OStJ, Journalist and broadcaster; and FI Chief Vexillologist, Graham Bartram FFI FVAST.

As CEO I have attended my first Flags & Heraldry APPG and involved in projects with the Government Capital Projects Department and the Government's Department for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities.

### **A final word...**

The trustees again would like to publicly acknowledge the support and hard work of so many of the Institute's members. It is a result of a lot of hard work by many folk and we are most grateful. Finally we would like to end by paying tribute to our past president Commander Bruce Nicholls OBE RN who passed away in the year, and who did so much to improve the running of the Institute, especially in the years following the death of our founder, Dr William Crampton.

Presented to the AGM of the Institute

Held via zoom 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Hall".

The Revd Canon John Hall FFI FF BA Hons  
Chairman of the Trustees of the Flag Institute



# FLAG INSTITUTE

## Financial Statement

1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Bank Account opening balance	£24,722.98
Paypal open Balance	£62.21

**Opening Balance 1st April 2022** **£24,785.19**

### TRADING STATEMENT

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
		2021-2022			2021-2022
Income Square	£9,177.41	£8,360.93	Admin	£3,132.01	£2,668.45
Bank Income	£4,162.00	£3,764.00	Library	£3,268.54	£3,136.79
			Flagmaster	£5,287.98	£5,358.72
			FI Meetings	£4,728.01	£1,008.34
			FI Refunds	£181.00	£188.66
			FI other cost	£857.17	£799.51
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£13,339.41</b>	<b>£12,124.93</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>£17,454.71</b>	<b>£13,160.47</b>
Difference between Income and Expenses				<b>-£4,115.30</b>	<b>-£1,035.54</b>

**Closing Balance of Trade 31st March 2023** **£20,669.89**

### CASH STATEMENT

Bank Account	£20,634.83
Deposit	£0.00
Paypal	£35.06

**CASH Balance 31st March 2023** **£20,669.89**

I certify that to the best of my knowledge these figures represent a true and accurate

PA Thompson  
Treasurer

**THE FLAG INSTITUTE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152496

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# Accounts

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### Overview

*The Flag Institute is the UK's leading research and documentation centre for flags and flag information. The Institute is Europe's largest vexillological membership organisation. The Institute was founded on St. George's Day, 23 April, 1971.*

*The Flag Institute maintains and manages the national United Kingdom Flag Registry. This is to ensure there is a definitive record of those United Kingdom flags which exist, both nationally and regionally. The flags so listed then become exempt from planning permission as laid out in The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2021.*

*Members receive the journal, Flagmaster, and are entitled to attend the meetings of the Institute. All members resident in the UK can take part in the government of the Institute. Members also have free access to the extensive library of the Flag Institute and to the Members' Area of the web site, which contains a number of papers and resources.*

*The Institute provides vexillological services to HM Government in the UK and to many other organizations around the world, including the United Nations. These services include advising on the use of flags, designing new flags and collating information on flags of the world.*

### President

Captain Malcolm Farrow OBE FFI RN (Retd)

### Trustees

Present Trustees:

Lesley Ross	2019-2022
Philip Thompson	2019-2022
Philip Tibbetts	2020-2023
Graham Bartram	2021-2024
John Hall	2021-2024
Craig Hughes	2021-2024 (resigned June 2022)

### Registered Information

The Flag Institute William Crampton Library  
161 High Street  
Kingston-upon-Hull  
East Riding HU1 1NQ

The Flag Institute is an active member of the international vexillological organization, FIAV (Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques).

Registered as an incorporated Charity (CIO) in England and Wales (No. 1152496)

## **Chairman's Overview: *John Hall***

This year, 2022 saw us finish our year long celebrations marking our Golden Jubilee, culminating in a dinner in London on St Georges Day, with the guest of honour the Lord Lyon. This golden occasion signified the many successes the institute has had over the year, with the gradual indexing and digitalisation of its library resources; the taking in hand and updating of our website and social media output and the continuing excellent production of the Institute's flagship publication, *Flagmaster*. The institute was represented at the 29<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Vexillology held in Ljubljana, Slovenia in July 2022 by Jos Poels. The sad events of September 2022, and the death of Queen Elizabeth II have again put the importance of flags into the public mind and the Institute is pleased to be at the fore, with advice and information, fulfilling our primary mission as the UK's leading research and documentation centre for flags and flag information

## **William Crampton Library: *Ian Sumner***

We continue to index and develop the William Crampton Library collection in support of the Flag Institute and the wider vexillological world. The catalogue, free to view or download in .xls format on the FI website, now indexes over 35,000 items, and we are currently preparing a digitisation programme for the collection. However, the main focus in the past year has been on publishing the Proceedings of the 27th International Conference of Vexillology (ICV27), hosted by the FI in London in 2017. Editing, page-setting and proof-checking of the forty-two papers is now complete and they will be available on the website, free to view or download in PDF format, from mid-November 2022.

## **Website: *Maggie Sumner***

Work continues to refresh and add content to the FI website. In addition to new issues of *Flagmaster* and updates to the William Crampton Library catalogue, the main focus over the past year has been work on the Proceedings of ICV27 for addition to the site from mid-November 2022 (see Library report). During 2021/22 the site has attracted 415,086 page views from 288,040 users (55% from the UK; 33% from the US), with notable spikes of interest around the time of the Platinum Jubilee and the death of HM The Queen. The most viewed pages are those on British flag protocol (28%), Union Flag or Union Jack (11%) and the 51-star US flag (5%).

## **Social Media Report: *Bernard Muscat***

Our social media presence, especially on our Twitter account, continues to be about producing light-hearted tongue in cheek content relating to popular culture, e.g. the Eurovision, quizzes, and other tv shows featuring flags. We occasionally run guessing games, e.g. in what order are the colours on the flag of Mauritius, or which flags contain certain symbols.

On Friday 28 October we kicked off #WorldCupOfFlags2022, four and a half years after going accidentally viral in Panama, after the Panamanian flag won the first edition of World Cup of Flags. We pitched the story to some UK journalists in an attempt to generate PR in the UK, particularly in Wales, as the Welsh flag is an early favourite. The final will be on Sunday 20 November, the day after the Flag Institute conference, and the same day the men's football World Cup starts in Qatar.

This time people will be able to tip us on <https://ko-fi.com/flaginstitute> - half of what we raise will go to The Halo Trust.

As of November 2021, we have 1,519 followers on Facebook and 6,121 followers on Twitter. Earlier this year we launched on TikTok with the help of a new volunteer - we haven't used the channel a lot but it may come to be useful in the future.

## Membership Report: *Kath Kearney*

Three tables are given below:

**Table 1:** Documents various items pertaining to the current state of the membership in terms of membership numbers in various categories, and changes since October 2017

**Table 2:** Shows a breakdown of countries in which we have a presence

**Table 3:** Shows the number of members in different regions within the UK

Table 1									
	June 18	Oct 18	Mar 19	Oct 19	Apr 20	Oct 20	Oct 21	Apr 22	Nov 22
Active Members	492	457	434	417	390	388	410	428	424
New Members	27	16	24	28	24	28	68	30	32
Exchange Membership	17	17	17	17	17	16	17	17	17
Complimentary Membership	17	17	16	16	16	15	15	15	15
Life Membership	52	52	52	50	50	49	47	46	46
Group Membership	7	7	6	4	6	5	3	1	2
Classic Membership	325	303	284	273	248	241	258	267	246
Digital Membership	45	38	38	36	37	43	54	65	80
Trade Membership	23	18	16	16	12	14	11	13	14
Register British Flagmakers	6	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4
Overseas Members	172	157	148	144	131	130	145	150	153
UK Members	320	300	286	274	259	258	265	278	271
Countries	35	35	32	34	32	32	33	35	35
Members with Email	427	394	376	366	338	344	369	385	382

- Of the 32 new members joining since April 2022, 18 Digital and 14 Classic Memberships. 22 are UK members and 10 from the rest of the world.
- 28 memberships have expired since the start of May 2022

<b>Table 2</b>		
<b>Country</b>	<b>Members Present</b>	
	<b>April 2022</b>	<b>November 2022</b>
Argentina	1	1
Australia	12	12
Belarus	1	1
Belgium	5	5
Canada	8	7
Chile	1	1
Czech Republic	4	4
Denmark	3	3
Estonia	1	1
Finland	1	1
France	7	7
Georgia	1	1
Germany	10	10
Greece	1	1
Hungary	1	1
Israel	1	1
Italy	6	6
Japan	2	2
Luxembourg	1	2
Malta	1	1
Mexico	1	1
Netherlands	5	6
New Zealand	1	3
Norway	5	4
Poland	1	1
Portugal	1	1
Republic of Ireland	5	5
Russia	1	1
South Africa	2	2
Spain	4	4
Sweden	1	1
Switzerland	5	5
Ukraine	1	1
United Kingdom	278	271
USA	49	51

<b>Table 3: United Kingdom 271</b>	
England	243
Channel Islands	2
Northern Ireland	1
Scotland	19
Wales	6

## **Flagmaster: *Jos Poels***

In 2021–22 Flagmaster has been published twice to deadline: Flagmaster 162 (Summer 2021, 56 pages) and Flagmaster 163 (Winter 2022, 48 pages). The seven members of the editorial board have online meetings on Teams once every three months, where articles and strategy are discussed. Flagmaster 161 had a Gold theme, dedicated to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Flag Institute. Content for Flagmaster not only comes from the members of the editorial board, but from FI members and non-members alike. Articles are a mixture of commissioned and unsolicited work. Members of the editorial board are: Malcolm Good, Alex Cachinero-Gorman, Prof. James Floyd, Bernard Muscat, Theun Okkerse (design), Ian Sumner (sub-editor) and Jos Poels (chief editor).

## **Convenor's Report: *Leigh Wetherall***

The Flag Institute commemorated its 50th anniversary with a celebratory conference in London, 23 rd April 2022 at David Game College. This Golden Jubilee event included presentations from Roger Ourset of the Flag Institute and Société Française de Vexillologie who presented Flags and National Anthems. Anton Pihl, President of the Nordic Flag Society presented Nordic Cross Flags: A Growing Family. Nick Farley, Managing Director of The Flag Consultancy Ltd. spoke of his work at The Flag Consultancy. Professor Dominic Bryan of Queen's University Belfast presented The Trouble with Flags: The Flags, Identity, Culture and Tradition Commission in Northern Ireland and his work as Co-Chair of the commission. John Hall FF FFI, Chairman of the Flag Institute presented A Visual History of the Flag Institute, a special golden jubilee celebration presentation.

The Flag Institute AGM and Winter 2022 Conference is to be held at Leeds Royal Armouries, Saturday 19 November 2022. Presentations are due from Maura Andreoni, a historian, who is to present The Botanical World and State Flags, which is the same name as Maura's recent book published. Philip Tibbetts, Flag Institute Trustee and Communities Vexillologists and March Pursuivant Extraordinary and Honorary Vexillologist to the Court of the Lord Lyon will present March of the Flags: In Conversation With.... Bernard Muscat will introduce the 2022 World Cup of Flags. And finally, Graham Bartram, Chief Vexillologist at the Flag Institute, will present End of an Era, Beginning of New Realm.

## **A final word....**

The trustees again would like to publicly acknowledge the support and hard work of so many of the Institute's members in machining the institute the thing it is. It is a result of a lot of hard work by many folk and we are most grateful. We were also saddened to received the resignation of Craig Hughes in the year, due to ill health, and to hear of the death of our late president Robin Ashburner BEM.

## **Presented to the AGM of the Institute**

**Held at the Royal Armouries, Leeds 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022**



The Revd Canon John Hall FFI FF BA Hons  
Chairman of the Trustees of the Flag Institute



# FLAG INSTITUTE

## Financial Statement

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Bank Account opening balance	£25,786.52
Paypal open Balance	£34.21

**Opening Balance 1st April 2021** **£25,820.73**

### TRADING STATEMENT

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
		2020-2021			2020-2021
Income Square	£8,360.93	£8,360.00	Admin	£2,668.45	£2,772.04
Bank Income	£3,764.00	£14,144.00	Library	£3,136.79	£3,083.17
			Flagmaster	£5,358.72	£6,252.04
			FI Meetings	£1,008.34	£0.00
			FI Cost Income	£188.66	£351.12
			FI other cost	£799.51	£1,696.54
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£12,124.93</b>	<b>£22,504.00</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>£13,160.47</b>	<b>£14,154.91</b>
Difference between Income and Expenses				<b>-£1,035.54</b>	<b>£8,349.09</b>

**Closing Balance of Trade 31st March 2022** **£24,785.19**

### CASH STATEMENT

Bank Account	£24,722.98
Deposit	£0.00
Paypal	£62.21

**CASH Balance 31st March 2022** **£24,785.19**

I certify that to the best of my knowledge these figures represent a true and accu

PA Thompson  
Treasurer



# FI Financial Statement 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

## Cashflow Statement

Financial year begins: 01/04/2021	(Pre) Startup EST	APR 01	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	AUG 01	SEP 01	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	JAN 01	FEB 01	MAR 01	Total Item EST	
Paypal	34.21														
Opening fung Bank	25,786.52														
<b>Total Opening Fund</b>	<b>25820.73</b>	<b>25820.73</b>	<b>26657.65</b>	<b>27134.46</b>	<b>26838.20</b>	<b>24600.69</b>	<b>25093.10</b>	<b>25359.85</b>	<b>26740.93</b>	<b>26826.46</b>	<b>25459.14</b>	<b>24047.56</b>	<b>24887.14</b>		
<b>Income Receipts</b>															
Income Square		766.00	576.00	931.00	739.00	551.00	312.00	707.00	651.00	626.00	1,193.00	711.00	597.93	8,360.93	
Bank Income		314.00	140.00	511.00	250.00	181.00	189.00	918.00	303.00	0.00	84.00	371.00	503.00	3,764.00	
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>Income Total</b>		<b>1080.00</b>	<b>716.00</b>	<b>1442.00</b>	<b>989.00</b>	<b>732.00</b>	<b>501.00</b>	<b>1625.00</b>	<b>954.00</b>	<b>626.00</b>	<b>1277.00</b>	<b>1082.00</b>	<b>1100.93</b>	<b>12124.93</b>	
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>25820.73</b>	<b>26900.73</b>	<b>27373.65</b>	<b>28576.46</b>	<b>27827.20</b>	<b>25332.69</b>	<b>25594.10</b>	<b>26984.85</b>	<b>27694.93</b>	<b>27452.46</b>	<b>26736.14</b>	<b>25129.56</b>	<b>25988.07</b>	<b>12124.93</b>	
<b>Payments</b>															
Admin		0.00	0.00	1,127.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	358.99	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	181.63	2,668.45	
FI Library		227.00	227.00	589.56	227.00	227.00	227.00	227.00	277.23	227.00	227.00	227.00	227.00	3,136.79	
Flagmaster		0.00	0.00	0.00	2,924.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,433.85	0.00	0.00	5,358.72	
FI Meetings		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	751.50	0.00	0.00	256.84	1,008.34	
FI Cost of Income		16.08	12.19	20.87	17.08	12.59	7.25	16.92	14.57	14.82	27.73	15.42	13.14	188.66	
FI Other costs		0.00	0.00	0.00	57.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	217.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	524.27	799.51	
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>243.08</b>	<b>239.19</b>	<b>1,738.26</b>	<b>3,226.51</b>	<b>239.59</b>	<b>234.25</b>	<b>243.92</b>	<b>868.47</b>	<b>1,993.32</b>	<b>2,688.58</b>	<b>242.42</b>	<b>1,202.88</b>	<b>13,160.47</b>	
<b>Cash Position (end of month)</b>	<b>25,820.73</b>	<b>26,657.65</b>	<b>27,134.46</b>	<b>26,838.20</b>	<b>24,600.69</b>	<b>25,093.10</b>	<b>25,359.85</b>	<b>26,740.93</b>	<b>26,826.46</b>	<b>25,459.14</b>	<b>24,047.56</b>	<b>24,887.14</b>	<b>24,785.19</b>	<b>-1,035.54</b>	

**THE FLAG INSTITUTE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152496

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# Accounts

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### Overview

*The Flag Institute is the UK's leading research and documentation centre for flags and flag information. The Institute is Europe's largest vexillological membership organisation. The Institute was founded on St. George's Day, 23 April, 1971.*

*The Flag Institute maintains and manages the national United Kingdom Flag Registry. This is to ensure there is a definitive record of those United Kingdom flags which exist, both nationally and regionally. The flags so listed then become exempt from planning permission as laid out in The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2021.*

*Members receive the journal, Flagmaster, and are entitled to attend the meetings of the Institute. All members resident in the UK can take part in the government of the Institute. Members also have free access to the extensive library of the Flag Institute and to the Members' Area of the web site, which contains a number of papers and resources.*

*The Institute provides vexillological services to HM Government in the UK and to many other organizations around the world, including the United Nations. These services include advising on the use of flags, designing new flags and collating information on flags of the world.*

### Trustees

Present Trustees:	Graham Bartram	2018-2021
	John Hall	2018-2021
	Craig Hughes	2018-2021
	Lesley Ross	2019-2022
	Philip Thompson	2019-2022
	Philip Tibbetts	2020-2023

### Registered Information

The Flag Institute William Crampton Library  
161 High Street  
Kingston-upon-Hull  
East Riding HU1 1NQ

The Flag Institute is an active member of the international vexillological organization, FIAV (Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques).

Registered as an incorporated Charity (CIO) in England and Wales (No. 1152496)

## **Chairman's Overview: *John Hall***

This year 2021 has been the Institute's golden year. The fiftieth anniversary of its foundation by Dr William Crampton in 1971. In many ways it has also been our golden year, not just because of anniversaries, but in terms of our great successes. With a growing membership, a high attendance nationally and internationally of our meetings, both virtual and actual. The raising of standards in the production of Flagmaster to a serious academic and high-quality production, truly the flagship of vexillological journals in the world. Our trustee Philip Tibbetts, who for a number of years has been honorary vexillologist to the Lord Lyon, has been appointed March Pursuivant in the Lyon court, cementing the good relationships between the Institute and the world of heraldry and ceremonial in the Northern Kingdom. Behind the scenes many have worked tremendously hard, Leigh Wetherell, Jos Poels, Ian and Maggie Sumner to name a few. On behalf of the Institute, thank you. In our Golden Jubilee Year, it is safe to say we 'have never had it so good'.

## **Library: *Ian Sumner***

The William Crampton Library continues to index and develop its collections in support of the Flag Institute and the wider vexillological world. New for 2021: the Library catalogue – updated twice yearly and currently comprising over 30,000 items – is now available on the Flag Institute website, as is the twice-yearly Catalogue Update and Index to House Flags.

## **Website: *Maggie Sumner***

Work continues to refresh and add content to the Flag Institute website. New for 2021: the complete Flagmaster Archive (Issues 1 to 162) is now available in PDF format for members only. Also newly available in PDF format are the complete Flagmaster Index (Issues 1-162), unlocking fifty years of flag scholarship; Colours of the Fleet (revised edition); and Rudi Longueville's Badges of the British Commonwealth. Further new content includes the Library Catalogue, twice-yearly Catalogue Update and Index to House Flags.

## **Social Media Report: *Bernard Muscat***

We have continued to use social media to engage with our audience, often with simple 'Guess the flag' competitions, mentions of flags on tv or in popular culture, and questions meant to generate engagement, such as asking people what their latest acquired flag item is.

In recent months we received a few submissions for Flag Master content directly from Twitter users.

We have 1,439 followers on Facebook, and 5,883 followers on Twitter.

In November 2022 I plan to run #WorldCupOfFlags2022 like I did in 2018, to find who among the teams competing in the men's football World Cup has the best flag. Fingers crossed for more media coverage.

## Membership Report: *Kath Kearney*

Three tables are given below:

**Table 1:** Documents various items pertaining to the current state of the membership in terms of membership numbers in various categories, and changes since October 2018

**Table 2:** Shows a breakdown of countries in which we have a presence

**Table 3:** Shows the number of members in different regions within the UK

Table 1									
	Apr 17	Oct 17	June 18	Oct 18	Mar 19	Oct 19	Apr 20	Oct 20	Oct 21
Active Members	466	475	492	457	434	417	390	388	410
New Members	23	25	27	16	24	28	24	28	68
Exchange Membership	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	16	17
Complimentary Membership	16	17	17	17	16	16	16	15	15
Life Membership	52	52	52	52	52	50	50	49	47
Group Membership	5	7	7	7	6	4	6	5	3
Classic Membership	314	312	325	303	284	273	248	241	258
Digital Membership	35	42	45	38	38	36	37	43	54
Trade Membership	21	21	23	18	16	16	12	14	11
Register British Flagmakers	6	6	6	5	5	5	4	5	5
Overseas Members	160	166	172	157	148	144	131	130	145
UK Members	306	309	320	300	286	274	259	258	265
Countries	32	35	35	35	32	34	32	32	33
Members with Email	402	411	427	394	376	366	338	344	369

- Of the 68 new members joining since the end of October 2020, 24 are Digital and 44 Classic Memberships. 55 are UK members and 13 from the rest of the world.

<b>Table 2</b>		
<b>Country</b>	<b>Members Present</b>	
	<b>October 2020</b>	<b>October 2021</b>
Argentina	0	1
Australia	8	12
Belarus	0	1
Belgium	3	5
Canada	6	7
Chile	1	1
Czech Republic	4	4
Denmark	2	3
Estonia	1	1
Finland	0	1
France	9	7
Georgia	1	1
Germany	8	10
Greece	1	1
Hungary	1	1
India	1	0
Israel	1	1
Italy	6	5
Japan	3	2
Luxembourg	1	1
Mexico	1	1
Netherlands	4	5
New Zealand	1	1
Norway	5	5
Portugal	1	1
Republic of Ireland	6	6
Russia	1	1
South Africa	2	2
Spain	3	3
Sweden	3	2
Switzerland	5	5
Ukraine	1	1
United Kingdom	258	265
USA	37	47

<b>Table 3: United Kingdom 265</b>	
England	236
Channel Islands	2
Northern Ireland	1
Scotland	20
Wales	6

## **2020 Report Editor *Flagmaster*: Jos Poels**

During the year under review *Flagmaster* (FM) was published twice. FM 161 in December 2020 and FM 162 in June 2021. Both editions appeared within the publication date imposed by us: 21 December and 21 June. FM 161 contained 48 pages; FM 162 contained 56 pages, which is the maximum of pages our printer in Swansea is able to print as a magazine. This was a special issue on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Flag Institute.

The editorial team consists of Alex Cachinero-Gorman, Prof. James Flloyd, Bernard Muscat (social media), Ian Sumner (deputy editor) Leigh Wetherall, and Jos Poels as chief editor. Malcom Good joined the team early in the year. It is our aim to produce a contemporary magazine, with a mix of news, research, opinion, and human interest, which outstands other vexillological magazines. We meet at an average of once every two months, via our online work platform Teams. Despite writing for FM ourselves, we try as 'ambassadors' to convince other FI members to write up contributions.

We have tried to find within the 'pond' of the Flag Institute members a designer for FM, but failed to do so. Therefore, we approached and welcomed the Dutch vexillologist and designer Theun Okkerse as FM's designer, which is a very time-consuming job. Theun Okkerse does also design the Dutch flag journal *Vlag!*, of which your FM chief editor is chief editor as well. *Vlag!* is issued by the NVVV in the Netherlands.

Every word written, and every illustration shown in *Flagmaster* came there free of charge. The members of the editorial team have taken up their job on a voluntary basis. FM's costs in the spreadsheet of the treasurer are build up of fees for design, printing and postage. It should be said at this place, that illustrations, or more the quality of the illustrations, are FM's weakest spot.

In FI's recent survey some members indicated they were willing to help with FM. They will be contacted. The survey indicated members asking for a higher frequency of *Flagmaster*. This is also a desire of the editorial team, but under the current circumstances (time and people) this is not (yet) possible.

The plan of the editorial team for the coming year is to publish 2 FM's (December 2021 and June 2022), each with 48 pages, and to involve more FI members and other vexillologist to write up and share their vexillological interest in *Flagmaster*.

### **Presented to the AGM of the Institute**

**Held at the People's Museum, Manchester 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021**



The Revd Canon John Hall FFI FF BA Hons  
Chairman of the Trustees of the Flag Institute



# FLAG INSTITUTE

## Financial Statement

1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> March  
2021

Bank Account opening balance £17,444.79

Paypal Account opening balance

**Opening Balance 1st April 2020 £17,444.79**

### TRADING STATEMENT

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
		2019-2020			2019-2020
Income Paypal	£8,360.00	£6,089.00	Admin	£2,772.04	£2,690.91
Bank Income	£14,144.00	£3,208.00	Library	£3,083.17	£2,914.90
Events - Meetings	£0.00	£775.00	Flagmaster	£6,252.04	£1,674.85
			FI Meetings	£0.00	£2,872.50
			FI Cost Income	£351.12	£763.57
			FI other cost	£1,696.54	£219.90
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£22,504.00</b>	<b>£10,072.00</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>£14,154.91</b>	<b>£11,136.63</b>
Difference between Income and Expenses				<b>£8,349.09</b>	<b>-£1,064.63</b>

**Closing Balance of Trade 31st March 2021 £25,793.88**

### CASH STATEMENT

Bank Account	£25,758.52
Deposit	£0.00
Paypal	£35.36

**CASH Balance 31st March 2021 £25,793.88**

I certify that to the best of my knowledge these figures represent a true and accu

PA Thompson  
Treasurer