

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 Crompton 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 29th 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

Table 2		
Country	Members Present	
	April 2022	November 2022
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

Table 3: United Kingdom 271	
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 50th 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, 23rd 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 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 19th November 2022



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



FLAG INSTITUTE

Financial Statement

1st April 2021 - 31st 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
TOTAL INCOME			TOTAL EXPENSES		
	£12,124.93	£22,504.00		£13,160.47	£14,154.91
Difference between Income and Expenses				-£1,035.54	£8,349.09

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 1st April 2021- 31st 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														
Total Opening Fund	25820.73	25820.73	26657.65	27134.46	26838.20	24600.69	25093.10	25359.85	26740.93	26826.46	25459.14	24047.56	24887.14		
Income Receipts															
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	
Income Total		1080.00	716.00	1442.00	989.00	732.00	501.00	1625.00	954.00	626.00	1277.00	1082.00	1100.93	12124.93	
Total Funds Available	25820.73	26900.73	27373.65	28576.46	27827.20	25332.69	25594.10	26984.85	27694.93	27452.46	26736.14	25129.56	25988.07	12124.93	
Payments															
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	
Total Payments		243.08	239.19	1,738.26	3,226.51	239.59	234.25	243.92	868.47	1,993.32	2,688.58	242.42	1,202.88	13,160.47	
Cash Position (end of month)		25,820.73	26,657.65	27,134.46	26,838.20	24,600.69	25,093.10	25,359.85	26,740.93	26,826.46	25,459.14	24,047.56	24,887.14	24,785.19	-1,035.54