

Charity Commission Registration No. 286363

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Stephen Wharton (President)
Tammarn Lashley (Vice President)
Daniel Du Plessis (Treasurer)

Accountants

Orcom Civvals Limited
Chartered Accountants
50 Seymour Street
London
W1H 7JG

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
174 Byres Road
Glasgow G12 8SW

COIF Charity Funds
CCLA Investment Management Ltd
St Alphage House
2 Fare Street
London EC2Y 5AQ

Principal Address

50 Seymour Street
London W1H 7JG

Charity Commission Registration Number

286363

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report on the affairs of the Society together with the financial statements and independent examiners report for the year ended 31st December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published on 16 July 2014.

Legal & Administrative

The Society is registered as a charity in the United Kingdom, number 286363, and its operations are subject to the Charities Acts 1960 to 2011.

Objects

The object of the Society is to further the study of neuropathology, to promote the exchange of scientific information by means of regular meetings, lectures and demonstrations, and to provide the opportunity for discussions between neuropathologists in Britain and other countries.

The trustees consider that by meeting these objectives they will also meet the Public Benefit test applicable to all Charities.

The financial statements of the Society provide details of major activities undertaken and how the activities have been financed.

The Society has three restricted funds the objects of which are: -

Dorothy Russell and Alfred Meyer Memorial Funds

To provide scientific symposium and lectures in alternate years

NEQAS Fund

To provide quality assurance in relation to neuropathology, to improve and standardise diagnostic neuropathology.

Trustees

The Trustees are listed on page 1.

Organisation

The Society relies, and will continue to rely, on the voluntary work undertaken by the trustees, members of committees and other volunteers. The Society has no employees.

The trustees are elected by the members and, following election, serve a fixed term at the end of which they may stand for reelection if there are no other candidates. Trustees undertake their own training to ensure they achieve their fiduciary duties.

The trustees meet at the Society's business meetings twice a year at which time strategic decisions are taken.

The trustee and committee meetings are designed to promote and concentrate the educational and scientific value of the Society's activities.

The trustees have a policy to widen representation of the members on committees.

The Society is affiliated to various European bodies but no formal responsibilities to those organisations exist. There are no related parties or subsidiaries.

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES REPORT

Investment Powers

The trustees are permitted to make any investment that they see fit, but in view of the current financial climate consider the best arrangements for surplus funds are with the Charities Investment Fund.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the charity's activities and consider the opportunities available to the charity to enable it to meet its objectives and the risks to which it is exposed. As part of this process the trustees review the risks which the charity may face, establish systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified and implement procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise.

The systems are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

They include regular consideration of financial results, variance from budgets, segregation of duties and the identification and management of risks.

Reserves

The Committee are conscious that in recent years the reserves of the Society have increased to a greater level than would be required to maintain activities even if funding from the journal were to reduce considerably. It is the Trustees intention that unrestricted funds should be reduced to approximately £250,000 over forthcoming years. This will be achieved by an increase number of research grants where suitable projects are proposed and increased academic, training and educational activities. It is also hoped to achieve digitalization and computerisation -online- for society meetings and EQAs, for this a training programme for some members has already begun.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the results of the Charity for the period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Professor Stephen B Wharton

BNS President

10th October 2024



BNS

British Neuropathological Society

British Neuropathological Society – President's Report 2023

The 124th Annual Society Meeting was held on the 1-3rd March 2023, with a return to an in-person meeting and a full 3-day programme aimed at covering both scientific and clinical practice elements of neuropathology. The meeting is therefore aimed broadly at both researchers and diagnostic neuropathologist. The meeting remained popular with 159 attendees. The attendance fee was subsidised for students, early career researchers and trainees registrants in order to provide educational opportunity for those at an early stage of their careers and to encourage an interest in neuropathology. The meeting opened with the *Symposium on Skeletal Muscle Disorders*, covering recent advances in pathology, genetics and therapy. The Alfred Meyer memorial lecture was given by Prof Werner Stenzel, from Germany, on myositis. The meeting provided 5 scientific sessions and 26 poster presentations, a substantial increase over last year's on-line meeting. Shorter "flash" presentations were a new introduction, designed to allow early career researchers an opportunity to gain presentation experience. A further innovation was the introduction of a clinical update session. Aimed at diagnostic neuropathologists, two talks were given by a leading expert, Prof Arie Perry, from the University of California. A discussion session was held for the diagnostic External Quality Assurance (EQA) Scheme (see below). Sessions were also held for the Professional Affairs Committee, which examines matters relevant to clinical practice in diagnostic neuropathology, and for the general Business Meeting of the Society.

The Society's aim of providing continued further education was addressed via the organisation of educational events. The BNS sponsored a symposium at the British Neuroscience Association conference in Brighton and this was organised by BNS members. The theme was "Immunotherapy in neurodegenerative diseases", and was very well attended. Planning was also begun to restart the BNS residential summer school in 2024, which will be held at Cirencester with the theme of "Technology advancements pushing the boundaries of neuropathology diagnostic and research". The BNS made a contribution (£1000) to the Royal College of Pathologists summer school. This is designed to encourage interest in pathological specialties, and our contribution allows us to promote neuropathology to undergraduates.

The Society continues to run its small research grant and bursary schemes to support early research activity and provide pilot data for projects. With a value of up to £5000, the BNS awarded 10 research grants out of 1- submitted, split between Spring and Autumn rounds (total value £50,000). These are administered by the Academic Chair and supported by review from the academic subcommittee. There were 7 applications for travel bursaries, all funded, and 8 applications from junior staff to attend the BNS. The BNS scheme to fund electives for medical students was open again this year but none of the 3 applications were related to neuropathology and so were out of scope for the award. A decision was taken to increase the value of travel bursaries from £500 to £750 to reflect increasing costs of attending meetings. The society further supports the International Society of Neuropathology (ISN) and the European Neuropathology Society (EuroCNS)

via payment of yearly per capita member subscription fees, which allows BNS members to engage with these bodies and their activities/publications, including access to the EuroCNS journal, Clinical Neuropathology. The BNS funded 3 places for diagnostic neuropathology trainees to attend diagnostic training courses in Europe, organised by EuroCNS. The society is also affiliated to the Joint Neurosciences Council of the United Kingdom.

The society's finances continue to benefit from royalties generated by its journal, *Neuropathology and Applied Neurobiology*. The journal is published on behalf of the Society by Wiley. Royalties received constitute the bulk of the society's annual income as in the past. The society subsidises members' subscription to NAN (both the online and paper copies of the journal), though the higher membership fee, which has now been implemented will decrease the subsidy. No fundraising activities are undertaken by the society.

The Society continues to provide substantial support to maintaining diagnostic neuropathology as a GMC-recognised independent medical speciality with considerable engagement in the recruitment, curriculum setting and assessment activities relevant to the speciality. This includes the development of standards documents by the professional affairs committee. The Society bankrolls a model External Quality Assurance (EQA) Scheme, which is fully digitised. High level participation and continuous review of the scheme ensures continued public confidence in the national neuropathology service. The BNS also maintains a website (www.bns.org.uk) as a portal to inform members of the Society's activities and award schemes. We continue to update this and a project to upload archival documents from British Neuropathology has been carried out.



Professor Stephen B Wharton
BNS President 2022-2024

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

M Gibbons FCA
Orcom Civvals Limited
Chartered Accountants

10 October 2024

50 Seymour St
London
W1H 7JG

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total 2023</u>	<u>Total 2022</u>
		£	£	£	£
<u>Incoming resources</u>					
Subscriptions		29,390	450	29,840	9,970
Surplus from Journal		146,595		146,595	146,475
Interest receivable		15,083	2,297	17,380	0
		<u>191,068</u>	<u>2,747</u>	<u>193,815</u>	<u>143,672</u>
<u>Direct charitable expenditure:</u>					
Publishing Costs		8,882		8,882	8,753
Cost of meetings	3	66,969		66,969	3,670
Events		0		0	19,404
Grants & sponsorship	4	58,083		58,083	71,940
Subscriptions	5	6,137		6,137	16,183
EQA costs				0	790
		<u>140,071</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>140,071</u>	<u>120,740</u>
<u>Support expenditure:</u>					
Committee expenses	6	0		0	144
Website design		4,305		4,305	4,612
Administrative costs		4,005		4,005	0
Bank Charges		114		114	30
Accountancy		3,270		3,270	2,820
		<u>11,694</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,694</u>	<u>7,606</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>151,765</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>151,765</u>	<u>128,346</u>
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		39,303	2,747	42,050	28,100
Fund balances brought forward		605,377	49,156	654,533	626,434
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		<u>£644,680</u>	<u>£51,903</u>	<u>£696,583</u>	<u>£654,534</u>

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Note	£	<u>2023</u>	£	£	<u>2022</u>	£
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>							
Cash deposits	7	702,463			671,350		
		<u>702,463</u>			<u>671,350</u>		
<u>LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>							
Creditors	8	<u>5,880</u>			<u>16,816</u>		
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>				696,583		654,534	
<u>Total assets less current liabilities</u>				<u>£696,583</u>		<u>£654,534</u>	
Represented by:							
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>							
General Purpose Funds				644,680		605,378	
<u>Restricted Funds</u>							
Dorothy Russell Memorial Fund	2	4,818			4,582		
Alfred Meyer Memorial Fund		46,444			44,383		
NEQAS Fund		<u>641</u>		<u>51,903</u>	<u>191</u>		<u>49,156</u>
				<u>£696,583</u>			<u>£654,534</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 10th October 2024


D DuPlessis
Treasurer

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) These accounts reflect all funds held by the charity, which are governed by the Bye Laws, adopted on 14th July 1977 as amended on 11th January 1991 and 3rd March 2021. The funds held are utilised in accordance with the trusts under which the Trustees are empowered in the Bye Laws.

(b) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published on 16 July 2014.

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

(c) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention on an accruals basis and include income and expenditure as they are earned or incurred rather than as cash is received or paid, except in the case of the surplus from journal, which is accounted for when received from the publisher.

2. ANALYSIS OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Dorothy Russell Memorial Fund £	Alfred Meyer Memorial Fund £	EQA Fund £	TOTAL £
Income				
Subscriptions receivable			450	450
Interest received	236	2,061	0	2,297
	<u>236</u>	<u>2,061</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>2,747</u>
Expenditure				
Lecture costs				0
Laboratory costs				0
Online subscription				0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income For Year	236	2,061	450	2,747
Fund Balance Brought Forward	4,582	44,383	191	49,156
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	<u>4,818</u>	<u>46,444</u>	<u>641</u>	<u>51,903</u>

THE BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<u>3. MEETINGS</u>		
Meeting costs	66,969	3,670
	<u>66,969</u>	<u>3,670</u>
<u>4. GRANTS & SPONSORSHIP</u>		
Research grants & bursary's	58,083	71,940
Sponsorship	0	0
	<u>58,083</u>	<u>71,940</u>
<u>5. SUBSCRIPTIONS</u>		
Euro CNS		9,250
International Society of Neuropathology	6,137	6,933
	<u>6,137</u>	<u>16,183</u>
<u>6. TRUSTEES EXPENSES</u>		
Committee room hire	0	144
	<u>0</u>	<u>144</u>
The trustees received no remuneration during the year (2022: nil)		
<u>7. CASH DEPOSITS</u>		
Unrestricted general funds	550,834	527,869
Unrestricted journal fund	105,524	100,117
Dorothy Russell Memorial Lecture	4,594	4,364
NEQAS Restricted fund	1,282	832
Alfred Meyer Memorial Lecture	40,229	38,168
	<u>702,463</u>	<u>671,350</u>
<u>8. CREDITORS</u>		
Creditors	5,880	16,816
	<u>5,880</u>	<u>16,816</u>