

Treasurer's Report

These accounts relate to the Society's membership year from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

As you will be aware, the Society experienced some significant changes in operational terms during the 2016/17 period. In particular, the launch of both the new website (developed by *Square Eye*) and a new direct debit system (hard copy mandates with *Fastpay*, as well as a new online facility with *GoCardless*) has required one-off financial input (in terms of direct debit provider set-up costs and technical expertise). This is reflected in the 'payments' section of the accounts. The costs associated with both projects enable and fuel the Society's charitable activities and membership and, following research and tender processes, they were considered best value and well-worth the expenditure required.

The online direct debit facility has proved immensely popular and successful and has ensured an easy renewal process for members, integration with the Society's new website, and a swift receipt of subscriptions funds. Members' support of this has been appreciated.

The Society's accounts operate on a biannual pattern and the level of receipts and payments will vary depending on whether a day conference or a residential conference is held. The accounts for the 2016/17 membership year represent the figures from the Cambridge residential conference. The income associated with conference attendance is largely superficial and, taking the costs associated with that conference out of the equation, the Society's income level remained fairly static – due, in part, to a welcome increase in royalty payments for the Journal.

The Society relies on members' subscriptions to refresh its income and enable its work. The new programmes which the Committee are pursuing – website resources, education training and delivery, an increased lecture schedule – will need this financial support in addition to the time and expertise of volunteers. Following several years of a fixed rate, I propose to review subscription levels for the forthcoming membership year beginning on 30 June to support the Society's income and expenditure in the forthcoming year. I would encourage members to commend the Society to friends and colleagues as part of our shared recruitment drive.

The accounts have been independently examined and, subject to your approval, will be signed off and filed with the Charity Commission following this AGM.

Darren Oliver
Treasurer