

THE FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY

Hon Treasurer's Report on the accounts for the year to 31 July 2020

The Society's surplus of £971 shows a year-on-year fall of £1,832 compared with the previous year's surplus of £2,803.

The 54th London Dinner due to be held in the Watermen and Lightermen's Hall on 14th May 2020 was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. No costs were incurred.

The 2019 Journal was produced at a total cost of £27,391 (up £4,072 or 17½% on the previous year's total of £23,319). Following the rationalisation of student subscriptions in 2014/15, subscription income has reduced and the Society has in consequence met £11,863 of Journal costs or 43% on this increased total cost (compared with £10,526 or 45% in 2018), the balance of £15,528 being met by the College. The College has voiced its aspiration to reduce the Society's share of costs over time. A review of the Society's contribution formula has been delayed but will be conducted before the end of July 2021 following the Journal's planned digitisation.

The Society ran a successful Careers' Fair in the Dining Hall on Saturday 9th November 2019, with about 40 Fitzwilliam alumni providing valuable career advice to students, about 150 of whom attended from Fitzwilliam and other colleges. The wide spectrum of employment sectors was much appreciated. The Careers' Fair is now a regular annual feature. The Society for the first time funded refreshment costs of £246, and Careers' Fair booklets at £200.

The Society provided grants for five student projects totalling £1,455 (£2,117 in 2019). The grants sub-committee selected the projects from a total of ten submitted by the JCR and MCR and were very much assisted in their task by the Senior Tutor. The "Student Grants for Projects" cycle is now well-established. Its operation is under review for future years.

The net assets of the Society, were £40,044 (£39,073 in July 2019). These are lent interest-free to the College to the benefit of the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund, income from which supports a range of student and research activities.

I should like to thank the Honorary Independent Examiner, Roger Smith, for his work.

Robin Bell
26th August 2020