

FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting

26 September 2020

Notice is hereby given that the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday 26 September 2020. The meeting will be conducted remotely, via *Zoom* hosted from Fitzwilliam College. Information about joining the meeting will be sent to all members of the Society.

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 Treasurer's report and accounts
- 4 Report on the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund
- 5 Election of officers
 - President for the year 2020-21
 - Secretary – Peter Howard (1970) is eligible for re-election
 - Treasurer – Robin Bell (1965) is eligible for re-election
 - Editor of the Journal – Dr John Cleaver is stepping down after 16 years as Editor
- 6 Election of committee members
 - The members due to retire in rotation this year are James Harrington (2008), Dr Helen Bettinson (1982) and Matt Bennison (2008). All are eligible for re-election
- 7 Election of Honorary Independent Examiner
 - Roger Smith FCA (1967) is available for re-election
- 8 Open discussion - the Society and its relationship with students, past, present and future
- 9 Any other business

Peter Howard
Secretary
20 September 2020

FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY
SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE AGM
ON SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2020

In this unusual year, there has unsurprisingly been less visible Society activity than in previous years. However, things have been happening behind the scenes.

Your committee has met twice in the last year, in accordance with the Society's constitution. These have been virtual meetings, adopting *Zoom* videoconferencing technology, which is also being used for this AGM. The committee are grateful for the help of the Development Director, Dr Nicola Jones, and her colleagues in the College's Development Office, in setting up and hosting these meetings.

Two sub-committees have been active. The Strategy group, chaired by our President, Judith Bunting, had an excellent and wide-ranging online meeting earlier this month. The discussion covered several topics, with a particular focus on future social events and increased opportunities to bring students and alumni together. The Grants sub-committee used email to discuss the applications it had received under the Student Grants programme. More about these later.

The annual Careers Fair was held in November last year. It attracted 38 alumni from a wide range of sectors and occupations, and it was particularly pleasing to see more younger alumni this time. The fair was attended by over 100 undergraduate and postgraduate students, who welcomed the valuable opportunity to meet alumni and to discuss, and obtain informal guidance on, their thoughts about potential career paths and openings. Feedback from both students and alumni was again very positive. The Development Office team make the arrangements for the fair, and particular thanks are due to Dr Millie Papworth for her hard work in running this event and obtaining and analysing the feedback

The Society's programme of grants for student activities and projects started in the academic year 2014-15. A sub-committee of the Society, chaired by Rachael Webb, liaises with the MCR and JCR Presidents in the Michaelmas term each year to discuss the process and timetable for applications for grants, and the criteria to apply to them. A deadline of mid February is set for applications, which the sub-committee then considers and discusses by email. For the last few years, a maximum of £2,000 has been made available each year; this is likely to be increased to £3,000 for 2020-21. This year we received eight applications, and the panel decided to approve awards in all cases except one, although at the moment it has become clear that one project cannot go ahead because of the pandemic and another is looking doubtful. Particular thanks are due to Rachael Webb for her hard work in driving this programme and for providing feedback to the applicants.

The topics covered by the Strategy sub-committee's recent discussion included enhancing the Society's profile, especially among students, and promoting the grants programme more energetically. To help achieve these aims we discussed co-opting a student representative onto the sub-committee, as well as continuing efforts to attract younger alumni onto the main committee. We also discussed arranging more activities, not necessarily confined to London, which might increase opportunities for students and alumni to meet socially.

The Trust Sub-Committee has not met in the last year. It was formed to liaise with the College about the annual programme of awards from the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund. The College administers this programme in accordance with details agreed with the Society in December 2007, when the charitable company which had previously administered the awards

handed over to the College the custody and management of the trust fund and the administration of the awards. The trust fund was built up over many years from donations, and its income is used to make the awards. These typically total between £10,000 and £11,000 each year, although fewer awards were made in this unusual year. They include academic scholarships and prizes, a grant to the library, prizes for debating and grants for music and arts projects. The role of the sub-committee is to consider, and if thought fit to approve, any changes to the awards programme proposed by the College. A detailed report on the Trust Fund awards for 2019-20 has been provided separately.

It was sadly necessary to cancel the two social events in London which had been arranged for earlier this year, and both of which had seemed likely to attract a good attendance. The London Drinks Party was to have been held on 12 March at the *George and Monkey* pub and for the annual London Dinner on 14th May we had booked the Livery Hall of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen. When these were cancelled, there was some hope of re-arranging similar events for the autumn, but it currently seems unlikely that restrictions on social gatherings will permit this.

These restrictions have also of course affected the Reunion weekend. It has not been possible to hold the usual dinners and programme of events in College and on the sports field and the river to which several hundred alumni and guests and other College members look forward each year. But the University-wide Alumni Festival which has been taking place over the last week has included a number of talks and other events, some featuring Fitzwilliam people, and hopefully this will have proved some consolation for those who would have come to Cambridge for the Reunion in a normal year.

Thanks are due to many people for their support of the Society during the year, including Dr Nicola Jones, the Development Director, and her team, Dr Paul Chirico, the Senior Tutor and the Master, as well as two others who are stepping down at the end of this month and deserve particular mention. Dr John Cleaver has been producing excellent editions of the *Journal* for 16 years, and will be a very hard act to follow. The Bursar, Andrew Powell, has been generous in his support of and advice to the Society, notable in connection with the progressive reduction in the Society's contribution towards the costs of producing and circulating the *Journal*, enabling the Society to set up the highly successful student grants scheme. And finally, we must thank our energetic President, Judith Bunting. She did much to encourage good turnouts at the two London events before they had to be cancelled, and has been enthusiastically driving forward the work of the Strategy group. Because her opportunities have been unexpectedly limited by the pandemic, the Society plans to propose at the AGM that she should serve a second year as President

Peter Howard
Secretary

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
23 September 2020

THE FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - year ended 31 July 2020

	Notes	2020	2019
Income			
Subscriptions	1	14,536.00	14,928.00
Donations received	2	827.00	857.00
		15,363.00	15,785.00
Expenditure			
London Dinner-Society guests	3	-	255.00
Fitzwilliam Journal - share of costs	4	11,863.00	10,526.00
Careers Fair refreshments and CF booklets	5	445.91	-
Magazines for JMA Student café	6	627.99	83.99
Grants to MCR and JCR	7	1,455.00	2,117.50
		14,391.90	12,982.49
Surplus for the year		£971.10	£2,802.51

BALANCE SHEET - at 31 July 2020

Assets			
Loan to Fitzwilliam College	8	40,043.67	39,072.57
Net Assets		£40,043.67	£39,072.57
Represented by:			
Accumulated fund at 1 August 2019		39,072.57	36,270.06
Surplus for the year 2019-20		971.10	2,802.51
Accumulated fund at 31 July 2020		£40,043.67	£39,072.57

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS:

- The subscriptions shown above are those received in the period from members currently at the College. Subscription levels were reviewed in 2014-15, with all students (JCR and MCR) now paying on an equivalent basis.
- Donations received from members of the Society towards costs of printing the Journal and the Careers brochure.
- The London Dinner was cancelled due to Covid-19, and no costs were incurred.
- The Society and the College now share the cost of printing/distributing the Fitzwilliam Journal to those members of the College who are members of the Society. The College's current contribution of 57% (2019: 55%) will continue to rise. In 2020 the Society's contribution of £11,863 was 43% of the total cost (45% last year). The delayed funding formula review is now due before the end of July 2021 following digitisation of the Journal.
- The Careers' Fair refreshment costs were funded by the Society for the first time (£446)
- For a range of titles in the Student Café.
- The Society made five grants (total £1,455) to the MCR and JCR, deferring two others into 2020-21
- The Society's assets are on loan interest-free to Fitzwilliam College, to the benefit of the Society's Trust fund at the College. The fund supports the College by awarding scholarships and prizes, funding research awards and the Milner Walton Music & Drama Awards, and an annual library grant.


Robin G Bell, Honorary Treasurer

26 August 2020

HONORARY INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I have examined the Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 July 2020 and the Balance Sheet at that date together with the records and vouchers of the Society, and confirm them to be in accordance therewith.


Roger N Smith, Independent Examiner

27 August 2020

**Report on awards from the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund
1 August 2019 – 31 July 2020**

The following awards were made from the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund:

Fitzwilliam Society Scholarship	£175
Fitzwilliam Society Coleby Scholarship	Not awarded
Fitzwilliam Society Skinner Scholarship	Not awarded
Fitzwilliam Society Taylor Scholarship	Not awarded
Fitzwilliam Society Stratton Prize	£110
Fitzwilliam Society Research Grants	£4,197
Fitzwilliam Society JRW Alexander Book Awards	£500
Fitzwilliam Society Library Grant	£750
Fitzwilliam Society Milner Walton Awards	£1,025
Fitzwilliam Society Brewster Prizes	£240
Total: Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund	£6,997

The College, and the present generation of students, are very grateful for the Society's valuable support through these well-established awards, as well as through direct grants to students.

Dr Paul Chirico
Senior Tutor
August 2020

Recipients of Awards (August 2019 – July 2020)

Fitzwilliam Society Scholarship

King, S Chemical Engineering IIA

Fitzwilliam Society Coleby Scholarship (Land Economy)

Not awarded

Fitzwilliam Society Skinner Scholarship (Economics)

Not awarded

Fitzwilliam Society Taylor Scholarship (History)

Not awarded

Fitzwilliam Society Stratton Prize

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Fitzwilliam Society Research Grants

Woitischek, J	£500
Volk, O	£515
Shepherd, J	£134
Ng, A	£303
Chan, CWJ	£250
Stephenson, L	£800
Wei, S	£800
Bodnar, C	£500
Daxberger, E	£365
Rubio Jimenez, A	£30

Fitzwilliam Society JRW Alexander Book Awards (LLM/MCL)

Fan, D
Griffin, J
Keenan, A
Khan, M
Nawaz, M

Fitzwilliam Society Brewster Prizes (Debating)

Ng, A £100
Richmond, G £100
Andre, T and Watling, S (Sidney Sussex) for best speakers from the floor £20 each

Fitzwilliam Society Milner Walton Awards

Goodard, B £400

'Hit Like A Girl' will follow the Cambridge University Amateur Boxing Club women's team over the season. The film will discuss the effect of gender on sport, and the hardships and pleasures that come with training for a major sporting event while studying at Cambridge. Bea Goodard is the first female coach of an Oxford or Cambridge University Boxing team and current Vice President of CUABC – the highest committee position held by a woman at CUABC so far.

Birch, A £175

Charity concert on the 2nd November 2019 in the Fitzwilliam Auditorium. The concert is titled City of Stars: A Musical Journey Through Film, and will include film music for both orchestra and solo singers.

Beck, E £450

Set up Jack & Master, a brand-new, Fitz-based theatre ensemble that will focus on exploring and creating actor-musician work. As our first project, Jack & Master is running a set of three workshops from January to March in the Fitz Auditorium.