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Annual report of the Executive committee for the year ended 30 November 2003

The Society

The British Society for Eighteenth Century Studies is an unincorporated society and is a registered charity, number 299756. A formal constitution was drafted by the Society and approved at an Annual General Meeting of the Society on 4 January 1989.

The officers

The officers of the Society during the year were:

President: Professor Derek Hughes

Vice President: Professor Frank O'Gorman

Secretary: Dr Mark Ledbury/Dr Gavin Budge since summer

Treasurer: Dr Brian Norman

The officers are elected at each Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election, except that the President shall not normally be eligible for re-election on more than two successive occasions.

Executive committee

The following individuals were members of the executive committee during the year:

President: Professor Derek Hughes

Past President: Professor Janet Todd

Vice President: Professor Frank O'Gorman

Hon Secretary: Dr Mark Ledbury/Dr Gavin Budge

Hon Treasurer: Dr Brian Norman

Journal Editor: Professor John Dunkley

Bulletin Editor: Dr Glynis Ridley/Dr Michael Burden since summer

Ordinary Members: Dr Chris Mounsey

Dr Philip Smallwood Professor Diana Donald Professor Penelope Carfield

Annual report of the Executive committee for the year ended 30 November 2003 (continued)

Object of the Society

The object of the Society is the advancement of public education in particular by the promotion of study of the cultural history of the eighteenth century.

Principal activities

In furtherance of its objectives the Society engaged in the following main activities during the vear:

- 1 Completed the production of volumes 26.1 and 26.2 of its journal;
- 2 Held a conference at Oxford;
- 3 Held full committee meetings in March and October and arranged for the 2004 conference at Oxford.

Review of activities and financial position

The executive committee were pleased with the activities arranged and managed by the Society during the year.

The surplus for the year is set out in the statement of financial activities on page 4.

The Society's unrestricted reserves at 30 November 2003 amounted to £68,368 and restricted reserves were £3,639 making total reserves of £72,007.

The executive committee consider the financial position of the Society at 30 November 2003 to be satisfactory.

Dr Brian Norman Honorary Treasurer

23 December 2003

Independent examiner's report to the Executive committee of The British Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

I report on the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 30 November 2003 which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of executive committee

As the Society's executive committee you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's 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 financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as the executive committee concerning 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 opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Brian Collins on behalf of Reeves & Neylan Chartered Accountants Chatham Maritime

23 December 2003

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 30 November 2003

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2003 Total £	2002 Total £
Income				
Subscriptions received Less: Bank charges	10,692 <u>(502)</u> 10,190	<u>-</u>	10,692 (502) 10,190	11,946 <u>(568</u>) 11,378
Deposit account interest	1,553	140	1,693	1,229
Surplus/(deficit) on Conference account (schedule 3)	15,372	-	15,372	(70)
	27,115	140	27,255	12,537
Direct charitable expenditure				
Affiliation fees (schedule 1) Journal/bulletin (schedule 2) Postage and telephone Accountancy fees ASECS for ISECS Bursary – Los	850 11,514 80 546	- - -	850 11,514 80 546	550 9,731 52 529
Angeles Conference I T expenses Sundry expenses	1,500 1,684 1,063	- - -	1,500 1,684 1,063	2,727 1,881
	17,237	-	17,237	15,470
Net movements in funds	9,878	140	10,018	(2,933)
Fund balances 1 December 2002	58,490 ———	3,499	61,989	64,922
Fund balances 30 November 2003	68,368	3,639	72,007	61,989

Balance sheet As at 30 November 2003

	2003 £	2002 £
Current assets		
Deposit account Current account Building society account Other debtors	90,755 19,317 3,639 340	61,248 32,382 3,469 336
	114,051	97,435
Current liabilities		
Creditors and accruals Deferred income (note 2)	7,026 35,018	6,188 29,258
	42,044	35,446
Net current assets	72,007 ———	61,989
Funds		
Restricted fund – Mason lecture Unrestricted fund	3,639 68,368	3,499 58,490
	72,007	61,989

On behalf of the executive committee I approve these financial statements and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

Dr Brian Norman

Honorary Treasurer

23 December 2003

Notes to the financial statement for the year ended 30 November 2003

1) Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting by charities.

Income

Subscriptions are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received.

Income received in respect of conferences is credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which the conference takes place.

2)	Conference fund (deferred income)	2003 £	2002 £
	January 2004 conference in Oxford		
	Conference fees received	35,617	30,847
	Less: Expenses incurred	(599)	(1,589)
	Total taken to balance sheet	35,018	29,258

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2003 (continued)

Schedule 1	2003 £	2002 £
ISECS affiliation fees		
Paid in the year Less: Creditor at 1 December 2002	550 (600)	500 (550)
	(50)	(50)
Add: Creditor at 30 November 2003	900	600
Charge for year per statement of financial activities	850 ——	550 ——
Schedule 2	2003 £	2002 £
Journal		
BJECS 26.1		
Paid in the year Less: Creditor at 1 December 2002	10,993 (5,059)	9,323 (5,000)
	5,934	4,323
BJECS 26.2		
Add: Creditor at 30 November 2003	5,580	5,059
Net cost of journal for the year	11,514	9,382

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2003 (continued)

Schedule 2 (continued)	2003 £	2002 £
Bulletin		
Paid in the year Less: Creditor at 1 December 2002	- - -	349
	-	349
Add: Creditor at 30 November 2003	-	
Net cost of bulletin for the year	-	349
Net cost of journal and bulletin for the year	11,514	9,731
Schedule 3	2003 £	2002 £
Conference account – Oxford 2003		
Fees	37,543	34,166
Expenses	(22,171)	(34,236)
Surplus/(deficit) taken to statement of financial activities	15,372	(70)

Schedule 4

ISECS affiliation fees

A creditor of £900 has been included in respect of the outstanding affiliation fees due to ISECS for 2003, which will be paid in 2004.

Journal

A creditor of £5,580 has been included in respect of the production and mailing cost of volume 26.2 of the journal.

Sundry expenses

Sundry expenses per the statement of financial activities consist primarily of committee meeting expenses and the reimbursement of the committee members' travelling expenses incurred in representing the Society.

Financial statements
For the year ended 30 November 2003