



# *Railway and Canal Historical Society*

Founded 1954

Website: [www.rchs.org.uk](http://www.rchs.org.uk)

Incorporated 1967

Charity registration number 256047    Company registration number 922300 (England & Wales)

## **69th Annual General Meeting**

**27<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 'The Church at Carrs Lane', Carrs Lane, Birmingham, as a hybrid meeting using videoconferencing commencing at 13.45**

**Chair:** Gerald Leach (President)

**Secretary:** Roger Brice

**Treasurer:** David Smith

**Minutes:** Philip Lloyd

23 Members attended in person and 14 members accessed the meeting remotely.

### **1. Apologies**

6 apologies were received.

### **2. Rules for the meeting**

The Secretary explained the difficulties in distributing voting forms in time for the meeting so that voting would be allowed online and in person so that no member is excluded.

### **3. Minutes of the 68th AGM, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Agreed:** that these be approved as a correct record with no matters arising.

### **4. Annual Report 2022 – was received by the meeting**

The Secretary highlighted several areas from the report:

- Further progress has been made in the management of expenditure, building on the progress of the previous two years when measures from the Change Group were accepted by Council and implemented by the Managing Committee.
- Great progress has been made with the Media Archive.
- No young researcher awards were made once again. This is an area of concern.
- The constitutional changes agreed at the 2022 AGM were implemented and progress made in developing better communication between members and the activities of the various groups within the Society
- During the year the Society published 2 books and the usual 3 copies of the Journal. We are acutely aware of the ever increasing cost of postage. To minimise this cost and maintain communication with members, a large proportion of the bi-monthly bulletins are accessed by members through the website.



# *Railway and Canal Historical Society*

Founded 1954

Website: [www.rchs.org.uk](http://www.rchs.org.uk)

Incorporated 1967

Charity registration number 256047 Company registration number 922300 (England & Wales)

- Other publications made by the Society during the year greatly enhance our offer to members and potential new members. They include Inland waterways of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament, the Annual Bibliography, Canal Tunnels Database, and Transport Anniversaries.

The AGM noted these issues and **Approved** that the report should be received.

## **5. Annual Accounts and Independent Examiner's Report 2022 – were received by the meeting**

The Treasurer made the following key points:

- The greatest effect on General Fund income and expenditure in the year ended 31st December 2022 was the emergence from COVID-19 restrictions which increased meeting costs. These exceeded receipts by £1,049. It would be useful for Council to consider whether it wishes to increase income from remote access, and if so, how it might be done.
- The greatest financial change shown in the Accounts, is the fall in the market value of our Investments of £8,688. However, taking a longer term view, our initial investments of £50,000 have increased in value by £9,886, and give an income of around 3% each year.
- Subscription income for 2022 was £20,076 and Income Tax recovered under the Gift Aid scheme was £4,616 - similar to the previous year.
- Our other sources of income are mainly from events and book sales which roughly balance with expenditure on those items and so do not have a great effect on the accounts overall.
- Bulletin costs were £905 less in 2022 than in the previous year and should continue to fall because nearly all members now accept e-mail copies.
- Bank Charges increased to £805 in 2022 as banks in general become less helpful to charities.
- Costs associated with the Media Archive were £357 in 2022 due to the generosity of volunteers who carry out the work.
- Overall, the Society is well placed financially to fulfil its charitable objectives.

The AGM noted these issues and **Approved** that the Annual Accounts should be received.

## **6. Subscription rates for 2024**

Resolved: that there be no change to the annual membership subscription. **Approved**

## **7. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2023**

Resolved: SB Audit LLP, Fitzroy House, Crown Street, Ipswich IP1 3LG (formerly called Scrutton Bland LLP of Ipswich) be reappointed for another year. **Approved**



# *Railway and Canal Historical Society*

Founded 1954

Website: [www.rchs.org.uk](http://www.rchs.org.uk)

Incorporated 1967

Charity registration number 256047 Company registration number 922300 (England & Wales)

## **8. Election of members of Council for 2023/24**

The following were elected:

**Society Officers** (also ex-officio members of Council) elected:

**Treasurer:** D C Smith

**Secretary:** I Willis

**Members duly elected to Council** (minimum of 6 and maximum of 12, elected annually):

R Brice, Dr N Higton, A Wager,  
P A Brown, P Moss,  
P Cross-Rudkin, R Taylor.

No elections were necessary at this AGM for the following:

**President:**

G Leach (appointed for two years at 2022 AGM)

**Vice-Presidents** (not opting to be a member of Council):

G J Biddle, Dr J V Gough, M J Messenger,  
D Joy, Dr W J Freer, Dr M J Lewis.

**Vice-Presidents** (opting to be a member of Council):

G A Boyes

**Regional Group Representatives** (appointed):

R Haskins (London), B Bramson (East Midlands), J Ellis (North East)

## **9. Any other business**

The Secretary received no notices of motions.

The President allowed questions to be raised from the floor for informal debate. In doing so he particularly thanked Roger Brice for his service as Secretary, Philip Brown and colleagues for their work on the Book Awards and Nick Higton and colleagues for the work on the Media Archive.

He welcomed Ian Willis to the post of Secretary.



# *Railway and Canal Historical Society*

Founded 1954

Website: [www.rchs.org.uk](http://www.rchs.org.uk)

Incorporated 1967

Charity registration number 256047    Company registration number 922300 (England & Wales)

## **10. Questions from the floor**

There was discussion about the delays in receipt by members of printed material, specifically the Bulletin, which was caused by printers making decisions about which items to print and when without prior consultation with ourselves. Also delays can be compounded by Royal Mail where mail can be delayed in sorting offices for up to 10 days, resulting in members not receiving the Bulletin in good time.

Nick Highton outlined the social media strategy and emphasised the value of regular posting on social media and the success the Society had experienced from this activity.

**The meeting closed at 14.45.**

**THE RAILWAY AND CANAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

---

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Key Pages from the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

**Presented at the 2023 AGM, 27th May 2023**

**THE RAILWAY AND CANAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	<b>Total 2021 £</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Donations and legacies	26,079	19	26,098	26,989
Charitable activities	22,979	5,814	28,793	20,083
Investments	1,250	1,129	2,379	1,978
Total income	50,308	6,962	57,270	49,050
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Charitable activities	43,631	8,113	51,744	36,442
Excess of income over expenditure	6,677	(1,151)	5,526	12,608
<b>Net (losses) / gains on investments</b>				
Unrealised (losses) / gains	(4,401)	(4,267)	(8,668)	6,802
<b>Net movements in funds</b>	2,276	(5,418)	(3,142)	19,410
Fund balances at 1 January 2022	75,518	58,507	134,025	114,615
Fund balances at 31 December 2022	77,794	53,089	130,883	134,025

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the current and prior years.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an Income and Expenditure Account under the Companies Act 2006.

**THE RAILWAY AND CANAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)****BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	<b><u>2022</u></b>		<b><u>2021</u></b>
	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments		59,886	68,554
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	10,700		7,174
Debtors	150		1,150
Cash at bank and in hand	68,741		71,915
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	79,591		80,239
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>			
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	(8,594)		(14,768)
Net current assets		<hr/>	<hr/>
		70,997	65,471
<b>Total assets less current liabilities being net assets</b>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		130,883	134,025
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Funds</b>			
Restricted funds		53,089	58,507
Unrestricted funds		77,794	75,518
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		130,883	134,025
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2022. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The Trustees' responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorized for issue on 27th May 2023

David C Smith

**Trustee**

**THE RAILWAY AND CANAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)****CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Journal production and distribution	11,828	-	11,828	12,065
Bulletin production and distribution	3,142	-	3,142	4,047
Book production and distribution	9,584	-	9,584	8,162
Conference expenses	-	6,913	6,913	3,621
Web expenses	283	-	283	277
Zoom expenses	144	-	144	382
Event expenses	10,757	-	10,757	629
Special groups	154	-	154	64
Book Awards	-	1,200	1,200	900
Photographic collection expenses	357	-	357	595
	<u>36,249</u>	<u>8,113</u>	<u>44,362</u>	<u>30,742</u>
<b>Other charitable costs</b>				
Advertising and Publicity	270	-	270	-
Meeting costs	2,401	-	2,401	629
Bank Charges	703	-	703	861
Insurance	282	-	282	896
Sundries	1,576	-	1,576	1,466
	<u>5,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,232</u>	<u>3,852</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Accountancy and review costs	<u>2,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>1,848</u>
<b>Total Charitable expenditure</b>	<u><b>43,631</b></u>	<u><b>8,113</b></u>	<u><b>51,744</b></u>	<u><b>36,442</b></u>

In 2021, of the total Charitable expenditure, £31,921 was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £4,521 was expenditure from restricted funds.

<b>9 Investments</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>The investments are UK Unit Trusts established for use by Charities.</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2022	68,554	61,752
Additions	-	-
(Losses) / Gains in the year - unrealized	(8,668)	6,802
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>59,886</u>	<u>68,554</u>
The investments are shown at market value and the aggregate market value at 31 December 2022 was 59,886 (2021 - £68,554).		
Historical Cost at 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>