BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE

Report and financial statements for the year ending

30 September 2018
BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees
Prof P J Cameron (University of St Andrews), Chairman
Prof J W P Hirschfeld (University of Sussex), Secretary
Dr K J Edwards (University of Dundee), Treasurer
Prof S Blackburn (Royal Holloway, University of London)
Dr J Böttcher (London School of Economics)
Dr D Conlon (University of Oxford)
Dr R Johnson (Queen Mary, University of London)
Dr K Meeks (University of Glasgow)
Dr R Mycroft (University of Birmingham)
Dr D B Penman (University of Essex)
Dr A Treglown (University of Birmingham)

Principal address
Prof J W P Hirschfeld
Department of Mathematics
Pevensey Building
University of Sussex
Brighton BN1 9QH
United Kingdom

Independent examiner of accounts
Dr G E Thomas
Division of Mathematics
University of Dundee
Dundee DD1 4HN

Bankers
Bank of Scotland
2 West Marketgait
Dundee DD1 1QN

Scottish Widows Bank Plc
PO Box 12757
67 Morrison Street
Edinburgh EH3 8YJ

Charity registration number
SC019723

Website
https://britishcombinatorial.wordpress.com/
BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2018.

Structure, governance and management

For the purpose of charity legislation, the Trustees are precisely the members of the British Combinatorial Committee. The Committee governs in accordance with the Constitution, which is available on the Committee’s website, or from the Secretary on request. The Chairman and six members of the Committee are elected biennially. The local organiser of the next British Combinatorial Conference and the Editor of the British Combinatorial Bulletin are ex officio members. Also co-opted are organisers of the Postgraduate Conference, the annual London conference and another organiser of the next British Combinatorial Conference.

Objectives and activities

The British Combinatorial Committee was founded in 1977 with the general aim of encouraging the study of Combinatorial Mathematics, and with the particular purpose of organising every two years a conference in Great Britain devoted to this field of research. Previously, five such meetings had been organised on an informal basis. The British Combinatorial Conference has since become one of the leading international conferences in this expanding area of mathematics. The Committee’s activities have widened to include support for postgraduate conferences, various shorter meetings and occasional prizes. The Committee also publishes the British Combinatorial Bulletin, which has appeared annually since 1975; the last issue, dated 2018, is edited by Dr D B Penman at the University of Essex.

Financial support

The following is a list of the activities in 2017–18 for which the Committee provided partial financial support.

1. 1 November 2017
   One-day Combinatorics Meeting
   University of Reading
   Attendance: 22
   Subsidy: £624

2. 26–27 April 2018
   Scottish Combinatorics Meeting
   University of Edinburgh
   Attendance: 38
   Subsidy: £509

3. 9–10 May 2018
   Two One-Day Colloquia in Combinatorics
   Queen Mary University of London (10 May), London School of Economics (11 May)
   Attendance: 85
   Subsidy: £1143

4. 23 May 2018
   One-Day Meeting on Combinatorics
   Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford
   Attendance: 80
   Subsidy: £144
5. 4–6 June 2018
Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference
London School of Economics
Attendance: 25
Subsidy: £165

Voluntary work

The Society’s officers and Committee members undertake all their work for the Committee on a voluntary basis. They therefore receive no payment beyond reimbursement of some of their expenses.

Financial review

The Committee’s finances generally follow a 2-year cycle, since the British Combinatorial Conference is held in alternate, odd-numbered years. The net surplus from previous conferences, including royalties from invited lectures published by Cambridge University Press, provides the funds used to underwrite future conferences and to support secondary activities. The net surplus from the most recent conference in 2017 was £470. In round figures, income for 2017–18 was £3181 and expenditure was £4757. This leaves a balance of £25169, the bulk of which is held in interest-bearing bank accounts. The Trustees consider that the Charity is exempt from audit.

Plans for the Year 2018–2019

The Committee agreed to support the following Combinatorics meetings:
(1) Old Codgers, University of Reading, 2 November 2018;
(2) Scottish Combinatorics, University of Edinburgh, 25–26 April 2019;
(3) London Combinatorics, Queen Mary University of London, 8 May, and London School of Economics, 9 May 2019;
(4) Oxford Combinatorics, University of Oxford, 29 May 2019;
(6) British Combinatorial Conference, University of Birmingham, 29 July to 2 August 2019.

Statement of Trustees’ responsibilities

The Committee’s General Policy and Rules require accounts to be prepared annually on 30 September. It is the responsibility of the Trustees to ensure that the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity, and of its surplus or deficit for the year. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance of proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Committee. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Committee and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Trustees

(signed) [Signature]
Prof P J Cameron
Chairman
(date) 21 May 2019

(signed) [Signature]
Prof J W P Hirschfeld
Secretary
(date) 9 May 2019

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees of the British Combinatorial Committee, registered charity number SC019723

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2018 which are set out on page 5.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity’s trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner’s statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any 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 audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner’s statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and

(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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

Signed

Date: 1st May 2019

Name: Dr G E Thomas
Relevant Professional qualification/professional body (if any):
(Formerly) Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society
Address:
Division of Mathematics
University of Dundee
Dundee DD1 4HN
BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE

Receipts and Payments Account for the period
1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year to 30/9/2018</th>
<th>Year to 30/9/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Receipts</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>10.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties from Cambridge University Press</td>
<td>2835.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return of unused part of grant for PCC2018 (Donation)</td>
<td>335.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Book sale at BCC, U. Strathclyde, July 2017)</td>
<td>405.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total receipts</strong></td>
<td><strong>3181.28</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Payments** |                   |
| Grants for one-day conferences (2 events) | 1242.42 | 424.67 |
| Scottish Combinatorics Meeting | 508.88 | 386.24 |
| Grant for London 2-day conferences 2017 | 1362.08 | |
| Grant for London 2-day conferences 2018 | 1143.39 | |
| Postgraduate Combinatorics Conference 2018 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| (Finite Geometry Summer School, U. Sussex, June 2017) | | |
| ("Interactions with Combinatorics", June 2017) | 300.00 | |

| **Total payments** | **4756.77**       | **1610.91**      |

| Surplus / (deficit) for year | (1575.49) | 8826.51 |

All funds are unrestricted

**Statement of Balances as at 30 September**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank accounts:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening balances</td>
<td>26744.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus (deficit) for year</td>
<td>(1575.49)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing balances</strong></td>
<td><strong>25169.22</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made up of:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Scotland Treasurer’s Account</td>
<td>8637.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Widows Bank Charity Deposit Account</td>
<td>16532.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25169.22</strong></td>
<td><strong>26744.71</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 21 May 2019

Dr K J Edwards (Treasurer)