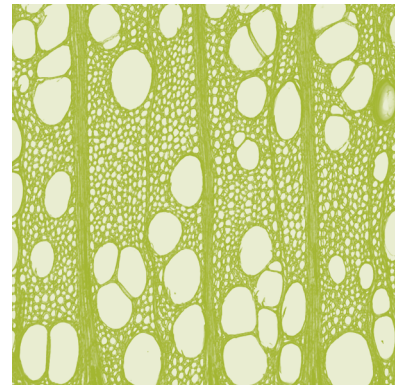
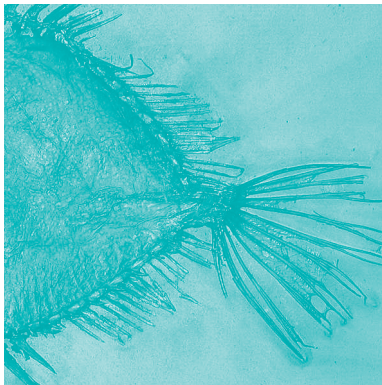
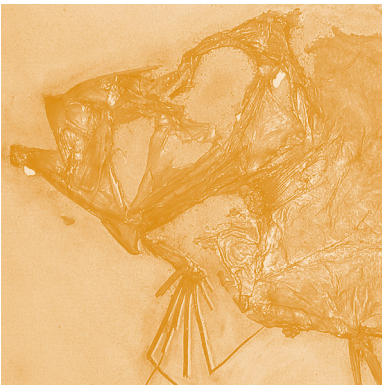
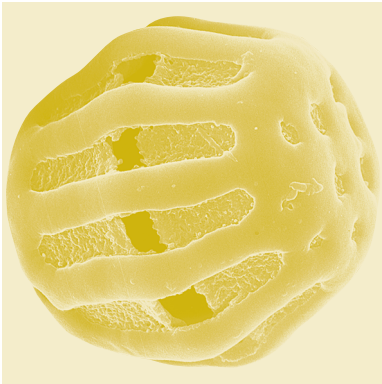




PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN



THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

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The Linnean Society's purpose as a living forum for biology is to communicate scientific ideas and advances. It embraces the entire sweep of the natural sciences, but focuses particularly on over-arching themes such as biological diversity, evolution, taxonomy, science policy and conservation.

The Society works through a network of partnerships in the scientific community. In an era of specialisation the Society promotes the transfer of information across disciplinary boundaries. It collaborates with government and international organisations to highlight the urgency and magnitude of the task of documenting the world's flora and fauna.

The Linnean Society was founded in 1788 for 'the cultivation of the Science of Natural History in all its branches'. The Society is named after the great 18th Century Swedish naturalist, Carl Linnaeus (1707 - 1778), who created the binomial system of biological classification now used throughout the world. The Society acquired Linnaeus's collection of plant and animal specimens, and his books and letters, from its first President, James Edward Smith.

The Society has been at the heart of many scientific and cultural developments relating to our understanding of the natural world. Most notably, Charles Darwin's and Alfred Russell Wallace's epoch-making papers on evolution by natural selection were first read at a meeting of the Society.

The Society is proud of its past, but is equally enthusiastic about its future. Today it encourages discussion and research by:

- ◆ publishing three leading international journals on biology, botany and zoology.
 - ◆ hosting a series of important scientific symposia, conferences, and evening meetings.
 - ◆ maintaining one of London's finest natural history libraries, with over 90,000 books, journals and pictures. The Society's internationally important collections contain many key resources for taxonomy and for the history of biology.
 - ◆ encouraging research and recognising distinction by providing modest grants and awarding medals and prizes.
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The Linnean Society

Annual Report 2008

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In the records that follow you will be able to read in detail about the extraordinarily wide range of activities undertaken by Fellows and staff during 2008. While introducing this Annual Review it is my pleasure to thank everyone who has played a part in making these so successful. The activities range from choosing excellent topics for meetings, producing significant publications, including Journals, books and other material, and enabling wider use of Society resources by providing access through the internet to images of specimens in the collections, and historic correspondence, supplemented by interpretive material. These, together with improved provision of information on future events have significantly increased the profile of the Society and emphasised its relevance in the contemporary and revitalised science of Natural History.

This increased awareness has highlighted the need to ensure that taxonomy and systematics will continue to have a vital part to play in our wider interests. Work has started on identifying where there are already, and soon will be, gaps in such expertise that could lead to serious problems in, for example, assessing the impact of climate change on biodiversity, and in honouring the United Kingdom's international commitments in conservation.

During the year the Strategic Plan has come to prominence. Officers, Council and Fellows have contributed to a refinement of the wide range of potential objectives and targets raised in a series of discussions to produce a concise working document that will help keep us on track in the coming years.

Consideration of timely celebrations of the lives and work of Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Robert Darwin have influenced our programme, and a series of events has begun that not only look back to historic meetings, papers and people associated with the Linnean Society, but also look forward to the modern interest in research and growing understanding of the mechanisms of evolution. Prime among these was the announcement of the internationally renowned awardees of the Darwin-Wallace medal.

Biologists in general and natural historians in particular are often recognised for taking a long term view. The present global financial downturns will temporarily restrain some of our ambitions for continuing development of the premises, and our ability to sponsor new research for a while, but the Society is in good heart, and is already planning for the upturn.

DAVID CUTLER

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

This year was, for some, a lot quieter than last year with all the celebrations of Linnaeus' birth. However, the Library refurbishment created its own disturbances and pressures were minimised by the sheer hard work and optimism of the staff and the excellent co-operation of all the various tradesmen.

The most obvious and dramatic feature of this year's Annual Report is the drop in the Society's Asset value. This is as a result of the stock market collapse and the

effect on the capital value of the Society's share portfolio. The income stream from this source has also been reduced as a result of the National and Worldwide 'downturn'. However, the overall income received by the Society was above the budget set at the beginning of the year. The day-to-day expenditure was less than the budget limits set at the same time. Similarly, the expenditure on the various projects all came in on or near budget targets, thanks to the tight management exerted by everyone in the staff team, our contractors and advisers.

The lecture programme, which continued throughout the refurbishment work, is summarised in Appendix 1. It provides a full record of the year's events but various highlights are presented here. Alastair Land, one of the Society's Council members, re-launched the Society's 6th Form lecture series by giving three most illuminating lectures during the year (January, April and September) entitled 'Explore', 'Order' and 'Inspire'. In April, the first Annual Lecture on Biodiversity Policy, in association with the Systematics Association, was held, entitled, 'Biodiversity in a changing world: Building a science base to support policy'. It was given by Professor Georgina Mace to a full house. The occasionally presented Hooker Lecture was given this year by Professor Sam Berry entitled 'Hooker and Islands'. On July 1st, the Society celebrated the 150th, Anniversary of the Reading of the Darwin Wallace Papers, along with the Conversazione Meeting. The meeting was so popular that the two speakers, Gareth Nelson and H Allen Orr most kindly each gave their lecture twice to allow everyone to hear their presentations. On the 3rd and 4th of July the Society held a two day meeting entitled 'The Driving Forces of Evolution: From Darwin to the Modern Age'. A most successful three-day meeting was held in October entitled, 'Beyond Cladistics: A Festschrift for Chris Humphries'. At the end of the month the Society launched '*The History of Natural History: An annotated bibliography*' by the Society's former Librarian, Gavin Bridson. Charlotte Tancin, one of our American Fellows, kindly represented the Society in presenting a copy to his widow, Marlene, in Pittsburgh during the month as well. November saw the Annual Systematics Debate. The 'interesting' title being, 'The systematics community should focus its attention on flowering plants, butterflies and higher vertebrates for the next decade'. The two leading debaters were Sandra Knapp and Geoff Boxshall.

The Society owes a great deal to the Programmes Committee under the leadership of its chairman, Dr Vaughan Southgate, who brought together so many interesting and relevant presentations as the full list in Appendix 1 shows.

During the year the Society was asked to contribute evidence to the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee for its report on Systematics and Taxonomy. The President, Professor David Cutler and the Botanical Secretary, Dr Sandra Knapp, appeared before the committee to give evidence. In August, the report, '*House of Lords Science and Technology Committee on Systematics and Taxonomy: Follow-up Report with evidence*', was published. The Government's response was published in November and the Society will be arranging a meeting in June 2009 to review the consequences of these two documents.

All the other major activities of the Society have been covered elsewhere in the report and the appendices.



A major highlight was to be able to welcome Dr Ruth Temple to the Society as the new Executive Secretary. The Council and Officers wish her a long and happy time in this role and thank Gina Douglas for her excellent work as Acting Executive Secretary. Unfortunately, however just before Ruth arrived we received the sad news of the death of Dr John Marsden, after a long struggle with cancer. He was so committed to the Society during his years as Executive Secretary that all those who knew and worked with him felt the great and real loss of a friend and colleague. In 2009 there will be a special Society meeting to celebrate his life.

The final highlight of the year was the reopening of the Library Reading Room and Library Annexe. After all the refurbishment work, the true glory of the original design was revealed providing a fitting climax to the year.

THE CARLS PROGRAMME

2008 saw the drawing to a close of the CARLS (Computer Access to the Records of the Linnean Society) Programme. Through the hard work of all the different teams involved with each of the separate projects under the careful, detailed guidance of Julia Hoare, the Society's IT consultant, and the commitment of the team at ULCC (University of London Computer Centre), the Society now has approximately 4.6 Terabytes of data on its computer and in its storage facility. This reflects the scale of what has been completed and the number of images of the Society's Linnaean specimens now held and available on-line for free, from the Society's website. A summary of the data is to be found at the end of the CARLS report. It is appropriate once again to thank the Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund (renamed Arcadia) for the early financial support that has largely made this programme reach such a fruitful conclusion. The

final meeting of the CARLS working group was held in December with almost all its tasks completely and successfully brought to conclusion. The Society owes everyone that has taken part over the last three years a very big 'THANK YOU' for all that they have done.

Three of the major projects were concluded last year and summarised in last year's Annual Report; (The Digitisation of the Linnaean Correspondence Project, The Digitisation of the Linnaean Herbarium Project and The Linnaean Plant Name Typification Project that resulted in the publication of Dr. Charlie Jarvis' book, '*Order out of Chaos*'). The third digitisation project, and by far the most complex, that was left from this phase, was the completion of the Digitisation of the Linnaean Insects and other Arthropods collection.

The Digitisation of the Linnaean Insects and other Arthropod Collections

The steady digitisation of the specimens carried on throughout the year with Dr. Mike Fitton, Honorary Curator of Insects, preparing all the supporting data necessary to manage the images when they are downloaded onto the Society's website. The first download, covering all the Butterflies and Moths was launched for National Insect Week on June 23rd to great acclaim. 3,400 specimens are represented by over 10,000 superb images. The Society owes Mike Fitton and the digitising team at the Natural History Museum, along with Julia Hoare, a great deal of gratitude for a job superbly done. This team is now progressing through the remaining insects with the next phase to be launched at a Society meeting in February 2009. This will cover the Hymenoptera.



An image of a specimen of *Inachis io* taken from 'Linnaean Collections on line'.

The Digitisation of the Linnaean Fish and Shell Collection

At the Anniversary Meeting it was announced that this project was to begin due to the generous donations made by the Emperor of Japan and the Fishmongers' Company. The Society began the creation of the digital images of the Fish Collection under the supervision of Kathie Way, Honorary Curator of Zoology. This was done with the support of her colleagues in the photographic unit of the NHM. She also



An image of a specimen of *Hippocampus hippocampus* taken from 'Linnaean Collections on line'.

prepared all the necessary management data to make them available to all through the Society's website. The work was done in record time, so it was possible to launch the images at a Society meeting on November 6th. Work has now begun on the digitisation of the much larger shell collection that will be launched in 2009. It is a pleasure to note that some of the cost of the Fish Digitisation Project was the first to be partially funded from the Fellows' Tercentenary Fund. The Shell Digitisation

Project will also be partially supported from this fund.

It is also interesting to note here that the Linnaean Cultured Pearls, thought to be the first in the world, have returned to the Society's Rooms after their six and a half year long world tour as part of a major international exhibition entitled 'Pearls'. They have reportedly been seen by over 1.5 million people during this time.

The Smith Herbarium Conservation and Digitisation Project

Janet Ashdown, the Society's Conservator, despite the building activities and the work she had to carry out in dealing with the water damaged books in the Library caused by the Whitsun holiday deluge, has maintained a steady increase in the number of specimens from this collection that she has cleaned and conserved. She added a further 2,401 specimens during the year to the material now ready for digitisation, making that total 13,928 out of the 19,948 Smith specimens held by the Society.

As it has not been possible to raise 'outside' funds to begin the digitisation element of this very important collection, it was agreed that some of the money from the Fellows' Tercentenary Fund, as well as some from the day-to-day budget of the Society would be made available to get the project under way. The Natural History Museum has kindly contracted to carry out the work, as they did so expertly for the Linnaean Herbarium Digitisation Project. It is hoped that a completion date somewhere in the middle of 2010 will be possible, just a few months after the Society celebrates the 250th. anniversary of the birth of its founder, Sir James Edward Smith in December 2009.

This new project marks the beginning of phase two of the digitisation programme that deals with the non-Linnaean archives. As the Smith Herbarium material becomes steadily more available it has been agreed, by the Collections Committee, that the Smith correspondence and other archive material should be investigated. Gina Douglas,



An image of a specimen of *Pultnaea stipularis* first described by Smith and to be found in his Herbarium. and (right) an image of *Glacium fulvum* being a specimen from his garden which he pressed for his Herbarium.

now the Society's Honorary Archivist, has agreed to take on this task. At the end of the year she was reviewing the collections prior to seeking funding to catalogue, conserve and prepare the material for study and digitisation.

The Linnaeus Link Project

The international collaboration of the partner libraries with significant holdings of Linnaean material has the aim of extending and standardising the catalogue of major Linnaean collections so that they can be brought together through one primary interface, on the internet. The system launched, last year in Uppsala, has been fully proven to run on the Society's website or directly through the 'Linnaeus Link' site which is maintained by the Society. Lynda Brooks, the Society's Librarian, with Ben Sherwood, the Assistant Librarian, provide the Secretariat of the consortium and she is responsible for the provision of new 'Soulsby Numbers' to ensure that only a single number is allocated for every new book reference that is added to the database by participating libraries. In October the Society hosted the annual meeting of partners with 22 attendees representing 10 institutions, a further four institutions joined the partners during the year. They were the libraries of the Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem; Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques de la Ville de Geneve; New York Botanic Garden and the Real Jardin Botanico, Madrid.

‘The History of Natural History’

The preparation for the publication of the second edition of this great work by Gavin Bridson, the Society’s former Librarian, was just getting underway in late 2007 and final discussions on how it would be published by the Society were agreed in December. It was therefore a terrible shock when later in the same month we heard of Gavin’s unexpected death.

Leonie Berwick, the Society’s Special Publications Manager, with her characteristic application to detail and perfection set about the massive task of turning Gavin’s last disc into the outstanding volume that was launched in October. This publishing triumph lacked only one thing, the presence of its author, to hear the many plaudits paid to his industry and skill. Leonie is to be congratulated on producing yet another fine volume to be added to the Society’s publishing success.



Stella Alexander, Gavin Bridson’s daughter, with the President at the launch of her father’s book.



Marlene Bridson, Gavin’s wife, with Charlotte Tancin who, on behalf of the Society, presented a copy of Gavin’s book in Pittsburgh where they both live.

The Heritage Journals Project

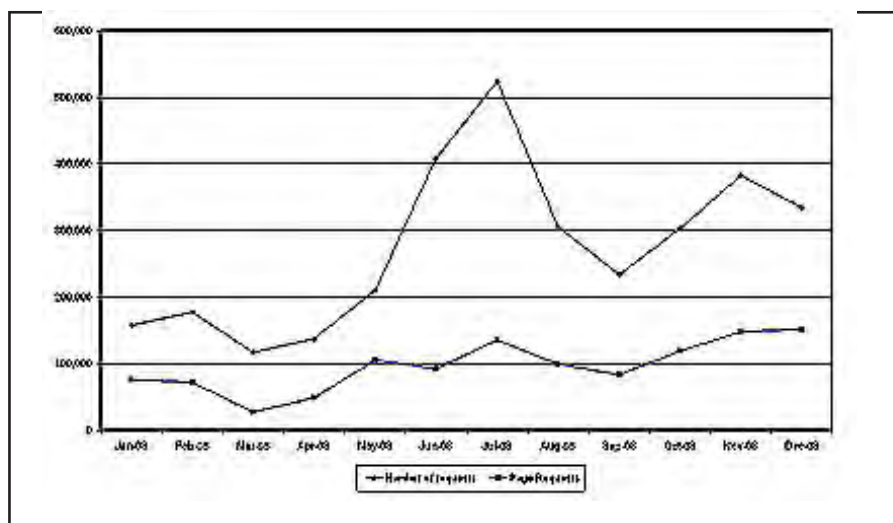
All 40,000 pages of the Society's Journals, Proceedings and Transactions published over the last 217 years have been imaged and the mammoth task of mounting them on the Society's Publishing partner, Wiley-Blackwell's website and thereby making them available to all the Fellows who have electronic access to the Journals, is now well underway. This task has been delayed by the need to resolve the complexity of the various changes and combinations of titles that have been used over the centuries. Gina Douglas was able to resolve these problems. All title combinations have had to be given their own retrospective ISSN numbers to allow cross referencing with modern Journals and the automatic link to cited papers. Hopefully by mid-2009 the whole task will be completed and the full range of the tens of thousands of papers will be available to search just as easily as the present day Journals the Society produces, a remarkable milestone in the history of the Society.

Virtual Reality Tour of the Society's Rooms

As part of the sustained publicity campaign for the Society and in order to introduce its collections to the widest possible audience, it was agreed that a simple virtual reality tour of the Society's Rooms would be developed. At one level it would serve as a shop window to show the public what was behind the façade in Piccadilly and what fascinating plant and animal material is held by the Society. At another level it could be used as a sales tool for Victoria Smith, the Buildings and Office Manager, to demonstrate what the Society can offer potential users of the rooms for their own meetings. The main work was completed during the year and Sir David Attenborough kindly agreed to provide the voiceover and talk the 'visitor' around the building. The final interactive



Virtual reality image of the façade of New Burlington House showing the Tower and without all the flags.



links are now being put in place and the project will be launched at a suitable meeting in 2009.

Linnaean On-line Collections Web Statistics 2008

The statistics, associated with the provision of all the collections so far digitised and available through the Society's website, are quite extraordinary as can be seen from the graphs above. It is interesting to note how, at the launch of each new collection, the number of hits increases significantly. Starting at the beginning of the year with the Linnaean Herbarium, the very healthy level of interest shows over 150,000 hits and nearly 100,000 page requests. The next peak following the launch of the Linnaean Butterflies and Moths during 'Insect Week' reached and exceeded over half a million hits with up to 136,000 page requests. The final peak followed the launch of the Linnaean Fish collection where the hits reached 380,000 and page requests were up to 148,000. On average the site receives users from over 40 countries a month. With more than 3,000,000 hits in the first year, it is pleasing to note that all the time and money that has gone into this major task has been well rewarded by this result. The world at large now has access to a major portion of the Society's Linnaean material.

It is appropriate here to thank both Julia Hoare, the Society's IT Consultant, and the team at the University of London's Computer Centre (ULCC) who have so smoothly integrated all the data.

THE LIBRARY

2008 has seen a splendid transformation in the library Reading Room. It has been re-decorated, re-carpeted, the glass roof has been renewed with replicas of the original Victorian panes and an air-management system has been installed. After the building works were completed, the Reading Room books all had a thorough clean and the large portraits have received attention: the Banks portrait was re-varnished and the



The Library Reading Room with the scaffolding and boarded false ceiling to allow the day-to-day work of the Society to continue beneath it.

portrait of our founder, Sir James Edward Smith, was surface-cleaned and moved into pride of place on the west wall ready for the 250th anniversary of his birth which will be celebrated in December 2009.

A new projector and screen were installed in the Reading Room in order to allow overflow audiences for particularly popular evening meetings to enjoy the proceedings from the library. The new system certainly proved its worth in November when Martin Hall's excellent lecture, *Fly on the wall: the role of insects in criminal investigation*, drew a huge audience. The Meeting Room was filled to capacity but another forty or so people were able to watch from the library. The picture quality is very good and the sound system very clear. Some (though not all) of the library viewers would have liked to have been closer to the action during the "maggot-run" but they were able to make their way downstairs after the meeting to see the little wrigglers at close quarters!

The library remained open for business throughout the building work, apart from an occasional day here and there, for example when the Reading Room was being re-carpeted or when removal of scaffolding made it imperative to keep the stairwell clear. Many potential library users were aware of the work going on, having seen the warning on the Society's website, and contacted us in advance of a visit to check that material would be accessible and that workspace would be available. On particularly dusty or noisy days we did our best to offer researchers whatever quiet corners we could find

around the building where they could work in relative peace and safety.

E-mail and telephone enquiries continued unabated, of course, and, for the most part, Ben and I were able to deal with them. Only occasionally did we have to tell enquirers that they would have to wait a while for their answer because a scaffold-pole was obstructing the vital book-shelf.

Fortunately, things were beginning to get back to normal in time for the Society to take part in the London Open House weekend in September and 530 people visited the Society's Rooms on the Saturday. Plenty of staff, Officers and Collections Committee members were on hand to talk to visitors about the architecture of the building, the renovations and the Society's history and collections. Naturally, the reading of the Darwin-Wallace papers and the theory of evolution were the especially hot topics.

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, a great deal has been achieved this year in terms of the digitisation of the Linnaean collections, with the butterflies and moths launched in June and the fish in November. Julia Hoare and Ben Sherwood have worked very hard to set everything in place. The reaction from the general public, as well as from the scientific community, to the release of these images online has exceeded all expectations. Quite apart from the interest in the content, the structure of the system itself is also winning plaudits and generating enquiries from librarians and archivists responsible for digital images in other institutions.

One low point in the library year was the leak that affected all floors of the building after heavy rainfall over the Whitsun Bank Holiday weekend. The water found its way into all three levels of the Reading Room and many books were damaged. Some were so badly water-logged that they had to be collected by Harwell's document recovery service and stabilised in freezer units to stop the growth of mould. These



Some of the rain-water damaged books being dried out in the Council Room.

books have now been carefully dried out and returned to us. Our conservator, Janet Ashdown, examined each volume and, happily, a good number of them required no further intervention and could be returned to the shelves. Some will require re-binding, but in most cases, although the boards have warped, the text-block itself is quite sound.

During the year a major server upgrade was undertaken, resulting in a great deal more stability across all the Society's computer systems and especially in terms of the availability of the online library catalogue. Ben also upgraded the library system to Heritage version 4.2.7.4.

Use of the Library facilities dropped during 2008, no doubt because of the building works, with just 519 (801 in 2007) visitors to the Library of whom 286 (392 in 2007) were Fellows. Loans also dropped slightly with 135 (182 in 2007) items. Requests to consult material, however, rose with 282 (230 in 2007) requests for books to be consulted, 140 (128 in 2007) journals requested and 51 (20 in 2007) manuscripts consulted.

A slight change in the way in which we recorded the e-mail enquiries from the beginning of 2008 has resulted in a seemingly large drop in numbers with 1,010 (2,715 in 2007) enquiries successfully completed.

Collections Store visits remained high, but nothing to compete with the Tercentenary year before. Records show that 556 (1,026 in 2007) people visited the store, of which 401 (443 in 2007) came in small groups to look at Linnaeus' collections.

Members of the library team have coped admirably with some very difficult working conditions during the year and they have cheerfully turned their hands to all manner of heavy manual work in order to ensure that the renovations could progress smoothly. The library volunteers have also continued, come what may, to make a huge contribution to the work of maintaining the library. They are transcribing correspondence, sorting and boxing archives, cataloguing manuscripts, undertaking binding projects and building a Fellows' database.

This has been my first year in charge of the library. At times it has been a challenge – working around scaffolders, builders, decorators and French polishers – but when we look



Gina cutting the cake at her official farewell.

back we have still managed to achieve a surprising amount of progress in many areas thanks to our dedicated staff team. I would particularly like to record my thanks to my predecessor, now our Honorary Archivist, Gina Douglas, for all her unstinting help and support.

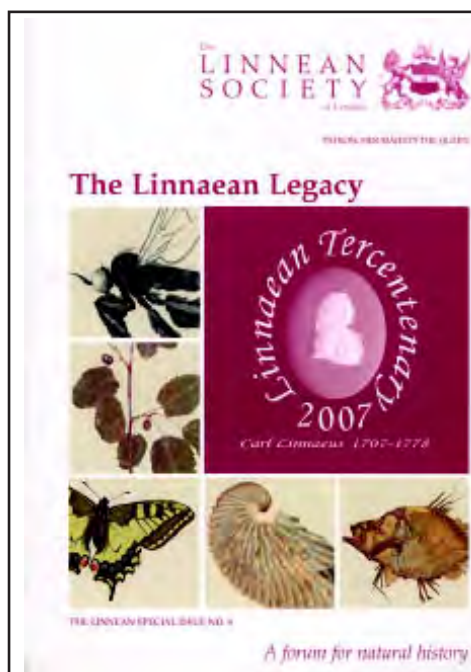
LYNDA BROOKS

PUBLICATIONS

The Society's partnership with Wiley-Blackwell under the guidance of Elizabeth Ferguson, our publisher, and Debbie Wright, the Journal Publishing Manager (whose role was taken over by Matt Pacey in September) continues to be very successful, despite the downturn in the economy. As for last year the Society congratulates the whole team at Wiley-Blackwell who ensure that the Society can strive successfully to fulfil many of the project targets. We particularly thank Debbie Wright, who has done so much to help and promote the Society over the long time she has been our Journal Publishing Manager. The net income for the year was £439,632.

The Editorial team led by Dr John Edmondson as the Society's Editorial Secretary comprises Dr John Allen as Biological Journal Editor, Dr Peter Hayward as Zoological Journal Editor with, Dr Stephen Jury who handed over the editorial baton part way through the year to Dr Mike Fay as Botanical Journal Editor. They are loyally supported by their networks of Associate Editors and reviewers. Between them they have provided a superb series of quality Journals for which the Society is very grateful.

The Linnean under the Editorship of Professor Brian Gardiner and the producer Dr Mary Morris, continued to maintain the excellent and most readable newsletter four times a year. The very attractive Special Issue number 8 entitled, *The Linnean Legacy*, was edited by Mary Morris and Leonie Berwick. This most interesting and important volume brought together most of the papers presented at the many special celebratory meetings held in 2007 in both London and Sweden. In most cases it was not the original intention to publish these essays, however, they were so well received that the majority of authors graciously agreed to write them up for publication so that the whole membership of the Society



and that of our sister organisation, the Swedish Linnaeus Society could enjoy them. It is appropriate here to thank Leonie Berwick and Annika Windahl Ponten for all they did in rounding up and helping the many authors to deliver their manuscripts. The Annual Report was again produced by Mary Morris to the very highest of standards.

RESEARCH SPONSORSHIP, AWARDS AND MEDALS

The Second Year of the CoSyst Fund

This was the second year of the BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Science Research Council) funding of £75,000 that they made available for the Collaborative Scheme for Systematic Research (CoSyst) Fund. This is to provide short term funding for new collaborative research in systematics. The initiative is intended to support preliminary collaborative research that will form the basis of novel responsive mode proposals to either BBSRC or NERC (Natural Environment Research Council). The scheme provides funding from £2,000 up to £20,000 for collaborative projects with a substantial schematic/phylogenetic or taxonomic component. It is only available to UK based applicants via an online application form.

A total of 37 applications were received of which 9 were successful, receiving £74,824 in total and giving just over a 24% success rate. The successful candidates project titles are summarised below:

- Gene flow, adaptation and speciation in Antarctic octopus consequences of climate change. Jan Strugnell and Phillip Watts.
- A Novel Computational Approach to Bacterial Phylogenomics. James Cotton and Tobias Hill.
- Orchid – TEMPEST (Temperature Perception and Signal Transduction). Philip Wigge and David Roberts.
- Molecular evolution of *Rozella allomyces*: A primordial parasitic fungal lineage? Bryony Williams and Gareth Griffith.
- The circadian clock regulates sea urchin lunar spawning rhythms to avoid hybridisation. Ralf Stanewsky and Simon Coppard.
- The Molecular Basis of Tendril Diversity in Legumes. Noel Ellis and Toby Pennington.
- Evolutionary ecology of liverwort-fungal symbiosis: molecular, experimental and functional analysis. Martin Bidartondo and Jeff Duckett.
- Advancing mitogenomics via ultrasequencing: A case study in the diverse Araneae order. Simon Creer and Sara Goodacre.
- Genetic and structural basis of co-evolution of bee orchids and their pollinators. Richard Bateman and Beverley Glover.

The background information to this project reveals some interesting figures. Breaking down the applications by traditional disciplines there were Zoology, 20; Botany, 14; Mycology, 2; Bacteriology, 1.

Systematics Research Fund

This fund under the continuing chairmanship of Dr Julie Hawkins with a panel comprising representatives of the Linnean Society and the Systematics Association, reviewed 136 applications with a total value of £141,000. There were 72 projects covering what could be called mainly zoological topics, 40 covering botanical topics, 9 mycological topics and 6 paleontological topics with the rest covering a range of topics. Thirty three countries were represented compared with 24 last year. There were 36 from the USA; 35 from the UK; 5 from Brazil and Germany; 4 from Cuba, Russia, and South Africa; 3 from Argentina, Austria, Canada, Italy and Sweden; 2 from Belgium, Colombia, Czech Republic, India, New Zealand, Romania and Vietnam. There was one each from Australia, Bulgaria, Chile, Finland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Moldova, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Turkey, Uruguay and Uzbekistan.



Medal winners 2008: left to right, The President; Dr Jim Clarkson; Mrs Basil Harley; our founder; Prof Jeff Duckett; Dr Stephen K Donovan; Dr Silvia Pressel; Dr Bill Baker; Patricia Eckel; Lord Robert May of Oxford.

Thirty five projects were selected for support with a combined value of £33,912. There were 11 projects from the UK, 6 from the USA, 2 from Canada and New Zealand and one each from Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Germany, India, Italy, Netherlands, Russia, South Africa, Sweden and Uruguay. The Society is most grateful to Julie Hawkins and other panel members for their careful consideration of all the applications. The Systematics Association provided £6,000, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew generously provided £5,000 and NERC provided £4,940. The Society's Trust and Special Funds contributed £3,618 and the Society's general funds gave £13,432 to make up the final total of grants given to £33,912.

Medals

At the Anniversary Meeting the President, Professor David Cutler, presented the 2008 Linnean Medal for Botany to Professor Jeff Duckett FLS and the 2008 Linnean

Medal for Zoology to Dr Stephen K Donovan FLS. The 2008 Bicentenary Medal for a Biologist under 40 was presented to Dr Bill Baker. The Irene Manton Prize for the best doctoral thesis in Plant Sciences in the UK was so closely contested that Council agreed to award two prizes to Dr Silvia Pressel and Dr Jim Clarkson. The President went on to present the H H Bloomer Award for an amateur contributing to scientific knowledge to Basil Harley FLS and the 2008 Jill Smythies Award for published botanical art to Patrica Eckel. Lord Robert May of Oxford was elected a Fellow *honoris causa* at this meeting.

THE SOCIETY'S PREMISES



The Library Reading Room in its fully restored state.

The major activity during 2008 was the total refurbishment of the Library and Library Annexe. This major upheaval, so stoically and generously borne by the Library team under the leadership of Lynda Brooks, our Librarian, did not limit the services provided to Fellows for which we are all most grateful. The two tier scaffolding and decking ensured that the majority of receptions and meetings in the Library were able to go ahead as planned. It also gave a new view of the details of the roof plasterwork and ornamentation. When it was all removed the beauty of the Library's false ceiling fully emerged. The builders had unobtrusively inserted the new air-handling equipment and with the newly manufactured safety glass ceiling made to exactly match the original design, exposed the real beauty of the room. The work then carried out by the painters and polishers that dealt with all the window frames, bookcases and floor returning them to the original beautiful wood finishes, completed the transformation. The final touches of replacing the carpet and inserting a projector and screen on opposite sides of the room to allow the projection of a lecture from the Meeting Room to any overflow audience completed the work.



A virtual reality image of how the main Tower Room will look after the funding is found and refurbishment completed.

On advice of the builders, the main staircase also scheduled for refurbishment was left untreated, as they believed that when the modifications that were needed to access the Tower Rooms from the Secondary Staircase and the building of a new lift to link all the floors of the present building were carried out, the plasterwork would fall off the wall! The money earmarked for this task was re-allocated to refurbish the ground floor offices after the removal of the large mahogany herbarium cabinets from the inner office to the large Tower room.

Late in the year the Society received listed building consent to carry out the modifications and refurbishment of the Tower Rooms, including the insertion of a modern lift to serve all the floors of the present building. A newly constructed staircase to

reach the Tower Rooms and an entirely new staircase to link both the Council Room and the main Tower suite of Rooms with the Geological Society were agreed.

As indicated in last year's Annual Report the Small Meeting Room in the basement has also been fully refurbished. Unfortunately within weeks of this work having been completed, the Whitsun deluge damaged both the plasterwork and newly painted ceiling and walls that will now have to be redone. This same rainwater also damaged the front office that was just being refurbished, destroying some of the computer equipment, light fittings and carpet besides damaging paper work and records. The insurance claim has now been agreed and the majority of the making good has been completed.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY

Many of the projects identified in last year's Annual Report are now either completed or well under way and have been reported on elsewhere in this document. However, the digitisation of the **Fellows' Recommendation Certificates, Pictures, Prints and Artefacts** still needs funding, but work on the index had to be suspended for a while as there was no working space available for the volunteers, due to the Library refurbishment work. It is estimated there will be a need to raise £300,000 to start and finish this project when this index has been completed.

The main fundraising target in these difficult financial times is for the development of the Tower Rooms. Of prime importance is the provision of a lift to link all floors of the Society from the basement to Library, Council Room and Small Meeting Rooms. This will entail the creation of a new secondary staircase to accommodate an appropriate lift in the existing stair column. The second element is to refurbish the classic and extremely elegant 'Occasional Societies' rooms. This strange title arose as these rooms were made available for use by Societies without any 'home' in London. They are immediately above the present Council Room. It would be supported by appropriate toilet facilities and a tea-point whilst linking it with the new staircase (and fire escape) to the existing secondary staircase in the Geological Society Rooms. It will also allow for the provision of an entrance door where the present fire escape hatch exists in the Council Room on this same new staircase and escape route. The third independent element is the provision of a purpose-built, environmentally controlled Archive and Research Facility.

The Society's Head of Development, Elaine Shaughnessy has been hard at work throughout the year preparing funding cases for both the new digitisation projects and the Tower Rooms redevelopment programme. At the same time she has ensured there was really good coverage of the Society's activities, particularly at each of the launches of new additions to the on-line Linnaean collections on the website. She also made sure that some of the exciting papers published in the Society's three Journals were well exposed and picked up by the media. These activities are all vital so that the Society's name is kept to the forefront when attempting to fundraise for large capital sums of money.

FORWARD LOOK

The Strategic Review process and the development of the Strategy Document along with the Priority Activities so clearly laid out in the July *Linnean* by Sandra Knapp are reproduced elsewhere in this report. It shows areas where the Society is already fulfilling the Strategy's targets but it more importantly identifies where it needs to grow its activities to fulfil the Strategy's aims. In some cases this will mean increased expenditure or refocusing existing budget areas. The prime area where Council has particularly identified the need for development is to 'Establish a targeted education programme', and a task group was formed to carry this forward. Council is also keen to attract more funds to increase the number of grants it can give to support what is an ever-growing number of good applications that come in each year and at the moment have to be rejected.

Strategy for the Linnean Society

The Linnean Society's strategic goal (from our original Charter)

'The cultivation of the Science of Natural History in all its branches'

In order to achieve this we will:

- Be an inspiration for the scientific study of natural history
- Be an informed, independent voice in matters relating to natural history
- Be a forum for our Fellows and others interested in natural history
- Be a centre for facilitating the study for natural history

Moving forward to implement the strategic goal:

Be an inspiration for the scientific study of natural history

- a) Arrange and hold scientific meetings
- b) Publish peer-reviewed journals and books
- c) Award prizes, grants and medals
- d) Establish a targeted educational programme

Be an informed, independent voice in matters relating to natural history

- a) Raise public awareness of issues in natural history
- b) Raise government awareness of issues in natural history
- c) Maintain successful relationships with the press and media

Be a forum for our Fellows and others interested in natural history

- a) Provide an outlet for Fellows' expertise and interests
- b) Link our Fellowship in common causes
- c) Provide relevant support for other individuals and societies interested in the study of natural history

Be a centre for facilitating the study of natural history

- a) Maintain our collections and library to the highest possible standards
- b) Provide access to our collections and library for a wide audience
- c) Secure our premises in Burlington House for our users in the long-term

Priority activities for 2008-2012

1. Be an inspiration for the scientific study of natural history

- a) Arrange and hold scientific meetings (Contacts: Vaughan Southgate, v.southgate714@btinternet.com; Victoria Smith, victoria@linnean.org)
- Establish capacity to make and post webcasts of lectures held at the Society
 - Improve facilities in Library for overspill for popular events
 - Hold at least one meeting on a “hot topic” at short notice
 - Arrange one weekend activity/field trip each year with leaders from Fellowship
- b) Publish peer-reviewed journals and books (Contacts: John Edmondson, a.books@mac.com; Leonie Berwick, leonie@linnean.org)
- Complete web-availability of all legacy journal copy
 - Review the function of *The Linnean*
 - Work with Wiley-Blackwell to improve the standing of all three journals
 - Formalize a long-term plan for digital continuity of all publications
 - Explore with Wiley-Blackwell the establishment of an on-line Code-compliant journal for the publication of new taxa in botany
- c) Award prizes, grants and medals (Contacts: Sandra Knapp, s.knapp@nhm.ac.uk; Priya Nithianandian, priya@linnean.org)
- Review methodologies and criteria for all Society awards
 - Improve nomination procedures for medals (concomitantly also for Council and Officers)
 - Publish web based reports of successful projects and track progress
 - Explore the feasibility of establishing a prize for school natural history societies
- d) Establish a targeted educational programme (Contacts: George McGavin, info@georgemcgavin.co.uk; Alastair Land, wmal@wincoll.ac.uk; Leonie Berwick, leonie@linnean.org)
- Put in place a 6th form lecture programme
 - Undertake market research on the Society’s niche in education provision at younger levels, to establish where we want to be
 - Employ a short-term dedicated education professional to drive programme forward
 - Trial one event for younger age group (e.g., GCSE)
 - Produce podcasts of key Society events for younger audiences
2. Be an informed, independent voice in matters relating to natural history
- a) Raise public awareness of issues in natural history (Contacts: Richard Bateman, r.bateman@kew.org; Sandra Knapp, s.knapp@nhm.ac.uk; Ruth Temple, ruth@linnean.org)
- Develop concepts and mechanisms to engage Fellows in widening interest in natural history

- Work with like-minded organisations to develop a coherent view of issues
 - b) Raise government awareness of issues in natural history (Contacts: Andrew Brown, *brownae@talk21.com*; Richard Bateman, *r.bateman@kew.org*; Ruth Temple, *ruth@linnean.org*)
 - Decide on Linnean Society's level of political activity! (NB: a strategically significant decision, but not really an activity or process)
 - Identify what we want to achieve through linking with government (policy-related priorities)
 - Establish a roster of Fellow availability for engagement with government ("expert witnesses")
 - c) Maintain successful relationships with the press and media (Contacts: Sandra Knapp, *s.knapp@nhm.ac.uk*; Kate Longhurst, *kate@linnean.org*)
 - Further develop marketing of the Society (build on Tercentenary)
 - Prepare press releases for key Society activities over the year (develop a planned, rolling, agreed programme)
 - Develop and use the Society's expertise in its Fellows (i.e., roster of "expert witnesses")
 - Establish a mechanism to quickly develop meetings on "hot topics"
3. Be a forum for our Fellows and others interested in natural history
- a) Provide an outlet for Fellows' expertise and interests (Contacts: David Cutler, *plantsong@yahoo.co.uk*; Ben Sherwood, *ben@linnean.org*)
 - Undertake survey of Fellow's expertise and interests
 - Establish Fellow's portal on Society website
 - Advertise advantages of Fellowship more clearly to current and prospective Fellows
 - b) Link our Fellowship in common causes (Contacts: David Cutler, *plantsong@yahoo.co.uk*; Lynda Brooks, *lynda@linnean.org*)
 - Establish mechanism for Fellows to propose meetings on topics of mutual interest
 - Arrange one weekend activity/field trip with leaders from Fellowship
 - Organise at least two meetings outside London
 - c) Provide relevant support for other individuals and societies interested in the study of natural history (Contacts: David Cutler, *plantsong@yahoo.co.uk*; Ruth Temple, *ruth@linnean.org*)
 - Compile a list of other organizations with interests in natural history
 - Convene a meeting to begin a dialogue with these societies
4. Be a centre for facilitating the study for natural history
- a) Maintain our collections and library to the highest possible standards

(Contacts: Susan Gove, sgove@sgul.ac.uk, Lynda Brooks, lynda@linnean.org)

- Enhance membership of the Collections Committee to include relevant expertise relating to all aspects of maintaining the collections
 - Develop a dedicated archive centre for the secure and temperature controlled storage of the archive collections
 - Maintain in-house conservation facilities for library, biological and artefacts collections
- b) Provide access to our collections and library for a wide audience (Contacts: Julia Hoare, julia@linnean.org; Kate Longhurst, kate@linnean.org)
- Make additional collections available on the world wide web; formalize plans to ensure digital continuity of collections
 - Introduce additional web-based services and reports
 - Actively develop website to make a portal to all Linnaean material worldwide
 - Build links with other Linnaean collection repositories
- c) Secure our premises in Burlington House for our users in the long-term (Contacts: Gren Lucas, gren@glucas.demon.co.uk; Priya Nithianandian, priya@linnean.org; Ruth Temple, ruth@linnean.org)
- Complete plans for proposed development and submit for planning permissions
 - Actively fundraise to support development plans.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The severe financial situation the Country and the World is in is reflected in the overall appearance of the Society's Accounts as already identified in the 'Review of the Year'. However Council agreed that rather than curtail the programme of refurbishment work and projects that were underway the budgeted overspend targets should be maintained.

The summary accounts for 2008 show the day-to-day running costs with a surplus of £61,087. This figure, as last year, provides a misleading impression with a 'normal' year such as pre-2007, in that the income side includes the one-off figure of £39,568 from the Fellows' Tercentenary Appeal and the second year of BBSRC support of £75,000 for the CoSyst Programme that the Society is dispensing through the grants' programme.

The Expenditure side includes the sum of £74,824 for the grants' programme mentioned above. With the costs of the CARLS Projects and the refurbishment works supported from the Society's own funds added in, the net deficit before other recognised gains and losses for the year is £394,476. With the Library and all the other rooms now refurbished, with the exception of the main staircase, all major tasks have been completed in the original building.

Following a review by the Auditors and the VAT inspectors the Society has included a provision for VAT of £43,701. This includes the final settlement with interest to Customs and Excise. The Society did not claim any VAT on its expenses in 2008 while this review was going on. However, the Society, will in early 2009, submit a claim for the return of approximately £109,000.

The net income is well above a 'normal year' for the reasons indicated above, but it is also boosted by the excellent returns on our joint publishing enterprise with our partner, Wiley/Blackwell, for the three Journals, the final total being £803,175. If the two unusual income items are deducted from the total, a more appropriate and direct comparison figure of £688,607 is exposed to compare with £611,286, the adjusted figure for 2007.

During the year the Society suffered from a major fraudulent attack on its bank accounts. A series of cheques, not issued by the Society, were fraudulently presented for payment. Despite changing all the accounts with all the paperwork that entailed, a new series of fraudulent cheques were presented on the new accounts until the scale of the fraudulent attack had reached over £56,000. The daily checking of the bank transactions was very time-consuming and despite constant appeals by the Financial Controller, Priya Nithianandian, nothing effective was done by the Bank to stop this problem nor was any obvious attempt made to catch the culprits. Council, on the advice of the Finance Committee, had no choice but to change banks from Lloyd's to Barclays with even more paperwork. Hopefully, the new arrangements will see our banking return to a more peaceful and helpful situation in 2009.

Fellows' contributions, donations and grants

By the end of December there were 1917 paying Fellows with a further 8 Associate and 3 Student members. The actual number of new Fellows elected in 2008 was 108. There were 83 defaulters, 18 resignations and 24 deaths, rather fewer than last year. The total number of Fellows with the Honorary Fellows and other non-paying members added in, now stands at 2,103.

The Society closed the Fellows' Tercentenary Appeal in November exactly one year after it was launched by the President. As the accounts show there was a further £39,568 received. However this figure added to that of 2007 shows that through various forms of gifts, yet to be paid, the actual total the Society can expect to receive is over £100,000. A magnificent sum! The Officers and Council would like to thank all those that have been so generous in supporting the appeal. Elsewhere in the Report the first expenditure from this fund is recorded. It has ensured that the final phase of the CARLS Programme can be completed and the next phase begun.

The Society received a most generous gift of £5,000 from the Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin Trust as well as £2,250 from the Golden Bottle Trust. Donations amounting to £794 were made to the Society in memory of Lady Jean O'Neill FLS, one of the Society's keen supporters.

Investments

As in 2006 and 2007, Designated Funds and General Funds, to be used in support of some CARLS projects and Refurbishment costs, were held in the form of shares

where both capital growth and interest had been excellent. To release this money to cover some of the expenditure during the year, the Society sold shares. As indicated in last year's Annual Report the share market was beginning to decline and so, on advice of the Finance committee, shares were sold relatively early in 2008 which fortunately provided a net gain of £183,094. If these transactions had been carried out a few months later after the stock market crash, the Society would have been seriously short of capital at a key moment in paying for all the development work. Whilst selling stocks the opportunity was taken to reorganise the Society's holdings on the advice of our brokers, Brewin Dolphin, which has resulted in the slightly improved 'book value' of the shares held at the end of the year at £1,758,917. However as the crash continued to the end of the year the market value had dropped to £1,501,532. The stock market value at the end of 2007 was £2,376,492. There was an unrealised loss on the year of £926,203 which, taken together with other investment movements has resulted in a net reduction in the market value of £873,065. It should be remembered, however, that the Society invests for the long term and it is the income that is the most important consideration for safeguarding the long-term viability of the Society. It is a very 'close to home' and dramatic indication of the seriousness and scale of the Country's and the World's recession.

The remaining designated Funds of £104,687 at the beginning of the year have now been reduced to £94,810.

The investment income of £60,069 is severely down on last year now that the share portfolio has been reduced and the market has deteriorated so much. Next year it is expected that the weakness of the stock market will still have a serious effect on this income stream.

The total income from all investments was £84,534.

Accounts

The full accounts were prepared to conform to the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP). However, for the Fellows the layout of the text and summary accounts has been maintained, as far as possible, in a similar format to previous years.

The financial management convention that insists that the Society has to 'capitalise' certain of our refurbishment expenditure in our accounts, is misleading and continues to confuse the clarity of the true expenditure incurred during the year. This year, for instance, it means that although the Society spent £26,000 to replace the glass ceiling, only £2,600 will be shown against this item as part of this year's costs of the Library refurbishment project. Of course on the other side of the balance sheet the depreciation costs still outstanding from previous years' purchases have to be added in giving a total cost for this year of £25,406.

The 'Use of Rooms' income of £26,324 is a real triumph for Victoria Smith, our Buildings and Office Manager, when one realises the upheaval in both the Library and the front offices during this period. Catering costs were down to £2,309 some £828 down on last year.

Income from the sale of Synopses, the Linnean celebratory volumes produced in Sweden, and the continued sale of '*Order out of Chaos*' has now been supplemented by the sales of '*The History of Natural History*'. The latter volume costs and receipts

are shown under the Projects heading, but the total income when all the other publications are brought together under this heading is £13,239. These latter two very important volumes brought to fruition by Leonie Berwick, The Society's Special Publications and Education Manager, are to be followed in early 2009 by a third work entitled '*Letters to Linnaeus*' edited by Sandra Knapp and Quentin Wheeler.

On the expenditure side of the accounts the distortion brought about by the distribution of the BBSRC funds has again modified the 'normal' annual expenditure figures. In last year's Annual Report the two expenditure headings created to identify the 'CARLS Programme' (Project costs) and the 'Refurbishment Costs' have been continued and are shown after the total day-to-day costs.

The CARLS Programme (Project costs) is now significantly reduced, compared with 2007, as projects came to fruition. The main support costs of maintaining the massive digitised images database and its management systems, at present shown under the CARLS Programme heading, will in future years be transferred to the Society's main day-to-day expenditure budget, as agreed by Council at the very beginning of the development of the CARLS Programme. The total for the year was £67,727. The overall project costs including the previous figure is £180,278. This figure is made up as follows:- The Linnaean Fish and Shells Digitisation Project expenditure for the Fish element of the work so far £7,831; The Linnaeus Link Project, £8,740; The Smith Herbarium Conservation Project with the newly begun Digitisation Project £72,923; The Linnaean Correspondence Project, £506; The Website, Virtual Tour , £22,970.

The second heading, 'Refurbishment Costs', covers all the inputs from the Architects, Houseman-Henderson Architects and the Services Consultant, A Jarman Partnership, as well as the actual costs of the building and painting contractors who carried out all the refurbishment work. This figure also includes all the Architects costs for the preparation of the plans for the Tower Rooms development, £390,599. As set aside in earlier times, this figure is offset by a contribution from the Nora MacMillan Fund of £115,313.

As with the Income side, the figures show the net situation at the end of the year. For example the Scientific Meetings heading shows a net cost of £12,284. Whereas the total expenditure was £31,983, with an income of £20,505, including two grants generously provided by The Systematics Association of £500 and The International Association of Wood Anatomists for £662. The final figure, of £12,284, is the expenditure by the Society in support of this activity.

The Medal costs show a significant increase on the previous year as the Darwin-Wallace Silver medals were struck for presentation on February 12th 2009.

Overall Library expenditure was down on the previous year due in no small part to the limited access to the shelves at times.

The costs to be found under the *The Linnaean* heading were again high this year with the additional printing costs associated with the Special Issue No. 8, entitled '*The Linnaean Legacy*'. This was also circulated free to all the members of the Swedish Linnaeus Society, with whom the Society held some of its joint meetings last year. Also included in this heading is the cost of the Annual Report.

The staff expenditure figures remained high with the many projects still being

managed and maintained. A noticeable drop will occur in 2009 as various contracts come to an end. Gina Douglas very kindly and efficiently continued to act as the Society's Executive Secretary until Dr Ruth Temple was appointed to that post on September 1st. Gina has now taken up her new role as Honorary Archivist. As has been said many times before we all owe Gina a very large THANK YOU for all the tasks she has so generously undertaken over many years in the service of the Society.

Training costs rose to £2,180 as the staff team acquired new skills to better serve the Society.

As indicated in the last Annual Report Kristine Kozicki joined the Library team on a short-term contract that ended in June. There were no other staff changes during the year.

Financial services fees were slightly up on last year at £5,069. Legal and related Professional fees were again down on last year at £4,243.

Printing, Stationery, Postage and Telephone costs at £27,128 was only slightly more than last year by some £278.

Office Equipment costs returned to the average of 2006 at £7,186 some £4,874 more than in 2007.

Website costs were £830 above those of last year.

General Rates were down on last year by £2,196 whereas the Water Rates were up by £178. As was expected, the combined Gas and Electric charges were up by a massive £4,831 on last year due to the severe rise caused by the 'fuel' shortage. They rose from £12,219 to £17,050.

Repairs, Maintenance and Renewals, as indicated last year, this figure will remain on this scale in the future, this year's cost (£36,272) was up on last year (£35,251) by £1,021.

Depreciation Costs. As explained in the narrative of the 2006 Annual Report it is proposed to show the year in which each element of this total was generated with an 'expiry date' when that element will drop out of the reckoning. In 2005 the figure was £7,619 (6); for 2006 it was £6,415 (7) and for 2007 it was £3,960 (8). The figure for 2008 is £7,412 (9). Therefore the total depreciation cost for the year 2008 is £25,406. Committee expenses are up this year at £5,709. This reflects a considerable increase in rail fares and a wider geographical distribution of Council Members. The commitment and generosity of all committee members is greatly appreciated.

Our landlords, The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), along with their agents DTZ continue to talk with the Learned Societies at their regular meetings. Constant changes of their staff and too little understanding of the building and the occupants' needs, waste a great deal of staff time and there has been no real improvement in delivery of services or action. An example affecting the Society is shown by the rainwater damage that occurred over Whitsun and the subsequent discussions and actions over the insurance payments as to whose company would pay for what. They are still continuing into 2009, as are the discussions about remedial action for the problem that caused the water ingress in the first place! The considerable increase in the charges levied by DTZ during this year were as a result of the need to replace the whole of the fire alarm system of New Burlington House. This was

unforeseen and unbudgeted for! The Society's portion of this bill being £15,037, the system is still not functioning satisfactorily. The agent's service charge was also put up by HMG in order to provide the Learned Societies with a better and more appropriate and rapid service! The Society's element of this went up from £13,773 in 2007 to £19,931 with no noticeable improvement in services at any level. Rent, however, went down from £2,339 in 2007 to £940 this year, reflecting the falling price of commercial property in London. Other courtyard expenses were £704; Licenses and permits £941. The total bill for the year was £45,267. Residual Tercentenary costs for the year were £479.

The Miscellaneous Expenses heading covers various items, the largest of which were related again to job adverts.

All other expenditure costs were in line with their budget headings. It is most appropriate here to thank all the Officers and staff for being, as usual, so careful in the control of their expenditure in their areas of responsibility. After the Autumn meeting of the Finance Committee we said good bye, and a very big thank you, to Roger Goodenough who retired from the Committee after serving for over 40 years. He was Hon. Treasurer from 1970 to 1975, and has served on the committee ever since, providing the unstinting and perceptive advice over the years particularly with regard to the management of the share portfolio. He will be sorely missed. It is a pleasure to welcome Keith Maybury to the committee in his place. Finally, it is particularly appropriate to thank our Financial Controller, Priya Nithianandian, for his constant and careful oversight of all the Society's financial activities in a most difficult year through both the British and world financial collapse. To add to this the poor banking services that he had to contend with, these have been covered elsewhere!

TRUSTEES STATEMENT

The summarised Accounts set out overleaf are a summary of information extracted from the Society's annual accounts. For a full understanding of the Society's financial affairs the full annual accounts, audit report and Trustees' statutory annual report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from the Executive Secretary.

The full accounts, on which the auditors have given an unqualified opinion, were presented to the Audit Review Committee and signed by the Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees on 12th of March 2009.

On behalf of the Trustees
G. LI. LUCAS OBE FLS

AUDITORS STATEMENT

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31st December 2008 and of its incoming resources and resources expended for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

KNOX CROPPER,

SUMMARY ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

GENERAL FUNDS	2008	2007
INCOME	£	£
Contributions	105,741	100,276
Tax Recovered	5,068	4,404
Publications – Joint Account (net of Editorial costs)*	439,632	358,570
Back Issues	724	676
Other Publications	13,239	2,539
Contribution towards Grant Expenditure		
BBSRC	75,000	75,000
Others	19,558	14,903
Investment Income	60,069	80,478
Donations Received	8,370	19,904
Legacies Received	-	-
Use of Rooms	26,324	19,123
Royalties	1,636	1,885
Contribution to Library Facilities	767	1,188
Contribution to Meetings	1,162	6,494
Other Income	8,625	4,483
Catering (Net Expenditure)	(2,309)	(3,137)
Fellows Appeal	39,568	48,418
TOTAL INCOME	£803,175	£734,704
EXPENDITURE		
Scientific Meetings (Net)	12,284	15,436
Medals	3,457	2,350
Library: Books and Periodicals	2,641	5,007
Binding Repairs etc.	5,865	7,930
Special Library Expenses	4,189	5,679
Publication Costs: other	2,022	-
<i>The Linnean</i>	42,638	36,774
Salaries and National Insurance	315,357	303,135
Training	2,180	60
Financial Services	5,069	4,324
Legal and Related Professional Fees	4,243	6,475
Printing, Stationery, Postage and Telephone	27,128	26,850
Office Equipment	7,186	2,312
Photocopying	3,331	3,373
General Rates	9,517	11,713
Water Rates	1,068	890
Electricity and Gas	17,050	12,219
Repairs, Maintenance and Renewals	36,272	35,251

* Publication income includes Editorial costs netted off of £68,858 (2007: 81,633) which was incurred by the Society.

<i>Expenditure continued:</i>	2008	2007
	£	£
Depreciation	25,406	17,994
Committee Expenses	5,709	3,914
Miscellaneous	4,579	8,714
Cleaning and Refuse	1,288	1,225
Affiliation Fees and Subscriptions	987	742
Biosciences Federation Costs	3,080	3,005
Grants and Awards		
Linnean and Cosyst Grants	74,824	85,594
Linnean and Systematics Grants	33,912	35,885
DCLG** Expenses (Insurance and Fire Alarm)	45,267	36,966
Website Costs	1,361	531
Tercentenary Expenses	479	31,232
Tercentenary Committee	-	15,453
Tercentenary Medals	-	15,131
Provision for VAT	43,701	24,248
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£742,088	£760,412

**EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE
BEFORE REFURBISHMENT
& PROJECT COSTS**

£61,087 **£(25,708)**

PROJECT COSTS

Smith Conservation Project	72,923	39,965
Linnaean Typification Project	-	8,074
Publication: <i>Order out of Chaos</i>	-	30,895
Income from sales: <i>Order out of Chaos</i>	-	(31,252)
Publications: History of Natural History	32,252	-
Sales: History of Natural History	(9,701)	-
Linnaean Herbarium Digitisation Project	-	15,286
Linnaean Insect Digitisation Project	-	62,295
The Linnaean Correspondence Project	506	-
IT Consultant and Hardware for Projects	67,727	142,215
Income from The Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund		
Contribution to the Correspondence and		
Digitisation Project	-	(219,796)
The Linnaeus Link Project	8,740	1,444
Miscellaneous Projects	7,831	7,101
Provision for VAT	-	14,902
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	£180,278	£71,129

** Department of Communities and Local Government.

REFURBISHMENT COSTS	£390,599	£58,479
Contribution from Nora Macmillan Fund	(115,313)	-
	275,285	58,479

NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES	£(394,476)	£(155,316)
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RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS	£	£
Income	70,349	259,479
Expenditure	(157,280)	(243,443)
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR YEAR	£(86,931)	£16,036

INVESTMENT ASSETS		
Loss/Gain Revaluations and Disposals of Fixed Asset Investments	(741,214)	(78,944)
INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)	£(741,214)	£78,944

BALANCE SHEET

	2008	2007
ASSETS	£	£
Investments	1,568,330	2,440,788
Tangible Fixed Assets (Equipment and Refurbishment)	82,699	67,666
Net Current Assets	(54,095)	311,099
	£1,596,934	£2,819,553
FUNDS		
General	847,522	1,652,728
Designated (1)	94,810	104,687
Endowments (2)	282,875	461,293
Restricted (3)	371,727	600,845
	£1,596,934	£2,819,553

Notes

- (1) Designated Funds are those funds which have been earmarked for specific purposes by the Trustees and, together with the General Funds, comprise the Unrestricted Funds.
 - (2) Endowments represent capital funds where only the income arising may be spent.
 - (3) Restricted Funds may only be spent for the purposes prescribed by the donors.
-

APPENDIX 1

Meetings 2008

24 th January 2008	Linnaeus' material of mammals and birds: the last two groups of specimens to be studied Anthea Gentry FLS
31 st January 2008	Sixth Form Lecture: Explore Alistair Land FLS
21 st February 2008	Plant life of granite outcrops and inselbergs: a review Stephen Hopper FLS
6 th March 2008	Barnacles Phil Rainbow FLS
13 th March 2008	Great Apes and climate change Ian Redmond OBE
3 rd April 2008	The Life of John Stackhouse FLS (1742-1819), scientist and naturalist with a particular interest in marine algae Ian Caldwell FLS
10 th April 2008	The First Annual Lecture on Biodiversity Policy in association with the Systematics Association – Biodiversity in a changing world: Building a science base to support policy Georgina Mace CBE
17 th April 2008	Conserving Nature in London David Bevan FLS
24 th April 2008	Sixth Form Lecture: Order Alistair Land FLS
2 nd May 2008	The Linnaean Tercentenary Year: A Pictorial Review Jenny Edmonds FLS
8 th May 2008	Hooker and Islands Sam Berry PPLS
11 th May 2008	Voyages of Exploration: discovering and collecting the natural world – a lecture in association with the LAPADA London Fair Sandra Knapp FLS
15 th May 2008	The Role of Botanic Gardens in the 21st Century Dawn Saunders FLS
23 rd May 2008	Anniversary Meeting David Cutler PLS
29 th –30 th May 2008	Wood Matters: A celebration of the work of John Barnett David Cutler PLS and Pieter Baas FLS
26 th June 2008	A Natural History of Conifers Aljos Farjon FLS
1 st July 2008	150th Anniversary of the Reading of the Darwin-Wallace Papers and Conversazione Gareth Nelson FMLS and Allen Orr
3 rd –4 th July 2008	The Driving Forces of Evolution: From Darwin to the Modern Age David Cutler PLS and Frank Ryan FLS
10 th July 2008	Keeping cancers at bay the evolutionary way Gerard Evan
26 th –29 th August 2008	Systema Naturae 250 (in Paris)

- 18th September 2008 **Linnaeus and the role of women in 18th century botany** Mariette Mnkkelow FLS
- 20th September 2008 **London Open House**
- 25th September 2008 **Sixth Form Lecture: Inspire** Alistair Land FLS
- 1st-3rd October 2008 **Beyond Cladistics: A Festschrift for Chris Humphries**
Sandra Knapp FLS and David Williams FLS
- 9th October 2008 **Phenology and climate change** Nigel Hepper FLS
- 16th October 2008 **Darwin and Domestication** Andrew Sheppy FLS
- 17th October 2008 **Under the Volcano: Sir William Hamilton and Mount Vesuvius – A Burlington House Lecture**
Chris Kilburn and Jill Cook
- 22nd October 2008 **The Longer the Better: A Celebration of long-term datasets in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Robert Marsham FRS**
Humphrey Crick, Tim Watkinson and Tim Sparks
- 28th October 2008 **Palynology Specialist Group** Carol Furness FLS
- 29th October 2008 **Palaeobotany Specialist Group** Peta Hayes FLS
- 30th October 2008 *Launch of The History of Natural History: An annotated bibliography* by **Gavin Bridson**
Robert Anderson, Hugh Torrens and Robin Myers
- 6th November 2008 **The Global Amphibian Extinction Crisis**
Gordon McGregor Reid PPLS and Lesley Dickie
- 13th November 2008 **Fly on the wall: the role of insects in criminal investigations** Martin Hall
- 20th November 2008 **Systematics Debate: The systematics community should focus its attention on flowering plants, butterflies and higher vertebrates for the next decade**
Sandra Knapp FLS and Geoff Boxshall FLS
- 27th November 2008 **The role of restoration ecology in mitigation of climate change and loss of biodiversity**
Renton Righelato FLS
- 4th December 2008 **Darwin and Huxley's disagreement over taxonomy's connection to evolution** Polly Winsor FLS
-

APPENDIX 2

Fellows and Associates Elected 2008

Mr Albert Abela	Mr William George
Professor Mauri Åhlberg	Dr Ian Glasspool
Mr Adeyinka Aladesida	Dr Beverley Glover
Dr Zulfiqar Ali	Professor Hugh Godfray
Mr Achyut Aryal	Mrs Jennifer Grundy
Dr Gail Ashton	Dr Ove Hagelin
Dr Kadiri Babalola	Mr David Hallmark
Professor Jon Baskin	Mr Allan Hart
Dr David Bilton	Mr Sam Heads
Dr Andrew Birch	Mr Charlie Heatubun
Ms Jyll Bradley	Professor Jonathan Heeney
Dr Wendy Bridle	Mr Robert Herbertson
Dr Jannete Brinkman-Salentijn	Mrs Margarita Hernández
Mrs Lynda Brooks	Prof William Jeffery
Mr Nigel Brown	Prof Donovan Kelly
Mrs Annika Browne	Dr Donald Kerr
Mr Mark Burgess	Mr Anthony King
Dr Frazer Burlinson	Mrs Susanne Lumsden
Dr Roger Buxton	Mr Ingemar Lundén
Dr Michael Cassidy	Prof Akbar Masood
Dr Andrew Casson	Dr William Maybury
Mrs Anne Cholewa	Mrs Debbie McConnell
Dr Gail Cook	Mr Stephen Moger
Ms Heather Couper	Mrs Annabel Molyneaux
Ms Ylva Dahnsjö	Mr Walter William Moore II
Mr Christopher Davis	Dr Elaine Morgan
Dr John Dawson	Mr Lorenzo Munari
Mr Peter Day	Prof Nagib Nassar
Dr Jonty Denton	Dr Jan Nielsen
Mr Steven Desmond	Mr Stephen Nimmons
Mr Charles Dewhurst	Dr Subhash Pandey
Mr Roy Dinley	Dr Craig Paterson
Professor Kingsley Dixon	Prof Gitte Petersen
Dr James Dobreff	Mr Roger Phillips
Dr Michael Dobson	Dr Anthony Pigott
Dr Heidi Döring	Ms Felicity Powell
Prof Inderjit Dua	Dr Nigel Raine
Ms Patricia Eckel	Dr Elaine Robson
Dr Matthew Edwards	Mr Chris Roome
Dr Félix Forest	Dr Nikolaj Scharff
Professor Per Frankelius	Professor Nameirakpam Singh

Prof Charles Smith
 Mr Boris Striffler
 Dr Sivaramakrishnan Sudhakaran
 Dr Ruth Temple
 Lady Emma Tennant
 Miss Jessica Thomas
 Prof Dr Ashwani Thukral
 Sir Crispin Tickell
 Mr Arthur Tickner
 Mr Geoffrey Toone
 Mr Darren Tossell
 Mr Ian Tough
 Dr Fernando Vega

Dr Martin Vella
 Mrs Francine von Finck
 Dr Maria Vorontsova
 Ms Anita Walsmit Sachs-Jansen
 Miss Claudia Watts
 Mrs Hazel West-Sherring
 Mr Steven Whitbread
 Mr Michael Willis
 Dr Matthew Wills
 Mr Robert Wingate
 Professor Mary Winsor
 Dr Ann Wood
 Mr Mark Young

Deaths Reported to Council in 2008

Professor Anthony Bradshaw
 Mr Gavin Bridson
 Mr Brian Burtt
 Mr John Cannon
 Professor Steven Cooper
 Dr Rollings Creed
 Mr Francis Ferns
 Professor Douglas Henderson
 Sir Timothy Hoare
 Dr John Howells
 Mr Daniel Isaac
 Professor Donald Kaplan

Mr George Linsell
 Professor Dr Hans Linskens
 Dr John Marsden
 Mr George Morgan
 Dr Andreas Papadakis
 Ms Marjorie Reade
 Dr William Smith
 Professor Alan Southward
 Dr Frederick Taylor
 Dr Lyall Watson
 Mr Nicolas Wickham-Irving
 Ms Judith Zuk

APPENDIX 3.

Officers and Council

PRESIDENT	Prof David F Cutler (elected 24 May 06)
VICE-PRESIDENTS	Prof Richard M Bateman (retired May 2008)
	Dr Andy Brown
	Dr John David
	Dr Jenny Edmonds (Retired May 2008)
	Dr Sandra Knapp
	Dr Keith Maybury
	Dr Vaughan R Southgate
TREASURER	Prof Gren Ll Lucas OBE (1995)
SECRETARIES Botanical	Dr Sandra Knapp (elected 24 May 06)
Zoological	Dr Vaughan R Southgate (1997)
Editorial	Dr John R Edmondson (elected 24 May 06)
Collections	Mrs Susan Gove (2004)
COUNCIL	The President, Treasurer, Secretaries and:
	- Dr Pieter Baas
	- Prof. Richard M Bateman
	+ Dr Joe A Cain
	Prof Peter S Davis (Retired 24 May 2008)
	o Dr Mike Fay
	+ Dr Shahina A Ghazanfar
	Dr D J Nicholas Hind (Retired 24 May 2008)
	+ Mr William M Alastair Land
	o Dr Terry Langford
	Dr D Tim J Littlewood (Retired 24 May 2008)
	+ Dr George C McGavin
	o Prof P. Geoff Moore
	- Dr Malcolm Scoble
	+ Prof Mark R D Seaward
	- Dr Max Telford
	+ Due to retire 24 May 2009
	- Due to retire 24 May 2010
	o Due to retire 24 May 2011

The Editors are co-opted to Council.

APPENDIX 4.

Curators, Editors and Committees 2007-2008

Curators

Fish, Shells & General Zoology	Ms Kathie N Way (1994)
Insects	Dr Mike G Fitton (1976)
Plants	Dr Charlie E Jarvis (1990)

Editors

<i>Biological Journal</i>	Dr John A Allen (1997)
<i>Botanical Journal</i>	Dr Mike Fay (2008)
<i>Zoological Journal</i>	Dr Peter J Hayward (2007)
Synopses Series	Dr John H Crothers (1991) and Dr Peter J Hayward (2002)
<i>The Linnean</i>	Prof Brian G Gardiner (1980)
Reviews	Dr Jonathan Bennett (2007)

Specialist Group Secretaries

Botanical Collections Managers	Dr John C David (2003)
Evolution	Dr Sandra Knapp (1993)
London Freshwater	Dr Steve Kett (1999)
Palaeobotany	Dr Peta Hayes (2006)
Palynology	Dr Guy Harrington (2004)
Plant Anatomy	Prof David F Cutler (1973)

Committee Chairs

Editorial	The Editorial Secretary (e.o.)
Finance	The Treasurer (e.o.)
Grants	The President (e.o.)
Library and Collections	The Collections Secretary (e.o.)
Medals and Awards	The President (e.o.)
Programmes	The Zoological and Botanical Secretaries (e.o.)

Committees

+ COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE	
Mrs Susan Gove (Chairman 2001)	The Librarian
*Mr John Collins (1990)	Dr John David (2002)
Dr Mike G Fitton (1976)	*Ms Gillian Furlong (2006)
Ms Carol Gokce (2002)	Ms Christy Henshaw (2008)
Dr D J Nicholas Hind (1995)	Dr Charlie E Jarvis (1985)
Dr George C McGavin (2000)	*Ms Diana Mercer (2003)
Mr Chris Mills (2006)	Ms Diane Tough (2005)
Ms Kathie N Way (1993)	

+EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

The Editorial Secretary (e.o.)
 The Editors (e.o.)
 Dr Rebecca A Farley (2001)
 Ms Liz Ferguson (Wiley-Blackwell)*
 Mrs Debbie Wright (until Sept. 2008)
 Mr Matthew Pacey (from Sept 2008)*

+FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Treasurer (e.o.)
 *Mr Giles Coode-Adams (2001)
 Mr F Roger Goodenough (1975)
 Mr Edward A Hoare (1998)
 Dr N Keith Maybury 2008

+MEDALS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The President (e.o.)
 The Vice Presidents (e.o.)
 Members of Council present at the January Council Meeting

Informal Panels**JILL SMYTHIES AWARD**

The Botanical Secretary (e.o.)
 Ms Christabel F King (1999)
 Prof Gren LI Lucas (1996)
 Ms Rosemary Wise (1999)

IRENE MANTON PRIZE

The Botanical Secretary (e.o.)
 Prof Richard Bateman (2005)

+PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE

The Zoological Secretary (e.o.)
 The Botanical Secretary (e.o.)
 Dr Alan E Brafield (1994)
 Dr Anne-Maria Brennan (1997)
 Dr J Sara Churchfield (1997)
 Dr Mary Gibby (1997)
 Miss Mary Griffin (1995)
 Prof Chris Humphries
 Dr Brian R Rosen
 Mr. Andrew Sheppy (1994)
 The Specialist Group Organiser
 by invitation

DENNIS STANFIELD AWARD

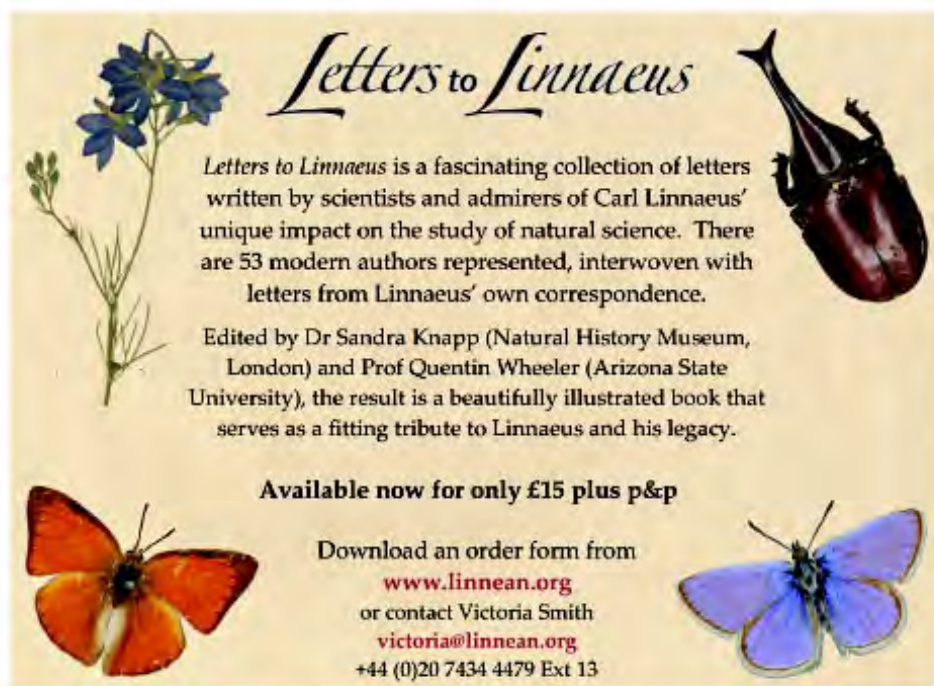
The Botanical Secretary (e.o.)
 Dr Brian Schrire
 Dr Martin Cheek (1998)

Prof Mary Gibby
 Dr Charlie Jarvis
 Dr Bente Klitgaard

+ The Officers are *ex officio* (e.o.) members; * Not a Fellow of the Society.

Staff

ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Ms Gina Douglas (from September 2007 – August 2008)
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Dr Ruth Temple (From September 2008)
FINANCIAL CONTROLLER	Mr Priya Nithianandan (1991)
BUILDING & OFFICE MANAGER	Ms Victoria Smith (2006)
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER	Ms Kate Longhurst (2007)
LIBRARIAN	Mrs Lynda Brooks (from September 2005)
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN	Mr Ben Sherwood (2007)
CONSERVATOR	Ms Janet Ashdown (2002)
SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS and EDUCATION MANAGER	Ms Leonie Berwick (2007)
HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT	Ms Elaine Shaughnessy (2006)
HONORARY ARCHIVIST	Ms Gina Douglas (2008)
IT CONSULTANT	Ms Julia Hoare



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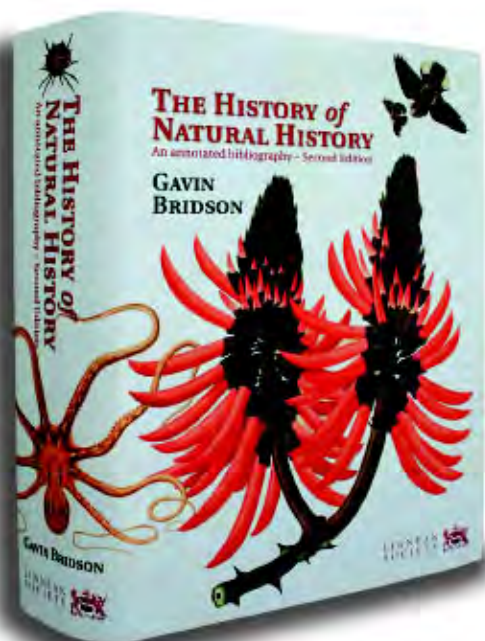
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