

2. Annual Report 2017-18

- 2 Attendances at meetings during 2017/18 averaged 17 members. Surprisingly the December meeting – mini talks and recent acquisitions attracted 21 members and 1 guest, proving to be a most memorable evening as evidenced by the write up in the BMS website. As mentioned in the previous year's report the move to the Holiday Inn at Bromsgrove did not suit all our members, however we are gradually attracting new members. We have been most fortunate in securing very favourable terms for the use of this excellent meeting room, subject to six monthly review, providing at least 10 to 15 members sit down for a meal before hand, from 6pm. We thank those members who do so and Dave Seeney for negotiating such favourable terms for the use of this room.
- 2.1 Your Committee met once last year on 1 June 2017, to sort out revised signatories for Bank mandates and to agree the programme for 2017/18 based on suggestions received from members. We also agreed to have the President's Cup Competition and the Drummond Lecture at the BMS Mini-Convention at Knowle on Sunday 17 June, 2018. Simon People has agreed to give the Drummond Lecture – 'The Last 100 Days'.
- 2.2 Your Committee will meet shortly to finalise the 2018/19 programme. Our thanks are recorded to Martin Harrison for printing the 2017/18 programme on such favourable terms.
- 2.3 A suggestion list is circulating in the room for the 2018/19 programme. Naturally we regret having to cancel the March 2018 meeting due to severe inclement weather and so we will re-schedule Paul Handford's talk 'On the Lines of Communication' for later this year.
- 2.4 Our grateful thanks is recorded to those of our members who continue to volunteer to talk freely about medals within their collections, which in many instances have been accompanied by exceedingly well researched PowerPoint presentations.
- 2.5 Our monthly Meetings are advertised in Medal News, the British Medals Forum, and the BMS website. www.birminghammedalsociety.weebly.com and in the BMS Face book page.
- 2.6 The BMS remains a separately constituted organisation and whilst many of us are also members of the OMRS – some choose not to be. For many years now the BMS has continued to forge good links with the Northern and Cotswold Branches of OMRS. The BMS continues to be well represented at the *Weekend of Medals* at Banbury in November each year.
- 2.7 The success of a Society is judged by the continued interest and support it generates as well as the willingness of its members to contribute, imparting and sharing knowledge in the process. We are fortunate in this respect for there are many serious collectors and researchers in the BMS. It would remiss of me not say a very special thank you to Martin Harrison who as both Secretary and Web Manager has done much to raise the profile of the BMS. Martin is happy to continue to be our Web Manager even though he now lives in the Far East. We wish him well and thank him for producing our monthly meeting reports which can be seen in the BMS website. Our new Secretary Chris Davies will forward a short synopsis of our meetings to Martin. To make his job that much easier please provide him with a short précis of anything you intend to talk about – on the back of the topic slip or by way of an attachment.
- 2.8 Our thanks are recorded to all who made 2017/18 an enjoyable year. Those new members who have joined us in the year, thank you, you're continued attendance indicates you likewise enjoy the opportunity to meet new friends and learn more.
- 2.9 Finally we should pause to remember those who are no longer with us, including a former BMS President and long standing member Bill Traynor who passed away earlier this year.

This concludes the Annual Report.

Philip Wilson, Retiring BMS President, 3 April 2018