

The Barnes Literary Society
Report and Financial Statements for the year ended September 30 2015

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Society information

Patrons	Isla Blair Julian Glover Roger McGough Patrick Neate Jan Pieńkowski Fiona Smith
Committee	Claire Boyling (Chairman) Patrick Harvey (Hon.Treasurer) Jane Skerrett (Hon.Secretary) Sarah Kearney (Membership Secretary) Caroline Kelsall David King-Farlow (Deputy Chairman) Kathy Owles Noel Davison (co opted April 2015)
Principal address	PO Box 28868 London SW13 9XH
Bankers	HSBC 172 Upper Richmond Road Putney London SW15 2SH
Independent examiner	John Forbes Nova Cura 1 Ibis Lane London W4 3UP

Barnes Literary Society
Annual Report for the year ended September 2015

Annual Report for year ended September 2015

This is my second Annual Report as Chairman. We opened the season in October 2014 with Sarah Dunant who opened our eyes to the glorious art of Florence and the lives of the Borgia family in Renaissance Italy. At our second event we were honoured to welcome Helen Macdonald to talk about her book *H is for Hawk*. Helen has since won several prestigious book prizes and we were very lucky to hear first hand of her unusual life and the healing of her grief through caring for a hawk.

Our third speaker was journalist and writer Sathnam Sanghera whose book *Marriage Material* is a satirical take on race relations in the Midlands. His pithy take on life as a Sikh in Britain opened our eyes to a very different culture. In February Jason Hewitt and Antonia Hodgson told us about their novels and the experience of being debut authors and in March Alan Johnson MP enthralled us with his account of life as a boy in West London and the delights of being a postman based at the Old Sorting Office in Barnes. Our last speaker event of the season was Harriett Gilbert who told us about her two radio book programmes, the guests featured and her recommendations for 'A Good Read' (see our website for details). We organised an outing to Strawberry Hill House, Sir Horace Walpole's Gothic castle in Twickenham, where we enjoyed a fascinating tour and many of us stayed on for a light lunch. If you haven't been I do recommend it. Our final event was our Summer Party where we made a return visit to the Depot for supper and great entertainment provided by Rodger Hayward Smith and Anne Blake based on the writings of T S Eliot and Lewis Carroll. We have been delighted to welcome our patrons, Isla Blair, Fiona Smith, Julian Glover and Roger McGough, to a number of our events and to have the support of Jan Pieńkowski who once again designed our brochure. We do count ourselves fortunate to have patrons so actively interested in our society.

Links with the local community are very important. We took part in the BCA organised Societies Day in May and we again sponsored the prizes for the two Poets Laureate in the Arts Richmond Young Writers' Festival. We also gave encouragement and publicity to the first Barnes Children's Literature Festival which was held in May.

The support of Isla Dawes in Barnes Book Shop, her regular donation of a voucher for the raffle prize and her attendance at all events with the speakers' books, is greatly appreciated as is the coverage of our activities in the BCA's 'Prospect', 'Living In' magazine and other local publications. We also value the management of our website by Anne Cotgreave at Skinny Cat Design. Thanks too to the OSO who have hosted most of our evenings, to the Methodist Church for hosting our first event and especial thanks to Alan Trehitt at AT Sound for his invaluable technical expertise and advice. We know from members' comments just how much you appreciate the quality of sound at our events.

No society such as ours would be successful if it were not for our committee who have worked imaginatively and enthusiastically during the year and have given me such unstinting support. And most importantly, I thank you, our members, who continue to attend our events and encourage our efforts. We have enjoyed excellent attendance with full houses for nearly every meeting.

I have been part of the BLS organising committee for twelve years, since its inception, the last 2 as chair, and it is now time for me to pass the baton. I am delighted that Jane Skerrett is stepping up to take the chair and I look forward to taking a back seat – literally - and just enjoying the talks!

Claire Boyling
Chairman

The Barnes Literary Society
Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee of The Barnes Literary Society

As described on page 5, you have approved the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2015 set out on pages 4 and 5. In accordance with the Constitution, I have examined these financial statements without carrying out an audit, and confirm that they are in accordance with the records and the information and explanations supplied to me.

John Forbes
Nova Cura
1 Ibis Lane
London
W4 3UP

The Barnes Literary Society
Income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2015

	2015	2014
INCOME		
Subscriptions	8,200	7,025
Guest fees	430	291
Ticket event fees	3,220	2,427
Bank interest	3	3
Extraordinary income	100	-
Total	11,953	9,746
EXPENDITURE		
Room hire	1,332	1,500
Regular events		2,709
-Sound system hire	2,825	-
-Speaker fees	1,210	-
-Chair hire	750	500
Special events	3,559	3,863
Printing, stationery & publicity		975
-Stationery, postage, PO Box rental	519	-
-Printing, copying	381	-
-Speaker & venue flowers	130	-
-Advertising	149	-
Grants and Bursaries	300	300
Website	490	697
Insurance	191	191
Accountancy	290	290
Bank charges	4	-
Total	12,130	11,025
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	(177)	(1,279)

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Reserves brought forward at 1 October 2014	5,065	6,344
Funds carried forward at 30 September 2015	4,888	5,065

**The Barnes Literary Society
Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2015**

		2015		2014
Current assets				
Cash at bank - current account	3,292		4,566	
Cash at bank - deposit account	5,016		5,013	
		8,308		9,579
Creditors				
Accrued expenses	290		609	
Subscriptions in advance	3,130		3,905	
		(3,420)		(4,514)
Net current assets		4,888		5,065
Represented by:				
General reserves		4,888		5,065

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with

applicable accounting standards.

Approved by the committee on March 1 2016
by

and signed on its behalf

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer