



The Platelet Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 2019 and confirm that they comply with the Charities act 1993.

Charity Name	The Platelet Society
Charity Registration Number	1172202
Registered Address	Office 7 35-37 Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7JN, UK

Board of Trustees

Matthew Harper
Paul Harrison
Sarah Jones (Chair)
Stephen Watson

Committee

Jonathan Gibbins (Chair Elect)
Mathew Harper (Treasurer and Trustee)
Ingeborg Hers
Sarah Jones (Trustee)
Samantha Moore
Khalid Naseem (Chair)
Susie Shapiro (Clinical member: co-opted 30/5/19)
Mark Thomas (Clinical member: co-opted 30/5/19)
Steven Thomas
Dina Vara

Secretary/Governance Officer

Gayle Halford

Bankers

HSBC UK

Structure, Governance and Management

The Platelet Society is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission in August 2017 under the charity number 1172202.

Organisational Structure

The charity has a Board of Trustees which are responsible for the governance of the charity. The Trustees set up a Management Committee that are responsible for enacting strategies that allow the Charity to fulfil its key objectives.

Trustees

The charity has four Trustees (Matthew Harper, Paul Harrison, Sarah Jones and Stephen Watson). All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the Charity are set out in the accounts.

When the Society was founded, an initial panel of Trustees were appointed and would serve different periods of time in order to ensure that there would be continuity of approach. Hence, Stephen Watson would serve for four years (end date March 2021), and Paul Harrison, Sarah Jones and Matthew Harper would serve for three years (end date March 2020). All new members of Trustees beyond this initial group would serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

To enhance the potential pool of Trustees, the charity has identified two individuals who would be willing to become Trustees and use their own experience to assist the Charity in order to provide a broader experience of the charity sector; Gillian Lowe is a likely person to agree to the position of Trustee, and Jeremy Pearson has provisionally accepted the position of Chair of Trustees. These two new positions will be formalised at the forthcoming Trustees meeting on the 23rd January 2020.

Management Committee

The Management Committee currently has eight members, and it was agreed by the Trustees and the Committee that the Management Committee would greatly benefit from participation of clinical colleagues with strong interests in platelet orientated research, and who could also help with the strategic direction and policies of the Society; Mark Thomas and Susie Shapiro were approached by the Chair of the Committee, and agreed to act as co-opted members of the Committee, with a view to becoming full Committee members in September 2020.

All Committee members have research backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity, and were elected to represent different stages of the academic career track. The Committee remains inclusive and diverse, and represents our membership by inclusion of male and female researchers, and Early Career Researchers. The Management Committee meets bimonthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Society. The Committee is focused on facilitating participation of the research community through the Society webpage, newsletters, social media and networking, supporting conference organisation and outreach activities.

Committee members are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting. In September 2019, five Committee members will complete their terms of office (Matthew Harper, Sarah Jones, Samantha Moore, Khalid Naseem and Dina Vara), therefore at the inaugural Annual General Meeting (to be held at the first Platelet Society Meeting in September 2019), there will be an election for three Ordinary Committee members and two Early Career Researchers (ECR) positions.

Risk Management

The Trustees and Management Committee have reviewed the major risks to which the Charity may be exposed, and appropriate systems have been implemented to mitigate risk. In particular, risks to external funding have led to the development of a plan which allows ring fencing for funding for core activities. All medical related information provided on our website is general and is covered by a specific medical disclaimer policy. Structures have been put in place to account for recent changes

in General Data Protection Regulations. The Trustees are satisfied that arrangements are in place to manage risks that have been identified.

Our Aims

Our Society's purpose is to promote excellence in research, education and public awareness of platelet biology in human health and disease.

To ensure that we remain focussed on our key aims they are appraised on a yearly basis in order to review both what we have achieved and evaluate the outcome of our work. The review examines the success of each key activity to ensure that they benefit the groups that hope to serve.

The Focus of our Work

Our main objectives for the year were focussed on establishing the Society within the research community and creating activities and structures that would help promote our key aims in the future. The strategies we used to meet these objectives were:

- To facilitate greater communication within the research community
- To continue to support and develop academic conferences in the area of platelet biology
- To provide the public with accessible information on platelet related diseases
- To improve public understanding of platelet biology

Activities and Achievements

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Society carries out a number of activities in pursuance of its aims. These activities, summarised below, provide benefit to members of the Society and wider society.

To facilitate greater communication within research community

A key element of the creation of the Platelet Society was to create a stronger network of biomedical researchers and clinicians with interests in platelet biology.

i. Website. The Society website continues to provide key information for both for the research community and the wider public. <https://plateletsociety.co.uk/> The website is kept up-to-date with information of upcoming conferences, key research findings from around the world, information on available PhD studentships and research positions. Reports from platelet research conferences are uploaded onto the website, and the Society has launched social media accounts (Twitter and Facebook @plateletsociety) to engage the public and researchers alike.

ii. Newsletter. The quarterly newsletter to members updates the membership with short reports on recent research meetings, public engagement/STEM activities, and shares the successes of platelet researchers including grants/prizes awarded, publications, collaborations, graduation of PhD students and promotions of our members.

To continue to support and develop academic conferences in the area of platelet biology

Scientific conferences are a corner stone of academic endeavour that facilitates a valuable exchange of new ideas and methods. We have begun to make changes to our programme of conferences:

i. Early Career Researchers (ECR) Meeting. Following the success of the first Early Career Researchers meeting in 2018, which saw positive engagement from the ECR's, we are in the process of organising the next ECR meeting, which will be hosted by the Blizard Institute, Queen Mary University of London on Thursday 23rd April 2020. This meeting is open to all ECR's: graduate students (MSc and PhD), postdoctoral researchers, clinical research fellows, and other scientists with comparable levels of experience. It will be specifically designed as a less formal forum for ECRs to present their research, have open discussions and share ideas, and explore collaboration and networking opportunities. From submitted abstracts there will be a range of talks, flash posters and

poster presentations covering basic and clinical research. In addition, there will be a panel of experts to offer a career and CV masterclass discussing research fellowships to lectureships, and from biomedical industry to public engagement. This meeting will allow junior researchers the opportunity to gain valuable experience in conference organisation and for the wider junior research community opportunities to develop their own collaborations and networks independently of their academic supervisors.

ii. Platelet Society Meetings. Following the Committee and Trustees' approval, the Society will host annual meetings from 2021. It was agreed that going forward, the Society will host a combined annual meeting over two days, which will include the Platelet Society Meeting, the Early Career Researchers' meeting, and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Society included in the programme. The Society meeting will move to April, early in the conference season, in order to avoid clashes with other research meetings. The forthcoming first full meeting of the Platelet Society, to be held in Cambridge in September 2019, and the Early Career Researchers meeting in London 2020, will be the last separate meetings for the Society.

The first Platelet Society meeting will be held in Cambridge on the 12th-13th September 2019, and will host speakers from across the whole spectrum of platelet science, and attendees will have opportunities to present their ground-breaking work. Early registration and discounts will be available for Platelet Society members.

In discussion with the organisers of the European Congress on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ECTH) meeting, the Chair of the Committee has secured a Platelet Society symposium at the meeting in Glasgow in October 2019; this will give Platelet Society researchers an opportunity to present their work and promote the Society on an International stage.

To provide the public with accessible information on platelet related diseases

The Society does not provide medical advice and when contacted by individuals seeking such advice directs to the clinician(s) involved in their care pathway. However, the Society does provide a number of fact sheets on the role of platelets in health and disease and platelet related diseases; these are reviewed by the Committee's clinical members. We also provide a number of personal perspectives of patients who live with platelet related diseases to raise awareness of how individual sufferers cope with their particular disorders. With the appointment of the two new clinical Committee members, the Society's expertise has been expanded; therefore the Society would like to undertake more patient interaction; the clinical Committee members have direct experience on working with platelet related diseases.

To improve public understanding of platelet biology

As part of our mission to improve the public understanding of blood platelets and their roles in health and disease our members engage in a number of outreach activities. These activities are undertaken by our members at the local level often in collaboration with their host university and other outside bodies. Forthcoming events where Platelet Society members are undertaking public engagement activities are the *Pint of Science Festival* at Imperial College London and the LGBT STEM Day 2019. In 2019, a Committee member will take on the role for promoting Public Engagement for the Society. The Society also continues with its social media presence, Twitter and Facebook, to further promote our public engagement activities.

Plans for Future Period

The Society plans to continue the activities outlined above in the coming years subject to a satisfactory funding position, but also expand the activities into other areas.

- We will continue to enhance our scientific conferences, facilitate workshops and training opportunities. Our immediate focus will be to support the first full Platelet Society Conference in 2019 and the Early Career Researchers Meeting in 2020 as the last independent conferences in their current formats and the Platelet Summer School, a workshop designed for new researchers in the field of platelet biology, in September 2020. Looking beyond 2020 the committee will begin to plan for the merging of the ECR meeting and the Platelet Society Conference into the new annual meeting format in 2021.

- We will hold our first Annual General Meeting in 2019 at which point we will hold elections for membership of the Management Committee.
- With the appointment of the two new clinical Committee members, the Society's expertise has expanded; therefore the Society would like to undertake more patient interaction.
- To forge stronger links with other societies, with possibilities of joint meetings.
- Widening our fundraising profile to ensure growth.
- Once the new Chair of Trustees' has been appointed, the Society will recruit an Ambassador to represent The Platelet Society whether in the public, academic or medical arena. The Ambassador will help in building awareness of the Society's purpose and fundraising activities and provide advice to the Trustees in relation to specific initiatives (as appropriate).

Financial Review

The Society currently holds a total funds of £42,444, which will cover its operating costs for the coming year; running costs for the Society include website maintenance, accountancy reports, Governance Officer salary, insurance, deposits for future meetings. The Society has no long-term investments, with the cash reserves held in our deposit account.

Principal source of funding

At present the charity has four income streams including membership fees, organisation of conferences, dedicated fundraising activities and public donations. The membership fees and funds raised through conference organisation are still the major sources of income.

Reserves

The Management Committee has examined the Charity's key objectives for the coming years and planned a reserves policy accordingly. Our membership feels strongly that the delivery of the Platelet Society scientific conference is a critical event for the research and wider community. Consequently, the committee has established a policy whereby income from conferences is ring fenced and held to support future conferences should sponsorship become limited in the future.

	Unrestricted funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Endowment funds (£)	Total Funds (£)	Last year (£)
A1 Receipts					
Donations	11,049	-	-	11,049	12,369
Events and courses	31,519	-	-	31,519	1,195
Bank interest	5	-	-	5	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total (gross income for AR)	42,574	-	-	42,574	13,564
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	42,574	-	-	42,574	13,564
A3 Payments					
Website development	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,790
Accountancy	2,40	-	-	2,40	150
Governance officer fees	3,853	-	-	3,853	2,661
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	7,093	-	-	7,093	6,601
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	7,093	-	-	7,093	6,601
Net of receipt/(payments)	35,481	-	-	35,481	6,963
A5 transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 cash funds for last year end	6,963	-	-	6,963	-
Cash funds this year end	42,444	-	-	42,444	6,963

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees.

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Jones', is written on a light blue rectangular background.

Dr Sarah Jones
Chair of Trustees, The Platelet Society

Date: 16.12.19



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
THE PLATELET SOCIETY

No (if any)
1172202

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	Period end date
	01/07/2018	30/06/2019

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	11,049	-	-	11,049	12,369
Events and courses	31,519	-	-	31,519	1,195
Bank interest	5	-	-	5	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	42,574	-	-	42,574	13,564
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	42,574	-	-	42,574	13,564
A3 Payments					
Website development	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,790
Accountancy	240	-	-	240	150
Governance officer fees	3,853	-	-	3,853	2,661
Events costs	-	-	-	-	-
Overheads	-	-	-	-	-
Fuel	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	7,093	-	-	7,093	6,601
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	7,093	-	-	7,093	6,601
Net of receipts/(payments)	35,481	-	-	35,481	6,963
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,963	-	-	6,963	-
Cash funds this year end	42,444	-	-	42,444	6,963

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank current account	26,638	-	-
	Bank deposit account	15,806	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	42,444	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	