



Report of the Trustees For the year ended 2020

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 2020 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 (Resigned: 11/3/20)
Sarah Jones
Gillian Lowe (Appointed: 4/6/19)
Jeremy Pearson (Chair: Appointed 23/1/20)
Stephen Watson

Executive Committee

Ilaria Canobbio (Chair, Elected: 13/9/19)
Jonathan Gibbins (Chair Elect)
Alan Harper (Elected: 13/9/19)
Mathew Harper (Treasurer and Trustee representative)
Ingeborg Hers
Sarah Jones (Trustee representative)
Carly Kempster (ECR Member, Elected: 13/9/19)
Samantha Moore (End of Term: 13/9/19)
Khalid Naseem (End of Term: 13/9/19)
Susie Shapiro (Clinical member: co-opted 30/5/19)
Kirk Taylor (ECR Member, Elected: 13/9/19)
Mark Thomas (Clinical member: co-opted 30/5/19)
Steven Thomas
Amanda Unsworth (Elected: 13/9/19)
Dina Vara (End of Term: 13/9/19)

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 an Executive Committee that are responsible for enacting strategies that allow the Charity to fulfil its key objectives.

Constitution

A revised version of the constitution, amending the following resolutions, was lodged and accepted by the Charity Commission on the 18 May 2020: apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years; and a trustee who has served for two consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a third consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

Trustees

The charity has five Trustees (Matthew Harper, Sarah Jones, Gillian Lowe, Jeremy Pearson 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.

The Charity has enhanced its Board of Trustees by appointing Dr Gillian Lowe and Professor Jeremy Pearson FMedSci MBE; Professor Pearson was appointed as the new Chair and brings a wealth of knowledge to assist the charity in providing a broader experience of the charity sector and raising the profile of the Society in the community. Dr Gillian Lowe's appointment as a Trustee brings clinical understanding, along with her vast experience from being a Trustee for a former platelet-research charity. These two new positions were formalised at the Trustees' meeting on the 23 January 2020, and the Board of Trustees thanked Sarah Jones for her hard work and success as the previous Chair of Trustees.

Paul Harrison reached the end of his term of office as a Trustee on the 22nd March 2020, and tendered his resignation; the Trustees thanked him for his hard work, in particular with the foundation of the Platelet Society, and the conversion from the Platelet Charity to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). A resolution was passed at the Trustees' meeting on the 7 May 2020, whereby Sarah Jones and Matthew Harper were reappointed for a second consecutive term of three years (new end date: 21 March 2022).

Executive Committee

In September 2019, at the inaugural Annual General Meeting (AGM), five Committee members completed their terms of office (Matthew Harper, Sarah Jones, Samantha Moore, Khalid Naseem and Dina Vara). Also at the AGM, an election was held for three Ordinary Committee members and two Early Career Researchers (ECR) positions; Ilaria Canobbio, Alan Harper and Amanda Unsworth were elected as the Ordinary Members, and Kirk Taylor and Carly Kempster were elected as the ECR members. The Executive Committee therefore currently has ten members, including two co-opted Clinical members (who become full Committee members in September 2020).

In December 2019, the Executive Committee was given the important task of electing a Vice-Chair for the Society who will take over as the Chair when Jon Gibbins steps down in 2021. The Committee were pleased that two members put themselves forward as candidates for this role (Steven Thomas and Ingeborg Hers) and were very grateful to both candidates for doing this; this reflected their passion for the field and the work of the Society, and their willingness to commit considerable time to support the membership – their colleagues. The Committee announced that Steven Thomas would take over as Chair in Autumn 2021, with Jon Gibbins remaining as a member of the Committee for a further 6 – 12 months (and at least 2 committee meetings) in order to enable ongoing activities with which he is associated to be completed, and to support or mentor newly elected members of the Committee as they are appointed. Going forward, and ratified by the Trustees, this will become the normal method of handover to a new Chair. This additional period of up to one year on the

Committee will allow the incoming and outgoing Chairs to reflect together on the direction that the Society needs to take in the following years, and will ensure consistency and a smooth transition.

In mid-2020, Alan Harper will take over as Treasurer from Matthew Harper. The Trustees would like to thank Matthew for his hard work and expertise as Treasurer for the Society.

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 Committee meets quarterly, 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.

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 cornerstone of academic endeavour that facilitates a valuable exchange of new ideas and methods. We have held a successful inaugural Platelet Society Meeting, and pre-COVID-19, we were working towards a second ECR Meeting:

i. Early Career Researchers (ECR) Meeting and Summer School. ECRs provide great commitment and engagement with the Society; ECR members were particularly looking forward to the ECR meeting, scheduled for 23rd April 2020 at the Blizard Institute, Queen Mary University of London, however, due to COVID-19, this meeting had to be postponed until 2021. This also applied to the Summer School, which was scheduled for September 2020. Whilst postponing was an incredibly disappointing decision to take for both events, the impact of COVID-19 means that we could not guarantee that 2020 meetings would be viable, and the prospect of quarantine periods would seriously impact attendance.

A decision was made to add the ECR Meeting to the schedule for the second Platelet Society Meeting in Keele in April 2021; and the Summer School will be rescheduled for 2021.

ii. Platelet Society Meetings. The Society hosted its first Platelet Society meeting in Cambridge on the 12th-13th September 2019. The successful event hosted speakers from across the whole spectrum of platelet science, and attendees had opportunities to present their ground-breaking work. Early registration and discounts were given to Platelet Society members. The meeting included the inaugural *Gustav Born Memorial Lecture* given by Professor Richard Farndale on “*The role of vessel wall collagens in thrombus formation*”. Professor Farndale has had a far-reaching impact in platelet research both in understanding how platelets trigger thrombus formation, as well as providing invaluable experimental tools that have been invaluable to other investigators’ research. The Trustees would like to congratulate and thank Matthew Harper, and the rest of the local organising committee, for organising such an impressive first meeting.

A Platelet Society symposium was held at the European Congress on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ECTH) meeting in Glasgow, October 2019; this included two special Platelet Society sessions for PhD students and Early Career Researchers. This symposium gave Platelet Society researchers an opportunity to present their work and promote the Society on an International stage.

The one-day Platelet Society meeting on *Platelets and Cancer* was cancelled due to COVID-19. Platelet Society former Trustee Paul Harrison, and Julie Rayes, from Birmingham, had put together a good programme, however the Trustees will need to revisit to see if the funding from industry will be available again. The Trustees expressed their gratitude to Julie and Paul for their work in planning this meeting.

Reports on all Platelet Society meetings, and meetings where Platelet Society researchers have presented, can be found on the Platelet Society webpage, under “News”.

iii. Fundraising. Initially, the Society had volunteers to ride the *Velo Birmingham* (21st June 2020) and fundraise for the Society, however due to COVID-19, the race was cancelled. In lieu of the *Velo*, the Committee therefore initiated a *Virtual Platelet Labs Link-Up* during lockdown, in order to fundraise and engage Members. The idea for the challenge was to draw up a route that would take us from one member’s lab to the next, initially in the UK, so that we could collectively walk, run or cycle around the whole route within a month. We had a good uptake from Members and their families, and the route was extended to visit Milan (Italy), Santiago (Spain), and back to the UK. Over the 4 weeks of our challenge we covered an enormous 8262 Km, climbed 61,294m in height, and were active for 581 hrs and 30 minutes. The total raised from the challenge was £566.00; the Executive Committee will ring-fence this money for an allocated ECR budget.

iv. ECR Initiatives. The newly elected ECR members of the Committee, Kirk Taylor and Carly Kempster, have been very proactive in their roles. They have initiated an ECR Social Hour via Zoom,

to informally engage the ECR members. As ECR members make up the largest proportion of all Platelet Society members, they have also created a survey to hear the thoughts of ECR members, so they can focus on developing useful and supportive resources relevant to the ECRs. The survey results are due in July 2020.

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 Executive 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 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 a local level often in collaboration with their host university and other outside bodies.

Platelet Society members undertook various public engagement activities including the *Pint of Science Festival* at Imperial College London and the University of Reading, the LGBT STEM Day; and new Ordinary Committee member, Ilaria Canobbio, helped organise a *European Research Night* in September 2019, in Pavia, Italy. In 2019, Executive Committee members Kirk Taylor and Amanda Unsworth took on the role for promoting Public Engagement for the Society.

As conferences, meetings, networking and important opportunities to share ideas/data were cancelled or postponed during the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Committee member Kirk Taylor assisted in organising daily virtual seminars, called the *Blood and Bone Series*, which allowed people to meet from around the world. Several Platelet Society members signed up and presented, and more members are scheduled to present.

The Trustees thanked Executive Committee member, Amanda Unsworth, for creating Platelet Society leaflets for the general public, and to raise awareness of 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 subsequent focus will be to support the Early Career Researchers Meeting and second Platelet Society Conference in 2021, and the Platelet Summer School, a workshop designed for new researchers in the field of platelet biology, also in 2021.
- We will hold a virtual Annual General Meeting in 2020 at which point we formalise the clinical positions on the Executive Committee..
- With the appointment of the clinical Trustee, Gillian Lowe, and the new clinical Executive Committee members, will undertake more patient interaction the Society, and establish a relationship with the Haemophilia Society, to increase the patient and families' understanding of rare bleeding disorders.
- To expand on current links with other societies; we will have cross-representation on both the British Society for Haemostasis & Thrombosis (BSHT)/Platelet Society Research Committees; to help to avoid conflicts of meetings, and raise potential of interaction and collaboration.
- Widening our fundraising profile to ensure growth.

- With the new Chair of Trustees in place, the Society will look to 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 £34,117, 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 currently the major sources of income.

Reserves

The Executive 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.

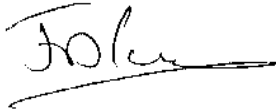
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	15,917	-	-	15,917	11,049
Events and courses	3,330	-	-	3,330	31,519
Bank interest	34	-	-	34	5
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,281	-	-	19,281	42,574
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,281	-	-	19,281	42,574
A3 Payments					
Website development	2,120	-	-	2,120	3,000
Accountancy	240	-	-	240	240
Governance officer fees	3,983	-	-	3,983	3,853
Events and Prize costs	1,174	-	-	1,174	-
Meeting cost	18,516	-	-	18,516	-
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,300	-	-	1,300	-
Other expense	275	-	-	275	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	27,608	-	-	27,608	7,093
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	27,608	-	-	27,608	7,093
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 8,326	-	-	- 8,326	35,481
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	42,444	-	-	42,444	6,963
Cash funds this year end	34,117	-	-	34,117	42,444

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 black ink, appearing to read 'J. Pearson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Professor Jeremy Pearson
Chair of Trustees, The Platelet Society

Date: 03/09/2020



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 01/07/2019		Period end date 30/06/2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	15,917	-	-	15,917	11,049
Events and courses	3,330	-	-	3,330	31,519
Bank interest	34	-	-	34	5
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,281	-	-	19,281	42,574
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,281	-	-	19,281	42,574
A3 Payments					
Website development	2,120	-	-	2,120	3,000
Accountancy	240	-	-	240	240
Governance officer fees	3,983	-	-	3,983	3,853
Events and Prize costs	1,174	-	-	1,174	-
Meeting cost	18,516	-	-	18,516	-
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,300	-	-	1,300	-
Other expense	275	-	-	275	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	27,608	-	-	27,608	7,093
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	27,608	-	-	27,608	7,093
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 8,326	-	-	- 8,326	35,481
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	42,444	-	-	42,444	6,963
Cash funds this year end	34,117	-	-	34,117	42,444

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	16,445	-	-
	Bank deposit account	17,673	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	34,117	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

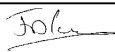
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JEREMY PEARSON	21/09/2020



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
THE PLATELET SOCIETY

On accounts for the year
ended

30 JUNE 2020

Charity no
(if any)

1172202

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

K M

Date:

22/09/2020

Name:

PEACOCK ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FELLOW OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED
ACCOUNTANTS

Address:	71-75 SHELTON STREET, COVENT GARDEN
	LONDON, ENGLAND
	WC2H 9JQ

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.