THE ORWELL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31st December 2019

The Orwell Society is a registered charity in England and Wales (no. 1159072)

THE ORWELL SOCIETY

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron	Richard Blair
Chair	Richard Keeble
Secretary	Neil Smith (up to 27 April 2019)
	Dennis Frost (from 27 April 2019)
Treasurer	Neal Carr (up to 27 April 2019)
	Neil Smith (from 27 April 2019)
Events Secretary	Quentin Kopp
Newsletter Editor	Masha Karp
Web Presence	Les Hurst
Education Officer	Ann Kronbergs
Publicity Officer	Benedict Cooper (from 27 April 2019)

All committee members are also trustees of the UK registered charity.

POLICIES

The committee has adopted policies in the following areas:

- Reserves
- Financial controls
- Liquidity risk and investment
- Risk management
- Data protection
- Conflicts of interest
- Complaints

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CHAIR’S REPORT
For the Year ended 31st December 2019

The society was formed in 2011 to promote the understanding and appreciation of the life and work of George Orwell. Orwell’s writing continues to be relevant. The committee believes that the society is well positioned to encourage the growing, global interest in Orwell.

Society membership has increased from 243 at the end of 2018 to 263 at the end of 2019. Of these 48 are based outside the UK. The society has a newly-designed website www.orwellsociety.com, has a regularly updated Facebook page and is furthering its educational purpose through initiatives such as a dystopian fiction prize for students, an Orwell symposium and a £3,000 bursary for a journalism student.

The society is a registered charity in the UK with a charitable educational purpose. This means that the society is able to claim tax relief on subscriptions and donations from UK taxpayers.

The society held its 2019 annual general meeting for members in April with guest speaker D.J.Taylor who gave a fascinating talk on his new book, *The Lost Girls*. The society also organised several member events, all funded by attendees and providing a surplus towards the society’s charitable activities.

The society’s finances continue to be in good health. Net assets are £27,000 and there was an excess of income over expenditure in 2019 of £1,000.

I am confident the society will continue to prosper both as a community for Orwell lovers and as an educational charity promoting understanding of Orwell's life and work.

Richard Lance Keeble

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
For the year ended 31st December 2019

		2019 £	2018 £
INCOME			
Subscriptions	Life	-	400
	Annual	4,707	4,409
Donations		1,797	947
Other income	Note 2	5,245	2,554
Total income		11,749	8,310
EXPENSES			
Bursaries		2,000	500
Journal		3,518	3,099
Prize money		500	500
Other charitable activities		2,001	465
Total charitable activities		8,019	4,564
Purchases of items for sale		660	871
AGM costs		1,065	1,042
Other expenses		635	889
Total expenses		10,379	7,366
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		**1,370**	**944**

Total recognised gains and losses
The Society has no recognised gains and losses other than the Income and Expenditure Account for the above two financial years.

THE ORWELL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET
at 31st December 2019

		2019 £	2018 £
FIXED ASSETS		-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Prepayments		-	1,617
Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		34,903	29.797
CREDITORS - amounts falling due within one year	Note 3	(8,271)	(6,152)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		26,632	25,262
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		26,632	25,262
CREDITORS - amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
NET ASSETS		**26,632**	**25,262**
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Reserves brought forward		25,262	24,318
Income and expenditure account		1,370	944
TOTAL RESERVES		**26,632**	**25,262**

The notes on page 6 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Committee at their meeting on 8 February 2020.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
For the year ended 31st December 2019

1. **Accounting convention**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a going concern basis and in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

The principal accounting policies of the Society are:

(a) **Income**

Income is the amount derived from subscriptions, donations and surpluses on events and is accrued in the period to which it relates.

(b) **Cost of sales**

Cost of sales is accounted for in the year the items are purchased. Stocks are therefore valued at nil cost.

2. **Other Income**

	2019	**2018**
Surplus from events	3,892	987
Sales	527	726
Gift aid	633	627
Bank interest	124	81
Other	69	133
Total	**5,245**	**2,554**

The 2018 figures have been restated to exclude speaker fees (now included in Donations) and contributions towards AGM costs (now netted off AGM costs).

3. **Creditors** - amounts falling due within one year

	2019	**2018**
Net deposits on events	(5,866)	(3,746)
Trade creditors	-	(1,744)
Subscriptions paid in advance	(110)	(162)
Accruals	(2,295)	(500)
Total	**(8,271)**	**(6,152)**