

# Monumental Brass Society

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2023



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



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## Trustees and advisers

### Trustees:

K.A. Wilson-Lee, B.A.(Hons.), M.St.(Oxon.), Ph.D., F.S.A.  
(President)  
Prof. N.E. Saul, M.A., D.Phil., F.S.A. (Vice-President)  
H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. (Vice-  
President)  
N.J. Rogers, M.A., M.Litt., F.S.A. (Vice-President)  
Ven. D.G. Meara, M.A., F.S.A. (Vice-President)  
S.G.H. Freeth, B.A., Dip.Arch.Admin., F.S.A. (Vice-  
President)  
Miss P. Williams, B.A.(Hons.) (Hon. Secretary)  
R.C. Kinsey, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A. (Hon. Treasurer)  
Mrs. L.D. Pascual, M.A., Ph.D. (Hon. Editor)  
Dr. R.J. Fitchett, B.Mus., M.Mus.(Ethnomusicology), Ed.D.<sup>1</sup>  
J.S. Lee, B.A.(Hons.), M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.<sup>2</sup>

Mrs. C.A. Metcalfe, M.A.<sup>3</sup>

Mrs. C. Hudson, B.A.(Hons.), M.A.<sup>4</sup>

Registered Address: c/o Society of Antiquaries of London  
Burlington House  
Piccadilly, London W1J 0BE

Charity number: 214336

Independent examiner: P.C. Larsen, F.C.I.I.  
4 Abbots Walk  
Lechlade, Gloucestershire GL7 3DB

Bankers: Barclays Bank PLC  
Barclays Business Centre  
Holborn and Chancery Lane Branch  
147 Holborn, London EC1N 2NU

Santander UK plc  
Bridle Road  
Bootle, Merseyside GIR 0AA

### Notes

<sup>1</sup>Elected to retire in 2024

<sup>2</sup>Elected to retire in 2025

<sup>3</sup>Elected to retire in 2026

<sup>4</sup>Co-opted

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## Notice of meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the church dedicated to St. Mary at Beddington, Surrey SM6 7NH on Saturday, 20th July 2024 at 11.00 a.m.

### A G E N D A

- 11.00a.m.
1. Apologies for absence
  2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023
  3. Approval of the Trustees' Report
  4. Approval of the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023
  5. Election of the Independent Examiner
  6. Election of the Officers to serve in accordance with Rule 3 (see Note 1)
  7. Election of members to serve on the Executive Council (see Note 2)
  8. To elect Mike Harris an Honorary Member of the Society
  9. Any Other Business

By Order of the Executive Council  
Penny Williams  
Hon. Secretary

28th June 2024

## Note 1

The Executive Council propose the following names for office during the coming year:

President:	K.A. Wilson-Lee, B.A.(Hons.), M.St.(Oxon.), Ph.D., F.S.A.
Vice-Presidents:	Prof. N.E. Saul, M.A., D.Phil., F.S.A. H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. N.J. Rogers, M.A., M.Litt., F.S.A. Ven. D.G. Meara, M.A., F.S.A. S.G.H. Freeth, B.A., Dip.Arch.Admin., F.S.A.
Hon. Secretary:	Miss P. Williams, B.A.(Hons.)
Hon. Treasurer:	Andrew J. Ling, F.C.A.
Hon. Editor:	Mrs. L.D. Pascual, M.A., Ph.D.

## Note 2

The member of the Executive Council retiring by rotation this year is

Dr. R.J. Fitchett, B.Mus., M.Mus.(Ethnomusicology), Ed.D, and there were existing vacancies.

Two nominations have been received:

H. Guilford, B.Sc., D.Phil., proposed by H.M. Stuchfield, M.B.E., J.P., D.L., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. and seconded by Penny Williams, B.A. (Hons.). Hugh is a retired Strategic Consultant. He has been a member of the Society since 1970 and held office as Hon. Treasurer from 2008 to 2012. He has a general appreciation of monumental brasses and is primarily interested in encouraging the younger generation to develop an interest in brasses and brass rubbing. His other interests include choral singing, genealogy and steam locomotives. He is a member of the Society of Genealogists.

Mrs. C. Hudson, B.A.(Hons.), M.A., proposed by S.G.H. Freeth, B.A., Dip.Arch.Admin., F.S.A. and seconded by Lucia Diaz Pascual, M.A., Ph.D. Challe is an Independent Researcher. She has been a member of the Society since 2013. She has a general appreciation of monumental brasses and has a lifelong interest in the history of costume. She is currently researching fashion and dress (especially ladies' costume) on brasses and monuments covering the late-medieval and Tudor periods. She has provided the Society with much useful technical advice, and is in charge of the email circulars to members.

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## Trustees' report 2023/24

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023. The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 3.

### Structure, governance and management

The Society was founded in 1887 as the Cambridge University Association of Brass Collectors and renamed as the Monumental Brass Society on 1st January 1894. The Society went into abeyance from 1st December 1914 until its revival on 6th February 1934. It is governed by a Trust Deed dated 1st April 1967 and was registered with the Charity Commission on 27th November 1967.

H.M. Revenue & Customs has accepted the Society as a Charity within the definition of section 506(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, as a result of which the Society's income and gains are not taxable to the extent that they are applicable and applied to charitable purposes.

The affairs of the Society are managed by an Executive Council ("the Trustees") of which all the officers (President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Editor) are members in addition to six ordinary members. The latter serve for a period of three years with two such members retiring by rotation each year. No person retiring is eligible for re-election at the same meeting. Nominations to fill vacancies on the Executive Council, duly proposed and seconded by two members of the Society and indicating the willingness of the nominee to stand must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than 7th June each year. The officers of the Society and members of the Executive Council are elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustees have the power to fill vacancies occurring amongst the officers till the next Annual General Meeting and to co-opt such additional members as in their judgement are necessary.

The Trustees normally meet three times each year to consider grant applications and to conduct the business of the Charity.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

### Objectives and activities

The Society's objects are:

- (a) To endeavour to ensure the better preservation of monumental brasses, indents of lost brasses and incised slabs;
- (b) To promote the study of, and interest in, monumental brasses, indents and incised slabs by the publication of transactions and in any other way possible; and
- (c) To compile with a view to publication a list of all extant brasses, indents and incised slabs, both British and foreign.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Society should undertake.

## General Data Protection Regulations

The General Data Protection Regulations (G.D.P.R.) took effect from 25th May 2018. G.D.P.R. applies to 'personal data' meaning any information relating to an identifiable person. It places specific legal obligations on processors of personal data. There must be a valid lawful basis in order to process personal data. The Society's lawful basis is 'legitimate interests'. This basis is most appropriate where people's data is used in ways they would reasonably expect and which have a minimal privacy impact. The Society's Privacy Notice explains 'legitimate interests' and confirms that personal information will be used only to provide members with our publications, and any other information relating to our services.

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## Trustees' report 2023/24

### Achievements and performance

#### *Members*

During the period under review 6 (2022/23: 4) new members were elected and, after taking into account deaths, resignations and lapsed members, the membership stood, as at the date of this report, at 298 (2022/23: 299). The total comprised 3 (2022/23: 4) Honorary members; 258 (2022/23: 260) Ordinary members; 8 (2022/23: 9) Family members; 4 (2022/23: 5) Associate members; and 21 (2022/23: 21) Institutional members.

#### *Personalia*

The period under review saw the passing of our Honorary member Richard Busby, who had joined the Society in 1967. In 1969 his *Beginner's Guide to Brass Rubbing* was hugely successful. *A Companion Guide to Brasses and Brass Rubbing* (1973) included a groundbreaking 'Who was Who' that remains a source of reference. Richard served as Hon. Local Secretary for Hertfordshire until he moved to Hexham in 2008. He served on the Executive Council in 1972-5 and 2005-8, and compiled *The Monumental Brass Society: A Short History 1887-1987* during the Society's centenary year. He updated this in 2012 for the Society's 125th birthday. He was elected an F.S.A. in June 1999, and an Honorary Member of the M.B.S. in 2007. He will be especially remembered for compiling the *Notes on Books and Articles* section of the *Bulletin* from issue 4 (December 1973) to issue 149 (February 2022), a remarkable contribution spanning almost half a century.

The other members who have passed away are Clive Burgess (2009), Mike Good (1975), Kevin Kearney (2004) and Nick Stringer (2005).

#### *Meetings*

The autumn General Meeting was a new venture, a weekday meeting. We went behind the scenes at the British Museum, Great Russell Street, to view its collection of brasses. We had last done this in June 1997, with the papers published in the 2000-2001 *Transactions*. On that occasion we were looked after by our member John Cherry. This time we were in the hands of Naomi Speakman, Curator, Late Medieval Europe. She and her colleagues then showed us a selection from the museum's extensive collection of brasses. Because the room was small, we were limited to fifteen people per session, and Naomi and her colleagues kindly hosted two duplicate sessions, in the morning and afternoon. Stephen Freeth and Nicholas Rogers led the sessions and explained the brasses. Naomi Speakman gave a brief introductory talk each time. The day was excellently organised by our member Matthew Sillence.

To brighten the dark winter months there were also two virtual meetings held online. These too were new ventures. We have held virtual meetings before, but never in addition to the regular programme. The first was on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023, a lecture by our Vice-President Nigel Saul entitled *The Beauchamps and their Friends: Tombs and Commemoration in St. Mary's Church, Warwick*. The second was on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023, when our Vice-President Nicholas Rogers reprised his talk in April 2023 at Haverstock Hill entitled *Rosaries on Brasses - and*

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*Elsewhere.* Both talks were well attended and beautifully illustrated. We are grateful to our member Challe Hudson for her technical assistance.

The Spring General Meeting was on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at Hereford Cathedral, ably organised by our member Rosemary Fitchett. There were duplicate sessions in the morning and afternoon, with one half of those attending enjoying a tour of the brasses with Nigel Saul, and the other half visiting the splendid new display of the *Mappa Mundi* and Chained Library. The two groups then swapped places in the afternoon. Past President Martin Stuchfield very kindly issued all those attending with a new electronic edition of the volume which he published with the late Peter Heseltine in 2005 on *The Brasses of Hereford Cathedral*, with new illustrations to modern standards. We are most grateful to him for his help.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 8 July 2023 at Ardingly, West Sussex. The formal business took place in the morning in the church, and in the afternoon we reassembled to hear a series of lectures. The first speaker was Heather Warne, on *Landscape, Manors and Families in early Ardingly*. The second speaker was our member Robert Hutchinson, on *The Wakehurst and Culpeper Brasses*. The final speaker was our member Challe Hudson, on *The Softer Materials of the Memorials: imagining the Colours and Textures remembered in Brass and Stone*. This was accompanied by some examples of the textiles described in her talk. In the afternoon we also enjoyed a splendid tea with home-made cakes, provided by the organiser, our member Caroline Metcalfe, and her husband Steve.

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## Trustees' report 2023/24

### *Publications*

The period under review produced one further issue of the *Transactions* for 2023 (Volume XXIV) under the editorship of David Lepine. This included the Index for volumes XX-XXIV.

Stephen Freeth was responsible for three issues of the Bulletin (153, 154 and 155).

### *Website*

The Society's website can be accessed at [www.mbs-brasses.co.uk](http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk). The Society is enormously indebted to our member Jon Bayliss, who continues to contribute articles and populate the Portfolio of Brasses section. Thanks are also due to our member Challe Hudson for considerable technical advice and support.

### *Conservation*

The Society awarded the following grant:

October 2023: Hedgerley, Buckinghamshire. £400 towards the conservation of the monumental brass commemorating Margaret, wife of Edward Bulstrode, esq., 1540, with 10 sons and 3 daughters, inscription and shield (LSW.II).

### Financial review

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the account and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005. It is the policy of the Society that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the Society's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

On behalf of the Executive Council  
Penny Williams  
Hon. Secretary

11th May 2024

## Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:  
select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Subscription and voluntary income	2	9,340	80	9,420	11,177
Investment income	3	753	1,781	2,534	1,411
		<u>10,093</u>	<u>1,861</u>	<u>11,954</u>	<u>12,588</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	161	—	161	342
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>10,254</u>	<u>1,861</u>	<u>12,115</u>	<u>12,930</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Cost of generating funds:					
Publications	5	7,802	—	7,802	7,399
<b>Net incoming resources available</b>		<u>2,452</u>	<u>1,861</u>	<u>4,313</u>	<u>5,531</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Governance costs	5	438	—	438	1,219
Church donations	5	425	—	425	300
Jonathan Ali Essay Prize	5	—	350	350	—
Grants	6	—	400	400	250
		<u>8,665</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>9,415</u>	<u>9,168</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>8,665</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>9,415</u>	<u>9,168</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		<u>1,589</u>	<u>1,111</u>	<u>2,700</u>	<u>3,762</u>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>					
(Reduction)/gain on investment assets		(104)	(414)	(518)	(1293)
Grants no longer required		—	—	—	150
Realised foreign exchange gain		—	—	—	174
		<u>1,485</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>2,182</u>	<u>2,793</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>1,485</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>2,182</u>	<u>2,793</u>
Fund balances at 1st January 2023		53,035	59,024	112,059	109,266
<b>Fund balances at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023</b>		<u>54,520</u>	<u>59,721</u>	<u>114,241</u>	<u>112,059</u>

## Balance sheet

as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Current assets</b>					
Investments	9	31,403		21,921	
Cash at bank and in hand		84,378		92,991	
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
			115,781		114,912
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(1,540)		(2,853)	
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
			(1,540)		(2,853)
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>114,241</u>		<u>112,059</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted funds:					
Restricted income funds	11	57,623		56,512	
Revaluation reserve	11	2,098		2,512	
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
			59,721		59,024
Unrestricted funds:					
Unrestricted income funds		51,113		49,524	
Revaluation reserve	12	3,407		3,511	
		<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>	
			54,520		53,035
			<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>
			114,241		112,059
			<u>          </u>		<u>          </u>

Note: No value has been placed on the Society's archives, library and publications stock.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 11th May 2024.

Signed on their behalf by:

**Kelcey Wilson-Lee**  
*President*

**Robert Kinsey**  
*Hon. Treasurer*

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

### 1. Accounting policies

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

#### 1.2 Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. Grants are recognised as incoming resources when receivable.

Membership subscriptions are recognised as incoming resources when received.

#### 1.3 Resources expended

These are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include V.A.T. which cannot be recovered. Governance comprises costs for the running of the charity itself as an organisation.

#### 1.4 Investments

Current asset investments are stated at market value.

#### 1.5 Foreign currency translation

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are included in net outgoing resources.

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

**2. Subscription and voluntary income**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Membership subscriptions	7,991	—	7,991	8,623
Income Tax refund (2022)	1,173	—	1,173	2,190
Donations	176	80	256	359
	<u>9,340</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>9,420</u>	<u>11,177</u>

**3. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from U.K. listed investments	—	1,781	1,781	1,238
Interest receivable	753	—	753	173
	<u>753</u>	<u>1,781</u>	<u>2,534</u>	<u>1,411</u>

**4. Incoming resources from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Book sales	161	—	161	12
King's Lynn Conference	—	—	—	330
	<u>161</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>342</u>

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

## 5. Total resources expended

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Costs of generating funds:				
Publications				
Bulletins (3 issues)	1,468	—	1,468	1,563
Transactions 2022	—	—	—	3,727
Transactions 2023	3,692	—	3,692	—
Postage	2,642	—	2,642	2,109
	<u>7,802</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>7,802</u>	<u>7,399</u>
Charitable activities:				
Donations to churches for hosting meetings	425	—	425	300
Grant funding of activities	—	400	400	250
Jonathan Ali Essay Prize	—	350	350	—
	<u>425</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>1,175</u>	<u>550</u>
Governance costs				
Account fees	—	—	—	3
Insurance	75	—	75	75
Meetings	13	—	13	249
Postage and stationery	2	—	2	545
Subscription (Counc. for Brit. Arch.)	69	—	69	69
Website fees	279	—	279	278
	<u>438</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>1,219</u>
Total resources expended	<u>8,665</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>9,415</u>	<u>9,168</u>

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

## 6. Grants payable

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grants	400	250
Reconciliations of grants payable:		
Commitments made in the year	400	250
Grants paid during the year	(900)	—
Grants not required during the year	—	150
Commitments at 1st January 2023	1,688	1,588
Commitments at 31st December 2023	1,188	1,688

Applicant parish		Unpaid at 1st January 2023 £	Made in 2023 £	Paid in 2023 £	Not required £	Unpaid at 31st December 2023 £
Norfolk, Cantley	(20)	250.00		250.00		
Norfolk, Reedham	(20)	250.00		250.00		
Oxfordshire, Dorchester	(20)	150.00		150.00		
Hertfordshire, Sawbridgeworth	(21)	288.00				288.00
Oxfordshire, Nuffield	(21)	500.00				500.00
Essex, Borley	(22)	250.00		250.00		
Buckinghamshire, Hedgerley	(23)		400.00			400.00
		1,688.00	400.00	900.00	—	1,188.00

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

**7. Trustees**

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year. Trustees are re-imbursed for travel costs incurred and claimed when attending meetings of the Charity.

**8. Employees**

There were no employees during the year.

**9. Analysis of investments**

	Unrestricted funds £	*Restricted funds £	Total £
Value as at 1st January 2023	4,409	17,512	21,921
Additions to investments	<u>        </u>	10,000	10,000
Investment income	257	1,524	1,781
Unrealised investment (reduction) in year	(104)	(414)	(518)
Less dividend distributions	(257)	(1,524)	(1,781)
Value as at 31st December 2023	<u>4,305</u>	<u>27,098</u>	<u>31,403</u>
Unrealised gains at 31st December 2023 included above	<u>3,407</u>	<u>2,098</u>	<u>5,505</u>

\*Conservation Fund.

**10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grants payable	1,188	1,688
Accruals	352	1,165
	<u>1,540</u>	<u>2,853</u>

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2023

### 11. Restricted funds

The income funds of the Charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds					Unrealised (reduction) on investment assets £	Balance at 31st December 2023 £
	1st January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Grant not required £	Resources expended £			
Conservation Fund	50,391	1,861	—	(400)	(414)	51,438	
Jonathan Ali Essay Prize Fund	8,633	—	—	(350)	—	8,283	
	<u>59,024</u>	<u>1,861</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(750)</u>	<u>(414)</u>	<u>59,721</u>	

### 12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31st December 2023 are represented by:			
Current assets	54,872	60,909	115,781
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(352)	(1,188)	(1,540)
	<u>54,520</u>	<u>59,721</u>	<u>114,241</u>
Unrealised gains included above:			
Investments	3,407	2,098	5,505
	<u>3,407</u>	<u>2,098</u>	<u>5,505</u>
Reconciliation of movements in unrealised gains:			
Unrealised gains at 1st January 2023	3,511	2,512	6,023
Net gains/(reduction) on revaluations in year	(104)	(414)	(518)
Unrealised gains at 31st December 2023	<u>3,407</u>	<u>2,098</u>	<u>5,505</u>

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## Independent examiner's report

To the Trustees of the Monumental Brass Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

### 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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:

- a) 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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; have not been met; or
- b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Paul C. Larsen, F.C.I.I.  
Independent Examiner

23rd June 2024

Cover: Brass of Nicholas Carew (d. 1432) and wife Isabel, at St. Mary,  
Beddington, Surrey.

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