

Scottish Charity Number SC019723

**BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE**

**Report and financial statements for the year ending  
30 September 2007**

**BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE**  
**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Trustees**

Mr H Aziz (University of Warwick) from 11 July 2007  
Prof G R Brightwell (London School of Economics)  
Prof P J Cameron (Queen Mary, University of London), Chair  
Dr K J Edwards (University of Dundee), Treasurer  
Mr M Higgs (University of Glamorgan) until 11 July 2007  
Prof A J W Hilton (Queen Mary, University of London) until 11 July 2007  
Prof J W P Hirschfeld (University of Sussex)  
Dr S Huczynska (University of St Andrews) from 11 July 2007  
Prof M R Jerrum (Queen Mary, University of London)  
Dr D B Penman (University of Essex)  
Dr S Perkins (University of Glamorgan)  
Prof P Rowlinson (University of Stirling), Secretary  
Dr B S Webb (Open University)

**Principal address**

The Secretary  
British Combinatorial Committee  
Department of Computing Science and Mathematics  
University of Stirling  
Scotland FK9 4LA

**Independent examiner of accounts**

Dr G E Thomas  
Division of Mathematics  
University of Dundee  
Dundee DD1 4HN

**Bankers**

Bank of Scotland  
2 West Marketgait  
Dundee DD1 1QN

Scottish Widows Bank Plc  
PO Box 12757  
67 Morrison Street  
Edinburgh EH3 8YJ

**Charity registration number**

SC019723

**Website**

<http://www.maths.qmul.ac.uk/~pjc/bcc/>

## BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2007.

#### Structure, governance and management

Minor changes to the Committee's governing document were approved at the Business Meeting held during the 2007 British Combinatorial Conference. These changes reflect current practice and the published recommendations of the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. In particular, the Committee's former General Policy and Rules have been reformulated as a Constitution (available on the Committee's website, or from the Secretary on request).

For the purpose of charity legislation, the Trustees are precisely the members of the British Combinatorial Committee. The Committee governs in accordance with the Constitution described above. The Chair and six members of the Committee are elected biennially; the Editor of the *British Combinatorial Bulletin* is an *ex officio* member, and three further member have been co-opted.

#### Objectives and activities

The British Combinatorial Committee was founded in 1977 with the general aim of encouraging the study of Combinatorial Mathematics, and with the particular purpose of organizing (every two years) a conference in Great Britain devoted to this field of research. Previously five such meetings had been organized on an informal basis. The British Combinatorial Conference has since become one of the leading international conferences in this expanding area of mathematics. The Committee's activities have widened to include support for an annual postgraduate conference, various shorter meetings and occasional prizes. The Committee also publishes the *British Combinatorial Bulletin*, which has appeared annually since 1975; the current issue, edited by Dr D B Penman at the University of Essex, is available at <http://www.essex.ac.uk/math/BCB/>

The following is a list of the activities for which the Committee agreed to provide partial financial support. The list shows net payments in the financial year 2006-07.

*24 January 2007*

8th OU Winter Combinatorics Meeting  
The Open University, Milton Keynes  
Attendance: 50 researchers  
£400.00

*14 March 2007*

One-Day Meeting in Combinatorics  
Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford  
Attendance: 75 researchers  
£300.00

*16 May 2007*

One-Day Combinatorics Colloquium  
Queen Mary, University of London  
Attendance: 120 researchers  
£750.00

*17 May 2007*

One-Day Combinatorics Colloquium

London School of Economics

Attendance: 100 researchers

£750.00

*6-8 June 2007*

18th Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference

University of St Andrews

Attendance: 33 postgraduate students

£240.00

*9-13 July 2007*

21st British Combinatorial Conference

University of Reading

Attendance: 235 researchers

Any payments will be made in 2007-08

*16 August 2007*

Workshop on Algorithms, Computability, Combinatorics and Algebra

University of Essex

Attendance: 6 specialists

£73.65

*23-26 August 2007*

Meeting on Combinatorics and Group Theory

St Martin's College, Ambleside (University of Cumbria)

Attendance: 100 researchers

Any payments will be made in 2007-08

## **Voluntary work**

The Society's officers and Committee members undertake all their work for the Committee on a voluntary basis. They therefore receive no payment beyond reimbursement of some of their expenses.

## **Financial review**

The Committee's finances generally follow a 2-year cycle, since the British Combinatorial Conference is held in alternate (odd-numbered) years. The accounts for the 2007 Conference are not yet finalized. The net surplus from the sequence of previous conferences, including royalties from invited lectures published by Cambridge University Press, provides the funds used to underwrite future conferences and to support secondary activities. In round figures, income for 2006-07 was £1235 and expenditure was £3327. This leaves a balance of £24090, the bulk of which is held in interest-bearing bank accounts. The Trustees consider that the Charity is exempt from audit.

## **Plans for future periods**

The 22nd British Combinatorial Conference has been arranged for 5-10 July 2009 at the University of St Andrews; details may be found at the website <http://bcc2009.mcs.st-and.ac.uk/>. It is planned to hold the 19th Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference at the University of Warwick in 2007-08. Additionally, the Committee agreed to support a Combinatorics meeting at the Open University on 30 January 2008.

### **Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The Committee's General Policy and Rules require accounts to be prepared annually on 30 September. It is the responsibility of the Trustees to ensure that the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity, and of its surplus or deficit for the year. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance of proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Committee. They are also responsible for safeguarding the the assets of the Committee and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

### **On behalf of the Trustees**

(signed)

**Prof P J Cameron**  
Chair

(date) 21 May 2008

(signed)

**Prof P Rowlinson**  
Secretary

(date) 21 May 2008

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees of the British Combinatorial Committee, registered charity number SC019723.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2007 which are set out on page 6.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of 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 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.

Signed:

Date: 28 May 2008

Name: Dr G E Thomas

Relevant Professional qualification/professional body (if any):

Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society

Address:

Division of Mathematics

University of Dundee

Dundee DD1 4HN

**BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE**

(Scottish Charity Number SC019723)

**Receipts and Payments Account for the period****1 October 2006 to 30 September 2007**

	Year to 30/9/2007 £	Year to 30/9/2006 £
<b>Receipts</b>		
Interest	1111.03	947.29
Royalties from Cambridge University Press	123.59	931.09
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b><u>1234.62</u></b>	<b><u>1878.38</u></b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Grants for one-day conferences	850.00	882.70
Insurance for BCC21, Reading, July 2007	410.00	
(Travel expenses for one invited speaker to BCC20, Durham)		67.00
(Grant for Reading 2-day conference, May 2006)		2500.00
Grant for Queen Mary/LSE one-day conferences, May 2007 (British Combinatorial Bulletin)	1500.00	220.00
Open University Combinatorics Prizes	100.00	100.00
Deposit for 2007 Postgraduate Combinatorics Conference	240.00	
Expenses for committee meetings (paid to 2 committee members)	226.90	88.23
<b>Total payments</b>	<b><u>3326.90</u></b>	<b><u>3857.93</u></b>
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(2092.28)	(1979.55)

All funds are unrestricted

<b>Statement of Balances as at 30 September</b>	<b>2007</b> £	<b>2006</b> £
Bank accounts:		
Opening balances	26182.67	28162.22
Surplus (deficit) for year	(2092.28)	(1979.55)
<b>Closing balances</b>	<b><u>24090.39</u></b>	<b><u>26182.67</u></b>
Made up of:		
Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account	531.58	1717.97
Scottish Widows Bank Treasury Tracker Account	23558.81	24464.70
	<b><u>24090.39</u></b>	<b><u>26182.67</u></b>

**BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE**

**(Scottish Charity Number SC019723)**

The financial statement for the period 1 October 2006 to 30 September 2007 was approved by the Trustees on

(date): 21 May 2008

and is signed on their behalf by :

**Dr K J Edwards** (Treasurer)