BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE

Report and financial statements for the year ending
30 September 2009

BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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 2009.

Structure, governance and management

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 (available on the Committee's website, or from the Secretary on request). The Chair and six members of the Committee are elected biennially. The local organizer of the next British Combinatorial Conference and the Editor of the *British Combinatorial Bulletin* are *ex officio* members. One further member of the Committee has 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/maths/BCB/`

The following is a list of the activities in 2008-2009 for which the Committee agreed to provide partial financial support.

5 November 2008
One-Day Meeting on Combinatorics
University of Reading
Attendance: 45 researchers
£440.46

28 January 2009
10th OU Winter Combinatorics Meeting
The Open University, Milton Keynes
Attendance: 43 researchers
£500.00 (payment in 2007-08)

18 March 2009
One-Day Meeting on Combinatorics
Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford
Attendance: 70 researchers
£300.00

20-21 May 2009
Two One-Day Colloquia in Combinatorics
Queen Mary, University of London (20 May), London School of Economics (21 May)
Attendance: 95 researchers
£1400.00 (payment in 2009-10)

22-24 June 2009
19th Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference
Royal Holloway, University of London
Attendance: 18 postgraduate students
£500.00

5-10 July 2009
21st British Combinatorial Conference
University of St Andrews
Attendance: 265 researchers
(Any payment in 2009-10)

17-21 August 2009
Workshop on Algebra, Combinatorics and Dynamics
Queen's University, Belfast
Attendance: 34 researchers
£500.00

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 2009 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 2008-09 was £4200 and expenditure was £3200. This leaves a balance of £23400, 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 23rd British Combinatorial Conference has been arranged for 3-8 July 2011 at the University of Exeter. It is planned to hold the 19th Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference at Queen Mary, University of London in June or July 2010. Additionally, the Committee agreed to support Combinatorics meetings at the University of Reading in November 2009 and at the Open University in January 2010.

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) 19/5/2010

(signed)

Prof P Rowlinson
Secretary

(date) 19/5/10

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 2009 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: 4th May 2010

Name: Dr G E Thomas
Relevant Professional qualification/professional body (if any):

(Formerly) Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society

Address:

Division of Mathematics
University of Dundee
Dundee DD1 4HN

BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE

Receipts and Payments Account for the period
1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009

	Year to 30/9/2009 £	Year to 30/9/2008 £
Receipts		
Interest	429.67	1140.44
Royalties from Cambridge University Press	91.62	572.49
Unused parts of grants for one-day conferences		76.35
Surplus from 21st BCC, Reading, 2007	3694.25	
Total receipts	**4215.54**	**1789.28**
Payments		
Grant for London 2-day conference (Queen Mary/LSE), May 08		1400.00
Grants for one-day conferences	740.46	1300.00
Birmingham Workshop on Extremal Combinatorics, September 08	500.00	
QUB Workshop on Algebra, Combinatorics and Dynamics, August 09	500.00	
Postgraduate Combinatorics Conference, July 08		500.00
Deposit for 23rd BCC, Exeter, 2011	1000.00	
Expenses for committee meetings (paid to 3 committee members)	393.26	162.93
Open University Combinatorics Prizes	100.00	100.00
Total payments	**3233.72**	**3462.93**
Surplus / (deficit) for year	981.82	(1673.65)

All funds are unrestricted

Statement of Balances as at 30 September	**2009** £	**2008** £
Bank accounts:		
Opening balances	22416.74	24090.39
Surplus (deficit) for year	981.82	(1673.65)
Closing balances	**23398.56**	**22416.74**
Made up of:		
Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account	2278.77	726.23
Scottish Widows Bank Treasury Tracker Account	21119.79	21690.51
	23398.56	**22416.74**