

# Selden Society

## Report of the Council for the Year 2023

---

### NOTICE

The 138th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the LECTURE THEATRE, in the Faculty of Laws at UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON on Monday, July 1st 2024, at 5.30 p.m.

### AGENDA

1. *Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 4th July 2023*
2. *To receive the Annual Report of the Council for 2023*
3. *To receive the Financial Statement for 2023*
4. *Election of Members of the Council:* The following have been nominated by the Council:

(a) Vacancies in the fifteen elected members:

Sir John Baker	Professor Ibbetson
Professor Hudson	Professor Lewis

(b) Representative of Lincoln's Inn:

Mr Ainger

(c) Members resident overseas

Judge Arnold	Professor Helmholtz
Professor Donahue	Professor Tate

5. *Increases in rates of subscription:* to approve an increase in the subscription rates received by the Treasurer in the USA, by passing a resolution that the rate for members in the USA shall rise to \$85 individuals and \$120 for institutions.

6. *Any other business*

At the end of the meeting Professor Kamali will give her lecture, 'The Veronica Legend and Proof of Felony in Post-Ordeal England.'

May 31st 2024

MICHAEL LOBBAN  
*Secretary*

# SELDEN SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1887

To Encourage the Study and Advance the Knowledge of the History of English Law

## PATRON

HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

## PRESIDENT

HIS HONOUR DONALD CRYAN

## VICE-PRESIDENTS

Professor PAUL BRAND, F.B.A.  
The Honourable SUSAN KIEFEL CJ

## COUNCIL

Mr DAVID AINGER  
The Hon MORRIS S. ARNOLD  
Sir JOHN BAKER, K.C., F.B.A.  
Dr SUSANNE BRAND  
The Rt Hon Lord BURNETT  
Dr DAVID CROOK  
Dr SEAN CUNNINGHAM  
Professor NORMAN DOE, K.C.  
Professor CHARLES DONAHUE, JR.  
Professor GEORGE GARNETT  
Professor JOSHUA GETZLER  
Dr ELIZABETH GOLDRING  
Professor RICHARD H. HELMHOLZ, F.B.A.  
Professor J.G.H. HUDSON, F.B.A.  
Professor D. J. IBBETSON, F.B.A.  
Mr PHILIP JONES, K.C.

Mr NICHOLAS LE POIDEVIN, K.C.  
The Revd Professor A.D.E. LEWIS  
Professor JANET LOENGARD  
Professor CATHARINE MACMILLAN  
Dr MICHAEL MACNAIR  
Dr JOHN MADDICOTT, F.B.A.  
Professor WILFRID PREST  
Professor REBECCA PROBERT  
Dr SARA ELIN ROBERTS  
Professor GWEN SEABOURNE  
The Hon Mr Justice SMITH  
Professor CHANTAL STEBBINGS  
Professor JOSHUA TATE  
Professor ALICE TAYLOR  
The Revd Professor T.G. WATKIN, K.C.  
Dr IAN WILLIAMS

## LITERARY DIRECTOR

PROFESSOR N.G. JONES, Magdalene College, Cambridge CB3 0AG

## TREASURER

PROFESSOR CATHARINE MACMILLAN, King's College, London WC2R 2LS

## SECRETARY

PROFESSOR MICHAEL LOBBAN, F.B.A., All Souls College, Oxford, OX1 4AL

## TRUSTEES

MR DAVID AINGER

PROFESSOR CATHARINE MACMILLAN

## HONORARY SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS OVERSEAS

Australia: Ms MARIAN MORGAN-BINDON, Supreme Court Library, Brisbane, Queensland 4000  
Canada: Professor MARGARET MCGLYNN, University of Western Ontario, London N6A 5C2  
New Zealand: Professor WARREN SWAIN, Faculty of Law, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142.  
United States: Professor JOSHUA TATE (Treasurer), Mr GREGORY IVY (Secretary), Southern Methodist University School of Law, Dallas, Texas, 75205

## HONORARY CORRESPONDENTS OVERSEAS

### Australia

*A.C.T.:* Dr Russell Smith, Australian Institute of Criminology, Griffith, 2603  
*New South Wales:* The Hon. Mr Justice Peter Young, Supreme Court, Sydney  
*Queensland:* The Hon. Justice Thomas Bradley, Supreme Court, Brisbane, 4002  
*South Australia:* Mr Jesse Metzger, Marino, South Australia, 5049  
*Victoria:* The Hon. Sir Daryl Dawson, 63 Gipps Street, East Melbourne, 3002  
Dr James McComish, Owen Dixon Chambers West, 525 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3000  
*Western Australia:* Mr Anthony Dickey, Q.C., Wickham Chambers, 28 The Esplanade, Perth, 6000

### Canada

*Alberta:* Professor Louis A. Knafla, Department of History, University of Calgary, T2N 1N4  
*Manitoba:* Professor DeLloyd J. Guth, Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg R3T 2N2  
*Ontario:* Mr E. Joel Thompson, 1139 Royal York Road, Toronto, M9A 4A8  
*Quebec:* Mr John G. O'Connor, 2820 Laurier Boulevard, suite 1300, Quebec QC, G1V 0C1

### United States of America

*Alabama:* Professor Alison Chapman, 1720 2nd Ave S, Birmingham AL 35294-1260  
*Arizona:* Professor Jonathan Rose, College of Law, Arizona State University, Tempe, 85287  
*Arkansas:* The Hon. Morris S. Arnold, U.S. Court of Appeals, Little Rock, 72203  
*California:* Professor Daniel Klerman, University of Southern California Law School, Los Angeles, 90089  
*Colorado:* Dr Thomas F. Cope, 1700 Lincoln Street, Suite 4100, Denver, 80203  
*District of Columbia:* Professor Thomas Gallanis, Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, 3301 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22201  
*Connecticut:* Professor John H. Langbein, Yale Law School, New Haven, 06520  
*Florida:* Professor Peter L. Larson, Department of History, University of Central Florida, 12790 Aquarius Agora Dr Suite 551, Orlando, FL 32816-1350  
*Illinois:* Mr David W. Maher, Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal, 8000 Sears Tower, Chicago, 60606-6404  
*Iowa:* Professor Jennifer McNabb, University of Northern Iowa  
*Kansas:* Professor Michael Hoeflich, School of Law, University of Kansas, Lawrence, 66045  
*Louisiana:* The Hon. Donald E. Walter, Federal Building, 500 Fannin Street, Shreveport, 71101

*Maryland:* Mr Kamil Ismail, Goodell, DeVries, Leech & Dann, LLP, Baltimore, MD 21202  
*Massachusetts:* Professor Daniel R. Coquillette, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, 02138  
*Michigan:* Professor Sally Hadden, Department of History, Western Michigan University, 1903 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo MI 49008-5334  
*Missouri:* Judge Robert Dierker, 22nd Judicial Circuit, St Louis, 63101  
*New Jersey:* Professor Stanley N. Katz, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, 08544  
*New York:* Mr John D. Gordan III, 1133 Park Avenue, New York, 10128  
*Ohio:* Professor Sara Butler, Department of History, Ohio State University, 106 Dulles Hall, 230 Annie & John Glenn Avenue, Columbus OH 43210-1367  
*Oregon:* Professor Tomás Gómez-Arostegui, Lewis & Clark Law School  
*Pennsylvania:* Neal G. Wiley, Esq., Alexander & Pelli, LLC, 1880 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 1740, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
*South Carolina:* Professor Robert C. Figueira, Lander University, Greenwood 29649  
*Tennessee:* Mr Kevin Steiling, Attorney-General's Office, PO Box 20207, Nashville, 37202  
*Texas:* Justice Evan A. Young, Supreme Court of Texas, Austin, Texas, 78701  
*Utah:* Professor Thomas Lund, College of Law, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 84112  
*Virginia:* Professor W. Hamilton Bryson, School of Law, University of Richmond, 23173

## Other Countries

*Austria, Germany and Switzerland:* Professor Dr Reinhard Zimmermann, Max Planck Institut, Hamburg, D-20148, Germany  
*France:* Professor Anne Lefebvre-Teillard, Université Paris II, 12 Place du Panthéon, 75231 Paris  
*Italy:* Dr Paola Maffei, University of Siena, 53100  
*Japan:* Dr Takeshi Kido, 4-14-5 Minami-cho, Kichijoji, Musashino-shi, Tokyo

# ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR 2023

The Society is honoured and delighted that His Majesty The King has graciously accepted the Patronage of the Society, in succession to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. The Society has been honoured by enjoying the patronage of the monarch or the consort since its foundation in 1887.

Since our last report, three further volumes of Sir John Baker's edition of *Reports from the Notebooks of Edward Coke* (volumes 138 for 2021, 139 for 2022 and 140 for 2023) have been printed and dispatched to members. Three lectures were also dispatched at the same time: Professor Jones's lecture 'Sixteenth Century England: a View from the Trusts Cases' (2014), Professor Brand's lecture 'Magna Carta and its Contribution to the Development of English Law, 1215-1307' (2015) and Professor Helmholz's lecture, 'Shakespeare and the European *Ius Commune*' (2017). It is a pleasure to report that the Society is now fully up to date with the printing and distribution of annual volumes to members, for the first time in a number of years.

2023 saw the fourth Selden Society and the Inns of Court Annual Lecture. On 29 November, Lady Hale spoke in the Hall of Gray's Inn on the subject of 'Matrimony, Patriarchy and the Welfare of Children: the 200 year struggle to give parents equal rights in the upbringing of their children'. The lecture was simultaneously streamed online to a large international audience and can now be viewed on our website.

At the meeting on 1st July 2023, the following were elected as members of the Council:

(a) Election of Vice-President: Professor Paul Brand was elected.

(b) Vacancies in the fifteen elected members:

Dr Cunningham	Dr Goldring	Professor Seabourne
Professor Norman Doe	Professor MacMillan	Professor Stebbings
Professor Garnett	Dr Macnair	Dr Williams
Professor Getzler	Dr Sara Elin Roberts	

(c) Representative of the Middle Temple:

Rt Hon Lord Burnett

**Publications:** Since the last report, the third, fourth and fifth editions of Professor Sir John Baker's edition of Reports from the Notebooks of Edward Coke, volumes 138 for 2021 to 140 for 2023, covering the period 1591 to 1600 – including Coke's time as solicitor-general and the earlier part of his tenure as attorney-general – have been issued to members.

As previously announced, volume 141 for 2024 will be Mr Le Poidevin's edition of the fifteenth-century reports taken by the Wiltshire apprentice John Bryt, the earliest reports in the year book tradition which can be attributed to an identified reporter. Work on the edition is close to completion, and it will be issued to members either in late 2024 or early 2025.

Volume 142 for 2025 will be Dr Williams's edition of Star Chamber reports for the period 1625 to 1628. Volume 143 for 2026 will move into the eighteenth century in the form of Professor Gallanis's edition of the judicial notes of Sir Dudley Ryder, chief justice of the King's Bench from 1754-56. Ryder took trial notes in shorthand, giving his notes particular interest as containing a level of detail not found in other sets of eighteenth-century judicial notes. Volume 144 for 2027 will be an edition by Professor Phillipp Schofield and Dr Christopher Briggs of litigation in manorial courts in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, in particular in relation to personal actions in debt, which will connect with the edition by Professors Bonfield and Poos of actions in manorial courts relating to property law and family law in the period 1250-1500 which formed volume 114 for 1997. Volume 145 for 2028 will be the fifth volume of Professor Brand's Earliest English Law Reports series (the first four volumes of which are volumes 111 (for 1995), 112 (for 1996), 122 (for 2005) and 123 (for 2006)).

A number of further annual volumes have been accepted by the Council, on which work is progressing.

In the supplementary series, work continues on Mr Hoffman's edition of the records of the Northern Circuit of the Bar, 1763-1802.

In the annual lecture series, three lectures (those delivered in 2014 by Dr Jones, in 2015 by Professor Brand, and in 2017 by Professor Helmholtz) have now been issued to members. Further annual lectures are in hand to be issued to members with forthcoming annual volumes.

**Finance:** The accounts are printed as usual at the end of this report. The Finance Committee continues to monitor the performance of the Society's investments.

**Membership:** Membership at 31 December 2023 stood at 1302. The details, with the previous year's bracketed, are:

United Kingdom Individuals	457	(473)
United Kingdom Institutions	78	(79)
Australia	160	(185)
Canada	45	(45)
New Zealand	13	(13)
Other Commonwealth	13	(13)
USA Individuals	336	(327)
USA Institutions	123	(125)
Other Overseas	77	<u>(74)</u>
	<u>1302</u>	<u>(1289)</u>

The Council extend a warm welcome to the new members. Their names appear in the Appendix.

**Annual General Meeting 2024:** Members will have received notice of the meeting on Monday 1st July 2024, which will take place in the Faculty of Laws at University College London. At the end of the meeting there will be a lecture by Professor Elizabeth Papp Kamali. This will be followed by a reception.

### **The Selden Society in Australia:**

The Selden Society continued to host a series of lectures at the Library of the Supreme Court of Queensland in Brisbane. In 2023, the following lectures were given:

John McKenna KC

23 March 2023: *Mr Justice Harding—a titan of Queensland law*

Hon Michael McHugh AC KC and the Hon Justice Peter Applegarth AM

27 April 2023: *Michael McHugh's casebook: enduring issues in defamation law*

Helen Gregory

3 August 2023: *Queensland Law Society: serving 'conscientious, honest lawyers'*

Dr Sarah McKibbin

7 September 2023: *Sir Charles Lilley and the Grimley Affair*

The lectures are available as podcasts or video recordings on the Australian chapter's website: <http://legalheritage.sclqld.org.au/selden-society>.

**Thanks:** Thanks are due to the overseas Treasurers and Secretaries for their ready and efficient help with the administration of their section of the membership; to the Honorary Correspondents for their representation; to the auditors, BDO; to the Literary Director; and to the Treasurer and Secretary and their assistants.

Donald Cryan  
*President*



## APPENDIX

### NEW MEMBERS 2023

#### UNITED KINGDOM

Terry Allen (Chelmsford)  
Dr Sophie Ambler (Lancaster)  
Dr Hannah Boston (London)  
Hugh Brodie (Cardiff)  
Colin Buckley (London)  
Yi-Ying Chao (London)  
Peter Clarke (Canterbury)  
Christopher Dixon (Chipping Norton)  
Esther Edwards (Oxford)  
Jo-Anne Elab (Market Drayton)  
Jeremy Fennsmith (Vale of Glamorgan)  
Prof. Jonathan Garton (Market Harborough)  
Dr Edward Goodwin (Nottingham)  
Emily Gordon (Wilmslow)  
Mr Mathew Gullick KC (London)  
Mr Simon Heaney (Formby)  
Dr Dean Irwin (Warrington)  
Mr Gerald Kelly (London)  
Dr Ciara Kennefick (Oxford)  
Dr Frances Kerner (High Wycombe)  
Simon Lacey (Derby)  
Andrew McCarthy (London)  
Mrs Alison McKenna (Winchester)  
Graham Moore (Kent)  
Mr William Moppett (Oxford)  
Dr Keith Nilsen (Bosingham)  
Rhiannon Ogden-Jones (Oxford)  
Jonathon Oldfield (London)  
Mr Charles Redmond (London)  
Gordon Robinson (Cardiff)  
Robert Scrivener (London)  
Sharon Shanley (Edinburgh)  
Luke Sheridan (Essex)  
Benedict Stanley (Oxford)  
Andrew Staples (Keighley)  
Michael Stephenson (London)  
Kevin Walters (Hampshire)  
Gary Watt (Coventry)  
Jonathan Welford-Carroll (Thirsk)  
Joshua Wilson (Sevenoaks)  
Richard Walters (London)  
Mark Frederick Wilson (Solihull)

#### GERMANY

Caspar von Hülsen

#### UNITED STATES

Steven Balman (Oklahoma)  
Joe Campagna (Washington)  
Mr Joshua Carback (Maryland)  
Thomas Cheeseman (New Hampshire)  
James Dodson (Texas)  
Mathias Jaren (Oregon)  
Jeffrey Johnson (Virginia)  
Rodney Johnson (South Carolina)  
Kenneth Gamble (Pennsylvania)  
Nevin Hall (Texas)  
Benjamin Keener (Oregon)  
James Lively (Texas)  
Andrew McKanna (New York)  
Ethan Rudman (Georgia)  
John Starrs (Virginia)  
Robert White (Maryland)

#### AUSTRALIA

Justin Carter  
Brian Devereaux  
Judge Rowan Jackson  
Andrew Jinks  
Wayne Jocic  
David Kearns  
Liam King  
Neil Lawson  
Mark Leeming  
Andrew Lyons  
Hunter Michels  
Jordi Morgan  
Shane Ogden  
John Philip  
James Phillips  
Adrian Robins  
Michael Symons  
Charles Wilson

#### LUXEMBOURG

Mr Hervé Hansen

#### CHINA

Rongxin Gu

#### HONG KONG

Maurice Lam

# Selden Society

## Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

---

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note one to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document.

### Constitution

The Selden Society is an unincorporated association constituted as a trust. The internal organisation of the Society is subject to a set of Rules, a copy of which is sent to every member. The Society is a registered charity (Registration Number 211536).

### Objectives and activities

The purposes of the Society are to encourage the study and to advance the knowledge of the history of English law, especially by the publication of original documents, the reprinting or editing of works of rarity or importance, and the compiling of information as a tool for further research.

### Achievements and Performance

During the year 2023, the Society continued its work of editing legal manuscripts for publication and hosted a number of meetings in the United Kingdom and overseas to promote the study of English legal history. It also supported scholarship by the provision of a PhD studentship.

### Structure, governance and management

The management of the affairs of the Society are vested in a President, Vice-Presidents, and the Council, who are elected at the annual general meeting for a term of three years. The officers of the Society are the Treasurer, Literary Director and Secretary, who are ex officio members of the Council. Two Trustees, also ex officio members of the Council, hold the copyrights and property (in the works which are published) of the Society. The Inns of Court and Law Society are each entitled to nominate one representative on the Council; and the British Academy may nominate two such.

### Investment

The Council have unrestricted discretion in all matters concerning the investment of the Society's monies. Their policy is to maintain a reasonable balance between capital and income.

### Reserves

The policy of the Council is to maintain substantial reserves to meet the cost of production, storage and dispatch of volumes, administration costs and new initiatives. The Council is continuing to assess the possible impact of the cost of living crisis on the Society's financial outlook. However, the Council is confident that its assets are sufficient to meet their likely expenses for a minimum of 12 months from the sign off. The reserves at the year end were £2,111,121 (2022: £2,064,121) including designated funds of £9,190 (2022: £9,190) and restricted funds of £nil (2022: £nil). The purpose of the restricted and designated funds is set out in note 11 to the financial statements.

### Financial Review

During the financial year ending 31 December 2023, the Selden Society received unrestricted income of £131,185 (2022: £121,116), and £7,000 in restricted grants (£2022: £7,000).

Expenditure for the year totalled £177,823, £7,000 of which was restricted (2022: £147,959, £7,000 restricted). There was an increase in expenditure since the prior year due to three volumes being produced instead of one, meaning there was a higher volume of printing and postage costs incurred in the year.

The results for the year are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 16.

# **Selden Society**

## **Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023 (*continued*)**

---

### **Risks**

The Council have reviewed the risks applicable to the Society and consider that they are adequately provided for.

### **Current Activities**

In the year under report the Society maintained its programme of preparing editions of unpublished manuscripts for publication. It intends to continue in the present year with the publication of volumes for the annual series, and with the preparation of occasional publications such as its Supplementary Series and lectures, and with its other customary activities.

### **Appointment of Trustees**

All Council members are Trustees and are elected or appointed in accordance with the constitution of the Society.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance of the operation of the Public Benefit requirement and are satisfied that the activities of the charity undertaken during the year meet the Public Benefit test.

### **Administration**

The office of the Society is at the School of Law Building, Queen Mary, 337 Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS.

### **Bankers**

Coutts & Co of 440 Strand, London, WC2R 0QS

### **Independent examiner**

Heather Wheelhouse ACA partner at BDO LLP, Bridgewater House, Counterslip, Bristol BS1 6BX.

# Selden Society

## Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023 (*continued*)

---

### Trustees

The Trustees of the society during the year and currently are:

Mr D AINGER  
The Hon. M S ARNOLD  
Professor Sir John BAKER  
Lord BURNETT (appointed 4 July 2023)  
Professor P BRAND  
Dr S BRAND  
Dr D CROOK  
Dr S CUNNINGHAM  
HH D CRYAN (chair)  
Professor N DOE, KC (appointed 4 July 2023)  
Professor CHARLES DONAHUE  
Professor G GARNETT  
Professor J GETZLER  
Dr E GOLDRING  
Professor R H HELMHOLZ  
Mr J HOWELL, KC (resigned 4 July 2023)  
Professor J G HUDSON  
Professor D J IBBETSON  
Professor N G JONES

Mr P JONES, KC  
Mr N LE POIDEVIN, KC  
The Rev. Professor A D E LEWIS  
Professor M LOBBAN  
Professor J LOENGARD  
Professor C MACMILLAN  
Dr M MACNAIR  
Dr J MADDICOTT  
Professor W PREST  
Professor R PROBERT  
Dr S E ROBERTS (appointed 4 July 2023)  
Professor G SEABOURNE  
Sir M SMITH  
Professor C STEBBINGS  
Professor J TATE  
Professor A TAYLOR  
The Rev. Professor TG WATKIN  
Dr I WILLIAMS

### On behalf of the Trustees

**Professor M Lobban**  
**Secretary**

Date: 16 May 2024

# Selden Society

## Trustees' responsibilities Statement

---

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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.

# **SELDEN SOCIETY**

**Registered Charity 211536**

## **REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

### **CONTENTS**

	<i>Page</i>
Report of the Independent Examiner	15
Statement of Financial Activities	16-17
Balance Sheet	18
Notes forming part of the Financial Statements	19-26

# Selden Society

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Selden Society

---

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SELDEN SOCIETY

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 16 to 24.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the statement I have made.

#### Responsibilities and basis for report

As the Charity Trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the ACT").

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Heather Wheelhouse ACA  
BDO LLP  
Bristol  
United Kingdom*

Date: 17 May 2024

## Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Total 2023 £
		General fund £	Restricted Fund £	
<b>Income</b>				
Income from:				
- Voluntary income – donations		2,491	7,000	9,491
- Income on investments	3	67,613	-	67,613
Charitable activities	2	63,081	-	63,081
		_____	_____	_____
<b>Total income</b>		<b>133,185</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>140,185</b>
		_____	_____	_____
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	(170,823)	(7,000)	(177,823)
		_____	_____	_____
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>(170,823)</b>	<b>(7,000)</b>	<b>(177,823)</b>
		_____	_____	_____
<b>Net expenditure before investment gains</b>		<b>(37,638)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(37,638)</b>
Net gains on investments	6	84,638	-	84,638
		_____	_____	_____
<b>Net income and net movement in funds</b>		<b>47,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,000</b>
		_____	_____	_____
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		2,064,121	-	2,064,121
		_____	_____	_____
<b>Fund balance at 31 December 2023</b>	10	<b>2,111,121</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,111,121</b>
		_____	_____	_____

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form part of these financial statements.



## Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2022 £
		General fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	
<b>Income</b>					
Income from:					
- Voluntary income – donations		2,315	4,000	7,000	13,315
- Income on investments	3	57,242	-	-	57,242
Charitable activities	2	57,559	-	-	57,559
<b>Total income</b>		<u>117,116</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>128,116</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	(140,959)	-	(7,000)	(147,959)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>(140,959)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>(147,959)</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/ income before investment gains</b>		<b>(23,843)</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,843)</b>
Net (losses)/gains on investments	6	(178,118)	-	-	(178,118)
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(201,961)</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(197,961)</u>
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		2,256,892	5,190	-	2,262,082
<b>Fund balance at 31 December 2022</b>	10	<u>2,054,931</u>	<u>9,190</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,064,121</u>

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

## Balance sheet at 31 December 2023

<i>Charity number 211536</i>	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Investments	6		<b>1,876,074</b>		1,800,011
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	<b>54,808</b>		61,425	
Cash at bank and in hand	8	<b>243,922</b>		256,697	
		<b>298,730</b>		318,122	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<b>(63,683)</b>		(54,012)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>235,047</b>		264,110
<b>Total net assets</b>	10		<b>2,111,121</b>		2,064,121
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted funds:	11		-		-
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	11		<b>2,101,931</b>		2,054,931
Designated funds	11		<b>9,190</b>		9,190
<b>Total funds</b>			<b>2,111,121</b>		2,064,121

Approved and authorised for issue by the Council on

**C. MacMillan**  
Treasurer  
16 May 2024

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

### 1 Accounting policies

#### *(a) Basis of preparation*

Selden Society is a registered charity (Charity Number: 211536) and is an unincorporated association constituted as a trust, incorporated in England and Wales and domiciled in England. The registered office is Queen Mary University of London, 327 Mile End Road, London E1 4NS.

The presentational and functional currency of these financial statements is GBP. Values are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a “true and fair” view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent to provide a “true and fair” view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

#### *Going Concern*

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are on a going concern basis. The Trustees confirm that at the time of approving the financial statements in May 2024 that there are no material uncertainties regarding the charity’s ability to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

As a grant making charity with few overheads and ongoing commitments, and having taken into consideration the impact of the cost of living crisis on its anticipated future financial performance, the trustees consider that they can sustain a comparable level of activity for at least the next 12 months from the approval of the financial statements. On the date of approval of the financial statements the Society has sufficient liquid cash funds available and further substantial investment funds. For these reasons the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements

#### *Income*

UK and overseas subscription income is recognised when receivable and applied over the relevant period.

US subscriptions are recognised when receivable in the US. Subscriptions received in the United States of America are shown as subscription debtors until the money is transferred to the UK, until then these are held in separate US bank accounts.

Royalties are recognised on a received basis.

Voluntary donations are accounted for when received.

Gift aid is recognised when received.

#### *Investment income*

Dividends from listed investments are accounted for when receivable. Interest on deposits is taken into account on an accruals basis. All investment income is stated inclusive of related taxation recoverable.

#### *Foreign currencies*

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### *Expenditure*

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The cost of publications is recognised in the year to which the publication relates. No value has been placed in the financial statements on publications stock.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with Governance of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

#### *Investments*

Investments are stated at 'bid' prices at the balance sheet date. Any gains or losses on revaluation are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### *Funds of the Charity*

The charity's funds are segregated between:

- (a) *Designated funds* - represent monies, which have been designated for a specific purpose by the Council.
- (b) *General fund* - represents undesignated monies retained, which provide the working capital to enable the Council to carry out its charitable activities.
- (c) *Restricted funds* – represent funds given to the Society for a specific purpose by the donor or which arise from a specific appeal for funds. The specific trusts may be declared by the donor when making the gift or may result from the terms of an appeal for funds.

The Council regularly reviews the level of Income Funds and the strategic needs of the Society. The publications produced by the Society require income to be generated by its investments at a level sufficient to supplement subscription income to produce the income required to finance the publications. As such, the level of reserves is monitored regularly by the council and maintained at a level appropriate to meet the on-going objectives of the Society.

#### *Debtors*

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

## Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

### Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### Judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There were no judgement or material estimation uncertainties affecting the reported financial performance in the current or prior year.

## 2 Income from charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Subscriptions from members - United Kingdom and overseas members	56,187	53,457
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	56,187	53,457
Sale of publications	4,701	456
Royalties	2,194	3,646
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	63,081	57,559
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

All charitable income in the current and prior year was unrestricted

## Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

### 3 Investment income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Dividends from listed investments	64,605	57,657
Interest on bank and other deposits	3,008	375
Foreign exchange (loss)/gain	-	(790)
	<u>67,613</u>	<u>57,242</u>

All investment income is derived from investments held within the United Kingdom.

### 4 Total expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Costs relating to charitable activities:</b>		
Insurance	61	-
Investment management costs	10,716	11,063
Foreign Exchange Loss	3,510	-
Studentships	27,463	22,430
Cost of production, binding and dispatch	99,342	74,870
Contribution for services provided by Queen Mary College	12,565	14,947
General expenses	1,660	1,185
Support costs (detailed below)	22,506	23,464
Total	<u>177,823</u>	<u>147,959</u>
<b>Support costs:</b>		
Honorarium costs	8,000	8,000
Secretary's disbursements	1,407	2,262
Annual Report	2,306	2,378
Treasurer's Honorarium	4,000	4,000
Bank Fees	697	576
PayPal Fees	469	466
AGM	-	1,535
Accountancy costs	2,272	1,797
Independent examination costs	3,355	2,450
	<u>22,506</u>	<u>23,464</u>

In the current year £7,000 was restricted with £170,823 unrestricted (2022: £7,000 restricted and £140,959 unrestricted).

There were no employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 per annum (2022 – None). The Society does not have any direct employees (2022: nil). Details of trustee remuneration are given in note 12.

## Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

### 5 Taxation

The Society is a charity registered in England under the Charities Acts 1960 and 1993, and as a result is entitled to tax exemptions on income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes.

### 6 Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Market value at 1 January 2023	1,800,011	1,988,175
Additions	131,113	190,737
Disposals	(82,908)	(283,077)
(Decrease)/increase in cash	(56,780)	82,294
Realised and unrealised gains/ (losses) on investments	84,638	(178,118)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Market value at 31 December 2023	<b>1,876,074</b>	1,800,011
	<hr/>	<hr/>

All investments are held within the United Kingdom and comprise:

	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed interest securities	75,819	45,679
Other listed investments	1,756,082	1,653,382
Cash deposit	44,173	100,950
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>1,876,074</b>	1,800,011
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Investments representing over 5% by value of the portfolio are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
M&G Securities Limited Charifund shares	278,876	285,587
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 7 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Unremitted subscriptions due	53,216	60,436
Other debtors	220	300
Tax recoverable	1,372	689
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>54,808</b>	61,425
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

**8 Cash and cash equivalents**

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at Bank and in hand	243,922	256,697

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Creditors	5,947	3,823
Accrued Expenses	57,736	50,189
	<b>63,683</b>	<b>54,012</b>

**10 Analysis of net assets between funds 31 December 2023**

	General Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Total Funds £
Investments	1,876,074	-	-	1,876,074
Current assets	289,540	-	9,190	298,730
Current liabilities	(63,683)	-	-	(63,683)
Total net assets	<b>2,101,931</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,190</b>	<b>2,111,121</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds 31 December 2022**

	General Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Total Funds £
Investments	1,800,011	-	-	1,800,011
Current assets	308,932	-	9,190	318,122
Current liabilities	(54,012)	-	-	(54,012)
Total net assets	<b>2,054,931</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,190</b>	<b>2,064,121</b>



Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (*continued*)

11 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources expended £	Gain on Investments £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Restricted funds: Stenton Fund Committee	-	-	-	-	-
Designated funds: David Yale Prize fund	9,190	-	-	-	9,190
General fund:	2,054,931	133,185	(170,823)	84,638	2,101,931
	2,064,121	133,185	(170,823)	84,638	2,111,121

	Balance At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gain on Investments £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Restricted funds: Stenton Fund Committee	-	7,000	(7,000)	-	-
Designated funds: David Yale Prize fund	5,190	4,000	-	-	9,190
General fund:	2,256,982	117,116	(140,959)	(178,118)	2,054,931
	2,262,082	128,116	(147,959)	(178,118)	2,064,121

The general fund includes expendable endowment.

Purposes of restricted (Stenton Fund Committee) and designated (David Yale Prize Fund) funds:

David Yale Prize Fund      The fund awards a prize for original research by young scholars. Of the £9,190, it is expected that £750 will be spent per annum.

Stenton Fund Committee:      During the current and prior years £7000 was donated towards the costs for Sir John Baker's third volume of the edition of Sir Edward Coke's Notebooks. This was spent in the year ended 31 December 2023.

**12 Related parties**

Trustee Dr Neil Jones has accrued £4,000 (2022: £4,000) in relation to consultancy as literary director. During the year £nil (2022: £4,000) was paid and the outstanding amount due at the year end was £4,000 (2022 - £nil).

Trustee C MacMillan has accrued £4,000 (2022 - £4,000) for treasury services during the year. £16,000 was outstanding at the year end (2022 - £12,000), including services for 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Trustee M Lobban has accrued £4,000 (2010 - £4,000) for secretarial services during the year. At 31 December 2023, the amount of £32,000 was owing, including services for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Trustee M Lobban also incurred expenses of £486 (2022 - £671) for costs incurred on behalf of the charity. At the end of the year £486 (2022 - £nil) was owed to M Lobban by the charity.