

The British Cartographic Society

Registered Charity Number 240034

Annual Report for the Year ended 30 June 2009

The British Cartographic Society, c/o Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers), 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR, is registered with the Charity Commission (No. 240034). The Society was founded 28th September 1963 as a Learned Society and the Constitution and By-Laws adopted in September 1964.

The Charity is administered by the Council of the Society, who are the Trustees, comprising:

President	Mr R J Lilley
Vice-President	Mr C A W J Nicklin
Secretary	Dr T Rideout
Treasurer	Mr J E Nicol

Council Members: Mr M Ashworth, Miss L Bailey, Mrs A L Baker, Mr T Fearnside, Dr D Forrest, Mr P D R Jolly, Mr P H W Jones MBE, Mrs S F Jones, Mr N A Millea, Mrs A M Sutherland, Mr D F Watt.

Ex-officio member of Council

Ms M Spence MBE

The following changes occurred at the 45th Annual General meeting on 4 September 2008.

The following Council Members were re-elected: Miss L Bailey, Mrs A M Sutherland, Mr P D R Jolly.

Also elected as new Council Members: Mr C A W J Nicklin, Mr J E Nicol.

Term of Office ended for: Ms D Hall, Mr D M Irvine, Miss C Tunks.

The normal term of office for service on Council shall be one year for Officers and 3 years for Members. When a Member does not complete the normal term of office, Council may seek to fill the vacancy for the unexpired period by election at an Annual General Meeting.

Honorary Co-ordinators and other post-holders:

Chairman of the Education and Training Committee: Mr T Fearnside

Chairman of Programme Committee: Mr P H W Jones MBE

Chairman of the Publications Committee: Dr P Collier (from 21 May 2009)

Chairman of UK Cartography Committee: Dr D Forrest

Corporate Members Liaison: Mr P D R Jolly

Editor, *The Cartographic Journal*, and Chairman of the Editorial Board: Dr K Field

Editor, *Cartographiti*: Mr A A da Cruz

Editors, *Maplines*: Miss L Bailey, Mr M Lubikowski, Mr A King, Mr M Sansom

Historical Military Mapping Group Convener: Mr A J Webb

IMTA representative: Mr P D R Jolly

LIBER representative: Mr J N Moore

Librarian: Mr P Woodhall

Map Curators' Group Convener, BRICMICS representative: Mrs A M Sutherland

Map Design Group Convener: Mrs S F Jones

Ordnance Survey Liaison: Mr R J Lilley

Society Administrator: Mr J K Atherton

Society Awards co-ordinator: Ms J Dalton (from 15 January 2009)

Society Strategic Review co-ordinator: Dr G A Cassettari

Student Awards co-ordinator: Mrs R Birley

Webmaster: Miss C Neal

Aims:

The object of the Charity is the promotion of that class of knowledge which distinguishes the Art and Science of Cartography. For that purpose, the Society shall, *inter alia*:

- facilitate the exchange of information and ideas amongst the members of the Society and others;
- hold meetings and publish periodicals and books;
- arrange and participate in National and International Conferences;
- advance cartographic education and encourage research;
- establish and maintain libraries and collections of maps, books, plans and photographs;
- print, publish, sell, lend and distribute communications made to the Society;
- provide and award medals and prizes;

- h. do all other things incidental to the Society's object provided that no part of the property or funds of the Society shall be applied other than for charitable purposes.

The Trustees' policy is to offer a forum for the exchange of ideas and the sharing of cartographic knowledge, and to inform members of technical changes and opportunities that affect their professional standing. Volunteer members manage most of the Society activities. Society administration is out-sourced.

Services provided:

- Conferences (Society Annual Symposium)
- Training Seminars
- Society Awards for excellence in cartography
- Society Library
- Support for students at the Symposium
- Research Fund
- Corporate/Freelance/Student Directories (Web site)
- General cartographic information and advice

Society publications:

- The Cartographic Journal*
- Maplines* (the Society Newsletter)
- Cartographiti* (the Newsletter of the Map Curators' Group)
- Maps and Surveys* (the Newsletter of the Historical Military Mapping Group)
- Working in the Map Industry* (A4 careers advice leaflet)
- Cartography—an introduction* (ISBN 978-0-904482-23-2)
- Careers in Cartography* (on the web site)
- Directory of UK Map Collections* (on the web site)
- Directory of Freelance Cartographers* (on the web site)
- Web site at <http://www.cartography.org.uk>
- Other special publications

Representation on National and International organisations:

- British and Irish Committee for Map Information and Cataloguing Systems (BRICMICS)
- Groupe des Cartothécaires de LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche)
- International Cartographic Association (ICA)
- UK Committee of the ICA (UK Cartography Committee)
- International Map Trade Association (IMTA)
- UKGEOforum

Special interest groups:

- Corporate Members' Group
- Geographical Information Systems Group
- Historical Military Mapping Group
- Map Curators' Group
- Map Design Group

Other affiliations:

The Society is a member of the Foundation for Science and Technology and benefits from free advice on legislation.

Review of the year

Membership

The membership year runs from January to December. Membership for the year ending 31 December 2008 comprised 9 Honorary Fellows, 112 Fellows, 59 Corporate Members, 59 Overseas Ordinary Members, 299 UK Ordinary Members and 41 Associate Members, making a total of 579 members. 75 new members joined during the year and there were 19 resignations. On 31 December 2008 45 members had their membership suspended for non-payment of the full subscription.

It is with regret that we report the deaths during the year of Honorary Fellow Mr A G Williams, Fellow Mr R F J Matthews, and Ordinary Member Mr J C Bartholomew.

The Society relies upon membership subscriptions as one of its main sources of income. It is important for the health of the Society that recruitment is a continuous process. To this end the following initiatives have taken place or are being introduced:

- Increase the frequency of *The Cartographic Journal* to 4 a year.
- A series of highly successful "*Better Mapping*" seminars in 2006, will be repeated in the summer of 2009.
- Publication of a small booklet (A6), "*Cartography—an introduction*"

- Create a membership pack with clear information on member benefits.
- Progress the BCS Strategic Review for implementation in 2009-2010.

Awards

The awards now offered include The Avenza Award for Electronic Mapping Products, The Stanfords Award for Printed Mapping Products, The Ordnance Survey MasterMap Award for Better Mapping, The John C Bartholomew Award for Small Scale Mapping, the prestigious BCS Award for the best entry in the proceeding four categories, The National Geographic New Mapmaker Award, the UK Hydrographic Office Junior Mapmaker Award, and the Henry Johns Award for the best article in *The Cartographic Journal*. Details can be found on the Society's website.

BCS Strategic Review

The Strategic Review was established in 2008 to address the pressing concerns of a gradually diminishing membership and the consequential fall in income. A report, published on the Society's website in December 2008 and summarises in the Winter 2008 edition of *Maplines* was drawn from input by members of the Review Committee, the Executive Committee, Council and contributions from the membership and the Administrative Consultant. Discussions have continued throughout the year and the President gave a presentation on the Review at the 46th Annual Symposium in June. Council later endorsed in principle the actions being taken and an EGM is planned for November 2009.

International Cartographic Association (ICA)

The Society is the adhering body for the United Kingdom to the ICA. The Royal Society continues to take an active interest in ICA affairs and provides a variety of funding schemes to support UK activities in the ICA. The UK Cartography Committee (UKCC) continues to exercise this responsibility, holding 2 meetings a year. Committee members represent all facets of cartography in the UK, including commercial, academic, and government. The UK is well represented on the ICA Executive with Dr D J Fairbairn as Secretary General. Representatives from the UK also Chair or Vice-Chair four ICA Commissions and Working Groups.

The Programme Committee

The BCS Programme Committee is responsible for delivering the Annual Symposium and the Fellowship Evening.

Annual Symposium

The 45th Annual Symposium and Map Curators' Workshop was held at the De Vere Harben House Conference Centre in Newport Pagnell between 3-6 September 2008. The theme of the Map Curators' Workshop was the Map Library as a GIS Lab whilst the Symposium programme was entitled "Making the Most of Maps". The structure of the Symposium built on the success of the previous year and incorporated the new mix of formal presentations and practical workshop sessions. The most significant change was in the location, with the use of a dedicated conference facility as opposed to University accommodation. From attendee feedback this proved to be popular and something that we will continue for future events. The 46th Annual Symposium, "Mapping at Work", was brought forward to 17-19 June and was once again held at the popular Harben House Conference Centre. Feedback would indicate that we have achieved the correct balance of lectures and workshops.

Fellowship Evening

The 13th Annual Fellowship Evening was held on 4th February 2009 at the RAF Club in Piccadilly, London. The guest speaker was Mr Mick Ashworth, Consultant Editor to the Times Atlas of the World. His fascinating talk, "*Letters to The Editor*", was based on the wide variety of letters received by the editors and illustrated the complexity of the decision making process and care taken when compiling such a prestigious volume. The evening ended with a dinner for Fellows and guests.

Applications for Fellowship are welcomed from all members with a minimum of ten years continuous relevant experience. Details can be obtained from the Secretary or from BCS Administration.

"Better Mapping 2008" Seminars

Building on the success of the 2006 series of "*Better Mapping*" Seminars, the BCS continued its partnership with the Association of Geographic Information (AGI) and delivered seminars at four UK locations in the summer of 2008. A further series are being planned for October 2009, aimed at underlining the importance of good cartographic theory and practice in relation to the generation of maps primarily from GIS applications.

Exhibitions & Public Relations

Attendance at a number of exhibitions during the year, including both trade and educational events, has helped to increase awareness of cartography as a possible career and the general perception of the role of the Society.

Research Fund

The Research Fund is aimed at independent cartographic research and it now stands at £13,400.03. Corporate Members who have contributed to the Fund include: The Automobile Association, Cosmographics, HarperCollins Cartographic, Lovell Johns Ltd., Ordnance Survey and The UK Hydrographic Office. Applications for grants are welcome. Details can be obtained from BCS Administration.

Council Meetings

Council met in September, November 2008, February and June 2009. The September meeting was held at the 45th Annual Symposium at the De Vere Harben House Conference Centre, Newport Pagnell. The November meeting was held at New Prospect House in Leake Street, London. We are indebted to Prospect for making this facility available to the Society. The February meeting was held at the RAF Club, Picadilly, London and the June meeting was held at the 46th Annual Symposium at the De Vere Harben House Conference Centre, Newport Pagnell.

Special Interest Groups

Members of the Society represent a wide range of cartographic interests, they include practical mapmakers, map curators and collectors, academics and teachers, historians, GIS specialists etc. Corporate Members cover an equally diverse field, including hardware and software manufacturers, government and commercial map publishers and retailers and national libraries. To cater for these interests there are five established groups. If the need arises the Society is willing to promote further groups.

a. Corporate Members' Group

The Group has grown to over 60 members each of whom can have pages on the BCS website to describe their company's activities and have display space at the BCS Annual Symposium. Also, this increasingly influential Group is represented on the BCS Council.

b. Map Curators' Group (MCG)

The Group continues to present an interesting Workshop programme and a Newsletter (*Cartographiti*) for its members. The group held a business meeting at the 45th Annual Symposium in Newport Pagnell. • The MCG is represented on BRICMICS. (British and Irish Committee for Map Information and Cataloguing Systems), the 'umbrella' organisation for the care and exploitation of cartographic materials in the UK and Ireland. • It maintains a strong affiliation to LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche) Groupe de Cartothécaire, of which Mr John Moore is the current secretary. The most recent meeting of which was held in the Netherlands in 2008. The Group continues to organise and to run training days on various aspects of map librarianship.

c. Map Design Group

The Design Group met at the 45th and 46th Annual Symposia in Newport Pagnell. It attracts practical mapmakers from all walks of the profession; freelance and company cartographers, plus map publishers and students. The Group provides significant input to the "*Better Mapping*" Seminars.

d. Geographical Information Systems Group

The GIS Group meeting at the 46th Annual Symposium in Newport Pagnell was a great success with over 30 Group members attending to listen to presentations from Ken Field of Kingston University, John Dancy of Ordnance Survey, Steward Millar of Star Apic and James Buckland of HarperCollins. Plans are afoot to run a similar session at the next Symposium in 2010. If anybody is keen to present please contact the SIG chair.

e. Historical Military Mapping Group (HMMG)

This group provides a point of contact and discussion for those engaged in research into any aspect of the history of military survey and mapping and publishes a Newsletter (*Maps & Surveys*) for its members. During the year a members' survey was conducted. The results of this exercise will determine the future direction of the group and the program of future events. A visit to Portsmouth has been arranged for November 2009 and a newsletter will be published following this event.

The Group is still looking for a newsletter editor and a secretary.

Publications

The Cartographic Journal

The Cartographic Journal's remit to publish authoritative and engaging articles of international cartographic interest continues. It provides a flagship publication for BCS and as a member benefit it gives excellent value to readers on all aspects of cartography. It is also increasingly used by international scholars of cartography and related geosciences as the number of citations has increased year-on-year for the last 7 years. The Journal's Impact Factor has similarly improved year-on-year over the same time period with the 2008 IF being 0.514. The electronic paper submission and review system, along with hard work by editors, significantly improved the number of paper submissions during the last year. The Special issues continue to be well-received and this is an area the editorial team will be working on in the next few years to maintain the quality we have sourced.

Maplines (the Society Newsmagazine)

Throughout the year the team of Miss L Bailey, Mr M Lubikowski Mr A King and Mr Mark Sansom continued a successful editorial formula which looks to continually developing the appearance and content of the newsletter to reflect more closely the Society and its activities.

Maplines presents an opportunity to all members to catch up with or comment on the profession and related topics or to share interesting experiences, and for Corporate members to keep the Society up to date with events in their field.

Cartographiti (the Newsletter of the Map Curators' Group)

Under the excellent editorship of Mr A A da Cruz, *Cartographiti* is rightly acclaimed as a lively and informative publication. Published up to three times a year, it is issued free of charge to all MCG members and on subscription to non-members. Members and non-members wishing to receive copies should contact BCS Administration.

Maps and Surveys (the Newsletter of the Historical Military Mapping Group)

During the year 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 issue 7 was published under the editorship of the Group Convener Mr A J Webb. The newsletter is issued free of charge to all HMMG members and on subscription to non-members. Members and non-members wishing to receive copies should contact BCS Administration.

Careers in Cartography

First published in 1973, a completely new fifth edition is published in full on the Society's web site. A shorter printed version, omitting the parts subject to frequent change and with the title *Working in the Map Industry*, is available for distribution to individuals, careers offices, schools etc. Please apply to BCS Administration for copies.

The Index to the Cartographic Journal (Volume 1-33)

Limited numbers are still available.

A Directory of UK Map Collections

Edition 4, February 2000, is published on the web site. It is constantly updated and access is free and unlimited. Additions and amendments should be sent to BCS Administration.

Freelance Directory

A directory of self-employed Society members. It is constantly updated and published on the web site. Society members who wish to be included should contact BCS Administration.

The Web Site

www.cartography.org.uk.

The Society's main advertising and year-round recruiting vehicle. The website continues with its aim to promote cartography to the wider public audience and create a site that all members can contribute to and find a useful resource. The website is split into two main categories – "About Cartography" and "About the Society". Information for the "About Cartography" section and links via the Forum are encouraged. Popular pages include job vacancies, upcoming events, "Cartography - an introduction" Book ordering, News, The BCS Awards and the members directories.

Finance

The Society's main source of income is membership subscriptions, supported by bank interest, revenue from publications and Gift Aid. Financial policy is for a maximum of 3 years' reserve, to include the value of investments. During the Financial year 2008—2009 the Society's M&G Charifund investment followed market trends and suffered a significant loss. However, careful financial management of the Society's monetary assets throughout the year returned a surplus better than had been forecast and maintains our stable financial position.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the Society's exposure to the major risks.



Signed by: Mr R J Lilley (President)
For and on behalf of the Council of *The British Cartographic Society*

Date: 1 October 2009

Copies of the Receipts & Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ending 30 June 2009 can be obtained from the BCS Administration Office at the following address:

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