

**The British Epigraphy Society**  
(otherwise known as 'The Epigraphy Society')  
Charity commission registration number 1090249

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1 OCTOBER 2011 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2012**

**Registered office:** 44 Rectory Green, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4HX

**Bankers:** Santander Business Bank plc, Bridle Road, Bootle, Merseyside, England

**Trustees:** Gabriel Bodard, Abigail Graham, Polly A. Low, Nicholas P. Milner, Roger Tomlin, Jonathan R.W. Prag, Ulrike Roth, Charlotte L. Tupman.

### **1. General**

The society's purposes and administration are regulated by the constitution adopted on 11 November 2000 and amended on 10 November 2001. Its object, as stated in clause 3 of which, is 'the advancement of public education within the subjects of archaeology and history, particularly the study of inscriptions, texts, and historical documents.' Members of the steering committee are trustees of the charity. Membership of the steering committee is governed by clause 7 of the society's constitution, which specifies that, in addition to the honorary officers (the President, Secretary, and Treasurer) elected by general meeting of the membership, at any one time the committee may comprise up to six more members either similarly elected or (up to a maximum of three) co-opted by the committee. In order to meet all contingencies, it has been decided not to let reserves fall below £2,000.

### **2. Main activities and achievements in relation to the charity's objects:**

The society holds meetings to provide a forum for the public discussion and advancement of knowledge of inscriptions, texts and historical documents, where students, scholars, and others can mix. The society supports and helps organise workshops, conferences and summer schools to provide training for younger scholars, and to promote interest in epigraphy to the public. The society produces and distributes a news digest to disseminate information about epigraphic discoveries, meetings, workshops, and other matters of related interest, and provides members twice a month through e-mail shots with information of epigraphic interest. The Society provides speakers and instructors for schools, epigraphic training and summer courses.

The main meetings programme for this year included:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 19 November | Autumn Colloquium: Epigraphy in Action / XV Annual General Meeting held at the ICS/London.  |
| 29-30 May   | Spring Meeting held at Warwick University: 'Inventive Inscriptions: The Organisation of Epigraphic Knowledge in the 19th Century' |

The main programme for 2012/2013 will include the Autumn Colloquium in London, and the Society's Spring Meeting, to be held in Vienna in May 2013. In addition, we anticipate to support other epigraphic events and activities, including talks to school groups and summer schools. The Society is also setting aside some funds for bursaries for students attending training schools in Greek and Latin Epigraphy, and for the Autumn Colloquium and Spring Meeting.

### **3. Grants awarded from assets of the Charity 2011-12:**

The Society regularly awards grants in aid of epigraphic meetings as well as bursaries especially to students to help with attendance at epigraphic workshops and training events. This year these included the following:

The Society awarded grants of a total of £575 to enable eight students – Philip Davies (Nottingham), Luke Evans (Durham), Samuel Gartland (Leeds), Margit Homann (Leipzig), Francesca Labonia (Lecce), Rafal Matuszewski (Göttingen), Juan Lewis (Edinburgh), and Serena Zoia (Bologna) – to attend the Autumn Colloquium in London on 19 November 2011.

The Society supported the Spring Meeting in Warwick on 29-30 May 2012 with a grant of £250 to put against speakers' expenses; and with three grants of £75 each to enable three students – Mattia Balbo (Florence), Antonella Ferraro (Rome), and Giulia Masci (Turin) – to attend the meeting.

The Society awarded three student bursaries of £300 each to help with attendance at the CIEGL in Berlin in August 2012: Aitor Blanco-Perez (Oxford) and Philip Davies (Nottingham); and Andreas Gavrielatos (Leeds), who in the event was awarded an AIEGL bursary and therefore declined the BES support.

The Society supported a conference on 'The materiality of texts' held at the university of Durham on 24-26 September 2012 with a grant of £150 towards speakers' expenses; and contributed a small grant of £50 towards the creation of a Roman-style milestone in Wall by the Friends of Wall.

### **4. Donations to the Society from individuals and grants received from other bodies**

The Society received a number of very generous donations and grants in support of its activities - including:

a gift of £12 from an individual; and AIEGL support of £762.01 for the Practical Epigraphy Workshop held at Oxford in June 2012. Moreover, the bids for grants-in-aid of the Autumn Colloquium in November 2011 (for the specific purpose of student bursaries) were equally successful: 5 bursaries of £50 each from the Classical Association; 3 bursaries of £50 each from the Hellenic Society; and 3 bursaries of £50 each from the Roman Society: a total of £550.

These gifts and grants exemplify the Society's recognised activity in assisting especially students with enhancing their knowledge and expertise in the field of epigraphy.


### **5. Statement of Public Benefit**

In setting objectives and planning activities, the Steering Committee has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary guidance on the advancement of education.

As the Society is a charity, its donors and sponsors have the assurance that the income of the charity is applied to educational purposes. The Society enjoys tax exemption on its charitable activities and investment income and gains, provided these are applied to the charitable objects. The financial benefits received from these tax exemptions are all applied to the Society's educational purposes and indirectly help it to maintain its support for research and training.

As a sponsor, enabler, and, to the extent permitted by its resources, funder of lectures, seminars, newsletters, and training in the relevant subject areas, the charity gives a public benefit by providing a forum for adding to the collective knowledge and understanding of specific fields of study and expertise, and the training of students in the acquisition of such skills. Students may also be assisted to attend such academic events so that they are not excluded for impecuniosity, and our lecture meetings are open to all, including non-members, for a modest daily charge.

**Date:** 30 September 2012

**Signed:** ...  ..... (Honorary Secretary)  
(Dr U. Roth)