

Treasurer's report

This has proved to be another challenging year for the Society. The initial renewal of membership proved to be much less than we hoped so the fact that we have finished the year with 230 members is due, in no small part, to Marion and Chris's hard work in pursuing anyone who showed interest in joining us. But equally, it is due to all of you, our members, who recommend the society to family and friends and so help to boost our numbers.

As you can see from the accounts, our costs are still continuing to rise. We have noticed in particular that the fees for the lectures are rising significantly as are the oncosts of travel and lunches. We are very aware that the cost of living increases are impacting everyone so the increase in fees to £53 for next year is the minimum possible to maintain the viability of the Society.

I hope that you all feel able to renew and continue to enjoy the variety of lectures provided, as well as taking advantage of the visits that the membership opens up to us all.

As ever, the support of the committee has been invaluable and I give them my thanks.

As many of you will remember, we sadly learned of the death of Mike Hancock who had been the examiner of the accounts for many years. But I am delighted to say that the previous treasurer, Chris Gregory, has kindly agreed to take on this role and for this, as well as his help and advice, he has my utmost thanks.