

## RECORD SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE COUNCIL REPORT, 2011

The Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire was founded in 1878 to transcribe and publish original documents relating to the two palatine counties. It is a registered charity, no. 500434

President	Mr J.R.H. Pepler
Council Secretary	Dr Dorothy J. Clayton
Membership Secretary	Mr J. Sutton
Treasurer and Publications Secretary	Dr Fiona Pogson
General Editor	Dr P. McNiven
Other Members of the Council	Mr P.H.W. Booth
	Dr P. Cotgreave
	Dr A. Crosby
	Mrs Diana Dunn
	Dr M.R.V. Heale
	Mr B. Jackson
	Dr C.B. Phillips
	Dr B.W. Quintrell
	Prof. D. Szechi
	Prof. T.J. Thornton

### ***Council***

During 2011 the Council met twice: on 9 June, at the School of History, University of Liverpool; and on 5 October at the Department of History, University of Manchester. The Council gratefully acknowledges the support of these institutions for the provision of accommodation.

### ***Membership***

At the June Council meeting, Mr Sutton reported that there were 134 individual members and 115 institutional subscriptions from 91 different institutions (i.e. some are multiple subscriptions). These figures indicated a decline in the number of subscribers. At the October Council meeting, a further decline was reported: 127 individual members; and the number of institutional members was uncertain due to a large number of outstanding invoices. The Council discussed how the decline in membership might be best addressed. In particular, the discussion focussed on the need for an advertising leaflet and an effective website. Mr Sutton will produce a poster 'advert'; and arrangements for a website will be taken forward by a small group of Council members – Messrs Pepler and Sutton, and Drs Cotgreave and Pogson.

### ***Publications***

*Proceedings of the Board of Health, Manchester, 1831-33*, eds Alan Kidd and Terry Wyke, was published and distributed in late 2010 as Vol. 145. As the number of copies printed (500) has proved excessive, Dr McNiven is discussing the possibility of 'printing on demand' with our printers, 4word.

### ***Financial Statement***

Although the monetary assets of the Society at 28 September 2011 were over £69,000, the Society's receipts to 13 September 2011 are low (£6,489.32): subscriptions have been slow coming in; and stock sales are down. When the HSBC 3-year Deposit Bond terminated, it was felt that a new investment was unlikely to raise an equivalent income.

Dr Pogson proposed, and the Council accepted, that we invest £40,000 in a 5-year fixed term deposit account with Scottish Widows Bank (fixed rate of interest offered during the 5-year term is 4.6%). Because the recurrent costs of the Society were in danger of exceeding recurrent income, it was decided that subscriptions to the Record Society should be raised from 1 January 2013: £20 – UK individuals; £25 – institutions; and £30 – overseas subscribers. It is necessary for this to be approved by a General Meeting of the Society. This will be held on 21 March 2012.

### ***Other Business***

Mr Pepler indicated his wish to retire as President of the Record Society after the autumn meeting of 2012.