

Anrhydeddus Gymdeithas
Y Cymmrodorion

Sefydlwyd 1751



The Honourable Society
Of Cymmrodorion

Founded 1751

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

**for the period
1 January 2025
to
31 December 2025**

**The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion
157-163 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UE**

**Registered Charity Number 313141
www.cymmrodorion.org**



The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion

Report and Accounts

for the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

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Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion Anrhydeddus Gymdeithas y Cymmrodorion
Charity Registration Number:	313141
Registered Office	157-163 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UE
Website:	www.cymmrodorion.org

President

Professor Sir Deian Hopkin FRHistS FLSW FRSA FCGI

Vice Presidents, at 31 December 2025

The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Evans RD MA LLB FCI Arb	The Rt Hon The Lord Wigley of Caernarfon BSc
The Rt Hon Mr Alun Michael BA FRSA	Dr Carol Bell PhD DLitt FLSW
The Rt Hon The Lord Murphy of Torfaen MA	Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens DBE FLSW DL
Sir Keith Thomas DLitt LLD FBA FLSW	Professor Laura McAllister CBE FLSW
The Rt Hon The Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd PC KC	Elinor Bennett, Lady Wigley, OBE

Members of Council (Charity Trustees)

Sioned Bowen, resigned 23 Oct 2025	Professor Sir Deian Hopkin (2027)
Professor W Stuart Cole CBE FCIT FILT (2026)	Robert John (2027)
Rhys David (2027)	Dafydd Lewis (2027)
Theo Davies-Lewis, resigned 23 Oct 2025	Robert Nicholls, coopted 10 Jan 2025 (2028)
Elinor Talfan Delaney (2027)	Sian Tudor Reid (2027)
Tomos Rhys Edwards, coopted 10 Jan 2025 (2028)	Ceridwen Roberts OBE FLSW FAcSS (2027)
Catherine Emmerich, coopted 10 Jan 2025 (2028)	Rhian Medi Roberts (2027)
Professor Helen Fulton FLSW (2026)	Professor Sara Elin Roberts FLSW (2028)
Michael Gibbon KC (2028)	Dr Stephen Roberts FLSW (2028)
Sir Martin Griffiths, coopted 21 May 2025 (2028)	Dr Elizabeth Siberry OBE (2027)

The year shown after each name is when the member's current term of office will end. The Council members who were coopted during the year were appointed at the 2025 AGM.

Independent Examiner

R. Wyn Evans
Major and Evans
Bull House
15 Penrallt Street
Machynlleth
SY20 8AG

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc, 196 Oxford Street, London W1D 1N

Charitable Objects

The Society's 1951 Charter provides as follows:

The Society is hereby incorporated and shall be conducted with the following objects:

- (A) Subject to any necessary sanction or consent to take over from the Old Society its assets and liabilities and to carry on and develop the work of the Old Society.
- (B) To encourage the study of and research in Literature, History, The Arts and Science in so far as they are of special interest to Welsh people.
- (C) To promote the development of Literature, The Arts and Science in Wales.
- (D) To provide opportunities for scholars to read papers and publish works on Literature, History, Science and The Arts in so far as they are of special interest to Welsh people.
- (E) To provide a common forum for the discussion of matters and movements specially affecting Welsh culture.
- (F) From time to time to sponsor new undertakings advantageous to Wales in scholarship and education.

Further to these objects, the Society exists to promote Literature, History, the Arts and Science (including Social Science) in so far as they are of special interest to Welsh people, and to facilitate discussion in these areas.

Activities and Achievements

Programme of Lectures and Discussions

The programme provides a platform for issues of importance to Wales both within Wales and beyond its boundaries, including two of the Society's Wales Matter series held in partnership with the London Welsh Centre and Wales in London.

Ten events were delivered, including the Eisteddfod lecture.

21st January 2025

The North American Welsh

Megan Williams, Welsh North American Association

Robert Humphries, Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project

Dan Rowbotham, Madog Center for Welsh Studies

Online

20th February 2025

The June Gruffydd Memorial Lecture

In association with the Montgomeryshire Society

Tigers and Dragons: Exhibiting India and Wales

Dr Zehra Jumabhoy

Lecturer, History of Art, University of Bristol

Medical Society of London and online

17th March 2025

Wales Matters: Wales in the Media

Ifan Morgan Jones

Head of Digital Media, S4C

London Welsh Centre

22nd April 2025

Bodnant, A World of Ideas in a Welsh Garden

Iona McLaren

Online

21st May 2025

Wales and Atlantic Slavery

Professor Chris Evans

Professor in History

University of South Wales

Medical Society of London and online

6th August 2025

Darlith Goffa Flynyddol Syr Thomas Parry-Williams Memorial Lecture

Amgyffred y Amgylchedd yn Oes Gerallt Cymro

Yr Athro Huw Pryce FRHistS FLSW

Athro Emeritws Hanes Cymru

Prifysgol Bangor

Maes yr Eisteddfod

25th September 2025

Welsh National Identity and the Second World War

Professor Martin Johnes

Swansea University

Medical Society of London and online

23rd October 2025

Rediscovering Roman West Wales

Dr Mark Merrony

Wolfson College, Oxford

Medical Society of London and online

12th November 2025

Steel in Twentieth Century Wales

Professor Louise Miskell

Swansea University

Online

9th December 2025

Wales Matters: The New Political Landscape in Wales

Will Hayward

London Welsh Centre and online

Publications

The Society's Transactions

Volume 31 (2025) of *The Transactions* was published in the year and a copy was sent to each of the members. The Council thanks all of the contributors and records its appreciation of the work undertaken by the Editorial Board.

Encouraging study, research and cultural activities

Over the years, the Society has sought to encourage and support study, research and cultural activities across the areas covered by its charitable objects, occasionally providing grants to other organisations.

The Angharad Dodds John Essay Prize

The Angharad Dodds John Essay Prize offers £500 in each of the three years 2025–2027 for an academic essay by an early-career scholar on any topic in the Humanities and Social Sciences relating to Wales, its history, literature (English and Welsh), economics, politics, and culture including art and music.

The first Prize was awarded in early 2025. From a strong field of high-quality essays on a variety of topics, the judges selected the essay titled '*Welsh Historians and the Memory of the Mortimers in Sixteenth-Century Wales*', by Dr Dewi Alter.

The Essay Prize, generously endowed by Robert John and Philippa Dodds John, is in memory of their late daughter, Angharad.

Working with other organisations

The building of relationships with other organisations is a valuable aspect of the Society's work. The Society thanks the Montgomeryshire Society with which it organised the February 2025 lecture, the National Eisteddfod which hosted the August 2025 lecture, and Wales in London and the London Welsh Centre both of which joined the Society in holding the Wales Matters events at the London Welsh Centre. The Society helped fund the installation of audio-visual equipment at the London Welsh Centre so that Wales Matters events be streamed.

The Society is grateful to the London Welsh Centre who provide the official address of the Society, 157-163 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UE.

The Society continues to work with organisations based in Wales or with links to Wales. Members of Council are variously active in the Learned Society of Wales, the London Welsh Centre, Cymru a'r Byd, Merched y Wawr Llundain, the London Welsh School, Cymdeithas Edward Llwyd, the Montgomeryshire Society, the Law Council of Wales, the Dictionary of Welsh Biography, the National Library of Wales, the Welsh Legal History Society, Gregynog, the University of Wales Press Advisory Board and many other historical and cultural organisations in Wales.

Governance and Structure

Governing Document: Royal Charter

The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion was founded in 1751 and was granted its Royal Charter in 1951. The Charter and Bye-Laws in force are as amended by Order of the Privy Council dated 21st July 1999.

Responsibilities of the Council

The Charter provides for the Council to "have the management and control of the Society and the administration of all the property and income thereof". As such, the Council has responsibility for exercising the powers of the Society in furtherance of its objects. The Society's powers and objects are defined in the Charter. The Society is a Registered Charity (Number 313141) and the members of the Council serve as Charity Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Council is required to meet on no fewer than three occasions each year.

Recruitment and Appointment of Members of the Council

The Society's Charter and Bye-Laws provide for:

- the Council to comprise not less than twelve and not more than thirty Members;
- one third of the Council members to retire in rotation each year;
- members of the Council to be eligible for re-election without restriction;
- vacancies to be filled by election by the Annual General Meeting of the Society;
- the Council to have power to fill vacancies on the Council during the year subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting.

Members may nominate one or more persons from amongst their number for election to the Council by the Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting

The business of the Annual General Meeting of members of the Society includes the receipt of the statement of Accounts for the year ended the previous 31st day of December and of associated reports, as well as the election of certain of the Society's Officers and of the members of the Council.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are asked to review Charity Commission guidance on www.gov.uk. Members of the Council have wide experience of governance and matters relating to the administration of charities and are familiar with the objects and aims of the Society and with its work.

Risk Management

The Council carries out an annual review of the major risks facing the Society.

Officers

President

The Society's President is elected each year by the Annual General Meeting. Sir Deian Hopkin was re-appointed as President.

Vice-Presidents

The Bye-Laws provide for there to be (an unspecified number of) Vice-Presidents who are elected or re-elected each year by the Annual General Meeting. The office of Vice-President is an honorary office and the Vice Presidents are not *ex officio* members of the Council.

Chair of Council

The Chair of Council is appointed by and from amongst the members of the Council for a period of three years, which is renewable. Sir Deian Hopkin served as Chair of Council throughout 2025.

Honorary Treasurer

The Honorary Treasurer is appointed by and from amongst the members of the Council for a period of three years, which is renewable. Dafydd Lewis served as Honorary Treasurer throughout 2025.

Honorary Secretary

The Honorary Secretary is appointed by and from amongst the members of the Council for a period of three years, which is renewable. Sian Tudor Reid served as Honorary Secretary throughout 2025.

Editor

Professor Sara Elin Roberts, a member of Council, edits the Transactions. She is supported by an Editorial Board.

Committees of Council

The Council has the power under the Charter to delegate all or any of its powers to committees or sub-committees and has approved terms of reference for the Executive Committee.

Public Benefit

As is required under the terms of the Charities Act 2011, the objects of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, as set out in the Charter, are “charitable purposes” as defined in the Act. They fulfil this requirement in that (i) they are for the public benefit and (ii) they fall in particular within the description of two of the purposes defined in Part 1, section 2, sub-section 2 of the Act, namely b) the advancement of education and f) the advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science.

The benefits to the public from the Society’s activities include in particular:

- (1) the promotion, support and advancement of study and research and the public dissemination of the outputs thereof;
- (2) the facilitation of informed debate and public interaction on a range of issues and subjects, with consequential improvements in public understanding, and in the health of intellectual life in general.

The beneficiaries of the Society’s activities are the public and “society” in general, in London and in Wales, in particular, but also more widely, so that benefits are not restricted by geography. Nor are there any restrictions based on charitable need.

The activities confer public benefit in a number of ways: through the provision of a platform beyond the boundaries of Wales for consideration of issues of importance to Wales; through the organisation of a programme of lectures and discussions, including a lecture at the National Eisteddfod, that are open to the public; through support for scholarly and research activities such as the Dictionary of Welsh Biography; through the publication and dissemination of information in the *Transactions*, as well as *via* its own website, which makes information readily accessible to a wide audience; and through collaboration with other organisations.

Public Benefit Statement

The members of the Council, acting in their capacity as Trustees of the charity, have complied with the Public Benefit reporting requirement for smaller charities and with their duty to have due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Review 2025

At the end of 2025 the total assets of the Society were £160,502, up from £143,459 at the end of 2024. The Society’s cash balances at the year-end stood at £38,964, as compared with £10,111 the previous year; this reflects the closure of an M&G bond fund mid-year and its realisation in cash. The market value of our investments at year end was £121,538, a decrease of £11,810 over the previous year.

Income

The Society remains in good financial health, having benefited from steps to reduce the costs of our events. Investment income was £5,957, a slight decrease on the previous year, as expected due to the closure of the bond fund. Subscription income was comparable to 2024, albeit with a modest decrease (£817) over the previous year. Gift Aid was claimed for Q1-3 2025; claims for subsequent periods and for 2023 and 2024 will be pursued in the coming year.

Expenditure

Our costs decreased by £7,844 in the year under review. Meeting and event expenditure during the year was £13,654, a reduction of £841 over the previous year; this reflects non-recurring payments to the London Welsh Centre, with whom we increasingly collaborate. Our website and IT costs, which increased by £640, also reflect a non-recurring payment.

Membership statistics

Our UK individual members at 31 December 2025 totalled 585, a figure that includes 10 Vice-presidents and 43 new members who joined the Society in 2025. We had 28 overseas members, 50 UK institutional subscribers and 33 overseas institutional subscribers in 2025.

Related Party Transactions

The promotion of the Society's activities is heavily dependent upon the voluntary input of members of the Council and of other members of the Society. Editing the *Transactions* involves a significant time commitment and Professor Sara Elin Roberts FRHistS, Editor of the *Transactions* and a Member of Council, receives an honorarium for her work. During the year the trustees ceased to use the Society's storage facilities, in order to reduce our costs. One trustee, Michael Gibbon, bought some of the stored volumes of the Society's publications at a price above that which the Society estimated to reflect the market value.

Policy on holding and investing reserves

Our investment portfolio is maintained as unrestricted reserves. The aim of these reserves is to underwrite our future and provide a small 'buffer' against any fluctuations in income and expenditure. They also provide funds, which we regard as capital spending, to finance particular projects too large to be absorbed by our normal levels of annual income. The Society's investment policy was reviewed and we plan to update the scope and equity/bond ratio of our investments during the coming year.

Declaration

We certify that we have taken all the steps we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities* (January 2015); and
- Charity Commission guidance, *Public benefit: the public benefit requirement (PB1)*; *Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)*, and *Public benefit: reporting (PB3)* (all September 2013).

The report has been approved by the Council and has been signed on its behalf by:



Deian Hopkin (Chair of Council)

Date: 22 June 2026



Dafydd Lewis (Honorary Treasurer)

Date: 22 June 2026

Anrhydeddus Gymdeithas
Y Cymmrodorion

Sefydlwyd 1751



The Honourable Society
Of Cymmrodorion

Founded 1751

NODDWR/PATRON: CYN-DYWYSOG CYMRU/THE FORMER PRINCE OF WALES

THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF CYMMRODORION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Signed:

Date: 1 July 2026

R. Wyn Evans BSc Econ (Hons), FCCA

Major & Evans
Chartered Certified Accountants
Bull House
15 Penrallt Street
Machynlleth
Powys
SY20 8AG

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Accounting Records

Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to ensure that accounting records are maintained that are sufficient to:

- a) show and explain all the charity's transactions;
- b) disclose at any time, and with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time;
- c) enable the trustees to ensure that any statement of account required by section 132(1) complies with the requirements of the Regulations made thereunder;

and, in particular, to contain

- d) entries showing, from day to day all sums of money received and expended by the charity, and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure takes place; and
- e) a record of the assets and liabilities of the charity.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of error, fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing the accounts the trustees are expected to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. These accounts have been drawn up on a "receipts and payments" basis as described in section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	17,908	18,725
Montgomeryshire Society contribution	300	300
Investment income	5,957	6,466
Sales of other publications & event income	1,096	67
Gift Aid tax refund	2,485	-
Publishers Licensing Society	441	357
Interest income	328	206
Legacies and donations	-	1,500
	28,515	27,621
Investment sale	32,213	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	60,728	27,621
PAYMENTS		
Meeting expenses	13,654	14,495
Transactions	8,539	14,956
Mailings	224	-
Website and IT	4,991	4,351
Programme	608	472
Archives	1,387	1,236
Accountancy	1,200	1,200
Sundry other costs and charges	-	53
Grants and donations	500	-
CAF, PP and GC charges	296	284
Medals, presentations and memorials	-	2,135
Translation services	430	472
Bank charges	46	65
TOTAL PAYMENTS	31,875	39,719
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)	28,853	(12,098)
Cash funds last year end	10,111	22,209
Cash funds this year end	38,964	10,111

The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion

Statement of Assets 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
CASH FUNDS		
HSBC main account	3,045	2,687
HSBC deposit account	35,030	6,377
HSBC second account	-	25
Paypal account	889	1,022
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	<u>38,964</u>	<u>10,111</u>
INVESTMENT ASSETS (current value)		
M & G Equities Investment fund	45,260	38,575
M & G Fixed Interest fund	-	32,067
SUTL Cazenove Equity fund	76,278	62,706
TOTAL INVESTMENT FUNDS	<u>121,538</u>	<u>133,348</u>

Note:

Cash funds include £1,000 (2024 - £1,500) as a restricted fund - the Angharad Dodds John Award.