



**2018 Annual General Meeting of the BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION**

13:30 – 14:00, Thursday 14th June 2018

Hosted by UCL

LG40/41, UCL Medical Sciences Building, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT

Chair: Professor Stafford Lightman

Meeting Minutes: DRAFT

**1.0 Report from the President, *Professor Stafford Lightman (SL)***

SL reported that the meeting was quorate.

1.1 Governance: Confirmation of elected Council and Committee members

SL informed members that matters discussed in this AGM referred to the period from 1st October 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

During this time, new Rules and Articles of Association were adopted and an election for Council members was held. The following trustees were elected:

Anne Lingford-Hughes (Professional Liaison 2017-2022)

Anthony Isles (Communications 2017-2022)

Ros Langston (Groups Co-ordinator 2017-2022)

Catherine Harmer (Honorary Treasurer 2017-2022)

Narender Ramnani (Research Policy 2017-2022)

SL welcomed the new trustees to BNA.

1.2 Strategy: Update on the BNA's strategic plans

SL reported that, during the financial year YE2017, the most significant strategic milestone was the grant awarded by Wellcome of £142k. This was to fund a 5-10 year development plan for the BNA, the chief component of which was to appoint a Development Director. (Although falling outside the reporting period this post has now been filled by Sophie Sykes-Jerrod). The award from Wellcome was given on the understanding that it would be the final contribution towards core costs of the BNA.

1.3 Journal: *Brain and Neuroscience Advances*

SL communicated a report from journal editor, Jeff Dalley (JD). The journal is making very good progress and it is hoped that indexing will take place in the next 9 months. JD has organised a series of special collections which have proved very popular. BNA members will shortly be given the opportunity to guest-edit future special collections and should contact the BNA office if interested.

A series of chapters have been produced for the BNA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which will be published in the journal. JD is also working with Nottingham University to create a digital atlas of the rat brain.

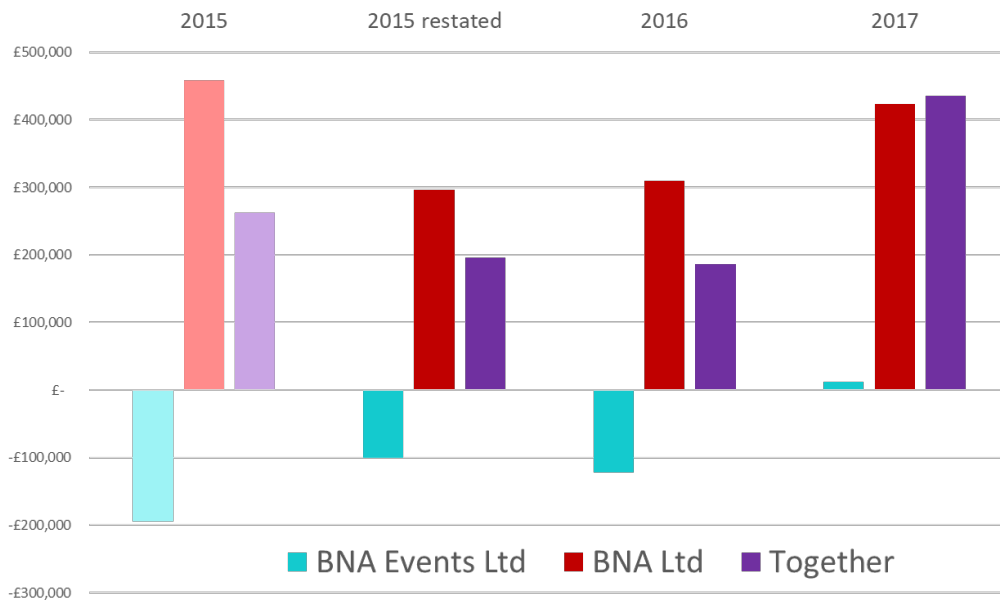
1.4 Membership report: numbers and Associate members

SL reported that membership numbers fluctuate on a biennial basis. Increased membership, like that seen in YE2017, is observed in years where the Festival of Neuroscience takes place. As of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017, there were 1784 members – Associate (40), Full (industry) (11), Early Career Researcher (175), Full (501), Postgraduate Masters/PhD (580), Retired (40), Undergraduate/Student (434), Honorary (3). Compared to the equivalent time point in the preceding year i.e. October 2016, which was 1344 members, these increased numbers are positive. It is hoped that everyone in neuroscience will one day consider the BNA a 'must join' society.

**2.0 Report from the Treasurer, Professor Catherine Harmer (CH)**

2.1 Annual accounts for the British Neuroscience Association Ltd and for BNA Events Ltd

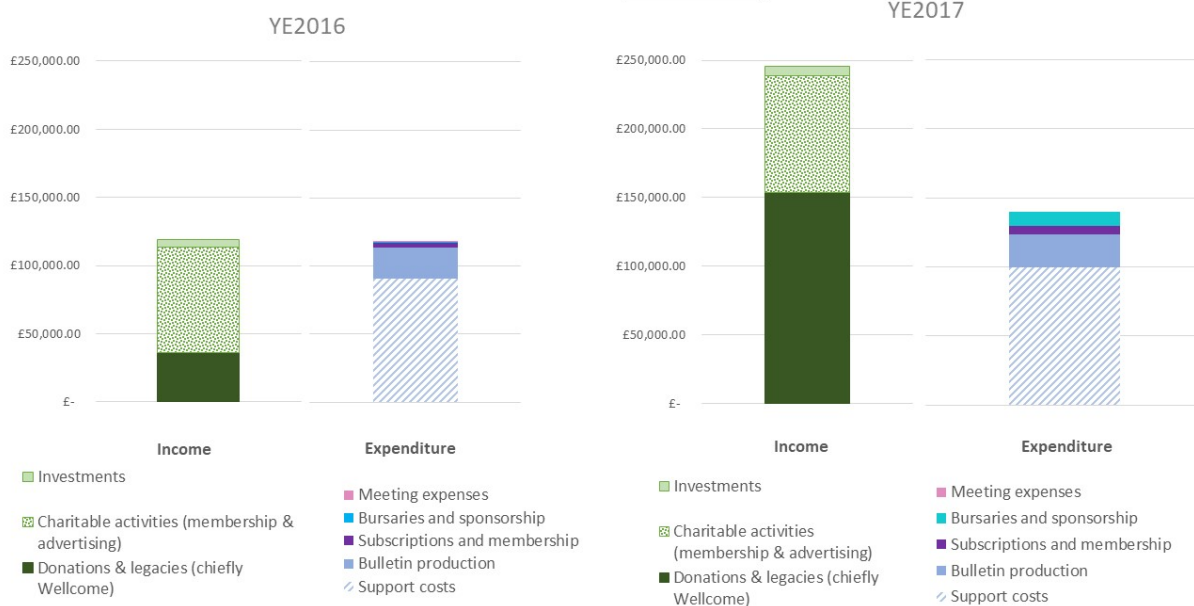
Year end accounts of the BNA: total reserves  
(restricted & unrestricted)



Total value of the BNA

CH summarised the collective total value of the BNA charity and Events Ltd over the preceding two years. YE2017, the value has increased to a total of over £422k, ensuring the BNA has reserves in place to sustain its activities for 3 years.

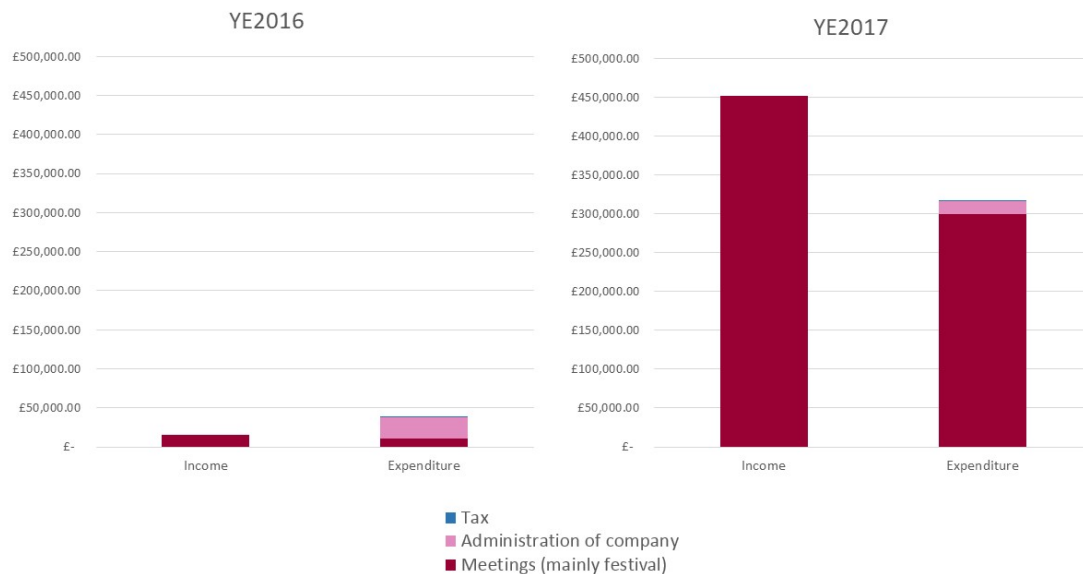
Year end accounts of BNA Charity



BNA Charity

YE2016, CH reported that income and expenditure were more closely matched. In contrast, CH explained how the donation from Wellcome, which led to a healthy surplus in 2017, was being used for activities and development to make the society sustainable in the long term.

Year end accounts of BNA Events Ltd



BNA Events Ltd

YE2016, BNA Events Ltd had a deficit of £122k at the beginning of the reporting period which had converted to a small reserve of £12k by YE2017. This is largely due to the success of the Festival of Neuroscience, BNA2017, but as this is biennial, the same increases cannot be expected next year.

CH commented that although the financial situation for the BNA had been difficult for many years, the future looked very positive.



A vote was taken to accept the 2017 accounts. Result: Unanimous vote in favour of accepting the 2017 accounts for both the British Neuroscience Association Ltd and BNA Events Ltd.

### **3.0 Report from the Secretary (*Dr Emil Toescu absent – Report from Chief Executive, Dr Anne Cooke (AC)*)**

#### 3.1 Meetings: 2016 Christmas Symposium, 2017 Festival of Neuroscience

AC reported that the 2016 Christmas symposium, held at King's College London (KCL), was on the topic of 'Mental Health'. The symposium was particularly popular with a number of interesting topics. The BNA will be returning to KCL in 2018 for its next Christmas symposium.

The 2017 Festival of Neuroscience attracted approximately 1250 delegates with a full public programme running alongside the scientific conference. AC thanked Yvonne Allen for organising the Festival which was a scientific and financial success for the BNA.

#### 3.2 2016 Prize winners

AC reported that Professor David Ogden had received the 2016 award for 'Outstanding Contribution to Neuroscience'. This was not just in recognition of David's research but also the numerous training programmes that he had been involved in setting up.

The BNA Prize for 'Public Engagement of Neuroscience' in 2016 had been awarded to Dr Emma Robinson as an active neuroscientist involved in a number of public engagement initiatives.

### **4.0 Any other business**

SL closed the meeting.