

Registered number: 04307833  
Charity number: 1103852

**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

# BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

### Trustees

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Professor A. Dolphin (President, and Officer)             | appointed April 2019                        |
| 2. Professor Z. Kourtzi (Association Secretary, and Officer) | elected January 2019                        |
| 3. Professor C. Harmer (Treasurer and Officer)               | elected June 2017                           |
| 4. Professor R. Henson (President Elect)                     | appointed April 2019                        |
| 5. Professor S L Lightman (Immediate Past President)         | appointed April 2019<br>resigned April 2021 |
| 6. Dr V. Straub (Groups Co-ordinator)                        | elected May 2020                            |
| 7. Professor N. Ramnani (Research Policy)                    | elected June 2017                           |
| 8. Professor A. Lingford-Hughes (Professional Liaison)       | elected June 2017                           |
| 9. Professor A. Isles (Communications)                       | elected June 2017                           |
| 10. Dr M. Berners, (Independent Trustee)                     | appointed April 2017                        |
| 11. Dr K P Cox, (Independent Trustee)                        | appointed April 2017                        |
| 12. Professor A M Palmer (Independent Trustee)               | appointed April 2017                        |
| 13. Professor T L Spires-Jones (Trustee)                     | appointed April 2021                        |
| 14. Dr R F Langston (Trustee)                                | resigned May 2020                           |

### Company registered number

04307833

### Charity registered number

1103852

### Registered office

The BNA Office  
Dorothy Hodgkin Building  
Whitson Street  
Bristol BS1 3NY

### Chief Executive Officer and Company Secretary

Dr A. Cooke

### Independent Examiner and Accountants

Martin Bailey FCA  
Goodman Jones LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
29/30 Fitzroy Square  
London W1T 6LQ

# BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 September 2020. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

### Our vision and purpose:

The BNA is a membership organisation committed to preserve and protect health and advance public engagement in neuroscience, through supporting, promoting and representing neuroscientists and neuroscience research.

### Our objects:

The Association's objects (The Objects), as formulated in the Articles of the Association (Article 4) and in the Rules of the Association (Rule 1.3), both documents coming into force in April 2017, are:

To preserve and protect health and advance public education in neurosciences related to health and disease, in particular but not exclusively) by:

- (a) Promoting on a multidisciplinary basis the study of the development structure and function of the nervous system in health and disease;
- (b) Promoting the dissemination of information to all those interested in the neurosciences and related disciplines by means of lectures, discussions, meetings and reports from time to time obtained from such researchers;
- (c) Advising as far as possible on issues in neurosciences related to health and disease;
- (d) Endeavouring to increase public awareness and understanding of neuroscience research in health and disease;
- (e) Assisting in the training of neuroscientists and other professionals engaged in neuroscience teaching and research;
- (f) Representing the interests of neuroscience researchers and promoting the case for the advancement of neuroscience research in the United Kingdom to government, to agencies providing research funding and to bodies engaged in science administration, regulation and standards.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

## Our aims:

We have three interconnected aims that are central to achieving our vision and purpose, and are the means by which we deliver our objectives: these are to **Inform, Connect, and Influence**. The aims to *Inform, Connect and Influence*, were arrived at through a series of strategic workshops and engagement with members, and they help the BNA Council and Committee to direct activities throughout the year.

## Message from the Chair and Chief Executive October 2019-September 2020

Our closing words in the report preceding this one were, “*..we look forward to the coming year’s activities, and hope the words here will prove to be as prescient.*” Little did we know that much of the coming year’s activities – the year reported here - would in fact be derailed by a global pandemic that would cease all in-person meetings, prove hugely disruptive for our members’ lives, research and teaching, and for some bring illness and bereavement.

Needless to say, this Trustees’ Annual Report (TAR) is therefore somewhat different from all its predecessors, and – hopefully – all its successors too. Never before have global events affected the BNA in this way, and the key take-home message is perhaps simply that the BNA has so far ridden the storm.

In some ways it is a report in two halves: from October 2019 to March 2020, before the first UK-wide lockdown, and then from March to September 2020, during which time COVID-19’s restrictions and impact had a major impact on the BNA and our activities. That said, although many of the organisation’s activities changed beyond recognition, the aims and purpose of the BNA remained unchanged throughout. The structure of the report is therefore the same as previous years, looking at each of our overarching aims in turn – Inform, Connect, Influence – and how we have worked to meet them.

One highlight from the last year is the launch of our ‘Credibility in Neuroscience’ campaign in the House of Commons in the Palace of Westminster, London. Held in November 2019, the occasion was significant not only in marking this campaign as critically important for neuroscience but also in the BNA’s journey to being relevant and influential at the highest levels.

In contrast to the public ceremony and panache of the House of Commons, another highlight falls firmly into the post-lockdown part of the year. This was the series of online neuroscience webinars for children, launched in response to the needs of families across the UK to educate their children at home – and taking the opportunity to capture curious minds about the wonders of neuroscience. At first glance complete opposites, but both activities helping to deliver the vision and aims of the BNA.

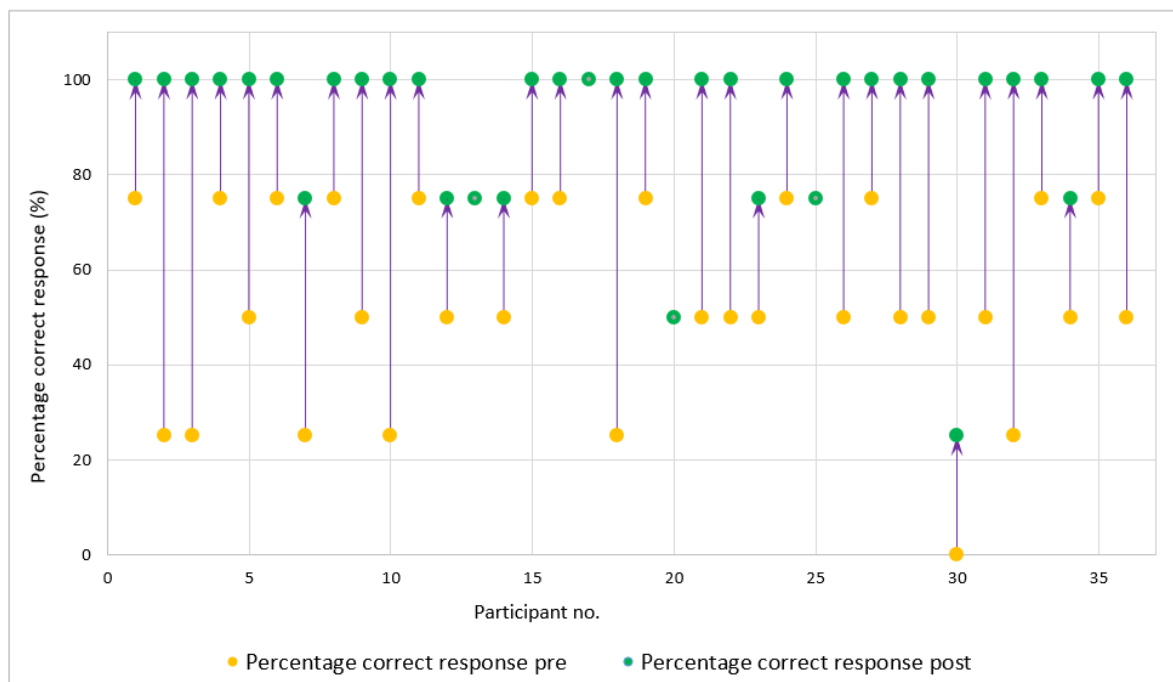
At the end of the current reporting period (September 2020) we are preparing for our first ever online Festival of Neuroscience, facing ongoing uncertainty about how neuroscience teaching and research will take shape in the coming months, the BNA office continues to work from home, and the BNA as a whole is continuing to support members as much as possible. We are nervous of adding words here that predict what will happen in the year ahead. The previous year has shown us how foolish that can be! To end on a positive note though; if nothing else the past year has shown the importance of community and support, and that is something the BNA will always strive to deliver.

# Report of the Board of Trustees

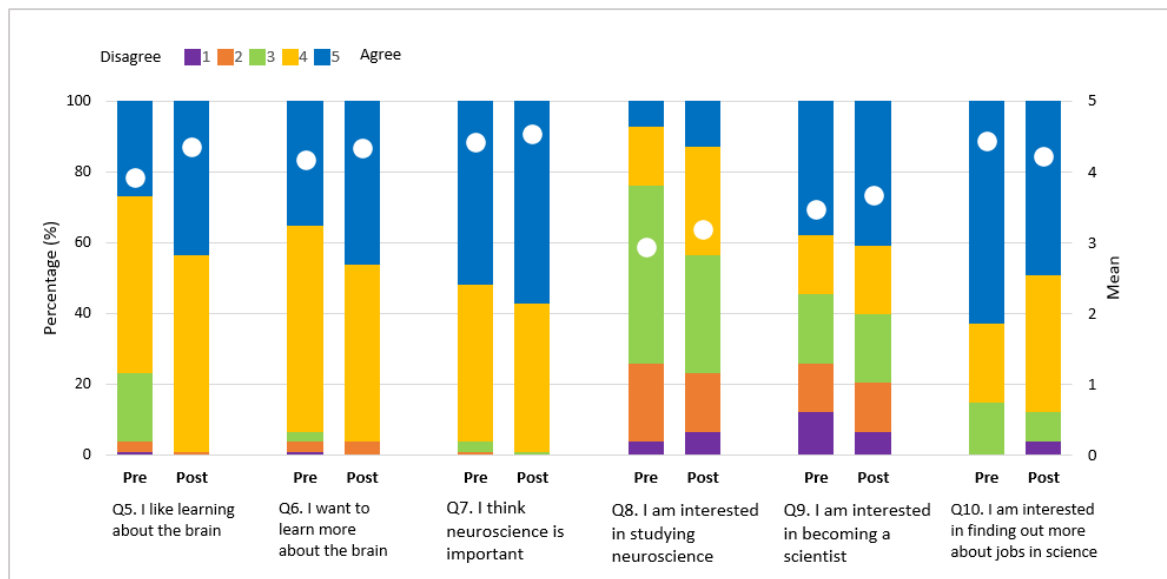
## Aim 1: Inform

**Neuroscience in schools** – In order to both inform children and young people about neuroscience and increase the ‘science capital’ of UK schools, and meet the request from BNA members to have materials for school visits, during the year 2019-2020 the BNA developed a number of sessions designed to take neuroscience into the classroom. This was a continuation of the project initially started in 2017-18 thanks to funding from Roche.

We added to the number of previously developed flexible ‘tool-kits’ - consisting of presentations, written information and activities – to include topics such as the use of animals in research, drug development, and the neuroscience of addiction. We also ran sessions in schools to test out the toolkits, and undertook an evaluation to assess their effectiveness. This evaluation showed that the neuroscience outreach sessions significantly increased the neuroscience topic-specific knowledge of 14-18 year olds (Figure 1, n=36), and that they significantly increased how much 14-18 year olds like learning about the brain (Figure 2, n=36 for each bar).



**Figure 1:** Neuroscience outreach sessions significantly improved the neuroscience topic-specific knowledge of 14-18 year olds (n=36). The x axis represents the participant number, while the y axis shows the percentage correct responses on the knowledge section of the pre and post-outreach surveys. Yellow dots represent the pre-survey neuroscience knowledge as a percentage of correct responses. Green dots show the post-survey neuroscience knowledge as a percentage of correct responses. Purple arrows show the movement, and direction (arrow head), between the pre and post-survey percentage of correct responses. 32/36 participants’ knowledge did increase following the outreach session, and no change in the knowledge of 4/36 participants.



**Figure 2:** Neuroscience outreach sessions significantly increased how much 14-18 year olds like learning about the brain (n=36 for each bar). Questions 5-10 made up the ‘Interest’ section of the pre and post-surveys, comprised of 5-point Likert scale questions and can be found on the x axis. Stacked percentage columns show the percentage of response for each point on the 5-point Likert scale on the left y axis. The right y axis corresponds to the white dots on each column, representing the mean response from the 5-point Likert scale so that the direction of movement of the mean can be observed between the pre and post-surveys for each question.

**Webinars for kids:** In response to the first UK lockdown in March 2020, and accompanying closure of schools, we converted the neuroscience in schools programme into a series of online webinars. These were free to attend and directed towards either reception, Key stages 1 and 2 (primary school) or Key stages 3 and 4 (secondary school). All were fully interactive with live quizzes and activities, plus open Q&A with neuroscientists. We were thrilled to have children attend these sessions from all over the world, and have the unexpected opportunity to increase our reach when informing about neuroscience.

**Public engagement of neuroscience:** The BNA’s annual Festive symposium was again covered by BBC Radio 4 this year, meaning we were able to disseminate information about neuroscience to a wide audience. Focusing on the neuroscience of pain (our theme for 2020), both the symposium and the Radio 4 broadcast discussed important topics such as the placebo effect, chronic pain, and how pain includes both psychological and physiological components.

A number of activities were focused around Brain Awareness Week (BAW), 16-22 March 2020. Again picking up on our annual theme, we ran a series of communications called, “A short journey on pain” throughout the week, informing people about pain facts, research and quotations. The BNA also co-ordinated the 2020 BAW calendar for the UK and Ireland, although unfortunately most events were cancelled due to COVID-19.

**Scientific Journal:** Our scientific journal, *Brain and Neuroscience Advances*, is the most important means by which we inform the profession about the latest neuroscience research. The journal is published by Sage and wholly owned by the BNA, with excellent leadership from Editor-in-Chief Jeff Dalley along with an international editorial board.

The journal reached a major milestone this year by being indexed in PubMed Central (PMC), in April 2020. For a journal to be indexed in PMC it needs to meet a list of set criteria and hurdles, so a significant achievement to reach this point in just a few years. Although the BNA Journal has always been fully Open Access and therefore freely open to everyone, being indexed in PMC means all content is easily found and much more visible, worldwide.

The number of articles published between 1st Oct 2019 – 30th Sept 2020 was as follows:

Articles published between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020:

- 12 Original Research articles
- 7 Review articles
- 2 Short Report articles

Four Special Collections were opened:

- “Emerging Experimental Methodologies in Translational Neuroscience”
- “Within and Beyond the Temporal Lobe: Brain Circuits and Mechanisms of Recognition and Place Memory”
- “Neuroimmunology and Brain Disorders”
- “Ketamine and Fast Acting Anti-Depressants”

**Informing members:** As a membership organisation, keeping our members informed is essential.

Our printed members’ newsletter, The *BNA Bulletin*, is sent out three times a year and informs members about events, prizes, news from the BNA, funders or regulators, and activities across the BNA community, as well as highlighting research undertaken by members. *Brain Insights* is a section within the *Bulletin* written by and for students and Early Career Researchers. During this year we extended the reach of the *Bulletin* to all our undergraduate and postgraduate members, who had previously only had access to the online pdf version, in recognition that having a printed copy is valued by our students.

Alongside the *Bulletin* members receive a monthly email newsletter, the eBulletin. This provides more frequent way to keep members updated with relevant information.

Social media platforms are also now very important ways to keep our members informed, as they enable immediate, specific and direct interaction between the BNA office and our wider community (see more below).

**Online communications:** The website continues to be a well-used resource for informing visitors about neuroscience, particularly information about neuroscience training, jobs and careers. The BNA’s social media platforms also continue to prove very useful in communicating, informing and engaging with both neuroscientists and members of the public.

Both the website and social media makes the BNA readily accessible to members of the public, and the office receives enquiries from journalists, patients, prospective students and more.

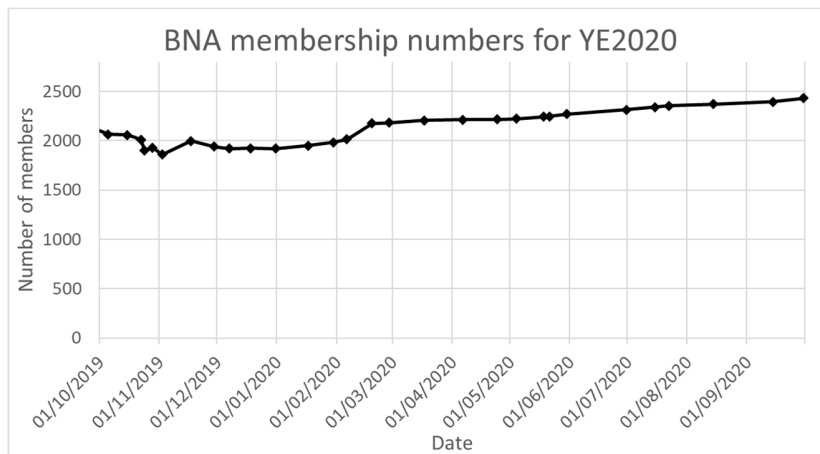
During 2019-2020 the website attracted 151,000 users and 488,000 page views. This compares to 140,000 users with 466,000 page views in the period 2018-2019. Information on careers consistently

remains the most used section of the site, showing how the BNA is used as a way to find out how to study and pursue a career in neuroscience.

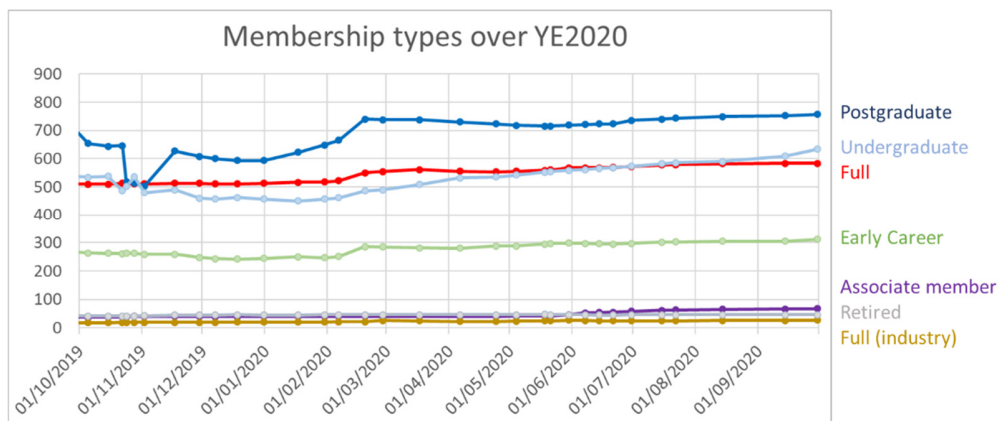
By the end of this reporting period, the BNA had 25k (Twitter), 13.7k (Facebook), 6.7k (LinkedIn), 1.9k (Instagram) and 1.2k (YouTube) followers across social media channels.

## Aim 2: Connect

**Connecting the neuroscience community through BNA membership:** We are pleased to report an increase in membership from 2,065 to 2,432 over the course of the year (see below).

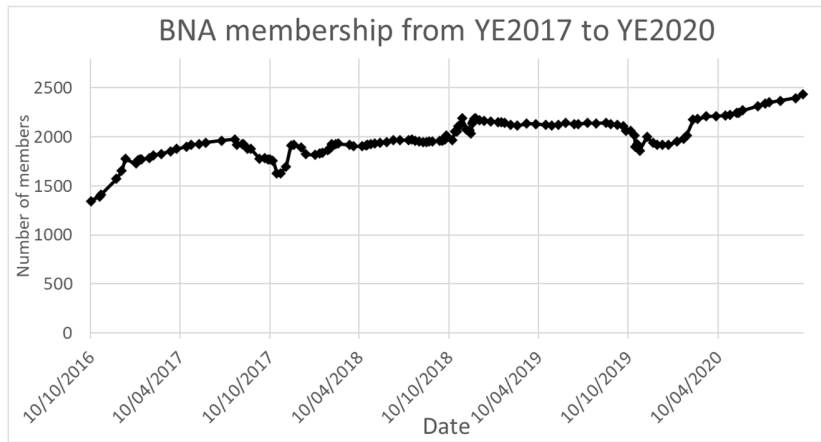


This growth in total membership number is reflected within each membership type, as shown in the graph below. Most of the rise occurred in February 2020 which is likely to be associated with the FENS 2020 Forum, reported below. The number of Full members rose to a record high of 583 by September 2020. Although a much smaller number in total, there were significant increases in the number of Associate members (from 37 to 67, associated with a special offer reduced membership fee), and Full Industry members (from 17 to 27).





To put these numbers in context, the graph below shows total membership over the previous four years.



During YE2019 we identified that we have poor membership retention rate, relying on constant recruitment to maintain and grow numbers. During YE2020 we therefore carried out a member re-engagement campaign which involved contacting lapsed members by telephone and/or email to ascertain why they had left the BNA, update them on recent developments, and encouraging them to re-join. Using an external provider we made contact with 176 members, had 147 surveys completed and 9 members re-joined. Although only a small number re-joined we gained valuable information which will help us connect better with members during the coming year.

**BNA Local Groups:** The BNA has a national network of ~40 Local Groups (LGs) each headed by a Local Group Representative (LGR). This network enables two-way communication between members and the BNA Council, provides local hubs for members, and an important way for members to connect with colleagues near and far. LGRs, in some cases supported by LG Student Representatives (LGRs), do a great deal to help the BNA connect and support neuroscientists.

In order to strengthen the LG network, in March 2020 the BNA held a dedicated full-day event for LGRs and LGRs, kindly hosted by London's Sainsbury Wellcome Centre and with funding provided for travel. Although similar Forums are held each year, previously these have been shorter and held in parallel to Council meetings, meaning the BNA Council and Committee members and BNA Executive team have not been able to join the LG(S)Rs. The 2020 LG Forum was very successful, although unfortunately many of the plans made at the event were derailed by COVID-19.

LGs can apply for BNA funding to support local activities which help promote the aims and objectives in the BNA. In YE2020 the LG activities were greatly impacted by COVID-19, with many having to be postponed. However, the limitations on meeting up also led to more creative use of LG funding, for example Imperial College launched an online webinar series entitled 'Corpus Curiosum'.

- Leicester - Brain, Behaviour and Beyond - £500
- Liverpool – Liverpool Neuroscience Day - £500
- Oxford-KCL-Cambridge – One-day symposium led by students and ECRs - £1,500
- Imperial – Corpus Curiosum webinar series - £200

**Connecting with industry ('Building Bridges Between: Industry and Academia'):** Our strategic programme to increase connections between neuroscience in these two sectors was officially launched in September 2020 with a high-profile event featuring Sir Mene Pangalos, Executive Vice-President and President Biopharmaceuticals R&D, AstraZeneca. Held as an interactive, online discussion and Q&A, '*When industry meets academia*', provided a pharmaceutical industry perspective on how to improve translation and collaboration between industry and academia. Sir Mene argued for the benefits of close collaboration between academia and industry. For young scientists in particular, it provided an opportunity to taste both worlds, with the freedom to pursue a career in either sector.

The BNA's 'Building Bridges' initiative aims to foster collaboration between neuroscientists in industry and academia for information exchange through events and networking opportunities, and is linked to the BNA's core theme of 'credibility in neuroscience'. Having built momentum over the last two years, we look forward to reporting further development and successes of this initiative in the coming year.

**BNA Meetings:** Of course a major way for the BNA to fulfil its core aim to connect is through meetings. With the arrival of COVID-19 in March 2020 it became impossible to continue meeting in person, making a radical difference in the BNA meeting calendar and prompting us to connect via other means.

5 November 2019: Never the twain shall meet? A lunchtime seminar held at London's Sainsbury Wellcome Centre, discussing how to both strive for open, reproducible and credible science practices, and meet the demands of the Research Excellence Framework and its association with High Impact Factor publications (part of the Credibility in Neuroscience campaign).

16 December 2019: BNA Festive Symposium - Pain, pleasure and the agony of Christmas. Since introducing annual themes in 2018, we use the opportunity of December's Festive Symposium to launch the forthcoming year's theme – which, for 2020, was the neuroscience of pain. We were fortunate enough to have access to London's iconic Bush House to hold the event, and welcome over 300 people to discuss neuroscience, meet colleagues and make new connections. As mentioned above, BBC Radio 4 also covered the event, putting out a half hour programme dedicated to the topic.

20 May 2020: BNA and Credibility in Neuroscience – A webinar held in partnership with the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industries (part of the Credibility in Neuroscience campaign)

11-15 July 2020: FENS Forum. The major event of the year was the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) Forum, for which the BNA was host society. FENS Forums are the largest neuroscience event held in Europe, typically bringing together 6,000+ neuroscientists. Being the host nation therefore entailed extensive preparation by the BNA, led by a group (the Host Society Committee) convened specifically for the Forum in order to organise special events, workshops, a public programme and a lab placement scheme. It was therefore very disappointing that the Forum was unable to come to the UK due to COVID-19. It was particularly disappointing to neuroscientists in Glasgow, where FENS would have been held, and members of the Host Society Committee, and we would like to acknowledge here the hard work they put into events which ultimately could not take place.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 2020 FENS Forum was therefore held as an online meeting. This included the full programme of talks, posters and a virtual exhibition hall, as originally planned, and saw thousands of neuroscientists able to connect together online.

4 August 2020: Open Science in Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation (NIBS) – Webinar held in partnership with The Brainbox Initiative to help deliver one of the commitments of our Credibility in Neuroscience campaign, to "equip all neuroscientists with the skills, knowledge, tools and processes they need to carry out neuroscience research which will stand the test of time."

10 August 2020: Empowering and including you in UK neuroscience - An open discourse to discuss experiences, views and aspirations for the future of neuroscience that is fully diverse, inclusive and accessible by all. (Part of the policy work undertaken in response to BLM, see below).

19 August 2020: Reporting Research - A webinar for attendees to learn how to improve the credibility of neuroscience research through how findings are reported. (Part of the Credibility in Neuroscience campaign).

8 September 2020: 2nd Meeting of the UK network of Open Research Working Groups (UK-ORWG) – Supporting partner for delivering this day long online event promoting open science practices (part of the Credibility in Neuroscience campaign).

10 September 2020: The Pain of Missing Treatments for Pain: An Open Discussion and Q&A. Held in partnership with The Physiological Society, this online webinar brought together researchers trying to find new treatments for pain (part of our annual theme on pain)

15 September 2020: When industry meets academia. An online discussion with Sir Mene Pangalos (part of the Building Bridges Between initiative).

Through our meetings we enable neuroscientists to connect with each other, across disciplines and geographies, and goes towards meeting our object "disseminate information to all those interested in the neurosciences and related disciplines". Although many of the meetings we had planned for YE2020 were cancelled or have yet to take place, it is gratifying to see we were still able to connect neuroscientists by rapidly converting to online platforms and creating new events.

**Membership of societies:** The BNA is a member of three organisations which make sure the BNA membership is part of a larger voice. Membership of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB) connects us with all the life sciences across the UK. The Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) enables the BNA and BNA members to be part of European neuroscience, and membership of the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO) connects the BNA with the global community.

Of the three organisations, the BNA is most actively involved in FENS. The BNA is a member of the FENS Governing Council, and was represented at FENS meetings through the year.

### Aim 3: Influence

In the previous report we described how the BNA had greatly increased activities fulfilling this third aim, 'Influence', largely due to starting the core project 'Credibility in Neuroscience'. Thanks to support from

The Gatsby Foundation, in April 2020 we were able to appoint Joseph Clift as Head of Policy and Campaigns, leading the BNA's work on credibility and enabling us to truly 'be your voice' and advocate for neuroscience and neuroscientists. YE2020 has therefore seen us build on the work from YE2019 and again increase our 'influence' activities.

**Supporting and promoting credibility in neuroscience:** In summary, this campaign is to, "support the neuroscience sector to increase the transparency, reproducibility, replicability and reliability of neuroscience research". It requires the BNA to influence both ways: to influence neuroscientists and how neuroscience is done, but also to influence the organisations and environment in which neuroscientists operate, so that the way neuroscience is done is able to change.

House of Commons launch of the Manifesto for Credibility in Neuroscience: Having written this manifesto during YE2019, on 25 November 2020 we held an evening reception at Westminster to set out our vision to neuroscientists and policy makers at the highest level. With addresses from Professor Dorothy Bishop, Professor Lord Robert Winston, and BNA Chief Executive, Dr Anne Cooke, the event brought together key people to promote and discuss the commitments of the manifesto, namely (1) Supporting a shift in research culture that's welcomed and desired by the whole neuroscience community. (2) Equipping all neuroscientists - regardless of career stage, location, research topic or specialist technique - with the skills, knowledge, tools and processes they need to carry out neuroscience research which is as credible as possible. (3) Changing the landscape in which neuroscientists operate, so that the influences which drive neuroscience research also drive the most credible research.

Pioneering the use of preregistration posters: Preregistration posters represent a completely new way of presenting research at a science conference, where the *plans* for a research project are presented, before data has been collected, rather than the results and outcomes of research. BNA's 2019 Festival was the first major neuroscience conference to have preregistration posters, and we took the opportunity to evaluate their effectiveness. We were delighted to have this work published in *Nature Human Behaviour* in April 2020, which will encourage other conferences to follow suit and thus influence how neuroscience is done. (Brouwers, K., Cooke, A., Chambers, C.D., Henson R.N., Tibon, R. Evidence for prereg posters as a platform for preregistration. *Nat Hum Behav* (2020)).

Open Access (Open Access) consultation: In May 2020 we set out the BNA's position with respect to the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) proposed OA policy. Making research open and transparent is central to ensuring the credibility of neuroscience, hence influencing major funders like UKRI is highly important to the campaign.

BNA journal, *Brain and Neuroscience Advances*: Our journal is one of only a handful of journals worldwide to cover the full range of open science practices – being Gold Open Access, offering Registered Reports, CRediT taxonomy, Transparency and Openness Promotion (TOP) Guidelines and Badges for Open Practices - in addition to being open access itself. Running the journal (now indexed in PMC) therefore gives a platform to neuroscientists which enables them to change how they report research.

Credibility in neuroscience events: In YE2020 these included -

- 5 November 2019: Never the twain shall meet?

- 20 May 2020: BNA and Credibility in Neuroscience – A webinar held in partnership with the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industries (part of the Credibility in Neuroscience campaign)
- 11-15 July 2020: FENS Forum special events on credibility in neuroscience
- 4 August 2020: Open Science in Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation (NIBS)
- 19 August 2020: Reporting Research.
- 8 September 2020: 2nd Meeting of the UK network of Open Research Working Groups (UK-ORWG)

**COVID-19 advocacy:** Speaking on behalf of UK neuroscientists about the impact of COVID-19 on neuroscience research and neuroscience careers became top priority for the BNA’s advocacy work during the second half of YE2020. In early April, just a couple of weeks into the first UK lockdown, the BNA penned an open letter to all major UK funders of neuroscience, urgently requesting costed extensions for all grants, studentships and fellowships, highlighting our concerns about the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on our research community and an urgent need for support. In May we ran a survey to help us understand exactly what effect COVID-19 was having on current research plus - importantly - what support neuroscientists need as we work towards recovery. The results of this survey, based on around 400 responses, had key findings as follows:

- 88% of respondents had seen a negative impact on the overall progress of their research
- 80% of respondents were concerned their research will be hindered by insufficient funding to recover after COVID-19
- >25% asked for further support from their primary funder – however, 47% of these respondents were still waiting for a response
- 32% of respondents considering leaving neuroscience research as a result of COVID-19, with over 25% considering leaving research altogether.

This last point in particular raised serious concerns over the future of vital research into the nervous system and its disorders. Using this data enabled us to advocate for neuroscientists to funders and policy makers such as UKRI, which we are continuing to do.

**Equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in neuroscience:** Following the death of George Floyd on 25 May 2020, attention worldwide was drawn to racism towards Black people in particular (through the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement) and non-white people more widely. Although the BNA has had an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy for some years, and has actively and successfully increased participation of women through the BNA’s activities, to date we had not actively sought to tackle exclusion or under-representation of ethnic groups.

In response to BLM, the BNA held an online webinar, “Empowering and including you in UK neuroscience”, which enabled open discourse to discuss experiences, views and aspirations for the future of neuroscience that is fully diverse, inclusive and accessible by all. Outcomes of this plus further consultation with the neuroscience community, and how we are working to influence the demographics of UK neuroscience, will be included the YE2021 report.

We were also delighted to be a supporter for #BlackInNeuroWeek, when a team of neuroscientists, neuro-engineers, and science communicators celebrated and amplified Black voices in STEM.

**A voice in Parliament:** The BNA is a member of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee (P&SC). This committee is an interface between scientists and parliamentarians and provides opportunities for the BNA to inform decision-making that takes place in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and enables us to raise awareness of issues that we feel are important for neuroscientists. Meetings of the P&SC were somewhat disrupted by COVID-19 but the BNA was represented throughout the year.

**Animals in Research:** The BNA continues to be committed to openness on the use of animals in research and is a signatory of the Concordat on Openness on Animal Research in the UK. We are an active member of the RSB Animal Science Group, a special interest group representing the broad spectrum of UK bodies actively involved in supporting, funding, or formulating policy on research involving animals. We also developed teaching materials that enable discussion around the use of animals in research, particularly neuroscience, in schools.

**Other activities:** Further activities that show how we ‘influenced’ during YE2020 include:

- February 2020: The BNA contributed to the important POSTnote on Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCIs).
- March 2020: The BNA became a member of the UK RI BBSRC working group to review their neuroscience and behaviour portfolio, and make recommendations for the future.
- July 2020: We responded to an inquiry into the new UK research agency funded by the government, highlighting the potential opportunities that a UK ARPA could provide for neuroscience research.
- September 2020: We nominated a number of individuals for sub-panel 4, Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience (UOA4) for the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

**BNA individual prizes:** Last but by no means least, another way of influencing neuroscience is by recognising and celebrating the achievements of people within it. Winners of the BNA’s annual prizes in YE2019 were as follows:

- Outstanding Contribution to Neuroscience 2019: Professor Steve McMahon, King's College London
- Public Engagement of Neuroscience 2019: Dr Dean Burnett, Cardiff University
- Postgraduate Award 2019: James Phillips, University of Cambridge
- Undergraduate Award 2019: Pia Siegele, University of Edinburgh

## Plans for 2020/21

The strategic pillars of the BNA remain ‘Inform, Connect, Influence’, with the ‘Credibility in Neuroscience’ continuing as our core 5-10 year commitment underlying all our activities.

Immediate, shorter-term objectives for the year 2020-21 - all of which are about fulfilling these pillars - can be summarised as ‘Supporting, changing and adapting’ as follows:

1. Focus on advocacy and policy work to support neuroscientists and neuroscience research in the COVID-19 and post-Brexit world, ensuring that the BNA continues to meet the pressing need of society for vital research into the nervous system and its disorders.

2. Focus on commitment three of our credibility in neuroscience campaign, '*Changing the research landscape*', to continue pushing for a research environment that allows for the best, most rigorous, robust and reproducible neuroscience.
3. Supporting under-represented groups in neuroscience, particularly ethnic groups, in order to increase accessibility by everyone and as a result improve and strengthen the neuroscience community.

We also aim to grow the membership to 2,600 – 2,700 by September 2021.

## Review of financial position

### a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

### b. Financial review

During the year, the total income was £223,979. Half our income (£113,876) was from dividends paid from our subsidiary company BNA Events Ltd, largely generated from the previous year's BNA 2019 Festival of Neuroscience. The remainder was mostly from 'charitable activities' (£95,307) which is made up of membership subscriptions and income from advertising. The total expenditure, £233,414, was slightly higher than income. At year end 2020 the Charity therefore had a net loss of £23,534, with reserves falling to £568,752, a decrease of ~£23.5k from year end 2019. However, this fall is largely due to planned expenditure as part of the Gatsby Foundation grant. This funding has and will continue to be used to support the BNA Trustees' ten-year strategic plan, in particular the 'Credibility in Neuroscience' campaign, but also other activities which meet the aims to 'Inform, Connect and Influence'. The BNA is in a stable financial position to sustain itself and to meet its charitable Objects.

### c. Reserves policy

The BNA's reserves policy states that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to one year's expenditure, where one year's expenditure is calculated on the basis of:

- 12 months' overheads of British Neuroscience Association Ltd
- 12 months' direct expenses of British Neuroscience Association Ltd, where direct expenses include bursaries and grants, Bulletin production, subscriptions, and education/outreach work
- 12 months' overheads of BNA Events Ltd (averaged over a two-year period.)
- 12 months' direct expenses of BNA Events Ltd, where direct expenses relate to costs of the biennial Festival of Neuroscience (averaged over a two-year period.)

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in revenue, they will be able to continue the Association's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised and/or costs can be reduced. The level of this reserve will be maintained throughout the course of each accounting year.

## d. Principal funding

The main sources of income for the BNA in Year End 2020 were membership subscriptions and advertising in the Bulletin, income from our subsidiary company dividend payment, and donations/grant funding. The dividend income from the subsidiary company reflects income generated from the 2019 BNA Festival of Neuroscience, which is then paid into the charity the following year (YE2020). The BNA journal Brain and Neurosciences Advances is in its development phase and allows us to meet a number of our charitable objectives and alongside this should provide income in future years.

## e. Investment policy and objectives

The Trustees' investment powers are governed by Article 5 in the Articles of Association. This permits the Charity to deposit or invest funds in securities or property as may be thought fit in order to further its Objects, or is conducive or incidental to doing so, subject to conditions and consents as laid down in the Association's governing documents.

In February 2020, following extensive consideration by members of the Investment Committee, the BNA decided to disinvest in M&G (where it had held reserves for at least 5 years) and re-invest in funds held and managed by St James's Place Wealth Management (SJP). The decision was based on a number of reasons:

- The ability to manage investments more actively and transparently in SJP than in M&G
- The reduced risk of a portfolio with SJP, rather than the UK-centric portfolio with M&G
- The ability to apply the BNA's wishes to apply ethical principles aligned with the charity's objectives with respect to investments
- Splitting the investments into two separate funds with different levels of risk and accessibility: a lower risk, lower gain, easily accessible fund; plus a slightly higher risk, higher gain, more long-term fund.

The Trustees' policy for YE2021 will be to continue to optimise income on temporarily invested funds and to maintain a balanced portfolio of long-term investments, and continue to manage the charity's investments in conformity with our policy and Trust Deed.

# Structure, governance and management

## a. Constitution

British Neuroscience Association Limited is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. The Company is registered as a charity under the registration number 1103852.

The BNA is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and accompanying set of Rules. These were revised during the period of the previous report, and the new documents approved by the Charity Commission in June 2017. No changes have been made to governing articles since then.

## b. Organisational structure

The British Neuroscience Association is a membership organisation, with seven membership categories (defined in the Rules), plus a number of Honorary members. With the exception of Associate members, all members have voting rights on the principle of "one member, one vote", which is exercised at the Annual General Meetings (detailed in Articles 15-27).



The association has 39 Local Groups (Rule 5), that provide for a national network between members and the Association's governance team.

The BNA is governed by a Council of Trustees, comprising between seven and twelve members of the Association (Article 29). Non-Trustee positions on the Council include the Meetings Secretary, other co-opted members for specific functions and other invited observers or advisors, for example the Neurology Advisor. The specific procedures for the appointment and retirement of the Trustees are detailed in the Articles (32-35).

To help with discharging the activities of the Association, the BNA has also a National Advisory Committee (formerly "The National Committee") whose role is to represent different demographics and interests within the Association's membership (Rule 4).

Supporting all activities and needs of the Council, Committee, and general membership is the BNA Executive. During the year this consisted of one full time and three part-time staff members.

### c. Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Potential risks, once identified, will be monitored and controlled to mitigate any impact that they may have on the Association in the future.

To help with this the BNA has a Risk Register. Conflict of Interest (Rules 8 and 9) and a Register of Interests. BNA has a specific Declaration of Interests form, that is completed by all members of the Council and Committee of the BNA.

## Reference and administrative details

### Members of BNA Council

- \*Professor A. Dolphin (President, and Officer) appointed April 2019
- \*Professor Z. Kourtzi (Association Secretary, & Officer) elected January 2019
- \*Professor C. Harmer (Treasurer and Officer) elected June 2017
- \*Professor R. Henson (President Elect) appointed April 2019
- \*Professor S L Lightman (Immediate Past President) appointed April 2019  
resigned April 2021
- \*Dr V. Straub (Groups Co-ordinator) elected May 2020
- \*Professor N. Ramnani (Research Policy) elected June 2017
- \*Professor A. Lingford-Hughes (Professional Liaison) elected June 2017
- \*Professor A. Isles (Communications) elected June 2017
- \*Dr M Berners, (Independent Trustee) appointed April 2017
- \*Dr K P Cox, (Independent Trustee) appointed April 2017
- \*Professor A M Palmer, (Independent Trustee) appointed April 2017
- Professor Hugh Piggins, (Meetings Secretary) appointed October 2017
- Professor Sarah Guthrie (Meetings Secretary) appointed October 2019

\* Trustee position

## Members of the National Committee

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| • Dr Elizabeth Coulthard (Membership Secretary)                   | resigned Sept 2020    |
| • Dr Crawford Winlove, (Education & Engagement Secretary)         | elected Sept 2018     |
| • Dr Natalie Doig (Students and Early Career Representative)      | Resigned March 2020   |
| • Emma Soopramanien (Students & Early Career Representative)      | Elected June 2020     |
| • Dr Emma Yhnell (Equal Opportunities & Diversity Representative) | Elected February 2019 |

## Executive

- Ms Alex Campbell (Head of Marketing and Communications)
- Mr Joseph Clift (Head of Policy and Campaigns; appointed April 2020)
- Dr Anne Cooke (Chief Executive)
- Dr Georgina Hazell (Head of Policy and Campaigns; resigned January 2020)
- Mrs Sophie Sykes-Jerrold (Development Director)
- Dr Hannah Thurgur (Executive Officer; appointed August 2020)
- Mrs Louise Tratt (Executive Officer)

## Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of British Neuroscience Association Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
**Professor R. Henson**

President

21-06-21  
Date:.....

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**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of British Neuroscience Association Limited**  
**('the Charity')**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 September 2020.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the Charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: *Martin Bailey*

Dated: 22-06-21

**Martin Bailey FCA**  
Goodman Jones LLP  
29/30 Fitzroy Square  
London  
W1T 6LQ

**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	293	14,503	14,796	176,962
Charitable activities	4	95,307	-	95,307	89,671
Investments	5	113,876	-	113,876	8,348
<b>Total income</b>		<b>209,476</b>	<b>14,503</b>	<b>223,979</b>	<b>274,981</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	6	124,800	108,614	233,414	223,158
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>124,800</b>	<b>108,614</b>	<b>233,414</b>	<b>223,158</b>
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(14,099)	-	(14,099)	35
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>70,577</b>	<b>(94,111)</b>	<b>(23,534)</b>	<b>51,858</b>
Transfers between funds	14	5,621	(5,621)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>76,198</b>	<b>(99,732)</b>	<b>(23,534)</b>	<b>51,858</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		326,004	266,282	592,286	540,428
Net movement in funds		76,198	(99,732)	(23,534)	51,858
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>402,202</b>	<b>166,550</b>	<b>568,752</b>	<b>592,286</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 23 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04307833**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	2,253	3,153
Investments	11	301,168	152,065
		<u>303,421</u>	<u>155,218</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	12	56,677	217,560
Cash at bank and in hand		265,766	231,348
		<u>322,443</u>	<u>448,908</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(57,112)	(11,840)
		<u>265,331</u>	<u>437,068</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>265,331</u>	<u>437,068</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>568,752</u>	<u>592,286</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>		<u>568,752</u>	<u>592,286</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>568,752</u></u>	<u><u>592,286</u></u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	14	166,550	266,282
Unrestricted funds	14	402,202	326,004
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>568,752</u></u>	<u><u>592,286</u></u>

The Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

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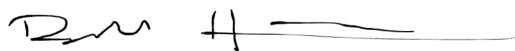
**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER: 04307833

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**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**  
**AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
**Professor R. Henson**  
President

Date: 21-06-21

The notes on pages 23 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

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**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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**1. General information**

British Neuroscience Association Limited is a Charitable Company Registered in England and Wales. The registered office address is Dorothy Hodgkin Building, Whitson Street, Bristol BS1 3NY.

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

British Neuroscience Association Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

**2.2 Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have considered the impacts that the Covid-19 pandemic may have for the Charity and it is deemed that the Charity can meet its commitments and liabilities and can continue for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

**2.3 Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.4 Income**

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service. Membership fees are recognised in the period to which they relate.

Grant income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

**2.5 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

**2.6 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)**

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, on a reducing balance basis.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
--------------------	---------------------------

**2.8 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

**2.9 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**2.10 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**2.11 Liabilities and provisions**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

**2.12 Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

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**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.13 Pensions**

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Donations	293	14,503	<b>14,796</b>	176,962
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2019</i>	2,591	174,371	176,962	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

**4. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Subscriptions and Bulletin advertising	95,307	<b>95,307</b>	89,671
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2019</i>	89,671	89,671	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**5. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Dividend income	113,435	<b>113,435</b>	7,795
Bank interest	441	<b>441</b>	553
	<u>113,876</u>	<u><b>113,876</b></u>	<u>8,348</u>
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>8,348</u>	<u>8,348</u>	

**6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Advance education in neuroscience	<u>124,800</u>	<u>108,614</u>	<u><b>233,414</b></u>	<u>223,158</u>
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>147,443</u>	<u>75,715</u>	<u>223,158</u>	

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2020 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Advance education in neuroscience	<u>65,040</u>	<u>168,374</u>	<u><b>233,414</b></u>	<u>223,158</u>
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>66,798</u>	<u>156,360</u>	<u>223,158</u>	

**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Advance education in neuroscience 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Bulletin production	26,746	<b>26,746</b>	24,146
Bursaries and sponsorship	8,486	<b>8,486</b>	23,739
Gatsby project costs	7,509	<b>7,509</b>	6,579
Subscriptions and membership	5,967	<b>5,967</b>	5,176
Advertising	8,976	<b>8,976</b>	-
Travel	517	<b>517</b>	-
Printing, postage and stationery	1,827	<b>1,827</b>	-
Telephone	512	<b>512</b>	-
Journal production	4,500	<b>4,500</b>	1,270
Neuroscience in schools	-	-	5,888
	<u>65,040</u>	<u><b>65,040</b></u>	<u>66,798</u>
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>66,798</u>	<u>66,798</u>	

**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Advance education in neuroscience 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Staff costs	138,191	<b>138,191</b>	134,635
Depreciation	900	<b>900</b>	300
Advertising	9,693	<b>9,693</b>	607
Travel	1,381	<b>1,381</b>	4,379
Printing, postage and stationery	133	<b>133</b>	93
Telephone	589	<b>589</b>	844
Website development	3,312	<b>3,312</b>	828
Professional fees	7,213	<b>7,213</b>	9,042
Insurance	1,414	<b>1,414</b>	1,017
Bank charges	2,285	<b>2,285</b>	2,043
Sundry	644	<b>644</b>	412
Governance	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	2,160
Bad debt	619	<b>619</b>	-
	<u>168,374</u>	<u><b>168,374</b></u>	<u>156,360</u>
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>156,360</u>	<u>156,360</u>	

Governance costs represent accountancy and independent examination fees.

**8. Staff costs**

	<b>2020 £</b>	<i>2019 £</i>
Wages and salaries	<b>122,102</b>	121,256
Social security costs	<b>8,035</b>	7,902
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	<b>8,054</b>	5,477
	<u><b>138,191</b></u>	<u>134,635</u>

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**BRITISH NEUROSCIENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**8. Staff costs (continued)**

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	<b>2020</b>	<i>2019</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<i>No.</i>
Employees	<b>5</b>	<i>5</i>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Total remuneration including national insurance and pension contributions in respect of key management personnel totalled £55,719 (2019: £54,664).

**9. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2019 - £NIL).

During the year ended 30 September 2020, expenses totalling £421 were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees (2019 - £873 to 7 Trustees) in regard to travel expenses.

**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Office equipment £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 October 2019	<b>4,355</b>
At 30 September 2020	<b>4,355</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 October 2019	<b>1,202</b>
Charge for the year	<b>900</b>
At 30 September 2020	<b>2,102</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 30 September 2020	<b>2,253</b>
<i>At 30 September 2019</i>	<i>3,153</i>

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**11. Fixed asset investments**

	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Other investments £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 October 2019	100	152,065	100
Additions	-	149,003	301,068
<b>At 30 September 2020</b>	<u>100</u>	<u>301,068</u>	<u>301,168</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
<b>At 30 September 2020</b>	<u>100</u>	<u>301,068</u>	<u>301,168</u>
<i>At 30 September 2019</i>	<u>100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>

**Principal subsidiaries**

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Charity:

Name	Company number	Holding	Included in consolidation
BNA Events Limited	07784689	100%	No

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Profit/(Loss) for the year £	Net assets £
BNA Events Limited	(5,314)	(4,935)



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**12. Debtors**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	<b>1,149</b>	<b>610</b>
Amounts owed by group undertakings	<b>53,860</b>	<b>64,605</b>
Other debtors	<b>-</b>	<b>612</b>
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>1,668</b>	<b>151,733</b>
	<b>56,677</b>	<b>217,560</b>

**13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	<b>2,782</b>	<b>1,325</b>
PAYE and social security	<b>3,850</b>	<b>-</b>
Other creditors	<b>39,063</b>	<b>-</b>
Accruals and deferred income	<b>11,417</b>	<b>10,515</b>
	<b>57,112</b>	<b>11,840</b>

Included within trade creditors is nil (2019: £95) owed to trustees in regard to expenses to be reimbursed.

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**14. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2020 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Funds - all funds	<u>326,004</u>	<u>209,476</u>	<u>(124,800)</u>	<u>5,621</u>	<u>(14,099)</u>	<u>402,202</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Wolstencroft fund	6,500	-	-	-	-	6,500
Journal fund	3,101	4,503	(4,500)	-	-	3,104
Society for Neuroscience	506	-	-	-	-	506
Roche Products	14,342	-	(8,486)	-	-	5,856
Gatsby Charitable Foundation	241,833	-	(91,249)	-	-	150,584
Guarantors of Brain	-	10,000	(4,379)	(5,621)	-	-
	<u>266,282</u>	<u>14,503</u>	<u>(108,614)</u>	<u>(5,621)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,550</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>592,286</u></u>	<u><u>223,979</u></u>	<u><u>(233,414)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(14,099)</u></u>	<u><u>568,752</u></u>

Wolstencroft fund - for expenses in regard to a lecture on 'Outstanding Neuroscience' at the biennial BNA Festival.

Journal fund - for editing and general running of the journal.

Society for Neuroscience - for the Core Concepts education project.

Roche Products - to support the continued teaching of neuroscience in UK schools.

Gatsby Charitable Foundation - to support the implementation of the BNA's new strategic plan.

Guarantors of Brain - funding for BNA's Brain Carer grants programme. The transfer represents expenditure incurred in the prior year in advance of the income being received but originally allocated to unrestricted funds.

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**14. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	<i>Balance at 1 October 2018</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 30 September 2019</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Funds - all funds	372,802	100,610	(147,443)	35	326,004
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Wolstencroft fund	6,500	-	-	-	6,500
Journal fund	-	4,371	(1,270)	-	3,101
Society for Neuroscience	506	-	-	-	506
Roche Products	10,620	20,000	(16,278)	-	14,342
Gatsby Charitable Foundation	150,000	150,000	(58,167)	-	241,833
	<u>167,626</u>	<u>174,371</u>	<u>(75,715)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>266,282</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>540,428</u></u>	<u><u>274,981</u></u>	<u><u>(223,158)</u></u>	<u><u>35</u></u>	<u><u>592,286</u></u>

**15. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2020</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2020</b>	<b>Total funds 2020</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,253	-	<b>2,253</b>
Fixed asset investments	301,168	-	<b>301,168</b>
Current assets	120,606	201,837	<b>322,443</b>
Creditors due within one year	(31,825)	(25,287)	<b>(57,112)</b>
Difference	10,000	(10,000)	-
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>402,202</u></u>	<u><u>166,550</u></u>	<u><u>568,752</u></u>

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**15. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	3,153	-	3,153
Fixed asset investments	152,065	-	152,065
Current assets	182,626	266,282	448,908
Creditors due within one year	(11,840)	-	(11,840)
<b>Total</b>	<u>326,004</u>	<u>266,282</u>	<u>592,286</u>

**16. Pension commitments**

The Charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £8,054 (2019 - £5,477). Contributions of £284 (2019: £612) were owed to the fund at the balance sheet date.

**17. Related party transactions**

At 30 September 2020, British Neuroscience Association Limited was owed £53,860 (2019: £64,605) by BNA Events Limited, its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Other than disclosed above or elsewhere in these financial statements, there were no other transactions with related parties requiring disclosure.