

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR CEMETERIES IN SOUTH ASIA



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Being President of BACSA brings many rewards, but on occasion sadness. As this letter was about to go to press, I received the news that one of our Vice-Presidents, Viscount Slim, died on 12 January, only weeks after the death of his wife. John Slim was a strong supporter of BACSA and he will be very much missed.

At the AGM in March, we say farewell to Sir Michael Davies as Chairman, to Christopher Penn as Projects Co-Ordinator and to Valerie Robinson as Events Officer. BACSA is greatly in their debt.

When he was appointed, Michael Davies intended to serve as Chairman for three years. In the event he has held the post for eleven. In the course of that time, Michael has done much more than provide continuity of governance. He has presided over the Executive Committee with wise counsel and a steady hand. Christopher Penn has been Projects Co-Ordinator for only three years but in that time has transformed the way in which the Executive and the membership is kept abreast of restoration projects by his use of photographs and PowerPoint presentations. Valerie Robinson has been Events Officer since 2003 and has used her contacts to arrange some memorable outings for members. She also organised BACSA's very successful 40th Anniversary Lunch in June 2017.

BACSA is fortunate indeed that Paul Dean has agreed to be nominated as the next Chairman, and that Denise Love is willing to take over as Projects Co-Ordinator and Dr Rosemary Raza as Events Officer. Paul Dean is a London barrister whose father worked in Government service in India until 1947. Paul is a trustee of the Indian Civil Service Association. Denise Love is a former British civil servant with Indian connections, in particular to Calcutta (where she was born) and to Bombay. Rosemary Raza needs no introduction, since she is already General Meetings Officer and a member of the Executive Committee. Assuming that members approve their appointment at the AGM, I welcome them to their new roles.

Rosemary Raza has also been chairing BACSA's Website Sub-Committee. Indigo Tree Ltd has been chosen to design the new website. Work has already started, and it is hoped that the website will be launched in the early summer. It promises to deliver a more impressive and user-friendly platform from which BACSA can show-case its past and current projects on the internet and give the public access to its archives and records. The new website will also have a "members-only" area, where the more recent editions of Chowkidar will be available and where members can make purchases and book events. A website with so many new features will require constant monitoring and updating. David Blake, who has performed the role of Website Editor for a number of years with great dedication is now stepping down. BACSA is grateful for his contribution. Valmay Young has agreed to take over. I am prepared to wager that she understands more about how websites are built and operate than any other BACSA member. Her success in running the FIBIS website means that BACSA's new website will be in very safe hands.

The subject of booking events on-line prompts me to mention the second BACSA Lecture Series, organised by Valerie Haye and Rosemary Raza. At the time of writing, three of the six lectures have taken place. By the time members read this letter, two lectures will remain. Tickets can be booked through Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.co.uk – The Raj Re-Examined). Co-hosted by the South Asia Centre at LSE, the lectures to date have been a sell-out success. I pay tribute to Valerie and Rosemary for the quality of the programme they have put together. The two Lecture Series have greatly raised BACSA's profile and has led to the recruitment of several new members.

Front cover: Schwaiger family grave, Nicholson Cemetery, Delhi

You will forgive me if, on the subject of recruitment, I return to an old refrain. We need our existing members to think hard about those they know in the next generation who might be persuaded to join BACSA or to whom, perhaps, they might gift BACSA membership. We need to bring on board those in their 30s, 40s and 50s who share our connection with, or historical interest in, the cemeteries of South Asia. How about giving Life Membership to a junior member of the family?

Another concern is the increasing cost of our restoration projects. Higher wages on the Indian sub-continent, new Indian Government taxes and a weaker pound have all contributed. A few years ago we were making grants of a few hundred pounds. Now it is rarely less than £5,000 and sometimes into five figures. We are constantly looking for new sponsors and are immensely grateful to those members who make bequests to BACSA in their Wills.

The present picture, both in terms of numbers of members and the financial strength of the Association, is encouraging: but there is no room for complacency.

Mark Havelock-Allan



Brigadier-General John Nicholson's grave, Delhi

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2018

Structure, Governance and Management: Established in 1976, BACSA has an Executive Committee (ExCo) that meets five times a year. Its members are the trustees of BACSA supported by the President and Vice-Presidents. ExCo monitors such ongoing risks as may arise. Two general meetings are held each year. BACSA has no paid staff and no office; all work is done by volunteers both in the UK and South Asia. It is governed by its Constitution and Rules. The BACSA Archives are in the British Library and are open to the public. BACSA has a website - www.bacsa.org.uk – and a Facebook page.

Objects and Activities: BACSA is an institution for the recording, preservation and conservation of former European cemeteries and isolated monuments in South Asia prior to 1947. It promotes education in the history of all places associated with European residence in the area from the Red Sea to the China coast – wherever the East India Company set foot.

Public Benefit: BACSA is the only established organisation helping to care for an historic part of the United Kingdom's built heritage in South Asia. It guides the public into researching and increasing its understanding of European lives and deaths in South Asia before 1947 through specialist help from BACSA members and others.

Achievements and performance: Grants were made for 12 cemetery projects to a total value of £37,635. The Association's work in partnership with the Deccan Heritage Foundation (DHF) to conserve the graveyard of the former British Residency in Hyderabad made steady progress. The Delhi Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH) began work to conserve the Nicholson Cemetery in Delhi. The Association held a well-attended series of lectures on the theme 'Reconsidering the Raj' in cooperation with the Institute for Historical Research, University of London. A second series, 'The Raj Re-examined', opened in November in association with the South Asia Centre, London School of Economics. Available as podcasts on BACSA's website, the talks raised the Association's profile. Members visited the East India Company archive at the British Library and the exhibition Splendours of the Raj at the Queen's Gallery. A group including members toured India visiting cemeteries in October. Sales of second-hand books donated by generous members raised £4,877. The Spring and Autumn numbers of BACSA's journal Chowkidar, edited by Dr Llewellyn-Jones, were published. This house journal up to the autumn 2017 edition is now available on the internet. A page on the Facebook social network site was set up. A brochure for travellers to India using cemeteries as a way of increasing awareness of Britain's contribution to the sub-continent's heritage and to raise BACSA's profile was published in co-operation with Indus Experiences. Life membership was re-introduced. Arrangements were set in place to ensure the Association complied with the General Data Protection Regulation.

Financial Review: The detailed accounts for the year to 31 December 2018 are published later in this report. The world economic environment seemed to have deteriorated sharply in 2018 and yet BACSA's finances remained in a good position for the forthcoming year. This was largely the result of several generous donations totalling £65,094 against £7,367 in 2017. Other income streams also increased: subscriptions from members rose to £7,378 from £5,554 in 2017. This rise largely reflected new life members each of whom subscribed £500. Book and publication sales similarly increased significantly – net sales amounted to £6,441, double the £3,048 net sales in the previous 12 months. Dividends from BACSA's investments contributed £9,213 against £8,678 in 2017. Together, the various income streams total £94,672 against total expenses of £48,886 giving the Association a surplus for the year of £45,786. The value of BACSA's

investments fell to £249,521 at 31 December 2018 from £270,906 a year earlier due to the extreme volatility in the markets across the world in November and December 2018.

BACSA made 12 grants totalling £37,635 for repairs and conservation of cemeteries in India and Pakistan. The balance of the expenditure was made up of administrative expenses including almost £7,500 towards setting up a new website for the Association.

Looking forward, BACSA needs to continue to increase its income streams, largely to offset the significant rise in the costs of conservation in the subcontinent. In India in particular, labour costs are rising fast and inflation is high. The uncertainties of Brexit have inevitably resulted in a weak pound and it may deteriorate further in 2019.

Plans: Bring into operation a new website with enhanced facilities for both members and visitors. Consider introducing a category of corporate membership. Continue to support work at Calcutta's South Park Street Cemetery and the Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust's restoration of the Scottish Cemetery Calcutta. Maintain cooperation with the Families in British India Society. Examine whether some of BACSA's documents might be deposited with another library due to an increasing lack of space at the British Library. Take responsibility for the cemeteries endowment fund held by the British High Commission, New Delhi. Publish a conservation manual.



Hyderabad: the Residency Cemetery. Frances Sydenham's tomb.
Applying lime mortar to consolidate the columns.

PROJECTS REPORT ON ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH ASIA 2018

BURMA

Rangoon (Yangon), Mingaladon: Yay Way Cemetery (Adam Foucar).

Difficulties in identifying a local supervisor held up implementing this project.

INDIA

Karnataka, Bangalore: Hosur Road Nos 1 & 2 Cemeteries (David Barnabas). All the graves and MIs have been photographed; the images will be accessible on the website in due course.

Karnataka, Seringapatam: Garrison Cemetery (Phillida Purvis). With a £2,000 grant, BACSA supported the de Meuron family's project to carry out conservation work on graves, erect improved signage and construct a chowkidar's hut.

Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Saugor, Haig Road Cemetery. The work to repair the boundary wall and gate was completed in exemplary fashion and funds matching BACSA's £5,000 grant were raised locally.

Tamil Nadu, Madras, St. Mary's Cemetery (William Pettigrew). A heritage architect was appointed at the end of the year to take the project forward.

Tamil Nadu, Nilgiris, The Lawrence School, Lovedale Cemetery (Phillida Purvis). The project to repair the boundary wall and conserve the graves was completed with funds raised by the Lawrencian Association matching BACSA's £5,000.

Telangana, Hyderabad, the Residency Cemetery (Tom Inglis). The second phase of this major project in cooperation with the Deccan Heritage Foundation (DHF) was finished. Work began on the third phase at a cost to BACSA of £25,576, out of a total of £34,477, funded by generous donors.

Uttar Pradesh, Agra, Cantonment Cemetery (Trevor Rosemeyer).

The annual clean-up funded by a grant from the East India Charitable Trust (EICT), Calcutta, tidied the left-hand side of the cemetery. The cemetery committee did its part by having the right-hand side of the cemetery cleared.

Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Nicholson Cemetery (William Crawley). The Delhi Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) completed Phase 1 of this major project: vegetation clearance, photographic and architectural documentation, survey of the site, project report for conservation and site development. Phase 2 requiring more vegetation clearance and a start on grave conservation was due to begin in early 2019.

Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, William Fraser's tomb (William Crawley). We continued to try to resolve the difficulties with the contracted stonemason that delay this project.

West Bengal, Calcutta, St John's church. A grant of £2,620 was made to digitize the burial records.

West Bengal, Calcutta, Lower Circular Road Cemetery. £2,000 were granted to the Christian Burial Board to conserve six tombs as part of a pilot project for 'heritage tombs.'

West Bengal, Calcutta, Scottish Cemetery. A further grant of £5,000 was made to the Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust, bringing the total grant to date to £21,500. Work on the graveyard is part of a community-led urban regeneration programme.

West Bengal, Calcutta, South Park Street Cemetery (Jennifer Garwood).

(a) £2,684 were paid to the Association for the Preservation of Historic Cemeteries in India (APHCI) on behalf of the Calcutta Old Boys (Sir Edward Studd) to conserve several tombs selected by the group.

(b) The Bishop Weekes Legacy. A final grant of £1,000, exhausting the fund, was paid to APHCI for the conservation of two tombs.

Annual maintenance grants. The EICT made grants to cemeteries in Agra, Calcutta, Dehradun,

Kotah and Meerut. BACSA made a grant to the cantonment cemetery in Jhansi.

Plans

Telangana, Hyderabad, St. George's Cemetery (Tom Inglis). The DHF's proposal for restoration of the cemetery is under consideration.

Uttarakhand, Nainital, cemeteries (David Mahoney). Following fresh interest, a local person or persons is being sought to form a group prepared to put up and manage a project.

PAKISTAN (Rosemary Raza)

Punjab, Faisalabad: Gora Qabristan (Christian Cemetery). The grant for the gateway was increased from £500 to £1,000. Dr Yasmeen Lari, conservation architect and founder of Pakistan's Heritage Foundation, is advising on the restoration of the entrance gate and conservation of graves.

Lahore, Mian Mir cemetery. Good progress was made in completing the rebuilding of the boundary wall.

Multan, the old British cemetery at Wahdit colony. Repairs to the boundary wall were completed and six tombs conserved.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES: Mme Yvonne Matignon-Gonsalves took on Goa. The Executive Committee is grateful for the support of our volunteer area representatives.



The Lawrence School's Lovedale Cemetery, Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR CEMETRIES IN SOUTH ASIA

Statement of Financial Activities Year to 31 December 2018	Year Ended 31/12/18 Total Funds £	Year Ended 31/12/17 Total Funds £
Incoming resources		
From Voluntary Sources		
Subscriptions	7,378	5,554
Donations and legacies	64,922	7,367
Net Sales of donated second-hand books	5,976	2,487
Tax claims – Gift Aid	2,358	1,673
Bank Compensation	269	578
From Assets		
Dividends on investments less brokers' fees	8,995	8,678
From Charitable Activity		
Net sales of publications	465	561
Meetings and Events	3,919	5,312
	94,282	32,210
Total Incoming Resources		
Expenditure		
Charitable Activity		
Cemetery works in South Asia		40,537
	37,462	
Record books and <i>Chowkidar</i>	3,100	2,446
Website and advertising	94	177
Administration Costs		
Printing, stationery and postage to members	2,116	2,546
Insurance	448	448
Subscriptions	218	50
Miscellaneous administration costs	850	635
Governance Costs		
Independent Examiner's fee	500	1,300
Meetings	4,098	5,768
Total Resources Expended	48,886	53,907
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources	45,396	(21,697)
Other Recognised Gains & Losses		
Realised gains/(losses) on investment assets	(205)	2,755
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investment assets	(16,180)	27,916
Net Movement in Funds	29,011	8,974
Total funds brought forward	298,562	289,588
Total Funds Carried Forward	327,573	298,562

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR CEMETERIES IN SOUTH ASIA

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2018	2018	2017
	£	£
Investment Assets		
Tangible Assets	7,494	-
Investment at market value	249,521	270,906
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank account	72,638	33,493
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	(800)	(900)
Conditional legacies and payments	(1,280)	(4,937)
	(2,080)	(5,837)
Net Current Assets	70,558	27,656
Net Assets	327,573	298,562
Charity Funds		
Restricted funds	-	-
Unrestricted funds	327,573	298,562
Total Funds	327,573	298,562

The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees on 7th February 2019 and signed on their behalf by:



Honorary Secretary



Honorary Treasurer



William Blaquiens' grave, Lower Circular Road Cemetery, Calcutta

The Revd John Christman Diemer, 1792. South Park Street Cemetery, Calcutta



DONATIONS IN 2018

BACSA receives generous donations every year, both financial and in kind. The majority are from members, but non-members also contribute. We receive reports and photographs of cemeteries visited, and donations for help in locating a relative's grave. Each issue of *Chowkidar* carries reviews of books, some of whose authors have donated amounts to BACSA for every copy of their book sold. Some donations are in kind, where people have given their time to do a task for the Association, for example reviewing a book for *Chowkidar*. Although not all donors can be listed, every donation is received with gratitude to further BACSA's work. Among the donors in 2018 were:

Financial donations

Mr Richard Broyd
The Inchcape Foundation
Mr Alan Tritton
Indus Experiences

The J P Getty Jnr Charitable Trust
The M StJ Way Charitable Trust
Ms Sally Lykiardopoulo

Second-hand books

Miss Briony Watson
The estate of the late Mrs P M Barr
Mrs B Lippett
Mrs C Seville

Lady Wade-Gery
Mr Alan Tritton
Mr & Mrs D Ferris
Dr R Raza

Cemetery and visit reports, photographs and miscellaneous articles

Dr William Crawley
Mr Charles Greig
Sir Mark Havelock-Allan
Mr F Chamberlain
Mr C Hickie
Prof J Richardson
Mr D O'Connor
Kerry King

Delhi
Delhi & Meerut
Madras
Calcutta
Srinagar
Hyderabad

Bangalore

Mrs Phillida Purvis

Mr Michael Way

Mr N Green

Lady Wade-Gery

Seringapatam &
Nilgiris
Delhi, Calcutta,
Darjeeling,
Bombay
Shillong

Donations in kind

Book reviewers for 'Chowkidar'
Mr Omar Khan for his talk at the
General Meeting in October

Mr John Randall

PRESIDENT

Sir Mark Havelock-Allan Bt QC

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple GCB CBE DL

Mr David Mahoney

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Nazir-Ali

Lady Wade-Gery

Mr Alan Tritton CBE DL

OFFICERS

Sir Michael Davies KCB

Mr Peter Boon

Mr Charles Greig

Mr Christopher Carnaghan

Chairman

Honorary Secretary & FFHS liaison

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Membership Secretary & ICSA liaison

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Richard Bingle

Mr David Blake OBE

Mr Paul Dean

Ms Valerie Haye

Dr Rosie Llewellyn-Jones MBE

Mr Christopher Penn

Dr Rosemary Raza

Brigadier Ian Rees

Mrs Valerie Robinson

Mr Clive Williams OBE

Ms Valmay Young

Records, BL archives & church matters

Records & FIBIS liaison

Second-hand book sales & lecture series

Editor of 'Chowkidar'

Projects Coordinator

General Meetings Officer

Military liaison

Events Officer

Communications Officer

Website Editor

AREA REPRESENTATIVES & other posts

Mr David Barnabas. Bangalore & suburbs

Mr Chekkutty N Puduserry. Kerala

Dr William Crawley. Delhi & suburbs &
Haryana

Mr Adam Foucar. Burma

Mr Jennifer Garwood. APHCI Calcutta &
Tejpur

Mr John L Harding. Malacca

Ms Eileen Hewson. Sri Lanka & Ladakh

Mr Tom Inglis. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana &
South East Odisha

Mr Leslie James. Penang

Mr Waqar A Khan. Bangladesh

Dr Rosie Llewellyn-Jones. Lucknow

Mr David Mahoney. Meerut, Dehra Dun,

Uttarakhand Hill Stations, Hong Kong, China

Ms Victoria Herrenschmidt, Facebook Editor

Mme Yvonne Matignon-Gonsalves. North
Karnataka & Goa

Miss Janhavi Pavgi. Poona & Kirkee

Dr William Pettigrew. Madras

Mrs Phillida Purvis. Seringapatam & Nilgiris,
Tamil Nadu

Mr Michael Rawlinson. Malaysia

Dr Rosemary Raza. Pakistan

Mr Syed Faizan Raza. Bihar & Jharkhand

Mrs Valerie Robinson. Rajasthan, Gwalior &
Shivpuri

Mr Trevor Rosemeyer. Agra & District,
Mathura

Mr Mark Whitehouse. Afghanistan

Sir Michael Davies. Publications Distributor

Miss Caroline Whitehead. Cemetery maps &
directions; UK MIs

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Notes to Members

- When writing to the Honorary Secretary and expecting a reply, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.
- Members' postal and email addresses will not be given out. If wishing to contact a fellow member, please send the letter or the email c/o the Honorary Secretary who will forward it. It is at the member's discretion whether to reply or not.

Registered charity No 273422



The tomb of Caroline Mary, 'the affectionate wife of Henry Paulin Esq', 1833.
South Park Street Cemetery, Calcutta. Before and after conservation.

