

Minutes

Friday 1 September 2023

4.30 pm

University of Exeter

<http://www.bnts.org.uk>

Present: Helen Bond (President), Michelle Fletcher (Secretary), Tom de Bruin (Treasurer), James Crossley (Information Officer), 54 members, 6 guests

The President welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** 2022 meeting minutes were approved by a show of hands.
2. **Matters arising**

N/A
3. **Accounts and report on finances 2022–23**

Our Treasurer reported on the accounts.

We gave £1510 of grants to PGR/unwaged members. Conference attendees were thanked for their generosity, as we received £780 from donations last year to enable this support. We have received less donations this year, and so a cash collection was also taken during the meeting.

The Society has £20,270 of reserves in the bank. This is to cover 3 or 4 years of BNTS running costs in case of conference cancellation etc. Please contact the Treasurer (tom.debruin@ru.nl) if you want to ask any questions.

The accounts were approved by acclamation.

4. **Election of committee members for 2023–26**

Secretary: The President thanked Michelle Fletcher for her work as Secretary over the last 3 years. She agreed to be re-appointed for a second term, and this was approved by acclamation.

Information Officer: The President announced that James Crossley was willing to stand as Information Officer for another year, completing his 3-year term. She thanked him for his work. He was re-appointed by acclamation.

Committee member: The President thanked Sydney Tooth for her 3 years of service.

Kelsie Rodenbiker was nominated by Sarah Parkhouse. Andy Byers was nominated by Steve Walton. An election was held, and Andy Byers was elected as committee member for 2023–26.

A question was raised about including attendees from the Republic of Ireland within BNTS membership. The Secretary said that this change in the Constitution would need to be voted on by members and the Charity Commission informed. The motion was supported and so next year's General Meeting will hold a vote on this matter.

5. **Seminars**

The Secretary thanked all the Seminar Chairs for their work.

She also reported on Seminar Chairs who had served their 5-year period/stepped down & informed the Society of their successors who will serve 2023–28:

Johannine Literature: Paulus de Jong to succeed Julia Lindenlaub

Synoptics: Séamus O'Connell to succeed Kent Brower

Revelation: Meredith Warren is stepping down.

6. **Promoting and Informing about the Society**

a) Information Officer's Report

James Crossley reported on promoting the Society. The main activity has been social media promotion. Followers continue to rise: X/Twitter followers have increased by nearly 400 during the year. Facebook is a public group (with participants vetted for academic credentials and certain posts checked for appropriateness) and has increased by around 200 over the last year. X/Twitter continues to have the most activity, but Facebook also has regular activity. In both cases, this engagement continues to be overwhelmingly academic-related (promoting papers, books, conferences, interviews, etc.). The annual conference is integral to the use of the social media accounts. As with last year, the social media accounts have taken on an important function in helping coordinate alternative travel arrangements. We encourage others to join in and send us your activities and achievements. Follow the BNTS on Twitter (@BNTsoc)

To promote larger events/vacancies etc. of interest to the whole society, contact the Secretary (secretary@bnts.org.uk) who can email our mailing list.

7. **Future meetings**

Garrick Allen and Martina Vercesi invited the Society to the **University of Glasgow** for the 2024 Meeting, **Thurs 22 Aug–Sat 24 August 2024**

8. **Members who have passed away**

The Society remembered Peter Doble and Anthony Thiselton in silence.

9. PhDs awarded

The President read out the names of those who had successfully completed their PhD since the last meeting, and the Society applauded their success.

Benjamin E. Castaneda, *University of St Andrews*, “Remembering Jesus in James, Peter, Jude: The Function of Jesus Traditions in Epistolary Argumentation”

Marlene Reid, *University of Aberdeen*, “The Need to Go Through Samaria: Eschatological Motifs of Restoration in John 4:1-43/ Evocations of Imagery in Ezekiel”

Lynn E. Mills, *Trinity College Dublin*, “Cleansing by Water and Spirit in the Dead Sea Scrolls and New Testament”

Emma Swai, *Liverpool Hope University*, “Too Far from Ideal? Disability and New Testament Writings”

Brandon Massey, *St Mary’s University, Twickenham*, “The Birth and Death of the PreMarkan Passion Narrative: The History of Form Criticism’s Most Assured Result”

Jacopo Marcon, *University of Birmingham*, “The Pseudo-Oecumenian Catena on Romans”

Timothy Mitchell, *University of Birmingham*, “Family Π in the Gospel according to Mark”

Nathan Betz, *KU Leuven*, “City of Gods: The New Jerusalem of John’s Revelation in Early Christianity (through ca. 313)”

Mark Button, *University of Chester*, “Paul’s Subversive Leadership: Gift-Giving, Patron-Client Relationships and Leadership in the Pauline Correspondence”

Lois Wilson-McFarland, *University of Edinburgh*, “Sticky Stories: Affect and Biblical Myth in Women’s Speculative Fiction, 1970-2020”

Alex Muir, *University of Edinburgh*, “Paul and Seneca on Consolation: A Comparative Study”

If you want to be included in next year’s announcement, email the Secretary (secretary@bnts.org.uk) with your name, university, and thesis title.

10. Any other business

N/A