



British Society for
Research into
Learning Mathematics

**BSRLM Chair of the Executive
AGM¹ Report
12 June 2026**

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Priorities

Following Alf's 2025 AGM report, in which he discussed five priorities that marked his time as Chair (1. inclusivity in the four regions and beyond UK; 2. reaching out to other Mathematics Education communities; 3. contributing to national Mathematics Education narratives; 4. stabilising finances and processes; 5. promoting the Society's journal, *Research in Mathematics Education* (RME)), this is a brief note to say that the Exec's work on all five is reported in various parts of this and other Exec members' reports. Especially in relation to 3, the recent foundation of the Association of Mathematics in Education (AMiE), following the merger of MA, ATM, AMET, NAMA and NANAMIC, is opening new opportunities for liaising with professional and practitioner bodies productively, for example through the AMiE Member Interest Communities (MIC) that are currently emerging and the work of which can benefit from, but also inform, the Mathematics Education research that BSRLM members do.

Day Conferences

Since Alf's last report in Nov 2025, there has been one online conference (on Mar 7) which ran smoothly and with good numbers. The day conference pattern Saturday f2f (autumn), Saturday online (spring), Friday f2f meeting followed by New Researchers' Day (summer) continues to work well. Bohan Liu and Cristina continue to deliver excellent organising of these events with. This is recognised in the enthusiastic, positive responses in participants' evaluation forms.

Plans for forthcoming conferences are as follows

- Autumn Conference 2026: integrated BSRLM contributions to BCME10 (23-24 October 2026, Nottingham)
- Spring Conference 2027: 6th March 2027 (online)
- Summer 2027 Summer Conference (incl New Researchers' Day, NRD): 25th and 26th June, Manchester *TBC*
- Autumn Conference 2027 (incl AGM): 6th or 13th November, Leeds *TBC*

¹ The AGM is typically held during the Autumn Day Conference. It has been brought forward to the Summer Day Conference due to BCME10 in October replacing the Autumn Day Conference.

² This report is based on the Nov 2025 report to the AGM and the Feb 2026 report to the Exec of the outgoing Chair (Alf Coles) as well as the May 2026 report to the Exec of the new Chair (Elena Nardi).

*We welcome offers to host conferences from anyone on JMC,
particularly if you can provide rooms for free!*

Report to the JMC meetings

A report of BSRLM activity was submitted to the secretary of the Joint Mathematical Council (JMC) on May 26 for presentation and discussion at the June 11 JMC meeting. Alf represented BSRLM at its Feb 2026 meeting. The two reports (Feb and June 2026) provided updates on the day conference schedule, the Janet Duffin Award, preparations for BCME10, progress update on the BSRLM@40 book “Research in Mathematics Education in the UK, 1985-2025”, progress update on discussions of the status of BSRLM, an update on ongoing negotiations of the new contract with Taylor & Francis and the provisional plan for a national presentation at ICME16.

2025 Janet Duffin Award and Lecture

The Janet Duffin Award Lecture is a scheduled contribution to the Society’s Summer Day Conference on June 12th by this year’s winner, Hui-Chuan Li (University of Edinburgh) for the article [STEM education and sustainability: what role can mathematics education play in the era of climate change?](#) published in RME. Heartfelt thanks to Amanda Hobson who agreed to represent Janet’s family and present the award! And of course, warm congratulations to the winner, the runners up and all RME 2025 authors!

New Researcher’s Award

All proceedings papers of the summer conference (and the New Researchers’ Day, NRD), authored by those self-identifying as a “new researcher”, are considered for BSRLM’s new researcher award. The award for 2026 will be announced later this year as the 2026 NRD is scheduled for Saturday 13 June.

Open Forum (March 7)

At the March 7 (online day conference) Open Forum, there were announcements, updates and / or discussions of the following (starting with a brief *In memoriam* note for Barbara Jaworski, 1944 – 2025): the Society’s status, society communications, RME journal contract proposed amendments (with particular attention to continuing with the print subscription option), and the website. The novelty in papers presented at BSRLM was also discussed briefly and two invitations were extended to members: to vote for the 2025 Janet Duffin Award; and, to submit abstracts for BCME10 (Nottingham, 23-24 October) by May 5. All items discussed are currently being followed up by the Exec.

BSRLM@40 book

[also in my capacity as member of the editorial team and with thanks to Alf, our lead editor, as well as Vesife Hatisaru, Jenni Ingram, Hilary Povey and Tim Rowland]

The timeline for the delivery of the book to Springer is as follows.

- Authors submitted chapters to be reviewed by 23 March 2026 (7,000 words, including references)
- Chapters were sent to two reviewers for peer review. Authors were asked expected to peer-review at least one chapter, March / April / May 2026

- Reviews and requests for revisions were sent to authors by the editors by end of May / early June 2026
- Revised chapters will be submitted to the editors by 31 July 2026 (and then chapters will be sent to commentary authors).
- Editors will check revisions and collate commentaries and introduction/conclusion.
- Book draft will be submitted for review to Springer by 30 Oct 2026.

BSRLM and Springer are currently negotiating coverage of copy-editing support for the book.

Website

The Exec welcomed Ben Sinclair on the Exec as the new Online Communications Coordinator who has put forward very promising suggestions to strengthen the website. Discussion of these is ongoing and will continue at the autumn (Oct 2 or 9) meeting of the Exec. The *Who We Are* section of the website has been refreshed and there is a plan for conversational blog posts from outgoing and current chairs of the Society. Stay tuned!

Society Status

Following Alf's Feb 2026 report to the Exec and 2025 AGM report, I am currently in discussions with colleagues involved in the leadership of other learned societies (e.g. the Microbiology Society) who have views / experiences of some of the options listed in Alf's previous reports. Discussions at the Exec are ongoing but they seem to indicate relative benefits for the *Charitable Incorporated Organisation* option.

Society International Networking Event (GARME)

Following Alf's reporting of the very successful Dutch / British event on 7 Nov 2025, and a note for future consideration in his Nov 2025 AGM report, another international networking event is currently in discussion for the Summer Conference in 2028. Informal discussions are currently taking place with Dr Xenia Vamvakousi, chair of the Greek Association for Research in Mathematics Education (GARME or, in Greek, "ENEDIM").

Research in Mathematics Education (RME): Taylor & Francis proposed contract

On May 1, our liaison at TandF, Channy Miller, shared a draft for the new contract (which will come into effect from 1 Jan 2027). The draft was discussed at the May 22 meeting of the Exec. Comments and queries (especially about Section 3 of the contract that lays out access to the journal for BSRLM members and the payment for this access – a discussion following earlier deliberations conducted by Alf) are collated and will be discussed further with TandF around end of June.

Research in Mathematics Education (RME): Journal editors' concerns and requests

Following an urgent meeting online with the RME editors on May 14, at the May 22 Exec meeting, there was discussion of the following points (and further action ensued):

- There is a significant and very welcome surge in the number of submissions of reasonable quality.

- The editors are concerned about reviewer commitment and engagement (including by BSRLM members).
- A 4th editor is needed to share the editorial workload more sustainably.
- As Jodie Hunter is concluding her term of office as editor in Sep 2026, a call for expressions of interest in this role (two positions, as the journal will now move to a 4-strong editorial team) will be announced shortly.
- The journal needs more diverse expertise (in methods and educational levels, especially early and primary years). The editors will continue to work on refreshing the Editorial Board accordingly.
- There is a request for increasing BSRLM support for editorial assistance (possibly from 4 to 6 hours per week³, also to strengthen support to the editors on checking for reference authenticity and hallucinations in the submitted manuscripts). Note: following deliberations with the publisher after the May 22 Exec meeting, TandF wrote that they are currently developing tools for this task (not available yet though).
- The editors were reassured about coverage of fee and UK travel to BSRLM day conferences expenses for journal related contributions to the conference programme and activities.

*RME has become a truly international, well-regarded journal and its success is down to the skill and dedication of its editors, editorial assistants, reviewers and of course authors over the years!
Congratulations and sincere thanks across the board!*

BSRLM Executive Committee: Meetings and decisions

The Executive Committee has met twice since Alf's last report to the AGM in Nov 2025. The Exec is also doing a great deal of work by e-mail to ensure the smooth running of the society. I am grateful to every member of the Executive Committee for their hard work and commitment and I extend a warm welcome to new members of the Exec who joined from Jan 1: Innocent Tasara (Publications Officer) and Ben Sinclair (Online Communications Coordinator). The work of the Exec on trying to capture the accumulated wisdom of the Society in the form of policies and procedures (and maintain a clear and transferable record thereof) is ongoing.

The Exec has decided the following:

- i) Continuation of Bohan's role as Conference Organiser: The Exec has decided that a colleague with experience in the role of Conference Organiser should work with a new colleague undertaking this role. As per Article 23 of the Constitution, "for special purposes the Executive Committee may invite further members to assist its work for periods of not more than two years", the Exec is inviting Bohan Liu to remain in the role of Conference Organiser for a further year, until Dec 31, 2027. As Cristina Mio who is currently in this role with Bohan is completing her term of office on 30th April 2027, Bohan will work with the newly elected member of the Exec for 2027. We thank Bohan for accepting this invitation. We will soon invite nominations for the conference organiser 2 role for the 3 year and 4 month term of office. This election will be ratified at the AGM in November 2027.
- ii) Officers due to retire on the 30th April 2027: The officers due to retire on the 30th April 2027 are Laurie Jacques (secretary), Rosa Archer (membership secretary) and Cristina Mio (conference organiser 1). We invite nominations for these roles to start on 1st January 2027. A call will be made to members shortly after this AGM.

³ With thanks to Sheeza Mahak, RME Editorial Assistant, for providing the information for these estimates.
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- iii) Appointment and election of Exec officers due to retire on the 30th April 2027: According to article 20 of the constitution,

“Nominations, together with the signatures of a proposed and seconder and accompanied by the written consent of the person nominated, must be sent to the Secretary by October. Voting will be by Single Transferable Vote (details of which are set out in Annex 1) at the AGM. Results must be circulated to members by mid-December.”

Since the AGM is being held in June instead of November 2026 to accommodate BCME-10, it will not be possible for voting to take place at the current AGM. The Exec have agreed that, due to this extenuating circumstance, these three incumbent officers will be invited to join the Exec in accordance with article 23. Ratification of the election of these officers will take place at the AGM in November 2027 and their term of office will end on 30th April 2030 (still serving the 3 years and 4 months period of office). The Exec have explored a variety of possible ways to accommodate this situation and believe this arrangement to be constitutional.

BSRLM Executive Committee: terms of office and elections

The following summarises positions and periods of office (red indicates the AGM at which new officers will need to be elected):

	Nov 2026	Nov 2027	Nov 2028
Chair	Elena Nardi	Elena Nardi	Elena Nardi
Secretary	Laurie Jacques	New Secretary	New Secretary
Membership Co-ordinator	Rosa Archer	New Membership Co-ordinator	New Membership Co-ordinator
Treasurer	Dave Hewitt	Dave Hewitt	New Treasurer
Online Comms Co-ordinator	Ben Sinclair	Ben Sinclair	Ben Sinclair
Publications Officer	Innocent Tasara	Innocent Tasara	Innocent Tasara
Outreach Co-ordinator	Jennie Golding	Jennie Golding	New Outreach Co-ordinator
Day Conference co-ordinators	Cristina Mio Bohan Liu	New Day Conference co-ordinator 1 Bohan Liu	New Day Conference co-ordinator 1 New Day Conference co-ordinator 2

The Executive also appoints two auditors of BSRLM accounts (for 2-year terms). Current auditors are: Gwen Ineson (until 2026) and Tracy Helliwell (until 2027). The name of a new auditor who will succeed Gwen will be announced soon. We are grateful to all for their service to the Society.

Changes to the constitution

Following approval at the 2025 AGM, there has been one change to Article 1 of the constitution:

from

The Society has the name “The British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics” (BSRLM)

to

The Society has the name “The British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics” (BSRLM). BSRLM is an unincorporated association.

As to be discussed under item 7 of this AGM’s agenda, the Exec proposes to the membership (to seek agreement in AGM 2026 and then bring back to AGM 2027 for resolution) the following:

Proposal 1

New article

The Executive Committee has the right to appoint more than one person to an Executive Committee role.

Proposal 2

New article

Members of the Executive Committee may, where necessary, call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to address matters that cannot be delayed until the next AGM.

Proposal 3

Amendment to article 8, from

“The day to day running of the Society will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee, which comprises nine officers: Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Co-ordinator, Publications Officer, Online Communications Co-ordinator, two Day Conference Organisers and Outreach Co-ordinator.”

to

“The day to day running of the Society will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee, which comprises eight roles: Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Co-ordinator, Publications Officer, Online Communications Co-ordinator, Conference Organiser and Outreach Co-ordinator. Some of these roles, e.g. Conference Organiser, are shared between two members of the Committee.”

Thank you

I extend my warmest thanks to Alf for a seamless “handover” period and for his continuing support with my newbie queries. I also thank every member of the Exec (Laurie and Dave, especially) very warmly for welcoming me on the Committee and supporting my transition into the role of Chair with patience and generosity.