



**The British  
Psychological Society**  
History of Psychology Centre

## History of the British Psychological Society Timeline 1901 to 2009

### 1901

24 October 1901, ten people meet at University College, London at the invitation of Professor James Sully, Grote Professor of Mind and Logic at University College, to form a psychological society on the same lines as those followed by the Physiological Society. (Edgell, B. (1947) *British Journal of Psychology*, Vol.37).

A committee consisting of Sully, Bryant, McDougall, Mott and Shand is elected. The newly formed Committee draws up rules. Shand is appointed Treasurer and Secretary (Officer). Subscription is fixed at half-a-guinea (10s 6d, or decimal 52.5 pence). Membership is restricted to recognised teachers in some branch of psychology or who have published work of recognised value.

### 1902

By the end of the year (1902), six meetings of the Society are held. Membership of the Society numbers 13.

### 1904

W.G. Smith becomes Treasurer. Charles S. Myers becomes Secretary.

The Society creates Fellowships.

### 1906

Members decide on a change of name from 'The Psychological Society' to 'The British Psychological Society'.

### 1908

Membership of the Society stands at 54 (BPS minutes).

### 1912

Membership of the Society stands at 71 (BPS minutes).

### 1914

The Society acquires the *British Journal of Psychology* (Editor C.S. Myers) created, in 1904, by James Ward and W.H.R. Rivers. Subscription rate to the Society increases from half-a-guinea to a guinea (£1 1s 0d, or decimal £1.05).

### 1918

Membership of the Society stands at 98 (BPS minutes).

### 1919

In February 1919 a change in the Society's constitution is made and three specialist sections are established in the fields of Medicine, Education and Industry.

Dr C.S. Myers' proposal that anyone merely 'interested in psychology' (not just recognised scholars or teachers) should be allowed to join is accepted.

The Executive Committee is replaced by a Council and the office of President is established. Dr C.S. Myers is elected the Society's first President; Clifford Sully is elected as the Society's first Librarian (Honorary).

Membership of the Society stands at 427 (BPS minutes)

### 1920

The Society first publishes the *British Journal of Psychology - Medical Section*.

### 1921

Membership of the Society stands at 700 (AGM, Spearman).

### 1922

The *British Journal of Psychology - Medical Section* is renamed *British Journal of Medical Psychology* (first 14 volumes (1922-1934) Editor T.W. Mitchell).

A fourth Section of the Society, Aesthetics Section is formed.

### 1923

Membership of the Aesthetics Section of the Society stands at 58.

### 1924

The Society forms its first Branches, one in Scotland and one in Birmingham.

F.C. Bartlett succeeds C.S. Myers as Editor of the *British Journal of Psychology*.

### 1925

Membership of the Birmingham Branch of the Society stands at 59 (BPS minutes).

Membership of the Scottish Branch of the Society stands at 58 (BPS minutes).

### 1926

The Society (and its large library) joins with the Royal Anthropological Institute to occupy part of its premises at 52 Upper Bedford Place, London.

Membership of the Society stands at 716 (BPS minutes).

### **1927**

Membership of the Industrial Section (of the Society) stands at 49 (BPS Mins).

Membership of the Birmingham Branch of the Society stands at 48 (BPS Mins).

Membership of the Scottish Branch of the Society stands at 73 (BPS Mins).

Membership of the Society stands at 717 (BPS Mins).

### **1928**

Membership of the Industrial Section stands at 44 (BPS minutes).

Membership of the Scottish Branch of the Society stands at 75 (BPS minutes).

### **1930**

The Society first publishes the *British Journal of Educational Psychology*.

The Society compiles a (voluntary) register of professional psychologists.

The Society publishes a Register of Members.

### **1932**

In November the Society joins with the Aristotelian Society in taking accommodation at 55 Russell Square, London.

### **1933**

The Society changes the name of its Birmingham Branch to Midland Branch.

The Northern Branch of the Society is formed and holds its first

meeting in Manchester on 21 October 1933.

Membership of the Society stands at 677 (BPS minutes).

### **1936**

Membership of the Society stands at 750 (BPS minutes).

### **1939**

Upon outbreak of war the Society's library collection is moved to the University of Nottingham.

### **1940**

A fifth section of the Society is added, the Social Psychology Section.

### **1941**

The Society is incorporated under the Companies Act 1929 (October).

The Society moves to the BMA building at Tavistock House South, St. Pancras, London.

Membership of the Society stands at 811 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1942**

Membership of the Society stands at 844 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1943**

A committee of the Council concerned with professional conduct is formed: the Committee of Professional Psychologists (Mental Health).

Membership of the Society stands at 908 (BPS Annual Report).

**1944**

An Australian Branch of the British Psychological Society is formed (October).

Membership of the Society stands at 1007 (BPS Annual Report).

**1945**

Membership of the Society stands at 1164 (BPS Annual Report).

**1946**

April 1946 A fire destroys the Society's office in Tavistock House resulting in the loss of an unknown quantity of Society records (including Council minutes) (Standing Committee Report, 14 May 1946).

The Society's library brought back from the University of Nottingham to Senate House Library, London.

Membership of the Society stands at 1218 (BPS Annual Report).

**1947**

The Child Study Society is incorporated into the Society's Education Section (min.944 BPS Council meeting 8 November 1947).

The *British Journal of Statistical Psychology* is founded.

The New Zealand Branch of the British Psychological Society is formed (May).

Membership of the Society stands at 1445 (BPS Annual Report).

**1948**

The *Quarterly Bulletin of the British Psychological Society* is launched. Editor is Frederick Laws, a journalist with the *News Chronicle*.

Membership of the Society stands at 1663 (BPS Annual Report).

**1949**

The collection of test material shown at the International Congress of Mental Health is to be housed at the Society's Tavistock House office. These tests are to form the basis of the Society's permanent test collection.

Membership of the Society stands at 1777 (BPS Annual Report).

**1950**

The Committee on the Training of Psychologists is appointed. A sub-committee of the Council of the Society was set up to collect information about the numerous organisations now operating in the psychological field in Great Britain.

Membership of the Society stands at 1897 (BPS Annual Report).

**1951**

The Society appoints a Curator of the Collection of Test Materials.

The *Appointments Memorandum* is instituted.

The Committee on the Training of Psychologists is re-appointed.

The Society becomes a founder member of the International Union of Psychological Science.

Membership of the Society stands at 2011 (BPS Annual Report).

**1952**

At an EGM of the Society's Council a modification to the by-laws is approved and at the next Council meeting a new appointment of Deputy General Secretary (of the Society) is made.

Membership of the Society stands at 2188 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1953

The Society sets up an *ad hoc* Publications Committee.

Articles and By-Laws Committee is appointed.

Membership of the Society stands at 2208 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1954

The Charter Committee prepares the first draft of an ethical code or statement on the Standards of Professional Conduct of the British Psychological Society.

The Charter Committee begins work on the compilation of a directory of psychologists.

Membership of the Society stands at 2293 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1955

Council sets up a working party to collect evidence for the Royal Commission on the Law Relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency.

Council accepts a suggestion by the Articles and By-Laws Committee that the present Committee of Professional Psychologists (Mental Health) should become a panel or group, under an association or Division of Professional Psychologists of the British Psychological Society.

South West of England Branch is inaugurated.

Welsh Branch (of the Society) is inaugurated.

Northern Ireland Branch (of the Society) is inaugurated.

BPS Public Relations Committee set up (after AGM resolution).

BPS Publications Committee takes over from the *ad hoc* Publications Committee.

Membership of the Society stands at 2345 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1956

Public Relations Committee re-appointed.

North-East of England Branch (of the Society) is formed.

On the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee, Council appoints Jack Kenna as the Society's first Archivist (Honorary).

Committee of Inquiry into the background of the difficulties with the Medical Section (and to make recommendations) is appointed by Council.

The principle that there should be Divisions as a new form of organisation in the Society is approved at the AGM in Manchester.

Membership of the Society stands at 2444 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1957

Revision of the Society's Articles of Association and By-Laws is completed.

By-Laws on Divisions in the Society are approved at the AGM.

Council adopts the Committee of Past Presidents recommendation that a Standing Ethical Committee is set up to draw up revised rules of professional conduct for eventual inclusion in the By-Laws.

Membership of the Society stands at 2461 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1958

Standing Ethical Committee (based on the recommendation of the Committee of Past Presidents) is appointed.

Standing Committee on Test Standards is appointed.

Working Party on Consumer Research is set up by Council.

Article and By-Laws Committee is reappointed to advise on Oversea Branch, Branch, Section and Division rules.

Committee of Professional Psychologists (Mental Health) is superseded by two separate Divisions in England and Wales and in Scotland to carry on its functions.

Under the Society's revised Articles and By-Laws (adopted in 1958) the Industrial Section becomes the Occupational Psychology Section.

Membership of the Society stands at 2600 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1959**

A General Purposes Committee (concerned with the preparation of business for Council) is constituted.

Committee on a New Journal in Social and Clinical Psychology is set up.

Committee of Professional Psychologists (CPP) gives rise to the English and Scottish Divisions of Professional Psychologists (EDPP & SDPP).

The Council of the Society appoints a Standing Committee on Test Standards.

Membership of the Society stands at 2674 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1960**

Council appoints an Executive Secretary.

Membership of the Society stands at 2655 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1961**

The Society celebrates its Diamond Jubilee with a dinner held at Zoo Restaurant, Regents Park, London (20 October).

The Society is asked to cooperate with the International Union of Scientific Psychology in the production of a revised edition of the *International Directory of Psychologists*.

The Society's legal advisers prepare the Petition for Royal Charter, the Draft Royal Charter and accompanying Statutes.

Membership of the Society stands at 2801 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1962**

The Society accepts a recommendation from the Committee on the use of the Myers and Spearman Memorial Funds that the Council should institute a medal to be known as 'The Spearman Medal of the British Psychological Society', and a lectureship to be known as 'The C.S. Myers Lecture of the British Psychological Society'.

Membership of the Society stands at 2914 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1963**

Australian Branch members vote in favour of the proposal to establish an Australian Psychological Society.

Membership of the Society stands at 3147 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1964**

The first annual C.S. Myers Lecture was given by Sir Frederick Bartlett at the University of Cambridge (November).

The Society renews its lease on its Tavistock House offices for a further four years.

Membership of the Society stands at 3337 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1965**

The Society's Petition for Incorporation by Royal Charter is approved by Her Majesty the Queen in Council (May). The Society is now governed by its Charter, Statutes and Rules.

The Australian Branch of the Society is dissolved on 31 December 1965.

Council considers a desire from the New Zealand Branch for greater independence.

First Spearman medal is awarded (to Anne Treisman).

Membership of the Society stands at 3587 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1966**

The Society's Division of Clinical Psychology (DCP) is formed.

A Board of Examiners, having reference to the Society's Diploma in Clinical Psychology, is appointed. The Board of Examiners is drawing up a syllabus for the Diploma.

The Australian Branch of the Society becomes an independent Society on 1 January 1966.

Membership of the Society stands at 3300 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1967**

The English Division of Professional Psychologists (EDPP) changes name to the Division of Educational & Child Psychology (DECP).

The Scottish Division of Professional Psychologists (SDPP) changes name to the Scottish Division of Educational & Child Psychology (SDECP).

The Society establishes a Headquarters Fund and sets up a Board of Trustees to administer it.

The Society institutes the Diploma in Clinical Psychology and publishes the syllabus and regulations.

The Society creates a salaried post of Press Officer to the Society.

The Council approves the dissolution of the New Zealand Branch of the Society (October).

Membership of the Society stands at 3350 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1968**

The first examination in the Society's Diploma in Clinical Psychology is held (September).

Council approves a resolution by the Midland Branch to dissolve the Midland Branch.

The New Zealand Branch of the Society becomes an independent Society.

In keeping with a bequest to the Society a William Inman Prize for the best published article on psychosomatic ophthalmology is set up.

Membership of the Society stands at 3356 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1969**

The Society moves from Tavistock Square to rented accommodation at the Royal Institution, Albermarle Street, London on a 10- to 14-year lease (September).

The Working Party on the Legal Registration of Psychologists in the UK is set up by Council (December).

The Mathematical and Statistical Section of the Society is formed.

Golden Jubilee of the Educational, Medical and Occupational Sections of the Society.

Membership of the Society stands at 3538 (BPS Annual Report).

### **1970**

Council agrees that the journals in the Society's library at Goldsmiths

be incorporated as a subject library within the main University of London library.

The report of the Working Party on the Organisation of the Society receives approval in principle at a special meeting held during the Annual Conference.

Membership of the Society stands at 3811 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1971

The Division of Occupational Psychology of the Society is formed.

The Standing Press Committee is established.

The Society acts as joint host in London at a reception given on the occasion of the Fifth International Congress of Analytical Psychology.

Membership of the Society stands at 4106 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1972

The Developmental Psychology Section is formed.

Council discusses a proposal to form a Division of Therapeutic Psychology and sets up a working party on the needs of members who practise psychotherapy.

A report of the Working Party on the Society's Library is published.

Membership of the Society stands at 4555 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1973

Scientific and Professional Affairs Boards are formed and a full-time Secretary-General (a psychologist) is appointed (four-year term).

The Society reaches agreement with the National Institute of Industrial psychology about *Occupational Psychology* the publication

of which will be taken over by the Society with the title, *Journal of Occupational Psychology*.

Membership of the Society stands at 4862 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1974

The Society's *Quarterly Bulletin* changes to a monthly format available only to members.

The Statutes of the Society are amended to allow modification of subscription rates and abolish secret ballots.

The Society's Professional Affairs Board completes arrangements for the setting up of regional offices in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

A Code of Professional Conduct (the Ethical Code) for members of the BPS Division of Occupational Psychology is approved by the Professional Affairs Board.

Membership of the Society stands at 5058 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1975

The Scientific Affairs Board takes over the responsibility of organising the annual Myers Lecture and for awarding the Spearman Medal.

The Scientific Affairs Board explores the possibilities of forming new Sections to cover all interest groups, especially in the field of psychobiology, within the Society.

The first examination for the Society's Diploma in Developmental and Educational Psychology.

Membership of the Society stands at 5848 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1976

The Society's main administrative offices move from Albermarle



Street, London to St Andrews House, Leicester (November).

The Medical Section is renamed the Section of Medical Psychology and Psychotherapy.

The Scientific Affairs Board drafts an ethical code for research with human subjects and conducts an enquiry into animal experimentation.

Division of Criminological & Legal Psychology (DCLP) is set up.

A Northern Ireland regional office is established in the Psychology Department of Queen's University, Belfast.

Membership of the Society stands at 5896 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1977

Suggested ethical principles for research with human subjects is published in the January *Bulletin*.

The examination for eligibility for graduate membership is formally established.

Council approves amendments to the Scientific Affairs Board's rules to provide for representation of every Section of the Society on the Board and to allow *bona fide* students who are Graduate Members of the Society to serve as student representatives.

Membership of the Society stands at 6331 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1978

The Cognitive Psychology Section of the British Psychological Society is formed.

The Society cancels its subcontract publishing arrangements in order to become the publisher of its own journals (from 1979).

The Scientific Affairs Board publishes *Ethical Principles for Research*

*with Human Subjects* and a *Report of the Working Party on Animal Experimentation*.

The Professional Affairs Board seeks to take steps to secure the legal registration of psychologists in the UK.

First examination for the Diploma in Developmental and Educational Psychology is held (September).

Membership of the Society stands at 6744 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1979

Dr A. Lovie (Liverpool University) succeeds Jack Kenna as the Society's Honorary Archivist.

The North Eastern Branch of the Society ceases activity.

The Wessex & Wight Branch of the Society is formed (Chair H.J. Wright).

Membership of the Society stands at 7130 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1980

The Standing Committee on Publications launches a major book publishing programme.

A special supplement to the *Bulletin* entitled *A Balance Sheet on Burt* is published.

Terms of reference for a proposed Presidents' Award are approved and a committee is set up to implement the award scheme.

Discussions take place concerning the possibility of the Society becoming a founder member of the newly forming European Federation of Professional Psychologists' Associations.

Membership of the Society stands at 7645 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1981

Membership votes and gives overwhelming support to the notion that the Society accepts in principle the necessity of setting up a legal register of psychologists in the United Kingdom. The Steering Committee on Registration is established.

Council decides to publish a new journal to be called the *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*.

The Presidents' Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychological Knowledge is established and the first winner announced (Alan D. Baddeley).

The Society joins the European Federation of Professional Psychologists' Associations.

Membership of the Society stands at 8284 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1982

The Society is formally received into membership of the International Council of Scientific Unions.

The Counselling Psychology Section is formed.

The Psychology Project Award for Schools and Colleges is launched.

Membership of the Society stands at 8721 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1983

Members vote in favour of seeking to have Statute 15(3) amended. Statute 15(3) sets the ceiling figure above which annual subscriptions of the Society cannot be raised.

The History and Philosophy of Psychology Section is formed.

The Books and Special Projects Group is formed.

Membership of the Society stands at 9368 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1984

The Psychobiology Section is formed.

The Mathematical and Statistical Psychology Section adopted the new title of the Mathematical, Statistical and Computing Section.

The joint winners of the Psychology Project Award for Schools and Colleges are announced.

First meeting of the *ad hoc* Group of Teachers of Psychology takes place during the London Conference.

The Society takes out membership in a new organisation – the Association of Learned Societies in the Social Sciences.

Members vote, at the AGM, for Charter, Statutes and Rules of the Society to make provision for Special Groups in addition to Divisions for professional and applied psychologists, geographical Branches and the scientific Sections.

Council sets up a new Standing Committee on Communications.

Members approve the formal adoption of a Code of Conduct (later to be published in *The Bulletin*, 1985, 38: 41–43).

Membership of the Society stands at 9727 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1985

Members vote in favour of a resolution that the Society should seek authority to amend its Charter to permit it to maintain a non-statutory Register of Chartered Psychologists.

Final examination for the Society's Diploma in Developmental and Educational Psychology.

Council sets up a new Membership and Qualifications Board (in prototype).

Council seeks agreement from the Royal Society for a British National Committee for Psychological Science to be set up.

The Scientific Affairs Board inaugurates an annual lecture on psychology for sixth formers attending the British Association of Young Scientist meetings during the Annual Conference of the British Association.

The Society becomes a corporate member of Age Concern (England).

Membership of the Society stands at 10,089 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1986

A Special General Meeting approves the formation of the new Health Psychology Section (the 11th Section of the Society).

The Society decides to change the title of its 'Scientific and Professional Secretary' to 'Executive Secretary' and its 'Headquarters' (in Leicester) to just 'the Office'.

Membership of the Society stands at 10,555 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1987

On 18 December at Buckingham Palace, the Queen grants amendments to the Charter, thereby allowing the Society to maintain a Register of Chartered Psychologists. Amendments to the Statutes at Council Chamber, Whitehall follow allowing the provision for 'Special Groups'.

The Group of Teachers of Psychology, an *ad hoc* group, is formally constituted as a Special Group.

An Associate of the Society becomes an 'Associate Fellow' (AFBPsS).

Council sets up a new Investigatory Committee and Disciplinary Board.

A Special General Meeting of the Society approves the formation of the Psychology of Women Section (the 12th Section of the Society).

Council decides to stick with the official logo of the Society 'Psyche' contained within its Common Seal.

Membership of the Society stands at 11,175 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1988

*The Psychologist*, the Bulletin of The British Psychological Society launches in a new format.

Council restructures the Standing Committee on Publications into two separate committees: the Journals Committee and the Books and Special Projects Group.

Council approves the change in name of the former Medical Psychology and Psychotherapy Section to become the Psychotherapy Section.

The Professional Affairs Board reports that a draft proposal, within the Society, for a new Division of Research Psychologists meets with limited support.

The Standing Committee on Communications is reorganised.

Membership of the Society stands at 11,669 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1989

New procedures for Fellowship applications are introduced.

The Special Group in Counselling Psychology, formed earlier in the year, merges with the Counselling Psychology Section.

Steps are taken to set up a Society Diploma in the Teaching of Psychology, and a Board of Examiners is appointed.

The Professional Affairs Board makes plans for two Diplomas

offered by the Society: Diploma in Counselling Psychology and Diploma in Occupational Psychology.

Amendments are made to the Statutes at Council Chamber, Whitehall (3 November).

Membership of the Society stands at 13,031 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1990

A reception is held on 30 July at the Leicester office to mark the launch of the first printed edition of the Society's Register of Chartered Psychologists.

At a Special General Meeting held on 3 January 1991 a resolution is passed to form the Special Group of Psychologists in Central Government.

A further Special General Meeting to vote on a resolution for a Special Group in Clinical Neuropsychology is planned.

An Information Committee and a Press Officer are appointed by the Society. The Information Committee replaces the Standing Committee on Communications.

Council endorses the introduction of a new award of Honorary Life Member of the British Psychological Society.

The Society sets up the Grace Rawlings Visual Archive and appoints its first Honorary Visual Archivist.

The Standing Committee on Ethics in Research with Human Participants completes and publishes (in June's *Psychologist*) its revision of the Society's 1978 code of ethical principles for conducting research with human participants (provisional adoption).

Membership of the Society stands at 14,105 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1991

The Standing Committee of the Council for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities is set up.

The Society is accepted into membership of the United Kingdom Inter-Professional Group (UKIPG).

Launch of the Certificate and Statement Scheme for Competence in Occupational Testing.

The Scientific Affairs Board announces the start of a new annual lecture series called 'The D.E. Broadbent Lecture' to be given at the London Conference.

Membership of the Society stands at 15,039 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1992

The Society now has 25 separate subsystems and sets up a working party to consider the whole structure of the Society with particular reference to the needs of the subsystems.

Council approves the formation of the Section for Sport and Exercise Psychology and for two new Special Groups, for psychologists in social services and for those concerned with consumer behaviour, marketing and economic psychology.

The Health Psychology Section votes to become a Special Group in Health Psychology.

On the advice of the Scientific Affairs Board, Council endorses the formal adoption of revised Ethical Principles for Research with Human Participants. (subsequently published in *The Psychologist*).

The Scientific Affairs Board adopts a proposal to introduce a British Psychological Society Book Award.

The Scientific Affairs Board re-launches the 1968 William Inman

Prize for the best published article on psychosomatic ophthalmology.

Membership of the Society stands at 15,938 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1993

The result of the ballot of Society members, endorsing the Society's commitment to the goal of achieving the statutory registration of psychologists based on the Register of Chartered Psychologists, is announced during the BPS Annual Conference.

Membership of the Society stands at 17,173 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1994

The Society publishes the first Directory of Chartered Psychologists.

Council appoints the Working Group on Statutory Registration, chaired by the President.

Amendments are made to the Statutes at Council Chamber, Whitehall (2nd February).

Members of the Society vote in favour of the Special Group in Counselling Psychology being redesignated as the Division of Counselling Psychology.

The Student Member Group is formed.

New rules come into force relating to the basis on which new Branches of the Society can be formed.

The Society's equal opportunities policy is published in *The Psychologist*.

The Award for Challenging Inequality of Opportunity is introduced.

The BPS Welfare Fund is established.

Membership of the Society stands at 18,448 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1995

The Society sets up a Centenary Committee to start making arrangements for the Society's centenary in 2001.

The Society offers a new Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Teaching of Psychology.

Members vote to set up the Special Group for Psychologists and Social Services approved by Council in 1992.

Following review, the name of the committee that oversees the publication of *The Psychologist* is renamed 'The Psychologist Policy Committee' (formerly *The Psychologist* Editorial Committee).

The Society purchases the Leicester office building of the Society, St Andrews House.

The West Midlands Branch of the Society is formed.

Membership of the Society stands at 19,443 (BPS Annual Report).

### 1996

The Society continues steps to achieve Parliamentary legislation to introduce a statutory register of psychologists.

Council gives its support for the formation of two new Sections in Transpersonal Psychology, and Consciousness and Experiential Psychology. Level of interest is demonstrated quickly for the formation of the Transpersonal Section thus members vote for its immediate formation.

The Society sets up a research unit named Centre for Outcomes Research and Effectiveness (CORE).

Membership of the Society stands at 21,239 (BPS Annual Report).

## 1997

Council adopts a Strategic Plan for the development of the Society over the next five years.

The South West of England Branch of the Society is formed.

The Special Group for Teachers of Psychology votes to abolish itself. A new Division of Teachers and Researchers in Psychology is formed.

The Special Group of Health Psychology becomes the Division of Health Psychology.

The Centenary Committee announces an agreement for the Science Museum to stage a major exhibition with a psychological theme for 2001. The Society is sponsoring a Research Fellow appointed in conjunction with the Science Museum to take responsibility for developing the exhibition.

The Scientific Affairs Board establishes the Award for Outstanding Doctoral Research Contributions to Psychology.

Membership of the Society stands at 22,605 (BPS Annual Report).

## 1998

Council undertakes a review of the Society's structure. The Finance and General Purposes Committee becomes the Board of Directors and the Chairs of the current main Boards and Committees of the Council take on the role of Directors.

Council sets up an Ethics Committee to develop general guidelines and advisory statements.

The Scientific Affairs Board establishes a lecture in honour of the memory of Professor Hans Eysenck. This lecture will be delivered at London Conference beginning in 1999.

Draft Statement on the use of animals in psychology is approved by Council and published.

The Professional Affairs Board introduces a new Society Award for Distinguished Contributions to Professional Applied Psychology.

The BPS Journals office based in London is moved to Leicester.

The Special Group for Psychologists in Central Government is disbanded.

The Lesbian and Gay Psychology Section is formed.

The Special Group of Teachers becomes the Division for Teachers and Researchers in Psychology (DTRP).

Membership of the Society stands at 24,102 (BPS Annual Report).

## 1999

The Society's Division of Criminological & Legal Psychology (DCLP) is renamed the Division of Forensic Psychology (DFP).

The Society purchases additional offices at 33 John Street London.

The Special Group in Clinical Neuropsychology becomes the Division of Neuropsychology.

Major redesign for *The Psychologist*.

A Publications Directorate is set up to coordinate publishing activities.

Revised guidelines for psychologists working with animals are published.

Membership of the Society stands at 25,503 (BPS Annual Report)

## 2000

The Society appoints its first Chief Executive (Barry Brooking).

New Society offices are opened in Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Society launches a new website.

Council does not approve the proposal for a Division of Business Psychology but supports the proposal for the formation of a Differential Psychology Section.

A revised Strategic Plan is approved by Council.

Membership votes in support of a new structure of governance. A new board of the Society, the Publications & Communications Board is set up.

The Professional Affairs Board announces that it has instigated a new award to recognise the work of professional psychologists who have made a major contribution to the overall public good through groundbreaking work.

Membership of the Society stands at 26,809 (BPS Annual Report)

## **2001**

The Society's Division of Occupational Psychology is reconstituted to include members of the former Occupational Psychology Section of the Society.

New Society office is opened in Scotland.

The Society marks its centenary with exhibitions celebrating the history of psychology at the Science Museum, the National Portrait Gallery in addition to other events.

Council implements an earlier decision to continue book publishing with a commercial publisher and end its own books publishing. The Society selects Blackwell as its partner under the new imprint BPS Blackwell.

Books and Special Projects Group is disbanded.

Membership of the Society stands at 28,460 (BPS Annual Report).

## **2002**

The Society receives approval from the Privy Council for changes to its Charter and Statutes which allows transfer of trustee status from the Council to an expanded Board of Directors named the Board of Trustees. The Council is now the Representative Council.

The Scientific Affairs Board (SAB) becomes the Research Board. The Professional Affairs Board (PAB) becomes the Professional Practice Board (PPB). The Membership and Qualifications Board (MQB) is split into two new boards, the Membership and Professional Training Board (MPTB) and the Psychology Education Board (PEB). The Disciplinary Board (incorporating the Investigatory Committee) becomes the Professional Conduct Board.

The Society appoints a full-time Parliamentary Officer.

Council approves a proposal to form a North East of England Branch.

The first Expert Witness Directory is published.

The Psychological Testing Centre (PTC) is launched.

The Society's History of Psychology Centre, based in John Street London, is formally created and a Director appointed (September).

The Research Board agrees to establish the Michael Argyle Lecture.

Membership of the Society stands at 30,174 (BPS Annual Report)

## **2003**

The Health Professions Council (HPC) agrees to recommend the Society's application for membership (of HPC) to the Secretary of State.

Membership of the Society stands at 32,427 (BPS Annual Report)'

#### **2004**

The Society's new five-year strategic plan is published.

The History of Psychology Centre, based in John Street, London, is formally opened (February).

The Sport and Exercise Psychology Section becomes the Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology.

The Special Group in Coaching Psychology is formed.

The Society's logo (Psyche) is retained and redesigned.

A College of Fellows, accountable to the Research Board, is set up.

The Register of Psychologists Specialising in Psychotherapy is formally launched at the Society's Annual Conference.

The Society's application to become a member organisation of the Science Council is accepted.

A new website, including a media centre, is launched.

Membership of the Society stands at 34,375 (BPS Annual Report)

#### **2005**

The Society sells its John Street London office (sale completed in 2006) and purchases a new building at 30 Tabernacle Street (London).

The Society rejects a proposal for statutory regulation by the Health Professions Council.

The Society's mandatory system of CPD for Chartered Psychologists holding a Practising Certificate comes into operation.

The Policy Support Unit is formed.

A Qualitative Methods in Psychology Section is formed.

Membership of the Society stands at 35,800 (BPS Annual Report).

#### **2006**

The London and Home Counties Branch of the Society is inaugurated.

The Scottish Branch changes its name to BPS-Scotland.

The Society leaves its London office at John Street and moves to Tabernacle Street EC2. The archive collection is placed in storage pending a review of the future of the History of Psychology Centre.

The Wessex and Wight Branch's boundary is extended to include Kent. The Branch is renamed Wessex Branch.

Inaugural Fellowships Award Ceremony held at the Annual Conference in Cardiff.

A New Code of Ethics and Conduct is published (March).

The Society is granted a licence by the Science Council to award the title of Chartered Scientist (CSci).

Membership of the Society stands at 37,601 (BPS Annual Report)

#### **2007**

Society launches the *Journal of Neuropsychology* at its Annual Conference.

Agreement signed with Wellcome Library concerning the transfer of a major part of the Society's archive to Wellcome.

Membership of the Society stands at 39,061 (BPS Annual Report).

#### **2008**

*The Psychologist* undergoes its second major redesign.



Membership of the Society stands at 40,395 (BPS Annual Report).

## 2009

The Society's Learning Centre launches in April.

The Lesbian and Gay Section becomes the Psychology of Sexualities

Section.

The Health Professions Council becomes the statutory regulator for practitioner psychologists from 1 July 2009. The Society ceases to perform a regulatory function for psychologists.