

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

advancing ornithology



2016

Annual Report & Accounts

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

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REGISTERED CHARITY | FOUNDED 1858

249877 (ENGLAND & WALES) | SCO44850 (SCOTLAND)



PRESIDENT

Prof Keith Hamer

“The BOU had another highly productive and successful year in 2016”

CONTENTS

President’s Statement	2
Structure, Governance & Management	4
Objectives & Activities	
Mission Statement	5
Council Activities	5
Activities in Scotland	6
Achievements & Performance	
The BOU Office	7
Engagement Committee	13
IBIS Management Committee	16
Meetings Committee	19
Grants Committee	23
Records Committee	27
Membership	29
Acknowledgements	29
Financial Review	30
Responsibilities of Trustees	33
Auditor’s Report	34
Annual accounts for 2016	36

President’s Statement

The BOU had another highly productive and successful year in 2016, delivering an excellent annual spring conference, continuing to publish highest quality ornithological research in IBIS and supporting a series of exciting research and bursary projects. In addition, we now have more than 10,000 followers (January 2017) of the BOU twitter account (@IBIS_journal), confirming our place as a global leader in the online delivery and dissemination of ornithological information via social media.

IBIS continues to be a world-leader in ornithological publishing, and we are extremely grateful to our Editors, Associate Editors and reviewers for all they do to make this such a successful journal. Following our IBIS survey in 2015, we held two strategy meetings this year to consider the results of the journal survey and use them to help improve our journal management and promotion. We identified a series of actions, all of which have now been completed or are well in hand, which should help greatly to meet our goal of improving author, reviewer and editorial experience and continuing to grow the IBIS community.

This year also saw the BOU further consolidating its position as a world leader in the online delivery of ornithological information via Twitter, Facebook and our new Instagram account, thanks in large part to the sustained commitment and enthusiasm of our Senior Administrator, Steve Dudley, and our Engagement Committee members. The BOU blog (#theBOUblog) continues to grow, with more than a blog per week on average across the year, and our two weeks of ‘Biotweeps’ on Twitter, promoting a wide range of ornithological topics, were another notable success. Social media continue to play a prominent role in delivering and directing people to the BOU website (www.bou.org.uk) which was revamped and revitalized this year, with significant improvements to content, viewing and functionality. We are extremely grateful to all concerned in delivering these successes, particularly our four conference, web, social media and blog Support Officers, Dr Cat Horswill, Dr Leila Walker, Dr Nina O’Hanlon and Dr Christina Ieronymidou. Special thanks too to Dr Jennifer Smart, the founding Chair of our Engagement Committee, who stepped aside this year after three



“This year also saw the BOU further consolidating its position as a world leader in the online delivery of ornithological information”

President’s Statement *cont.* . . .

years of sterling work to take over as Chair of the IBIS Management Committee.

Building on the great success of our 2015 conference on avian tracking, this year’s autumn meeting on ‘Advances in avian tracking and remote sensing: methods and applications’ was likewise well-attended and well-received, with excellent presentations reporting studies from around the world.

The BOU’s international profile and penetration were also greatly enhanced by the wide range of activities conducted and led by BOU staff this year at the North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC2016) in Washington D.C.

As ornithology is increasingly international in its scope, scale and importance, the BOU recognises the value of, and is keen to move towards, a standardised global avian taxonomy. As such we wish to adopt one of the current global taxonomies and use this for all BOU activities. Following a detailed review by the BOU’s Records Committee (BOURC) and representatives of BOU Council, from 1 January 2018 the BOU will adopt the International Ornithological Congress (IOC) World Bird List for all its taxonomic needs, including the British List. We are extremely grateful to all who took part in the review process, and especially to the four main global avian taxonomic systems for engaging so positively and thoughtfully with us.

Whilst our finances remain sound, Council will undertake a review of activities, income and spending to ensure that the Union remains in the best possible health for coming years.

We were delighted to welcome Phil Atkinson and Tom Finch to BOU Council this year, and I sincerely thank Steve Dudley (Senior Administrator) and Angela Langford (Journal and Office Manager) for the excellent service that they once again provided throughout the year in the running of the BOU.



ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

British Ornithologists' Union

Founded 1858

Registered as a Charity:

England and Wales, no. 249877

Scotland, no. SC044850

Address

PO Box 417, Peterborough PE7 3FX, UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1 733 844 820

Email: bou@bou.org.uk

Web: www.bou.org.uk

BOU Staff at 31 December 2016

Senior Administrator

Mr Steve P. Dudley

Journal & Office Manager

Mrs Angela F. Langford

Council Officers at 31 December 2016

President Prof Keith Hamer

Vice Presidents Dr Shelley Hinsley

Mr Neil J. Bucknell

Honorary Secretary Dr Helen Baker

Honorary Treasurer Mrs Julianne Evans

Ordinary Members of Council

at 31 December 2016

Dr Phil Atkinson (Chair, Grants Committee),
Mr Graham F. Appleton, Dr Graeme Buchanan,
Dr Darren M. Evans (Chair, Meetings
Committee), Dr Karl Evans, Dr Tom Finch, Mr
Andrew H.J. Harrop (Chair, Records Committee),
Dr Barbara Helm, Dr Jennifer Smart (Chair, IBIS
Management Committee) and Dr Hugh Wright
(Chair, Engagement Committee).

Structure, Governance & Management

The British Ornithologists' Union is an unincorporated charity, no. 249877 (England & Wales) and SC044850 (Scotland).

Its object is the promotion of the science of ornithology. Its governing document is the Rules adopted at the Annual General Meeting in 2010. Under the rules, the governing body, the Council of the Union, is responsible for the running of the Union's business, supported by its staff. Council may delegate functions to standing or ad hoc committees that report to Council. The Union's Council retains overall responsibility for matters so delegated.

The BOU has five standing committees: the Engagement Committee, the Grants Committee, the IBIS Management Committee, the Meetings Committee and the Records Committee.

Elected members of Council are Trustees of the charity. Members of Council are recruited from within the ornithological community. Where possible, Council members will have served on one or more of the BOU's standing committees prior to nomination for election to Council. Those standing for election to BOU Council as an incoming chairman of a standing committee will have served for at least two years on the respective committee. On election, new Council members are provided with relevant Union documents to help familiarise them with current Union activities and to provide information on the duties and responsibilities of being a Trustee of the Union.

Council has reviewed the risks to which the Union is exposed and is satisfied that, as far as is practicable, it has taken appropriate steps to mitigate those risks.



ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Cont . . .

Objectives

Mission Statement

The British Ornithologists' Union will promote understanding and conservation of the world's birds, advance ornithology within the scientific community and promote scientific ornithology to the wider birdwatching public. The BOU mission will be achieved by the following means:

- Publishing IBIS as a leading international journal of ornithological science.
- Organising a programme of meetings and conferences.
- Awarding grants and bursaries for ornithological research.
- Encouraging liaison between those actively engaged in ornithological research.
- Providing a representative body of the scientific community able to provide ornithological information and advice to government and other policy makers.
- Maintaining and publishing the official list of birds recorded in Britain – The British List.

Council Activities

At the AGM in April, Mrs Julianne Evans was re-elected as Honorary Treasurer; Dr Phil Atkinson was elected as an Ordinary Member of Council to replace Dr Paul Dolman as Chair of the Grants Committee; and Dr Tom Finch was elected as an Ordinary Member of Council to replace Dr Hugh Wright.

At the annual conference we were delighted to recognise two eminent ornithologists – Prof Tim Birkhead was awarded the Godman Salvin Prize for his outstanding contribution to ornithology, and former BOU President, Prof Chris Perrins, was presented with the Union Medal in recognition of his excellent service to the BOU. Citations for both recipients will appear in IBIS.



ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Cont . . .

Bankers

The Union holds accounts with the following banks:

CAF Bank Ltd

25 Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Natwest Bank plc

PO Box 6037, Brompton Road, London SW13 1XJ

Scottish Widows

67 Morrison Street, Edinburgh EH3 8YJ

Solicitor

The Union's solicitors are:

Laytons

Tempos Court, Onslow Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4SS

Accountant

The Union's accountants are:

Chappell Cole & Co

34 Heritage House, North Cray, Road Bexley, Kent DA5 3LZ

Auditor

The Union's auditors are:

Rawlinsons

Ruthlyn House, 90 Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2SP

Objectives & Activities *cont.* . . .

Council activities cont. . . .

Following the disbandment of the Taxonomic Sub-committee in 2015, Council worked with the Records Committee to select a new global taxonomy for all BOU activities, but principally for the British List. From January 2018 the BOU will adopt the IOC World Bird List (see Records Committee section below for further details).

For a number of years, we have been contracted by the British Ornithologists' Club to deliver many of their activities. This contract came to an end at the end of 2016.

Members of Council, as Trustees of the charity, confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing objectives and activities.

Activities in Scotland

The BOU has members in Scotland, two of our Trustees, Barbara Helm and Graeme Buchanan, and two of our journal editors, Rudolf Nager and Jeremy Wilson, also reside there. BOU early-career researcher member Laure Cauchard was awarded a Career Development Bursary to be held at the University of Aberdeen under the supervision of Pierre Bize (see page 25).



WWW.BOU.ORG.UK

The Union's primary website promotes the BOU to a wide audience and is important for recruiting new members, disseminating information about the work of the BOU, taking online bookings for conferences and for selling BOU publications.

WWW.IBIS.ORG.UK

The primary gateway to IBIS – the BOU's international journal of avian science.

WWW.BOUPROC.NET

A one-stop web portal for the Union's published output from BOU conferences. The proceedings of the *Birds in time and Space (Avian Tracking)* conference was added during 2016.

WWW.BIRDGRANTS.NET

Provides details of funding for ornithological and bird conservation projects from a wide range of participating organisations.

Achievements & Performance

THE BOU OFFICE

Staff

During the year, the BOU employed two full-time, home-based staff members within the BOU Office: Steve Dudley (Senior Administrator) and Angela Langford (Journal & Office Manager).

Office duties

The BOU Office is responsible for the effective running of the BOU, managed by the Senior Administrator and overseen by Council and the Union's standing committees.

Its key responsibilities are:

- to support BOU Council and its Committees and implement much of the work arising from them, specifically;
 - working with the IBIS Management Committee, manage non-editorial, business and marketing of the Union's journal, IBIS;
 - working with the Meetings Committee, organise BOU conferences and meetings;
 - working with the Engagement Committee, develop and deliver engagement initiatives;
 - working with the Grants Committee, manage the Union's Small Grants and Career Development Bursary schemes;
 - working with the Records Committee, manage the British List and associated areas;
 - working with the Honorary Treasurer, maintain accounts and budgets and the preparation of annual accounts;
- working with the IBIS Editorial Team to oversee and manage the manuscript process and flow for the Union's journal, IBIS;

Find us on

Twitter @IBIS_journal

Facebook/ibisjournal

Instagram @IBIS_journal



HOW SOCIAL ARE ORNITHOLOGISTS?

The BOU's Steve Dudley and RSPB Science's, and our then BOU Engagement Committee Chair, Jennifer Smart, published an IBIS Viewpoint article, and presented a poster of the same title at #NAOC2016, explaining the growing use of social media within ornithology, how the BOU promotes ornithology using social media, how social media now contributes to research, citizen science projects and altmetrics, and how the RSPB Centre for Conservation Science has used Altmetric data to improve their science communication.

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK/HOW-SOCIAL-ARE-ORNITHOLOGISTS/



BRANTA

BOU Register of Avian Thesis Abstracts

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK/STUDENT-POST-DOCS-EARLY-CAREER-RESEARCHERS/BRANTA/HOME/

Over 100 theses abstracts now online.

Achievements & Performance *cont* . . .

BOU Office *cont* . . .

- to service the BOU membership;
 - to manage the BOU's web content including WWW.BOU.ORG.UK, WWW.IBIS.AC.UK, WWW.BOUPROC.NET and WWW.BIRDGRANTS.NET;
- to manage the BOU's social media activity;
- to undertake routine administration;
- to manage BOU sales, stock and storage facility;
- to handle general enquiries, press and publicity;
- to manage BOC activities contracted to the BOU (ceased 31 December 2016).

In addition to working with the Union's various committees (see committee reports below) the BOU Office undertook the following activities.

Conferences

BOU conferences

Running BOU conferences is an important function of the BOU Office and we ran two very different events this year – our annual residential spring conference at the University of Leicester and a one-day meeting in Peterborough. See the Meetings Committee section below for more details on these events.

After 15 years of annual conferences at the University of Leicester, we undertook a search for a new venue. Wanting to stay centrally placed within the country we eventually selected the University of Warwick which we will use for the first time in 2017.

We continue to look for other venues with a view to increasing the range of venues we can use for BOU events.



@IBIS_JOURNAL

OUR YEAR ON TWITTER

Tweets	8,909	+14%
Retweets	21,122	+7%
Engagements	124,724	+68%
Organic impressions	8,770,090	n/a
Followers at 31 Dec 16	9,714	+34%
Link clicks	35,502	+54%

SOME OF OUR TOP TWEETS FROM 2016

Oology unshelled. @NatureNews review of TIm Birkhead's new book:

<http://ow.ly/4mNvdJ> #ornithology [with photo]

Reached a potential audience of 1,156,536

Color vision helps birds find good food and the right partner <http://ow.ly/J4JI301m04K>

#ornithology @RSocPublishing [with photo]

Reached a potential audience of 591,749

Similar dispersal patterns in 2 closely related spp w diff migration strategies

<http://ow.ly/4ni75X> #ornithology [with photo]

Reached a potential audience of 535,236

Wow! A Gyrfalcon nest that's been in use for 2,500 years <http://ow.ly/ZIZw1> #ornithology

@bbcearth @UniofOxford [with photo]

Our most retweeted tweet (113) and reached a potential audience of 102,088

Brazilian reserve expansion protects some of world's rarest birds <http://ow.ly/X0DBx>

#ornithology @BirdGuides [with photo]

Our second most retweeted tweet (88) and reached a potential audience of 116,294

From Twitter

Using photography to study moult
- nice #Moultidisciplinary paper in
@IBIS_journal #ornithology
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ibi.12445/abstract?>

@samuel_el-jones

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

BOU Office *cont . . .*

Third-party conferences

BOU staff and Support Officers also attend other events to represent and promote the BOU.

This year our focus was on the North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC2016) in Washington D.C. where, jointly with the RSPB Centre for Conservation Science, we presented a poster entitled 'How social are ornithologists?' which summarised our IBIS Viewpoint article of the same title published in the summer.

The 'How social are ornithologists?' paper and poster explained the growing use of social media within ornithology, how the BOU promotes ornithology using social media, how social media contributes to research, citizen science projects and articles' Altmetric Attention Scores, and how the RSPB Centre for Conservation Science has used Altmetric data to improve their science communication. Both the paper and poster were very well received and generated lots of engagement on social media that took the paper itself into the top 2% of Altmetric scoring IBIS papers. The poster was also presented at Seabirds16 conference in Edinburgh.

For NAOC2016 we also played a key role as part of the event's 'Scicomm village', live tweeting and posting from the event on social media, covering everything from the science being presented, the many social events, to the role of social media itself at events such as this.

As we do for many major conferences, the BOU Office collated a free-to-view virtual issue of IBIS on 'Neotropical ecology' spotlighting a dozen papers from IBIS. Being free to view, these virtual issues provide an additional promotional focus for us at events, as well as promoting the journal and providing a gateway to the journal for conference delegates and those following on social media.

We have already begun work on BOU activities at and around IOC2018 in Vancouver.



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

BOU Office *cont . . .*

FACEBOOK

FACEBOOK.COM/IBISJOURNAL

OUR YEAR ON FACEBOOK

Page likes	4,228
Posts	3,423
Post engagements	38,367
Users reached	926,751
Link clicks	40,355

OUR TOP FACEBOOK POSTS

An Australian shorebird breaks all the rules on moult <http://ow.ly/3A7j307coN6>

[with photo; linked to BOU blog posts]

Reached 2,892 people

ACCEPTED for publication in IBIS - A novel method for quantifying overdispersion in count data & application to farmland birds <http://ow.ly/569x307fxLG>

[linked to IBIS paper]

Reached 2,161 people

Shetland's phalaropes go WHERE . . . ?!

<http://ow.ly/Z2BX307cpbP>

[with photo; linked to BOU blog post]

Reached 2,033 people

TOP COUNTRIES ENGAGING ON FACEBOOK

USA, UK, Italy, India and Spain.

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK

CONTENT VIEWED ON THE BOU WEBSITE IN 2016

(% OF TOTAL PAGE VIEWS)

The British List	29%
Blog	18.5%
Conferences	12.5%
IBIS	7%
About the BOU pages	7%
Early-career Researcher pages	3.5%
Grants & Bursaries	5.5%
BOUPROC.net	1.5%
Publications	1.75%
Other content	13.75%

TOP COUNTRIES VIEWING THE BOU WEBSITE

UK, USA, Spain, Germany and the Netherlands.

Social media

Our primary platforms continue to be Twitter (@IBIS_JOURNAL) and Facebook (FACEBOOK.COM/IBISJOURNAL). Following a review of other platforms, we set up a BOU Instagram account (@IBIS_journal) to increase our social media presence and reach on a platform with increasing ornithology content.

Having established ourselves as leader in social media within ornithology, we continued to grow our presence and performance, in particular on our primary platform, Twitter.

@IBIS_JOURNAL on Twitter is an active news service for ornithologists and the clear go-to account for ornithology content – newly published papers from a wide selection of journals, conferences, meetings, news items, job opportunities and more. We have an engaged online and mobile community that helps us to spread BOU, IBIS and other ornithological news far wider than we could previously.

Our growth on Twitter remains high with (cf. to 2015) our output up 21%, engagement up 68%, potential reach up 52%, follower growth up 34% and link clicks from our tweets up 54%.

We continue to educate our community about the role and benefits of social media in ornithological research, on social media itself, and our ongoing blog series.

The main aim of our social media output is to develop an active online community and to direct people to our online content – to the BOU website for conferences, blogs, membership and more, and to the IBIS website for journal content.

Social media play a significant and increasing role in directing people to both the BOU and IBIS websites. After search engine searches and direct to site visits, social media is the third most important source of visitors and in 2016 accounted for 18% of traffic to the BOU website (20% increase on 2015). In this respect it is a key driver of both membership recruitment and conference promotion and bookings.



#theBOUblog

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK/BOU-BLOG/

Our top #10 read blogs in 2016

- **Twitter masterclass series**
Steve Dudley
- **Red Kites are back in town**
Mel Orros
- **Of drones and birds**
Elisabeth Vas
- **An Australian shorebird breaks all the rules**
Mike Weston
- **The secret lives of nightjars**
Katrina Sharps
- **Is handling stressful to birds?**
Hannah Watson
- **Resolving the puzzle of Short-toed Eagle migration**
Ugo Mellone
- **How social are ornithologists?**
Steve Dudley & Jen Smart
- **Tracking Pied Flycatchers**
Malcolm Burgess
- **Reversing population declines in migratory bird species**
Cat Morrison

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

BOU Office *cont . . .*

#theBOUblog

Our blog section is a key arrival point for visitors to the BOU website. Because of this we focused on its development again during the year, with our Blog Support Officer, Christina Ieronymidou, doing an excellent job.

We were again able to grow the amount of content delivered, with 56 blog posts featured in 2016 (46 in 2015), 44 (78%) were science posts of which 18 were linked to IBIS papers.

The number and geographical spread of authors from third-party journals writing for #theBOUblog significantly increased again this year, with 23 posts covering papers from 11 journals (13 from 11 in 2015). The number of posts (13; 1 in 2015) from the North American journals was particularly pleasing as this was a key focus area for us during the year.

The remaining 12 posts were community-base, many of them aimed at educating visitors about the benefits of social media to research.

#theBOUblog was also an important component of our 'How social are ornithologists?' poster and IBIS Viewpoint article (see social media above).

BOU website – WWW.BOU.ORG.UK

The whole site underwent a significant revamp during the year. Although we only gave the site a very light design tweak, we delivered some significant improvements, including a new responsive design for viewing on mobile devices, improved e-commerce functionality, more integrated social sharing of site content including, Twitter cards, and online submission of BRANTA abstracts. These will greatly improve the visitor experience and deliver BOU management savings.

“Social media is not just an activity; it is an investment of valuable time and resources.. ”

SEAN GARDNER, VICE-PRESIDENT, DIGITAL MEDIA



IBIS PAPERS IN THE PRESS

An increased number of IBIS papers featured strongly on online media during the year:

Trade and habitat change virtually eliminate the Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* from Ghana

Nathaniel N.D. Annorbah, Nigel J. Collar & Stuart J. Marsden / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12332

Phylogenetic relationships, song and distribution of the endangered Rufous-headed Robin *Larvivora ruficeps*

Min Zhao, Per Alström, Ruocheng Hu, Chao Zhao, Yan Hao, Fumin Lei & Yanhua Qu / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12426

Provision of supplementary food for wild birds may increase the risk of local nest predation

Hugh J. Hanmer, Rebecca L. Thomas & Mark D.E. Fellowes / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.1243

A decadal review of urban ornithology and a prospectus for the future

John M. Marzluff / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12430

Off-road vehicles affect nesting behaviour and reproductive success of American Oystercatchers *Haematopus palliatus*

Tracy E. Borneman, Eli T. Rose & Theodore R. Simons / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12358

From Twitter

New bird species, a *Cinclodes furnarid*, described from the Espinhaço Range #Brazil by Marcos Rodrigues @IBIS_journal @pedro_jordano

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

BOU Office *cont . . .*

E-newsletters

We again used our monthly e-newsletters to promote IBIS, BOU conferences and other ornithological events. Fourteen e-newsletters were sent out during the year, reaching on average around 8,000 researchers per newsletter, in order to promote IBIS, conferences, the BOU blog, grants and bursaries, and other activities.

Feedback from IBIS and conferences questionnaires indicates that these are an important source of information and they continue to deliver visitors to the BOU website.

Press and media

Working with our journal publishing partner, Wiley-Blackwell, we saw increased coverage of IBIS papers this year, particularly within online news media (see left).

We continue to receive coverage of BOU Records Committee announcements in the national birding press and online bird services, as well as regional birding reports and e-groups.

General administrative items

General correspondence, particularly emails and contact forms received via the website, continues to increase and take up a significant amount of Office time. The BOU maintains a storage facility in Peterborough, which until the end of the year we shared the cost of with the BOC, for the storage of publications, journal stocks, sales goods and archive items.

British Ornithologists' Club

This was the last year the BOU Office ran various aspects of the BOC's administration, including the BOC publications sales, the management of institutional subscribers to the BOC's *Bulletin* and the BOC's membership.



ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Dr Hugh Wright (JNCC)

MEMBERS

Dr Sarah Burthe (CEH Edinburgh)

Mr Steve Dudley, BOU Senior Administrator

Dr Darren Evans (University of Newcastle)

Dr Cat Horswill, Conference Support Officer
(BTO) [from 1 November 2015]

Dr Christina Ieronymidou, Social Media
Support Officer (BirdLife)

Dr Nina O'Hanlon, Social Media Support
Officer (Environment Research
Institute)

Dr Rebecca Thomas (Royal Holloway)

Dr Leila Walker, Web Support Officer
(Taylor & Francis Group)

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee oversees engagement between the Union, its members and the wider ornithological community. Our overarching aims are to advance avian science by facilitating contact and communication within the ornithological community, as well as increasing awareness of the BOU's activities and working towards a stable membership base. We do this by continually improving our opportunities to engage with more people, primarily through our conference, website and social media activities. We seek the latest tools and techniques to engage with our audience, ensuring that the BOU maintains its reputation as an engagement pioneer within the scientific community. The Committee also reviews the benefits that the Union provides to its members.

The Committee met twice during the year, with other business conducted regularly by email.

Dr Jennifer Smart stepped down as Chair of the Committee mid-year in order to Chair the IBIS Management Committee. She is greatly thanked for her input, especially for steering the Committee through its first two years of work. Dr Hugh Wright was co-opted as her replacement.

Honoraria positions

We expanded our Support Officer roles from three to four this year, now assisting the BOU Office with conference, web, social media and blog activities. The successful development of the BOU blog (#theBOUblog) into a very regular and extremely popular part of our engagement work justified creation of a Support Officer role for this activity in its own right, ensuring that this continues to go from strength to strength. Dr Christina Ieronymidou continues to lead on the #theBOUblog and we welcomed the appointment of Dr Nina O'Hanlon as our new Social Media Support Officer (covering BOU's other social media platforms). As the honoraria positions have become more established the Support Officers have become better placed to lead on engagement activities; we expect this will continue with the new complement of four support officers.

From Twitter

How social are ornithologists?
Great piece by @stevedudley_ &
@drredshank in @IBIS_journal
(ft @RSPBScience)
onlinelibrary.wiley.
com/doi/10.1111/ibi.12403/full
@TheLabAndField



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Engagement Committee *cont . . .*

Activities

(see also BOU Office section on pages 7–12)

Conference support – Dr Cat Horswill

- Introduced a welcome event at the annual conference to make first-time attendees feel more at home, fostering the friendly community atmosphere at the event.
- 34 people attended our early-career researcher (ECR) event at the annual conference, which provoked interesting discussions around the use of social media for promoting science.
- Second year of ‘talking posters’ with six presented at the annual conference.
- Preparations underway for a change of venue for the 2017 annual conference.
- Attended the ‘Who’s Who’ event at the (Cambridge) Student Conference on Conservation Science for a second year, promoting the BOU’s benefits for ECRs and running a survey to collect information for the BOU’s forthcoming database of ornithology institutes.

Web support – Dr Leila Walker

- Launched a crowd-sourcing project to populate the BOU global database of ornithology institutes. An online questionnaire promoted via e-newsletters and social media gathered information on 222 institutes from 62 countries.
- 19 new member profiles collated for the website to continue developing a personable online presence, including BOU Council, committee and early-career researcher members (to be added in 2017).
- Assisted with the revamp of the website (see BOU Office above).

From Twitter

#theBOUblog - excellent place to read articles on recent #ornithology papers. Aspire to these totals for #wadertales <https://wadertales.wordpress.com/about/>
@GrahamFAppleton



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Engagement Committee *cont . . .*

Blog support – Dr Christina Ieronymidou

- The BOU blog (#theBOUblog) goes from strength to strength with more than one blog per week posted in 2016 (56 in total, compared with 46 in 2015).
- The BOU blog continues to attract a large and international audience and is the second most regularly visited section of the BOU website.
- We have attracted increased interest from North American ornithologists (13 posts) while also maintaining posts linked to IBIS papers (18 posts).
- We maintained our series aimed at educating our community about the benefits of social media to their research (11 posts).

Social media support – Dr Nina O’Hanlon

- Live-tweeting at the annual conference again created excellent outreach, which was helped by engaging more delegates on Twitter than at any other BOU conference to date.
- Coordinated two weeks of ‘Biotweeps’ on Twitter, promoting a wide range of ornithological science curated by volunteers from a range of institutions.
- Maintained the BOU ECR Facebook page.
- Evaluated the latest, innovative social media tools and techniques to further strengthen BOU’s social media outreach in 2017.
- Set up a BOU Instagram account (@IBIS_journal) at the year-end to expand our social media presence on a platform with increasing ornithology content.

The Committee continues to look forward in particular to how we can continue to grow our online engagement, and optimise our engagement at, and around, non-BOU events.

From Twitter

New to Twitter? (Heard there are even new people signing up): Here are some helpful hints. #scicomm by @IBIS_journal

@Mediomix



IBIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Dr Jennifer Smart (RSPB Centre for
Conservation Science)

MEMBERS

Dr Rauri Bowie, Editor (University of California
– Berkeley)

Dr Dan Chamberlain, Editor (University of
Turin)

Dr Paul Donald, Editor in Chief (BirdLife)

Mr Steve Dudley, BOU Senior Administrator

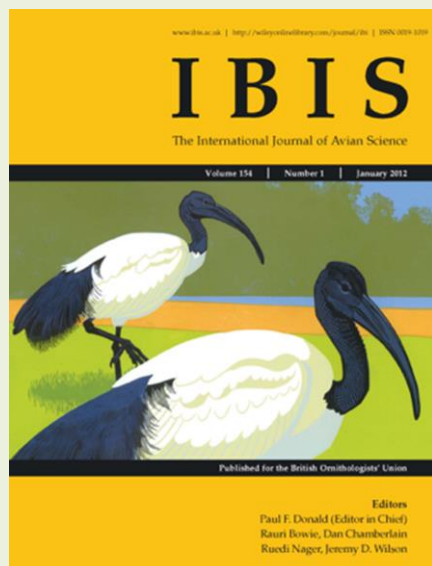
Mrs Julianne Evans, BOU Honorary Treasurer

Dr Rebecca Kimball, Editor (University of
Florida)

Mrs Angela Langford, Journal Manager

Dr Ruedi Nager, Editor (University of Glasgow)

Prof Jeremy Wilson, Editor (RSPB)



Achievements & Performance *cont* . . .

IBIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The IBIS Committee acts as an advisory group to provide support and advice on the management of the journal, including interactions with the journal publisher, Wiley-Blackwell.

The Committee met three times during 2016 – our annual journal publishing meeting with Wiley-Blackwell in March, where they presented their annual report covering production, marketing and accounts, and two journal strategy meetings in May and November (more details below). Other business was conducted on email during the year.

Prof Keith Hamer stepped down as Chair of the Committee mid-year to concentrate on the role of BOU President. He is greatly thanked for his input. Dr Jennifer Smart was co-opted as his replacement.

Editorial team

The journal continues to thrive under the leadership of our Editor-in-Chief, Dr Paul Donald, and with the support of the other Editors: Dr Rauri Bowie, Dr Dan Chamberlain, Prof Rebecca Kimball, Dr Ruedi Nager and Prof Jeremy Wilson. Angela Langford continues to act as the Journal Manager and Steve Dudley manages the business and marketing areas of the journal.

The IBIS Associate Editor board plays a vital role in the management of the journal, and we are very fortunate to have an excellent group of quality researchers with expertise and knowledge across the breadth of subject areas that IBIS papers cover. Joining us as Associate Editors in 2016 were Dr Ben Smit, Dr Frank Rheindt and Dr Kurt Burnham. Dr Jennifer Smart, Dr Silke Bauer, Dr Mark Bolton and Dr Christian Rutz retired from the board during the year, and whom we thank warmly for their time with us.



IBIS

ISI 2015 rankings (ornithology)

5-year Impact Factor	2.217
5-year rank in Ornithology	3/24
2014 Impact Factor	1.921
2014 Rank in Ornithology	3/24

Google Scholar ranking (birds)

h-index	2/20
h5-median	2/20

Altmetric

IBIS is the top scoring journal in ornithology.

IBIS, VOLUME 157 (2016)

Pages	920
Editorial	1
Review papers	1
Original papers	58
Short communications	10
Viewpoints	6

IBIS ONLINE – OVER 150 YEARS OF ORNITHOLOGY

WWW.IBIS.AC.UK

IBIS online provides access to everything
ever published in IBIS – back to 1859!

From Twitter

Just realized I have electronic
access to @IBIS_journal back to
Volume 1. Great writing from
Sclater & Salvin on very first page
@pablo_dulce

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

IBIS Management Committee *cont . . .*

Journal publishing and management

IBIS is published on behalf of the BOU by Wiley-Blackwell

Publishing, from whom we continue to receive excellent service, support and advice. The efforts of Wiley-Blackwell staff to develop the quality, production and marketing of IBIS during 2016 are greatly appreciated.

We are constantly striving to improve IBIS and to stay at the forefront of ornithology. In 2015, we asked our community what they thought of IBIS and 171 people gave us their views. During 2016 we held two strategy meetings, both with the specific aim of improving how we manage the journal. In May, we held an IBIS workshop attended by many of the editorial and management team and in November, we held an IBIS strategy day with colleagues from Wiley-Blackwell. Across both these days, we reflected on the results of the IBIS survey and the aims and objectives of the journal and produced a list of actions designed to improve how we manage manuscripts and how we promote and manage IBIS. All of the actions arising from the workshop have now been completed, and work is already underway delivering the improvements identified at the strategy meeting.

Our ultimate goal is to improve editorial, author and reviewer experience and to continue to build the IBIS community, in order to continue to attract the highest quality papers and to excel within the ornithology sector.

Journal impact factors and article level metrics

The journal's 2015 2-year and 5-year Impact Factor (the number of papers published in the previous two or five years that are cited in other papers) was 1.921 and 2.217 respectively, placing it third in Ornithology. Early indications for the 2016 Impact Factors are that we are likely to climb the ranking within the Ornithology sector again.



TOP CITED PAPERS

A review of the impacts of corvids on bird productivity

Christine F. Madden, Beatriz Arroyo & Arjun Amar / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12223

High juvenile mortality during migration in a declining population of a long-distance migratory raptor

Steffen Oppel, Vladimir Dobrev, Volen Arkumarev, Victoria Saravia, Anastasias Bounas, Elizbieta Kret, Metodija Veleviski, Stoycho Stoychev & Stoyan C. Nikolov / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12258

Reproductive responses of temperate and boreal Tengmalm's Owl *Aegolius funereus* populations to spatial and temporal variation in prey availability

Markéta Zárybnická, Ondřej Sedláček, Pálvi Salo, Karel Šťastný, Erkki Korpimäki / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12244

TOP ALTMETRIC PAPERS

Trade and habitat change virtually eliminate the Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* from Ghana

Nathaniel N.D. Annorbah, Nigel J. Collar & Stuart J. Marsden / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12332

Co-occurrence of birds and bats in natural nest holes

Łukasz Myczko, Łukasz Dylewski, Tim H. Sparks, Maciej Łochyński & Piotr Tryjanowski / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12434

Provision of supplementary food for wild birds may increase the risk of local nest predation

Hugh J. Hanmer, Rebecca L. Thomas & Mark D.E. Fellowes / DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12432

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

IBIS Management Committee *cont . . .*

Article level metrics provided by Altmetric (www.altmetric.com) have been available for IBIS since 2014. These metrics track the online attention of research papers including, social media platforms and online media outlets. Altmetric Attention Scores for papers published in IBIS have been growing and are high compared to other ornithology journals; three of our papers are in the all-time top ten ornithology papers scored by Altmetric. This is evidence of the success of the BOU Engagement Committee activities, particularly the use of social media, to promote all IBIS papers, the increasing number of IBIS authors who are writing blogs about their IBIS papers (mostly for #theBOUblog) and the increasing number of researchers in the BOU and IBIS community who are active on social media. For example, of the 44 science posts published this year on #theBOUblog, 18 were linked directly to IBIS papers. By continuing to promote and educate our community about the benefits of promoting their research through social media, and the increasing benefits of Altmetrics for demonstrating that IBIS papers are actually being read and actively talked about, should only act to encourage submissions to IBIS.

Looking ahead, we will continue with initiatives to increase IBIS readership, to improve our interaction with authors and reviewers and to increase the quality and quantity of papers submitted to IBIS. We will also continue to promote the journal through social media and to educate and empower our authors to do the same. We will also maintain our presence at international conferences. All of these things will help to maintain the current position of IBIS at the forefront of ornithological journal publishing. This is only possible because of the commitment and hard work of the IBIS editorial and management team.



MEETINGS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Dr Darren Evans (University of Newcastle)

MEMBERS

Dr David Douglas (RSPB)

Mr Steve Dudley, BOU Senior Administrator

Dr Francis Daunt (CEH)

Dr Aldina Franco (University of East Anglia)

Dr Cat Horswill, Conference Support Officer
(BTO)

Dr Mel Orros (Reading, UK)

Mrs Angela Langford, Journal & Office
Manager

Dr Rob Robinson (BTO)

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

MEETINGS COMMITTEE

The Meetings Committee is responsible for maintaining the on-going programme of BOU conferences and meetings, providing advice and support to the BOU Office and others responsible for organising and running BOU events, and overseeing the publication of output from any conference via WWW.BOUPROC.NET.

The Committee met twice during the year and also conducted business by email and telephone.

Dr David Edwards and Dr Mel Kershaw retired from the Committee and we thank them for their time and efforts. One new member, Dr Mel Orros (Reading), joined the Committee and potential candidates to fill the remaining vacancy are being explored.

Annual spring conference 2016 – BOU2016

The theme for this year's annual conference (#BOU2016) was *Urban birds: Pressures, processes and consequences* and was held at the University of Leicester between 5 – 7 April. The programme organising committee were Dr Karl Evans (Chairman: University of Sheffield), Prof Jon Sadler (University of Birmingham), Dr Kate Plummer and Dr Niall Burton (BTO).

The conference examined how birds cope with, and adapt to, extreme and often novel selection pressures in urban environments, including habitat loss and fragmentation, pollution (noise, heat, light and chemical), altered biotic interactions (with pathogens, predators and prey) and interactions with people. 120 people attended and the conference broke even on a costs basis, but made a loss when staff time, ECR and speaker support were taken in to account. BOU supported 40 Early-career Researchers (ECRs) and, in addition to our annual ECR conference event, we ran our first pre-conference ECR workshop titled 'How to review a paper', arranged by Dr Rob Robinson (Committee member / BTO), Dr Ruedi Nager (IBIS Editor / University Glasgow), Dr Staffan Roos (IBIS Associate Editor / RSPB) and Dr Shelley Hinsley (BOU Vice President / CEH). 24 ECRs attended and feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

From Twitter

I think I just got invited to review my first paper!! That @IBIS_journal ECR workshop on peer-review shall come in handy now :)

@jessleena



Comments from #BOU2016 conference questionnaire

- *Superb science and a friendly atmosphere.*
- *BOU conferences are always a great source of knowledge and networking!*
- *Very absorbing and amazing to meet so many young researchers with lots of enthusiasm for ornithology.*
- *BOU conference was excellent. A unique opportunity to learn and share.*
- *I appreciated the good presentation of female/younger speakers.*
- *Excellent talks, posters and networking in a friendly atmosphere.*
- *Best possible first conference experience & best possible theme! Well done & thank you BOU!*

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Meetings Committee *cont . . .*

The conference was covered very well on social media using the #BOU2016 hashtag.

A post-conference questionnaire was again undertaken. Although the main purpose of the questionnaires was to find ways of improving future conferences, the Committee was extremely pleased that the overwhelming responses from delegates were again very positive. The main aspects of the questionnaires were:

- 98% of delegates rated the oral presentations as good or excellent.
- 89% of delegates rated poster presentations as good or excellent.
- 98% of delegates rated the conference as good or excellent value for money.
- 100% of ECRs rated the ECR workshop as very good.
- 98% of delegates would recommend a BOU conference to others.
- 93% of delegates rated the pre-conference information as good or excellent.
- 95% of delegates rated the conference booking process as good or excellent.

Autumn scientific meeting – #BOUSci16

Building on the success of the BOU 2015 Avian Tracking annual spring conference and the growing community interest in tracking technology, the theme for the one-day conference was *Advances in avian tracking and remote sensing: methods and applications* (#BOUSci16) and was held at the Great Northern Hotel, Peterborough on 12 October. The programme organisers were Dr Chris Hewson (BTO) and Dr Malcolm Burgess (RSPB).



#BOU2016 on Twitter

@hydrobates1

Thanks @IBIS_journal for a great conference #BOU2016 #UrbanEcology

@TongueAndrew

Thank you @IBIS_journal for a just bloomin' awesome #BOU2016! Buzzing with ideas and inspiration #unmissable

@KarenHotopp

Woohoo! Thanks, @IBIS_journal! Was great to follow the #BOU2016 #urbanbirds conference!

@jollivirat

Conference of #BOU2016 @IBIS_journal on Urban Birds gave a glimpse of lack of studies in countries where urbanization issues need to be addressed most

@KayakingBirdBoy

Had a great time @IBIS_journal urban birds conference! It really underlines how much we have to learn about our urban birds! #BOU2016

@nhbsnews

NHBS had a wonderful time at #BOU2016 with great signings from @subirdia & Tim Birkhead @IBIS_journal @TRBlab1

@Nishant_Evo2Eco

#BOU2016 @IBIS_journal Thanks for a platform to the established n budding urban ecologists #inspiration #learning #fun @stevedudley_n team

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Meetings Committee *cont . . .*

The conference specifically focused on new avenues for ornithological research opened by the latest technologies and developments and considered the consequent prospects for research and conservation.

Although attendance was not quite as large as had been anticipated, at 105 delegates, the conference still produced approx. £8,000 profit on operating costs (before BOU costs).

Future events

The 2017 annual conference (#BOU2017) will be '*From avian tracking to population processes*' and will be held between 28–30 March. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the conference moves to a new venue at the University of Warwick. The conference programme organisers are Prof Jenny Gill (University of East Anglia), Dr José Alves (University of Aveiro), Dr Tómas Gunnarsson (University of Iceland), Dr Aldina Franco (University of East Anglia) and Dr Francis Daunt (CEH).

As both the #BOU2015 and #BOUSci16 avian tracking conferences demonstrated, recent technological advances have greatly improved our capacity to track individuals on their journeys, while colour-marking and re-sighting studies continue to provide large high-quality datasets on movement and behaviour at a range of scales. This conference will build on this work by exploring the drivers of variation in individual movement, migration and settlement decisions and their consequences for a suite of population processes. The conference plenary and keynote speakers include: Prof Ken Norris (Institute of Zoology, UK) on '*Avian dispersal and migration – from individuals to populations*'; Dr Judy Shamoun-Baranes (University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands) on '*Individual consequences of movement behaviour*'; Prof Stuart Bearhop (University of Exeter, UK) on '*Carry-over effects and fitness in migratory species*' and Dr Tómas Gunnarsson (University of Iceland) on '*Settlement decisions and migratory strategies*'. The ECR workshop will be titled '*Promoting yourself and your research*' and will look at best practices and pitfalls for ECRs wishing to promote themselves and their research in face-to-face, online and social media environments.



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

DIARY DATES

28 – 30 MARCH 2017

2017 Annual Conference | #BOU2017

From avian tracking to population processes

27 – 29 MARCH 2018

2018 Annual Conference | #BOU2018

Ornithology in the 21st century: challenges and opportunities

20 AUGUST 2018

#BOUsci18

Ecology and conservation of grassland birds

An open day of presentations on the registration day of IOC2018, Vancouver, Canada

WWW.BOUPROC.NET

Proceedings from the *Birds in time and space* conference (held in spring 2015) were added during the year.

Proceedings of the 2016 *Urban Birds* conference will be added in 2017.

Meetings Committee *cont . . .*

Due to the increase in venue costs, the Committee reluctantly increased the Early-career Researcher (ECR) delegate rate to £125 for existing BOU ECR members, with the usual cap of 40 places. However it also introduced a second ECR rate of £225 (capped at 20 places) for those joining the BOU at the time of registration. Standard BOU member and non-member rates increased to £375 (late booking £450) and £525 (late booking £600) respectively. Both the costs and suitability of the new venue will be closely reviewed by the Committee.

The 2018 BOU annual spring conference (BOU2018) is provisionally themed '*Ornithology in the 21st century: challenges and opportunities*' and will be held between 27–29 March. The organisers are Prof Bill Sutherland (Cambridge University), Dr Aldina Franco (University of East Anglia), Dr Helen Baker (BOU Honorary Secretary / JNCC) and Dr Darren Evans (Chair, BOU Meetings Committee / Newcastle University).

The 27th International Ornithological Congress (IOC2018) will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from 20–26 August 2018. The BOU will run an open day of presentations on the IOC registration day, 20 August, themed '*Ecology and conservation of grassland birds*'.



GRANTS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Dr Phil Atkinson (BTO)

MEMBERS

Mr Steve Dudley, BOU Senior Administrator

Dr Ilya Maclean (University of Exeter)

Dr Phil Shaw (University of St Andrews)

Dr Danaë Sheehan (RSPB)

Mr Andy Symes (BirdLife)

*BOU grants and bursaries –
supporting ornithology around
the world.*

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

GRANTS COMMITTEE

This Committee advises Council on selection of research grant and bursary applications that the BOU should support.

Dr Paul Dolman retired as Chair at the BOU AGM in spring and was replaced by existing Committee member Dr Phil Atkinson. Dr Ilya Maclean joined the Committee, replacing Dr Atkinson as an ordinary member.

The Committee met once during the year to consider the research grant and bursary applications and conducted the rest of its business by email correspondence.

Small Ornithological Research Grant scheme

The Committee received 58 research grant applications (compared to 84 in 2015). Of these, twelve applications were excluded from consideration due to the low percentage of overall costs requested or because they did not comply with our application guidelines. The remaining 46 applications were considered for funding.

The reduction in the number of applications from previous years was due to a change in criteria; applicants now need to be either a BOU member or from, and working in, a developing country. The Committee noted an increase in quality this year with 38% of applications making it to the final round for consideration at the meeting (cf. 19% in 2015). The total available for awards was £10,000 per annum with an additional discretionary fund of £5,000 available. Eight projects were awarded funding, and approximately half of the discretionary funds were used. The total spend for the year was £12,676 (note the grants detailed in the accounts note 10 on page 43 includes all awards paid during the year, including one award, to Rhiannon Meier, held over from 2015).

Council accepted the Committee's recommendation to fund the following projects:

From Twitter

Great @IBIS_journal blog post
featuring new #BTOResearch on
Whinchats <http://bit.ly/2fuMu8H>

@_BTO



RESEARCH PROJECTS REPORTS

Reports received during the year are hosted on the BOU website – see

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK/GRANTS-AND-BURSARIES/REPORTS/

Whenever possible we encourage our award recipients to write a blog about their research.

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK/BOU-BLOG/

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Grants Committee *cont . . .*

Eleanor Warren-Thomas | Awarded £1,923

PhD candidate, University of East Anglia, UK

Mitigating the impact of expanding rubber plantations on biodiversity in Indo-Burma: can agroforestry provide benefits for birds?

Letizia Campioni | Awarded £1,470

Post-doc researcher, Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, Instituto Universitário, Lisbon, Portugal

Birds of a feather flock together: characterising Scopoli's Shearwater year-round foraging ecology by means of stable isotope signatures across the Central Mediterranean

Katherine Rogerson | Awarded £2,000

PhD candidate, University of East Anglia, UK

Influence of parental behaviour on first year juvenile migratory decisions in a partial migrant long lived species

Glen Bain | Awarded £1,123

PhD candidate, University of Tsamania, Australia

Using a novel approach to assess microhabitat use under predation risk of vulnerable ground-foraging birds in fragmented farmland

Ian Henderson & Greg Conway | Awarded £1,636

Senior research ecologists, BTO, UK

Comparing moth abundance between Nightjar breeding and foraging locations and in relation to nesting density, habitat type, temperature and humidity

Kiyoko Gotanda | Awarded £1,411

PhD candidate, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Adaptive behaviour in Darwin's finches in response to invasive predators

From Twitter

Huge thanks to @IBIS_journal & co. for another fascinating week of #ornithology

@biotweeps



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

The BOU continues to support original ornithological research by BOU members around the world through our Small Grants and Career Development Bursary schemes.

Grants Committee *cont . . .*

Aleksandra Niemc | Awarded £1,500

PhD candidate, University of Gdansk, Poland

Condition and body moult of Little Stints *Calidris minuta* at wintering site (Barberspan Bird Sanctuary, South Africa) before departure to the breeding grounds

Wieland Heim | Awarded £1,613

MSc student, University of Potsdam, Germany

Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* in peril: which threats occur on the breeding grounds?

Career Development Bursary scheme

The bursaries aim to support young or early-career ornithologists undertaking a short-term research project (up to ten weeks) between a first and higher degree programme or immediately after completion of a higher degree. Successful proposals are expected to combine the development of skills useful for a future career in ornithology with a sound scientific research proposal. Awards up to £2500 are available.

A total of six applications were received (12 in 2015). Of these, two failed to comply with submission guidelines and were not considered leaving only four applications to be assessed by the Committee. Of these, one application was excluded during assessment for non-compliance with the guidelines.

Two awards were made, totaling £5,000.

Laure Cauchard | Awarded £2,500

Unemployed. PhD, 2015, University of Montreal, Canada

The links between mitochondria, cognition and fitness in a natural bird population

Project location: University of Aberdeen, UK

Supervisor: Pierre Bize (University of Aberdeen, UK)

From Twitter

Now on @IBIS_journal blog: Story behind our paper on handling #seabirds
<http://www.bou.org.uk/watson-bird-handling-stress/>
#SeabirderSaturday

@hydrobates1



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Grants Committee *cont . . .*

Jacintha van Dijk | Awarded £2,500

Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, UK

Linking population structure of Northern Common Eiders to avian cholera spread

Project location: Carleton University, Canada

Supervisor: Mark Forbes (Carleton University, Canada)

Rhiannon Meier | Awarded £2,500

Research assistant, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

Preliminary assessment of seabird conservation priorities in the Cayman Islands

Project location: Dept. of Environment, Cayman Islands

Supervisor: Jonathan Green (University of Liverpool, UK)

Awarded in 2015

Annual Review

The Committee reviews annually scheme guidelines for applicants, admissibility of applicants and the format of the application forms. Small structural changes were made to the forms and, in recognition of the fact that the average spend per project has increased in recent years, from 2017 the amount normally available per project would be increased from £1,000 to £1,500, and the Committee would be able to award exceptional applications to a maximum of £2,000.

During 2017 the Committee will work with Council in order to deliver the studentship on Sphenisciform and Procellariiform seabirds, using the bequest left to the BOU by John and Pat Warham.



RECORDS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Mr Andrew Harrop (Rutland and Shetland)

SECRETARY

Dr Chris McNerny (University of Glasgow)

MEMBERS

Ms Dawn Balmer (BTO)

Dr Andy Brown (Natural England)

Mr Steve Dudley, BOU Senior Administrator

Mr Paul French (BBRC Chairman)

Dr James Gilroy (University of East Anglia)

Dr Andy Musgrove (BTO)

Mr Andrew Stoddart (Norfolk, UK)

Prof Jimmy Steele (University of Newcastle)

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

RECORDS COMMITTEE

The Records Committee is responsible for maintaining the British List, the official list of birds recorded in Britain.

The Committee met twice during the year with other business conducted by email.

Prof Martin Collinson retired as Chair of the Committee and we thank him for his work both for the Records Committee and for the Taxonomic Sub-committee. We welcomed Andrew Harrop as the Committee's new Chair, and two new members, Dawn Balmer and Andy Stoddart.

Roger Wilkinson stood down as the Committee's consultant on captives and the bird trade and we are currently seeking his replacement for this important role.

Changes to the British List

The Committee's 46th Report, covering the period from September 2015 to October 2016, was published in January 2017 (*Ibis* 158: 202-205) with the main changes to the List being:

Cackling Goose *Branta hutchinsii* added to Category A

Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* added to Category A

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus* added to Category A

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* – subspecies *atlantis* added to the British List

Slaty-backed Gull *Larus schistisagus* added to Category A

The changes to the British List published in the Committee's 46th Report bring the total at 31 December 2016 to 605 species.



REPORTS

All BOURC and Taxonomic reports can be found on the BOU website at:

WWW.BOU.ORG.UK/BRITISH-LIST/BOURC-REPORTS-AND-PAPERS/

46th BOURC Report

Ibis 159: 238–242 (January 2017)

THE BRITISH LIST

At 31 Dec 2016 the List comprised 605 species – 587 species in Category A, 8 in Category B and 10 solely in Category C.

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Records Committee *cont . . .*

Taxonomy

The Committee worked with BOU Council to undertake a review of the available taxonomies in late 2016 with a view to adopting one system for all BOU activities, including the British List. Extensive discussions at the winter meeting, which was attended by Graeme Buchanan and Neil Bucknell, as representatives of Council, culminated in the recommendation that BOU should adopt the IOC World Bird List. It was considered that in the short to medium term (at least) this would be the most likely way of achieving a more unified global taxonomy, especially in light of the the IOC World Bird List stated aim of working towards a unified taxonomy and the proposed meeting to address this issue at IOC2018. This would also be in keeping with the BOU's previous approach to taxonomy, and in many quarters would have greater scientific authority than some of the alternatives. It was emphasised that we do expect moves towards a more unified global taxonomy, and in that respect the BOU should work with IOU/IOC to ensure that this occurs.

The recommendation was approved by Council with a public announcement made in January 2017.

Links with other groups

The Committee maintains close links with the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC), with the BOURC Secretary working closely with BBRC's Secretariat. Informal links are maintained with the Association of European Records Committees (AERC).

BOURC online intranet

The Committee operates an online intranet site that is used for the storage of images and documents to assist with its work.

From Twitter

Really enjoying @IBIS_journal curation of @biotweeps this week. Inspiring me in my hunt for a PhD project #ornithology

@PtarmiganTaylor



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Union would like to extend its thanks and gratitude to the following individuals who have assisted on the many BOU activities throughout the year: Raurie Bowie, Dan Chamberlain, Paul Donald, Rebecca Kimball, Ruedi Nager, Jeremy Wilson, Patrick Smith, all Associate Editors (listed in each issue of IBIS) and the hundreds of reviewers (listed annually in IBIS) for their continued hard work on IBIS; Mathangi Ramesh, Violeta Ribarska, Justinia Wood, Shannen Bennet, Anita Sye, Tom Wordsworth, Erica Cove, and everyone else at Wiley-Blackwell Publishing for their help in delivering our high quality journal; Nigel Crocker, Richard Price and Stephen Rumsey for their excellent management of the Union's investment portfolio; Karl Evans (Sheffield University), Kate Plummer (BTO), Jon Sadler (University of Birmingham) and Niall Burton (BTO) for their work preparing the programme for the annual conference (urban birds); Chris Hewson (BTO) and Malcolm Burgess (RSPB) for their work preparing the programme for the autumn scientific meeting advances in tracking methods; Jenny Gill (University of East Anglia) and José Alves (University of Aveiro, Portugal) for their work preparing the programme for the 2017 annual conference (from avian tracking to population processes); Patrick Smith (copy-editor for BOUPROC.net); Biotrack, NHBS and Pathtrack for supporting our conferences; Jackie Newman, Mandy Connon and Lynda Vosper at Peterborough Cathedral (venue for BOU meetings); Richard Lambe and the conference staff at the University of Leicester (BOU annual conferences); BOURC consultants Bob McGowan (National Museums of Scotland), Tim Melling (RSPB), Keith Naylor, Roger Wilkinson; British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) who work closely with BOURC; Bird Observatory staff and volunteers who have assisted BOURC; John Sharpe, Michelle Bembrose and colleagues at Chappell Cole & Co (accountants); Stephen Meredith and colleagues at Alliotts (auditors); and we apologise to anyone we have inadvertently omitted.

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

MEMBERSHIP

At the end of the year our total membership stood at 1,149 (1,194 at 31 Dec 2015) comprising 866 full members (907 at 31 Dec 2015) and 283 reduced rate subscribers (287 at 31 Dec 15) made up of 257 ECRs and 26 from developing countries.

We enjoyed another good recruiting year for new members, totalling 160 and made up of 82 Ordinary, 75 Early-career Researcher and 3 Developing Country members. 65 of these were recruited for our two conferences, with new joiners benefiting from the heavily discounted member delegate rates.

Sadly, the new member recruitment was tempered by an increase in resignations and non-renewals, so we saw a very small overall loss come the year-end. The over-riding reason for the increase in resignations was the increase in the membership fee for those wishing to retain a print subscription to IBIS, as outlined in last year's report.

53 resignations were accepted during the year, and Council noted, with sadness, the following deaths: Dr R Evans, Prof J Green, Mr F Gribble, Mr G Harrison, Dr L Hoffman, Dr J Holtzinger and Prof N W Moore.

The Future

The increase in the print subscription rate for IBIS also saw a significant number of members switch to the online version. This was most welcome and we will continue to encourage members to switch to IBIS online. As the numbers of print subscribers decrease, the cost of providing fewer print copies increases disproportionately. Whilst we were able to retain the same member rates for 2017, this will be reviewed again for 2018. It seems only fair that those wishing to retain a print subscription cover associated costs.

Thank you / for supporting ornithology



HONORARY TREASURER

Julianne Evans

Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income increased by £11,700 this year, largely as a result of the much better than expected performance of IBIS, from which income rose by £16,400. This offset the substantial reduction in income from a much reduced conference attendance. Operating costs for our two events, on 'urban birds' and 'tracking methods', was £7,500, but when all delivery costs and staff time are included we made an overall loss of just over £7,000. This is disappointing given the topical themes, however, favourable discounted conference member rates almost certainly contributed to the increase of £3,200 in membership income, which reached its highest level since 2008. A 'fire sale' of our older publications, most of which are now obsolete, resulted in an uplift of £1,000 in income, however this continues to be a very minor and a reducing source of funds.

There was further investment in gaining and maintaining members, through development of the website, and through the activities of the Engagement Committee and Senior Administrator in promoting the BOU at conferences. Therefore, management costs remained at a similar level to last year when these efforts were first increased. There was also a significant increase in Council and Standing Committee costs, owing to changes in committee members' travel distances and additional meetings being held to discuss a variety of subjects including, most importantly, two very productive journal strategy meetings. The Union's dependence on IBIS for such a significant proportion of its income (50%) continues to be a cause for concern.

Before unrecognised gains in investments, the Union made a loss of £8,000. This is not a cause for concern as the Union continues to maintain a considerable surplus. Excluding the Warham Legacy Fund, which is restricted, total general funds have declined by less than 4% in the past five years. However, in the past year there have been several changes affecting income and expenditure, including the termination of the BOC contract, which will reduce our income albeit with an accompanying reduction in staff time administering it, and



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Financial Review *cont . . .*

the change of our annual conference venue from Leicester to Warwick, which will increase our venue and delivery costs. One of Council's first activities during 2017, therefore, will be to conduct a thorough financial review of the impact of these changes and a risk assessment of potential future changes.

As required by charity accounting rules, indirect costs (staff costs and overheads) are allocated across multiple headings in the accounts but in total have risen in line with cost of living increases. The relative amounts allocated to these headings reflect changing priorities, for example, latterly more time has been spent by the Senior Administrator on website development and by both staff on the review of IBIS management.

Staff salaries are a significant proportion of a small society's overall costs, and adequately remunerating staff is a key component in maintaining performance. At the beginning of the year the arrangements for setting staff remuneration was reviewed when it was agreed to use the consumer price index (CPI) as a baseline for salaries from 2016 onwards. The average CPI figure for the preceding year will be taken and used along with assessing affordability and the awards given by sector comparators. For 2016 this was set at 1.2% for both staff members.

The value of investments increased slightly to £352,078 and market conditions remained relatively stable yielding an income of £17,355, a drop of less than £1,000 compared with last year and similar to 2014. The policy of maintaining cash resources in short-term cash deposits has also been continued and at the end of the year these amounted to £374,238. While still a substantial financial resource, there was a more substantial drop than in previous years underlining the need for spending to be scaled back pending the planned financial review.



Achievements & Performance *cont . . .*

Financial Review *cont . . .*

The amount of reserves held is £531,943. *Ibis* currently accounts for nearly half of the Union's annual income and consequently represents the highest risk to its continued operation.

Subscriptions are closely linked to receipt of *Ibis* and therefore this income would also be forecast to drop if *Ibis* were no longer being produced. Our policy is to hold sufficient reserves for the Union to operate normally for at least one year in the event of a sudden drop in income, to allow any planned transition to other income sources and/or to wind down the Union in an orderly way. Total funds held amount to £1,116,330 of which £585,055 are restricted use. The Union is forecast to spend £220,000 in 2017, leaving approximately 1.5 years of general funds in hand beyond the current year. This build-up of reserves was identified in 2013 and additional charitable expenditure implemented, which has drawn them down over the past three years. The loss of BOC income and the additional costs which will be experienced as a result of the change of annual conference venue from 2017 onwards, may necessitate a review of our Reserves Policy following the planned financial review.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Council on 8 March 2017 and signed on their behalf by:

K. Hamer, President



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

We have audited the financial statements of British Ornithologists' Union for the year ended 31 December 2016 set out on pages 36 to 47. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND AUDITOR

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out on page 33, the Trustees of British Ornithologists' Union are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

The Trustees have elected for the accounts to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Accordingly we have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the accounts in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounts sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Trustees; and the overall presentation of the accounts. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited accounts and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.



OPINION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2016 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION OPINION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Tracey Richardson BSc (Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Rawlinsons Chartered Accountants

.....

Statutory Auditor

Ruthlyn House
90 Lincoln Road
Peterborough
PE1 2SP

Rawlinsons Chartered Accountants is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006



BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

		2016			2015
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Subscriptions, donations and legacies	4	36,518	–	–	36,518
Other trading activities	5	142,428	–	–	142,428
Investment income	6	11,878	5,477	–	17,355
Total income		190,824	5,477	–	196,301
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising subscriptions, donations and legacies	7	– 44,892	–	–	– 44,892
Costs of other trading activities	8	– 111,034	–	–	– 111,034
Expenditure on charitable activities	9,10	– 48,396	–	–	– 48,396
Total expenditure		– 204,322	–	–	– 204,322
Net losses on investments	12	–	–	–	–
Net expenditure/income		– 13,498	5,477	–	– 8,021
Other recognised gains and losses					
Unrealised gain/loss on General Fund investment		8,267	–	–	8,267
Unrealised gain/loss on L & MT Fund investments		–	–	7,893	7,893
Unrealised gain/loss on Hutt Legacy investments		–	–	1,476	1,476
Unrealised gain/loss on Research Fund investments		–	–	733	733
Net movement in funds		– 5,231	5,477	10,102	10,348
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		536,506	390,466	179,010	1,105,982
Total funds carried forward		531,275	395,943	189,112	1,116,330

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 38 to 47 form part of these financial statements



BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

		2016		2015
		£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Investments	17		352,078	330,437
Current assets				
Stocks	18	527		853
Debtors	19	43,140		32,846
Cash at bank and in hand		764,704		780,342
		<hr/> 808,371		<hr/> 814,041
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	44,119		38,496
Net current assets			<hr/> 764,252	<hr/> 775,545
Total assets less current liabilities			<hr/> 1,116,330	<hr/> 1,105,982
Net assets			<hr/> 1, 116,330	<hr/> 1,105,982
Funds of the charity				
Endowment funds:				
Expendable endowment funds			189,112	179,010
Restricted funds			395,943	390,466
Unrestricted funds:				
Other unrestricted income funds		531,275		536,506
Total unrestricted funds		<hr/> 531,275		<hr/> 536,506
Total charity funds	22		<hr/> 1,116,330	<hr/> 1,105,982

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 8 March 2017 and are signed on behalf of the trustees:

Prof Keith Hamer
President

The notes on pages 38 to 47 form part of these financial statements



BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The British Ornithologists' Union (BOU) is a registered charity in England and Wales (249877) and Scotland (SCO44850) and is unincorporated.

The charity is a public benefit company.

The charities place of business is:
PO Box 417, Peterborough, PE7 3FX, United Kingdom.

2. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Life membership

Life membership subscriptions are accounted for when received. No releases have been made from the Life Members fund since 31 December 2006.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Investments

Investments are recorded in the balance sheet at market value.

Transition to FRS 102

The entity transitioned from previous UK GAAP to FRS 102 as at 1 January 2015. Details of how FRS 102 has affected the reported financial position and financial performance is given in note 25.

Overheads

Overhead costs are allocated to the relevant cost centres in the following proportions:

	Office Costs	A.F. Langford remuneration	S.P. Dudley remuneration
Conference costs	15%	10%	17.5%
Management and administration	37.5%	40%	60%
IBIS publishing costs	35%	42.5%	17.5%
Other publishing costs	5%	2.5%	-
BOC costs	5%	5%	2.5%
Research costs	2.5%	-	2.5%
	<hr/> 100%	<hr/> 100%	<hr/> 100%

These proportions were decided upon by the trustees, who believes that they represent a fair reflection of the resources expended by the charity on each activity.



Disclosure exemptions

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS 102:

(a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the charity.

Debtors

Debtors receivable within one year are recorded at the transaction price.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Endowed funds:

The purpose of the L&MT Research Fund is to fund research.

The Hutt Legacy is intended for the general purposes of the Union.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.



All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Investments

Unlisted equity investments are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently measured at fair value. If fair value cannot be reliably measured, assets are measured at cost less impairment.

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in income or expenditure.

Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

Defined contribution pension plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Restricted Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Restricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Donations and legacies						
Donations	1,400	—	1,400	688	—	688
Warham Legacy	—	—	—	—	390,466	390,466
Subscriptions						
Other income	61	—	61	148	—	148
Subscriptions	35,057	—	35,057	31,831	—	31,831
	<u>36,518</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>36,518</u>	<u>32,667</u>	<u>390,466</u>	<u>423,133</u>

Income from donations was £1,400 (2015: £688). This represents amounts donated by individuals to the charity.

During 2015 a bequest of £390,466 was received from the estate of John and Pat Warham. "The John and Pat Warham Scholarship Fund" is to support research on Sphenisciform and Procellariiform seabirds.



5. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Publication income - IBIS	90,550	90,550	74,167	74,167
Other publication income	2,238	2,238	1,077	1,077
Conference income	37,925	37,925	49,640	49,640
BOC income	11,715	11,715	8,987	8,987
	<u>142,428</u>	<u>142,428</u>	<u>133,871</u>	<u>133,871</u>

6. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Restricted Funds £	2016 Endowed Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Restricted Funds £	2015 Endowed Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Income from investments	9,440	5,477	–	14,917	10,022	–	5,273	15,295
Bank interest receivable	2,438	–	–	2,438	2,768	–	–	2,768
	<u>11,878</u>	<u>5,477</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>17,355</u>	<u>12,790</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>5,273</u>	<u>18,063</u>

7. COSTS OF RAISING SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Management costs – purchases	5,550	5,550	7,701	7,701
Management costs – wages and salaries	34,036	34,036	30,583	30,583
Management costs – employer's NIC	1,990	1,990	2,262	2,262
Management costs – pension costs	3,316	3,316	2,793	2,793
	<u>44,892</u>	<u>44,892</u>	<u>43,339</u>	<u>43,339</u>



8. COSTS OF OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Conference costs				
– purchases	34,207	34,207	48,199	48,199
– wages	9,497	9,497	10,427	10,427
– employer's NIC	558	558	777	777
– pension costs	925	925	946	946
IBIS costs				
– purchases	28,025	28,025	24,420	24,420
– wages	17,878	17,878	16,105	16,105
– employer's NIC	999	999	1,129	1,129
– pension costs	1,748	1,748	1,537	1,537
Other publication costs				
– opening stock	853	853	1,470	1,470
– purchases	8,596	8,596	1,498	1,498
– closing stock	- 527	- 527	- 853	- 853
– wages	645	645	1,273	1,273
– employer's NIC	34	34	84	84
– pension costs	63	63	127	127
BOC costs				
– purchases	4,904	4,904	1,442	1,442
– wages	2,278	2,278	4,517	4,517
– employer's NIC	128	128	320	320
– pension costs	223	223	428	428
	111,034	111,034	113,846	113,846

9. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES BY FUND TYPE

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Restricted Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Restricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Research costs	22,015	–	22,015	15,487	5,273	20,760
Support costs	26,381	–	26,381	17,689	–	17,689
	48,396	–	48,396	33,176	5,273	38,449

**10. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES BY ACTIVITY TYPE**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Research costs	22,015	–	22,015	20,760
Governance costs	–	26,381	26,381	17,689
	<u>22,015</u>	<u>26,381</u>	<u>48,396</u>	<u>38,449</u>

Research costs are composed of:

	2016 £	2015 £
Grants and bursaries made	20,176	17,674
Administration costs	1,839	3,086
	<u>22,015</u>	<u>20,760</u>

Analysis of grants made to individuals:

Kiyoko Gotanda (PhD candidate, McGill University, Canada)	£1,411
Eleanor Warren-Thomas (PhD candidate, University of East Anglia, UK)	£1,923
Katherine Rogerson (PhD candidate, University of East Anglia, UK)	£2,000
Rhiannon Meier (PhD candidate, University of Southampton, UK)	£2,500
Ian Henderson & Greg Conway (British Trust for Ornithology, UK)	£1,636
Wieland Heim (MSc student, University of Potsdam, Germany)	£1,613
Letizia Campioni (Postdoc researcher, Instituto Universitario (Lisbon), Portugal)	£1,470
Glen Bain (PhD candidate, University of Tasmania, Australia)	£1,123
Aleksandra Niemc (PhD candidate, University of Gdansk, Poland)	£1,500
Laure Cauchard (unattached, Canada)	£2,500
Jacintha van Dijk (unattached, Canada)	£2,500
Total grants and bursaries made	<u>£20,176</u>

11. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Support costs - Professional fees £	Support costs - Costs of meetings £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Governance costs	9,447	–	9,447	8,749
Support costs - Costs of trustees' and committee meetings	–	16,932	16,932	8,940
	<u>9,447</u>	<u>16,932</u>	<u>26,381</u>	<u>17,689</u>

**12. NET LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS**

	2016 Unrestricted Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Gains/losses on other investment assets	—	—	3,040	3,040

13. NET EXPENDITURE/INCOME

	2016 £	2015 £
Net expenditure/income is stated after charging/crediting		
Unrealised gain on investments	18,369	1,699

14. AUDITORS REMUNERATION

	2016 £	2015 £
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	4,560	4,740

15. STAFF COSTS

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2016 £	2015 £
Wages and salaries	65,322	64,875
Social security costs	3,769	4,724
Employer contributions to pension plans	6,371	6,004
	75,462	75,603

The average head count of employees during the year was 2 (2015: 2). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2016 No.	2015 No.
Number of staff	2	2

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2015: Nil).

Key Management Personnel

The charity does not operate any pension scheme for its employees but does administer contributions to pension schemes for 2 staff. The charity makes contributions to these schemes.



16. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

- No council member received any remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity during the year.
- During the year a total of 10 council members were reimbursed expenses totalling £1,803 (2015: £1,686). These expenses represent travelling costs incurred by the council members in the performance of their duties.

17. INVESTMENTS

	Cash or cash equivalents £	Listed investments £	2016 Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2016	2,507	327,930	330,437
Additions	–	3,272	3,272
Disposals	–2,507	–	- 2,507
Other movements	–	20,876	20,876
At 31 December 2016	–	352,078	352,078
Impairment			
At 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016			–
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2016	–	352,078	352,078
At 31 December 2015	2,507	327,930	330,437

All investments shown above are held at valuation.

Investments held	Value at 31 December 2016		% of total investments
	Endowed Fund £	General Fund £	£
M&G Charifund			
L&MT Fund	57,655		16.37
General Fund		82,805	23.52
Hutt Legacy	22,310		6.34
R&SP Fund	11,085		3.15
Mellon Global Growth			
L&MT Fund	44,118		12.53
General Fund		69,855	19.84
Nationwide BS		64,250	18.25
	135,168	216,910	100.00

18. STOCKS

	2016 £	2015 £
Stock and consumables	527	853

**19. DEBTORS**

	2016 £	2015 £
Trade debtors	42,849	32,466
Other debtors	291	380
	43,140	32,846

20. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2016 £	2015 £
Trade creditors	–	662
Accruals	15,042	11,068
Social security and other taxes	1,973	1,923
Deferred income	26,674	24,843
Other creditors	430	–
	44,119	38,496

Deferred income represents conference income received in advance for the '2017 Spring Conference'.

2017 Spring Conference:

Amount received/accrued up to December 2016	£10,145
Amount deferred to 2017	– £10,145

Amount to be included in income for 2016

nil

21. PENSIONS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was –£6,371 (2015: –£6,004).

22. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS**Unrestricted funds**

	At 1 Jan 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Dec 2016 £
General Fund	473,220	152,899	– 159,246	8,267	475,140
Conference Fund	18,006	37,925	– 45,076	–	10,855
Life Members Fund	45,280	–	–	–	45,280
	536,506	190,824	- 204,322	8,267	531,275

**Restricted funds**

	At 1 Jan 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Dec 2016 £
Research Fund	–	–	5,477	–	5,477
Warham Legacy	390,466	–	–	–	390,466
	390,466	–	5,477	–	395,943

The Restricted Fund represents the "The John and Pat Warham Scholarship Fund" to be used for research. The Restricted Fund also includes the income arising from investments held in the Endowment Fund.

Endowment funds

	At 1 Jan 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Dec 2016 £
L & MT Fund	99,170	–	–	7,893	107,063
Research Fund	48,822	–	–	733	49,555
Hutt Legacy	31,018	–	–	1,476	32,494
	179,010	–	–	10,102	189,112

The Landsborough and Mary Thomson Research Fund and the Hutt Legacy represent funds set up by individual donors. The purpose of the L&MT Research Fund was to fund research. Income arising from the capital held in investments within Endowment Funds is credited to the Research Fund. The Research Fund represents permanent capital, the income from which is transferred to the fund of the same name in Restricted Funds to be spent solely on research activities (e.g. grants and bursaries). The Hutt Legacy is intended for the general purposes of the Union and interest arising from this item is credited to General Funds which itself represents investments and net assets which are held for the daily running and maintenance of the charity.

23. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2016 Total Funds £
Investments	216,910	–	135,168	352,078
Current assets	358,484	395,943	53,944	808,371
Creditors less than 1 year	- 44,119	–	–	- 44,119
Net assets	531,275	395,943	189,112	1,116,330

24. RELATED PARTIES

There were no related party transactions during the year.

25. TRANSITION TO FRS 102

These are the first financial statements that comply with FRS 102. The charity transitioned to FRS 102 on 1 January 2015.

No transitional adjustments were required in the retained funds or income or expenditure for the year.