

Hampshire Ornithological Society

Treasurer's Report

The Society's accounts for the year ended 31 December 2008 are attached.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows that the Society's main sources of income in 2008 were members' subscriptions (£11,729), sales of data (£2,230), sponsorship of the Bird Report (£1,900, including a contribution of £1,000 from Hampshire County Council), sales of the Bird Report (£1,054), a payment from the Inland Revenue in respect of members' Gift Aid declarations (£1,642), and interest (£1,410).

The main items of expenditure were the Bird Report (£7,904), the Newsletter (£6,965), costs associated with the Members' Day and other events (£2,194), and costs associated with surveys (£2,853, including a one-off sponsorship payment of £2,000 to the British Trust for Ornithology in respect of the current Bird Atlas project). The costs of running the Society amounted to a further £1,798.

Overall, the Society's expenditure exceeded its income in 2008 by £1,223. In consequence the Society's net assets (represented mainly by cash held in the bank and building society) have reduced by this amount to £36,380. It is worth recording that without the sponsorship payment of £2,000 to the BTO referred to in the previous paragraph, the Society would have recorded a small surplus in 2008.

The increase in the Society's annual subscription to £12 with effect from 1 January 2008 proceeded smoothly, and total subscription income rose by £3,156 during the year. This was offset to some extent by the cost of the extra administration associated with raising the income (reminder letters, etc).

So far as remuneration or other benefits paid to trustees are concerned, the Society paid no sums by way of remuneration but reimbursed a total of £1,644 expenses to ten members of the Management Committee. This sum was in respect of items such as postage, photocopying, and stationery, and the costs of running the Birdtrail event.

My thanks are due once again to Shaun Le Picq for his help in preparing the accounts, and for reporting on the accounts as Independent Examiner.

Nigel Peace
Hon Treasurer
20 March 2009