



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From	01	01	2018	To	31	12	2018

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Hampshire Ornithological Society

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1042309

Charity's principal address c/o "Westerly", Hundred Acres Road,

Wickham,

Hampshire

Postcode

PO17 6HY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Keith Betton	Chair		
2	Andy Mitchelmore	Treasurer		
3	John Shillitoe	Secretary		
4	Marcus Ward			
5	Andy Broadhurst			
6	Mike Chalmers			
7	Phil Budd		Until October 2018	
8	Chris Manning		Until May 2018	
9	Kay Shillitoe			
10	Simon Boswell		Until July 2018	
11	Jonathan Mycock			
12	David Brookes		From March 2018	
13	Daniel Hoare			
14	Barry Page		From October 2018	
15	Alison Cross			
16	Nicky Court		From March 2018	
17	Mary Macmillan		From May 2018	
18	Julianne Evans		From May 2018	
19	Olly Frampton		From May 2018	
20	Andy Lester		From May 2018	
21	Simon Curson		Until March 2018	
22	Caroline French		Until March 2018	

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution detailed in the Society Rules document
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	The Society is a Charitable Unincorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election by Society members at Annual General Meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Trustees receiving grants from the Society are regarded as transactions with "related parties" and are required to be reported by SORP 15 FRS 102.</p> <p>In 2018 a grant of £2100 was made to the chair of the Scientific Committee (Marcus Ward) in connection with his bid for tracking equipment to carry out further research into Hawfinches. The bid was scrutinised by the Scientific and Management Committees. Marcus absented himself from the deliberation and voting on the bid.</p>
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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the Society are, within the County of Hampshire:

- i) To advance the education of the public in all aspects of ornithology.
- ii) To promote research into ornithology and to publish the useful results of such study.
- iii) To support and encourage the preservation and conservation of wild birds and places of ornithological interest.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The main activities of the Hampshire Ornithological Society are:

- i. To promote and record the study of bird life in Hampshire and to publish the results in the annual Bird Report.
- ii. To use these results to encourage and support the conservation of wild birds and their habitats within the county.
- iii. To foster a wider interest in the recording and preservation of Hampshire bird life by organising a programme of indoor and outdoor meetings, by publishing a quarterly magazine and other forms of publicity.

As set out by the Charity Commission in its Guidances on Public Benefit in respect of the public benefit requirement in running a charity and its reporting, in their opinion the Trustees consider that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Commission's public benefit guidances when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidances are relevant.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

In Section D - Achievements and performance, the Chairman of HOS, in his report to members, outlines some of the activities of the Trust during the past year, showing how they have helped meet the Society's objects. Other activities (extracted from the reports of the Chairs of the Scientific and Membership Committees) which are also in support of our objectives, are listed.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Chairman's Report sent to Members prior to AGM in April 2019

"Last year I mentioned that we had a number of new ideas and I am pleased to say that they have worked well. Although we are never going to be as young as we'd like to be, in 2018 we recruited 16 young members thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Cameron Bespolka Trust (1). This is a great increase on the single young member we had at this time last year! Many thanks to that member, Tom Saunders, for helping to drive the membership promotion. We will organise special events for those young members where they and their parents can participate in activities such as ringing.

We also decided to try and recruit more members generally, and by running workshops on bird identification we have attracted a significant number of newcomers – and this has also provided a welcome training opportunity for our existing members (2). So a very big welcome from all of us to the 164 new members who joined in 2018. With around 2000 members (including family memberships) we are now larger than at any time in the Society's history. That is great to see at a time when some organisations are struggling to find new people.

These activities have also brought in extra income, and we will add this to the amount that we give to conservation and research projects in the county (3). We know that protecting valuable bird habitats is high among our members' wishes, and to that end we are increasing our work in this area, co-operating with HIWWT and RSPB to ensure that the case for birds is put robustly when planning applications threaten to take away the places that birds need most. We are grateful to Simon Boswell for his time as our Conservation Officer and welcome Andy Lester as his successor.

For most members, the Hampshire Bird Report is the main thing that they associate with us, and thanks to the hard work of Mike Chalmers and his team of writers and photographers, the quality gets better every year (4). We are also grateful to Phil Budd for his time as the editor of Kingfisher, and welcome Barry Page who has just succeeded Phil. (5)

Our outings programme has been organised by Ted Barnes for many years. Quite possibly Ted has met more HOS members face-to-face than anyone else! I am pleased that although he is standing down he will still remain a loyal supporter (6). His place is being taken by Alex Barker, and already she is keen to hear from anyone who would like to lead a walk that we have not done before.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who helps to make the HOS organisation work so smoothly. There are lots of people involved in so many things so I generally only mention those who are arriving or departing – but I do want to mention the huge support that John and Kay Shillitoe give to me personally, and the Society in general, as our Secretary and Membership Secretary respectively. The trustees have agreed to a number of new ideas which have led to extra work for both John and Kay, and we are all immensely grateful for their support.

Wherever you are in Hampshire or elsewhere, I wish you good birding in 2019, and hope to see you at one of our events – and particularly at our Members Day. Will we exceed 400 attendees for the first time on Sunday 7 April? I suspect we might. See you there!

Keith Betton
Chairman, Hampshire Ornithological Society
December 2018
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While not a complete list of all activities undertaken during the year, the items numbered in the report above, eg (1), are in support of our objectives in Section C, as follows.

- (1) In support of objective i
- (2) In support of objective i
- (3) In support of objectives ii and iii
- (4) In support of objective ii
- (5) In support of objective I and ii
- (6) In support of objective i

Other activities documented in the sub-committee reports in the HOS AGM materials, which support our objectives include

- Bird Camp – supporting objectives i, ii and iii
- HOS Open Day – partly supporting objectives i, ii and iii
- Liaison with Conservation Organisation – supporting objective iii
- Hampshire Swift Day – supporting objectives i and iii
- Bird Surveys and Fieldworkers' Meeting – supporting objectives ii and iii
- Walks programme – supporting objective i
- Presence at shows/events/talks – supporting objective i
- School and other visits – supporting objective i

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society currently has increased reserves and its aim is to use these over the three or four years to support conservation and research projects that meet its objectives. Once that has been achieved, its reserves should represent approximately twelve months' worth of running costs.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Keith Betton	John Shillitoe Andy Mitchelmore
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary Treasurer
Date		