



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
<b>From</b>	01	01	2019	<b>To</b>	31	12	2019

## 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	Andrew Colenutt		From April 2019	
8	Andy Lester		From April 2019	
9	Kay Shillitoe			
10	Tom Jordan		From April 2019	
11	Jonathan Mycock		Until April 2019	
12	David Brookes			
13	Daniel Hoare		Until April 2019	
14	Barry Page			
15	Alison Cross			
16	Nicky Court			
17	Mary Macmillan		Until April 2019	
18	Julianne Evans			
19	Olly Frampton		Until April 2019	

### 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 <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li><li>• the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li><li>• relationship with any related parties;</li><li>• trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li></ul>	<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 2019 a grant of £3,000 (2018 - £2,100) 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 and approved by the Scientific and authorised by the Management Committee. 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:

- To advance the education of the public in all aspects of ornithology.
- To promote research into ornithology and to publish the useful results of such study.
- 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:

To promote and record the study of bird life in Hampshire and to publish the results in the annual Bird Report.

To use these results to encourage and support the conservation of wild birds and their habitats within the county.

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.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

Chairman's Report sent to Members prior to AGM in March 2020

"At a time when the word "austerity" is used with great regularity it is heartening to know that the Society's membership is continuing to grow, and we are very pleased to welcome the 143 members who signed up in 2019. We are also grateful to the Cameron Bespolka Trust for continuing their support of our Young Member initiative which has enabled 30 birders under the age of 21 to benefit from free HOS membership. (1) We are also grateful to the HOS members who have given freely of their time to organise special events for these young members and their parents. (2)

We are also thankful to the members who have agreed to run workshops to help others to learn more about bird identification or the understanding of ecology. These have proved hugely popular and most sell out in just a few days. There is a real thirst for more knowledge and it is great that we can call upon experts to share their knowledge and enthusiasm. (3)

HOS was also invited by Forestry England to tender against other organisations to co-ordinate surveys of Woodlarks and breeding waders in the New Forest. I think it is a sign of our ability to mobilize teams of volunteers that we won both contracts. (4) Thank you to everyone who helped to deliver the results in good time, demonstrating the value of citizen science.

We know that protecting valuable bird habitats is high among our members' wishes and we have increased our work in this area, at a time when some conservation organisations have cut back their resources.(5) On the basis that when it has gone it really has gone for ever, we intend to put the case for birds strongly.

Once again the Hampshire Bird Report drew plaudits from many in the birding world. We are lucky to have a great team of contributors whose words and photographs make the difference between success and failure. (6) Similarly the efforts of Barry Page to bring new ideas and designs to our Kingfisher newsletter have been favourably received. (7)

In closing I would like to thank everyone who helps to make the HOS organisation work so smoothly, and in particular the two Sub-committee chairs – Andy Broadhurst (Membership) and Marcus Ward (Scientific). Barry Page will replace Andy at the AGM and I am looking forward to hearing his ideas – and I am grateful to Andy for all that he has done. We are also sorry to see John Shillitoe stepping down as the Society's Secretary. Nobody knows HOS better than John, and I doubt that anyone has ever devoted more time to making it work. The exception might be Kay Shillitoe who is our Membership Secretary. If there is a dream team then this is it. John, we are very grateful for all you have done – and it's great that you are remaining involved in all the other things you do for us. Thank you also to David Brookes for stepping forward to be the next Secretary.

Finally, on behalf of everyone in HOS I'd like to thank Chris Packham for his support as our President. Although his work takes him around the world, Chris's heart is in Hampshire – and it is great that having completed 20 years as our President he is happy to be nominated for a further term in office.

Wherever you are in Hampshire or elsewhere, I wish you good birding in 2020, and hope to see you at one of our events – particularly at our Members' Day on Saturday 28th March.

Keith Betton  
Chairman, Hampshire Ornithological Society  
December 2019  
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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 objective i
- (4) In support of objective ii and iii
- (5) In support of objective iii
- (6) In support of objective ii
- (7) In support of objective i and ii

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

- Bird Trail – supporting objective i
- HOS Members' Day – partly supporting objectives i, ii and iii
- Liaison with Conservation Organisations – supporting objective iii
- Bird Surveys and Fieldworkers' Meeting – supporting objectives ii and iii
- HOS grants for bird research and habitat improvements - 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 the Trustees aim to deploy these over the next three to four years to support conservation and research projects that meet the Society's objectives. Once that has been achieved, the Society's reserves should represent some 12 months of running costs, which have ranged approximately between £21,000 and £27,000 during the past five years (2015 to 2019 inclusive).

### 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		