

## Chairman's Address to AGM

Firstly, I hope this message finds all of you in good health and coping with the constraints that have been placed upon us – especially those who have faced even longer periods of lockdown. Secondly, I'd like to thank everyone who has helped HOS in various ways in the last two months. We've had to cancel a lot of meetings and adapt to new ways of operating. The Kingfisher newsletter is on schedule and will be full of news and articles of interest and we are also well advanced on writing the 2019 Hampshire Bird Report.

Normal life will resume eventually and everything we usually do will be put back. And with that positive thought please note the date of next year's Members Day – Saturday 27 March 2021.

Had we met in March I would have told you very much what I wrote in the AGM programme. Two updates I can give are that we will now run our Snipe Survey in the New Forest in 2021. The second is that our Young Member Scheme has continued to expand – and at one end we have a 6-year old girl who is crazy about birds, and at the other a 22 year-old female Masters student studying zoology. Many thanks again to the Cameron Bespolka Trust for funding these members. We have been able to attract around 35 young people into HOS as a result of your generosity.

The AGM agenda is the same as you saw originally with one small change. John Shillitoe will continue in the role of Secretary until the next AGM when David Brookes will succeed him.

Thank you for taking part in this online voting process and enabling us to fulfil our commitment to the Charity Commission.

Please stay safe – and I look forward to seeing you once life returns back to normal.

Keith Betton  
Chairman  
Hampshire Ornithological Society