President’s Statement

During 2012, there have been a series of notable achievements and developments within the BOU. A major achievement during the year concerned our journal, *Ibis*, which was awarded the rank of top journal in ornithology by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI), the body responsible for citation statistics and metrics. This improved ranking results from the hard work of all our editors and staff, and should ensure that *Ibis* continues to attract very high quality submissions and to be read even more widely. Journal publishing is facing a somewhat uncertain future at present, as the UK government is in the process of implementing plans to increase the amount of published scientific information that is available to view through Open Access. The consequences of such developments for journal funding structures are not yet clear, and Council are therefore monitoring this situation closely, and submitting evidence to ongoing enquiries into the issue.

The BOU has also continued to develop mechanisms for improving engagement with early career ornithological researchers. As part of the Strategic Review process which began in 2011, this group was identified as one for which we could potentially improve involvement and engagement quite substantially. During 2012, Council have used the information derived from the workshop that was held in York in 2011, together with input from our student representatives, to develop a series of initiatives. These have included a new membership package for early career researchers, reduced costs of conference attendance, the ongoing development of an online community of ornithological researchers providing and sharing relevant information through social media, and the invited attendance at BOU committee meetings of early career researchers. At each of the annual *Ibis* meeting and the spring Meetings Committee meeting, two early career researchers who had expressed an interest were invited to attend and contribute, in order to learn about the way in which the BOU operates, and the community-based design and delivery of BOU work. This was a highly successful initiative, with all four invitees enjoying the meetings and providing valuable input and feedback. Council is now considering how to develop this initiative further.

The 2012 annual conference on *Ecosystem services: do we need birds?* was a great success, and the excellent speakers and wide-ranging discussions provided an extremely stimulating and
thought-provoking atmosphere. The conference addressed the
challenging issues of how biodiversity conservation can be achieved
in a world dominated by global-scale environmental degradation, a
burgeoning human population and continuing over-exploitation of
the Earth’s resources by humans. This is undoubtedly a topic that will
be revisited at future BOU conferences, as the science and
implementation of these approaches continues to develop. At this
conference we also held our second dedicated student event, which
consisted of round-table discussions between students and
established researchers and conservationists. We are extremely
grateful to all who took part this event, especially Ian Bainbridge
(SNH), Richard Bradbury (RSPB), Simon Butler (UEA), Helen Baker
(JNCC), Andy Clements (BTO), John Fanshawe (Birdlife International)
and David Stroud (JNCC); the enthusiastic and lively discussions that
took place throughout this hour, and continued throughout the
evening, were testament to the value of such events.

The autumn meeting on Marine Renewables and Birds was a similarly
well-attended and well-received meeting. The potential impact of the
rapid development of the marine renewable sector on seabird
ecology and conservation was explored in detail, with excellent
presentations reporting studies from around Europe. The discussions
that took place around these presentations will hopefully aid the
future development of this important research area.

The finances of the BOU remain sound, and our new Treasurer and
the BOU Office are working hard to manage our finances in the
continuing difficulties of the current economic climate.

Claire Spottiswoode, Gavin Siriwardena and Tom Pizzari step down
from BOU Council this year, and we would like to extend our sincere
thanks for their hard work and contribution to Council and BOU
development.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to Steve Dudley (Senior
Administrator) and Angela Langford (Journal and Office Manager)
for the continuing excellent service that they provide to the BOU, and
I look forward to our continued development of BOU activities.
Structure, Governance & Management

The British Ornithologists’ Union is an unincorporated charity, no. 249877. 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 four standing committees: the *Ibis* Management Committee, the Meetings Committee, the Grants Committee and the Records Committee. In addition, it has a joint committee with the British Ornithologists’ Club to oversee all non-journal publications – the BOU/BOC Joint Publications Committee.

Elected members of Council are Trustees of the charity. Members are recruited from within the ornithological community. Where possible, 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.
Objectives & Activities

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.
- Publishing the BOU Checklist series, together with other publications.
- Organising a programme of meetings and conferences.
- Awarding grants 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.

promoting the understanding and conservation of the world’s birds
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Cont . . .

Bankers
The Union holds accounts with the following banks:
Natwest Bank plc, PO Box 6037, Brompton Road, London SW13 1XJ
CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
Douglas County Bank, 9th & Kentucky, PO Box 429, Lawrence, KS 66044, USA

Solicitor
The Union’s solicitors are:
Laytons, Tempus 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:
Alliotts, Friary Court, 13-21 High Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3DL

Objectives & Activities cont. . .

Council Activities
At the AGM in April, Julianne Evans was elected as Honorary Treasurer to replace Peter Oliver; Dr Paul Dolman was elected as an Ordinary Member to replace Dr Paul Donald as Chairman of the Grants Committee; Dr Keith Hamar was elected as an Ordinary Member to replace Dr Ian Hartley as Chairman of the Ibis Management Committee; and Dr Hugh Wright was elected as an Ordinary Member to replace Prof Sarah Wanless.

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.

Strategic Review
The Strategic Review process that began in 2011 was developed throughout this year with a series of initiatives relating primarily to the first target of the review process – improving engagement with early career ornithological researchers. These initiatives, and the review process as a whole, will continue to be developed by Council in the coming years.
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 Union, taking online bookings for conferences and for selling BOU publications.
During the year the website was relaunched and all the content reviewed, revamped or replaced.

WWW.IBIS.ORG.UK
The primary gateway to Ibis – the 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 Migratory Birds conference was added during 2011.

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

Find us on Twitter @IBIS_journal
and at Facebook.com/ibisjournal

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 work of the BOU Office is overseen by Council, the Union’s standing committees and the Senior Administrator.

The BOU Office is responsible for the effective running of the BOU.
Its key responsibilities are -

- to support BOU Council and its Committees and implementing much of the work arising from them, and specifically;
- working with the Honorary Treasurer, maintain monthly accounts and budgets and assist in the preparation of annual accounts;
- working with the Ibis Management Committee, manage the non-editorial aspects of the Union’s journal, Ibis;
- working with the Meetings Committee, organise BOU conferences and meetings;
- working with the Joint Publications Committee, manage the publication and sales of BOU and BOC publications;
- working with the Grants Committee and Council, manage the Union’s Grants and Career Development Bursary schemes;
- working with the Records Committee, to manage the British List and associated work areas;
- working with the Ibis Editorial Team to oversee and manage the manuscript process and flow for the Union’s journal, Ibis;
Achievements & Performance *cont. . .*

**BOU Office *cont. . .***

- to service the BOU membership
- undertake routine administration (bookkeeping, reports, etc)
- to manage BOU sales
- to manage the BOU storage facility
- to handle general enquiries
- to manage press and publicity
- to manage BOU web content on its various websites including WWW.BOOU.ORG.UK, WWW.IBIS.AC.UK, WWW.BOUPROC.NET and WWW.BIRDGRANTS.ORG
- to manage the BOU’s increasing social media output
- to manage BOC activities contracted to the BOU including administration, membership, journal management, publication sales and contributing to the BOC website.

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

**British Ornithologists’ Club administration**

The BOU Office continues to run various aspects of the BOC’s administration including the management, production and sales of BOC publications, the management of institutional subscribers to the BOC’s *Bulletin*, the BOC’s membership and preparing items for the BOC website.

**BOU website – WWW.BOOU.ORG.UK**

Our new website was delivered in April to a hugely positive reception from users. Despite increased running costs over the free Blogger service we used previously, the new bespoke site gives us much more flexibility and control over content and appearance.
We continue to develop the site and have added new sections during the year including an ‘opportunities’ section which details jobs, PhD, Masters and voluntary opportunities.

With our increased use of social media, the new website is also fully integrated with all major social media platforms.

Social media

Social media continues to play an increased role in our overall online and mobile presence. The two main platforms we use are Twitter (@IBIS_JOURNAL) and Facebook (FACEBOOK.COM/IBISJOURNAL). Twitter remains our number one medium and by the end of 2012 we had 1290 followers.

@IBIS_JOURNAL acts as a one-stop news service for ornithologists using Twitter. We tweet about anything ornithological – papers from the main journals, conferences, meetings, news items, job opportunities and more. We are building a very engaged online and mobile community which helps us to spread BOU, Ibis and other ornithological news far wider than we could reach on our own.

It’s also clear that these social media platforms are playing an increasing role in driving membership recruitment and conference attendance.

Other online services

During the year the BOU Office developed a new monthly e-newsletter aimed at promoting Ibis and BOU conferences. We reach over 6,000 researchers with each e-mailing and results indicate this is already proving to be an effective way of reaching our target audience.

In June we launched the BOU Blog as part of our new website. Blog posts aim to cover topical ornithological issues and increase engagement with the online ornithological research community. Monthly posts have already provided a diverse list of topics and are receiving an increased readership.
Achievements & Performance cont. . .

BOU Office cont. . .

The BOU Register of Avian Thesis Abstracts (BRANTA) continues to provide access to these abstracts. The service was originally developed and managed by Rob Robinson, to whom we are extremely grateful. With the development of the new website, the BRANTA content has now been revamped and moved to our new website and will now be managed by the BOU Office.

The BOU e-group, BOU BirdTalk, still has over 400 members who use the group to exchange news, views and make announcements, etc.

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

General administrative items
General correspondence, particularly emails and contact forms received via the new website, continues to increase and take up a significant amount of Office time.

The BOU maintains a storage facility in Peterborough, which it shares with the BOC, for the storage of publications, journal stocks, sales goods and archive items. During the year both BOU and BOC reduced our journal stock (following digitization) and moving in to a significantly smaller unit at reduced cost.

Strategic Review
The BOU Office is responsible for driving the review and will also be responsible for implementing much of the output, and is fully engaged with all committees and Council during the review process.

During the year all the BOU’s online and mobile content was reviewed and where necessary revamped, updated or replaced. This includes the delivery of the new website, continued development of social media content and the introduction of our new monthly e-newsletters.
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. During the year, Andrew MacColl retired from the Committee and we would like to extend our thanks to Dr MacColl for his work on behalf of the Union. The Committee met once in March 2012, with other business being conducted by email. The meeting was hosted by Wiley-Blackwell in Oxford, where we received their annual report on production, marketing and accounts, followed by a meeting of the *Ibis* Committee.

The Journal

The journal continues to thrive under the leadership of Paul Donald, and with the support of the other editors: Rauri Bowie, Dan Chamberlain, Ruedi Nager and Jeremy Wilson; Angela Langford as Journal Manager; and Steve Dudley who manages the business with Wiley-Blackwell.

A notable and welcome achievement this year was the continued increase in the impact factor (the number of papers published in the previous two years that are cited in other papers) of *Ibis*, which resulted in *Ibis* now being ranked as the top journal in ornithology by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI). This important achievement is the result of a great deal of work by the *Ibis* editorial and management team, and should help the journal to continue to attract high quality papers.

The *Ibis* Associate Editor board play a key role in the delivery of the journal, and we are very fortunate to have an excellent range of top-class researchers on the Board. This year saw the retirement from the *Ibis* Associate Editor board of Alistair Dawson, Farah Ishtiaq, Aleksi Lehikoinen, Andrew MacColl and Pamela Rasmussen, who we thank for their valuable contribution. Joining the board in 2012 were Colleen Downs, Robert Fletcher, James Pearce-Higgins, Jeroen Renerkeens, Eivin Røskaft, Christian Rutz, Robert Robinson, Jennifer Smart and Javier Perez-Tris.
Achievements & Performance cont . . .

Ibis Management Committee cont . . .

Journal publishing

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 2012 were greatly appreciated, and initiatives to increase Ibis readership through social media developments, readership campaigns and presence at international conferences have all helped to maintain the current position of Ibis at the forefront of ornithological journal publishing.

During 2012, the UK government commissioned the Finch report on Accessibility, sustainability, excellence: how to expand access to research publications, and adopted recommendations from the report aimed at encouraging the transition to Open Access publishing. These recommendations could have important repercussions for societies involved in scientific publishing (see blog post item left). For most journals, the costs of scientific publication are met through journal sales to libraries and, in the case of journals published by learned societies, to members who gain access through society subscriptions. In the Open Access model, publication costs would be met through Article Publishing Charges (APCs) paid by authors. This model therefore relies on funding bodies providing additional resources to cover APCs. The Committee will continue to track these developments closely.

Overall, Ibis is in excellent health, and continues to attract a large number of very high quality submissions. The dedication and hard work of the Editorial team, Angela Langford and Steve Dudley in achieving and maintaining this status are warmly acknowledged.

IBIS – the number one journal in Ornithology
MEETINGS COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN
Dr Niall Burton (BTO)

MEMBERS
Dr Graeme Buchanan (RSPB)
Rachel Davies, Student Rep (University of Leeds)
Steve Dudley, BOU Senior Administrator
Dr Darren Evans (University of Hull)
Dr Karl Evans (University of Sheffield)
Dr Mel Kershaw (Defra)
Angela Langford, Journal & Office Manager

Achievements & Performance cont . . .

MEETINGS COMMITTEE

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

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

Three members retired from the committee during 2012 – Dr M.J. Whittingham, Dr H. Baker and Dr H. Wright (student representative), the latter two replaced respectively by Dr Mel Kershaw and Miss Rachel Davies.

Two conferences were held in 2012.

Annual spring conference 2012
The BOU held its annual conference, on Ecosystem Services: do we need birds?, at the University of Leicester in April. The programme organising committee was led by Darren Evans (University of Hull) and included Mark Whittingham (University of Newcastle) and Karl Evans (University of Sheffield), with input from Helen Baker (JNCC) and Niall Burton (BTO).

The conference was attended by 110 delegates, of which 42 were students (having catered for 120 delegates). This represents a fall from the previous year and, in part, no doubt reflects the current financial climate. There was no external funding for the conference, though the delegate income meant that the conference produced a small operating surplus (excluding BOU staff time).

The programme had a good mix of subject areas, and overseas speakers. There was also a successful student event with round table question and answer sessions between invited scientists and small groups (6–7) of students. Feedback from the conference was that Ecosystem Services should be revisited as a conference theme in the future, when the research base had built up in the UK.
DIARY DATES

26 – 28 MARCH 2013
BOU 2013 Annual Conference
From populations to policy impact: avian demography in a changing world

27 – 30 AUGUST 2013
EOU2013UK
European Ornithologists’ Union conference.
The BOU will co-host this event with the BTO, EGI, RSPB and University of East Anglia.

1 – 3 APRIL 2014
BOU 2014 Annual Conference
The ecology and conservation of birds in alpine and upland habitats

Achievements & Performance cont . . .

Meetings Committee cont . . .

With the Ecosystem Services conference, we were the first to use new Gilbert Murray Conference Suite at the University of Leicester. While the new facilities are excellent, and a vast improvement on the previous suite, there were some teething problems, notably in the quality of the audio equipment and acoustics which the BOU Office have worked closely with the university to resolve.

Articles and abstracts from posters were published on BOUPROC.net.

Autumn 2012 conference
A one-day conference on Marine Renewables and Birds was held in Peterborough in November 2012. The programme organising committee was led by Niall Burton (BTO) and included Sophy Allen (JNCC), Francis Daunt (CEH), Rowena Langston (RSPB), Chris Thaxter (BTO and the Seabird Group), Stephen Votier (Plymouth University) and Andy Webb (HiDef Aerial Surveying Ltd and the Seabird Group).

Following on from the BOU’s Wind, fire and water: renewable energy and birds conference in 2005, the conference explored the potential impacts that renewable developments may have on birds in the marine environment, e.g. from effects including displacement, barrier effects, collision, and changes in habitat or prey availability. The conference reviewed these effects, presented case studies and highlighted the importance of being able to understand the population-level consequences of impacts. In addition to the programme of talks, the conference also included a successful poster session.

The conference was fully booked, with 130 delegates (and the poster session was also oversubscribed), attracting academics (from the UK and abroad), conservation organisations, industry, statutory government agencies and those engaged in policy, advocacy and conservation management.

Funding of £6000 was also secured from the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) to support this meeting.
Future events
In April 2013, the BOU’s annual conference will again be held at the University of Leicester. An excellent programme, with a wide international input, on From populations to policy impact: avian demography in a changing world has been put together by an organising team being led by Rob Robinson (BTO) and Karl Evans (University of Sheffield) and also including Jane Reid (University of Aberdeen) and Melanie Kershaw (Defra).

There will be no BOU conference in autumn 2013, when the BOU will be co-hosting and heavily involved in the running of the European Ornithologists’ Union conference at the University of East Anglia in August.

In April 2014, the BOU’s annual conference will again be held at the University of Leicester, and will address the Ecology and conservation of birds in alpine and upland habitats. The organising team is being led by Graeme Buchanan (RSPB), and includes Dan Chamberlain (University of Turin), James Pearce-Higgins (BTO) and Des Thompson (SNH).

Strategic Review
Leading on from the strategic review discussions, a number of initiatives have been put in place for the recent and forthcoming conferences, with the particular aim to engender greater engagement between students and established researchers, so focussing on the community building aspect of these events. These initiatives have included the student events within the annual conferences, the open calls for papers within the annual conferences (typically for one paper per session, with a preference for student presentations), the instigation of a poster session within the autumn one-day conference and the associated short oral presentations from those showing posters. Greater student support for the conferences has also been approved.

WWW.BOUPROC.NET
The Meetings Committee is responsible for overseeing the published output from BOU conferences. For each conference the BOU Office oversees submitted items for publication on BOUProc.net. All items are externally copy-edited to BOU house style by Patrick Smith who also works as part of our Ibis team. This helps to ensure consistency across publications. The Senior Administrator is responsible for project-managing each conference proceedings to publication. It appears, now that BOUPROC.net requires only extended abstracts, that both the number of items submitted and the speed of submission, have both increased.

Proceedings were added to BOUPROC.net from the Ecosystem Services: do we need birds? conference this year (within eight months of the conference being held).

Marine Renewables and Birds will be hosted during 2013.
Achievements & Performance  

**GRANTS COMMITTEE**

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

During the year Dr Paul Dolman replaced Dr Paul Donald as Chairman, Dr Jos Barlow retired from the Committee and Dr Phil Shaw and Dr Danaë Sheehan joined our ranks.

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

**Small Ornithological Research Grant scheme**

The Committee received 18 research grant applications, significantly fewer than the previous year, but just below the average number of applicants of previous years, and recommended award of grants totaling £8,817.

Council accepted the Committee’s recommendation that the following projects be funded:

**Jenny Dunn & Danaë Sheehan** (UK)

Could disease be contributing to the population decline of European Turtle Doves Streptopelia turtur?: Trichomonas gallinae infection in European Turtle Doves in Nigeria and potential for transmission among co-occurring African columbiformes.

Award: £2000

**Richard Hillard** (UK)

Non-breeding habitat requirements and conservation threats to the Bengal Florican Houbaropsis bengalensis in Cambodia.

Award: £2000

**Jean Paul Ntungane** (Rwanda)

How do Eucalyptus plantations affect forest and farmland-beneficial birds in Rwanda?

Award: £1200

---

**GRANTS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**CHAIRMAN**

Dr Paul Dolman (University of East Anglia)

**MEMBERS**

Dr Phil Atkinson (BTO)

Steve Dudley (BOU Senior Administrator)

Dr Phil Shaw (University of St Andrews)

Dr Danaë Sheehan (RSPB)

Andy Symes (BirdLife)

Research grants provide awards of up to £2000 per project aimed at supporting small projects outright or to part-fund medium-sized research programmes.
RESEARCH PROJECTS REPORTS

During the year we received and published the following reports from projects previously supported by the Union:

Sayam Uddin Chowdhury (Bangladesh).
Action research and conservation of the critically endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper (Eurynorhynchus pygmeus) in Bangladesh.
Awarded £1900. (Ibis 154: 210-211).

Prof. Tim Birkhead (University of Sheffield).
Alfred Newton’s contribution to ornithology: a conservative quest for facts rather than grand theories.
Awarded £2500 to support the research carried out by Peter Gallivan (3-yr BSc student at University of Sheffield) as part of a wider project to research the archives of the BOU’s founder. (Ibis 154: 887-905).

WWW.BIRDGRANTS.ORG

The number of participating organisations is beginning to increase and we now have 20 organisations featured on the site. The number of page views remain high, with over 11,000 views (80% of which were viewing the BOU pages) indicating that those seeking funding are aware of the website. This will be used to promote the site to other funders over the coming year.

Achievements & Performance cont. . .

Grants Committee cont. . .

Sepand Riyahi (Spain)
Investigating the differences in personality of Great Tits in urban area and woodland using Drd4 gene polymorphism and behavioural observation in captivity.
Award: £1700

Melissa Rowe (Denmark)
Impact of bacteria on sperm quality in a wild passerine, the House Sparrow.
Award: £1000

Martin Sullivan (UK)
Assessing the impacts of non-native Black-headed Weavers on native reedbed nesting warblers.
Award: £917

Career Development Bursary scheme
This was the second year of this new scheme. The aim of the bursaries is to support short-term research projects (up to ten weeks) for young or early-career ornithologists, 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.

Four applications were received which were assessed by the same sub-group of Council members as last year.

Four bursaries were awarded:

Jennifer Mandeville (Researcher, Conservation International, USA), supervised by Bruce Beehler (Conservation International, USA).
Monitoring Change: Resampling the Mount Missim Elevational Transect, Papua New Guinea.
Award: £2500
Achievements & Performance cont . . .

Grants Committee cont . . .

Renata Jorge Medeiros Mirra (self-funded Post-doctoral Researcher, Cardiff University), supervised by Rob Thomas (Cardiff University, UK).
Evaluating and comparing the diet and population dynamics of two sympatric species of storm petrels in the Azores.
Award: £2500

Gregorio M. Toral (unaffiliated, currently a volunteer at Estación Biológica de Doñana, CSIC, Seville, Spain), supervised by José Hernán Sarasola (Universidad Nacional de La Pampa, Argentina).
The black mask in Birds: an advantage for hunting?
Centre for the Study and Conservation of Raptors in Argentina (CECARA), Argentina.
Award: £2500

Yang Liu (Assistant Post-doctoral Researcher – independent), supervised by Michael Griesser (University of Bern).
Understanding Grouping Choice in House Sparrow (Passer domesticus).
Award: £2500

Strategic Review

The Committee reviews annually scheme guidelines for applicants, admissibility of applicants and the format of the application forms.

As part of the wider ongoing review, in 2012 the Committee reviewed the funding the BOU provides for grants, both in terms of overall spend and the size of individual awards. It was concluded that the current maximum award of £2000 was sufficient. The total available for awards of £10,000 per annum was considered adequate in a normal year, but Council’s offer of a discretionary fund of an additional £5,000 was accepted.

Career Development Bursaries

aim to support short-term research positions for young (or early career) ornithologists, between a first and higher degree programme or immediately after completion of a higher degree. Successful proposals will combine the applicant’s development of skills that will be useful for their future career in ornithology with sound science.
Achievements & Performance \textit{cont} \ldots

BOU / BOC JOINT PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee
This joint committee (JPC), which is responsible for the BOU’s and British Ornithologists’ Club’s (BOC) non-journal publications, met once during the year with much of its business being otherwise conducted by email.

There were no changes to the Committee during 2012.

Publications
No new titles were published during the year but work continued on several titles.

The Committee continues to maintain contact with authors of other potential titles, and evaluate new proposals.

No manuscripts are expected to be submitted for publication during 2013.

Strategic Review
As part of this review a questionnaire was developed at the end of the year to canvas users and non-users alike about perceptions of the BOU Checklist Series and their future content and delivery. This questionnaire will be run during early 2013.
RECORDS COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN
Dr Martin Collinson (University of Aberdeen)

SECRETARY
Andrew Harrop

MEMBERS
Dr Andy Brown
Steve Dudley (BOU Senior Administrator)
Dr James Gilroy
Chris Kehoe
Dr Chris McInerney
Richard Millington
Adam Rowlands (BBRC Chairman)
Dr Jimmy Steele

SPECIES ADDED TO THE BRITISH LIST

The following species were added to Category A of the List in 2012:
Scopoli’s Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea* (split from Cory’s Shearwater *C. borealis*).

BRITISH LIST TOTALS

at 31 December 2012

The changes to the British List published in the most recent Committee report means that the List comprises 596 species (578 Category A, 8 Category B and 10 solely in Category C).

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 once during the year with most of its business conducted by email and post.

During the year, Mr Andrew Lassey retired from the Committee. We thank him for his work and guidance during his time as a serving member of BOURC. In line with policy agreed at the June meeting of BOURC to reduce the number of members of the Committee, Mr Lassey was not replaced.

Changes to the British List

The Committee’s 41st Report, covering the period October 2011 to September 2012 was published in January 2013 (*Ibis* 155: 194–197).

Scopoli’s Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea* was added to Category A of the British List following its split from Cory’s Shearwater *C. borealis* (see Taxonomic Subcommittee below). Madeiran Storm Petrel *Oceanodroma castro* was removed from the British List.

Other changes: the eastern subspecies of Yellow Wagtail, *Motacilla flava simillima*, and ‘Iceland’ Redpoll *Carduelis flammea islandicus* were removed from the British List. Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus* was removed from Category B. Criteria for acceptance of potentially ship-assisted transatlantic vagrants were reviewed and remain unchanged.

Review of Category D species

A review of species in this category continues. For details of changes see the report referred to above.

Category F Subcommittee

The preliminary Category F list has been drafted and is being prepared for publication.
Achievements & Performance cont . . .

Records Committee cont . . .

Taxonomic Subcommittee
The Taxonomic Subcommittee published its eighth recommendations in October 2012 (*Ibis* 154: 874–883). The family and generic limits of Western Palearctic Galliformes were revised. Cory's Shearwater and Madeiran Storm Petrel were each split into three species. The Mediterranean subspecies of European Storm Petrel, *Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis*, was recognised (but has not occurred in Britain). Generic limits of *Egretta* were revised. The taxonomic sequence of Charadriiformes and generic sequence of calidrine sandpipers were revised. Somali Courser *Cursorius somalensis* was split from Cream-coloured Courser *C. cursor*. Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* was split into three species. Marmora's Warbler *Sylvia sarda* was split from Balearic Warbler *S. balearica* and Siberian Nuthatch *Sitta arctica* was split from Eurasian Nuthatch *S. europaea*.

These changes were adopted for the British List in the Committee’s 41st report (*Ibis* 155: 194–197).

The British List: 8th Edition
This is in advanced stage of preparation and will be finalised for publication during 2013.

Strategic Review
In line with changes approved by Council, this year’s retiring member was not replaced in order to reduce the number on the Committee, and the Committee reduced its meetings to an annual summer meeting.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Union would like to extend their thanks and gratitude to the following individuals who have assisted on the many BOU activities throughout the year: Raurie Bowie, Dan Chamberlain, Paul Donald, 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; Debbie Wright, Graeme Henderson, Jack Yuille, Sophie Gillanders and Lynne Miller and everyone else at Wiley-Blackwell Publishing for their help in delivering our high quality journal; Darren Evans (University of Hull), Mark Whittingham (University of Newcastle), Karl Evans (University of Sheffield), Helen Baker (JNCC) and Niall Burton (BTO) for their work preparing the programme for the annual conference; Niall Burton (BTO), Sophy Allen (JNCC), Francis Daunt (CEH), Rowena Langston (RSPB), Chris Thaxter (BTO and the Seabird Group), Stephen Votier (Plymouth University) and Andy Webb (HiDef Aerial Surveying Ltd and the Seabird Group) for their work preparing the programme for the autumn conference; Ian Bainbridge (SNH), Richard Bradbury (RSPB), Simon Butler (UEA), Helen Baker (JNCC), Andy Clements (BTO), John Fanshawe (Birdlife International) and David Stroud (JNCC) for supporting the spring conference student event; David Wells (Commissioning editor for all BOU and BOC non-journal titles); Patrick Smith (copy-editor for BOUPROC.net); Eng-Li Green (BOU website); Rob Robinson (BRANTA and BOU BirdTalk); Joy Enston (Subbuteo Natural History Books) for supporting the annual BOU conference and for assisting with storage of our publications stock; Kim Thompson and staff at Peterborough Eco Innovation Centre (venue for BOU meetings); Emma Rathbone and the conference staff at the University of Leicester (BOU annual conferences); Andrea Corso, Meritxell Genovart, Marcell Haas, Frederic Jiguet, Bob McGowan (National Museums of Scotland), Keith Naylor, Robin Prytherch, Lars Svensson, Roger Wilkinson (Chester Zoo), Russell Wynn and Bernie Zonfrillo for assisting with the work of the Records Committee; and we apologise to anyone we have inadvertently omitted.

Achievements & Performance cont . . .

MEMBERSHIP

As the global economic crisis continues, more and more people are affected and many societies are seeing a continuing decline in their membership. After holding steady during 2011, our own membership took another dip with an overall loss of 37 members, reducing our membership at year-end to 992 (1029 at 31 Dec 2011).

The following members were elected (or re-elected having lapsed their membership for one or more years) during 2012: Mr Jose Alves, Mr Esben Andersen, Mr James Anderson, Mr Julian Arkell, Mr Jonathan Ayres, Mr Richard Broughton, Mr Carl Capewell, Mr Mick Carroll, Mr Fraser Carter, Mr Jose Maria Cardoso Da Silva, Ms Maria Egorova, Dr Hans-Juergen Eilts, Mr Seamus Enright, Mr Richard Facey, Mr Neil Faulkner, Mr Tom Finch, Ms Aldina Franco, Dr Dale F Gaul, Mr Scott Gooch, Mrs Ann Haycock, Mr Chris Honan, Ms Christina Jeronymidou, Ms Zoe Jones, Mr Johannes Kamp, Ms Melanie Kershaw, Ms Becky Laidlaw, Mr Mark Lane, Mr Yang Liu, Mr Ross Macleod, Mr David Mallett, Ms Jacqui Miller, Mr Volker Moritz, Mr Campbell Murn, Mr Johan Nilsson, Mr Steve Norman, Miss Nina O’Hanlon, Mr Gerald Oree, Ms Melanie Orros, Mr John Ost, Mr Nickson Otieno, Dr Colin Prescott, Mr Simon Rolland, Mr Rafa Sandecki, Ms Helen Sanders, Mr Piers Sangan, Mr David Saunders, Mr David Seeler, Mr Thomas Stevens, Mr Martin Sullivan, Ms Petra Sumasgutner, Ms Kirsty Swinnerton, Mr David Tate, Ms Rachel Taylor, Mr Juan Verhelst, Mr Matthew Viner, Mr Rodney West, Mr Andrew Wolfenden, Mr Simon Zisman and Ms Maria Zwart.

Most member losses go un-notified to us (members simply don’t renew), but 28 resignations were accepted during the year (higher than previous years), and Council noted with regret the following deaths: Mr R M G Eden, Mr K H Palmer, Dr E H Penry, Mr R Pullen and Mr P Tate.
The Future
BOU Council have been acutely aware of the declining membership over the years. Our community remains small. Some would argue our potential pool of members is shrinking as researchers see themselves less and less as ornithologists and more as ecologists.

With limited resources it’s difficult for small societies to effectively target potential members that are thinly distributed throughout the wider public as there is often no single means of reaching them and small charities are unable to undertaken widespread advertising.

Some years ago the student and early-career researcher community was identified as key to our future. This group should be providing us with the members of the future and should also be the people coming on to BOU committees and Council to help run the organisation. This community is more easily identifiable and reachable and we have over the years run several campaigns to engage with this community.

Following on from work undertaken with this target group as part of the Union’s wider Strategic Review, we have at last started to see our efforts rewarded and for 2013 we have launched a new category for students and early-career researchers offering a reduced rate and will receive benefits specifically targeted at this audience to initially attract them in to the BOU and hopefully retain them for future years.

We are sure that existing members will see the benefit of us focusing our recruitment efforts and limited resources on the student and early-career researcher community. If we fail to secure new members from this group we will fail to secure the future of the BOU.

Existing members still enjoy the key benefit of receiving *Ibis* for a very good annual fee. The surpluses built up from sales of *Ibis* to institutions and from the success of conferences before the economic downturn, enable us to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible. These same surpluses allow us to deliver incentives to the new students and early-career researchers we are now targeting. We hope that the goodwill engendered within members recruited using these incentive schemes will see a future of continued support for the BOU as our long-standing members have done over the years.
Achievements & Performance cont.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In spite of the difficult conditions experienced during the year, notably in respect of conferences, the net income for the year before taking into account any changes in the value of investments, at £15,000, was £1,000 more than in the previous year. Gross income from Ibis was again very strong, reflecting the continuing attraction of back issue sales to institutions around the world. In the case of conference income, £6,000 was received from DECC this year so that there was a surplus of £9,100 after direct costs, which resulted in a deficit of £5,200 after taking into account subsidies to overseas speakers and students and attributed overhead expenditure. The latter includes an extra £5,000 allocated by Council to student support. Although the loss on conferences was considerably less than last year, it is a trend that is likely to continue in the ongoing economic climate. The Strategic Review incurred no significant costs this year against a budget of £5,000 which will have offset the increase in student support. Last year, Council decided to allocate the remaining amount in the Research Fund (a restricted income fund) to charitable expenditure, with the balance coming out of the General Fund. No further transfers to restricted income funds were made and research expenditure therefore came from the General Fund. The loss of £6,000 on other publications was almost unchanged from last year, while interest and investment income rose by £3,000. As required by charity accounting rules, indirect costs (staff costs and overheads) are allocated across multiple headings in the accounts, but in total were substantially unchanged from the previous year.

The Union’s financial resources remain substantial, its activities continuing to generate cash. The value of longer term investments rose by £6,000 during the year, reflecting stock market fluctuation. By the end of the year, including some re-investment of income, these were valued at £211,000. The policy of maintaining cash resources in short-term cash deposits has been continued, as recommended by the investment trustees, and at the end of the year these amounted to £467,000, although further longer term investments to the value of £70,000 have been approved by Council. The Union thus remains in a strong position to support further charitable activities and, provided sales of Ibis remain buoyant, to continue its current scale of activities. In addition, these resources would also be adequate to support any appropriate investment arising from the Strategic Review, should Council decide that this would be desirable.
Achievements & Performance cont . . .

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

• select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

• make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

• prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees 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 the 6 March 2013
and are signed on their behalf by:

J. A. Gill, President ..........................................................
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS’ UNION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

### INCOMING RESOURCES
Incoming resources from generated funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>33,730</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>33,730</td>
<td>37,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>121,529</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>121,529</td>
<td>128,941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>11,829</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>16,603</td>
<td>13,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</td>
<td>167,088</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>171,862</td>
<td>179,467</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESOURCES EXPENDED
Costs of generating funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost of generating funds</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>-124,110</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-124,110</td>
<td>119,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7</td>
<td>-13,831</td>
<td>-4,774</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-18,605</td>
<td>-27,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>-13,892</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-13,892</td>
<td>-18,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</td>
<td>-151,833</td>
<td>-4,774</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-156,607</td>
<td>165,028</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfer between funds</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15,255</td>
<td>-4,774</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>15,255</td>
<td>14,439</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15,255</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>15,255</td>
<td>14,439</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gains and Losses</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Losses on investment assets</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-63</td>
<td>-63</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealised loss/gain on investments</td>
<td>9,376</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>7,387</td>
<td>16,763</td>
<td>-10,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,631</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>7,324</td>
<td>31,955</td>
<td>4,368</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total funds brought forward</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>509,228</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>152,044</td>
<td>661,272</td>
<td>656,904</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>533,859</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>159,368</td>
<td>693,227</td>
<td>661,272</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 28 to 33 form part of these financial statements.
## BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>211,111</td>
<td>205,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,299</td>
<td>4,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43,250</td>
<td>58,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>466,849</td>
<td>427,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>513,398</td>
<td>490,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-31,282</td>
<td>-35,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>482,116</td>
<td>455,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>693,227</td>
<td>661,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>693,227</td>
<td>661,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FUNDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment funds</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>159,368</td>
<td>152,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted income funds</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted income funds</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>533,859</td>
<td>509,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>693,227</td>
<td>661,272</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approved by the Council on 6 March 2013  
And are signed on their behalf by:  

J. A. Gill, President  

The notes on pages 28 to 33 form part of these financial statements
1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets, and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act 2011.

Stocks
Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

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

Legacies
Legacy income is accounted for when received.

Investments
Investments are recorded in the balance sheet at market value.

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>2,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>2,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>33,097</td>
<td>33,097</td>
<td>32,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33,730</td>
<td>33,730</td>
<td>37,175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publication income - Ibis</td>
<td>75,516</td>
<td>75,516</td>
<td>91,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other publication income</td>
<td>12,765</td>
<td>12,765</td>
<td>12,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference income</td>
<td>33,248</td>
<td>33,248</td>
<td>24,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>121,529</td>
<td>121,529</td>
<td>128,941</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS’ UNION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income from investments</td>
<td>5,412</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>10,186</td>
<td>11,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank interest receivable</td>
<td>6,417</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6,417</td>
<td>2,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11,829</td>
<td>13,351</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference Costs</td>
<td>38,489</td>
<td>38,489</td>
<td>39,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication costs - Ibis</td>
<td>41,375</td>
<td>41,375</td>
<td>39,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other publication costs</td>
<td>18,881</td>
<td>18,881</td>
<td>15,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management costs</td>
<td>25,365</td>
<td>25,365</td>
<td>24,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>124,110</td>
<td>119,474</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES BY FUND TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research costs</td>
<td>13,831</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>18,605</td>
<td>27,115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES BY FUND TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Research Costs</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research costs</td>
<td>18,605</td>
<td>18,605</td>
<td>27,115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. GOVERNANCE COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds £</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012 £</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountancy fees</td>
<td>4,011</td>
<td>4,011</td>
<td>3,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit fees</td>
<td>4,080</td>
<td>4,080</td>
<td>3,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic review</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>5,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs of trustees' and committee meetings</td>
<td>5,502</td>
<td>5,502</td>
<td>6,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>13,892</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,892</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,439</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2012 £</th>
<th>2011 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff pension contributions</td>
<td>5,274</td>
<td>5,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors' remuneration:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- audit of the financial statements</td>
<td>4,080</td>
<td>3,720</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. FUND TRANSFERS

During the year, funds were transferred into the Research Fund to finance the costs of bursary grants made.

11. STAFF COSTS AND EMOLUMENTS

Total staff costs were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2012 £</th>
<th>2011 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>59,313</td>
<td>58,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social security costs</td>
<td>6,145</td>
<td>6,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other pension costs</td>
<td>5,274</td>
<td>5,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>70,732</strong></td>
<td><strong>70,096</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. STAFF COSTS AND EMOLUMENTS (CONT)

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of administrative staff</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2011 - Nil).
No Council member received any remuneration in the year.
Expenses were paid to Council members of £2,300 (2011 - £2,519)

12. INVESTMENTS

Movement in market value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Market value at 1 January 2012</td>
<td>£205,499</td>
<td>£212,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisitions at cost</td>
<td>£2,666</td>
<td>£3,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal at opening book value</td>
<td>-£13,817</td>
<td>-£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net gain/(loss) on revaluations in the year</td>
<td>£16,763</td>
<td>-£10,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market value at 31 December 2012</td>
<td>£211,111</td>
<td>£205,499</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Historical cost at 31 December 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£103,829</td>
<td>£121,171</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis of investments at 31 December 2012 between funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Endowed Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2012</th>
<th>Total Funds 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listed investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury Stock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Trusts</td>
<td>£118,079</td>
<td>£90,525</td>
<td>£208,604</td>
<td>£189,175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£118,079</td>
<td>®£90,525</td>
<td>£208,604</td>
<td>£202,992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK Cash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£2,507</td>
<td>£2,507</td>
<td>£2,507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£118,079</td>
<td>®£93,032</td>
<td>£211,111</td>
<td>£205,499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS’ UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

13. STOCKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>3,299</td>
<td>4,921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. DEBTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors</td>
<td>42,052</td>
<td>57,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other debtors</td>
<td>1,198</td>
<td>834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43,250</td>
<td>58,473</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxation and social security</td>
<td>1,804</td>
<td>1,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subs in advance</td>
<td>16,025</td>
<td>18,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accruals</td>
<td>13,453</td>
<td>14,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31,282</td>
<td>35,201</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. ENDOWMENT FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Balance at 1 Jan 2012</th>
<th>Incoming resources</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Gains and Losses</th>
<th>Balance at 31 Dec 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent endowments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L &amp; MT Research Fund</td>
<td>85,287</td>
<td>3,698</td>
<td>-4,774</td>
<td>3,332</td>
<td>87,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Fund</td>
<td>43,266</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>2,397</td>
<td>46,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutt Legacy</td>
<td>23,491</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1,595</td>
<td>25,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>152,044</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>-4,774</td>
<td>7,324</td>
<td>159,368</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 while the Hutt Legacy is intended for the general purposes of the Union. The income arising from the capital held in investments is credited to the Restricted Research Fund. The Endowed Research Fund represents permanent capital, the income from which is transferred to the fund of the same name in Restricted Funds.
17. RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

The Research Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Outgoing resources</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Balance at 31 Dec 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Research Fund</td>
<td>-4,774</td>
<td>4,774</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Research Fund represents the income arising from The Landsborough and Mary Thomson Research Fund, The Hutt Legacy and The Research Fund endowed funds. Its purpose is to fund research in accordance with the objects of the Union.

18. UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Balance at 1 Jan 2012</th>
<th>Incoming resources</th>
<th>Outgoing resources</th>
<th>Gains and losses</th>
<th>Balance at 31 Dec 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Funds</td>
<td>509,228</td>
<td>167,088</td>
<td>-151,833</td>
<td>9,376</td>
<td>533,859</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Net current assets</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Funds</td>
<td>93,032</td>
<td>66,336</td>
<td>159,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Income Funds</td>
<td>118,079</td>
<td>415,780</td>
<td>533,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Funds</td>
<td>211,111</td>
<td>482,116</td>
<td>693,227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS’ UNION YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

We have audited the financial statements of the British Ornithologists’ Union for the year ended 31 December 2012 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

This report is made solely to the charity’s trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under 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 auditor’s 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 the charity’s 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

The responsibilities of the trustees for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees. We have been appointed auditors under section 145 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 financial statements 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 financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity'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 financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatement or inconsistencies, we consider the implications for our report.
OPINION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion:

 give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2012, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended; and

 have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and

 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

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’ Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;

 sufficient accounting records have not been kept;

 the financial statements 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.

Friary Court
13 – 21 High Street
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 3DL

6 March 2013

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