

ORIENTAL BIRD CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Oriental Bird Club, P.O. Box 324, Bedford MK42 OWG, UK
Registered Charity in England and Wales No. 297242

ORIENTAL BIRD CLUB
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Reference and administrative details

Name of Charity: Oriental Bird Club (OBC)
Charity Number: 297242
Principal Office: Raptor Ridge, Turnberry, Heads Nook, Brampton, Cumbria CA8 9DN
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 324, Bedford MK42 OWG, United Kingdom
e-mail: mail@orientalbirdclub.org
Website: www.orientalbirdclub.org

Principal UK bankers: Lloyds TSB Bank plc CAF Bank Limited
3 King Street 25 Kings Hill Avenue
Saffron Walden West Malling
Essex Kent
CB10 1HF ME19 4JQ

Independent examiner: Frances Clark
Keswick Accountants
Brackenhue
Millbeck
Keswick
Cumbria
CA12 4PS

Trustees

The trustees (members of the Club Council) serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Stephen Browne	Co-chairman, Conservation Committee
David Buckingham	Co-chairman, Conservation Committee
Nigel Collar	Chairman, Publications Committee
Mike Edgecombe	Promotions
Paul French	Publicity (resigned 7 May 2009)
John Gregory	Treasurer
Tim Loseby	Art & Photographic Editor
Steve Rowland	
Tony Sawbridge	Secretary
Graeme Spinks	
Brian Sykes	Chairman
Margaret Sykes	Membership Secretary
Jo Thomas	Promotions
Richard Thomas	Advertising
Alan Wilkinson	Internet

Structure, Governance and Management

The Oriental Bird Club (OBC) is a charity registered with the UK Charity Commission (no. 297242). It was formed with an agreed constitution in 1985. Membership of the Club is open to all, subject to payment of the appropriate subscription, currently £15.00 per annum.

A Council, who constitute the trustees of the charity, is elected annually from among the members to manage the affairs of the Club. The Club Council at 11 September 2010 was elected at the last Annual General Meeting (AGM), held on 31 October 2009. The Club Constitution, revised in 2001, specifies that the Club should have a minimum of ten Council members and requires them to stand for election each year and each Executive Officer of Council (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) to relinquish that office after five years. No person without a specific role can serve on Council for more than two consecutive years, unless appointed to a specific role by Council.

Council meets four times each year and is responsible for making all decisions in relation to the Club's ongoing activities. Council is supported in its decision making by two sub-committees, the Publications Committee and the Conservation Committee. The Publications Committee comprises Council members and other individuals involved with the compilation, editing and production of the Club's publications *Forktail* and *BirdingASIA*. Council approves the size and content of each issue, based on recommendations from the Publications Committee, and approves a budget based on a written quotation.

The Conservation Committee comprises individuals with experience in the assessment and funding of conservation and conservation awareness projects and is chaired by a Council member. It meets once per year and assesses applications for Conservation Fund and Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund conservation project awards against an agreed set of criteria designed to measure their conservation value. Applications that satisfy the criteria are recommended for approval by Council. The OBC is fortunate to have a network of Country Representatives and, where relevant, their advice is sought on grant applications.

Trustees are nominated by members and put forward for election by the membership at the next AGM. Where prospective trustees are nominated early in the calendar year they may be co-opted onto Council until formally elected at the next AGM. Often such co-opted Council members are initially given no specific role and this period serves as an induction period. Additional training is provided on the responsibilities of trustees, the structure, governance and management of the Club and its recent financial performance.

Risk Assessment

Council examines the main risks that the Club faces on a regular basis and has developed systems to monitor and control these risks to mitigate any impact that they may have on the Club in the future.

Objectives and Activities

The object for which the Club has been established is to promote an interest in Oriental birds and their conservation for the benefit of the public. In furtherance of this object, the Club:

- (a) acts as a forum for persons interested in Oriental birds by holding regular meetings, providing an information service and publishing a bulletin keeping members informed of current developments in Oriental ornithology.
- (b) collates and makes available for public use material on Oriental birds and publishes a journal by the name of *Forktail*.
- (c) works with and promotes the activities of other non-profit making organisations with similar aims within the region and any non-profit making international conservation bodies concerned with Oriental birds.
- (d) encourages members to carry out conservation-orientated research on Oriental birds and their habitats.

The Club concentrates on the birds of the Oriental faunal region, with the addition of the areas to the north and east, embracing northern China, Mongolia, the Russian Far East, Japan and Korea. It also maintains an interest in those areas adjacent to this expanded Oriental Region.

The Club publishes two issues of its bulletin, *BirdingASIA*, each year in June and December, plus one issue of its journal *Forktail* each year in August. Members of the Club receive these publications. In addition, the Club holds meetings, attends other birdwatching related events, most importantly the British Birdwatching Fair (BBF) at Rutland Water, and operates a website in order to promote itself and its objectives.

The conservation related activities of the Club are operated through two restricted funds, the Conservation Fund and the Gurney's Pitta Fund, plus a designated fund, the Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund (Smythies Fund). The Conservation Fund makes grants of between £1,000 and £2,000 for projects involving the conservation of threatened bird species and conservation awareness projects. This includes two sponsored annual awards, the AEC-OBC Conservation Award (£1,500) and the WildWings Conservation Awareness Award (£1,000). It continues to be the Club's policy to fund work carried out by Oriental nationals, wherever possible.

The Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund was set up in 1999, following the bequest of a share in the estate of the late Bertram Smythies. The use of this bequest is governed by a Statement of Aims and funding is targeted primarily on conservation orientated projects. These are larger projects than are supported by the Conservation Fund, often with a more pro-active involvement from one or more Council members and using the *Red Data Book: Threatened Birds of Asia* as a guide to species prioritisation. Other projects, including the publication of material on Oriental Birds, are undertaken when they clearly fit the Club's charitable objectives.

In Autumn 1999 the Club launched the "Save the Gurney's Pitta" campaign, the principal aim of which is to secure the future of the Khao Nor Chuchi (KNC) site in Southern Thailand. A restricted fund was set up during 2000. It is envisaged that further fund-raising will take place as necessary to support the project through to its conclusion, with any shortfall in funding in a particular year being made good by a transfer from the Smythies Fund.

Objectives for the following year are set at the November Council meeting. For 2009 the key objective was to deliver a programme of activities to celebrate the Club's 25th Anniversary in 2009 and promote the Club, including enhanced publications and a celebration event to be held in conjunction with the 2009 AGM.

The OBC is run on an entirely voluntary basis by Council members and other members who take on specific non Council tasks, for example our Country Representatives and the members of the Conservation Committee. It would be very difficult to quantify the cost of the work on a paid basis and so no estimate has been given. The Club is very grateful to all those who freely give up their time in running the Club's affairs.

Achievements and performance

Membership of the Club at 31 December 2009 was 2,060 (2008- 2,047) worldwide. The continuing investment in *BirdingASIA* has contributed to our stable membership, which is still above the long-term target of 2,000 members, achieved for the first time in 2005. However, the period of growth triggered by the introduction of *BirdingASIA* is now over and we are facing the challenge of retaining members through a global recession. Council were pleased therefore to achieve a modest increase in membership in 2009, although the promotional activities surrounding the Club's 25th Anniversary undoubtedly helped and 2010 will still be a challenging year. Subscription income increased by 1% year on year, in line with the increase in membership. The value of Gift Aid tax refunds from subscriptions totalled £2,881, again very similar to 2008. Over 70% of our 780 UK members have now signed Gift Aid declarations. Once again, we are grateful for the efforts by our Country Representatives in promoting the Club and helping us to maintain our diverse membership base.

The membership at 31 December 2009 included 163 (2008- 157) Honorary Members, funded from contributions to the Honorary Membership Scheme. The continued generous support of our Business Supporters and Supporting Members raised £1,759 (2008- £1,836) in donations and has enabled the number of Honorary Members to be maintained. The Honorary Membership Fund showed a surplus for the year of £129 (2008- £266), with donations to the fund and the cost of supporting Honorary Members broadly in equilibrium.

The OBC continued its "Save the Gurney's Pitta" campaign during 2009, with OBC Council continuing with the supporting role that we have adopted over the last four years. The emphasis continued to be on work at the Khao Nor Chuchi (KNC) site in southern Thailand rather than further fund raising. During the year we received the excellent news that the RSPB's application for follow-on Darwin funding to support the re-forestation project at the KNC site has been successful and so there is full financial support for the nursery project for a further two years. Consequently there was no requirement for any further OBC funding in 2009. The OBC will continue to support both this project and also the patrolling of the National Reserve Forest in order to prevent further encroachment, providing further financial support if it should become necessary.

The Club was grateful to once again receive donations towards the Conservation Fund during the year from seven Corporate Sponsors- Asia Ecological Consultants, Asian Adventures, BirdtourASIA, Birdquest, Rockjumper, Sunbird and WildWings, totalling £5,022 (2008- £2,600). The Club also received a further substantial donation from member James Goodhart (£3,010), BirdtourASIA (OBC Cambodia trip-£700) and the participants who took part in the trips to Yunnan and Tibet run by Jesper Hornskov (£2,300). These, together with smaller donations from many other members, made a total of £9,399 (2008- £6,695) available for conservation grants. This total was boosted by £1,022 (2008- £582) in Gift Aid. Finally, the Grand Prize Draw, together with the 25th Anniversary Dinner Prize Draw, raised a net total of £2,348 (2008- £2,981). Council would like to thank all of those who have made donations during the year despite the challenging economic environment. All of the above enabled £17,791 (2008- £12,877) to be made available to the Conservation Fund.

Council awarded nine (2008- ten) conservation grants during the year, including the AEC-OBC Conservation Award and WildWings Conservation Awareness Award. Full details of grants awarded and the results of the work done are given in *BirdingASIA*. The total sum awarded from the Conservation Fund in the year was £12,097 (2008- £11,346). Council approved the transfer of £1,300 to the Conservation Fund from the Accumulated Fund (2008- £1,400), representing sums raised from the sales of T-shirts, leech socks, trip reports and the Club's publications. After this transfer, and bank charges incurred in paying conservation grants, the Conservation Fund showed a surplus for the year of £6,652 (2008- £2,360).

In June 2009, OBC Council approved a £6,000 grant to the University of East Anglia to fund a project in Cambodia to monitor the breeding success of critically endangered White-shouldered Ibis. The three year study will assess the effectiveness of guarding nests from human disturbance. This grant has been financed from the Smythies Fund, the first £2,000 payment was made in October. However, disappointingly, the three year World Pheasant Association project to study Chinese Monal Pheasant in Sichuan, China which started in 2008 had to be discontinued after the first year.

Income continued to be generated for the Smythies Fund through the sales of publications funded in earlier years. Sales of *Birds in Bhutan* by Peter Spierenburg totalled £426 for the year (2008- £467) and there were further modest sales of the *Atlas of the Birds of Delhi and Haryana* by Bill Harvey, Nikhil Devasar and Bikram Grewal. Interest of £5,269 (2008- £6,944) was earned on the Smythies Fund balance. The fund showed an overall surplus for the year of £3,429 (2008- deficit of £1,795).

In 2009 the Club published two issues of *BirdingASIA*. Both were 128 page issues celebrating the Club's 25th Anniversary, an increase in size from the 112 page issues last year, with increased investment in photographs and colour pages. Publication costs of £15,127 were consequently 12% higher than in 2008. Contributions to the cost of the *BirdingASIA* from advertising and sponsorship were unfortunately 15% lower than 2008, reflecting the tough economic climate. *Forktail 25* was published in July 2009 and, amid much excitement, included a paper describing a new species of bird, the Bare-faced Bulbul *Pycnonotus hualon*. As a result it ran to 166 page, versus a 136 page issue last year, and publication costs were 11% higher. Postage costs were 14% higher than in 2008 as a result of the increased cost of mailing out our bumper 25th Anniversary publications.

The Club held one meeting during the year, at the Le Strange Arms in Hunstanton, Norfolk at the end of October. The Club's 25th Anniversary celebration dinner was held in the evening, attended by seventy-five members and friends and six out of the seven chairman who have served the Club over the last quarter century. A special Prize Draw was held to mark the occasion, with the first prize being a painting by founding member Martin Woodcock. The AGM was held during the afternoon, together with the normal programme of talks and stalls run by some of our corporate supporters. More than 90 members attended for at least part of the day and as a result the lecture room was packed for each and every talk.

In addition, Council members and other supporters attended the BBF in August, manning the Club's stand, delivering lectures and running other fund-raising activities for the Conservation Fund. Once again, *Forktail* was distributed cost-free to those members visiting the Club's stand, saving several hundred pounds in postage.

Club sales have been an important source of funds over the years, with the surplus generated transferred to the Conservation Fund. In 2009 the sales of publications and trip reports were 14% lower than last year. Whilst sales of publications continued at a similar level to 2008, sales of trip reports have now declined to a very modest level due to the availability of free reports via the internet, some of which are now comparable in quality to those offered by the Club. Sales of T-shirts, leech socks and 25th Anniversary mugs generated a gross profit of £735 (2008- £598), sales were boosted by the 25th Anniversary celebrations. Council will continue to review the opportunities to generate additional conservation funds from Club sales and exploit them when the likely surplus justifies the time and effort involved.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows an overall surplus of £4,011 (2008- £4,206) for the year. The Accumulated Fund showed a deficit of £6,199 (2008- surplus of £3,410) for the year, after the transfer of £1,300 (2008- £1,400) to the Conservation Fund. The deficit arose as a result of the additional one-off publication and postage costs associated with the 25th Anniversary editions of *BirdingAsia* and *Forktail*, together with the reduction in interest earned on the Club's cash balance. The Club's underlying finances continue in good health and that there is no immediate need for an increase in subscription rates.

Bank interest earned decreased by 39% to £5,488 from £8,935 in 2008 as a result of the reductions in Bank of England base rate during the early months of 2009. The majority of the interest arose from the investment of the Smythies Fund cash reserves. During 2009, £100,000 of the Smythies Fund balance remained on six month term fixed interest deposit with Birmingham Midshires Building Society, now a subsidiary of Lloyds Banking Group. This yielded an interest rate of 6.0% during the first quarter of 2009 with the funds re-invested at 3.17% in March 2009. The balance of the funds were invested with CAF Bank Limited, this generated an average rate of interest of 0.4% during 2009 (2008- 4.7%), with the rate declining to 0.2% during the second half of the year.

There will be a further significant drop in interest income next year since this will be a full year of low interest rates. Recognising that rates are likely to remain at very low levels for the medium term, in March 2010 the Birmingham Midshires Building Society deposit was renewed for eighteen months at an interest rate of 1.6%. The Club's investment policy will continue to focus on low risk short term deposits.

Under the provisions of the Charities Act 1993, due to the size of the Club, a full audit is not required. However, an independent examination is required under the Act and under the Club's constitution.

Reserves policy

Following the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on "charities' reserves" the Club has established a policy towards reserves which has been approved by Council. The Club will aim to hold a level of reserves sufficient to fund its activities for one year, in order to ensure that the Club has sufficient resources to continue its activities through any temporary cash flow shortage or other unforeseen circumstances.

This entails holding sufficient Accumulated and Honorary Membership Fund reserves to finance two issues of *BirdingASIA* and one issue of the Club's journal *Forktail*, together with the associated distribution and administration costs. In addition, sufficient Conservation Fund reserves should be maintained to finance a typical annual level of conservation grant awards. The Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund is governed by a Statement of Aims which envisages the fund being gradually expended over a number of years in pursuit of the Club's charitable objectives, primarily on conservation orientated projects. Where necessary, additional funds will be transferred to the Gurney's Pitta Fund in order to finance project expenditure and to match further fund-raising. The accounts detail the reserves balance on each of the five funds at 31 December 2009.

Future Plans

The Club has the following objectives for 2010:

- (a) retain and, hopefully, increase our membership by producing further high quality and topical issues of *BirdingASIA*.
- (b) explore ways of co-operating with other NGO's in the oriental region.
- (c) strengthen the *Forktail* editorial team.
- (d) continue to invest in the OBC website.

Approved by Council on 11 September 2010 and signed on its behalf by:

Brian Sykes
Chairman

John Gregory
Treasurer

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires Council, as trustees, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- (ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (iii) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and;
- (iv) prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to both ascertain the financial position of charity and ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law, accounting standards and the Charities SORP. They 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Oriental Bird Club for the year ended 31 December 2009, which are set out on pages 7 to 11. This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's members those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for my examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As described above, you are responsible as the charity's trustees for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act
 have not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Frances Clark ACA
 Keswick, Cumbria
 11 September 2010

ORIENTAL BIRD CLUB
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ended 31 December 2009

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	Notes	Accumulated Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
Incoming resources						
<u>Voluntary income</u>						
Donations from members		-	-	11,158	11,158	10,653
Gift Aid tax refund		-	-	1,022	1,022	1,146
<u>Activities for generating funds</u>						
Sales of goods and sales commissions		1,354	-	-	1,354	1,093
Raffle income		-	-	2,837	2,837	3,359
Other fundraising events		1,917	-	-	1,917	140
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities</u>						
Subscriptions	1(b)	27,690	-	-	27,690	27,443
Gift Aid tax refund		2,881	-	-	2,881	2,925
Sales of publications and trip reports		910	-	-	910	1,058
Sales of <i>Birds in Bhutan</i>		-	426	-	426	467
Sales of <i>Delhi Atlas</i>		-	101	-	101	1,069
Advertising income from <i>BirdingASIA</i>		1,840	-	-	1,840	2,159
Donations from Corporate Sponsors		-	-	5,022	5,022	2,600
<u>Investment income</u>						
Bank interest		219	5,269	-	5,488	8,935
Total incoming resources		36,811	5,796	20,039	62,646	63,047
Resources expended						
<u>Costs of generating funds</u>						
Cost of sales- goods		619	-	-	619	495
Raffle costs		-	-	489	489	378
Cost of fundraising events		2,616	-	-	2,616	-
Fixed asset depreciation	1(e)	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Expenditure on charitable objectives</u>						
Conservation Fund grants		-	-	12,097	12,097	11,346
Conservation project costs	2	-	2,000	-	2,000	11,992
Cost of production- <i>BirdingASIA</i>		15,127	-	-	15,127	13,451
Cost of production- <i>Forktail</i>		6,820	-	-	6,820	6,167
Cost of sales- <i>Birds in Bhutan</i>		-	291	-	291	931
<u>Support costs</u>						
Postage and mailing	3	14,125	76	-	14,201	12,489
Stationery and photocopy costs	3	402	-	-	402	292
Publicity and website costs	3	1,356	-	-	1,356	726
Meeting costs	3	777	-	-	777	997
Insurance	3	200	-	-	200	200
Independent examiner's fee	3	270	-	-	270	270
Bank charges and interest		745	-	342	1,087	1,382
Exchange differences	1(d)	283	-	-	283	(2,275)
Total resources expended		43,340	2,367	12,928	58,635	58,841
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources		(6,529)	3,429	7,111	4,011	4,206
Transfers between funds						
Honorary subscriptions (2008-£1,570)		1,630	-	(1,630)	-	-
Conservation Fund transfer (2008- £1,400)		(1,300)	-	1,300	-	-
Gurney's Pitta Fund transfer (2008 -£7,300)		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(6,199)	3,429	6,781	4,011	4,206

RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCES
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For the year ended 31 December 2009

	Accumulated Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
Fund balances brought forward	31,100	145,375	19,016	195,491	191,285
Net movement in funds	(6,199)	3,429	6,781	4,011	4,206
Fund balances carried forward	<u>24,901</u>	<u>148,804</u>	<u>25,797</u>	<u>199,502</u>	<u>195,491</u>

BALANCE SHEET
At 31 December 2009

	Notes	Accumulated Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
Tangible fixed assets						
Equipment	4	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets						
Stocks	1(c)	440	291	-	731	1,037
Debtors		3,680	31	3,022	6,733	5,603
Cash - UK current account balances		9,927	-	-	9,927	2,477
- UK deposit account balances		31,518	148,482	24,375	204,375	203,519
- Overseas bank balances	1(d)	10,017	-	-	10,017	5,929
		<u>55,582</u>	<u>148,804</u>	<u>27,397</u>	<u>231,783</u>	<u>218,565</u>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year						
Deferred income - prepaid subscriptions	1(b)	18,508	-	-	18,508	15,704
Creditor for production costs of <i>BirdingASIA</i>		7,419	-	-	7,419	4,998
Conservation grants awarded but not yet paid		-	-	-	-	1,200
Other creditors		4,754	-	1,600	6,354	1,172
		<u>30,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>32,281</u>	<u>23,074</u>
Net current assets		<u>24,901</u>	<u>148,804</u>	<u>25,797</u>	<u>199,502</u>	<u>195,491</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>24,901</u>	<u>148,804</u>	<u>25,797</u>	<u>199,502</u>	<u>195,491</u>
Funds						
Accumulated Fund		24,901	-	-	24,901	31,100
Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund	8(a)	-	148,804	-	148,804	145,375
Conservation Fund	8(b)	-	-	22,504	22,504	15,852
Honorary Membership Fund	8(c)	-	-	3,258	3,258	3,129
Gurney's Pitta Fund	8(d)	-	-	35	35	35
		<u>24,901</u>	<u>148,804</u>	<u>25,797</u>	<u>199,502</u>	<u>195,491</u>

Approved by Council on 11 September 2010 and signed on its behalf by:

Brian Sykes
 Chairman

John Gregory
 Treasurer

For the year ended 31 December 2009

1. Accounting Policies(a) Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005), issued in March 2005 and the exemptions for small charities contained in Appendix 5.

(b) Subscription income

Subscription income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which it relates. Subscriptions received in advance are carried forward as deferred income in the balance sheet under the heading of prepaid subscriptions.

(c) Stocks

Stocks of T-shirts, leech socks and other garments are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. A proportion of the stock of *Birds in Bhutan*, reflecting expected future sales, is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No value is placed on the remainder of the stock of *Birds in Bhutan* or stocks of the Club's other publications.

(d) Exchange rates

Bank accounts have been opened in the Club's name in India, Thailand and the USA. In the balance sheet, the foreign currency bank balances have been translated into sterling at the exchange rate at the end of the year. Foreign currency receipts and payments have been converted into sterling at the average rate for the year.

(e) Depreciation

Depreciation on equipment is charged at a rate of 25% on cost; this is based on the estimated useful life of the asset.

(f) Incoming resources

Incoming resources are included from the point at which they become receivable.

(g) Resources expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation. Expenditure on grants is recorded following unconditional approval by Council and communication to the grant recipient. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional categories in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. Conservation project costs

	2009	2008
	£	£
Smythies Fund projects		
White-shouldered Ibis nest protection in Cambodia (Unniversity of East Anglia)	2,000	-
Chinese Monal study, Fengtonzai National Reserve, Sichuan, China (World Pheasant Association)	-	2,000
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Gurney's Pitta project		
Re-afforestation project at KNC (FORRU)	-	9,992
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,992</u>
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>11,992</u>

3. Support costs

Support costs have not been allocated to activity categories within the Statement of Financial Activities, however the table below provides such an allocation. The most significant costs are postage costs, the majority of which are incurred in mailing the Club's publications to members and have been allocated on an actual basis. Other costs have been allocated on an actual basis where possible, otherwise they have been apportioned on the basis of estimated usage.

	Cost of generating funds	Charitable activities	Governance	Total 2009	Total 2008
	£	£	£	£	£
Postage and mailing	584	13,017	600	14,201	12,489
Stationery and photocopy costs	118	204	80	402	292
Publicity and website costs	813	479	64	1,356	726
Meeting costs	777	-	-	777	997
Insurance	120	60	20	200	200
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	270	270	270
	<u>2,412</u>	<u>13,760</u>	<u>1,034</u>	<u>17,206</u>	<u>14,974</u>

4. Tangible fixed assets

	£
Cost of display boards & other display materials:	
At 1 January 2009	867
Additions	-
At 31 December 2009	<u>867</u>
Depreciation:	
At 1 January 2009	867
Provided in the year	-
At 31 December 2009	<u>867</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2009	<u>-</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2008	<u>-</u>

5. Trustees

No remuneration was paid or payable out of OBC funds directly or indirectly to any Council member or to any person or persons known to be connected with them.

Four Council members have been reimbursed the cost of purchases made on behalf of the Club, principally in respect of postage, stationery, website hosting and publicity costs associated with the Club's stand at the British Birdwatching Fair. All of these sums represent the reimbursement of expenses at cost.

6. Employees

The charity has no paid employees.

7. Taxation

The Club has charitable objectives which are embodied in the constitution adopted by the members. The Club is a registered charity and, under present regulations, it has no liability to taxation.

8. Designated and Restricted Funds

The Club has the following designated fund which has been set aside out of unrestricted funds by Council for specific purposes:

(a) Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund

This Fund, which arose as a result of a legacy from the estate of Bertram Smythies, will be used in furtherance of the Club's charitable objectives with conservation or conservation awareness projects the preferred purpose to which the funds, along with interest earned from their investment, will be directed. Conservation projects will be proactively developed by the Club with the *Red Data Book: Threatened Birds of Asia* used as a guide in prioritisation.

In addition, the Club has established the following restricted funds:

(b) Conservation Fund

The Conservation Fund was set up to provide awards to projects with high merit for conservation in the Orient. It is funded from donations to the Club, from both individual members and the Club's Corporate Sponsors, along with the net proceeds from raffles and other fundraising activities. Grants payable are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as soon as they have been approved by Council.

(c) Honorary Membership Fund

This Fund has been set up to provide honorary membership for nationals in the Orient who are not able to pay full subscriptions. It is funded from subscriptions from Supporting Members and Business Supporters.

(d) Gurney's Pitta Fund

This Fund was set up following the launch of the "Save the Gurney's Pitta" campaign and fighting fund by OBC Council in the Autumn of 1999. It has been funded from donations to the Club, sales of T-shirts and pin badges and from the net proceeds of the 2000 Grand Prize Draw.

9. Analysis of Fund balances

	At 1 January 2009 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	31 December 2009 £
Accumulated Fund	31,100	36,811	(43,340)	330	24,901
Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund	145,375	5,796	(2,367)	-	148,804
Conservation Fund	15,852	18,280	(12,928)	1,300	22,504
Honorary Membership Fund	3,129	1,759	-	(1,630)	3,258
Gurney's Pitta Fund	35	-	-	-	35
	<u>195,491</u>	<u>62,646</u>	<u>(58,635)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,502</u>