

**ORIENTAL BIRD CLUB**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016**



Oriental Bird Club, P.O. Box 324, Bedford MK42 OWG, UK

Registered Charity in England and Wales No. 297242

Email: [mail@orientalbirdclub.org](mailto:mail@orientalbirdclub.org)

Website: [www.orientalbirdclub.org](http://www.orientalbirdclub.org)



## Trustees Annual Report

### Reference and administrative details

Name of charity:	Oriental Bird Club (OBC)	
Charity registration number:	297242	
Principal office:	Raptor Ridge, Turnberry, Heads Nook, Brampton, Cumbria CA8 9DN	
Mailing address:	P.O. Box 324, Bedford MK42 OWG, United Kingdom	
Principal bankers:	Lloyds Bank plc 3 King Street Saffron Walden Essex CB10 1HF	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent examiner:	Frances Clark FCA CTA Keswick Accountants Appleside, 4 Leonard Street, Keswick Cumbria, CA12 4EJ	

### Trustees

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

David Buckingham	Chairman, Conservation Committee	
Mike Edgecombe	Chairman	
Chris Gooddie	Promotions	
John Gregory		
Colin Humpage	Treasurer	(resigned 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2016)
Tim Loseby	Art & Photographic Editor	
Andy Mears	Country Representatives	
Simon Roddis	Publications Committee	
Tony Sawbridge	Sales	
Brian Sykes	Chairman, Publications Committee	
Margaret Sykes	Treasurer & Membership Secretary	
Jo Thomas	Secretary	
Richard Thomas	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 for ordinary membership.

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 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017 was elected at the last Annual General Meeting (AGM), held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2016. 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 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.



## 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*, in June and December each year, plus one issue of its journal *Forktail* each year. Members of the Club receive these publications. In addition, the Club holds meetings, attends other birdwatching related events, most importantly the British Birdfair at Rutland Water, and operates a website in order to promote itself and its objectives.

## Grant-making

The conservation-related activities of the Club are operated through three restricted funds; the Conservation Fund, the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund and the OBC-March Conservation Fund. In addition, there is one 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. These include the OBC-WildWings Conservation Award and the AEC Conservation Award. It continues to be the Club's policy to fund work carried out by Oriental nationals, wherever possible.

The OBC-March Conservation Fund was set up in 2015 following the receipt of a grant awarded by the March Conservation Fund of Tides Foundation, on the recommendation of Mr. Ivan Samuels. It is run alongside and using the same principles as the main Conservation Fund.

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.



## Volunteers

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.

## Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities Council has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011. Council always ensures that the activities we undertake are in line with our charitable objectives. To maximise the public benefit from our activities the Club sets lower subscription rates and operates an Honorary Membership Scheme to encourage membership and participation from within the Oriental region. Papers from past issues of the Club's journal *Forktail* have been made freely available online. Finally, when considering applications for grants from the Club's Conservation Fund or developing projects for the Smythies Fund, Council prioritises those projects with high conservation value, as described above, and which involve Oriental nationals in order to build capacity within the region.

## Achievements and performance

Membership of the Club stood at 2,009 on 31 December 2016 (2015 - 2,074), a decrease of 65, not altogether unexpected in these uncertain times. Council continue to explore the potential for growth in the countries of the region as living standards improve and people can afford to travel more widely, but this is likely to be a slow process. The value offered by the Club is standing us in good stead and we continue to hold our ordinary membership at £15 per year. Nevertheless, it is becoming harder to attract new members when so much information is easily available online from various sources, including free access to our own image database, and to all *Forktail* articles after an interval of two years.

In 2016, the bursary scheme funded membership of the Club for six young Chinese students; all of them have stated that they have gained useful information from the Club's publications.

The value of Gift Aid tax refunds from UK subscriptions and donations was £2,232 and continues to be a vital additional income source. Two-thirds of our 761 UK members have now signed Gift Aid declarations.

The Club received donations to the Conservation Fund during the year from eight regular Corporate Sponsors – AEC, Birding Ecotours, BirdtourASIA, Birdquest, Limosa, Rockjumper, Sunbird and WildWings totaling £5,200, plus £2,000 from Avifauna Nature Tours. In addition, we received a donation of \$11,500 (2015- \$5,750) from the March Conservation Fund in the USA. This money is remitted to us by means of a grant from the Tides Foundation. We hope to work with March Conservation Fund on an annual basis and our thanks go to them for their generous support.



The Club also received donations from many members and others exceeding £5,000 in total, which helped support the Conservation Fund, Smythies Fund and Honorary Membership Fund. The Grand Prize Draw raised a net total of £1,929 and Ashly Banwell won joint first prize of £750 for the Club in the *Bird Brain of Britain* competition held at the British Birdfair. Both sums boosted the Conservation Fund.

Council awarded 16 (2015 – 14) conservation grants during the year, including:

- The OBC-WildWings award of £1,500 was made to Seejan Gyawali for a project concerning conservation of the Vulnerable Sarus Crane *Grus antigone* in the Banke district of mid-west Nepal.
- The donation of £3,000 from AEC funded two grants of £1,500. Natalie Reagan was awarded £1,500 for a project designed to collect baseline data on the ecology of the Critically Endangered Isabela Oriole *Oriolus isabellae* and Jyotendra Jyu Thakuri received £1,500 for a project dealing with the conservation of the vulnerable Finn's Weaver *Ploceus megarhynchus* in Suklphanta Wildlife Reserve, Nepal.
- The £2,000 received from Avifauna Nature tours funded a project led by Thiri Dae We Aung to monitor and assess the population of Baer's Pochard *Aythya baeri* in central Myanmar.
- A further five grants totaling £7,971 were made from the OBC–March Conservation Fund. Details of these can be found in *BirdingASIA*.

Two payments were made from the Smythies Fund in 2016:

A second grant, this time of £1,483, was made to Life Line for Nature Society towards the removal of *Juliflora* from the Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, India. This payment was dedicated to the memory of Colonel Shyam Singh, a former OBC representative and honorary warden of Keoladeo National Park.

An award of £4,000 was made to pay for the attachment of a solar-powered satellite transmitter to a Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* as part of the 'Beijing Cuckoo Project'. Some interesting data has been reported in *BirdingASIA* and also on our website and Facebook and Twitter feeds, and at the time of writing data is still being transmitted.

Full details of grants awarded and the results of work done are given in *BirdingASIA*.

Since 2002 the Club has operated an image database, which has become an extremely valuable resource for our members, academics and anyone interested in Oriental birds. At the outset, the aim of the image database was to make a photographic record of all of the birds in the region and we now have images of 2,930 species. In 2015 it was decided that further investment and development was commissioned to re-design the website and work on this project continued through 2016.

The OBC publications continued to be produced to the same high standards as in prior years. The Publications Committee spends a lot of time helping young authors to produce manuscripts of a sufficiently high calibre to appear in *BirdingASIA* and *Forktail*.



Council members and volunteers attended the British Birdfair at Rutland water in August. This annual event is the Club's main opportunity to meet with members and explain to members of the general public the Club's aims, as well as earning funds for our conservation work. The 2016 autumn meeting and AGM was held at St John's Church hall on 29 October 2016. As usual it was well attended and the day's programme varied and interesting.

## Financial Review

The Club generated an overall deficit of £3,413 for the year (2015- surplus of £663), the result of increased expenditure on conservation grants and projects. Total reserves at 31 December 2016 were £195,195, of which £161,605 were unrestricted reserves.

The Accumulated Fund generated an increased surplus of £3,114 (2015- £1,409). This was due to lower *BirdingASIA* and *Forktail* publication costs, lower postage costs and an exchange gain from the retranslation of the Club's overseas bank balances. These positive variances were partly offset by a 3% reduction in subscriptions income.

The cost of *Forktail 32* decreased by 10% compared with last year. It was a smaller 104 page issue (2015- 128 pages). The two editions of *BirdingASIA* reduced in size to 128 and 144 pages respectively (2015- 144 and 148 pages), resulting in a 9% decrease in costs. Overall there was a £1,460 reduction in publication costs and postage costs decreased by 4% (£663) as a result of the smaller publications.

An exchange rate gain of £1,097 (2015- loss of £3) arose on the retranslation of the Club's overseas cash balances in the USA, India and Thailand to sterling at year-end. The reduction in the value of sterling following the UK's decision to leave the European Union resulted in exchange gains on each of our overseas bank accounts.

Bank interest of £1,460 was earned, most of which was on the maturity in October 2016 of a £163,000 one year fixed term deposit with Scottish Widows Bank paying a 0.80% interest rate. This investment took place through the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) and represented the best available rates at the time for short-term deposits. The Club's instant access account with CAF Bank Limited was closed during 2016. In the first half of 2017 the Club's funds were reinvested in an £85,000 one year deposit with Shawbrook Bank (again via CAF) paying 1.3%, with the balance deposited in a Nationwide Building Society 95 Day Saver Account. The Club's investment policy will continue to focus on low risk short-term deposits.

The Club's underlying finances continue to generate a surplus, with the Accumulated Fund showing a balance of £38,481 at the year-end. Consequently there is no immediate need for an increase in subscription rates.

The Smythies Fund, an unrestricted designated fund, generated a deficit for the year of £4,341 (2015- surplus of £414) and had a balance of £123,124 at 31 December 2016. The deficit was the result of higher conservation project expenditure, as set out in note 2 on page 14, with no donations from members this year to offset the project costs.



The Conservation Fund showed a deficit for the year of £2,734 (2015- deficit of £3,280). While donations from members decreased by compared with last year, this was offset by an increase in income from fundraising events, due to a birdwatching tour run by one of our supporters. Donations from our Corporate Sponsors increased by £2,200, whilst raffle income was at a similar level to 2015.

Council approved the transfer of £1,200 to the Conservation Fund from the Accumulated Fund (2015- £600), representing sums raised from the sales of leech socks and other garments, together with the Club's publications.

The donations and fundraising described above enabled £17,864 (2015- £16,018) to be awarded in grants from the Conservation Fund which had a balance of £26,146 at the year-end.

A further grant of £7,776 (2015- £3,712) for our conservation work received via the Tides Foundation from the March Conservation Fund enabled £7,128 (2015- £1,564) to be awarded in grants from the OBC-March Conservation Fund. The fund showed surplus for the year of £648 (2015- £2,148) and a year-end balance of £2,796.

The membership at 31 December 2015 included 169 (2015- 171) Honorary Members, funded from contributions to the Honorary Membership Scheme. The continued generous support of our Business Supporters and Supporting Members raised £1,590 (2015- £1,682) in donations and has enabled the number of Honorary Members to be maintained. The Honorary Membership Fund showed a deficit for the year of £100 (2015- deficit of £28).

Under the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, 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.

### **Risk Management**

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.

Since the charity is run and managed on an entirely voluntary basis, the main risk the Club faces is recruiting and retaining a sufficiently large group of volunteers to ensure that the Club's activities are delivered on a timely basis. As is the case with many small charities, specialist skills are challenging to recruit and the workload falls on a small group of highly committed individuals.

The Club tries to manage this risk by retaining and developing a wider group of volunteers beyond the trustee group via both the Conservation and Publications Committee, plus volunteers that support the Club's events. In addition, the Club has had a high enough profile within the birdwatching community to have been able to recruit new trustees on a periodic basis.

The Club is fortunate that the Bertram Smythies bequest, together with other unrestricted reserves accumulated over the life of the charity significantly reduces financial and cash-flow risk. However, overseas bank accounts maintained in order to encourage membership in those countries present exchange rate and control risks. The Club actively monitors these overseas balances and either disburses the funds on conservation related activities or repatriates the funds, where this is possible, so as to minimise the balances held outside the UK.





### **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 Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund in order to finance project expenditure and to match further fundraising. The accounts detail the reserves balance on each of the six funds at 31 December 2016.

### **Future plans**

The upgrading of the Oriental Bird Images database should be completed during 2017. Council is also looking into the improvement of the main Club website. In conjunction with this, the Conservation Committee has started to add the final reports of OBC-funded projects to the OBC website, to improve their accessibility. The first batch of 50 award reports can now be found on the website, where they are arranged by country. Further reports will be added to the website as the committee work through a large backlog. It is hoped that most of the reports submitted to the Club in respect of conservation work funded by OBC will eventually appear on the website.

Council will continue to try and increase Club membership where possible, and efforts to strengthen the Publications Committee will also continue.

The review of Country Representatives is under way and new appointments of Representatives (especially for those countries in the Oriental Region) should be made before the end of 2017.



## Statement of Trustee's 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:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- (b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (c) 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;
- (d) 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.

Approved by Council on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

**Mike Edgecombe**  
Chairman

**Margaret Sykes**  
Treasurer



## Independent Examiner's report to Council

I report on the accounts of the Oriental Bird Club for the year ended 31 December 2016, which are set out on pages 11 to 18. 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 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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 FCA CTA**

Keswick, Cumbria

19<sup>th</sup> August 2017



## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Notes	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
<u>Donations and legacies</u>						
Donations from members		157	-	4,247	4,404	8,460
Gift Aid tax refund		-	-	149	149	345
Donations from foundations		-	-	7,776	7,776	3,712
<u>Other trading activities</u>						
Sales of goods and sales commissions		857	-	-	857	648
Raffle income		-	-	2,344	2,344	2,534
Fundraising events		195	-	2,061	2,256	1,169
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Subscriptions	1(b)	27,254	-	-	27,254	28,127
Gift Aid tax refund		2,083	-	-	2,083	2,097
Sales of publications and PLS income		830	114	-	944	357
Advertising income from <i>BirdingASIA</i>		2,992	-	-	2,992	2,758
Donations from Corporate Sponsors		-	-	7,200	7,200	5,000
<u>Investments</u>						
Bank interest		432	1,028	-	1,460	1,894
<b>Total</b>		<b>34,800</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>23,777</b>	<b>59,719</b>	<b>57,101</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
<u>Raising funds</u>						
Cost of sales- goods		331	-	-	331	218
Raffle costs		-	-	234	234	254
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Conservation Fund grants		-	-	24,992	24,992	17,582
Conservation project costs	2	-	5,483	-	5,483	3,941
Cost of production- <i>BirdingASIA</i>		10,277	-	-	10,277	11,307
Cost of production- <i>Forktail</i>		3,720	-	-	3,720	4,150
<u>Support costs</u>						
Postage, meeting & other support costs	3	18,111	-	-	18,111	17,843
Bank charges and interest		834	-	247	1,081	1,140
Exchange differences	1(d)	(1,097)	-	-	(1,097)	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>32,176</b>	<b>5,483</b>	<b>25,473</b>	<b>63,132</b>	<b>56,438</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>		<b>2,624</b>	<b>(4,341)</b>	<b>(1,696)</b>	<b>(3,413)</b>	<b>663</b>
Transfers between funds		490	-	(490)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>3,114</b>	<b>(4,341)</b>	<b>(2,186)</b>	<b>(3,413)</b>	<b>663</b>
Total funds brought forward		35,367	127,465	35,776	198,608	197,945
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>38,481</b>	<b>123,124</b>	<b>33,590</b>	<b>195,195</b>	<b>198,608</b>

The notes on pages 13 to 18 form part of these accounts.



## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2016

	Notes	31 December 2016 £	31 December 2015 £
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Stocks		437	176
Debtors	7	3,462	4,455
Cash		230,272	235,520
Total current assets		<u>234,171</u>	<u>240,151</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(38,976)	(41,543)
Net current assets		<u>195,195</u>	<u>198,608</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b><u>195,195</u></b>	<b><u>198,608</u></b>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Unrestricted Accumulated Fund	9,10	38,481	35,367
Unrestricted Designated Fund	9,10	123,124	127,465
Restricted Funds	9,10	33,590	35,776
		<u>195,195</u>	<u>198,608</u>

Approved by Council on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

**Mike Edgecombe**  
Chairman

**Margaret Sykes**  
Treasurer

The notes on pages 13 to 18 form part of these accounts.



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

### 1. Accounting policies

#### (a) Basis of preparation of the accounts

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

#### (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 Deferred income- prepaid subscriptions.

#### (c) Stocks

Stocks of leech socks, T-shirts and other garments are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No value is placed on the remaining 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) Income

Donations and grants receivable are brought into the accounts on receipt or when receivable, where the Charity has certainty of receipt. Income is deferred only when:

- The charity has still to fulfil significant conditions before becoming entitled to the income; or
- The donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis, as far as it is prudent to do so.

#### (f) Expenditure

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. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional categories in the Statement of Financial Activities.



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

### 2. Conservation project costs

	2016	2015
	£	£
<b>Smythies Fund projects</b>		
Bharatpur <i>Juliflora</i> removal project (Life Line for Nature Society)	1,483	1,941
Common Cuckoo satellite tracking (British Trust for Ornithology)	4,000	-
	<u>5,483</u>	<u>1,941</u>
<b>Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund projects</b>		
Spoon-billed Sandpiper recovery programme (Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust)	-	2,000
	<u>5,483</u>	<u>3,941</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.

	Raising funds	Charitable activities	Governance	Total 2016	Total 2015
	£	£	£	£	£
Postage and mailing	488	14,218	179	14,885	15,548
Stationery and photocopy costs	30	30	15	75	114
Publicity and website costs	106	623	15	744	443
Meeting costs	720	1,147	72	1,939	1,280
Insurance	101	50	17	168	158
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	300	300	300
	<u>1,445</u>	<u>16,068</u>	<u>598</u>	<u>18,111</u>	<u>17,843</u>

### 4. 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 and the cost of maintaining the Club's website. In addition, one Council member made two conservation grant payments during a period when the Club's Lloyds Bank account was unable to process international payments. All of these payments were reimbursed at cost.



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

### 5. Employees

The charity has no paid employees.

### 6. 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.

### 7. Debtors

	2016	2015
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,230	2,015
Other debtors	2,232	2,440
	<u>3,462</u>	<u>4,455</u>

### 8. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2016	2015
	£	£
Accruals for grants payable	-	1,500
Accruals for publication and other costs	18,928	19,380
Deferred income - prepaid subscriptions	18,902	18,915
Deferred income - other	1,146	1,748
	<u>38,976</u>	<u>41,543</u>

### 9. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
Cash	64,516	127,465	38,291	230,272
Current assets excluding cash	3,750	-	149	3,899
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(37,986)	-	(990)	(38,976)
	<u>30,280</u>	<u>127,465</u>	<u>37,450</u>	<u>195,195</u>





## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

### 9. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

#### Prior year comparatives:-

	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2015 £
Cash	69,764	127,465	38,291	235,520
Current assets excluding cash	3,986	-	645	4,631
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(38,383)	-	(3,160)	(41,543)
	<b>35,367</b>	<b>127,465</b>	<b>35,776</b>	<b>198,608</b>

### 10. Movement in Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2016 £
Accumulated Fund	35,367	34,800	(32,176)	490	38,481
Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund	127,465	1,142	(5,483)	-	123,124
Conservation Fund	28,880	14,411	(18,345)	1,200	26,146
OBC-March Conservation Fund	2,148	7,776	(7,128)	-	2,796
Honorary Membership Fund	4,652	1,590	-	(1,690)	4,552
Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund	96	-	-	-	96
	<b>198,608</b>	<b>59,719</b>	<b>(63,132)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>195,195</b>

#### Prior year comparatives:-

	Balance at 1 January 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2015 £
Accumulated Fund	33,958	34,680	(34,381)	1,110	35,367
Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund	127,051	4,370	(1,956)	(2,000)	127,465
Conservation Fund	32,160	12,657	(16,537)	600	28,880
OBC-March Conservation Fund	-	3,712	(1,564)	-	2,148
Honorary Membership Fund	4,680	1,682	-	(1,710)	4,652
Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund	96	-	(2,000)	2,000	96
	<b>197,945</b>	<b>57,101</b>	<b>(56,438)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>198,608</b>



### **Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund**

This designated fund, which has been set aside by Council out of unrestricted funds, arose as a result of a legacy from the estate of Bertram Smythies. It 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.

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

### **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. A transfer of £1,200 was made in 2016 from the Accumulated Fund (2015-£600) representing the surplus on sales of garments and the Club's publications.

### **OBC-March Conservation Fund**

This Fund was set up in 2015 following the receipt of a grant awarded by the March Conservation Fund of Tides Foundation, on the recommendation of Mr. Ivan Samuels. It is run alongside and using the same principles as the main Conservation Fund.

### **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. A transfer of £1,690 was made in 2016 to the Accumulated Fund (2015-£1,710)

### **Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund**

This Fund was set up following the "Egg and Spoonie Race" held in Norfolk in May 2013 which raised funds for the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Spoon-billed Sandpiper conservation breeding programme. It is anticipated that further fundraising events will be held in future years to enable continued support of this project.



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

### 11. Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2015

	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2015 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
<u>Donations and legacies</u>				
Donations from members	-	3,000	5,460	8,460
Gift Aid tax refund	-	-	345	345
Donations from foundations	-	-	3,712	3,712
<u>Other trading activities</u>				
Sales of goods and sales commissions	648	-	-	648
Raffle income	-	-	2,534	2,534
Fundraising events	169	-	1,000	1,169
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
Subscriptions	28,127	-	-	28,127
Gift Aid tax refund	2,097	-	-	2,097
Sales of publications and PLS income	257	100	-	357
Advertising income from <i>BirdingASIA</i>	2,758	-	-	2,758
Donations from Corporate Sponsors	-	-	5,000	5,000
<u>Investments</u>				
Bank interest	624	1,270	-	1,894
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,680</b>	<b>4,370</b>	<b>18,051</b>	<b>57,101</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
<u>Raising funds</u>				
Cost of sales- goods	218	-	-	218
Raffle costs	-	-	254	254
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
Conservation Fund grants	-	-	17,582	17,582
Conservation project costs	-	1,941	2,000	3,941
Cost of production- <i>BirdingASIA</i>	11,307	-	-	11,307
Cost of production- <i>Forktail</i>	4,150	-	-	4,150
Cost of sales- <i>Birds in Bhutan</i>	-	-	-	-
<u>Support costs</u>				
Postage, meeting & other support costs	17,843	-	-	17,843
Bank charges and interest	860	15	265	1,140
Exchange differences	3	-	-	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,381</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>20,101</b>	<b>56,438</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>2,414</b>	<b>(2,050)</b>	<b>663</b>
Transfers between funds	1,110	(2,000)	890	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>(1,160)</b>	<b>663</b>
Total funds brought forward	33,958	127,051	36,936	197,945
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>35,367</b>	<b>127,465</b>	<b>35,776</b>	<b>198,608</b>