

**ORIENTAL BIRD CLUB**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**



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
Mailing address:	P.O. Box 324, Bedford MK42 OWG, United Kingdom
Principal bankers:	Lloyds Bank plc 3 King Street Saffron Walden Essex CB10 1HF
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	Treasurer
Tim Loseby	Art & Photographic Editor
Andy Mears	Country Representatives
Simon Roddis	Publications Committee
Tony Sawbridge	Sales
Brian Sykes	Chairman, Publications Committee (resigned June 2018)
Margaret Sykes	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 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018 was elected at the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017. 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. This includes the 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 1,974 on 31 December 2017 (2016 - 2,009), a decrease of 35, 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 2017, 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 £1,993 and continues to be a vital additional income source. Two-thirds of our 755 UK members have now signed Gift Aid declarations.

The Club received donations to the Conservation Fund totaling £2,800 during the year from six regular Corporate Sponsors – AEC, BirdtourASIA, Birdquest, Limosa, Rockjumper Birding Tours and Sunbird. In addition, we received a donation of \$23,000 (2016- \$11,500) 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 continue to work with March Conservation Fund on an annual basis and they have funded us again in 2018; our thanks go to them for their generous support.



The Club also received donations and legacies from members and others exceeding £9,000 in total, which helped support the Conservation Fund and Honorary Membership Fund. The Grand Prize Draw raised a net total of £2,389 and Ashly Banwell again represented the OBC in the *Bird Brain of Britain* competition held at the British Birdfair and the Club received £250 as a result of his efforts. Both sums boosted the Conservation Fund.

Council awarded 10 (2016 – 16) conservation grants during the year:

- The donation of £1,500 from AEC funded a grant to Sid Frances to conduct an audio survey to locate singing Rufous-headed Robin *Larvivora ruficeps* in the Baihe area of north Sichuan, China, and ascertain whether the species continues to breed here, with a view to formulating a future conservation plan.
- An emergency award to the Zoological Society of London following a catastrophic flood which caused significant damage in the restricted range of the Chinese endemic Blue-crowned Laughingthrush *Garrulax courtoisi*. Our award of £2,000 enabled a rapid assessment of the damage to be made, paving the way for a larger conservation response.
- A further eight grants totaling almost £12,000 were made from the OBC–March Conservation Fund. Details of these can be found in *BirdingASIA*.

Three payments were made from the Smythies Fund in 2017:

- A second award of £4,500 was made to the British Trust for Ornithology to pay for the attachment of a solar-powered satellite transmitter to a Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* as part of the Beijing Cuckoo Project.
- An award of £5,140 was made to Manchester Metropolitan University- Universitas Indonesia to contribute to the funding of two PhD studies into the Indonesian cage-bird trade.
- A payment of £1,415 was made to Tech Callidus for the scoping in advance of the redesign and development of the Oriental Bird Images (OBI) database.

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

Two issues of *BirdingASIA* were published. Both were well received and we believe provided valuable updates to our members on matters relating to birds and their conservation in the Orient, as well as encouraging authors to document their observations and studies. The 2017 issue of *Forktail* did not appear during the calendar year, principally because we wished to include a major paper on the plight of bustards in Asia which, for reasons outside our control, was a long time in preparation. (It was published in July 2018).

Work has continued on the development of the OrientalBirdImages website. Almost every Asian species and sub-species is now illustrated on the site. A beta-site is now in test. The Club expects the site to be fully operational in 2019.



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 2017 autumn meeting and AGM was held at St John's Church hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017. As usual it was well attended and the day's programme varied and interesting.

## Financial Review

The Club generated an overall surplus of £4,513 for the year (2016- deficit of £3,413), the result of increased donations to our restricted conservation funds and decreased expenditure on conservation grants. Total reserves at 31 December 2017 were £199,708, of which £150,704 were unrestricted reserves.

The Accumulated Fund generated a small deficit of £684 (2016- surplus of £3,114). The change compared to last year was the result of higher *Forktail* publication and postage costs, a 3% reduction in subscriptions income and a small exchange loss from the retranslation of the Club's overseas bank balances, compared with a significant gain last year.

The cost of *Forktail 33* increased by 25% compared with last year. It was a larger 138 page issue (2016- 104 pages). The two editions of *BirdingASIA* were 136 and 128 pages respectively (2016- 128 and 144 pages), resulting in an overall cost very similar to last year. Postage costs increased by 6%, mainly as a result of the larger *Forktail 33*, which returned to a more typical size.

An exchange rate loss of £149 (2016- gain of £1,097) arose on the retranslation of the Club's overseas cash balances in the USA, India and Thailand to sterling at year-end. Last year's gain was the result of the reduction in the value of sterling following the UK's decision to leave the European Union.

Bank interest of £1,406 (2016- £1,460) has been recognised in the year, the majority of which is accrued income on the Club's £85,000 one year deposit with Shawbrook Bank (invested via the Charities Aid Foundation) paying 1.3% and £85,000 deposit in a Nationwide Building Society 95 Day Saver Account, paying 0.7%. Most of the remaining cash is held in the Club's Lloyds Bank deposit account, with a smaller balance held in a National Savings & Investments account and £7,000 held in the overseas accounts. The Club's investment policy will continue to focus on low risk short-term deposits.

The Club's underlying finances continue to operate at break-even, with the Accumulated Fund showing a balance of £37,797 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 £10,217 (2016- deficit of £4,341) and had a balance of £112,907 at 31 December 2017. 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.



Council approved the transfer of £700 to the Conservation Fund from the Accumulated Fund (2016- £1,200), representing sums raised from the sales of leech socks and other garments, together with the Club's publications.

The Conservation Fund showed a surplus for the year of £9,997 (2016- deficit of £2,734), the result of an increase in funding, combined with a reduction in the value of grants awarded. Donations from members included a significant legacy of £5,000, resulting in an overall increase compared with last year, and raffle income increased by 20%. These increases were partly offset by a reduction in income from our Corporate Sponsors of £4,400, after last year's exceptional receipts, and income from fundraising events decreased, with no birdwatching tours run by our supporters.

A total of £3,989 (2016- £17,864) was awarded in grants from the Conservation Fund which had a balance of £36,143 at the year-end.

A further grant of \$23,000 or £17,401 (2016- £7,776) for our conservation work received via the Tides Foundation from the March Conservation Fund enabled £11,796 (2016- £7,128) to be awarded in grants from the OBC-March Conservation Fund. The fund showed surplus for the year of £5,605 (2016- £648) and a year-end balance of £8,401, which was awarded to grant recipients in early 2018.

The membership at 31 December 2017 included 170 (2016- 169) Honorary Members, funded from contributions to the Honorary Membership Scheme. The continued generous support of our Business Supporters and Supporting Members raised £1,512 (2016- £1,590) in donations and has enabled the number of Honorary Members to be maintained. The Honorary Membership Fund showed a deficit for the year of £188 (2016- deficit of £100) and a year-end balance of £4,364.

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 2017.

### **Future plans**

Council is also looking to intensify its social media output with a view to becoming more relevant to the increasing numbers of young conservationists within our region, attracting new membership and new members to ,and increasing the diversity of, the Club's Council

Another important area of focus is strengthening the Club's publication and conservation committees. These are the 'engine-room' of the Club. We are continuously seeking further help and support to maintain the quality and timeliness of publications and to increase our throughput of grant applications whilst maintaining the rigour around decision-making that our members and donors expect.

The Club is now engaged with the archiving of all past publications to the Biodiversity Heritage Library and having completed the digitalisation of all past Bulletins. The club plans to archive all Forktail publications in the same way.

The review of Country Representatives model is under way as the Club looks for better ways to collaborate more closely with like-minded individuals and organisations within the region. The Club are in discussions with Birdlife International around how the two organisations can better complement each other and collaborate better at a regional and local level.

The hosting of the OrientalBirdImages website will be reviewed to ensure that the site is fully secure.



### **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 14th September 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

**Mike Edgecombe**  
Chairman

**John Gregory**  
Treasurer



## Independent Examiner's report to Council

I report on the accounts of the Oriental Bird Club for the year ended 31 December 2017, 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

14<sup>th</sup> September 2018



## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
<u>Donations and legacies</u>						
Donations and legacies from members		-	-	9,267	9,267	4,404
Gift Aid tax refund		-	-	127	127	149
Donations from foundations		-	-	17,401	17,401	7,776
<u>Other trading activities</u>						
Sales of goods and sales commissions		936	-	-	936	857
Raffle income		-	-	2,804	2,804	2,344
Fundraising events		120	-	250	370	2,256
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Subscriptions	1(b)	26,484	-	-	26,484	27,254
Gift Aid tax refund		1,866	-	-	1,866	2,083
Sales of publications and PLS income		172	109	-	281	944
Advertising income from <i>BirdingASIA</i>		2,717	-	-	2,717	2,992
Donations from Corporate Sponsors		-	-	2,800	2,800	7,200
<u>Investments</u>						
Bank interest		662	744	-	1,406	1,460
<b>Total</b>		<b>32,957</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>32,649</b>	<b>66,459</b>	<b>59,719</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
<u>Raising funds</u>						
Cost of sales- goods		299	-	-	299	331
Raffle costs		-	-	297	297	234
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Conservation Fund grants		-	-	15,785	15,785	24,992
Conservation project costs	2	-	11,055	-	11,055	5,483
Cost of production- <i>BirdingASIA</i>		10,333	-	-	10,333	10,277
Cost of production- <i>Forktail</i>		4,678	-	-	4,678	3,720
<u>Support costs</u>						
Postage, meeting & other support costs	3	18,523	-	-	18,523	18,111
Bank charges and interest		659	15	153	827	1,081
Exchange differences	1(d)	149	-	-	149	(1,097)
<b>Total</b>		<b>34,641</b>	<b>11,070</b>	<b>16,235</b>	<b>61,946</b>	<b>63,132</b>
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>		<b>(1,684)</b>	<b>(10,217)</b>	<b>16,414</b>	<b>4,513</b>	<b>(3,413)</b>
Transfers between funds		1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(684)</b>	<b>(10,217)</b>	<b>15,414</b>	<b>4,513</b>	<b>(3,413)</b>
Total funds brought forward		38,481	123,124	33,590	195,195	198,608
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>37,797</b>	<b>112,907</b>	<b>49,004</b>	<b>199,708</b>	<b>195,195</b>



## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2017

	Notes	31 December 2017 £	31 December 2016 £
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Stocks		353	437
Debtors	7	5,886	3,462
Cash		232,732	230,272
Total current assets		<u>238,971</u>	<u>234,171</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(39,263)	(38,976)
Net current assets		<u>199,708</u>	<u>195,195</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b><u>199,708</u></b>	<b><u>195,195</u></b>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Unrestricted Accumulated Fund	9,10	37,797	38,481
Unrestricted Designated Fund	9,10	112,907	123,124
Restricted Funds	9,10	49,004	33,590
		<u>199,708</u>	<u>195,195</u>

Approved by Council on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

**Mike Edgecombe**  
Chairman

**John Gregory**  
Treasurer

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



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

### 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 2017

### 2. Conservation project costs

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>Smythies Fund projects</b>		
Common Cuckoo satellite tracking (British Trust for Ornithology)	4,500	4,000
Indonesian Cage Bird Trade (Manchester Metropolitan University)	5,140	-
Oriental Bird Images website upgrade (Tech Callidus)	1,415	-
Bharatpur <i>Juliflora</i> removal project (Life Line for Nature Society)	-	1,483
	<b>11,055</b>	<b>5,483</b>

### 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 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£	£
Postage and mailing	507	15,136	164	15,807	14,885
Stationery and photocopy costs	68	114	44	226	75
Publicity and website costs	311	295	27	633	744
Meeting costs	741	569	75	1,385	1,939
Insurance	103	52	17	172	168
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	300	300	300
	<b>1,730</b>	<b>16,166</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>18,523</b>	<b>18,111</b>

### 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.

Six 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.



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

### 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

	2017	2016
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,257	1,230
Other debtors	3,493	2,232
Accrued income- interest	1,136	-
	<u>5,886</u>	<u>3,462</u>

### 8. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2017	2016
	£	£
Accruals for grants payable	1,500	-
Accruals for publication and other costs	20,595	18,928
Deferred income - prepaid subscriptions	16,888	18,902
Deferred income - other	280	1,146
	<u>39,263</u>	<u>38,976</u>

### 9. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017
	£	£	£	£
Cash	70,762	112,163	49,807	232,732
Current assets excluding cash	3,868	744	1,627	6,239
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(36,833)	-	(2,430)	(39,263)
	<u>37,797</u>	<u>112,907</u>	<u>49,004</u>	<u>199,708</u>



## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

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

#### Prior year comparatives:-

	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2016 £
Cash	72,717	123,124	34,431	230,272
Current assets excluding cash	3,750	-	149	3,899
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(37,986)	-	(990)	(38,976)
	<b>38,481</b>	<b>123,124</b>	<b>33,590</b>	<b>195,195</b>

### 10. Movement in Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2017 £
Accumulated Fund	38,481	32,957	(34,641)	1,000	37,797
Bertram Smythies Memorial Fund	123,124	853	(11,070)	-	112,907
Conservation Fund	26,146	13,736	(4,439)	700	36,143
OBC-March Conservation Fund	2,796	17,401	(11,796)	-	8,401
Honorary Membership Fund	4,552	1,512	-	(1,700)	4,364
Spoon-billed Sandpiper Fund	96	-	-	-	96
	<b>195,195</b>	<b>66,459</b>	<b>(61,946)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>199,708</b>

#### Prior year comparatives:-

	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>



### **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 £700 was made in 2017 from the Accumulated Fund (2016-£1,200) 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 £1,700 was made in 2017 to the Accumulated Fund (2016-£1,690)

#### **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 2017

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

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