

British Ornithologists' Club
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012

The Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Club was held in Room SALC 3, Sherfield Building, Imperial College, London SW7 2 AZ on Tuesday 12 June 2012 at 5.15pm with Miss H. Baker in the chair. Twelve members were present. Apologies were received from Mr K. F. Betton, Mr S. E. Chapman, Mr S. P. Dudley, Revd. T. W. Gladwin, Mr S. M. S. Gregory, Dr J. P. Hume, Mr G. M. Kirwan, Mr P. J. Oliver, Mr R. C Price, Mr P. Rudge, Mr M. J. Walton and Mr P. J. Wilkinson.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting.** The Minutes of the 2011 AGM held on 14 June 2011, which had been published (*Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 131:137-138) were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. **Chairman's report.** The Chairman's review, the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts were combined in one document and had been available in the room before the start of the meeting. The Chairman thanked Committee members for their contributions and support over the last year. She said that 2011 had seen a new venture, a Joint Meeting with the Neotropical Bird Club (NBC) and the Natural History Museum (NHM). She thanked Dr R. P. Prys-Jones and Mr D. J. Fisher for organising it. Further Joint meetings were planned. The Chairman reminded members that more volunteers are needed to help run the Club.

3. **Trustees' Annual Report taken with item 4, the Bulletin.** The *Hon. Secretary*, referring to the Trustees' report, stated that there had been a small fall in membership again in 2011 but there was still a good geographical spread. In addition to the Joint meeting with the NBC and NHM, which had been well received, there had been three evening meetings. Talks had been given by Dr Joe Tobias and Rachel Bristol and there was a social evening with a series of mini-talks. The Bulletin was going from strength to strength. Volume 131 contained many interesting, well-illustrated papers. Waiting time from submission to publication was short and the rejection rate low due largely to the willingness of the editor to assist authors. There had been more good reviews of *Systematic Notes on Asian Birds* which the Club had published in 2010. There had not been any BOC-BOU Joint Publications in 2011 but a number of titles were in the pipeline.

The *Hon. Treasurer* drew attention to the income and expenditure details, which showed a surplus of £808 for the year. He explained that this was because no grants were paid during the year, while the Club had received a £1,000 legacy from the late Diana Bradley and had written back the provision of £3,334 originally set aside for the Reftax project which was currently dormant. There was a small improvement in investment income but a drop in sales of publications as there had been no new titles. Subscription income from members had fallen but there had been an increase from Institutional Subscribers. He considered that the Club was well placed to cope with the current financial uncertainties. Mr M.W. Woodcock asked whether some of the cash in hand should be invested. The *Hon. Treasurer* agreed to consider this but pointed out that it was very difficult at present to determine what to invest in and

when. The *Hon Treasurer* proposed the adoption of the Report and Accounts and this was seconded by Dr C. F. Mann.

6. Election of Officers. The Chairman proposed that Dr R. P. Prys-Jones be re-elected as *Hon. Secretary*, Mr D. J. Montier be re-elected as *Hon. Treasurer* and Mr K. F. Betton be elected to serve on the Committee in place of Mr M. J. Walton whose term had ended. This was seconded by Mr K. Heron Jones. Ex- officio members are appointed by the Committee.

7. Any Other Business. There was none.

The meeting closed at 5.32pm.