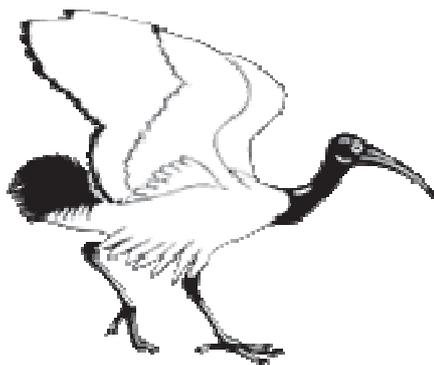


BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered Charity No. 279583



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

31st December 2013

*Porritt Rainey
Chartered Accountants*

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered Charity No. 279583

CONTENTS

Pages :

1	Chairman's Review
2 - 6	Trustees' Annual Report
7	Balance Sheet
8 - 9	Statement of Financial Activities
10 -12	Notes to the Accounts
13	Independent Examiners Report

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Founded 5 October 1892

Registered Charity No. 279583

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW FOR 2013

The Chairman's Review for 2013 is my first, having been elected at the 2013 AGM. My initial and pleasant duty is to thank Helen Baker for all that she has done both as a committee member and as Chairman of the Club. The BOC is very fortunate that someone of Helen's tenacity, vision and good humour devoted so much of her time and energies to its affairs. Helen saw the need to ensure that the Club's constitution was up to date and in good order, that we had clearly thought through risk assessments and that we had made provision for on-line access to the Bulletin. Luckily Helen's knowledge both ornithological and about the BOC will continue to be available to the Club and myself.

I am delighted that Nigel Redman has joined the Committee and the Club's grateful thanks go to Steven Gregory and Ken Heron Jones whose terms on the Committee ended at the last AGM. I am very grateful to all the Committee members for their contributions and support during the year and especially to David Montier as Hon. Treasurer and Robert Prÿs-Jones as Hon. Secretary. Robert arranged an excellent series of four evening lectures and together with Keith Betton, in his role as Chairman of the African Bird Club, organized a one-day joint BOC / ABC / Natural History Museum meeting on 6th April 2013 at the NHM. This was the second in a series of joint meetings planned by the BOC and the NHM in conjunction with various regional bird clubs. The day was stimulating and entertaining; it was very well attended and there was enthusiastic support for the planning of future meetings with other regional clubs.

The Club's website is being updated and developed under the able guidance of David Fisher (Vice-Chairman) and Eng-Li Green. I should also like to thank Guy Kirwan who continues to edit and produce a succession of outstanding Bulletins. My thanks also to Steve Dudley who as our Administration Manager provides an admirably efficient service to the Club.

The Club made a grant to the organisers of the 8th European Bird Curators' Meeting in Prague in October 2013 to facilitate the attendance at that meeting of Vladimir Loskot, curator of the St. Petersburg collection. Both he and the organisers were very appreciative. Helen Baker and I represented the Club at the 9th Conference of the European Ornithologists' Union, held at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, at the end of August 2013.

A major change during the year concerned the joint publication with the BOU of the Checklist series. The BOU, following a thorough review of its activities, decided to withdraw from the publication of such titles with immediate effect. The BOC Committee however remains of the view that Checklists fit naturally with the Club's aims and objectives and make an important contribution to ornithological studies. Consequently, it is committed in principle to their continued publication and is now considering in detail the practicalities of undertaking this task as sole publisher, including discussion with the BOU and Dr David R. Wells, Checklist Commissioning Editor.

Finally, the Club, like many similar societies, faces many challenges and the Committee would very much welcome from Members any comments and suggestions as to the way forward.

Chris Storey

Chris Storey - Chairman

Date: 20th May 2014

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Founded 5 October 1892

Registered Charity No. 279583

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

LIST OF TRUSTEES - COMMITTEE

C. W. R. STOREY *Chairman* (2013)
D. J. FISHER *Vice-Chairman* (2011)
Dr. R. P. PRŶS-JONES *Hon. Secretary* (2011)
D. J. MONTIER *Hon. Treasurer* (1997)
K. F. BETTON (2012)
R. R. LANGLEY (2011)
N. J. REDMAN (2013)

Correspondence and enquiries to the **Hon. Secretary** -

Dr. R. P. Prŷs-Jones, Bird Group, Department of Life Sciences, Natural History
Museum, Akeman Street, Tring, HP23 6AP, UK

Hon. Editor - G. M. Kirwan

Independent Examiners - Porritt Rainey, 9 Pembroke Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1XR

Bankers - Barclays Bank plc, Leicester, LE87 2BB, UK

CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ, UK

Trustees of the Herbert Stevens Trust Fund –Mr N.J. Crocker, Mr R.C. Price and Mr S.J.R. Rumsey.

OBJECTIVES

Objects of the Charity

The objects are to promote scientific discussion between members and others interested in ornithology, and to facilitate the dissemination of scientific information concerned with ornithology. The Club shall maintain its special interest in avian systematics, taxonomy and distribution.

These objects are pursued primarily through the Club's Bulletin and other publications which aim to expand ornithological knowledge and to be of benefit to those, either professional or amateur, involved with the future of avian species and their habitats. The Bulletin, in particular, published four times a year, contains papers on subjects relating to the broad themes of taxonomy, including the description of new bird species, and distribution. Also, meetings are arranged covering a variety of ornithological topics and are open to both members and non-members free of charge. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution and Committee

The British Ornithologists' Club was founded in October 1892. It currently operates under Rules and Bye-laws adopted at a Special General Meeting of the Club held on 12th June 2012.

The Trustees of the Club (the Committee) are listed above with the year of their appointment to their respective roles.

The Trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the Club. There are four officers, namely a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, an Honorary Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer and, under the 2012 Rules, not less than three and not more than five other Trustees. All are elected for a term of four years and only the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer are immediately eligible for re-election to the same office or position.

Continued...

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

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Registered Charity No. 279583

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

Management

The Committee met four times during the year; additional business was conducted by e-mail. The Chairman, Helen Baker, came to the end of her term of office and Chris Storey was elected as Chairman in her place at the AGM held on 21st May. Robert Prÿs-Jones was re-elected Honorary Secretary and David Montier as Honorary Treasurer. Ken Heron Jones's term of office ended and Nigel Redman was elected in his place. Steven Gregory's term of office also expired.

Under the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Club and the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU), certain administrative matters are undertaken on behalf of the Club by the BOU Administrative Office. Under this arrangement, Steve Dudley, the BOU Senior Administrator, continued his *ex officio* roles as Membership Secretary and advisor on publication matters, including management of BOC publications (publishing, sales and warehousing), subscription management of BOC Institutional Subscribers to the Bulletin and other Bulletin-related matters.

Membership

Individual members at the close of 2013 totalled 339 (353 at close of 2012), comprising 178 in the UK and 161 overseas, spread over 41 countries.

The Club welcomed 13 new members, but sadly mourned the deaths of J. A. Gibson, E. J. Williams and D. T. Lees-Smith.

Institutions

Subscriptions from Institutional Subscribers at the close of 2013 totalled 88 (82 at close of 2012), with 18 in the UK and 70 overseas in 24 countries.

BOC - BOU Joint Publications Committee.

Members: Mr S. P. Dudley (Chairman and Publications Manager), Dr. D. R. Wells (Commissioning and Checklist Series Editor), Mr D. J. Montier, Dr. R. P. Prys-Jones, Dr. J. H. Cooper, Mrs A. F. Langford and Ms M. Taylor.

No new titles were published during the year.

In the early part of the year, a questionnaire was run by the BOU to canvass users and non-users of the BOU/BOC Checklist Series about their perception of the series, future content and delivery. The BOU used the response from this questionnaire as part of a detailed review of their publishing activities within a wider full strategic review of all BOU activities. This resulted in the BOU deciding to withdraw from all non-journal publishing at the end of the year. Consequently, the joint committee, established in 2002, was disbanded. Thanks are due to all those who have served on it during the eleven years of its existence.

As Chris Storey indicates in his Chairman's Review, the BOC Committee sees the publication of Checklists as clearly falling within the Club's objectives and it is now examining the practicalities of continuing as sole publisher.

ACTIVITIES

Meetings

Four Tuesday evening meetings were held during the year, in February, May, September and November. They had highly attractive titles and were of a uniformly exceptional standard, but attracted extremely disappointing audiences averaging just under 20. Although all speakers expressed their enjoyment of the evenings, the possibility of continuation of attendances at this level has caused your Committee actively to consider the future of the long Club tradition of such dinner meetings.

Continued...

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Founded 5 October 1892

Registered Charity No. 279583

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

By contrast, the joint one-day meeting, with the African Bird Club and Natural History Museum (NHM), held at the NHM on Saturday, 6th April, attracted an audience well in excess of 100.

In February, Dr Jim Reynolds spoke on “*Ascension Island and Sooty Terns: an ecological disaster or a smorgasbord in the eyes of conservation biologists*”, giving a superb overview of the island’s seabirds, but focusing on Sooty Tern biology and the effects on the species of the elimination of introduced cats just under ten years previously. In May, Dr Hugh Wright discussed “*White-shouldered Ibis conservation and the value of traditional land use*”, based on his recent detailed studies of this charismatic but critically-endangered bird in Cambodia. In September, Dr Roger Safford provided an overview of “*Recent advances in the knowledge of Malagasy region birds*”, drawing on information from the ground-breaking *magnum opus* on Malagasy birds that he and Frank Hawkins had just published. The year’s evening talks concluded with a fascinating insight into “*Avian responses to land use in Cyprus and the potential effects of agricultural change*” by Dr Christina Ieronymidou in November.

The April one-day meeting on African Birds comprised six talks incorporating detailed overviews of the pre-human avifauna of the Mascarene islands and of speciation in African white-eyes, insightful conservation investigations into saving the critically endangered Liben Lark *Heteromiraфра sidamoensis* and into the status of Libya’s threatened breeding population of Crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis*, and well-illustrated travelogues of the birds of Rwanda and the Republic of Somaliland. The Liben Lark talk included the demonstration that it is in fact conspecific with the equally endangered Archer’s Lark *H. archeri*, whose name has priority, results subsequently appearing in print in the July 2013 issue of the *Journal of Ornithology*. Overall, truly a day to remember!

Summaries of the evening talks and a report on the joint meeting are published in the Club Announcements section of the Bulletin.

The Bulletin

Vol. 133 comprised 352 pages (a record under the current editorship) and 28 papers of broad geographical scope, although contributions on Neotropical birds remain particularly well represented. Taxonomy and nomenclature are Bulletin mainstays, and two new subspecies were described in this volume, of Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* and Upper Magdalena Tapaculo *Scytalopus rodriguezii*. Papers discussing new avifaunal records from two different areas of Indonesia, and another from Peru, also pinpointed several potential new taxa or new taxonomic arrangements. A major review of southern Amazonian avifauna, by Lees *et al.*, represented another highlight of volume 133.

For papers published in 2013, the interval between receipt and publication was 2–29 months, with a mean of *c.*7.3 months, a new ‘personal best’ for the present editor. The Hon. Editor will continue in his efforts to reduce waiting times still further whenever possible. The Bulletin received a total of 39 new manuscripts in 2013. Of these, seven have been rejected to date and the rest have been accepted or are still being refereed for potential publication.

Grateful thanks are due, as ever, to referees who have given freely of their time and expertise; members of the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature (SCON), especially Edward Dickinson, Richard Schodde and the Bulletin’s Associate Editor, Frank Steinheimer; to Eng-Li Green, of Alcedo Publishing, for her constant dedication to Bulletin duties, including production of the index and updating the website in tandem with David Fisher; and Latimer Trend (printers) for their hard work on our behalf. Helen Baker, Chris Storey and Robert Prÿs-Jones prepared the cover information and Club Announcements, whilst staff at The Natural History Museum, Tring, continue to offer much-needed assistance in all manner of ways.

Continued..

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

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Registered Charity No. 279583

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial results for 2013 show a deficit of £5,580 on Unrestricted Funds and £573 on Restricted Funds compared with an overall deficit last year of £3,320. Members' subscriptions dropped by £460 and continuing low interest rates available on cash deposits reduced investment income by almost £1,000, despite an increase in distributions from the charity unit trusts held in the Herbert Stevens Trust Fund. Total revenue for the year was £23,994.

Expenditure totalled £30,147, with the Bulletin being the biggest contributor at £16,024, an increase of some £1,600 over the previous year, partly the result of more pages in total over the four issues. A grant of £500 was given to fund the attendance of a Russian museum curator at a Curators' conference in Prague.

Share prices performed surprisingly well during the year, and as a result, the unit trusts in the Herbert Stevens Trust Fund showed an overall increase in value of £32,328, following an increase of £14,223 in 2012. At 31st December 2013, the value of the Fund stood at £257,743 and cash held on deposit within the General Fund was £88,920, of which £50,000 was on a fixed term deposit.

Reserves

As indicated above, the Club maintains a satisfactory level of liquidity to meet its commitments, particularly to any further publications. That may be particularly relevant if the Club assumes full responsibility for future Checklist volumes. In addition, the Clancey bequest, totalling £64,549 at the year-end, is available as backing for new developments for the Bulletin.

Risks

During the year the Committee concluded a risk analysis review considering the main risks to which the Club is exposed, particularly with regard to maintaining the Bulletin as an important ornithological publication and managing the Club's cash resources to cover its costs and those of any future publications.

The committee is satisfied that the Club has sufficient resources to cover any foreseeable commitments. Thanks are due to the three Trustees of the Herbert Stevens Trust Fund, Nigel Crocker, Richard Price and Stephen Rumsey for their continuing oversight of the fund.

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Founded 5 October 1892

Registered Charity No. 279583

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the Charities Act 2011, the trustees are required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of the incoming resources and application of resources in the year. In preparing the statement the trustees are required to :

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the statement of accounts;
- prepare the financial accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operations.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that any statement of accounts prepared by them complies with the regulations under section 130 of the Charities Act 2011. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees

Chris Storey

C. W. R. Storey
Chairman

Date: 20th May 2014

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered Charity No. 279583

BALANCE SHEET

31st December 2013

	Notes	2013		2012	
		£	£	£	£
INVESTMENTS					
At market value	2		306,743		273,229
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock of publications			100		100
Cash at bank and in hand			3,762		2,810
Cash on deposit			108,615		112,587
Other debtors			129		1,985
			112,606		117,482
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Subscriptions in advance			(3,988)		(1,508)
Creditors falling due within one year			(681)		(698)
			107,937		115,276
TOTAL ASSETS			414,680		388,505
FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
Designated	3		15,562		15,562
Other	4		331,435		304,687
			346,997		320,249
Restricted	5		67,683		68,256
			414,680		388,505

Approved and Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Chris Storey

C. W. R. Storey
Chairman

Date: 20th May 2014

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered charity No. 279583

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

31st December 2013

	2013			2012
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES				
SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS				
Members	8,270	-	8,270	8,730
Institutional subscribers	3,800	-	3,800	3,690
Donations	286	-	286	131
Income Tax recoverable			-	-
under Gift Aid & Deeds of Covenant	638	-	638	676
	<u>12,994</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,994</u>	<u>13,227</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME				
Herbert Stevens Trust Fund	8,717	-	8,717	8,616
Interest received	403	450	853	1,898
	<u>9,120</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>9,570</u>	<u>10,514</u>
SALES OF PUBLICATIONS				
Bulletin	214	-	214	289
Other BOC publications	217	-	217	302
Joint BOC/BOU publications	799	-	799	860
	<u>1,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>1,451</u>
OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES				
MEETINGS	-	-	-	780
OTHER INCOME	200	-	200	309
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>23,544</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>23,994</u>	<u>26,281</u>

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered Charity No. 279583

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Continued)

31st December 2013

			2013		
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2012 Total £
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
<i>CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE</i>					
BOC BULLETIN					
Production, printing and distribution		15,001	1,023	16,024	14,417
OTHER PUBLICATIONS					
Production Costs		-	-	-	-
Postage and packing		87	-	87	67
GRANTS		500	-	500	1,000
MEETINGS		676	-	676	2,752
ADMINISTRATION	6	12,860	-	12,860	11,365
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		29,124	1,023	30,147	29,601
SHORTFALL OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE					
Increase in value of investments	4	32,328	-	32,328	14,223
		26,748	(573)	26,175	10,903
TOTAL FUNDS brought forward at 1st January 2013		320,249	68,256	388,505	377,602
TOTAL FUNDS at 31st December 2013		346,997	67,683	414,680	388,505

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered Charity No. 279583

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2013

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Accounts

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments in the Herbert Stevens Trust Fund at market values. They are also prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities and follow the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (revised 2005).

b) Investments and Cash Deposits

The Herbert Stevens Trust Fund is invested in quoted charity unit trusts and charity cash deposits and shown as investments in the Balance Sheet with the unit trusts valued at year-end market values. Income from the Fund and from other cash deposits shown in the Balance Sheet under Current Assets is included in Incoming Resources in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receipts basis. The Clancey bequest is held on deposit which forms part of the total of investments in the Balance Sheet.

c) Subscriptions

Subscriptions for the current year and any arrears are included in Incoming Resources in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subscriptions received in advance are carried forward in the Balance Sheet as Current Liabilities.

d) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

e) Publications

The cost of publications is written off in the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred except for a nominal stock value of £100 carried in the Balance Sheet.

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB*Registered Charity No. 279583***NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued****31st December 2013****2. INVESTMENTS - at market value**

	2013	<i>2012</i>
	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Herbert Stevens Trust Fund	257,743	224,229
RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Clancey Bequest	49,000	49,000
	<u>306,743</u>	<u>273,229</u>

All investments are held in the UK.

3. UNRESTRICTED DESIGNATED FUND

for future publications

	2013
	£
Balance at 1st January 2013	15,562
Movements in the year	-
Balance at 31st December 2013	<u>15,562</u>

4. OTHER UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	GENERAL FUND	HERBERT STEVENS TRUST FUND	TOTAL
	£	£	£
Balances at 1st January 2013	80,458	224,229	304,687
Increase in value of investments during year	-	32,328	32,328
Distributions reinvested	(1,186)	1,186	-
Shortfall of income over expenditure	(5,580)	-	(5,580)
Balances at 31st December 2013	<u>73,692</u>	<u>257,743</u>	<u>331,435</u>

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Registered Charity No. 279583

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

31st December 2013

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	CLANCEY BEQUEST	PUBLICATIONS FUND	TOTAL
	£	£	£
Balances at 1st January 2013	65,138	3,118	68,256
Contributions towards cost of Bulletin	(1,023)	-	(1,023)
Interest received	434	16	450
Balances at 31st December 2013	<u>64,549</u>	<u>3,134</u>	<u>67,683</u>

- a .The Clancey bequest was donated by the late Dr P A Clancey with the request that it should be used to support and enhance the Club's Bulletin.
- b .The Publications Fund is available to finance Club publications other than regular issues of the Bulletin.

6. ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

	2013	2012
	£	£
Club's share of rental of storage unit	936	1,407
Audit and Independent Examination fees	675	670
BOU administration services	7,430	7,235
Re-design and maintenance of website	1,175	150
Other administration expenses	2,644	1,903
	<u>12,860</u>	<u>11,365</u>

7. REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

Trustees do not receive any remuneration and have not been reimbursed for any costs they may incur in attending regular Trustee meetings. They are reimbursed for any other expenses incurred on behalf of the Club. The total amount reimbursed during the year was **£ 1,323** (2012 £316).

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB**

I report on the accounts of the Club for the year ended 31st December 2013, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees 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 Commissioner. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) 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

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alan Peal

Alan Peal ACA - Principal
Porritt Rainey
Chartered Accountants