



TEESMOUTH BIRD CLUB

Registered as a Charity No. 508850

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

THE CLUB COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Brian Clasper**
(Vice Chairman) **Mike McGrory**
(Hon Secretary) **Chris Sharp**
(Hon Treasurer) **Mark Askew**
(Ordinary Member) **Alistair McLee** (First Appointed 2013)
(Ordinary Member) **Dave Nelson** (First Appointed 2015)
(Ordinary Member) **Barbara Crinson** (First Appointed 2016)
(Ordinary Member) **Dan McKie** (First Appointed 2016)

RECORDS SUB-COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Tom Francis**
Chris Brown
Graeme Joynt
Graham Megson
Mark Rowbottom
Chris Sharp
Chris Bell
Mark Askew
Geoff Icton
Ian Foster

MARKETING & MEMBERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Chris Sharp**
John Fletcher
Eric James
Julie Mason
Russell McAndrew
Dave Nelson
Chris Brayshay
Anne Brayshay

CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Alistair McLee**
Graham Megson
Vic Fairbrother
Alan Snape
Sue Antrobus
Ken Smith
Dean Heward

Honorary Treasurer's Report 2016

A steady year, with overalls funds stable. Income was slightly down on 2015, at c.£6400, while expenditure was higher at c.£6500. Some of the higher expenditure can be explained by one-off expenses and year end overlap of postage spend. Postage inflation is a significant factor for the Club and we encourage use of electronic media for newsletter access and collection of annual reports at meetings or similar where possible.

In the coming year we will continue to support the network of feeding stations, popular both with birds and birders! The committee will be considering options for provision of additional stations where appropriately placed.

The continued healthy state of finances allows us to yet again hold subscription rates at their current level, making membership a rare bargain in these frugal times.

Mark Askew



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2016



This Charity's report purpose is to give you an insight to the years activities. We have held eight very well attended meetings as well as the AGM at the Stockton library. Our Bird walks have been well attended not just by beginners but by our experienced members. The Ringing demonstrations have been particularly well received. We have also produced three fact filled newsletters. The annual report has been of an amazing standard and understandably well received by the birding plaudits. It is worth mentioning at this opportunity to keep your records coming in, especially utilising the on-line facilities.

Conservation remains a priority and we continue to be involved with the Tees working trust, INCA, Tees ringing group, Natural England & the RSPB. Our input is also valued by many industrial, commercial and residential developments. We have attended many meetings to promote the TBC and most of all the necessity of our wildlife.

I would like to thank Peter Garbutt for all his knowledgeable and valuable input as he leaves the committee.

We finally, with the support of Northumbrian Water authority, opened the revamped Scaling dam hide. The hide is now known as the `Ted Parker hide` in memory of our late Chairman. The opening day itself, was an emotional occasion for all of us including Ted's family. I wish to thank the team who put the day together and who maintain it.

At RSPB Saltholme the TBC possess two hides, The Phil Stead hide in the main car park and across the road at Dormans, The Jeff Young's hide. We had plans to create another hide at the south side of Dormans but after three years of toil by the committee the attempt is on hold due to planning and litigious complications which are frankly amazing. Our efforts have been substantial and the club is lucky to have such keen stalwarts but the negotiations have ended in deadlock.

We continue to fund feeding stations at Cowpen Bewley, Coatham Stob & Saltburn Valley gardens and now due to the efforts of Barbara Crinson a new one has been established at Stillington Nature Reserve. Barbara has established contact with the local primary school who are involved with the project and we mustn't forget the ringers who have had their first session at the site there controlling a good number of birds. We have contacted other schools to promote `Birding` so if you have spare ID books and or Optics please donate them at our next meeting.

As you can see we promote the TBC to all ages and certainly our youth are our future.

This is the end of my first year as Chairman and I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mike McGrory for the positive support from my Vice chairman. Thanks to all committee members of all committees whose energy keeps the club going forward, well done. I look forward to announcing the member's candidate for the Ted Parker award for outstanding work for our club as well as the appointment of the new Vice Chairman at the AGM.

Brian Clasper
TBC Chairman
April 2017

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

	Total	Full	Family	Junior	S/C	Life	Hon
2005	287	134	95	-	39	14	5
2006	317	157	89	-	52	14	5
2007	346	156	119	-	51	14	6
2008	421	176	170	-	55	14	6
2009	487	203	190	1	73	14	6
2010	521	209	209	2	78	13	5
2011	538	225	214	2	79	13	5
2012	548	312	217	1		13	5
2013	509	286	200	2		14	7
2014	488	261	207	2		12	6
2015	476	266	189	2		13	6
2016	480	268	192	1		13	6

As can be seen from the above table the club membership rose slightly in 2016. It represents the first increase in membership for 4 years though the overall total still compares favourably to the numbers 10 years ago.

Since 2012 senior citizen membership fees have been the same as full membership fees and hence the above table does not split the number of senior citizens but judging by the members attending club meetings and local outings it is safe to assume that the number of members in this age group make up a significant proportion of the total membership. At £12 the membership fee still remains excellent value. Despite the fact that the junior membership rate was reduced to only £5 at the AGM in April 2016 the virtual non existence of juniors is perhaps a worry for the future. The club's subscription rate compares favourably with other county bird watching societies.

As in previous years the many hours of free time given by certain members is worthy of mention. Both Dave Nelson and John Fletcher have shown many new members the main bird watching sites in Cleveland and I am sure their efforts are much appreciated. Eric James, our newsletter editor for many years sadly was taken ill in late 2016. We wish him well in his recovery. Thankfully Sophie Horne stepped in at the last minute to edit the December newsletter and is willing to continue in the roll until Eric is well again.

Our website manager Jamie Duffie has also overseen a website that gains praise from everyone who logs on. Despite the odd teething problem over the past year the site is well used and with the ever increasing use of twitter as a means of reporting sightings and publishing photographs represents the best way of visitors to the area to keep up with what's around.

The annual bird report is also a publication the club can be rightly proud of. As a member of the records sub-committee for the past four years I know the amount of time that is spent collating the records and writing and checking the report. The recorder Tom Francis, the editor Graeme Joynt and the rest of the compilers must be thanked for their efforts. The 2015 bird report is bigger and better than ever. Thanks must also go to Chris Brown who formats the report before publication.

As thanks for his work as recorder over the past 10 years Tom Francis will be given the "Ted Parker award" at the AGM. This award was introduced in memory of Ted and is given to members who contribute significantly to the club and its aims. Tom follows on from Don Page, Russell McAndrew and Jamie Duffie the previous recipients of the award.

Chris Sharp

TBC Balance Sheet 01.01.2016-31.12.2016

TEESMOUTH BIRD CLUB					
Statement of Income & Expenditure for 2016					
(with 2015 for comparison)					
		2016		2015	
		Income	Payment	Income	Payment
Subscriptions		4645.00		4692.00	
Gift Aid		940.79		998.67	
Interest		336.46		416.87	
Meetings			451.60		391.60
Lecture Fees			235.00		120.00
TBC Gen Publications		444.88		479.95	
Bird Report			2300.00		2400.00
Printing & Stationery			492.30		329.17
Postage			1128.16		425.64
Subs to other Societies			49.50		22.00
Data Provision		0.00		250.00	
Insurance			262.80		530.92
Sundries			0.00		14.00
Website			248.32		194.28
Donations		0.00		10.00	0.00
Dormans pool			0.00	0.00	0.00
Feeding stations			516.34		635.96
Recorders expenses			0.00		61.99
Report editor's computer			195.10		0.00
Biodiversity event			400.20		0.00
Ted Parker plaque Scaling			50.00		0.00
Ted Parker platform			218.50		0.00
		6367.13	6547.82	6847.49	5125.56
Excess Income			-180.69		1721.93
		6367.13	6367.13	6847.49	6847.49
	Balance B/F 2015		60283.69	Balance B/F 2014	58561.76
	Excess Income		-180.69		1721.93
	Balance 31.12.2016		60103.00		60283.69
	Cash In Hand		0.00		0.00
	Bank Current Acc		3122.21		4283.60
	P Stead Mem Fund		644.26		0.02
	NSB Investment Acc		56336.53		56000.07
			60103.00		60283.69