



TEESMOUTH BIRD CLUB

Registered as a Charity No. 508850

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

THE CLUB COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Steve McDonnell**
(Vice Chairman) **Mike Leahey**
(Hon Secretary) **Chris Sharp**
(Hon Treasurer) **Mark Askew**
(Ordinary Member) **Alistair McLee** (Co-opted)
(Ordinary Member) **Julie Mason** (Co-opted 2017)
(Ordinary Member) **Brian Clasper** (First Appointed 2019)
(Ordinary Member) **Barbara Crinson** (First Appointed 2022)
(Ordinary Member) **Connor Pimm** (First Appointed 2022)

RECORDS SUB-COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Alan Crossley**
Tom Francis
Graeme Joynt
Chris Brown
Ian Kendall
Chris Bell
Stewart Hinley
Chris Sharp
Geoff Icton
Martyn Sidwell

CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE

(Chairman) **Alistair McLee**

Honorary Treasurer's Report 2022

The balance sheet was fairly routine this year, with income being primarily subscription related and the only unusual expenditure being essential maintenance of the Dormans Pool hide. This helps make clear that our day to day expenditure is no longer covered by subscription income. While we still have healthy cash funds, they are being eroded by inflation in addition to excess expenditure over income for the last two years. In order to maintain funds for future opportunities, as well as eventual replacement of assets such as the Dormans Pool hide, the Committee propose to raise subscription fees by a modest amount, the first rise since 2007! To simplify arrangements, we intend to have a single fee per household of £16 rather than solo or family membership. In effect this means that those with family membership will not see an increase. Junior membership remains the same at £5. We hope that members agree that this small change still represents good value.

In other developments, it was a long tedious process but by year end we had transferred our current account from HSBC to the Co-Operative bank. It is unfortunate that longstanding loyalty stands for little in the corporate world and hitting us with charges for more or less anything prompted a search, so it is fortunate that customers still have choices. Now that switch is complete, the focus is on our savings account as National Savings seem uninterested in maintaining a competitive interest rate.

Mark Askew

Report from the Chair for 2022-2023



The purpose of the annual report from the Chair is to present a summary of the club's activities throughout the year.

Trustees' meetings continue to take place using Zoom.

Over the past year, the Trustees have met quarterly to discuss issues that enable the club to run smoothly and continue to move forward.

Regular events for members of the club have included:

A program of eight successful indoor meetings from September 2022 to April 2023.

Local Outdoor meetings have been very well supported.

Sites visited included:

Stillington Woods

Bowesfield Marsh

Guisborough Forest - Nightjars

RSPB Saltholme – Dragonflies

Seaton Snook

Hartlepool Headland – sea watching

Hartlepool Headland – Ringing demonstration

South Gare

Hartlepool Headland

North Gare and Seaton Snook.

Three newsletters were published in September, December and April.

The 2021 Cleveland Bird Report was the forty-eighth annual Report published by the Club. This publication is very highly regarded by birdwatchers and other organisations throughout the country.

Thanks are due to the County Recorder, members of the records sub-committee and compilers for their hard work in ensuring the continued success of this publication.

The Jeff Youngs Hide received a new roof, which should now be good for another fifteen years.

As Chair, I have received correspondence from Hartlepool Power Station, the Tees Valley Nature Partnership and the Tees Nature Tourism Marketing Group.

I have attended meetings with Chris Francis, Senior Site Manager, RSPB Saltholme

Ed Pritchard, Warden, RSPB Saltholme

We sadly said goodbye to Brian Clasper who came to the end of his time as a Trustee. First appointed in 2014, we thank Brian for his many years of input and support and for his time served as Chair, Vice Chair and Trustee.

I continue to be amazed at the continuing hard work of the club's Officers, Trustees and Committees, that enable the club to operate with seamless ease. My thanks go to all the long serving officers of the club who continue to do an unenviable job.

I owe a big thank you to my fellow Trustees who have supported and guided me through my two years of office.

It has been a pleasure to serve as Chair for Teesmouth Bird Club over the past two years.

May I wish Mike Leakey well in the post of Chair from April 2023

Best Wishes to all members

Steve McDonnell (Chair)

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
2017	470	267	182	1		14	6
2018	453	266	166	1		14	6
2019	465	269	176	-		14	6
2020	451	270	162			14	5
2021	459	271	169			14	5
2022	469	276	175			13	5

It is pleasing to note that the club membership has remained fairly static in recent years despite the restrictions imposed on our activities by the coronavirus pandemic.

Despite the fact that the junior membership rate was reduced to only £5 at the AGM in April 2016 the club continues to thrive without any members in this category.

As in previous years the many hours of free time given by certain members is worthy of mention. Special thanks go to Eric James who continues to edit the newsletter as well as providing much of the material for publication.

Jamie Duffie also doubles as our website manager and handles all the PayPal receipts for membership fees. This latter method is becoming an increasingly popular way for members to pay their subscriptions. The website continues to gain praise from everyone who logs on. 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 club has updated and modernised the website in recent years and it is better than ever and more user friendly.

Since retiring as Treasurer in 2000 Don Page has continued to calculate and submit the club's annual Gift Aid application. 2022 will be the last time Don undertakes this task on behalf of the club. This is a significant source of income each year and Don can't be thanked enough for his efforts over the years.

The annual bird report is also a publication the club can be rightly proud of. As a current member of the records sub-committee I know the amount of time that is spent collating the records and writing and checking the report. Our recorder Alan Crossley, the records sub-committee and the compilers must be thanked for their efforts. Special thanks must go to Chris Brown who both edited and formatted the report. Although Tom Francis stepped down as recorder at the end of 2018, he and Graeme Joynt continue to assist Alan in his duties as recorder to ensure a smooth transition process.

Another member whose efforts for the club go unrewarded is John Fletcher. John has been our sales officer for many years and he religiously is at the back of each indoor meeting selling old bird reports and books donated by members. Thanks must also be given to Julie Mason who organises the indoor programme each session. It is never easy trying to arrange speakers but invariably a varying programme each year is testament to Julie's endeavours.

			TEESMOUTH BIRD CLUB			
			Statement of Income & Expenditure for 2022			
			(with 2021 for comparison)			
			2022		2021	
			Income	Payment	Income	Payment
			4833.48		4153.42	
Subscriptions						
Gift Aid			823.15		796.17	
Interest			52.20		5.78	
Meetings				459.27		167.88
Lecture Fees				250.00		40.00
TBC Gen Publications			168.97		239.76	
Bird Report				3180.00		4651.00
Printing & Stationery				466.36		180.00
Postage				917.19		368.23
Subs to other Societies				50.50		50.50
Insurance				157.00		157.00
Sundries			0.00	0.00	0	0.00
Website				395.94		900.00
Donations			0.00	0.00	620.00	500.00
Feeding stations				943.72		463.65
Hide repairs				1704.00		40.00
Data provision			0.00		0.00	
Bank charges				113.20		5.40
			5877.80	8637.18	5821.13	7523.66
	Excess Income			-2759.38		-1702.53
			5877.80	5877.80	5821.13	5821.13
		Balance B/F 2021	59054.13	Balance B/F 2020	60756.66	
		Excess Income	-2759.38		-1702.53	
		Balance 31.12.2022	56294.75	Balance 31.12.21	59054.13	
		Cash In Hand	0.00		0.00	
		Bank Current Acc	279.69		1591.07	
		Deposit A/C 'PSMF'	0.00		0.20	
		NSB Investment Acc	56015.06		57462.86	
			56294.75		59054.13	