TEESMOUTH BIRD CLUB

Registered as a Charity No. 508850

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

THE CLUB COMMITTEE
(Chair) **Mike Leakey**
(Vice Chair) **Debbie Lawson**
(Hon Secretary) **Chris Sharp**
(Hon Treasurer) **Steve McDonnell**
(Ordinary Member) **Alistair McLee** (Co-opted)
(Ordinary Member) **Julie Mason** (Co-opted 2017)
(Ordinary Member) **Barbara Crinson** (First Appointed 2022)

RECORDS SUBCOMMITTEE

(Chair) **Alan Crossley**
Tom Francis
Graeme Joynt
Chris Brown
Ian Kendall
Mike Leakey
Stewart Hinley
Geoff Iceton
Martyn Sidwell

CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

(Chair) **Alistair McLee**

Honorary Treasurer's Report 2024

The main feature of the balance sheet this year was a legacy of £38875.29 from the estate of former member Joyce Hodgson, received towards the end of 2023. The trustees and members were asked to consider ways of spending this generous sum of money that would be beneficial to our aims and interests as a club. Trustees therefore invested in the following donations and projects:

- The Barn Owl Nesting Box Project £3000.00
- Floating Islands Scaling Dam £20,521.00
- Commemorative Bench (Don Page) £639.29
- MOTUS £3159.52
- Friends of Bluebell Beck £100.00

£27,419.81

Membership shows little fluctuation; therefore, income from subscriptions is similar to last year. As the cost of living rises this is reflected in the increased costs of printing and postage. The move by most IT providers to purchase software by yearly subscription puts an increased cost on the club's expenses. Finances are, however, still in a favourable position.

Steve McDonnell

Report from the Chair for 2024

This report provides an overview of the Club's activities and achievements over the la
months. As retiring Chair, I would like to thank all members of the Trustees group and
the Records Subcommittee for their efforts during the period of my tenure. Honorary
Sharp, Acting Treasurer Steve McDonnell and Trustee Barbara Crinson are worthy of
for their contributions.

The Club's AGM took place on 8 April. We welcomed Steve Ashton as a new member
group, and a further Trustee is to be sought. The group has met on a quarterly basis v
Meetings, ably arranged by Julie Mason. These meetings took place on 30 April, 27 Ju
and 28 January. Notes from these meetings are available to all members on request.
session of evening meetings involved an excellent series of talks between September
inclusive, again organised by Julie Mason. These meetings were much appreciated an
generally well-attended. The annual Nightjar Walk was held at Guisborough Forest (1
other local outings followed at Seaton Snook (24 August), Hartlepool Headland (1 Feb
Gare & Seaton Snook (1 March) and Hardwick Park (16 March). Our thanks go to the
outings.

The Club's Records Subcommittee convened on 22 April and 17 December. At the latt
Alan Crossley stood down from his duties as County Recorder, and we thank him for h
the last few years. Martyn Sidwell, an experienced and dedicated local birder who wi
most members, is our new Recorder.

A significant milestone for the Club was reached at the end of November, with the pu
50th annual Cleveland Bird Report (covering the calendar year of 2023). The core of th
comprises monthly summaries, the species accounts according to the classified list ar
report. Three new species for Cleveland are also documented in detail, namely Brown
Caspian Stonechat and Soft-plumaged Petrel, along with our second record of Isabelli
Production of the Cleveland Bird Report involves many hundreds of hours of entirely
and the Recorder, Editor, Records Sub-committee, compilers and contributors all des
credit for the quality of the Report and its prompt publication.

Much work has been going on behind the scenes on two major projects, namely the i
MOTUS station at RSPB Saltholme and the provision of nesting rafts at Scaling Dam N
Both involve significant capital expenditure and close liaison with partners and suppli
driven by the indefatigable Barbara Crinson. It is hoped that both projects will come t
spring. The Trustees have also allotted one-off funding to the local Barn Owl Project a
scheme at Bluebell Beck, Middlesbrough. A memorial bench to long-serving Club stal
has been installed at Lockwood Beck. The Club is continuing to provide financial cont
several feeding stations during the winter months, namely Lockwood Beck, Stillingtor
Bewley Woodland Park and Billingham Beck Country Park.

Ali McLee has continued the Club's input to local conservation issues, including identi
bird species for the developing Cleveland Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the Env
Agency's plans for managed realignment around the north-east "cell" of Greatham Cr

Finally, I would again like to register my appreciation to all the Trustees, officers and memb
ers of the Club for their guidance and encouragement during my second year as Chair. I wish my
success

Mike Leakey

Honorary Secretary's Report 2024

Club membership fell by another 11 in 2024 and is at its lowest level for 16 years but is still at a healthy 434 in total. Our first junior members in six years joined the club in 2024. Hopefully more can be attracted to join in future years. At £5 the membership rate for junior members remains an incentive.

	Total	Full	Family	Junior	S/C	Life	Hon
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
2023	445	278	149			13	5
2024	434	267	146	2		14	5

As in previous years the many hours of free time given by certain members is worthy of mention. Jamie Duffie continues to edit the newsletter and 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 Club continues to support local feeding stations. The site at Lockwood Beck is particularly popular. A second bench has now been installed. This was in memory of Don Page, the club's former Treasurer. A generous donation of £500 was received from his family towards the cost. Many thanks are due to the small team of volunteers who installed the bench and keep the bird feeders topped up and cleaned.

The annual bird report is also a publication of which the Club can be rightly proud. As a former member of the Records Subcommittee, I know the amount of time that is spent collating the records and writing and checking the report. Our recorder Alan Crossley, who stepped down at the end of the year, the Records Subcommittee and the compilers must be thanked for their efforts. Chris Brown continues to edit and format the report. Although Tom Francis stepped down as Recorder at the end of 2018, he and Graeme Joynt continued to assist Alan in his duties as Recorder. Another member whose efforts for the club go unrewarded is John Fletcher. John has been our sales officer for many years, and he is invariably stationed 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 to arrange speakers but a varying programme each year is testament to Julie's endeavours.

Chris Sharp

TEESMOUTH BIRD CLUB

Annual Statement of Income and Expenditure 2024 (with 2023 for comparison)

	2024 Income	Payment		2023 Income	Payment
Subscriptions	4475.67			4422.88	
Gift Aid	0.00			0.00	
Interest	1511.87			169.36	
Meetings		395.86			319.97
Lecture Fees		273.00			227.00
TBC Gen Publications	227.52			249.86	
Bird Report		3402.80			3200.00
Printing & Stationery		523.37			300.00
Postage		999.94			770.73
Subs to other Societies		58.50			78.00
Insurance		141.76			157.00
Sundries	0.00	129.89		22.5	
Website		480.00			399.53
Donations	750.00	3704.80		38875.29	
Feeding stations		981.83			1245.50
Hide repairs		0.00			173.80
Data provision	0.00				0.00
Bank charges		0.00			0.00
Club Projects		23680.52			
	6965.06	34772.27		43739.89	8420.38
Excess Income		-27807.21			35319.38
	6965.06	6965.06		43739.89	43739.89

Balance B/F 2024	91610.26	Balance B/F 2023	56294.75
Excess Income	-27807.21		35319.51
Balance 31.12.2024	63803.05	Balance 31.12.23	91610.26
Cash In Hand	0.00		0.00
Bank Current Acc	11091.18		40410.26
Deposit A/C 'PSMF'	0.00		0.00
Skipton Building Soc,	52711.87		51200.00

63803.05	**91610.26**