

***Norfolk and Norwich
Naturalists' Society***



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Founded 1869 Registered Charity 291604 www.nnns.org.uk

Presidents and Council members serving during 2010 are listed below

(members served throughout the year except where stated otherwise).

Presidents:	Dr G Barnes <i>(to 9.3.10)</i>	Professor Fred Cooke <i>(from 9.3.10)</i>
Vice Presidents:	Dr RE Baker, PR Banham, Mrs MA Brewster, AL Bull, KB Clarke <i>(died Aug 2010)</i> , DA Dorling, KC Durrant <i>(died 28.4.10)</i> , RC Hancy, PW Lambley, DL Paull	
Chairman:	S Livermore	
Secretary:	Ms DL Cheyne	
Assistant Secretary:	FJL Farrow	
Treasurer:	DI Richmond	
Assistant Treasurer:	MJ Stew	
Membership committee:	Dr DI Leech <i>(chair)</i>	S Livermore <i>(secretary)</i>
Programme committee:	J Negal <i>(chair)</i>	Dr SR Martin <i>(secretary)</i>
Publications committee:	Dr AR Leech <i>(chair)</i>	PW Lambley <i>(secretary)</i>
Research committee:	RW Ellis <i>(chair)</i>	M Ghullam <i>(secretary)</i>
Elected council members:		
Retired 9.3.10	K Charters, PDP Collyer, AD Irwin, A Musgrove	
Retiring 2011	S Harrap	
Retiring 2012	R Coleman, SM Henson <i>(died 12.8.10)</i> , NW Owens, P Parker, MP Toms	
Retiring 2013	AR Brazil, R Carpenter, GM Coupland, SJC Paston, SL Perkin, CH Watson <i>(all from 9.3.10)</i>	
Addresses:		
Charity Commission Contact:	DI Richmond, 42 Richmond Rise, Reepham, Norfolk, NR10 4LS.	
Honorary Secretary:	Ms DL Cheyne, Wood House, Free Lane, Ditchingham, Bungay, Suffolk, NR25 2DW.	

Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists' Society . . .

The Society was founded in 1869 and became a registered charity in 1985 with registration number 291604. Its governing instrument is the constitution adopted on 4 March, 1983 as amended on 22 March, 1985, 16 March, 1999 and 21 March, 2006. The management of the affairs of the Society is in the hands of a Council consisting of Vice Presidents, officers and elected members as listed opposite. The Society President is nominated by Council to serve for one year and is a person who has made a significant contribution to the understanding of natural history.

The objectives of the Society are:

- to promote, organise, carry on and encourage education of the public and study and research for the advancement of knowledge in natural sciences and to protect endangered species.

To furtherance of the above objects but not further or otherwise the Society may:

- publish papers on the natural sciences, especially those relating to Norfolk.
- encourage the exchange of information between naturalists by means of meetings and excursions.
- protect endangered species by the collection of information, co-operative surveys, investigations and the dissemination of the useful results of such investigations.
- do all such other lawful things as shall further the attainment of the above objects.

. . . *Researching Norfolk's Wildlife*

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Council has the pleasure of presenting the Annual Report together with the Accounts of the Society for the year ending 31 December 2010.

Supporting the Society's educational role, the Programme of Events for 2010/11 comprised 11 field meetings, 6 talks and 5 Photographic Group indoor meetings. Also offered by the Society were 7 one-day identification courses hosted by experts in the fields of bats, moths, bumblebees, and marine mini-invertebrates and rocky shore wildlife.

The 11 traditional outings included joint meetings with the Norfolk Amphibian & Reptile Group (in search of natterjacks and nightjars at Winterton Dunes), Lowestoft Field Club (RSPB Lakenheath Fen), Norfolk Branch of Butterfly Conservation (Silver-studded blues at Buxton Heath), British Plant Gall Society (Bayfield Hall), Norfolk Fungus Study Group (Refley Wood, King's Lynn), the Bryological Group (Cawston Heath), and recording with Research Committee (East Ruston Common). A wildlife walk at Saxlingham Nethergate, a mainly birds-and-plants walk on Marriott's Way, and a bird walk at Holme Dunes were also held. This year's 'Wild Flowers Revealed' meeting, with the Norfolk Flora Group participating, visited Holt Lowes and was notably well attended, with over twenty people there. In fact, the previous decline in field meeting participation seems to have been at least arrested in 2010, with attendances averaging overall a dozen or so.

The indoor meetings at Eaton St. Andrew's Hall have remained generally popular in terms of talks offered and attendance, though Programme Committee is also planning the provision of the occasional special meeting or 'celebrity' speaker in a higher-profile public venue, continuing and developing the tradition of such events in recent years as the Robert Marsham and Sir James Edward Smith commemorations. Highlights of the 2010-11 indoor programme included Professor Chris Mason on 'birds, landscape and land-use' and Charlie Kitchin of RSPB on the Nene Washes Reserve, which will be followed up by a Society visit to the Washes on 21st May, 2011.

The December 2010 meeting, with festive refreshments, comprised a presentation by various Research Group members on their recent surveys of Flordon Common, a hundred years after Burrell and Clarke's survey of 1910. There are further talks to come early in 2011 including Professor Fred Cooke's Presidential Address on bird watching in the Castle Rising area over the last millennium.

The research group has completed its work this year on Flordon Common and submitted its research in the form of a series of articles for the 2010 issue of *Transactions*. It has also carried out survey work on Booton Common, the Little Ouse Project at Garboldisham - Broomscot Common, Suffield Community woodland and East Ruston Common – joint meeting with the NNNS in July. It is in the process of organising the 2011 programme of field meetings, which should include some brown field sites around Norwich, and it also hopes to collaborate with the Green Lane project.

It has continued to work on drawing up procedures and guidelines for recorders and hopes to send out a letter to all Norfolk recorders early in 2011. There was recorders' workshop in December organised jointly by the Society and the Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service. This has become an annual event and gives an excellent opportunity to share ideas and catch up on developments.

The transition of both *Transactions* and the *Bird & Mammal Report* to B5 format has provided more flexibility in layout and reduced costs but, unfortunately, for the third year running the publication date for *Transactions* has slipped into the succeeding year. Plans to reverse this trend have been thwarted by the decision to incorporate within the 2010 *Transactions* all papers arising from the Research Committee's work on Flordon Common but it is still hoped to produce the *2011 Transactions* well before the end of that year. By contrast, the *2009 Bird & Mammal Report* was published a little earlier than in previous years and sales have benefited. A favourable review on the BirdGuides website, and details on the Society's website, have resulted in more than a dozen sales, a number which we hope will be significantly increased now that the Society has a Paypal account.

Occasional Publication no12, a 32pp. *Checklist of Norfolk Birds* by Mick Fizer and Keith Dye, was published in January, and *Occasional Publication no13*, *A Flora of King's Lynn*, is being planned for publication during the summer of 2011. Progress continues on *Mammals of Norfolk* despite the sad death of Steve Henson, one of its editors, and publication is likely in 2012.

Four issues of the Society's *Natterjack* newsletter were distributed during the year. We thank the editor, Francis Farrow, once again for his hard work and expertise in putting this publication together, and Simon Harrap for compiling the photographic section. We thank all those who have contributed articles and photographs *gratis* for all of the Society's publications.

The Society's membership at the end of the year stood at 639, with over 40 new members joining during the year. The Society's website has continued to attract new members and provide information for existing members and the wider public.

We benefited from an OPAL grant of £1,520 towards the Society's displays at wildlife events, including amphibian survey forms, summer checklist leaflet, new membership leaflets and posters.

The Society supported a Norfolk Bat Workers' Conference in March organised in collaboration with NBIS and the Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership. The event was very successful, with good talks and over 50 delegates present. A similar event is planned for 2011.

The Society ended the year with general account reserves of £13,531 (up £1,781 on 2009). A further £14,338 was designated to the Peet Fund to be used to enhance the quality of publications or to support other initiatives within the Society's objectives. An additional £493 was held in restricted funds for exhibitions and workshops. During the year, the Society was pleased to receive a gift of £2000 from the Redwing Trust, a donation of £500 from the Sarnia Charitable Trust and an £800 lottery-funded grant from the Natural History Museum. We were also pleased to receive £276 as gift aided supplements to individual members' subscriptions. The Society is extremely grateful for all this financial help which allows it to hold down membership fees.

Regrettably we must report that over 50 members failed to update their standing order payments last year leading to a recurrent loss to the Society of £150 per annum. We ask all members to check that their annual payments have been updated to the new rate of £15 per annum and to note that all subscriptions are due for payment on 1st April each year.

The Council of the Society met 4 times during the year to conduct the business of the Society. Our thanks go to Professor Fred Cooke for his year as President.

Janet Negal is retiring as Programme Committee Chairman after several years in the role. We thank Janet for her ever present enthusiasm.

David Paull is retiring from his role in dealing with membership applications. David has been busy in many ways for the Society over many years and we thank him for his advice and unstinting support.

During the year the Society has lost three wonderful friends and naturalists in Ken Durrant, Keith Clarke and Dick Hamond. They each made a major contribution to Norfolk wildlife research and recording and the Society is profoundly grateful for their contribution.

The Society was also saddened during the year by the sudden death of Steve Henson and by news of the deaths of Ron Payne and Barry Nicholson.

I am retiring after three years as Chairman. It has been a challenging time during which the Society has taken steps to re-affirm its role in the Norfolk wildlife community. There is still much to do and I wish my successor every success.

Finally I would like say a heartfelt thank you to the many people involved in committee work, helping out at meetings, contributing to and getting publications out, and all the other things that make this Society work.

Stephen Livermore, Chairman

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
to the Trustees of Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists' Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December, 2010 which are set out on the following pages

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, 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 Commissioners. 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 seeking 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave 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.

Sally J Deasley FMAAT,
45 Cuttons Corner, Hemblington, Norwich, NR13 4PS. February 2011

Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists' Society

Registered Charity 291604

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2010

A Income	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
<u>A1 Voluntary sources</u>					
Subscriptions	9,631.05			9,631.05	7,488.75
Other donations from voluntary sources	2,500.00		800.00	3,300.00	3,520.00
<u>A2 Trading activities (sales of publications)</u>					
Bird & Mammal Report (previous year)	1,128.50			1,128.50	1,216.40
Bird & Mammal Report (current year)	3,373.38			3,373.38	3,091.00
Other publications	294.00			294.00	224.00
<u>A3 Income from Assets</u>					
Interest	24.55			24.55	126.12
<u>A4 Miscellaneous receipts</u>					
Donations, sale of goods	284.68			284.68	963.32
A Total income	17,236.16	0.00	800.00	18,036.16	16,629.59

B Direct charitable expenditure	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
<u>B1 Lectures and meetings</u>					
Room hire and speakers expenses	486.00	0.00	0.00	486.00	782.20
<u>B2 Publications</u>					
Transactions	1,200.00	300.00	0.00	1,500.00	2,275.00
Bird & Mammal Report	5,905.71	637.50	0.00	6,543.21	6,717.96
Occasional Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	605.50
<u>B3 Membership expenses</u>					
Printing and stationery	1,124.58	1,402.00	0.00	2,526.58	2,098.85
Postage to members	2,902.52	0.00	0.00	2,902.52	2,306.76
<u>B4 Research</u>					
Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>B5 Other charitable expenditure</u>					
Exhibitions	5.31	0.00	1,827.23	1,832.54	381.75
Other charitable expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	276.24
B Total direct charitable expenditure	11,624.12	2,339.50	1,827.23	15,790.85	15,444.26

C Other expenditure	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
C1 Other expenses (Officers & committees)					
Postage (committee expenses)	357.05	0.00	0.00	357.05	287.47
Postage (B&M sales)	224.62	0.00	0.00	224.62	149.57
Printing and stationery	149.59	0.00	0.00	149.59	159.83
Public liability insurance	391.93	0.00	0.00	391.93	373.27
Miscellaneous expenditure	192.00	0.00	0.00	192.00	260.00
C Total of other expenditure	1,315.19	0.00	0.00	1,315.19	1,230.14

D Total expenditure (B+C)	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
B Direct charitable expenditure	11,624.12	2,339.50	1,827.23	15,790.85	15,444.26
C Other expenditure	1,315.19	0.00	0.00	1,315.19	1,230.14
D Total expenditure	12,939.31	2,339.50	1,827.23	17,106.04	16,674.40

E Gross transfers between funds	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
E1 Donations assigned to Peet Fund	-2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E2 Share of interest relating to Peet Fund	-16.03	16.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
E Gross transfers between funds	-2,516.03	2,516.03	0.00	0.00	0.00

F Summary and year end balances	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
Funds brought forward at start of year	11,750.30	14,161.51	1,520.00	27,431.81	27,476.62
A Add total income	17,236.16	0.00	800.00	18,036.16	16,629.59
D Deduct total expenditure	-12,939.31	-2,339.50	-1,827.23	-17,106.04	-16,674.40
E Adjust for transfers between funds	-2,516.03	2,516.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
F Funds carried forward at end of year	13,531.12	14,338.04	492.77	28,361.93	27,431.81
Increase (decrease) in current year	1,780.82	176.53	(1,027.23)	930.12	(44.81)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER, 2010

G Monetary assets	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
G1 Cash balances at year end					
Barclays Bank plc	1,379.67	255.75	492.77	2,128.19	3,397.16
TSB plc (no 1 account)	11,477.16	0.00	0.00	11,477.16	10,216.34
TSB plc (no 2 account)	0.00	14,082.29	0.00	14,082.29	13,508.26
Petty cash	27.97	0.00	0.00	27.97	15.18
G2 Other assets					
Debtors (invoiced publications / m'ships)	1,343.00	0.00	0.00	1,343.00	1,902.00
Payments in advance				0.00	0.00
Unbanked cheques	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
G Total assets	14,227.80	14,338.04	492.77	29,058.61	29,062.94

H Liabilities	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
H1 Uncleared cheques	375.88			375.88	809.13
H2 Sundry creditors	290.80			290.80	795.00
H3 Memberships paid in advance	30.00			30.00	27.00
H Total liabilities	696.68	0.00	0.00	696.68	1,631.13

I Balance at year end (G-H)	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2010	Total 2009
	General a/c	Peet Fund			
	£	£		£	£
I Balance carried forward	13,531.12	14,338.04	492.77	28,361.93	27,431.81

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting policies

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with guidance given in Charity Commission publications:
CC53 Charity Accounts, CC55 Accruals Accounting for the Smaller Charity,
SORP 2005 Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

2. Description of funds

The Society manages its general fund to provide a programme of lectures and meetings, and to fund the publication of the Transactions of N&NNS and the annual Bird & Mammal Report.
The Peet Fund Special Projects Account is a 'designated fund' maintained by the Society to enhance the quality of its publications and to support other activities within the Society's objectives.
The restricted fund relates to Natural History Museum OPAL grants for exhibition & survey expenditure

3. Reserves policy

The Society's reserves policy is to hold sufficient funds in its general account to cover the annual production costs of Transactions and the Bird & Mammal Report, so that their publication is independent of the variability in cash flow from subscriptions and sales.
The end of year balance is about £2000 higher than normal because of the delayed publication of the 2010 Transactions of N&NNS.

4. Notes on large variances:

A1: subscription increase of £3 pa, plus membership growth.
A2 (B&M current year): increased sales from earlier publication date.
A4: 2009 included a significant amount of Gift Aid related to the Catfield Hall publication.
B1: Savings from change of venue and very few speakers' expenses.
B2: Transactions - significant cost savings on switch to B5 format.
B2: Occasional Publication - 2009 expenditure related to N&NNS share of 2nd print run of Catfield Hall book.
B5: Exhibition expenditure funded by OPAL grants.
B5: Other expenditure in 2009 related to projector repair and website charges.

5. Donations from voluntary sources:

2010: £2000 Redwing Trust, £500 from Sarnia Charitable Trust, £800 OPAL grant (restricted fund)

6. Independent examination of accounts

C1 miscellaneous expenditure includes £100 honorarium paid to Society independent examiner.

7. Uncleared cheques (31.12.10)

Eaton Church Hall room hire; Officer expenses.

8. Sundry creditors (31.12.10):

Greshams (printing costs); Officer expenses.

9. The Society's bankers are:

Barclays Bank, St Stephen's Branch, 5/7 Red Lion Street, Norwich.
Lloyds TSB Bank, Harvey Lane, Norwich.

D I Richmond, Honorary treasurer.