

Annual REVIEW 2019/ 2020



**Worcestershire
Wildlife Trust**



Stonechat © Ben Hall, 2020 DIVISION



As I write, we are still amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Our first thoughts are with our members, volunteers, staff and partners

and their families who we hope are staying safe.

It is too early to evaluate the full impact of the virus on the Trust, but many charities are suffering financially and we are thankful for our 23,000 members' continued support now and in the future.

On a more positive note you will see from the information over the page that the Trust has acquired more land and we now have almost 3,000 acres under our stewardship

and are advising land managers on over 100,000 acres through a range of other projects and partnerships.

Public concern for the environment, biodiversity decline and the climate emergency continue to grow, particularly with young people. Our schools work has enabled 4,000 school children to visit us and be stimulated to grow up with a better appreciation of the need for biodiversity, and that small actions can bring big changes at a larger scale.

During the year we launched our Saving Worcestershire's Heathlands appeal to raise funds for us to purchase land at Dropping Well Farm, which will create the largest

connected block of heathland in Worcestershire if we are successful.

On a national level we have been campaigning to have a powerful Environment Act and an Agricultural Act which is a once in a generation opportunity to change how we manage land for biodiversity, soil health, water quality and other public goods.

Finally on behalf of all the Trustees and staff we send many thanks to all our 425 volunteers who do so much for the Trust, and to the people and organisations that continue to support our work such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Severn Waste Services and many others.

David Mortiboys, Chair





Our work in 2019/20

8 local groups (and other Trust events) held **150** walks, talks and events during the year

2,995



acres owned or managed in **81** nature reserves



23,400
members

100,000 acres,
23.4%



of the county of Worcestershire, that our staff have advised land managers to improve

450
lapwing



250
golden plover

at Hill Court Farm in February



1 common crane

8,416
social media followers



250 planning applications scrutinised, including **3** Local Plans

40,500
volunteer hours,



a value of **c.£290k**

30-40

yellow star of Bethlehem flowered at Aileshurst Coppice following work to help this rare plant



Wood white at Monkwood © Paul Lane

500 saplings, including disease-resistant elms, planted at Trench Wood to diversify the mix of species



Yellow star of Bethlehem © Jim Handley

57 adults recorded on one session and **141** eggs found were highlights of the Making a Stand for the Wood White project at Monkwood



Lapwing © Mark Hamblin, 2020VISION

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

	Unrestricted fund	Designated fund	Restricted funds	31.3.20 Total funds	31.3.19 Total funds as restated
	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	848,284	572,237	457,224	1,877,745	1,571,307
Charitable activities					
Education	23,312	-	-	23,312	22,188
Land Management Grant	266,476	-	19,836	286,312	261,376
Other trading activities	343,036	-	4,646	347,682	361,653
Investment income	71,665	-	-	71,665	57,796
Other income	45,303	-	-	45,303	27,340
Total	1,598,076	572,237	481,706	2,652,019	2,301,660
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	717,535	10,666	4,013	732,214	719,996
Charitable activities					
Education & Communication	124,631	-	-	124,631	118,781
Wider Countryside	166,853	-	-	166,853	168,268
Reserves	523,888	87,197	277,369	888,354	1,051,585
Pension adjustment	-	-	-	-	(294,072)
Total	1,532,907	97,863	281,282	1,912,052	1,764,558
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	(247,092)	-	(247,092)	73,506
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	65,169	227,282	200,424	492,875	610,608
Transfers between funds	18,598	(17,200)	(1,398)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes	(5,661)	-	-	(5,661)	-
Net Movement in Fund	78,106	210,082	199,026	487,214	610,608
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward					
As previously reported	5,212,505	3,222,850	6,524,478	14,959,833	14,580,718
Prior year adjustment	231,493	-	-	231,493	-
	<u>5,443,998</u>	<u>3,222,850</u>	<u>6,524,478</u>	<u>15,191,326</u>	<u>14,580,718</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	5,522,104	3,432,932	6,723,504	15,678,540	15,191,326

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

	Group		Charity	
	31.3.20	31.3.19 as restated	31.3.20	31.3.19 as restated
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	12,138,818	12,080,314	12,137,189	12,078,141
Investments	2,497,715	2,501,141	2,507,715	2,511,141
	<u>14,636,533</u>	<u>14,581,455</u>	<u>14,644,904</u>	<u>14,589,282</u>
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stocks	72,817	91,980	-	-
Debtors	463,353	396,038	598,981	540,255
Cash at bank and in hand	733,493	393,404	650,100	324,538
	<u>1,269,663</u>	<u>881,422</u>	<u>1,249,081</u>	<u>864,793</u>
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	(98,861)	(106,979)	(89,403)	(101,315)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>1,170,802</u>	<u>774,443</u>	<u>1,159,678</u>	<u>763,478</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>15,807,335</u>	<u>15,355,898</u>	<u>15,804,582</u>	<u>15,352,760</u>
PENSION LIABILITY	<u>(128,795)</u>	<u>(164,572)</u>	<u>(128,795)</u>	<u>(164,572)</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>15,678,540</u>	<u>15,191,326</u>	<u>15,675,787</u>	<u>15,188,188</u>
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds	8,955,036	8,666,848	8,958,087	8,662,064
Restricted funds	6,723,504	6,524,478	6,717,700	6,526,124
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>15,678,540</u>	<u>15,191,326</u>	<u>15,675,787</u>	<u>15,188,188</u>

Financial Report

Unrestricted Funds

These represent income that may be used without any restriction to meet the charity's objectives

Designated Funds

The Trustees may formally designate part of the unrestricted funds for a particular purpose, although any unspent funds may later be re-classified as unrestricted.

Restricted Funds

These are funds that have been given by donors and funding bodies for specific purposes and such income may only be spent in furthering those purposes or objectives.

Financial performance

A surplus of £487,214 was recorded in the year. Income included £572,237 from legacies, gifts in Wills which will be used by the Trust for conservation and development projects. Net assets stand at £15,807,335 of which £12,138,818 represents the value of our nature reserves and other fixed assets, and £2,497,715 the value of our investments after investment losses of £247,092 during the year. At 31 March 2020, £3,432,932 was designated for use in conservation and development projects.

Independent Auditors' Report to the members and trustees of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

Due to the increasing length of Auditors' Reports required by today's accounting standards, it is not possible to include the report in this brief financial summary. However, the Auditors' Report from Thorne Widgery is included in the Trust's published accounts, which will be available at or immediately after the Annual General Meeting and a draft will be available on the Trust website before the meeting. For the purposes of this Annual Review, the Trustees are pleased to confirm that the audit was successfully completed and the information in the Trustees' Annual Report, from which this statement of financial activities and balance sheet are extracted, is consistent with the financial statements.

Auditors:

Thorne Widgery Accountancy Ltd
Statutory Auditor
2 Wyevale Business Park,
Hereford HR4 7BS

Members and Supporters

Thank you to all the members, supporters and partners of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust who contribute to the future of wildlife in our county.

Legacies for wildlife

Gifts left to us in Wills have been critical for purchasing nature reserves, assisting with their development and for other specific uses as agreed by our Council of Trustees. We are indebted to those who have left gifts to the Trust this year:

Elizabeth Attwood
Elizabeth Bowles
Kathleen Burd
Ivy Collins
Audrey Davies
Bridget Fletcher
Betty Harris
Ian Judd
Deryck Kearney
Jean Rudd
Claire Turner
Gillian Waldron
Beryl Williams
Michael Wright

We are also grateful for those who have donated to us in memory of loved ones.

Grants and donations

Thank you to the organisations and individuals who have provided us with a grant or donation during the year. These include:

National Lottery Heritage Fund for Heritage, Severn Waste Services, Helen Mackness Charitable Trust, Norman and Evelyn Proffitt Trust, W. F. Southall Trust, Margaret Westwood Memorial Charity, Wild Flower Society.

The Worcestershire Wildlife Medal 2019

The Worcestershire Wildlife Medal is awarded 'For dedicated services to nature conservation in Worcestershire'.

In 2019 the medal was awarded to four people:

Gordon Forrest has been an active champion of natural history and conservation in Worcestershire for decades through thousands of walks and talks and the books he has written and has been the Chair and main organiser of the Trust's Bromsgrove Local Group for many years.

John Hodson worked for the Trust in several roles until his retirement this year after almost 40 years' service. He is a life-long ornithologist and naturalist and has been involved in bird-ringing in the UK and internationally, as well as a leading role in the county Bat Group.

Michael Liley is retiring after working for the Trust for more than 20 years. His great passion is grasslands, and especially lowland meadows, many of which survive only thanks to his extensive work with land managers, partners, volunteers and colleagues.

Alan Shepherd retired from the Trust's Consultancy in 2018 after more than 20 years' service, and before that was a Trust volunteer on several reserves. He is a national expert on herpetofauna – amphibians and reptiles – and is known by colleagues as 'Mr Slow-Worm'.

The full citations are available from the Trust website.

WNCT Enterprises

This wholly owned independent company encompasses Worcestershire Wildlife Consultancy which provides independent ecological services to individuals and commercial clients. Profits from these services together with those from facilities hire and sales activities are covenanted directly to support the charitable activities of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust. To find out more please visit www.worcestershirewildlifeconsultancy.org

Council, Officers & Staff at 31st March 2020

Hon. Vice Presidents:

L. Butler
T. Carrick
G. H. Green
R. W. Stanton
G. Trevis
Professor G. Martin

Council of Trustees

John Blakiston – Hon. Treasurer
Richard Cory – Hon. Secretary
Robert Gillmor
Harry Green MBE – Hon. Officer
Christopher Greensmith
Dr Peter Holmes
Prof. Graham Martin – Vice Chair
Poppy Morris
David Mortiboys – Chair
Mervyn Needham – Hon. Officer for Conservation
Roger Pannell – Hon. Officer for Resources
Peter Scriven
Sandra Young

Staff Team

Julie Allen – Membership Officer
Robin Allen – Reserves Team Leader
Sian Bakewell – Grants Officer
Robin Bickley – Catchment Partnership Agriculture Advisor
Charlie Bird – Dropping Well Farm Project Development Officer
Steven Bloomfield – Senior Conservation Officer – Planning
Becky Bradshaw-King – Funding Development Officer
Becca Bratt – Assistant Ecologist
Liz Bunney – Hardwick Green Meadows Project Officer
Sadie Carr Simons – Engagement Officer, Campaigns and Events
Wendy Carter – Communications Lead
Moira Conn – Finance and Administration Assistant and Meetings and Conference Organiser
Caroline Corsie – Senior Land Advisor
Dominique Cragg – Western Reserves Officer
Joshua Evans – Senior Ecologist
Pauline Gardner – Administration Assistant
Andrew Harris – Northern Reserves Officer
John Hodson – Volunteer Squad Officer
Edward Lesczynski – Consultancy Manager
Michael Liley – Grasslands and Local Wildlife Sites Officer
David Molloy – Southern Reserves Officer
Jessica Nott – Catchment Partnership Agriculture Advisor
Nick Packham – Senior Engagement Officer
Mike Perry – Head of Resources
Colin Raven – Director
Eleanor Reast – Eastern Reserves Officer
Ben Rees – Engagement Officer – Youth
Daniel Roberts – Water Environment and Agriculture Officer
Marissa Ryland – Engagement Officer – Education
Laura Thomson – Finance and Administration Manager
Iain Turbin – Practical Land Management Officer
Jessica Vuckovic – Assistant Ecologist
Jasmine Walters – Natural Networks Officer
Sean Webber – Natural Networks Officer
Anne Williams – Membership Development Officer
Emily Williams – Catchment Partnership Agriculture Advisor
Helen Woodman – Head of Conservation
Emma Wurmlli – Volunteer Development Officer

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

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