London Natural History Society
(Charity Registration Number 206228)

Accounts
For The Year Ended 30th June 2023

Hentons
Chartered Accountants
Stag House
Old London Road
Hertford
Hertfordshire
SG13 7LA

LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

The Society's accounts are again presented on a Receipts and Payments basis, as permitted by the Charity Commission.

Receipts from members and supporters totalled £48,807 (compared with £23,645 last year) with the increase due to a legacy of £26,386 received in the year. This was given specifically towards the publication of results of research or survey sponsored by the Society, and is being held in a restricted fund for future projects meeting this definition. Subscription income decreased from £18,919 to £17,790.

In addition to this, further instalments of a grant awarded by The City of London Corporation were received during the year, totalling £3,338. The nature of this income is restricted, specifically for the purpose of the Hampstead Heath project for which costs were incurred in the year of £4,149. As at the end of the year this restricted fund had a balance of £4,751.

Total receipts were £61,502 compared with £45,392 last year.

Overall expenditure totalled £60,334 (compared to £37,932 last year) which included an investment of £20,000 made to the Charity's CCLA COIF Charities Fixed Interest Fund. Increases in the costs of Newsletters and mailing are prompting consideration of acceptable economies.

Despite a 7.5% fall in the value of the Charity's investment in its M&G Charibond Fund the overall value of the Society's investment assets increased by 2.9% as a result of the £20,000 further investment made during the year to its CCLA COIF Charities Fixed Interest Fund.

At the year end the total net assets of the Society as detailed in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities had increased by £12,733 to £352,679 compared with £339,946 last year.

Reserves Policy

The London Natural History Society may hold funds in the form of cash, stocks, shares, bonds, collective funds and other classes of investment deemed from time to time to be appropriate (hereafter 'the reserves'). The reserves will be held for the purpose of providing an income stream to support the Society's activities and publications, and maintain membership rates at affordable levels so as not to exclude people from the educational benefits of the Society, and to encourage increased and informed participation in wildlife recording activity.

Where income from the reserves is sufficient to meet these purposes the Society may make additional payments from the reserves to third parties to fund research and ecological study (with a particular emphasis on the London area) where such research is consistent with the objects of the Society.

The trustees may decide to use amounts held as part of the reserves to fund publications or other projects which further the Society's charitable aims.

The Society uses investments specifically set up for charities, which invest in bonds and deposits, and not directly in the equity of individual companies. Each of these funds has associated ethical policies, and the Society considers this is a prudent and proportionate means of balancing our financial needs and ethical concerns.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities – continued

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

b) observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

c) make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

d) state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

e) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
(Charity Registered Number – 206228)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of London Natural History Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the London Natural History Society ('the charity') for the year ended 30 June 2023 which comprise of receipts and payments and the statement of assets and liabilities.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no audit opinion on the accounts and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R J Sears FCCA
Hentons
Chartered Accountants
Stag House,
Old London Road
Hertford,
Herts,
SG13 7LA

Date: 29th SEPTEMBER 2023

LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
As at 30th June 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Monetary Assets					
Bank Balances:					
National Westminster current account			-		-
National Westminster reserve account			**28,562**		27,270
Cash in hand			**335**		459
			28,897		27,729
Investment Assets					
M&G Charibond			**123,886**		134,018
COIF Fixed Interest Fund			**195,431**		176,008
COIF Charities Deposit Fund			**4,465**		4,465
			323,782		314,491
Trade Creditor			-		(2,274)
Net Assets			**352,679**		£339,946
Funds					
Unrestricted			**321,542**		334,384
Restricted – Hampstead Heath Project			**4,751**		5,562
Restricted – Research/Survey Publication Bequest			**26,386**		-
Total Funds			**352,679**		£339,946

Approved on behalf of the Trustees on 25 September 2023

A E Wilson - Secretary

M J West - Treasurer

LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
For the year ended 30th June 2023

RECEIPTS	**2023**		**2022**	
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Receipts from Members and Supporters:				
Subscriptions		**17,790**		18,919
Donations		**881**		1,068
Restricted Legacy income		**26,386**		-
Tax recovered on Subscriptions and Donations under Gift Aid		**3,654**		3,552
Reading Circle receipts		**96**		106
		48,807		23,645
Sales:				
Journals		**693**		436
Other income:				
"The London Bird Atlas" - Royalty Income		**-**		65
Refund of contribution from the London Bird Club		**-**		264
Restricted Grant income – City of London Corporation		**3,338**		5,562
		4,031		6,327
Investment income:				
Charities Fixed Interest Fund	**4,597**		5,330	
Charities Deposit Fund Interest	**242**		8	
Income from M&G Charibond	**3,661**		2,565	
Bank Deposit Account Interest	**117**		8	
Interest on Gift Aid tax recovered	**47**		9	
		8,664		7,920
Asset and Investment disposals				
Disposal of COIF Investment		**-**		7,500
Total Receipts		**61,502**		45,392
Less: Total Payments (Page 6)		**(60,334)**		(37,932)
Net Receipts for the year		**1,168**		7,460
Cash at Bank and in Hand as at 1st July 2022		**27,729**		20,269
Cash at Bank and in Hand as at 30th June 2023		**£28,897**		£27,729
Unrestricted Net (Expenditure)/ Receipts		**(24,407)**		1,898
Restricted Net Receipts		**25,575**		5,562
Total Net Receipts for the year		**£1,168**		£7,460

LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT (Continued)
For the year ended 30th June 2023

PAYMENTS

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Meeting Costs, Sectional & General Expenditure:				
Lecturers' Fees and Expenses, Sectional Expenses etc.	**238**		466	
Reading Circle Journals	**432**		435	
Postage and Telephone	**64**		93	
Office Supplies and copying	**912**		1,176	
Services	**798**		611	
Independent Examiners' Fees	**1,980**		1,800	
Insurance	**2,130**		1,846	
Expense Allowance and Honoraria payment	**-**		59	
Paypal account charges	**150**		180	
		6,704		6,666
Publications:				
Printing and Expenses:				
London Naturalist No. 101	**4,464**		-	
London Naturalist No. 100	**-**		4,920	
London Bird Report 2022	**5,030**		-	
London Bird Report 2021	**-**		5,567	
		9,494		10,487
Programme	**994**		605	
Newsletters	**5,451**		3,101	
Mailing	**11,824**		7,108	
Publicity	**96**		-	
		18,365		10,814
Restricted Fund Payments – Hampstead		**4,149**		-
Publications/ Journal Sales expenditure		**557**		497
Library		**669**		1,608
Website costs		**396**		360
		40,334		30,432
Asset and investment purchases:				
Payment into M&G Charibond investment account		**-**		7,500
Payment into COIF Fixed Interest Fund		**20,000**		-
Total Payments for the Year		**60,334**		37,932