

LONDON BIRD CLUB
A section of the London Natural History Society

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the London Bird Club

Tuesday 10 November 2020 at 6.30pm, Zoom

- 1) Welcome and apologies for absence
- 2) Minutes of the last AGM
- 3) Reports from Officers
 - i) Chairman's Report Gehan de Silva
 - ii) LBC Accounts George Kalli
 - iii) Talks Gehan de Silva
 - iv) Field Meetings Shalmali Rao Paterson
 - v) London Bird Report Pete Lambert
 - vi) Library Committee John Boorman
 - vii) Rarities Committee Bob Watts
 - viii) Reading Circle Angela Linnell
 - ix) Twitter Donna Zimmer
 - x) Instagram Editor Pippa Jacks
 - xi) Other reports
- 4) Election of Committee Officers for 2021
- 5) Any Other Business

LONDON BIRD CLUB

A section of the London Natural History Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the London Bird Club

Tuesday 12 November 2019 at Burgh House, London, NW3 1LT at 6.30 pm

Chairman: Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne

Committee Secretary: Douglas Bilton

1) **Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed those present (23 people). Apologies had been received from Robin Blades, Shalmali Rao Paterson, Ian Woodward and Donna Zimmer.

2) **Minutes of the January 2019 AGM**

The Minutes of the last AGM were approved *nem con*.

3) **Reports from Officers** (*reports as presented; comments in italics*)

i) **Chairman's Report (Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne)**

Firstly, I would like to thank all of the committee members of the LNHS and LBC for their hard work and the LNHS members for their participation to keep the LNHS as one of the most active societies of its kind. As it is the AGM and we have time constraints, this report has been kept concise.

a) **Committee Changes**

Thomas Wingfield has stepped down as the LBC Representative on the LNHS Library and John Boorman, who was previously a Deputy Rep has accepted the role. Ian Woodward is stepping down as an ordinary member of the committee to focus on his work with the London Bird Report Editorial Board. Georgina Gemmell's work continues to keep her in Dubai and therefore the position of Talks Administrator is vacant. I will continue to organise the talks until a suitable replacement is found. I would like thank all outgoing committee members and welcome new comers to the LBC Committee.

b) **Talks Programme Sponsors**

The LNHS Council and the LBC Committee have approved Jetwing Safari Camp Yala and Serendipity Retreats joining John Beaufoy Publishing as sponsors.

c) **A Saturday of Wildlife with the London Wetland Centre**

The event held on Saturday 29 June 2018 was a great success. LNHS Council have approved the event being repeated on Saturday 27 June 2020 at the Swedenborg Hall with Jetwing Safari Camp Yala and John Beaufoy Publishing as sponsors for the costs of the venue. The

next event will comprise of 15 talks of 15 minutes each and already half other speakers have been confirmed.

d) Publicity and Participation

Thanks to the efforts of various committee members organising events and support by those who manage the LBC and LNHS social media channels (i.e. Twitter, Instagram, Meet Up), we have seen more attendance at events. It has also raised the profile of the LBC LNHS.

e) London Bird Atlas

The LBA is being used as the basis for an on-going series of tweets in a standard format to help publicise the LNHS.

ii) LBC Accounts (George Kalli)

These brief accounts of the financial affairs of the London Bird Club cover the twelve months from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 to coincide with the Society's financial year. Figures for the previous year are shown on the left-hand side of the page.

We began the year with an opening balance of £235.09 and received a grant from the Society's funds of £410.00, which was based on the estimate of the anticipated expenses for the coming year. The expenses make up the main part of this statement the bottom half of the page.

Lecturers' fees and expenses came to £375.00. Entry fees were £125.50.

Officers' expenses were higher than the previous year at £496.28. This covers reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Section Committee Secretary, relating mainly to printing and stationery, and expenses incurred by other Section Committee members.

Total expenses came to £871.28 leaving a balance at 30th June 2019 of £28.31 carried forward. If you have any questions please ask.

The Accounts are attached as Appendix 1.

The Chair suggested that 'Officers' expenses' be re-named to 'Expenses' so as to be clearer that this covered a range of different expenses relating to different Committee activities.

iii) Talks (Gehan de Silva)

I continue to organise the talks until a new post holder can be found. The programme has been organised well in advance with at present all but two of the talks for the 2020-2021 season already organised (see details below). Full details are posted on the Yahoo group and on the pdf available on the LNHS website. Attendance has improved with Burgh House being full at most talks. This may be due to a combination of the improved publicity and free admission sponsored by John Beaufoy Publishing, Jetwing Safari Camp Yala and Serendipity Retreats.

2019-2020 Programme

Tue 17 Sep 2019	Quentin & Honor Phillipps - Birds, Mammals & Butterflies of Borneo
Wed 16 Oct 2019	Tony Wileman - The Intriguing Dunnock
Tue 12 Nov 2019	Rob Sheldon - Unravelling Bird Migration
Wed 22 Jan 2020	Mark Pearson - Filey International
Wed 19 Feb 2020	David Lindo - How to be an Urban Birder
Wed 11 Mar 2020	Nigel Hicks - Birds and Wildlife of the Philippines
Fri 24 Apr 2020 Burgh House)	Dominic Couzens - Birding a Local Patch. (Joint event with MBS. Not at

2020-2021 Programme (Advance notice)

Wed 16 Sep 2020	Geoffrey Davison - Birds of Peninsular Malaysia
Tue 13 Oct 2020	Steve Portugal - Bird Flight & Co-operative Aerodynamics
Tue 10 Nov 2020	tbc
Tue 19 Jan 2021	Andy Sands - Secret Britain
Tue 16 Feb 2021	Jonathan Forgham, The Birds of the North Norfolk Coastal Footpath
March 2021	tbc

iv) Field meetings (Shalmali Rao Paterson)

Leader & Site	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Aug	Total
Andrew Peel						2
Brent Reservoir	1					
Staines Res. & Staines Moor					1	
Derek Coleman						1
Beddington Farmlands			1			
Francis Sullivan						1
Amwell Nature Reserve				1		
George Kalli						2
Crossness		1				
Foots Cray Meadows					1	
Joe Beale						1
Greenwich Park			1			
Neil Anderson						1
Ruislip Woods					1	
Pete Lambert						3
Cheshunt GPs		1				
Hyde Park & Kensington Gardens	1					
Rainham Marshes					1	
Richard Bullock & Gehan de Silva						1
London Wetland Centre				1		
Robin Blades						1
Totteridge/Darland's Lake			1			
Total	2	2	3	2	4	13

v) London Bird Report (Pete Lambert)

LBR 2017 was published in May 2019. This edition followed the 2019 British Ornithologists' Union for the order of species in the report and any changes to British and scientific names.

Apologies to John Archer for giving an old email address of his in the report.

Thanks to the many people involved in the collection of records, the writing up of accounts and papers, and the production team. Anyone wanting to help with the writing of species accounts, or help in any other way with the production would be very welcome. Any ideas for improving the report would also be very welcome.

vi) Library Committee (John Boorman)

I have very recently become the LBC Rep on the LNHS Library Committee and attended one meeting during the reporting year as deputy rep. At that meeting the only book mentioned of relevance to the LBC was the possibility of purchasing the RSPB Guide to Birdsong. A decision on this was deferred to await reviews or inspection. It was also noted that volumes



of the Collins New Naturalist series are routinely purchased, which would include the forthcoming volumes on Gulls and Garden Birds.

vii) Rarities Committee (Bob Watts)

The Rarities Committee continues to function effectively and the panel of members remains unchanged. Of interest along with Surrey Bird Club we have requested a BBRC review of the capital's one and only Sooty Tern record from Staines Reservoir in 1971. The BBRC are currently reviewing this.

viii) Reading Circle (Angela Linnell)

The LBC Reading Circle now has 14 members for 2019-2020, the same number as for the previous year. New members are always welcome. These journals are circulated for a small subscription: British Birds, Ibis, Dutch Birding, Scottish Birds and Ardea. Details can be found in the LNHS programme.

ix) Twitter (Donna Zimmer)

London Bird Club Twitter account has 5,204 followers an increase of 23 followers since my last report in September 2019.

The account continues to promote the use of the hashtag #londonbirds to share ornithological observations within the London Birds recording area and encourages users that use this hashtag by retweeting their tweets.

The John Beaufoy Publishing tweets promoting the London Bird Atlas receive good interaction and are retweeted by the London Bird Club. It is great to see new and increasing numbers of individuals also sharing their ornithological observations using #londonbirds

x) Instagram (Pippa Jacks)

Another 20 Followers in the last few months and continued good engagement, particularly on Bird Atlas-led posts (less strong on evening talk-led posts sadly – but hopefully it will come!). It's good to see some high-quality local photographers tagging London Bird Club and actively seeking out shares by London Bird Club.

xi) Other reports

Liz Andrew reported on the role of the LBR Papers Subcommittee, and Piotr Szota reported on his work as List Manager.

4) Election of Committee Officers for 2020

The following were elected *nem con*:

Position	Elected
Chairman	Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne
Secretary	Douglas Bilton
Treasurer	George Kalli
Talks Organiser	Vacant
Field Meetings Organiser	Shalmali Rao Paterson
Chair of London Bird Report Editorial Board	Pete Lambert
Representative on Library Committee	John Boorman
Rarities Committee	Bob Watts
Reading Circle Secretary	Angela Linnell
Twitter Master	Donna Zimmer
Instagram Editor	Pippa Jacks
Representative on LNHS Council	Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne
Ordinary Committee Members	Sally Middleton Nirosh Perera (2 Vacancies)

5) Any other business

There was no other business.

Appendix 1: London Bird Club accounts for the year ended 30 June 2019

London Bird Club Accounts
For the year ended 30th June 2019

2017/2018 £		2018/19 £
343.68	OPENING BALANCE	235.09
	INCOME	
520.00	Deposits	664.50
0.00	Interest	0.00
----- 863.68 -----		----- 899.59 -----
	EXPENSES	
218.50	Lecturers' fees and expenses	375.00
410.09	Officers' expenses	496.28
----- 628.59 -----		----- 871.28 -----
235.09	Balance carried forward at 30th June 2019	28.31
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NOTES: Deposits include :- 1) From Central LNHS funds 410.00
 Reading Circle receipts 129.00
 Entry Fees 125.50
 Total deposits 664.50

2) Officers' expenses include Reading Circle Subs. Payments
 of £348.50

Election of Officers for 2021

<i>Position</i>	<i>Nominees</i>
Chairman	Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne
Secretary	Douglas Bilton
Treasurer	George Kalli
Talks Organiser	Vacancy
Field Meetings Organiser	Shalmali Paterson
Chair of London Bird Report Editorial Board	Vacancy
Representative on Library Committee	John Boorman
Chair of Rarities Committee	Bob Watts
Reading Circle Secretary	Angela Linnell
Twitter Master	Donna Zimmer
Instagram Editor	Pippa Jacks
Representative on LNHS Council	Liz Andrew
Ordinary Committee Members	Sally Middleton Nirosh Perera Vacancy (2)