

CROYDON NATURAL HISTORY & SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY Ltd

BULLETIN

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CROYDON NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT for 2002

to be PRESENTED to the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
to be HELD on THURSDAY 24th APRIL 2003

The Directors have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2002. The Society was incorporated on 14 November 1967, under the Companies Acts, as consolidated by the Companies Act 1985, as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Society is also a registered charity. It traces its history continuously from the Croydon Microscopical Club (1870 - 1877), the Croydon Microscopical and Natural History Club (1877 - 1901), and the unincorporated Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society (1901 - 1967). The principal activity of the Society is, for the public benefit, the encouragement of the study of the natural and local history and archaeology of the Croydon area, by organising lectures, talks, discussions, exhibitions, field-excursions, and surveys; by issuing publications; by maintaining a library; and by maintaining or participating in the maintenance of a museum. These aims have been pursued, during the year, chiefly through our library accessions, meetings, museum work, and publishing programmes.

LIBRARY

Use of the library has increased this year, with a wide range of enquiries relating to many aspects of local geology, archaeology, local and natural history, and even psychology. A higher proportion of users have been Society members. Much use of the library has been made, in particular, in connection with archaeological, botanical, geological, local and industrial history and ornithological researchers in connection with planned publications. The card index system has been entirely overhauled by Christine Chin, and a substantial start made on filing a backlog of cards. Data from cards for selected topics are being extracted and stored electronically off site. The majority of library items, especially books, journals, maps and plans, and small pamphlets, can be found

(continued on page 2)

relatively quickly. Large pamphlets, however, have yet to be filed systematically, and are thus currently more difficult to locate.

Responses to enquiries which have required some research now often form the basis for additional titles in the *Croydon Bibliographies for Regional Survey* series, or in a new *Site Files* series. Very limited numbers of paper copies of these documents are circulated, but all are published on the Society's web site.

MUSEUM

Cataloguing of the palaeontology collections has continued. Loans of items for the East Surrey Museum display stimulated the transfer of additional records for the industrial archaeology collection to the computer. Re-housing the archaeology collection continues, and the Museum volunteers will shortly be working on the local Croydon material.

PUBLICATIONS and WEB SITE

Bibliographies, Bulletins, Programmes, and Site Files have been issued during the year. The Society's archives web site continues to be its main Web presence, at www.greig51.freemove.co.uk/cnhss and continues to attract enquiries.

EXHIBITIONS

The Society assisted the Wealden Cave and Mine Society with the loan of museum items for a temporary exhibition devoted, largely, to the archaeology and history of east Surrey's mines and underground quarries at the East Surrey Museum at Caterham, from January to May.

RESEARCH

In May the Botany and Geology Sections met, along with members of the Surrey Flora Committee, on Croham Hurst. Extra records were made both for the locations of uncommon plants, and the distribution of all plants. One member has been assisted with a planned book on the birds of east Surrey. Members of the Industrial Studies Section have continued work on an industrial archaeology guide for Croydon, intended to be published by the Surrey Industrial History Group, and have commenced submitting entries for the Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society's Industrial Archaeology database for London.

CONSERVATION and PLANNING

The Society, through its membership of the Association of Croydon Conservation Societies, contributes to Croydon's strategy for nature conservation and management of its open spaces. Croydon Council's Nature Conservation Consultative Panel has been succeeded by Greenlink, and has met three times in 2002. During the year we have commented on planning applications including

those for the grounds of Addington Palace, the proposed leisure complex on Metropolitan Open Land in South Norwood and the review of the Croydon Plan (formerly the Unitary Development Plan).

The Industrial Studies Section has advised Reigate & Banstead District Council on the archaeological value of the silver sand mines below Reigate Castle, and liaised with English Heritage concerning the review of this Scheduled Ancient Monument under that body's Monuments Protection Programme. English Heritage have confirmed that the mines form an integral part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

ACCOMMODATION

The Society continues to experience difficulty in realising its full potential within Croydon's cultural scene as a result of the lack of accommodation for its various activities at a single readily accessible location. It has, instead, to hire rooms at East Croydon for meetings, whilst leasing accommodation for museum work and storage at two locations, and owning the freehold of a fourth building where the library is stored. A proposal has been submitted to Croydon Council for the use of a part of the current Ashburton Public Library premises, when these are vacated, to allow library and museum functions to be brought together under a single roof.

FINANCE

The Society's Accounts and our Accountants' Report are appended, and show an excess of income over expenditure.

MEMBERSHIP

At 31 December 2002 there were 432 members, a decrease of 19 during the year. These included 276 ordinary, 89 associate, 38 life, 21 group and 8 honorary members. We regret to report the deaths of Sylvia Ashby, Roy Billington, Mary Pardoe, Dorothy Sarah Peake, Alan B.L. Reid (an Honorary Member), John Riley, John Sherwood (an Honorary Member), Aileen Turner and Barbara Whitley.

DIRECTORS and SECRETARY

During the year the Directors have been, Mr. E. Frith, Dr. J.B. Greig, Miss. B. Hawkins, Mr. B. Lancaster, Dr. J. McLauchlin, Mr. J.D. Matthews (until 10 June), Mr. J. Northam, Mr. T.P. Rainey (from 10 June), Mrs. E.N. Redshaw, Mrs. F.N. Rooks, Mr. A.H. Shaw, Mr. P.W. Sowan (also Company Secretary), Mr. B.J. Stocker, and Mr. R.E. Wheeler.

Jane McLauchlin

Brian Lancaster

President

P.W. Sowan Secretary

Approved by Council 17th January 2003

COMPANY SECRETARY

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital)

Income and Expenditure Account
For The Year Ended 31st December 2002

<u>Income</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Subscriptions	(2)	3,288	3,252
Sales	(3)	3,226	5,005
Sundry receipts		15	57
Income tax recovered on gift aid subscriptions and donations		472	501
Bank deposit account		5	9
Museum Without Walls – Tramlink Project		2,900	-
Reigate Stone Research Project		15	-
		9,921	8,824
 <u>Expenditure</u>			
Library		892	581
Meetings		3,099	2,869
Exhibitions		25	2,318
Insurance		999	1,141
Postage and telephone		545	543
Printing and stationery		1,208	1,721
Subscriptions to other bodies		529	527
Publicity		-	21
Proceedings	(4)	(413)	(782)
Sundry expenses		72	130
Auditors' remuneration		294	294
Museum Without Walls – Tramlink Project		-	4,944
Diminution of investments		68	30
Reigate Stone Research Project		-	65
Programs		709	-
		8,027	14,402
<u>Excess of income over expenditure/ (expenditure over income)</u>			
<u>carried forward to General Fund</u>		£ 1,894	£(5,578)
		=====	=====

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTANTS

To The Members of Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited

We have prepared, without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the books, records and information furnished to us and certify that they are in accordance therewith.

Cornwell Lord

Suite 1
78 High Street
Croydon
Surrey CR0 1NA

Cornwell Lord
Accountants

Date: *25th February 2003.*

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital)

Accounts
For The Year Ended 31st December 2002

CORNWELL LORD
Accountants

CROYDON NATURAL HISTORY and SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY LTD

Registered office: 96a Brighton Road, SOUTH CROYDON, CR2 6AD

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY 24 APRIL 2003

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Society for the year 2002 will be held in the David Sweet Hall at East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon, on Thursday 24 April 2003, commencing at 19.45.

The AGENDA is printed below.

After the formal business meeting, refreshments will be served. There will then follow the Presidential Address of Dr. Jane McLauchlin entitled ..

Ancient woods in Croydon

Brian Lancaster
Secretary

Paul W. Sowan
Company Secretary

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To receive, consider, and (if approved) to adopt the Directors' Report, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Accounts, and the Accountants' Report for the year 2002, all of which documents are included herewith
3. To consider and (if approved) to adopt the motion 'that nominations for election be considered en bloc' [Should the number of valid nominations received exceed the number of vacancies to be filled, this motion will be withdrawn; in that case, or if the motion be put but not carried, names will be considered individually]
4. To elect the President, the four Vice-Presidents, the several Officers, and no fewer than five nor more than ten Ordinary Members of Council for 2003/2004 [Nominations, which may be made only for and by fully paid up Ordinary, Life, or Honorary Members, should reach the Secretary at the Society's Office no fewer than seven days before the meeting; each such nomination should be accompanied by a statement signed by the nominee certifying her or his willingness to stand for election; non-members, Associates, and Group Members may neither nominate nor be nominated, nor may they take any part in the formal business of the meeting; a list of all validly nominated eligible candidates for election will be circulated at the meeting; should the number of nominations be equal to or fewer than the number of vacancies, those persons validly nominated and eligible to serve will be declared elected unopposed]
5. To appoint Accountants for 2003 / 2004, and to authorise the Council to fix the Accountants' remuneration.

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
11) <u>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</u>		
Subscriptions in advance	290	296
Sundry creditors	294	293
Provision for proceedings	924	926
	-----	-----
	£ 1,508	£ 1,515
	=====	=====
12) <u>General fund</u>		
Balance at 1 st January 2002	13,643	18,777
Add: income over expenditure/ (expenditure over income)	1,894	(5,578)
donations	226	444
	-----	-----
Balance at 31 st December 2002	£15,763	£13,643
	=====	=====
13) <u>Bennett Memorial Fund</u>		
Balance at 1 st January 2002	27,263	26,391
Add: grants received	191	224
dividends	2,136	2,426
bank deposit interest	11	13
	-----	-----
	29,601	29,054
Less: rates and rent	1,032	905
electricity	484	408
depreciation of furniture and equipment	275	325
depreciation of Chipstead building	88	87
Bennett collections	47	66
repairs and renewals	229	-
	-----	-----
	2,155	1,791
	-----	-----
Balance at 31 st December 2002	£27,446	£27,263
	=====	=====
14) <u>C C Fagg Memorial Fund</u>		
Balance at 1 st January 2002	44,378	40,627
Add: dividend	3,471	3,731
bank deposit interest	17	20
	-----	-----
Balance at 31 st December 2002	£47,866	£44,378
	=====	=====

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

		<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
7)	<u>Stocks</u>		
	Resales	1,038	924
	Book I	157	159
	Book II	7,763	8,209
	Book III	25	30
	Book IV	78	100
	Book V	2,073	2,139
	Book VI	2,769	3,006
	Book VII	5,178	5,527
	Book VIII	9,282	10,759
	'At the Going Down of the Sun'	1,609	1,616
	'Croydon Church Townscapes'	3,129	3,132
	Tram posters	9	9
	Croydon flora	21	21
	Postcards	599	668
		-----	-----
		£33,730	£36,299
		=====	=====
8)	<u>Debtors</u>		
	Sundry debtors	2,154	3,512
		-----	-----
		£ 2,154	£ 3,512
		=====	=====
9)	<u>Investments</u>	<u>Market Value</u>	
	4471 M & G Charibond	5,857	5,000
	8242 Charifund units	75,445	17,048
	917 9 ¾% Treasury Stock 2002	-	951
	4221 8 ½% Treasury Stock 2007	4,953	4,016
	930 5% Treasury Stock 2008	963	-
	National Savings Bond	5,000	5,000
		-----	-----
		£ 92,218	£32,015
		=====	=====
10)	<u>Cash at bank</u>		
	Abbey National deposit account	5,000	5,000
	Bank current account	6,936	2,097
	Bank deposit account	11,120	6,087
		-----	-----
		£23,056	£13,184
		=====	=====

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>		
4) <u>Proceedings</u>				
Sales	(413)	(782)		
	-----	-----		
	£(413)	£(782)		
	=====	=====		
5) <u>Government grants</u>				
Government grants were included in the Bennett memorial Fund of £191 (2001-£224). Deferred government grants of £1,081 (2001-£1,271) will be included in the Bennett memorial Fund in future years.				
6) <u>Fixed assets</u>				
	<u>Freehold Premises at 96a Brighton Road</u>	<u>Demountable building erected on leasehold land, Chipstead Valley</u>	<u>Furniture and equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
At cost	1,046	2,625	13,276	16,947
on 01/01/2002	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
on 31/12/2002	1,046	2,625	13,276	16,947
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Depreciation				
as at 01/01/2002	-	2,449	11,438	13,887
charge for year	-	88	275	363
	-----	-----	-----	-----
on 31/12/2002	-	2,537	11,713	14,250
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Net book value				
on 01/01/2002	£1,046	£ 176	£ 1,838	£3,060
	=====	=====	=====	=====
on 31/12/2002	£1,046	£ 88	£ 1,563	£2,697
	=====	=====	=====	=====

No figure has been brought into the balance sheet in respect of the library, scientific instruments and exhibits. A valuation of library books was made for insurance purposes in June 1983 and amounted to £29,450 and the contents of the Society's rooms are insured for a total of £82,100. The Society's premises at 96a Brighton Road, South Croydon are insured for a sum of £50,000.

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1) Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. The following accounting policies have been applied and are in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to spread the cost of the following assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Demountable building	3 1/3 rd per annum on cost
Furniture and equipment	15% per annum of written down value

Stocks and investments

Stocks and investments are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Government grants

Government grants received in respect of expenditure charged to the income and expenditure account during the year have been included in the income and expenditure account. The remainder are deferred and will be included in the income and expenditure account by instalments over the expected useful lives of the related assets at the following rates:

Computer	15% per annum of written down value
----------	-------------------------------------

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
2) <u>Subscriptions</u>		
Current	3,238	3,192
Arrears	50	60
	-----	-----
	£3,288	£3,252
	=====	=====
3) <u>Sales</u>		
Net book sales:-		
Book I	7	3
Book II	303	251
Book III	17	6
Book IV	60	83
Book V	101	129
Book VI	244	343
Book VII	313	549
Book VIII	1,933	3,054
'At the Going Down of the Sun'	7	6
'Croydon Church Townscapes'	4	22
Miscellaneous items	118	126
Postcards	119	433
	-----	-----
	£3,226	£5,005
	=====	=====

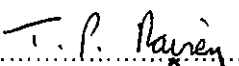
Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
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Balance Sheet As At 31st December 2002 (cont'd)

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that:

- i) the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985; and
- ii) the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company as at 31st December 2002 and of its income and expenditure account for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of Section 226, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 21 February 2003

Treasurer:  P Rainey

Company Secretary:  P W Sowan

Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee Without Share Capital)

Balance Sheet As At 31st December 2002

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
<u>Fixed assets</u>	(6)	2,697	3,060
<u>Current assets</u>			
Stocks	(7)	33,730	36,299
Debtors	(8)	2,154	3,512
Investments	(9)	32,027	32,015
Cash at bank and in hand	(10)	23,056	13,184
		-----	-----
		90,967	85,010
<u>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</u>			
Other creditors	(11)	(1,508)	(1,515)
		-----	-----
<u>Net current assets</u>		89,459	83,495
		-----	-----
Total assets less current liabilities		92,156	86,555
<u>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</u>			
Deferred government grants		1,081	1,271
		-----	-----
<u>Net assets</u>		£91,075	£85,284
		=====	=====
<u>Financed by:</u>			
General fund	(12)	15,763	13,643
Bennett Memorial Fund	(13)	27,446	27,263
C C Fagg Memorial Fund	(14)	47,866	44,378
		-----	-----
		£91,075	£85,284
		=====	=====

The exemption conferred by Section 249A(1) not to have these accounts audited applies to the company and the directors confirm that no notice has been deposited under S249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985.