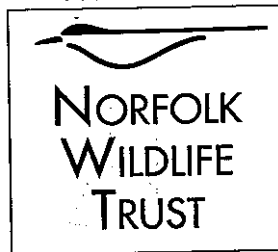
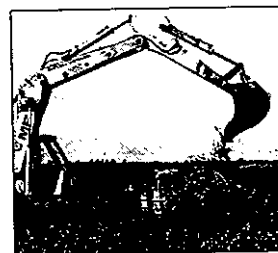


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Working for Wildlife

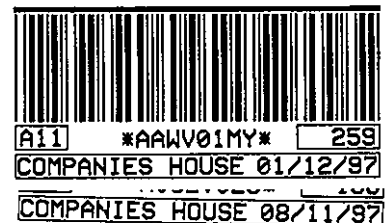


ANNUAL REPORT

of

NORFOLK NATURALISTS' TRUST

1996/97



Report of the Council of Trustees of Norfolk Wildlife Trust (registered as The Norfolk Naturalists' Trust)

The Council, being the Trustees and Directors of Norfolk Wildlife Trust, presents its report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 1997. In setting out the following report and statements, the Council has followed the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) as set out by The Charity Commission.

Legal and Administrative Information

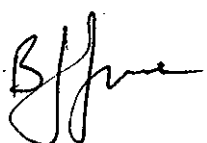
Norfolk Wildlife Trust is registered as The Norfolk Naturalists' Trust and is a registered charity (No. 208734) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 217338). The principal and registered office of the Trust is 72 Cathedral Close, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 4DF.

The objects of the Trust are set out in its Memorandum of Association. The principal activities for the year were in pursuance of the objects for which the Trust was formed, namely, to advance the conservation of wildlife and wild places in Norfolk for the public benefit. Details of the Members of Council, Officers and Staff are given on page 12.

The Council is required by Statute to prepare financial statements and a report of activities for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust. In preparing the Trust's financial statements, the Council confirms that it has:

- a) selected suitable accounting practices and applied them consistently
- b) made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- c) followed applicable accounting standards
- d) prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

The Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. It is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

 FOR & ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL

Review of Activities in 1996/7

1. *Seventy Years of Protecting Norfolk's Wildlife and Countryside*

When Dr Sydney Long and his colleagues collaborated to acquire Cley Marshes nature reserve in 1926 it was necessary for them to form a special organisation named The Norfolk Naturalists' Trust. They were without doubt people of vision and determination, but even they could not have planned for or predicted the way in which the Wildlife Trust's movement would develop over the ensuing 70 years. Norfolk is the oldest of 47 Wildlife Trusts which now cover the whole of the UK and Cley Marshes was the first of over 2,200 nature reserves in the care of the Wildlife Trusts. We remain a proudly local and independent organisation, our strengths lying in what we can achieve, quite literally, on the ground for the benefit of Norfolk's wildlife. But we are also proud of our association with other wildlife trusts with whom we work to develop a co-ordinated approach to nature conservation at a regional and UK level.

This report focuses on activities undertaken by Norfolk Wildlife Trust in the period 1 April 1996 to 31 March 1997, but it is appropriate to reflect for a moment on what is now being achieved after seventy years of development. We now manage 38 nature reserves covering more than 2,500 Ha. We are also actively involved in the management of other sites, such as Buxton and Marsham Heaths, Upgate and Alderford Commons and, most recently, Grimes Graves. With over 16,000 members, and 1,000 active volunteers, the Trust has grown to become a powerful force for Norfolk's wildlife. We operate four visitor centres and welcome an estimated 250,000 visitors to our reserves every year. As well as managing nature reserves, we seek to prevent threats to wildlife in the wider countryside by contributing to local plans and strategies and commenting on developments which might be harmful to wildlife.

Over the years the Trust has built up a picture of hundreds of sites which, although not officially designated, are very important for wildlife in a local context. Known simply as "Wildlife Sites" they represent the most important remaining refuges for much of Norfolk's wildlife outside of designated nature reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Their existence and sympathetic management is therefore vital to the health of the County's future biodiversity. Last year the Trust completed a three year project to re-survey some 1,200 Wildlife Sites. This project represents a major advance in conservation in the wider countryside. The work was supported by Norfolk County Council and English Nature as well as the District Councils for Breckland, Broadland, Gt. Yarmouth, King's Lynn & West Norfolk, North Norfolk, Norwich and South Norfolk.

Education has grown to form a core part of our work, and thousands of school children and students visit our reserves each year, particularly at Hickling and Ranworth Broads where in 1996 we developed new education programmes which contribute to the requirements of the National Curriculum.

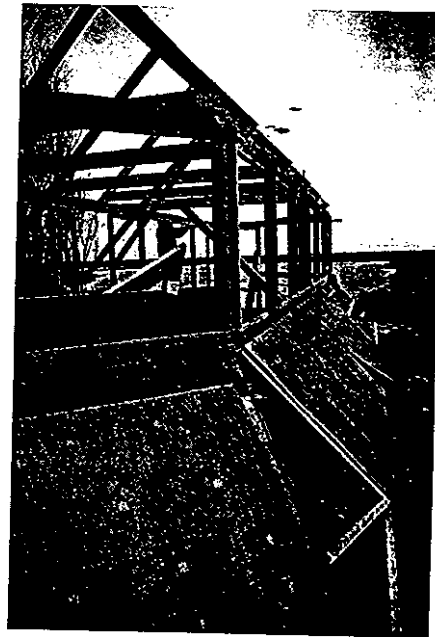


The Trust is a very different organisation to that formed by Dr Sydney Long and his colleagues back in 1926, but it still retains the essential characteristic of voluntary effort through the dedication of people who give their time and expertise freely in all aspects of the Trust's work. This has built up to an estimated 7,000 volunteer days per annum. Many opportunities are created through the network of local groups who collectively organise over 250 walks, talks and events every year. Through their local activities and contacts, the Trust remains a truly grass roots organisation.

2. Progress on Nature Reserves

Cley Marshes

The start of our 70th anniversary was dominated by the aftermath of the sea floods at Cley. The initial clear up operation was completed before the start of April and the new Daukes Hide and boardwalk were ready in time for the visit by HRH The Prince of Wales on 20 March 1996. Since then, the boardwalks have been replaced and strengthened, fences and gates have been rebuilt and three further hides have been built. New toilet facilities have been incorporated into the visitor centre. The Sydney Long Appeal raised £102,772 (£41,917 of which was received in 1996/7) with £25,422 coming from members and the public whilst the remainder was provided by corporate sponsors, charitable trusts and private donors including Anglian Water, The Buxton Family, The Norfolk Coast Project, The Abbey National Charitable Trust, BT Access for All, and most especially the Kate Walker Trust. The subsequent Disaster Appeal raised £72,933. As a result, much more has been achieved than would otherwise have been possible. At the end of the financial year, total expenditure on the Sydney Long Project exceeded income by £3,595 whilst £55,731 remained of the Disaster Appeal to be retained for future use. This will be allocated to further repair work, interpretation at the visitor centre and observation hides and landscape improvements. It has been proposed to set aside £25,000 as a contingency for future work at Cley.



Another major project at Cley Marshes included the creation of a new reedbed area as part of the Bittern Project, supported by Anglian Water's Care for the Environment Award Scheme and the EU "LIFE" programme.

Hickling Broad National Nature Reserve

Hickling Broad National Nature Reserve has been the focus of much attention in the year. This is the largest and most complex of our nature reserves, covering approximately 550 Ha. The annual reed harvest continued as usual, with some 4,600 bundles being cut and sold. Work began on the construction of a new filter system to remove ochre contamination from the main feed dyke. This was supported with a grant of £1,800 from the Environment Agency. A new grazing regime was also introduced in order to improve management of the fens whilst 1 Ha of scrub was removed from an area of mire. Plans were finalised for the start of a project to raise water levels on the Hundred Acre area in order to restore reed beds and redundant dykes, create areas of open water and provide ideal feeding habitat for bitterns.

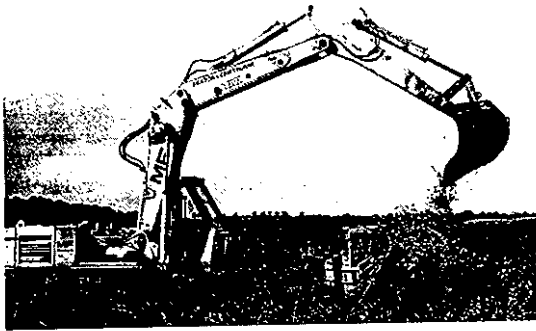
During the summer, the Trust hosted a visit from the Quaker International Student Programme (QUISP). This resulted in a great deal of useful work being undertaken, including the refurbishment of a boat landing stage and the building of a boardwalk over a particularly wet area. We are grateful to the Sarnia Charitable Trust for supporting us with this work. A great many other management tasks were carried out, enabled particularly from the ongoing support of English Nature and the Broadland Authority.

Two major pieces of planning work were undertaken. The first was the production of a comprehensive new management plan for the reserve which will guide management objectives for the next five years. The second was an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a three year programme of habitat restoration, improvements to the landscape and enhancement of visitor facilities. At the time of writing we have learnt that the application has been successful. This will provide a welcome injection of £373,500 from Lottery funds towards a total project cost of £497,900.

Other Broadland Sites

At Upton Fen, the Trust has been undertaking a large scale scrub clearance programme as well as restoring reedbeds and raising water levels. Similarly, scrub clearance work has taken place at Catfield Fen and Smallburgh Fen and Ranworth Broad. This work has helped to restore reed and sedge beds for the benefit of Broadland wildlife.

Roydon Common National Nature Reserve



A considerable effort has been put in at Roydon Common which contains one of the most important lowland bogs in England. Work has concentrated on removal of some 2 Ha of scrub in order to restore and protect the valley bog with all its rare and spectacular plants and insects. Work has also been undertaken to improve the heathland areas through bracken control. We are particularly grateful for the support provided by Dow and Kings Lynn & West Norfolk District Council for conservation work at Roydon.

Holme Dunes National Nature Reserve

At Holme Dunes, a new wetland area has been created to provide feeding and breeding habitat for bitterns. This has involved expenditure of £7,200 with the support of grants from English Nature and the Environment Agency. Careful management of the grazing marshes has resulted in a very successful year for breeding lapwing. The threats of sea flooding have been a major preoccupation as the dune system has been subjected to substantial erosion from high tides. The Trust has worked with the Environment Agency to explore ways of protecting the reserve from possible floods.

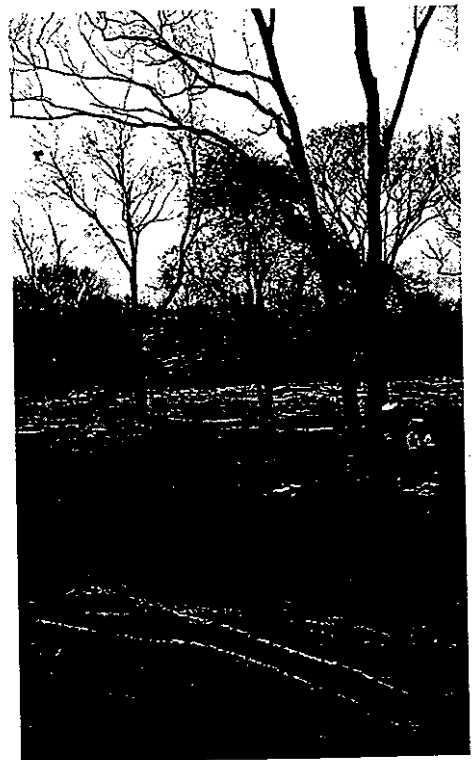
Other Nature Reserves in West Norfolk

At Syderstone Common a project aimed at protecting the natterjack toad has involved pond restoration and scrub clearance. Similar work has been carried out at East Winch Common.

Woodlands and Heathlands

Foxley Wood has continued to be the operational base for our woodland and heathland work. Work to restore traditional coppicing has been undertaken in further areas and this has been augmented by the introduction of charcoal production. Similarly, at Hoe Rough, some 3 Ha of scrub has been cleared to restore the open grassland community, the resulting timber being sold for firewood. Woodland management work has also been carried out at Wayland, Honeypot and Thursford woods resulting in the provision of 4,000 brushwood bundles for use by the Environment Agency in river bank revetments.

Restoration work at Buxton Heath, Marsham Heath and Ugate Common has been rewarded by the re-establishment of heathland plant communities and the return of breeding nightjars and woodlarks. This work has been made possible through Countryside Stewardship. Heathland reversion work commenced on an arable site adjacent to Cawston Heath. At Buxton Heath, 3.2 km of perimeter fencing was installed with the support of £12,500 from English Nature. This will enable the reintroduction of traditional grazing patterns essential to achieving sustainable management of the site. An additional project to aid the conservation of the silver-studded blue butterfly there, was supported by Eastern Group plc.



Our heathland and woodland work has generated a great deal of cut material which was converted to wood chip. We have been developing the potential to sell this for use as garden mulch and path dressing.

Breckland

Major scrub clearance work was undertaken at Thompson Common, New Buckenham Common, East Wretham Heath, Hockham Fen and Thetford Heath. This work was supported by an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) capital grant of £3,000 along with support from English Nature's Species Recovery Programme. In total, over 4 Ha of scrub were cleared.

At New Buckenham Common, a new arrangement was established with the Common Rightholders Association to enable a more sustainable grazing regime for the site, whilst East Wretham Heath benefited from restoration of 10 Ha of heathland.

At Weeting Heath an increased input into wardening was rewarded by one of the best breeding seasons for stone curlew with 6 pairs breeding successfully. Work also began on planning a new purpose built centre to provide visitor information and accommodation for the summer warden.

3. New Nature Reserves

The Trust seized the opportunity to acquire one hundred acres of reed fen adjacent to the River Bure near the village of Horning. Known as Ebb and Flow Marshes, the site was previously owned by the Church Commissioners and has benefited from restoration work carried out by the Broads Authority. The Trust purchased the site for £53,500 with the help of National Heritage Memorial Fund, English Nature, the Broads Authority, The Alan Evans Memorial Fund and The Esme Fairbairn Charitable Trust. The site will continue to be managed in partnership with the Broads Authority.

During the year we adopted a more proactive land acquisition policy, believing that ownership remains an important facet of achieving nature conservation objectives. The policy also seeks to extend and consolidate existing reserve holdings, but addresses the need to secure additional funds not only for purchasing land but also for ensuring its ongoing maintenance.



4. Grazing Management

Grazing animals are an essential management tool on many of our grassland and heathland reserves. As well as operating a number of grazing licenses, we have our own flock of 250 sheep. Fondly known as the Flying Flock, the sheep are deployed to various sites throughout the county. Work was undertaken to investigate longer term grazing requirements on some reserves, including the possibility of installing perimeter fencing where appropriate to enable the re-establishment of traditional grazing as a means of securing sustainable management. Our Heathland Appeal was launched to help provide funding for the grazing operation. At the end of the year around £5,250 had been raised, well short of our target of £30,000. However, we submitted an application for Organic Aid Premium which would help towards sustaining the grazing operation. This application has been successful, with funding commencing in 1997/8. Meanwhile, the Flock continued to receive support from Norwich Union and 120 dedicated supporters.



5. Biodiversity Action

During the year we continued to work closely with other partners such as Norfolk County Council, RSPB, English Nature, The Environment Agency and many individual experts to develop Biodiversity Action Plans for 28 species and 10 habitat types identified as national priorities. The plans will enable the targeting of resources and co-ordination of action to protect and enhance some of the County's rarest wildlife. As part of this process NWT has been nominated as the Lead Partner at national level responsible for implementing the action plans for fen orchid and Norfolk flapwort. We have continued conservation work to encourage fen orchid as part of English Nature's Species Recovery Programme.

It is vital that we raise awareness of Biodiversity Action amongst key individuals and organisations. To that end we assisted with a special conference organised by Norfolk County Council to promote Biodiversity Action to over one hundred representatives from the public, private, voluntary and agricultural sectors. The conference was a great success and it is hoped to develop a strategy for the county along with a network to disseminate news and information to all those with a commitment to contributing to the process.

Related to our work on Biodiversity Action, we appointed a Sites and Species Officer in July 1996 to take forward our strategy and advisory work on County Wildlife Sites. This was supported by a £10,000 contract from English Nature. The project entailed the production of a comprehensive strategy to guide work over the next five years. This involved consultation with 28 other organisations with an interest in Norfolk's wildlife and countryside. As well as undertaking over 50 site visits in the year, the project has also focused on key species such as otters and water voles. A major project was undertaken with the support of the Environment Agency and Essex and Suffolk Water to survey all the rivers in Norfolk to establish the presence and distribution of otters. This has resulted in a major report and work was commenced on a similar exercise for water voles.

Action for Bitterns was undertaken on reserves to increase the quality and quantity of breeding and feeding habitat for this endangered species. This included projects at Holme Dunes, Cley Marshes, Hickling Broad and Martham Broad and was supported by the EU "LIFE" programme as well as by Anglian Water, RSPB, The Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust, The Environment Agency and English Nature.

6. Education

Education activity has increased substantially in the year with the establishment of a new Education Resources Officer. The main targets have been to develop and support education activities on nature reserves by providing professional standard education resources and promoting our education



services to schools, colleges and other establishments. This work has been promoted under our NeWT (Education in Norfolk Wildlife Trust) programme, which has received major support from Rhône-Poulenc Agriculture Limited with additional support from The Ernest Cook Charitable Trust and Norwich Town Close Estate Charity. Outputs have included the complete revamping of the contents and resources related to education work at Ranworth and Hickling Broads, the production of a new brochure outlining our services for schools and reproduction of the Broadland education pack. We have also produced new reserves leaflets for our seven most visited reserves.

Support from Sedgwick has been directed at developing wildlife areas in school grounds. This has involved an information pack distributed to over 300 schools and follow up visits to some 45 schools to advise and assist with their wildlife areas.

Wildlife Watch, the junior arm of the Wildlife Trusts, received a fresh boost from Essex and Suffolk Water who supported in particular the development of a new Watch group for Great Yarmouth.

7. Membership

1,722 new members were recruited in the year. This slightly exceeds recruitment in the previous year. Recruitment at the most visited reserves was down on the previous two years mainly due to the poor spring suppressing visitor numbers. However this was compensated for by recruitment of new members via the Trust's news journal *Tern* with one issue gaining one hundred new members alone.

8. Natural Investors in Norfolk's Wildlife

Corporate membership increased by twenty members in the year bringing the total to 62. The subscription rate remained the same as in previous years at £250 plus VAT. A list of the members is given below.

AgrEvo Crop Protection Ltd	Eastern Counties Newspapers Group Ltd	Norwich Union
Amoco Services Inc	Eastern Group plc	Notcutts Garden Centre
Anglian Group PLC	Ennemix Construction Materials Ltd	Overbury Steward and Eaton
Anglian Water Services Ltd	Ernst & Young	Phillips Petroleum Company UK Ltd
Arco British Ltd	Essex & Suffolk Water	Post Office Counters
Atlas Aggregates Limited	Eversheds	Property Partnerships plc
Bailey's Delicatessen	Fakenham Laundry Clean	R G Carter Limited
Barker Bros Aggregates Ltd	Florida Group Ltd	Redland Aggregates Limited
Ben Burgess Garden Equipment	Francis Hornor Brown & Co	Rhône-Poulenc Agriculture Limited
Bernard Matthews PLC	Friends' Provident	Royal Mail Anglia
Blakes Holidays Ltd	Hoseasons Holidays Ltd	Savills
British Sugar plc	In Focus	Seaweld Engineering Limited
Bussey and Sabberton Bros Ltd	J & H Bunn Ltd	Sedgwick
Clippesby Holidays	J S Hay Ltd	Shell U.K. Exploration & Production
Cox's Boatyard	Jarrod & Sons Ltd	Sinclair International Ltd
Crane Fruehauf	Kent Blaxill & Co Ltd	Stills
Crisp Malting Group Limited	May Gurney Holdings Ltd	The Co-operative Bank plc
Crop Care Holdings Ltd	Mills & Reeve	The National Grid Company plc
Crowes of Norwich	Myson Pumps	Ward Gethin
Dow Chemical Company Limited	Norfolk Lavender Ltd	White Lodge Properties Ltd
East Anglian Pharmaceuticals Ltd	Norwich & Peterborough Building Society	

9. Visitor Centres

Increased emphasis was placed on the development of the Trust's four main visitor centres. This included the installation of new interpretation boards at Ranworth Broad Conservation Centre and improvements at Cley Marshes, Holme Dunes and Hickling Broad, the latter being supported by Shell Expro and Countryside Commission. This work will continue in subsequent years to ensure that our centres provide a focus for information on our conservation and education



work. A new strategy for interpretation and information within our centres and on reserves was developed for implementation when resources are available.

10. Fundraising and Promotion

The Trust is dependant on funding from a wide variety of sources to carry out its vital conservation and education work. Many of our sources of support have already been referred to, but a number of other activities were undertaken in the year to maximise the level of funding to support our work. In partnership with Suffolk Wildlife Trust, a number of overseas wildlife holidays were organised via a dedicated team of experts in the wildlife of the locations visited. The holidays have proved immensely popular with members from a number of Wildlife Trusts and are highly educational as well as enjoyable and raised £5,386 for Norfolk's wildlife. The efforts of our eight local members groups also proved fruitful. A wide variety of talks, fundraising events and visits are organised each year by the groups providing a rich vein of interest and involvement for our members whilst succeeding to raise £4,850 for conservation projects. The 250 Club continued to be popular, thanks to the tireless voluntary efforts of Mr Ken Williams, resulting in a contribution of £6,500 towards conservation work.

Various other events were organised throughout the year, including an annual plant sale, thanks to the kind hospitality of Mrs Janie Foulkes. The "Cycle for the Broads" event saw a successful second year and we organised major stands at the Royal Norfolk Show and Sandringham Show. We were very grateful for the hospitality of Mr and Mrs E Trafford and Mr and Mrs T R E Cook for hosting two very memorable events celebrating the support of a number of key partners and corporate supporters.

It is essential to maintain a high profile to ensure our presence and activities are recognised in the community. To this end a great deal of publicity was achieved in the year on television, radio and in the regional newspapers. Key items included our 70th Anniversary, our work at Cley Marshes, Water for Wildlife, and a number of conservation projects. In particular, our partnership with Eastern County Newspapers over the production and dissemination of our wildlife journal *Tern* continued successfully so that it is not only received by members, but is also distributed to some 80,000 households, thus spreading our message to a wider audience and giving us the opportunity to attract more support and participation.

11. The Business End

The Trust has grown into a complex and professional organisation which needs to be managed effectively and efficiently. Behind the scenes, a new emphasis has been placed on developing business management and organisational systems. This has included improvements to financial management and control systems with the introduction of a three year budget planning cycle, a new purchase order system and the development of new accounts and payroll systems. New budget management procedures are to be implemented in 1997.

We have given considerable attention to Health and Safety issues with the introduction of a new policy and management framework for Health and Safety, the adoption of a Child Safety and Welfare Policy and the development of risk and COSHH assessments covering all our sites and activities. We are proud of a virtually accident free record in the year, especially given the nature of our work and the number of people involved, but we must not rest on our laurels; legislation and regulations are continually evolving in this area and the Trust will continue to strive towards high standards in the interests of all those involved in our work.

Other areas which have received attention include the use of information technology, improvements to our estate management systems, a revised annual performance review system for staff, recruitment guidelines, improved communications and initial work on the development of a new strategic plan for the organisation.

In general, we can proudly report a very successful and extremely busy year. Expenditure has been contained within the income available in the year and we have finished the year with a modest surplus whilst carrying forward income in restricted and designated funds for future use. We have presented our accounts and report in a new format to comply with The Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP2). The introduction of a development programme for three years is enabling the implementation of key projects, developments and capital items to increase conservation effectiveness and fundraising ability. This programme is utilising some of the Trust's reserves and has also enabled the additional leverage of funding from other sources.



12. Thankyou

We are fortunate to have received so much support in the year from such a wide variety of sources, too numerous to mention in this report. On behalf of Norfolk's wildlife and wild places we extend a very big thank you to all concerned, but in particular to the many thousands of members and volunteers without whom we would simply not exist. Please keep it up, Norfolk's wildlife needs you more than ever!

Brendan J Joyce BSc
Trust Director and Company Secretary
For and on behalf of Council.

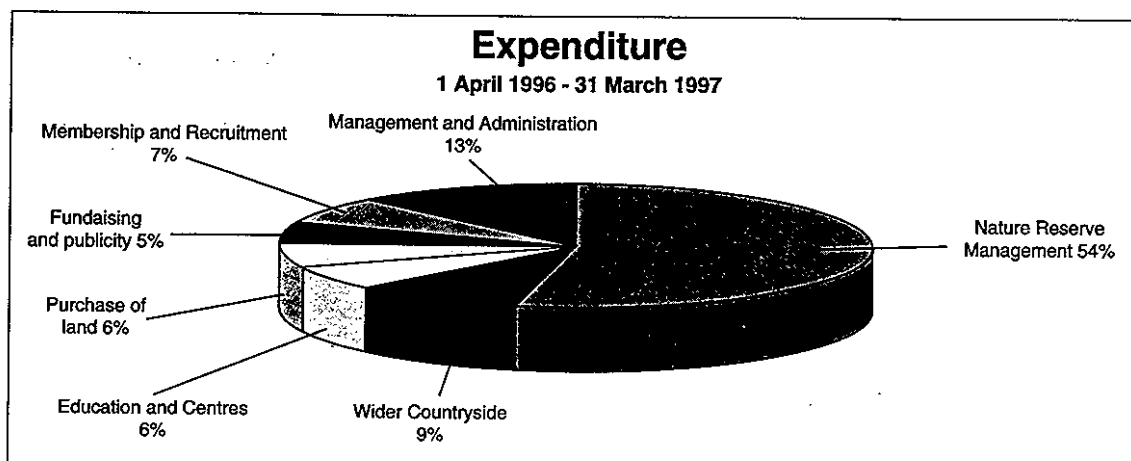
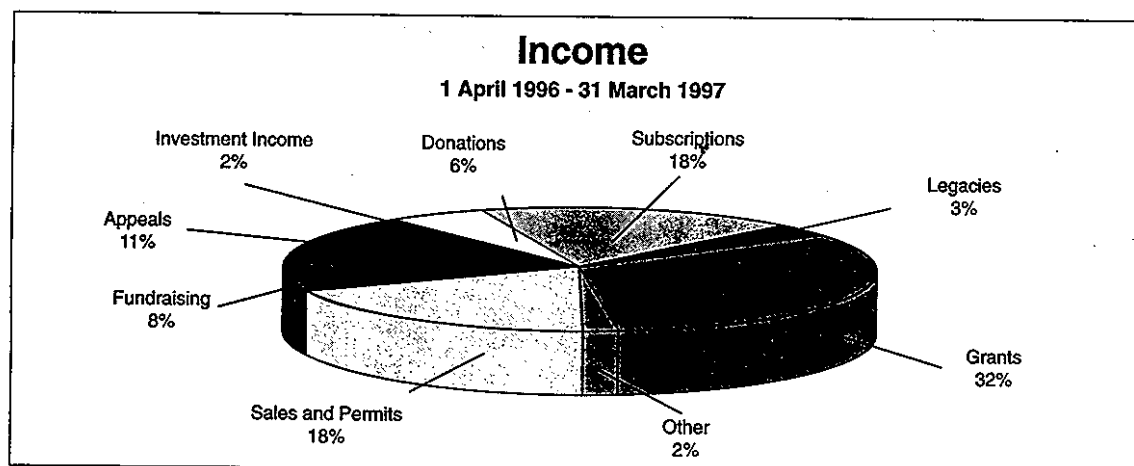
Review of Financial Position

1. Results

The financial results for the period are set out in the following financial statements (pages 14-18). There was a small surplus on general funds of £398. There was an overall surplus of income over expenditure of £108,567. This was contained within designated and restricted funds as described in Notes 11 and 12 to the Accounts and is to be carried forward for future use on a number of ongoing conservation projects and activities.

Income exceeded that of the previous year by £166,214 due to an increase in general donations and permit sales, increased income from individual and corporate members, receipts for the Cley Disaster Appeal, grants towards the purchase of Ebb and Flow Marshes, increased income for projects, improved fundraising and the purchase of fixed assets (capital equipment).

Expenditure exceeded that of the previous year by £64,588 due mainly to increased expenditure on projects, land purchase and education activities, although general operating expenditure was reduced. Resources were directed mainly to nature reserve management, work in the wider countryside and education. Management and Administration costs include the costs of running the Trust's offices.



2. Fixed Assets and Investments

The movements in fixed assets during the period are shown in Note 7 to the Accounts, the most substantive change being due to the acquisition of capital equipment. As from 1 April 1996 a depreciation policy was introduced on tangible fixed assets on the basis set out in Note 1 to the Accounts. Movements in investments are shown in Note 8 to the Accounts. All investments held by the Trust have been acquired in accordance with the powers available to the Trustees as set out in the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association.

3. Changes in Accounting Policies

The main changes in accounting policies have been due to the effects of adopting the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and, therefore, the presentation of the Accounts. In particular, the Accounts now distinguish between unrestricted funds and restricted funds as defined in Note 1 to the Accounts. In accordance with SORP, income received in the year for activities which have not yet taken place has not been deferred, but shows in the surplus on the income and expenditure account. This surplus will be committed to ongoing projects contained under restricted funds. The other substantive change has been in the way legacies are treated, with all income received now being shown in the year of receipt rather than being credited to the general funds over a three year period as before. The balance of £60,993 from previous years has now been transferred to the general funds. (See Note 12 to the Accounts). Other accounting policies remain unchanged.



4. The Wildlife Trusts (RSNC)

Norfolk Wildlife Trust continues to work as a partner and corporate member of RSNC (The Wildlife Trusts) along with the other 46 Wildlife Trusts around the country. A "capitation charge" or levy is exercised as part of that membership, being calculated on the basis of our own membership subscriptions. For the period, the levy charged was £16,178.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the Trust has undertaken a number of new projects, as described in the review of activities, whilst maintaining expenditure within the resources available. It can be confirmed that the Trust has had sufficient assets available to meet its obligations against all projects and activities, with sufficient assets to meet those project obligations which are being carried forward.

Ian Couzens ACA
Treasurer
For and on behalf of Council

NORFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

	Note	General Funds £	Unrestricted Funds Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
General donations		53,291	4,000	1,355	58,646	38,002
Legacies		31,045	-	-	31,045	42,788
Subscriptions		185,295	-	-	185,295	172,250
Fundraising and sponsorship		14,861	-	64,003	78,864	69,984
Income for purchase of fixed assets		-	-	15,504	15,504	0
Cley Sydney Long Project		-	-	41,917	41,917	60,268
Cley Disaster Project		-	-	72,933	72,933	9,199
Voluntary Income		284,492	4,000	195,712	484,204	392,491
Grants	6	-	-	284,722	284,722	301,664
Net income of shop sales	2	11,816	-	-	11,816	14,387
Reserve sales, contracts, consultancy, rents		59,691	6,470	58,456	124,617	99,591
Investment income		23,486	-	-	23,486	23,485
Profit on sale of assets		690	2,911	-	3,601	5,620
Permit sales		54,822	-	-	54,822	42,242
Purchase of Ebb and Flow Marshes		-	-	57,115	57,115	-
Other income		224	-	1,312	1,536	225
		<u>150,729</u>	<u>9,381</u>	<u>401,605</u>	<u>561,715</u>	<u>487,214</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>435,221</u>	<u>13,381</u>	<u>597,317</u>	<u>1,045,919</u>	<u>879,705</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE						
Nature reserve management		121,462	8,695	372,287	502,444	515,700
Wider countryside management		28,526	-	56,555	85,081	103,477
Education		12,011	-	6,251	18,262	9,706
Visitor centre management		38,580	-	750	39,330	-
Purchase of Ebb & Flow Marshes		-	-	55,938	55,938	-
		<u>200,579</u>	<u>8,695</u>	<u>491,781</u>	<u>701,055</u>	<u>628,883</u>
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Fundraising and publicity	3	48,373	-	2,278	50,651	47,230
Membership servicing and recruitment		67,841	-	-	67,841	71,928
Management and Administration		121,213	-	-	121,213	128,131
		<u>237,427</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,278</u>	<u>239,705</u>	<u>247,289</u>
Total resources expended		<u>438,006</u>	<u>8,695</u>	<u>494,059</u>	<u>940,760</u>	<u>876,172</u>
Net incoming resources before transfers		(2,785)	4,686	103,258	105,159	3,533
Transfers between funds		(225)	225	0	0	50,731
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES	(3,010)		4,911	103,258	105,159	54,264
Gains and losses on investment	8	-	-	-	-	-
Gains/(losses) on disposal of investments		3,408	-	-	3,408	12,362
Unrealised gains on revaluation of investments		22,640	-	-	22,640	4,067
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>23,038</u>	<u>4,911</u>	<u>103,258</u>	<u>131,207</u>	<u>70,693</u>
Balances b/fwd at 1.4.96		1,168,040	0	0	1,168,040	1,097,347
Balances c/fwd at 31.3.97	11	1,191,078	4,911	103,258	1,299,247	1,168,040

* In the year ended 31 March 1996 the cost of managing visitor centres was included in nature reserve management.

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997


Note	Year Ended 31.3.97 £	Year Ended 31.3.96 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Gain/(loss) on disposal of investments	1,045,919	879,705
	3,408	12,362
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1,049,327</u>	<u>892,067</u>
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		
3	701,055	628,883
OTHER EXPENDITURE		
3	239,705	247,289
SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD	<u>108,567</u>	<u>15,895</u>
Unrealised gains on revaluation of investments		
	22,640	4,067
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>131,207</u>	<u>19,962</u>


BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 1997

	Note	31.3.97 £	31.3.96 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	589,590	558,251
Investments	8	393,964	395,856
		<u>983,554</u>	<u>954,107</u>
Current Assets:			
Stock		50,291	37,219
Debtors	9	247,577	173,511
Cash in hand and at bank		189,493	178,756
		<u>487,361</u>	<u>389,486</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due in less than one year	10	171,668	175,553
Net Current Assets		<u>315,693</u>	<u>213,933</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,299,247</u>	<u>1,168,040</u>
Restricted Funds	11	103,258	-
Unrestricted Funds	12		
General Fund		1,079,688	1,079,290
Designated Funds		4,911	-
Revaluation Reserve		111,390	88,750
		<u>1,299,247</u>	<u>1,168,040</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 4 July 1997

TRE Cook and D Dorling
Members of the Council


J Couzens
Honorary Treasurer


D.A. Dore

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation: The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention except for the revaluation of freehold properties and investments, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The recommendation of SORP (Accounting by Charities) as published in October 1995 have been followed in the preparation of the accounts.

Voluntary Income: Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is credited to the income and expenditure account on a receipts basis. Tax refunds on covenant income are however accrued.

Grants Received: Revenue grants are credited to the income and expenditure account on a receipts basis unless they relate to a specified future period, in which case they are deferred. Grants received for the acquisition of a fixed asset are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable. Depreciation on the fixed asset purchased is charged against the restricted fund.

Restricted Funds: Restricted funds are those where the donor has imposed restrictions on the use of funds.

Unrestricted Funds: Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charity.

Designated Funds: Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Realised and Unrealised Gains and Losses: Realised gains and losses arise on the disposal of investments whereas unrealised gains and losses arise on the annual revaluation of the investment portfolio.

Investment Income: All investment income is credited according to the date of receipt.

Expenditure: All expenditure other than that which has been capitalised, is included in the income and

expenditure account. Account is also taken of goods and services received at the year end but not invoiced until after this date.

Fixed Assets: Fixed assets are stated at original cost at acquisition, or if donated, the value at date of receipt.

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which is set at five years for computers, three years for computer programmes, five years for vehicles, five years for small equipment and ten years for large equipment. No depreciation is charged on nature reserves or freehold property.

The additional capital cost of new conservation land is written off to general funds, as it does not have a financial value to the Trust.

The depreciation policy came into effect on 1 April 1996. Therefore the comparison figure of year ended 31 March 1996 contains no depreciation. Previously the full cost of a fixed asset was charged to the income and expenditure account in the year of purchase.

Stock: Stock for resale is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Pensions: The Trust operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the income and expenditure account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Cash Flow Statements: The Trust has taken advantage of the exemption provided by Financial Reporting Standard 1 and has not prepared a cash flow statement for the year.

Life Membership: Life membership is treated as income in advance and is released to the income and expenditure account in equal instalments over a ten year period.

2. NET INCOME OF SHOP SALES

	Year Ended 31.3.97 £	Year Ended 31.3.96 £
Turnover	67,704	80,396
Cost of Sales	<u>37,103</u>	<u>48,339</u>
	30,601	32,057
Other costs	18,785	17,670
Net Profit	<u>11,816</u>	<u>14,387</u>

3. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Staff Costs £	Depreciation £	Auditors Remuneration £	Other Costs £	Total £
Nature Reserve Management	247,518	2,534	-	252,392	502,444
Wider Countryside Management	71,773	-	-	13,308	85,081
Education	11,992	-	-	6,270	18,262
Visitor Centre Management	26,528	-	-	12,802	39,330
Purchase of Ebb and Flow Marshes	-	-	-	55,938	55,938
Fundraising and Publicity	30,950	5	-	19,696	50,651
Membership Servicing and Recruitment	10,917	-	-	29,706	40,623
Natural World and RSNC Levy	-	-	-	27,218	27,218
Management and Administration	66,458	262	1,950	52,323	120,993
Stubb Mill	-	-	-	220	220
	<u>466,136</u>	<u>2,801</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>469,873</u>	<u>940,760</u>

Management and Administration includes the total cost of running Headquarters

Management and Administration other costs of £52,323 include the following:

Rent and Rates	15,010
Heat and Light	1,719
Telephone and Post	6,147
Professional Fees	5,398
Office Expenses and Stationery	7,673
Other Expenses	<u>16,376</u>
	52,323

4. SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD

This is stated after charging:-	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
Depreciation	2,801	-
Auditors remuneration	1,950	1,100

5. STAFF COSTS

	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
Wages and Salaries	436,629	366,303
Social Security Costs	33,509	28,108
Pension Costs	<u>11,129</u>	<u>5,101</u>
	481,267	399,512

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the year was: 45, (1996: 40)

The Trustees have received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses

6. GRANTS RECEIVED

	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
English Nature	111,609	83,442
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	78,708	57,826
Broads Authority	45,608	43,809
Norfolk County Council	15,000	10,200
Forestry Authority	14,948	6,704
North Norfolk District Council	6,000	-
Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	4,120	11,088
Breckland District Council	4,000	10,000
Broadland District Council	3,663	-
Countryside Commission	772	29,101
Environment Agency/National Rivers Authority	250	7,000
Norfolk Coast Project	44	354
European Commission	-	36,220
South Norfolk District Council	-	5,920
	<u>284,722</u>	<u>301,664</u>

7. FIXED ASSETS

	Nature Reserves £	Freehold Property £	Vehicles £	Equipment & Machinery £	Computers & Programmes £	Pictures £	Total £
Value as at 1 April 1996	1	558,000	-	-	-	250	558,251
Additions	55,938	-	8,000	23,600	2,540	-	90,078
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Transfer to General Funds	(55,938)	-	-	-	-	-	(55,938)
Value as at 31 March 1997	1	558,000	8,000	23,600	2,540	250	592,391
Depreciation charge for the period	-	-	1,200	1,344	257	-	2,801
Net Book Value at 31 March 1997	1	558,000	6,800	22,256	2,283	250	589,590
Net Book Value at 31 March 1996	1	558,000	0	0	0	250	558,251

During the year an amount of £3601 was made on the sale of fixed assets. The assets sold had been charged to the income and expenditure account in the year of purchase and therefore held no value in the accounts.

Freehold property was revalued on 31 March 1994 by Francis Hornor, Chartered Surveyors.

On an historical cost basis, the freehold property and nature reserves would have been included at £1,096,054 (1995/96 = £1,040,116) including conservation land written off.

The Net Book Value at 31 March 1997 represents Fixed Assets used for:

Direct Charitable purposes	1	558,000	6,800	22,256	-	-	587,057
Management Administration	-	-	-	-	2,283	250	2,533
	1	558,000	6,800	22,256	2,283	250	589,590

8. INVESTMENTS

Value at 1 April 1996	395,856
Additions	3,807
Disposals	(28,339)
Unrealised increase in value	22,640
Value at 31 March 1997	393,964

All investments are quoted on the London Stock Exchange and comprise the following:

	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
Fixed Interest Stocks	155,461	151,184
Unit Trusts	79,566	95,226
Investment Trusts	102,975	53,177
Equities	55,962	96,269
	393,964	395,856
Historical cost at 31 March 1997	282,896	289,917

9. DEBTORS - FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
Grants receivable	101,243	85,249
Tax recoverable	29,945	14,619
Prepayments	2,130	265
Other debtors	114,259	73,378
	247,577	173,511

10. CREDITORS - FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Year ended 31.3.97 £	Year ended 31.3.96 £
VAT and Social Security	15,793	13,135
Deposited Deed of Covenants	726	1,168
Life Membership	12,827	13,790
Breckland Project	69,265	32,167
Deferred Income	200	53,023
Other Creditors	72,857	62,270
	171,668	175,553

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 1.4.96 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Balance 31.3.97 £
Sydney Long Project	-	41,917	(45,512)	(3,595)
Cley Disaster Project	-	72,933	(17,202)	55,731
Ebb and Flow Fund	-	57,115	(55,938)	1,177
Fixed Asset Fund	-	15,504	(1,160)	14,344
Education Fund	-	15,751	(12,251)	3,500
Reserves Management Fund	-	320,929	(306,079)	14,850
Wider Countryside Fund	-	59,310	(51,142)	8,168
Other	-	13,858	(4,775)	9,083
	0	597,317	(494,059)	103,258

As at 31 March 1996 balances of £14,501 had been received for Sydney Long Project and £27,842 had been received for Cley Disaster Project. These amounts were deferred in the accounts of the year ended 31 March 1996 and therefore do not show as opening balances on the Funds.

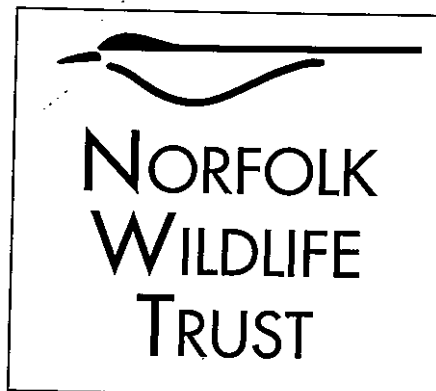
<u>Sydney Long Project</u>	Capital work related to the hides and boardwalk at Cley Nature Reserve
<u>Cley Disaster Project</u>	Capital work related to repairs and improvements arising from floods in February 1996
<u>Ebb and Flow Fund</u>	Purchase of Ebb and Flow Marshes
<u>Fixed Asset Fund</u>	Monies received from grants and corporate sponsors for the purchase of fixed assets. To be written down as assets are depreciated.
<u>Education Fund</u>	Comprises project activities related to our NeWT programme
<u>Reserves Management Fund</u>	Comprises various conservation management projects which are not part of the annual maintenance work on reserves.
<u>Wider Countryside Fund</u>	Includes projects (such as Country Wildlife Sites and Otter Survey work) which are essentially taking place off the Trust's nature reserves
<u>Other</u>	Incidental projects not applicable to above categories.

12. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 1.4.96 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfer between Funds £	Balance 31.3.97 £
Designated Property Fund	0	6,470	(6,695)	225	0
Designated New Buckenham Fund	0	4,000	(2,000)	-	2,000
Designated Harrison Picture Fund	0	2,911	-	-	2,911
General Fund	1,018,297	407,584	(438,006)	91,813	1,079,688
Revaluation Reserve	88,750	22,640	-	-	111,390
Legacy Equalisation Fund	60,993	31,045	-	(92,038)	0
	1,168,040	474,650	(446,701)	0	1,195,989

13. ANALYSIS OF GROUP ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 1997 are represented by:			
Fixed assets	565,429	24,161	589,590
Investments	393,964	-	393,964
Current assets	316,796	170,565	487,361
Current liabilities	(80,200)	(91,468)	(171,668)
	1,195,989	103,258	1,299,247



***Norfolk Wildlife Trust is working for the survival
of Norfolk's Wildlife and Countryside.***

With 16,000 supporters and 1,000 volunteers it is the county's largest charity dealing with every aspect of local wildlife.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust was founded by Dr Sydney Long with the purchase of the 407 acres of Cley Marshes in March 1926. The Trust now has 38 nature reserves in Norfolk, covering 2,500 hectares and including 9 Norfolk Broads, 5 ancient woodlands and 10km of coastline.

250,000 people and more than 200 schools visit these nature reserves every year.



Norfolk Wildlife Trust is the oldest in a nationwide network of 47 trusts working together to protect wildlife in town and country. Through their care of 2,000 nature reserves the Wildlife Trusts are dedicated to the achievement of a UK richer in wildlife, managed on sustainable principles.

To find out more about Norfolk Wildlife Trust and how you can join as a member contact:-

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