

FINANCE

Thanks to the Royal Society grant and loan, and the good advice of our recently retired Treasurer, Bryan Murray, we have managed to run the Group's affairs on the £5 subscription for several years. However, the twin scourges of inflation and expansionism (to say nothing of increased postal charges) are now demanding attention. We now need member's advice on how to proceed. Steve Sutcliffe, our new (acting) treasurer sets out the figures below and suggests some possible courses of action. Some points are obvious. Despite demand we cannot expand the Bulletin in 1982 - in fact we must seek economies. If the subscription remains the same, the Bulletin must shrink drastically. If you wish to continue with a similar sized Bulletin (with perhaps a little expansion) and a stable subscription for two, perhaps three, years, we suggest a subscription of £10 per annum, commencing January 1983. (We are now reaching a stage where some good material will have to be turned away because of lack of space.) If you want the Bulletin to expand you will have to pay more! If you want the increase in subscription to be less, then you must advise us how to reduce the size of the Bulletin, i.e. which items to omit!

The matter will have to be decided at the Annual General Meeting in October 1982. Meanwhile we should like as many members as possible to complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to M.W.Pienkwocki by 30 June 1982. We can then formulate a proposal which seems likely to meet your wishes. If there appears to be a division in the ranks a suitable postal ballot may be organised for the August Bulletin; otherwise final decisions can be made at the AGM.

G.H.Green (Chairman)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Like many bodies relying on subscription income the Wader Study Group is in a potentially difficult financial situation and faced with a variety of choices during 1982 and into 1983, to balance the books.

The situation is best described by showing some figures (deficits in parentheses):-

| | <u>1981</u> | <u>1982</u> | <u>1983</u> | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Accumulated Fund at 31/12/80 | 236 | 186 | (464) | |
| Income 1981 - Subs | 2054 | 2000 | 3200 | (assuming 400 members @ £8) |
| Bulletin | 210 | 200 | | |
| Bank Interest | 119 | | | |
| | <u>2619</u> | <u>2386</u> | <u>2737</u> | |
| Costs of Bulletin production | 2433 | 2850 | 2944 | |
| Accumulated Fund @ 31/12/81 carried forward | £ 186 | (£ 464) | (£ 208) | |
| | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |
| | | Note 1 | | |

Note 1 We have assumed a 10% increase in the cost of Bulletin production plus the cost of reprints (£170) that may be sold - income perhaps £200.

The situation is clear. We shall spend more than we expect to receive in the current year, and even an £8 subscription in 1983 would not recover the situation. Another increase would probably be necessary in 1984. Calls for a larger Bulletin would increase costs again - i.e. 5 double sided pages cost approximately £1.50 per annum per member.

Possible solutions:

- (a) Increase subscriptions to £10 (how many members would leave?)
 - (b) Reduce the size of the Bulletin.
 - (c) Seek advance payment of subscriptions (we can invest the money)
- and, of course, members may have other ideas?

The committee requires members' views and would appreciate the return of the enclosed brief questionnaire by 30 June 1982.

S.J.Sutcliffe (Acting Treasurer)

BREEDING WADER SURVEYS

Do not forget the two WSG/BTO/RSPB/SOC/NCC surveys of breeding waders (see WSG Bull. 33:1-2). For more details, write to: (For Scottish survey) Hector Galbraith, 96 Neilston Road, Paisley, Strathclyde PA2 6EL, Scotland; or (for England & Wales) Ken Smith, British Trust for Ornithology, Beech Grove, Tring, Herts HP23 5NR, England.

CURRENT COLOUR-MARKING SCHEMES

Projects listed in the WSG register of colour-marking schemes, covering the Old World (or wader populations which may migrate to the Old World) were given in full in WSG Bull 33 (pp.22-25). Further schemes registered since then are:

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Scotland (Dr. R.W.Summers, MAFF, Tangley Place, Worpleston, Surrey) dye.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Salisbury, Zimbabwe; & Port Alfred, S.Africa (A.J.Tree, 101 Lomagundi Road, Greencroft, Salisbury, Zimbabwe) colour rings.