

The recent subscriptions increase

Setting a subscription level is always a problem for the WSG officers. On the one hand the *Bulletin* editors have always tried to publish all material which they receive, whilst at the same time the Treasurer has tried to balance the books and forecast for several years ahead costs might be incurred.

Increasing production costs of the *Bulletin* and rises in UK postage rates has meant a choice had to be made between either reducing the number of pages per issues or raising the subs in order to continue to produce *Bulletins* of 40 pages plus.

The proposal of a subscription rate of £17 for individual members and £45 for Institutions was proposed and voted acceptance by the WSG AGM in Texel. With *Supplements* also supplied free to members we feel membership of the WSG is still very good value for money !

Sending subscriptions and other monies to the WSG from abroad

In the last two years the fees for negotiating foreign cheques have risen alarmingly and to such an extent that the banks fee and the negotiating agents fees may exceed the value of the cheque.

The problem is that our subscription sum is very small in the normal banking scene and unless we have a build up of large numbers of cheques from one country the negotiation fee is excessive. This means of course that the Group has to stand the fee.

With this problem in mind I recently had an interview with our bank manager and the practical solutions are fairly simple :

IN EUROPE - if you have a bank account get a EUROCHEQUE from your bank and fill it in to the *Wader*

Study Group as a normal cheque but in

UK currency and NOT in your own currency or in dollars. We do not pay any fee on banking Eurocheques and you should only pay the same sum as a normal cheque out of your account - although there are some regional and local differences in treatment.

OUTSIDE EUROPE (that is USA, Canada, Australia, South America - EVERYWHERE ELSE - the cheapest way is for you to send CASH through the post. Yes, I said CASH. It transpires that the exchange fee for any currency is so small that it is insignificant and all, or at least most, of the WSG transactions are very small (to the banks!!). The UK postal system is so reliable that this is almost certainly the best way forward. It is very unlikely that your money will get lost in the post.

WHAT ABOUT POST OFFICE GIRO?

Well I recently tried to send money to Europe and found that the cost had recently increased from £5 per transaction to £15 which is stupid for small amounts. If your Post Office is charging you large sums to transmit money to the UK then send us CASH in future.

I hope this will help the Group to sort out something about which many members have been asking recently. It seems stupid to send cash through the post and we are all told not to from an early age but with efficient postal systems and the relative anonymity of each envelope I am sure that this is the best way forwards.

One last thing - send your money to Rodney West and always say what it is for and who has sent it so that he can keep his records straight.

Steve Sutcliffe, WSG Treasurer

WSG Annual General Meeting 1992

The 1992 WSG Annual General Meeting will be held at 0900 hrs on Saturday 5 September 1992 during the annual conference at Hajduszoboszlo, Hungary. The full agenda will be published in Bulletin 65 in August 1992.

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF OFFICER

The Chairman, Dr M.W.Pienkowski, has indicated his intention to retire from the post. The Executive Committee therefore propose the election of the following Officer:

Chairman: Dr G.C. Boere

Alternative nominations for the officer list listed above and for ordinary members of the Executive Committee may be any members of the *Wader Study Group*. Nominations must be signed by the proposer and seconder and must include a signed statement by the candidate indicating that they are willing to stand. All these people must be paid up members of the *Wader Study Group*. Nominations should be sent to the General Secretary, Petra de Goeij, to arrive by 30 July 1992.

