



Long-eared Owl by Darin Smith

**Treasurer's Report**

The charity made a deficit of £13,321 during the year following a small increase in expenditure to £227,679 (2006 - £226,037). Income from charitable activities has remained stable and an increase in visitor numbers has resulted in an increased subsidy from Muncaster Visitor Management.

Legacy funding received in the prior year has enabled the Trust to build four new aviaries in the Owl Garden, upgrade the lighting to the exhibition space, sponsor a publication of papers to accompany the World Owl Conference to be held in the autumn of 2007

in Holland, obtain telemetry equipment, relocate and rebuild the kite aviary, print membership leaflets and fund a research project on little owls. The Trust also purchased a data projector and equipment for its education tours and talks.

The charity has a satisfactory financial position with net assets of £190,308 at 31 March 2007 of which £130,190 has been designated for future projects.

A full set of the statutory accounts is available from the website or by post on request to the World Owl Trust office.

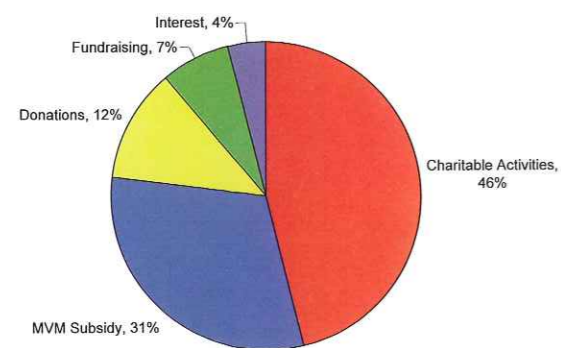
**Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31 March 2007**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2007 £	Total Funds 2006 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generating funds:				
Voluntary income	87,852	-	87,852	192,497
Activities for generating funds	13,383	-	13,383	4,504
Investment income	10,169	-	10,169	5,117
Incoming resources from charitable activities	93,927	-	93,927	94,367
Other incoming resources	9,027	-	9,027	8,165
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>214,358</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>214,358</b>	<b>304,650</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Costs of generating funds:				
Costs of generating voluntary income	(5,724)	-	(5,724)	(661)
Charitable activities	(217,869)	-	(217,869)	(223,252)
Governance costs	(4,086)	-	(4,086)	(2,124)
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>(227,679)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(227,679)</b>	<b>(226,037)</b>
<b>NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>(13,321)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(13,321)</b>	<b>78,613</b>
Transfer between funds	2,524	(2,524)	-	-
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(10,797)</b>	<b>(2,524)</b>	<b>(13,321)</b>	<b>78,613</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
Total funds brought forward	201,105	2,524	203,629	125,016
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>190,308</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>190,308</b>	<b>203,629</b>

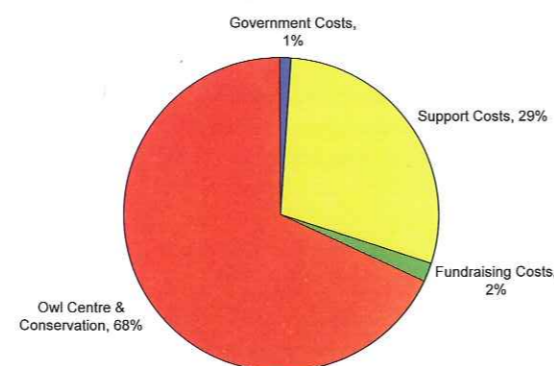
**Balance Sheet - 31 March 2007**

	2007		2006	
	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Intangible assets		10,000		10,000
Tangible assets		1,976		2,951
		<b>11,976</b>		<b>12,951</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Stocks	4,500			
Debtors	6,882			1,447
Cash at bank	181,173			196,993
	<b>192,555</b>			<b>198,440</b>
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(14,223)</b>			<b>(7,762)</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>178,332</b>		<b>190,678</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>190,308</b>		<b>203,629</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>190,308</b>		<b>203,629</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>				
Restricted income funds				2,524
Unrestricted income funds		190,308		201,105
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>190,308</b>		<b>203,629</b>

**Income 2006 / 2007**



**Expenditure 2006 / 2007**



[www.owls.org](http://www.owls.org)

**Patrons**

Lord Forteviot  
Prof David Bellamy OBE  
Bill Oddie OBE  
Terry Nutkins  
Linda Wain

**Honorary President:** Tony Warburton

**Council**

Chair: Jenny Thurston  
Company Secretary: Clive Mojonnier  
Treasurer: Vacant  
Council Members: Kevan Palmer, Terry Evison, Alan Peace

**Owl Centre Staff**

Chief Executive: Barbara Powell  
Collection Manager: David Armitage  
Head Keeper: Raedwulf Ingham  
Senior Keeper: Michelle Denwood  
Keeper: Trystan Williams  
Conservation Officer: Sue Thurley  
Office Supervisor: Jennifer Lewin  
Book-keeper: Hazel Watson  
Admin. Assistant: Dawn Jackson

**Ethical Review Committee**

Ian Hunter BVS, MRCVS  
Olive Copson

**Voluntary Staff**

Assistants to Keepers: John Stevens, Terry Evison, Val and Steve Beck, Nikki Hartley, Sophie Ramster, Amanda Lewin, Richard Lewin, Jill Mojonnier, Clive Mojonnier, Grahame Smith, Joyce Boocock, Viv Smith, Heather Croft, Mark Fishpool, Ruth Snowden  
Fundraising: Fred Johnson, Shaun Sloan, Dave Sloan  
Office Assistants: Shaun Sloan, Dave Sloan  
Nest Boxes: Shaun Sloan, Dave Sloan  
Web Site Administration: Shaun Sloan, Dave Sloan

**Chairman's Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007**

The past year has been a very active one for the Trust with staff roles expanding as the Trust has developed.

The Executive Committee has continued to meet monthly and this has proved successful in creating an intermediary line of communication between the Trust staff and the Board. Those Trustees on the Executive Committee are more in touch with daily happenings at the Trust and are able to identify any problems which may occur and offer support to our Chief Executive. This also enables Council Meetings to be conducted more efficiently as many smaller items are dealt with by the Executive.

The Trust, following a rigorous inspection, is now a member of the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA). The annual conference and AGM of EAZA is hosted by a different country each year and in 2006 this was held in Madrid. David Armitage, the WOT's Collection Manager represented the Trust at this event.

Another overseas event attended by WOT representatives was the 1st European Congress for Conservation Biology held in Hungary. Our Conservation Officer gave a paper on behalf of the World Owl Trust and one of our Board of Trustees also attended.

In October, the Trust played host to the Hawk and Owl Trust Members' Conference at Muncaster which was attended by 50 HOT delegates. This was a lively event and much information was exchanged.

**Special Award**

In February, our Honorary President and Founder of the Trust, Tony Warburton travelled to Houston, Minnesota to be inducted into the World Owl Hall of Fame and to receive the International Champion of Owls award. He was accompanied by our Company Secretary, Clive Mojonnier.

**Donations and Legacies**

Once again I would like to thank everyone who supports the Trust by giving donations towards our work and remembering us in their wills. The Trust could not continue with its conservation work without this vital help. We have been particularly fortunate in the last year to receive legacy money and following are some examples of how we have used these precious funds: purchase of a data projector and equipment for our education tours and talks, new aviaries in the Owl Garden, revamped lighting to improve the Owl Centre entrance, telemetry equipment to monitor the release of owls into the wild, relocation and rebuild of the red kite aviary, printing of membership leaflets, funding of a research project on little owls.

**Owl Centre**

During this period, planning permission was obtained for the building of four new aviaries in the Owl Garden and work commenced on clearing the ground and making preparations for this. Other aviaries are constantly being reviewed and upgraded as necessary.

**Conservation**

Conservation Officer, Jenny Holden left her employment with the Trust during the summer. The Trust subsequently welcomed Sue Thurley who filled this vacancy.

Barn owl monitoring and surveying continues apace as does ongoing research into long-eared owl locations and population.

**Overseas Projects**

The main thrust of the Trust's work is with the endangered Philippine eagle owl. After many years of intensive work and support, the Trust is delighted

that a second baby eagle owl has been bred at the NFEFI-BCC Centre in aviaries funded by the World Owl Trust.

**Research**

Research into avian malaria in snowy owls is ongoing. Legacy money is funding a three year research programme on little owls.

**Education**

Office Supervisor, Jennifer Lewin has had a major impact on promoting the educational aspects of the Trust's work. She has recently launched a Kids Zone on the Trust's website which is proving extremely popular.

Finally, thanks go to the Trust's staff. They have formed a strong and supportive team. The Trust could not exist without their input and hard work. Nor could it exist without our band of devoted volunteers and you, our members who give us the encouragement to continue with our aim to save owls and their wild environments.

Jenny Thurston  
Chair

**Administration**

We are continually aiming to improve our service to the membership and adopters. We have made changes to the newsletters which have met with approval. A review of our Gift Aid recording systems has been undertaken. Thank you to those members who have replied to our request to update our records.

The raffle and on site treasure hunts have been successful and there is a planned sponsored walk by the keeping staff for 2007. WOT Trading brings the Trust a regular income. The DVD of the Owl Centre is our best seller.

The Owl Centre and the Trust's work have been featured on various television programmes such as Animal 24/7 and Nature's Calendar.

We are planning to develop our website over the next year so that supporters can join the Trust and donate on line. We are also working to improve the format of the information provided on the website.

Staff development is an important part of the future of the Trust. Trustees have attended governance workshops, management staff have attended short courses in project management and health and safety. On site training has involved falconry techniques and the use of the hospital microscope. Our Conservation Officer is working towards her bird ringing licence.

Volunteers at the Centre are a valuable asset. We have developed a volunteer policy and staff have received training in various aspects of volunteering. Volunteers may help at the Centre on a regular basis such as one day a week or for blocks of time such as a week or fortnight. Some of our volunteers work from home – helping to "stuff" envelopes with the newsletter, some attend fundraising events helping run our stand or undertake sponsored walks.

Our needs are always being met by our generous supporters and we are grateful for every kind of help that is given. We also value the correspondence we regularly receive from people all over the world concerned with helping owls and understanding more about them.



**Supporters**

- All our members and adopters
- S F Clarke
- B Diaper
- I Downie and A Hatch of the USA
- Students of Ulverston High School
- Staff of S C Johnson Ltd
- Visitors to the Owl Centre



**Sponsors**

- Beale Trust (Beale Park)
- Drayton Manor
- S C Johnson Ltd
- Keswick to Barrow Walk
- Scottish Owl Centre
- Tittesworth Water Reserve



**Legacies**

- Mr J Atwell
- Olive Burrows
- B T Livingstone
- Elizabeth Miller
- Dave Thomas
- Mark Watson
- John Wakely

**Education**

Improvements to the education opportunities have continued this year at the Trust with many exciting developments.

Young visitors to the centre can now test their knowledge of owls by participating in an 'owl orienteering' task. This free activity has proved very popular with dads too and family groups can now be witnessed trying to find answers to such questions as 'which kind of owl has been recorded eating crocodile?!'

A new programme of activities for visiting schools has now been fully developed. Activities range from a 'Mini-beast Safari' to opportunities to learn how to create a realistic owl picture. We are hoping that the completion of this new programme will encourage more schools to visit the Trust and learn about our work.

Junior Keeper for a Day experiences are still proving very popular as are the adult 'Keeper for a Day' experiences. These experiences offer fantastic opportunities for owl enthusiasts, young and old, to learn more about the work we do at the Trust.

**UK Conservation**

Over the last year the Trust has been actively involved in the continual monitoring of the barn owl population. Unfortunately 2006 was a poor year for the barn owl on a national scale due to poor weather with a knock on effect on prey species. Final figures for breeding pairs in south west Cumbria were down by 50% on the previous breeding season. We are continually trying to address these issues by erecting nest boxes and encouraging landowners to manage their land in a sympathetic manner.

The long-eared owl project has continued during 2006 and we hope to finally have a better idea as to the distribution of this elusive bird.

The Trust continues to carry out surveys on barns and buildings applying for development via planning offices and offers advice on mitigation strategies for the barn owl.

Environmental education and community learning has also been at the forefront of our conservation efforts with an after school wildlife club being run and training events for volunteers to help with monitoring and habitat management for the benefit of the barn owl and other wildlife. We work closely with local people to assist with monitoring the population.

The Old Hutton project has now progressed sufficiently for us to submit all the data on nest activity to the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). The Trust sees working effectively with communities as key to its conservation strategy.

We are looking to develop new partnership initiatives combining the resources of other organisations whose focus is wildlife and conservation.

**WOT Overseas**

As always, the Trust continued to monitor factors affecting wild owl populations all over the world to enable us to react quickly when help is needed.

The owls of the Philippines currently remain our main overseas focus since this country is now recognized as supporting more seriously threatened endemic species (including owls) than any other country in the world. The successful rearing of a second Philippine eagle owl at the Biodiversity Breeding Center (sic) we support in Bacalod on the Island of Negros, is therefore a hugely significant event which gives us the opportunity to set up four potential

One of the most exciting new developments has been the launch of the 'Kids Zone' on the Trust's Web-Site. This is an area designed especially for children for which they need a special password to access. (To keep the 'grown ups' out!) Once they have entered the zone there are facts, jokes, puzzles and activities to print off and do. This has proved to be great hit and has so far attracted around 140 members from countries all over the World. Material will continue to be added to this site to keep children engaged in learning about owls.

Of course many other things have also been happening. These include:

- Continued improvement of the displays in the Owl Centre building to ensure that the displays remain fresh and up to date.
- A new section called the Owllet Pages has been developed for younger owl fans whose parents are members
- Work has started on an Education section of the web-site in order to provide free resources for teachers in schools.

**Owl Centre**

Dismantling and moving the red kite aviary was the largest project undertaken during the year. The pair of red kites settled down remarkably quickly and seem to appreciate their new, more sheltered position in the Owl Garden. Much repair work and improvements have been made to the facilities, aviaries and gardens. Four new, attractive and well planted aviaries, being built in the Owl garden have been funded by a legacy of the late Pat Hoad.

Several new owls, received from other breeding centres in order to improve breeding prospects, helped the World Owl Trust to achieve it's best ever number of successful owl breedings – forty-three owls of fifteen different taxa. Special mention must be made of the great grey owls and ashy-faced owls which nested and raised their chicks (two each) on camera linked to a screen in the Owl Centre Entrance Building.

A busy year in the World Owl Trust Wildlife Hospital saw the successful treatment and release of a razorbill, a kestrel, a peregrine falcon, two buzzards, four barn owls, three tawny owls and three long-eared owls in particular. An injured short-eared owl was unfortunately unfit for release to the wild and has now been housed in our Laybourn Aviary.

At Drayton Manor Park, the Trust chaired a meeting of the World Owl Project which brings together and supports serious owl keepers in achieving well managed captive breeding programmes. An internet forum for World Owl Project members has been initiated.

breeding pairs and learn even more about the biology of this little-known 'Red Data' owl – the largest owl in the Philippines, and probably the most threatened.

In the coming year we also hope to become involved in a study of Mackinder's eagle owl in the Kenya Highlands of East Africa. However, it goes without saying that the extent of help we can give such projects depends entirely on the funding available once the expenses entailed in running the Trust itself, along with its associated World Owl centre, have been accounted for.

