

**Birmingham
Natural History
Society**

Founded 1858

President: Ms Kat Clifford

Internet address: bnhsoc.org.uk

NEWSLETTER No 120 – APRIL 2023

Treasurer's Report

It has taken considerably longer to wind up the affairs of the Society than I had expected. I have now received confirmation from the Charity Commission that the closure of the Society has been accepted.

A balance sheet for 2022 and 2023 up to 30 April has been circulated to Council. Copies can be made available on request (contact details are at the very end of this newsletter). If you require a paper copy, you will need to send me a stamped addressed envelope.

Summary of Accounts 2022 and 2023

	Bank and cash
Brought forward from 2021	16,951
Income in 2022	1,150
Expenses in 2022	-1,148
<u>Interim distributions to Wildlife Trusts</u>	<u>-12,000</u>
Carried forward to 2022	4,953
Brought forward from 2022	4,953
Expenses in 2023	-96
Final distributions to Wildlife Trusts	-4,855
<u>Surplus cash donated to Sutton Coldfield NHS</u>	<u>-2</u>
Balance at 30 April 2023	0

Donations to Wildlife Trusts

As agreed by the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM), the Society's shares and money have been split between the Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust (B&BC WLT) and the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (Warks WLT). (With the agreement of Council, spare change of £1.75 was donated to the Sutton Coldfield Natural History Society as this was the easiest way of dealing with it.) The donations made to the Wildlife Trusts are detailed below; share values are as at 16 June 2022, somewhat down on the values reported at the EGM.

(Amounts may appear not to add up because of rounding.)

Shares to B&BC WLT	37,043
<u>Cash to B&BC WLT</u>	<u>9,592</u>
Total to B&BC WLT	46,635
Shares to Warks WLT	39,371
<u>Cash to Warks WLT</u>	<u>7,263</u>
Total to Warks WLT	46,635
Total donated to Wildlife Trusts	93,269

Other Assets

The Society's Library has been donated to the Birmingham & Midland Institute (<https://www.bmi.org.uk/>). The books can be viewed there under their normal arrangements. The Darwin Medal awarded to James Bagnall, which had come into the possession of the Society, has been donated to the Birmingham Museums Trust.

Thanks

I would like to express my thanks to all members of Council during this difficult period, particularly to the Librarian, Geoff Barnbrook, who arranged for the disposal of the Society's library, obtained bookplates recording the donation to the BMI, and, with the help of his wife, affixed them to all the books.

Peter Coxhead

Other Notes

Flora of Sutton Park

The Society gave a grant of £7,500 towards the *The Flora of Sutton Park National Nature Reserve*, which has now been published (see <https://www.nhbs.com/the-flora-of-sutton-park-national-nature-reserve-book>). It is a splendid work, and a fitting tribute to earlier publications supported by the Society, including J. E. Bagnall (1876), "Notes on Sutton Park: Its Flowering Plants, Ferns, and Mosses", and R. C. Readett (1971), "A Flora of Sutton Park".

Postscript

This Newsletter was prepared by the Hon. Treasurer, due to the incapacity of the Hon. Secretary. It is the final Newsletter of the now closed Society. It has been sent by e-mail to all those who were paid-up or honorary members of the Society prior to March 2020 and is also available on the Society's website (<http://bnhsoc.org.uk/>), which will continue to be maintained as a historical record for some years. Following the dissolution of the Society, there is no longer any legal justification for future use of the circulation list of former members.

Two natural history societies that continue to operate in the Birmingham and Black Country area are:

- the Sandwell Valley Naturalists (see <http://sandnats.org.uk/>)
- the Sutton Coldfield Natural History Society (see <https://scnhs.org.uk/>)

Both welcome visitors and new members.

Treasurer's contact details:

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