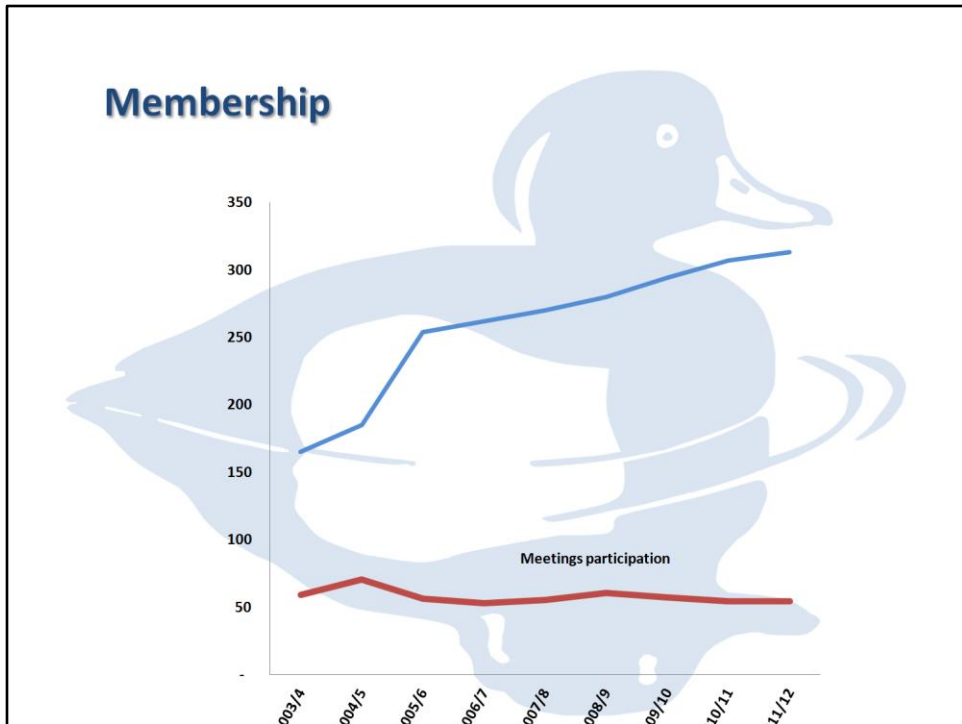


Everything depends on members and it's great to see the steady growth in membership that we have experienced over the last eight years continuing, though there was a bit of a loss following the subscription rise two years ago, we have made that up.



A continuing worry is that attendance at meetings represents a small proportion of the membership and remains static. The Club therefore needs to ensure that those members who do not attend meetings continue to benefit from their membership. The membership survey last year shows that the main reason for being a member was receiving the publications (newsletters and reports) produced by the Club.

Programme 2011/12

13 indoor meetings

28 excursions

- **one day visits**
- **mid-week walks**
- **2 weekend trips**
- **1 overseas trip**
- **4 coach trips**

Ringing demonstration

Christmas Social, Christmas Lunch

We have had a very full programme and very varied programme. Thanks to

- Ray Reedman for the indoor meeting planning;
- Bill Nicoll and all the trip leaders, especial thanks to Ken White for starting the very popular visits to Spain.
- Tim Ball for the ringing demo (one was rained off)
- Dot, John Roberts and all those who have set up the social events.



New Atlas and Avifauna well under way – SAW team doing well: ¾ species accounts written but still lots to do - publication, anticipated in 2013. Preview to the Club in January

Members contributed to the BTO's Nightingale survey last year and many of us are now engaged with the Winter Thrushes survey.

We have a pretty good and largely up to date county records database thanks to many people and specially the work of the Berkshire Bird Bulletin team and to Marek Walford, who manages the database and provides the input from his berkbirds website. We still have some way to go to bring the review and reporting processes up to date.

But we have made some progress with the backlog of annual reports. Aim to get 2 more out in 2013 and if we can do 2011 and 2012 in 2014, we will be properly up to date.

The Club has also taken on the responsibility for producing the Berkshire Birds Index and publishing the results on the website and in the reports.



John Lerpiniere represents the BOC at several conservation forums in the county and makes sure the BOC voice is heard.

The conservation fund made only one grant last year – to BBOWT to start up a ringing programme at Woolley Firs.

The Club is involved in several collaborations with landowners on management plans and access arrangements – thanks to Ken Moore, Ken White, Hugh Netley and Adrian Lawson for their involvement.

This year the reconstruction of Fobney Island, just south of Reading centre was completed and it is now open to the public. Good start.... BOC is part of the Steering group and taking the lead in wildlife monitoring and conservation management.









There is a lot happening – due entirely to all the people who do so much on an entirely voluntary basis.

There are a lot of people to thank and I can't mention everyone; but thanks to the Committee to all who have been helping with reports, surveys and a thousand and one other things and to Mike Turton, our Secretary.

A very special thanks to John Roberts who has been our Treasurer for 13 years and has helped out with so many other of the Club's activities.



Finally a plea – the Club needs more help; there are lots of things to be done and we can't expect the same people to do it all of the time. We all need a bit of time off!

If you can help with leading or organising excursions, looking after the membership service, organising promotional events, looking after our QMR link with Thames Water, writing species accounts, etc., etc., please talk to Mike Turton.

And finally finally, it has been a pleasure and honour to have been your chairman for the last three years. Thank you all for your support. I am going to take a back seat for a while. Good wishes to Neil and the next chair, whoever that may be.