

Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Annual Review 2010/2011



Cornwall



Review of the Year

Despite the challenges presented by the very difficult economic climate, the Trust remained positive and forward-looking. Trustees, staff and volunteers worked collectively to shape and put in place a new Strategic Plan (2011-2015), ensuring we have clear direction and priorities for our work to achieve Living Landscapes and Living Seas for Cornwall, and are also well placed to take opportunities to deliver our objectives as they arise.

Thanks to the dedicated and disciplined efforts of staff and volunteers and the continuing support of our members and partner organisations, we met our budget targets and even realised a modest surplus both on restricted and unrestricted funds. This was particularly pleasing at a time when income from many of our traditional sources is under pressure or being cut and considering we maintained our full range of conservation programmes and activities.

Our work to ensure adequate protection for the marine environment remained a high priority at this time of great opportunity provided by the Marine Act and programmes to identify Marine Conservation Zones. Much effort was put into the continued collection and collation of data, combining the efforts of staff and an extensive network of volunteers through the Marine Strandings Network, our Seasearch diving programme and the Basking Shark project.

Protecting cetaceans and reducing bycatch also remained a high priority and initial results from trials using 'pingers' to deter dolphins from inshore nets were encouraging, and provide a good base on which to develop further action.

Of course, ensuring that all data collected is available and used effectively is essential, and staff were increasingly involved in relevant committees, advisory groups and having input into emerging strategic plans and policies. The Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) continued to underpin much of this activity and has worked to enhance its marine data holdings and systems.

The work of ERCCIS also underpins our terrestrial conservation efforts and in the year it has continued to improve its data holdings on County Wildlife and Geology Sites, land cover and species, as well as enhancing the availability of the information to key users and partners.

In its terrestrial work, the Trust is increasingly looking to take action on a larger scale and has been involved in major programmes in West Penwith - through the Wild Penwith project, and the Lizard Peninsula - through the Linking the Lizard project. Initial indications are that by working with local communities and focusing efforts with partner organisations on a larger scale we can deliver lasting conservation benefits.

Having said this, it was also vital to continue our work to survey and provide advice on County Wildlife and Geology Sites and to make the case for their protection through the planning systems, commenting on 125 planning applications in the year. Work on our nature reserves to enhance habitats and species and ensure sympathetic access has gone well, throughout the county. This has been assisted by new Stewardship agreements and the on-going support of volunteers, and specific fundraising appeals well supported by the membership.

Inspiring people about the natural world and giving their support is a key theme of all marine and terrestrial conservation programmes. Our Your Shore project has engaged large numbers of adults and children with their local marine environments, and the Wild Penwith project has enthused many volunteers to take practical action to enhance local wildlife – to give just two examples.

Underpinning all of our conservation work is effective marketing, fundraising and administration. We have continued to raise our profile in the media and through a wide range of events and are increasingly using digital media to assist with this. We also continue to diversify our fundraising activities, and the out-turn for the year in such a difficult economic climate indicates that this is successful. Our trading company, Cornwall Environmental Consultants remained busy and profitable, despite the financial climate, though income from this source was down on previous years.

As we approach our 50th year, planning is well under way to use this event as a springboard to further enhance our profile and fundraising effort, which will ultimately be translated into increased delivery of conservation objectives.

Staff and volunteers remain a key resource and in the year we were once again delighted to retain our Investors in People award. We also continue to develop our partnership working with other Wildlife Trusts, and especially South West Wildlife Trusts and the Isles of Scilly.

Thanks once again to all members, business partners and funders who support our work.

Trevor Edwards, Chief Executive

Champions for Wildlife

Cornwall Wildlife Trust continued to be proactive in conserving and enhancing our natural environment for terrestrial and marine wildlife, and encouraging good management of key wildlife and geological sites.

During the year the Trust:

- had input to The Wildlife Trusts' response to the Lawton Review and Natural Environment White Paper consultation
- commented on 125 planning applications, and enhanced our web-based planning advice
- commented on at least 10 strategic consultations affecting the county's environment
- published the new Cornwall BAP Volume 4
- published County Wildlife Site and County Geology Site Criteria
- surveyed over 560ha of County Wildlife / County Geology Sites, and produced management advice reports for landowners funded by Cornwall Council
- supported the Geoconservation Group which is monitoring four current sites against condition targets and moving towards proposing five new sites
- hosted and managed the Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) in partnership with Cornwall Council, Natural England, the Environment Agency, local recorders and recording groups. ERCCIS now holds over 3 million records, enabling the Trust to champion the cause for wildlife, and to base its advice to partners, consultants and the general public on sound scientific knowledge.
- In the year, ERCCIS:
 - issued an updated Broad Habitat GIS Layer and produced a Phase 1 Habitat GIS Layer
 - completed County Wildlife Site summary sheets for all 498 sites
 - developed a methodology for biotope mapping of inter-tidal habitats
 - expanded the Investigating Invasives project to include marine invasive species in the Fal, funded by the Environment Agency
 - initiated and began the capture of species and habitat data from Trust and CEC surveys
 - produced two Species ID Guides (Reptiles and Spiders) to be hosted on ERCCIS website.
- The Manager of ERCCIS was appointed Chair of the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres and a Trustee of the National Biodiversity Network, both raising the profile of Cornwall and highlighting the work of Records Centres at the highest level of government.

Living Landscapes

Conservation, restoration and creation of natural habitats in which wildlife can survive and thrive is key, not least the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of our own reserves network.

- In partnership with the National Trust, Natural England, Cornwall AONB and the National Farmers Union, Cornwall Wildlife Trust developed a new landscape-scale project - Linking the Lizard - to benefit the health of the land that these organisations manage, and make a closer connection between us and the communities, businesses and visitors of the Lizard peninsula.
- Our Wild Penwith project - supported by Countdown 2010, Tubney Charitable Trust, the Environment Agency, Big Lottery Fund, European Agricultural Fund for European Development and South West Water Upstream Thinking - advised 23 landowners, and undertook soil and/or slurry tests on 13 farms. Three well-attended training events were run.
- New Higher Level Stewardship agreements were established for the Carrick Heaths, Rosenannon and Tregonetha Downs, and Penhale Training Camp, in partnership with Defence Estates, Bourne Leisure, Cornwall Council, Natural England and Perranzabuloe Parish Council.
- Natural England awarded us £70,000 funding for management on Helman Tor Nature Reserve.
- English Heritage funded works on the Scheduled Ancient Monument at Kennall Vale Nature Reserve.
- The Forestry Commission supported work at Prideaux Woods Nature Reserve - including tree planting work also supported by our membership appeal which raised £6,863.
- Defra funded clearance of rhododendron at Baker's Pit Nature Reserve following discovery of *Phytophthora*.
- The membership appeal raised £4,435 for arable / farmland bird enhancement work at Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve. The Friends of Churchtown Farm Group helped fund new interpretation here.

Living Seas

Our marine work focused on expanding our knowledge of what lies around our coast and lives in our waters, by continuing to engage with local communities and volunteers in research and monitoring.

- Liaison continued with the Finding Sanctuary project to give input of advice and data to the development of a suite of Marine Conservation Zones.
- We continued to give input to the Cornwall Maritime Strategy.
- The Trust now has a seat on the Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority and continued to work closely with fishermen to ensure consideration of marine biodiversity issues in decision-making.
- Analysis of data from our Pinger project, funded by members' appeal donations, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Defra, showed that the trial was successful in deterring porpoise, but data was limited to show a significant effect for bottlenose dolphins. We began investigation into the development of further research using a modified pinger.
- Seaquest Netsafe work enhanced our knowledge of cetacean species around the coast of Cornwall, funded by support from Frugi through the 1% for the Planet scheme, and by SITA, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and the European Fisheries Fund.
- In partnership with the University of Exeter in Cornwall, the Trust deployed C-PODs at 18 sites around the coast to acoustically monitor and record cetacean activity. Data from the array is being compiled.
- The Trust's Marine Strandings Network accrued further bycatch evidence through the hard work of dedicated volunteers. We now have several European partners assisting in this work.
- Our Seasearch diving programme focused on the VMCA's linking to our Your Shore project. We ran three Seasearch Observer courses and led eight Seasearch dives. One specialist Seagrass monitoring course was organised and 45 divers have been trained.
- The 2010 Basking Shark project was delivered by volunteer 'coast-watchers' funded by the BBC Wildlife Fund and British International Helicopters.
- The Trust worked in partnership with the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust to deliver their Marine Biodiversity Audit project, funded by Defra Countdown 2010 and the Crown Estate.

Inspiring People

One of the main aims of Cornwall Wildlife Trust is to inform and educate ... whether we engage with local communities and volunteers, visit schools or deliver events and activities around the county, we want people to learn about, enjoy and take action to protect their natural environment.

- Education staff and volunteers delivered curriculum-themed sessions to 350 children at 20 schools throughout the county, ran nine public events and delivered educational sessions for six corporate members. We ran 42 Fox Club activities ranging from pond dipping and rockpooling to survival skills and shelter building.
- The Trust became a Children's University accredited learning destination.
- Our junior Fox Club offered themed wildlife activity birthday parties.
- The Wildlife Information Service dealt with 1,567 enquiries.
- Looe Island hosted over 1,000 adult visitors and nearly 200 children at their open days and island staff led volunteers in surveys, and initiated greater black-backed gull ringing.
- The Tanner Trust funded production of a new Living Churchyards information pack and delivery of education and engagement events relating to wildlife in churchyards.
- The Wild Penwith project initiated a programme of community activities and public talks; while the volunteers group, funded by Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities Fund carried out 49 days of practical conservation tasks.
- The Your Shore project, funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, GE Money and South West Water engaged with over 2,000 adults and around 1,000 youngsters to explore and learn about the local marine environment. A film showing the work of the project was launched on *YouTube*.
- Our Facebook page improved our digital media presence and attracted more than 900 followers.
- Over 100 press releases raised the profile of our work in press, online, on radio and on TV.
- 24 volunteers were recruited for Team Gold, working on initiatives for our 50th Anniversary in 2012.
- The Trust's first annual Wildlife Celebration event was held in July at The Lost Gardens of Heligan and received over 1,000 visitors including members and people new to the Trust.
- Over 150 walkers made their way over to Looe Island at low spring tide.

The Trustees' statement

We confirm that the following is a summary of information extracted from Cornwall Wildlife Trust's annual unqualified statutory accounts.

The Cornwall Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd and Cornwall Environmental Consultants Ltd trading as Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

Consolidated statement of financial activities for the year ended 28 February 2011

	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2011 £	Total 2010 £
Incoming resources				
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds:</i>				
Voluntary income	76,788	82,637	159,425	256,007
Consultancy income and sales	4,022	740,682	744,704	698,439
Fundraising	459	50,134	50,593	43,733
Investment income	-	1,994	1,994	1,069
Other income	16,398	42,970	59,368	45,627
	<u>97,667</u>	<u>918,417</u>	<u>1,016,084</u>	<u>1,044,875</u>
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</i>				
Nature conservation	293,620	591,857	885,477	719,728
Subscriptions	-	347,300	347,300	352,670
Other incoming resources	-	-	-	255
Total incoming resources	<u>391,287</u>	<u>1,857,574</u>	<u>2,248,861</u>	<u>2,117,528</u>
Resources expended				
<i>Cost of generating funds:</i>				
Consultancy expenses	-	579,819	579,819	502,907
Fundraising and publicity	-	144,099	144,099	137,122
	<u>-</u>	<u>723,918</u>	<u>723,918</u>	<u>640,029</u>
<i>Charitable activities:</i>				
Reserves management	36,900	537,336	574,236	352,915
Conservation	287,372	554,344	841,716	813,147
Governance costs	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total resources expended	<u>324,272</u>	<u>1,820,598</u>	<u>2,144,870</u>	<u>1,811,091</u>
Net income for the year	67,015	36,976	103,991	306,437
Transfers between funds	1,048	(1,048)	-	-
Unrealised surplus/(deficit) on investments	-	34	34	330
	<u>68,063</u>	<u>35,962</u>	<u>104,025</u>	<u>306,767</u>
Net movement in funds	68,063	35,962	104,025	306,767
Funds at 1 March 2010	3,120,691	538,339	3,659,030	3,352,263
Funds at 28 February 2011	<u>3,188,754</u>	<u>574,301</u>	<u>3,763,055</u>	<u>3,659,030</u>

Consolidated balance sheet as at 28 February 2011

	The Group 2011 £	2010 £	The Charity 2011 £	2010 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	3,111,604	3,133,029	3,111,604	3,133,029
Investments	742	708	742	708
	<u>3,112,346</u>	<u>3,133,737</u>	<u>3,112,346</u>	<u>3,133,737</u>
Current assets				
Debtors	834,994	603,655	741,409	555,074
Cash at bank and in hand	205,702	260,180	185,738	245,914
Short-term deposits	203,171	203,171	203,171	203,171
	<u>1,243,867</u>	<u>1,067,006</u>	<u>1,130,318</u>	<u>1,004,159</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(252,493)</u>	<u>(164,781)</u>	<u>(139,430)</u>	<u>(102,420)</u>
Net current assets	<u>991,374</u>	<u>902,225</u>	<u>990,888</u>	<u>901,739</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	<u>(340,665)</u>	<u>(376,932)</u>	<u>(340,665)</u>	<u>(376,932)</u>
Net assets	<u>3,763,055</u>	<u>3,659,030</u>	<u>3,762,569</u>	<u>3,658,544</u>
Funds				
Restricted funds	3,188,754	3,120,691	3,188,754	3,120,691
Unrestricted funds - General fund	573,559	537,631	573,073	537,145
- Revaluation reserve	742	708	742	708
	<u>574,301</u>	<u>538,339</u>	<u>573,815</u>	<u>537,853</u>
	<u>3,763,055</u>	<u>3,659,030</u>	<u>3,762,569</u>	<u>3,658,544</u>

Warning statement

The summarised accounts shown above are for the financial year ending 28th February 2011 and are not the statutory accounts but comprise extracts from the audited unqualified statutory accounts for Cornwall Wildlife Trust and its sister company Cornwall Environmental Consultants Ltd. They may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of Cornwall Wildlife Trust. For further information, the full accounts and the auditors' report on those accounts should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Five Acres, Allet, Truro, Cornwall TR4 9DJ.

Making it happen

Effective fundraising, marketing and administrative management underpinned successful delivery of our conservation aims

- Our membership figures remained static at around 14,000. Business supporters increased to over 80 and raised just under £50,000 through membership, visitor gifting, 1% for the Planet and sponsorship.
- We ran three appeals; tree planting at Prideaux Wood Nature Reserve to protect greater horseshoe bats; bird seed crop planting at Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve to help farmland birds; and marine wildlife protection around the Cornish coast. These appeals raised a combined total of over £14,000 including Gift Aid thanks to generous donations from Trust members and the general public.
- We held two weddings on Looe Island and a third couple used the island for their wedding photographs.
- The Trust retained its Investors in People award.
- Delivery of the Trust's Green House Action Plan continued, focusing on stationery procurement processes and attempting to influence its suppliers to improve their carbon footprint.
- We undertook a review of our energy usage, investigated the introduction of renewable technology at our headquarters and introduced compost toilets for campers on Looe Island.
- Following last year's staff allotment, 2010 saw bee hives introduced to Two Burrows.

Cornwall Environmental Consultants

Trading conditions continued to be difficult due to much reduced levels of activity in the building sector, general economic uncertainty and public sector cutbacks, but CEC still managed to covenant profits to the Trust and contribute to the headquarters' running costs. In particular we:

- prepared a new Strategic Development Plan for 2011-15
- completed over 350 ecological and landscape design projects
- undertook extensive ecological survey work and landscape impact assessment for Eco Bos on the Eco Communities projects in the Clay District
- completed detailed design work for Gyllyngdune Gardens restoration in Falmouth for the Heritage Lottery Fund and Cornwall Council
- undertook a series of ecological and landscape impact assessments for solar farm proposals across the south west for a number of clients
- delivered a series of lectures at the University of Exeter, Tremough.

Business Supporters



Accommodation Providers

Acorn Parks
Ayr Holiday Park
Bamham Farm Cottages
Bedruthan Steps Hotel
Bosayne Guest House
Bosinver Farm Cottages
Bourne Leisure Ltd
Budock Vean Hotel
Camilla House
Carbis Bay Holidays
Clowance Estate and Country Club
Coastdale Parks, Atlantic Coast
Holiday Park
Coastline Housing
Devon and Cornwall Housing Group
Dolbeare Park
Farm and Cottage Holidays
Glyn Barton Cottages
Greenbank Hotel
Green Lawns Hotel
Gwel an Mor
Higher Menadew Farm Cottages
Higher Trefrize Cottage
HPB Management, Duloe Manor
Lower Treave Caravan and
Camping Park
Mayrose Farm

Mesmear
Mother Ivey's Bay Caravan Park
Newquay Breaks Hotel
Ocean Blue Holidays
Parkdean Holidays
Pitt House
Primrose Valley Hotel
River Valley Country Park
Rosehill Lodges
Roselands Caravan Park
Roundhouse Barn Holidays
The Park Mawgan Porth
Tremont Guest Accommodation
Trenython Manor Hotel and Spa
Trethiggye Touring Park
Warwick House
Whipsiderry Hotel
Wooda Farm Holiday Park
Woodland Valley Farm and Study
Centre

Education

Duchy College
Richard Lander School

Environment

Clean Earth Energy
Environment Agency

Saltash Environmental Action (SEA)
SITA UK Ltd
South West Water
The Wildlife Survey Unit

Farming / Industrial

Imerys
SEF Ltd
Watson Marlow
Westlands Geoprojects Ltd

Financial / Professional

Cornish Mutual Assurance
Company Ltd
Event Cornwall
Robinson Reed Layton
Stephen Scown Solicitors
Vickery Holman
Worldwide Financial Planning Ltd

Food and Beverages

The Golden Lion Inn and Lakeside
Restaurant
The Norway Inn
The Port William Inn
The Rashleigh Arms
The Victoria Inn
Venus Company Ltd

Recreation / Travel

British International Helicopters
Cornwall Classic Car Hire
Drive Time
Isles of Scilly Travel

Retail

Focallink Ltd
Frugi
Handykam
Polstrong Feed Store
Sand
Simply Birds

Visitor Attractions

Best of Bodmin Moor
Heritage Attractions Ltd
Into3D
Newquay Zoo
Paradise Park Wildlife Centre
The Lost Gardens of Heligan
The National Seal Sanctuary
Trebah Garden
Tregothnan Estates
Trevanno Estate and Gardens

Cornwall Wildlife Trust was established in 1962 by a group of highly committed and forward-looking individuals, to safeguard the county's natural environment and associated

wild flora and fauna. Today we have grown to become the largest and most influential voluntary nature conservation body in Cornwall.

We are a member of The Wildlife Trusts partnership, an association of Wildlife Trusts and Urban Wildlife Groups covering every county and country in the United Kingdom.



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