



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date		
1	4	2008	31	3	2009
From			To		

Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Postcode

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Prof. David Goulson	Chairman		
2	Lara Goulson			
3	Dr. Ben Darvill	Treasurer		
4	Dr. Paul Williams			

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
None		
Conservation	Dr. Juliet Osborne	Rothamsted research, Harpenden

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Memorandum and Articles of Association
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Limited company
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by existing Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.
- The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.
- Relationship with any related parties.
- Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Please see our Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation of bumblebees
To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

Education and outreach to raise awareness of conservation issues
Training and coordination of a network of volunteer bumblebee recorders
Promotion of active conservation measures for bumblebees
Promotion of research on bumblebee conservation issues

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- Policy on grantmaking
- Policy programme related investment
- Contribution made by Volunteers

We have a database of ~80 volunteers who we call upon from time to time. Some help us occasionally in our office with filing and general administration, whilst others prefer more practical tasks including land management and wildlife gardening. Collectively they contribute an average of around 2 days per week.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Increased membership since last year by ~3,450 (total now 5,500)

Recruited 4 staff (E. Heskey, N. Rolph, P. Rayner, N. Gamman) (1 staff member departed, L. Southern)

Raised awareness of the plight of the bumblebee at national events and through extensive media coverage, including Springwatch, Countryfile and in BBC Wildlife Magazine (plus national and local newspapers, radio & television).

Run ~15 training days for bumblebee recorders

Gained funding from Scottish Natural Heritage, the Mackintosh Foundation and Natural England (96.5k in total)

Part-funded 2 PhD students researching bumblebee ecology

Continued to manage the successful bumblebee wildflower meadow of ~8Ha at Vane Farm, Kinross.

Run a national bumblebee survey "Beewatch 2008", obtaining ~5,000 bee records.

Encouraged wildlife friendly gardening around the country, including producing and distributing over 4,000 copies of our book *Gardening for Bumblebees*.

Distributed advisory leaflets regarding Great Yellow Bumblebees for farmers and crofters, in conjunction with RSPB

Distributed several thousand bumblebee-friendly seed packets

Engaged with Scottish Environment Link and influenced developing policy in Scotland.

Supported land management initiatives to improve habitats for some of the rarest species of bumblebee, with additional benefits for other insects, mammals and birds.

Appeared on BBC Gardener's World, encouraging wildlife friendly gardening

Worked with 122 Wyevale garden centres to promote bee-friendly

Achievements and performance

planting

Received support from Chris Packham, Kate Humble, Mike Dilger and Sir David Attenborough

Developed and run a pilot transect recording scheme to measure change in bumblebee abundance.

Run national surveys to map the distributions of the Blaeberry and Tree bumblebees.

Working in partnership with Natural England, Hymettus and RSPB on the reintroduction of the short-haired bumblebee from New Zealand (ongoing).

Liaised with government bodies and NGOs and meet with MPs to influence land management for the benefit of bumblebees.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Current reserves: ~£63,000 (at financial year end 31/03/09)

Reserves are needed to ensure employment security for the Trust's staff, and to provide the flexibility for strategic growth. The trustees have agreed that we should aim to build sufficient reserves to be able to guarantee employment of trust staff 1 year ahead.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).
- How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.
- Investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Main sources of funding:

Memberships
Grants
Donations

Main expenditure:

Salaries
Printing and distribution of newsletter and promotional materials
Travel to meetings and events

Other optional information

The Trust remains in a period of very rapid growth (both financially and in terms of membership). We anticipate considerable expansion of our outreach and conservation activities in the coming year.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Prof	Dr Ben Darvill
Position (eg secretary, chair, etc)	Chairman	Treasurer
Date	20/08/09	