



BHS COUNCIL FOR 2010-11

Current members

(years served in current term of office given in brackets):

President	Prof. Trevor Beebee (4)
Chairman	Mr. Jon Coote (1)
Treasurer	Mr. Michael Wise (1)
Secretary	Mr. Trevor Rose (4)
Research Committee Chairman	Dr. Chris Glead-Owen (3)
Education Committee Chairman	Mr. Don Freeman (3)
Captive Breeding Committee Chairman	Dr. Simon Townson (3)
Conservation Officer	Mrs. Jan Clemons (3)
Herpetological Journal Editor	Dr. Robert Jehlé (1)
Bulletin Editor	Mr. Todd Lewis (1)
NatterJack Editor	Vacant
Website Editor	Vacant
Development Officer	Mr. Mark Hollowell (3)
Trade Officer	Vacant
Scottish Group Representative	Mr. Frank Bowles (3)
North-west Group Representative	Mr. Richard Parkinson (3)
Ordinary Member 1	Mr. Neil D’Cruze (2)
Ordinary Member 2	Mr. David Willis (1)
Ordinary Member 3	Mrs. Jenny Spencer (1)

Members standing for continuation in their posts:

(term of office given in brackets):

Research Committee Chairman (3)	Dr. Chris Glead-Owen
Education Committee Chairman (3)	Mr. Don Freeman
Captive Breeding Committee Chairman (3)	Dr. Simon Townson
Conservation Officer (3)	Mrs. Jan Clemons
Development Officer (3)	Mr. Mark Hollowell
Scottish Group Representative (3)	Mr. Frank Bowles
North-west Group Representative (3)	Mr. Richard Parkinson

VACANT POSTS

There are several vacant positions on Council to fill and nominations are now invited for the posts detailed below. If you are interested in any of these posts, please provide a signed nomination letter, countersigned by a proposer and seconder, and send it to the Secretary at 11 Strathmore Place, Montrose, Angus, DD10 8LQ. **Nominations must be received by 3rd March 2010.** If you require further details or a pre-printed nomination letter, email the Secretary at secretary@thebhs.org, write to the above address, or telephone 01674 671676.

Website Editor:

Responsible for regular maintenance and updates to the BHS website. Requires extensive knowledge of web design and development, including database management. Experience of Dreamweaver would be an advantage. Full details for this post available from the Secretary.

NB: Nomination pending from the current co-opted website editor, Miss Anne Braae.

NatterJack Newsletter Editor:

Responsible for the regular production of the monthly newsletter. Collation and procurement of material from various sources, researching articles, editing, layout and production of print-ready artwork. Previous experience of page-making software would be preferred, as would access to suitable hardware (Adobe PM or Indesign software can be provided). This is a demanding role requiring a high level of attention to detail, as well as contact on a regular basis with the membership.

Trade Officer:

Would suit a person with an interest in government legislation, and/or with contacts in the trade of reptiles and amphibians. Could involve attendance at SUN meetings and liaison with government departments to represent the views of the BHS, although this role is open to further development by the successful nominee.

All Council posts are voluntary, require the incumbent to report to Council, and attend quarterly meetings usually held in London. Regular access to email would be an advantage though not essential. If you enjoy a challenge, and want to be more involved in herpetology and influence the running of the BHS, why not join up today?

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE PLANNED FOR 2011

At the BHS Council meeting of 16th January 2010, a review of subscription rates took place. It is important that the Society's income from subscriptions covers the cost of providing each member with the publications due; this of course includes printing and postage costs, as well as stationery such as paper, envelopes, membership cards, etc.

The last increase in subscription rates was made four years ago, with the introduction of our new Online membership categories. During this period, costs have of course continued to rise steadily and it is for this reason that Council will, at the forthcoming AGM, be proposing an increase in subscription rates, to take effect as of 1st January 2011.

The review found that "Print" subscriptions had reached the point where income versus costs were almost at parity, leaving no margin to cover further rises in postage and printing costs forecast in the coming year. Online subscriptions, by their nature, were less affected by associated costs (for example, to host the Journal online, online banking and website hosting).

To this end the following increases to PRINT memberships will be proposed at the AGM:

	2011	2010
Full	£40	(was £35)
Ordinary	£28	(was £25)
Family	£50	(was £45)
Overseas	£45	(was £40)
Associate	£70	(was £60)

For avoidance of doubt, ONLINE memberships will remain at their current rates. These are:

Full	£25
Ordinary	£20
Family	£30
Student	£18
Overseas	£25
Associate	£50

The increases to the Print subscriptions should sustain the Society's publications for the foreseeable future. It is hoped that members will be accepting of the above proposal and that it is supported by attending members at the AGM. Further news regarding the outcome of the proposal will be publicised after the meeting.

PHOTO COMEPTITION

We will run the ever-popular photo competition again this year, with prizes on offer for the best entrants. You don't need to be an expert with a camera - entries are judged by the attending members at the AGM and everyone has a different take on what makes a good photo; the only stipulation is that it has to be herp-related of course!

Photos should be submitted in printed form, up to A4 size. Please restrict your entries to a maximum of 3 photos. If you plan to attend the AGM, simply bring your photo(s) along on the day for display during the refreshment break. Attendees at the meeting will vote for their favourites and the photo with the most votes wins!

If you are unable to attend, you can still enter by sending your photos to the Secretary at:
11 Strathmore Place,
Montrose,
Angus,
DD10 8LQ.

Closing date for entries is 25th March 2010, please note we will endeavour to return your photos but this cannot be guaranteed. Winners will be notified by post and results will be published in the April edition of the *NatterJack*.

Good luck and herpy snapping!



Provisional Minutes of the 62nd
BRITISH HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday, 28th March 2009

Venue: Mappin Pavilion, London Zoo, Regents Park, London.

Chair: Jon Coote

1. Apologies for Absence

Roger Avery, John Baker, Christopher Catherine, John Cooper, Don Freeman, Richard Griffiths, Jim Labisko, Mikaella Lock, Philip Pote, Jeffrey Riggs.

This AGM was quorate (44/438).

2. Minutes of the 61st AGM

The minutes were circulated, approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the 2008 61st AGM.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Annual Reports

4 i) The Chairman's report was circulated at the meeting.

4 ii) The Treasurer's report (1st January 2008 – 31st December 2008) was circulated and an overview was given by Pat Pomfret. It was noted that Website promotional costs included the costs for providing the online Journal via Ingenta. Also, the Jersey trip had covered its costs (£865 in, actual cost £800).

5. Election of Council for 2009–10

Council for 2009-10 was approved as given below, including four nominations for vacant posts.

(years served in current term of office given in brackets).

President	Prof. Trevor Beebee (3)
Chairman	Mr Jon Coote (5)
Treasurer	Vacant
Secretary	Mr Trevor Rose (3)
Research Committee Chairman	Dr Chris Gleed-Owen (2)
Education Committee Chairman	Mr Don Freeman (2)
Captive Breeding Committee Chairman	Dr Simon Townson (2)
Conservation Officer	Mrs. Jan Clemons (2)
Herpetological Journal Editor	Vacant
Herpetological Bulletin Editor	Vacant
NatterJack Editor	Miss Mikaela Lock (3)
Website Editor	Vacant
Trade Monitoring Officer	Mr Peter Curry (2)
Scottish Group Representative	Mr Frank Bowles (2)
North West Group Representative	Mr Richard Parkinson (2)
Ordinary Member 1	Mr. Neil D’Cruze (1)
Ordinary Member 2	Mr David Willis (3)
Ordinary Member 3	Vacant

Members standing for continuation in their posts:

Chairman	Mr. Jon Coote
NatterJack Editor	Miss Mikaela Lock
Ordinary Member	Mr David Willis

Nominees for vacant posts:

Treasurer	Mr. Michael Wise
Herpetological Journal Editor	Dr. Robert Jehlé
Herpetological Bulletin Editor	Mr. Todd Lewis
Ordinary Member	Mr. Mike East
	Mr. Jim Labisko
	Mrs. Jenny Spencer

All Council nominees re-standing in post and those nominated un-opposed for vacant posts, specifically Mr. Michael Wise for Treasurer, Dr. Robert Jehlé for Herpetological Journal Editor and Mr. Todd Lewis for Herpetological Bulletin Editor were voted in to office by the membership. As there were three nominations for the vacant Ordinary Member post, a ballot was held by show of hands (plus one proxy vote). Mrs. Jenny Spencer was duly elected.

6. 2010 Subscription Fees

TR advised that membership subscription rates had been reviewed by Council at the meeting of 24th January 2009 and would remain unchanged for 2010. It was noted that due to price increases in postage and printing that “Print” subscriptions may need to be increased at the next annual review.

7. Proposal to adopt updated Constitution

Proposed changes to the Constitution had been circulated to the membership prior to the AGM and were available at the meeting. TR advised that Council proposed to disband the “Executive” as it was deemed that all trustees held equal status. Our governing body, the Charity Commission, had confirmed this point. This would also negate the need for an official vice-chairman which had previously been instated to aid quoracy at meetings. Also, there were references in the Constitution to “Honorary Members” which should now be referred to as “Fellows of the Society” which need to be corrected. The proposal to adopt the Constitutional changes was headed by Mike East and Richard Parkinson, seconded by Mark Hollowell. The proposal was accepted unopposed.

8. Any Other Business

There was none.

The Chairman closed the AGM.