

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

2014 was another varied year for your Society. It was a year in which we published the fourth issue of the Journal which continued to attract significant papers. Thanks to Jenny George for editing and André Coutanche for its production during the year, as well as to the referees and, of course, authors. The Bulletin (*Discovering Lundy*) and the Annual Report are both high-quality and informative publications and my thanks to Belinda Cox and Tim Davis in particular for their roles in producing those publications.

Your Committee put a great deal of thought during the year into matters surrounding subscriptions and especially to ensure that we cease running the Society at an 'operational deficit'. We determined that subscriptions needed to rise but that we would take advantage of electronic media wherever possible (to avoid ever-increasing postage costs) and where doing so does not disadvantage members who are not 'wired-up' to the internet. The website is a great strength for the Society and the small group that manages it was joined in November by Chris Dee, a long-time visitor to Lundy and now a valuable addition to the Committee. Myrtle Ternstrom has found it increasingly difficult to attend meetings of the Committee and resigned in March. Our thanks for all of Myrtle's past contributions; we will continue to hear from her as a Vice-President. Our Committee meetings are usually in the comfort and hospitality of the Coutanche residence in Bristol but, in mid-May, we had a productive few days on Lundy when we held one of our quarterly meetings on the island – a well worthwhile occurrence that will no doubt be repeated.

I am very pleased to be able to represent the Society on the Lundy Management Forum and hope that the knowledge that our members bring to management of the island is much valued. In 2014, some members of your Executive Committee had the opportunity to meet with Dr Anna Keay, the newly arrived Director of The Landmark Trust, on Lundy and our hope is for continued collaboration with her and for continued help for the Lundy General Manager, Derek Green and the Warden, Beccy MacDonald, especially. In 2014, Beccy was assisted by Chloë Nicholson and we wish her well in her future career. The LFS representative on Lundy, Grant Sherman, continued his good work for the LFS.

There are always highlights in a year but, in 2014, even I (as a non-ornithologist) was delighted with the finding of a Storm Petrel chick and the general good news of increases in seabird numbers on the island.

At the end of 2014, we were pleased to still have Sir Jack Hayward as our President. Sir Jack maintained an interest in our work throughout his time as Vice President and then President of the LFS. His death was in early January 2015 and, although not strictly a matter for the 2014 Annual Report, it is timely to include an obituary here. Thanks to Myrtle Ternstrom for such an informative text.

KEITH HISCOCK
April 2015