

Members' Annual Report

2017



President's Report

BirdLife Australia's research tells us that our unique birds and other wildlife are in trouble. We are clearing forests and draining wetlands at a frightening pace.

Australia's natural heritage is declining and many of the birds we love are being pushed toward extinction. Once-common birds — Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot and Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo — could be lost in our lifetime.

That is why BirdLife Australia's new strategic plan has shifted our thinking from scarcity — what we can afford — to investment — finding the resources we need to make a difference. Our strategy is clear about what we want to achieve and what it is going to take to recover populations.

With your generous support, BirdLife Australia is investing in its people, systems and programs, so that we can become more effective and work with more partners to have a bigger impact and deliver on our promise: to fight extinctions. We've also built a healthy cash reserve to manage risks that are out of our control, such as funding cuts or federal government attacks on charities. This reserve gives BirdLife Australia the confidence to invest in sustainable program development, rather than in short-term projects, living hand-to-mouth.

BirdLife Australia knows how to manage threats and recover populations of threatened birds. Our science-led bird conservation work informs us how to make a big difference — thanks to your support. But Australia's national environment laws are working against nature conservation; they are fundamentally flawed.

Ministerial discretion and vested interests are exploiting loopholes and gaps in our national nature laws. In 20 years, the EPBC Act has stopped only 20 developments! The laws are facilitating development and failing nature.

BirdLife Australia's 120,000 supporters and volunteers come together from all walks of life. We all want to protect and recover our native birds using good science. But when governments fail to listen to evidence-based policy, community-led campaigning for change becomes essential for our conservation programs.

Birds don't have a voice; they rely on all of us to stand up for their future.

We know that you are with us. Thank you all, my fellow directors, staff, volunteers and wonderful supporters for being tireless champions for birds and nature.

John Barkla, President



CEO's Report

BirdLife Australia's conservation achievements during 2017 — at a national, regional and grass-roots level — helped more threatened birds to survive. It is amazing to see what we've accomplished; some highlights include:

- leading the world by launching a new global Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) standard in Australia. The KBAs In Danger campaign reached 8.4 million people and mobilised action to protect critical habitat for Swift Parrots, Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos, Eastern Curlews, Abbott's Boobies and Australasian Bitterns
 - the largest ever release of captive-bred Regent Honeyeaters to supplement the breeding wild population of this Critically Endangered species
 - securing agreement from the incoming WA Government to review the flawed Green Growth Plan which threatened the extinction of Perth's Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo population
 - progressing Mallee Emu-wren translocation as part of the Mallee Birds Conservation Action Plan (CAP), implementation of the Migratory Shorebirds CAP and progressing the ambitious Woodland Birds CAP
 - working with Parks Australia to establish an insurance population for the Norfolk Island Green Parrot
- hosting the Australasian Ornithological Conference and yet another successful Beach-nesting Birds conference
 - activities led by our grass-roots branches to protect Little Penguins, Capricorn Yellow Chats and Carpentarian Grasswrens as well as critical habitat at Yandina Wetlands and the Helena and Aurora Range
 - empowering many thousands of people in the community to fight for the protection of threatened birds

I am very proud to work every day alongside terrific BirdLife Australia staff, passionate volunteers and supporters who stand up for native birds and their habitats. Rather than working as 'islands of conservation', all our people and resources are working in lock-step to deliver collaborative conservation programs.

For the first time in BirdLife Australia's 117-year history, all the organisation's programs, community groups, reserves and observatories are working to a common strategy, as well as applying best-practice governance and using a single, integrated national financial and planning system.

BirdLife Australia is leading bird conservation, connecting with other organisations and networks who complement our work.

Thank you to the BirdLife Board for all their support in driving a new and exciting direction for BirdLife Australia. And to members, donors, volunteers and supporters — you all helped play a part in making this happen.

Paul Sullivan, Chief Executive Officer

Financial Statements

The consolidated BirdLife group comprises BirdLife Australia Ltd and its controlled entity, Australian Bird Environment Foundation.

BirdLife Australia includes the National Office, the

BirdLife Network of branches, reserves, observatories and special interest groups.

The consolidated operating surplus of \$2.282m in 2017 compares with a surplus of \$0.318m in 2016.

Comparison of results					
	2013 \$'000	2014 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2017 \$'000
BirdLife Australia Limited	(1,178)	(1,220)	(1,156)	(117)	2,273
Australian Bird Environment Foundation	50	140	78	435	9
Consolidated Operating Surplus	(1,128)	(1,080)	(1,078)	318	2,282

The improvement in the organisation's result is due to:

- Two large bequests of \$1.1m and \$0.4m
- A profit on the sale of the Nunawading property of \$0.614m

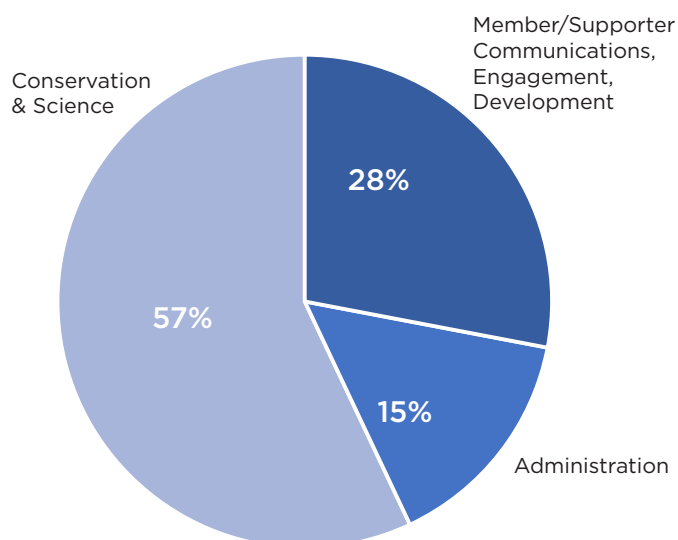
After excluding these items, the group's underlying result was a small surplus of approximately \$200k, compared with substantial underlying deficits in previous years, following the loss of government funding and investment in philanthropy.

Key areas of focus in 2018 will be:

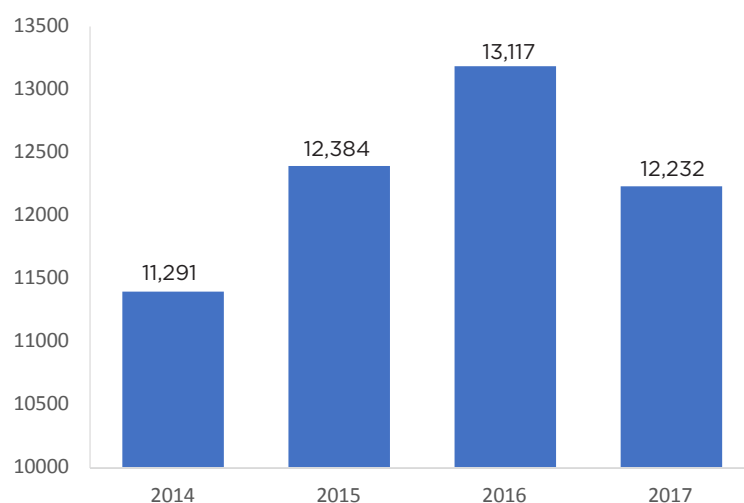
- improving accounting processes and controls across the group, following the rollout of a new financial system
- implementing a project management module to allow better monitoring of financial and non-financial tasks and milestones by project officers
- continuing to organically grow donations and membership revenue to reduce reliance on government grants.

BirdLife Australia has continued to fund core research and conservation programs through the generosity of donors and by drawing on capital reserves, including the Atlas, conservation advocacy and network support.

Expenditure 2017



Voting Members



The decline in membership during 2017 was offset by an increased take up of the new Wildbird Protector regular giving product, first offered to members in September 2017 as an alternative to membership. BirdLife Australia Membership enables supporters to directly be part of shaping the organisation's future while Wildbird Protector regular giving finances BirdLife conservation programs.

Directors List

Directors	Date Appointed	Qualifications & Experience	Directors Meetings	
			Eligible	Attended
John Barkla (President)	February 2011	BEC, FCA, Chair of Western Treatment Plant Biodiversity Conservation Advisory Committee for Melbourne Water as the representative of BirdLife Australia	4	4
Martine Maron (Vice President)	December 2011	PhD (Monash), BSc (Hons), ARC Future Fellow and Associate Professor in Environmental Management, working group member for IUCN and UNEP, Chair of AOCAC	4	4
Barry Baker	February 2011	PhD (UTAS), environmental consultant, member Research & Conservation Committee, Chair National Monitoring Committee, Chair Australasian Seabird Group	4	4
Amanda Bamford	May 2016	BSc (Hons) zoologist and science communicator, small business partner, President WA Naturalists' Club, Chair Herdsman Lake Regional Park CAC, Council member WA Gould League	4	4
Stuart Cooney	May 2013	PhD (ANU), BAppSc (Hons), ecological consultant, small business owner, ABEF Trustee, member of Awards Committee	4	3
Robert Dunn	May 2011	MAppSc, BA (Hons), Grad Cert Ornithology, President BirdLife Shoalhaven, Chair Audit & Risk Committee/Australian Bird Fund Committee	4	3
Gerard Early PSM	May 2011	MPA, BA, Grad Dip Admin; Environmental and public sector consultant, formerly Deputy Secretary of the Australian Government Environment Department, member Audit & Risk Committee/Australian Bird Fund Committee	4	4
Fiona Hunt	October 2015 (resigned February 2017)	MMgmt, B Ed, Dip Teach, GAICD, Head of Strategy, Mahlab Media, Director Aitch.Co Consulting	0	0
Duncan MacKenzie OAM	May 2014	FRMAA, FMAA, FAIM, FAICD, Chair BirdLife Australia Gluepot Reserve, member Occupational Health & Safety and Audit & Risk Committee/Australian Bird Fund Committee	4	3
David Reid OAM	May 2011 (term expired May 2017)	Marketing and strategic planning experience, Chair of Occupational Health & Safety Committee	1	1
Roland Roccioletti	July 2017	MAICD, ESCI, Ad Dip Food & Tourism	2	1
Pamela Sutton-Legaud	July 2017	MBA, CFRE, MFIA, Consultant AskRIGHT Pty Ltd. Board Member Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Chair Fundraising Institute of Australia Victorian Committee. Board member Inner West Community Enterprises/Seddon Community Bank	2	2
Alanna Vivian	May 2014	BA (Hons), LLB, practising lawyer, member of Audit & Risk Committee/Australian Bird Fund Committee	4	4

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Consolidated	
	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Research project income	2,935,686	2,827,642
Donations	2,089,545	1,409,127
Bequests	1,988,661	591,621
Subscriptions	831,208	809,300
Sales, courses and fees	958,174	750,633
Interest received	309,308	363,609
Realised gain on sale of fixed assets	614,236	-
Realised gain on sale of investments	-	502,015
Other income	77,816	36,393
Total Revenue	9,804,634	7,290,339
Expenditure		
Employee costs	4,287,525	3,988,968
Printing, stationery and magazine costs	690,417	780,095
Finance and administration costs	947,623	746,017
Research projects non-employee costs	895,822	803,011
Occupancy expenses	374,583	366,373
Travel expenses	292,235	231,955
Subscriptions	34,646	56,221
Total Expenditure	7,522,851	6,972,639
Operating surplus	2,281,783	317,700
Other comprehensive income		
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss		
Changes in the fair value of investments	554,620	(578,373)
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,836,403	(260,673)

Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017

	Consolidated	
	2017	2016
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,996,595	4,378,246
Trade and other receivables	493,255	266,595
Property held for sale	-	1,011,126
Other assets	28,761	21,113
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,518,611	5,677,080
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	8,301,573	4,382,622
Property, plant & equipment	922,958	900,976
Intangible assets	385,328	222,292
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	9,609,859	5,505,890
TOTAL ASSETS	14,128,470	11,182,970
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	842,002	736,357
Provisions	878,214	812,153
Unearned Income	2,568,596	2,663,397
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	4,288,812	4,211,907
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	118,088	85,896
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	118,088	85,896
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,406,900	4,297,803
NET ASSETS	9,721,570	6,885,167
EQUITY		
Reserves	3,952,504	6,885,167
Retained surplus	5,769,066	-
TOTAL EQUITY	9,721,570	6,885,167

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2017

Consolidated	Retained Surplus \$	Investment Reserves \$	General Reserve \$	Perpetual Fund \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 January 2016	-	1,255,811	2,184,856	3,705,173	7,145,840
Surplus attributable to members	317,700	-	-	-	317,700
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	(578,373)	-	-	(578,373)
Total comprehensive income for the year	317,700	(578,373)	-	-	(260,673)
Transfers to and from reserves	(317,700)	-	2,952,509	(2,634,809)	-
Balance 31 December 2016	-	677,438	5,137,365	1,070,364	6,885,167
Surplus attributable to members	2,281,783	-	-	-	2,281,783
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	554,620	-	-	554,620
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,281,783	554,620	-	-	2,836,403
Transfers to and from reserves	3,487,283	-	(3,487,283)	-	-
Balance 31 December 2017	5,769,066	1,232,058	1,650,082	1,070,364	9,721,570

Statement of cash flow for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Consolidated	
	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from ordinary activities	7,226,865	6,767,764
Payments to suppliers and employees	(7,736,008)	(7,390,516)
Bequests	1,988,661	591,621
Interest received	309,308	363,609
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,788,826	332,478
Cash flows from investing activities		
Net proceeds from sale/(acquisition) of investments	(3,364,381)	872,743
Net proceeds from sale of property	1,670,000	-
Net acquisition of intangibles, plant and equipment	(476,096)	(156,175)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(2,170,477)	716,568
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(381,651)	1,049,046
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	4,378,246	3,329,200
Cash at the end of the financial year	3,996,595	4,378,246

Honour Rolls

Life Members

Bruce Abbott
Rosemary Adams
Jill Anderson
Ray Anderson
David Ap-Thomas
Susanna Ap-Thomas
Heather Arnold
Noel Arnold
Helen Aston
Shaun Austin
Colin Barraclough
George Bedggood
Geoffrey Berry
Russell Biggs
Genevieve Binns
Philip Brook
Margaret Brooke
Lesley Brooker
Michael Brooker
Noel Brown
Lilla Buckingham
David Buntine
Maxwell Burrows
Gordon Cameron OAM
John Carabella
Mike Carter
Graeme Chapman
Eileen Collins
Mavis Cooper
Richard Cooper
John Courtney
Lyle Courtney OAM
Alan Cowan
Gina Cowling
Sid Cowling
Michael Craig
Marion Crouther
Peter Dann
Stephen Davies
Alma de Rebeira OAM
Perry de Rebeira OAM
Henry Dee
Richard Donaghey
Douglas Dow
Michael Drew
Harry Dunn
Lillian Durran
Robert Elvish
Frank Farr
Cecily Fearnley
Ken Fishley
May Fishley
Joy Fleay
Tom Fletcher
Frederick Fogarty
Dorothy Foley
Patricia Forrest
Peter Fullagar
Phillip Fuller
Dennis Gosper
Murray Gunn
Ronald Hadley
Ken Harley

Peter Haselgrove
Alison Hatfield
Gifford Hatfield
Alec Hawtin
Sharon Hawtin
Arthur Hill
Rachel Hill
David Hollands OAM
Peter Hopper
Rod Horner
Graeme Hosken
Timothy Hunt
Julia Hurley
Margaret Jansen
Alan Johnson
Kath Johnson
Lynette Johnson
Hazel Jones
Laurie Jones
Noela Jones
Mark Kala
Pamela Knight
Andrew Krumins
Lorraine Lane
Mary LeCroy
Richard Leeds
Gladys Leslie
John Liddy
Geoffrey Lodge
Gail Lonnon
Tom Lowe
Roy Mackay
Duncan MacKenzie OAM
Nancy Marriott
Neil Marriott
Wendy Marriott
Bill Middleton OAM
David Milledge
Clare Miller
Edward Milne
Pat Minton
Robert Missen
John Moore
David Morgan
Alan Morris
Chris Morris
Virginia Morrison
Christopher Morse
Mike Newman
Anthony Nicholls
David Nicholls
Lloyd Nielsen
David Niland
Henry Nix AO
Daphne Oliver
Juris Ozols
Joan Palamountain
David Paton AM
Lesley Perkins
Trevor Pescott OAM
David Pfanner
Deborah Pitman
Jill Plowright

Chester Porter QC
Jean Porter
Douglas Quinn
John Ravenhall AM
Alan Reid OAM
Donald Reid
Margaret Reidy
Gary Richards
Peter Roberts
Shelley Robertson
Alan Rogers
Robert Rogers OAM
Don Saunders PSM
Donald Seton
Michael Seyfort
Pam Sherlock
Lester Short
Jean Smith
Brian Snape AM
Diana Snape
Brian Speechley
Merran Spinaze
Graeme Stevens
David Stewart
June Stringer
Barbara Sutherland
Roderick Sutherland AM
Charles Tate
Gwenda Taws
Evan Thomas
Roger Thomas
Peter Tierney
Elizabeth Turnbull
Bessie Tyers
Spencer Unthank
Graham Walters
Neil Weatherill
Bill Weatherly
Malcolm Wilson

Honorary Life Members

Geoff Deason
Beryl Jarman
Alma E. Mitchell
Rosemary Payet
Howard Plowright
Len Robinson

Honorary Members

Patricia White

Fellows

Margaret Cameron AM
Sid Cowling
Stephen Davies
Clive Minton AM
Mike Newman
Henry Nix AO

Distinguished Service Awards

Marleen Acton
Rob Anderson
Marjorie Andrews
David Ap-Thomas
George Baker
Michael Bamford
Colin Barraclough
Lionel Bloss
Ron Bone
Ian Boyd
Allan Briggs
Alan Brown
Celia Browne
Maxwell Burrows
Shirley Cameron
Wallie Coles
Shirley Cook
David Coutts
John Crowhurst
Stephen Debus
Xenia Dennett
Tina Dotto
Val Ford
Barbara Garrett
Alan Giles
Sheena Gillman
Janet Hand
Graham Harrington
Judith Harrington
Alec Hawtin
Graeme Hosken
Judith Hoyle
Virgil Hubregtse
Christine Hudson
Julia Hurley
Tania Ireton
Dorothy Johnstone
John Kirton
Andrew Ley
Laurence Living
Barbara Longmuir
Marlene Lyell
Nancy Marriott
Peter Mason

Suzanne Mather
Clare Miller
Tim Minter
Ian Morgan
Ian Muir
Clive Napier
Wendy Napier
Clive Nealon
Helen O'Donnell
Joan Peters
Margaret Philippson
Jill Plowright
Trevor Quested
Bill Ramsay
Barbara Reidy
Leonie Robbins
Donald Roberts
Jennifer Rogers
Sonja Ross
Don Saunders
Peter Sedgwick
Bob Semmens
Bob Shanks
Rod Smith
Richard Stevens
Keith Stockwell
Nancy Taylor
Trish Teesdale
Duncan Turnbull
Bessie Tyers
Liz Walker
Brice Wells
Barbara Williams
Beth Williams
Jon Wren
Avril Yates

We sadly note the passing of

Rosemary Balmford AM
Margaret Hollands
Ern Perkins

Thank you

BirdLife Australia would like to acknowledge the generosity of our donors whose passion and commitment to native birds and their habitats makes our conservation work possible.

With respect and gratitude, BirdLife Australia would like to acknowledge those who generously included a gift to native birds in their Will.

Estate of Hugh Robert Armstrong
Estate of Lesley Cunningham
Estate of Patricia Dabbs
Estate of Beverly Jill Hotchin
Estate of Colin Hutchinson
Estate of Karen Marie Latimer
Estate of Sheila Forbes Micholson
Estate of Shirley Edith Poole
Estate of Anne E Raymond



BirdLife Australia's Action Plans for Shorebirds, Woodland birds and Mallee birds are helping to improving the conservation status of some of Australia's most threatened bird species. (Images by Dean Ingwersen)

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BirdLife Australia is the Australian member of BirdLife International, the world's largest nature conservation partnership. BirdLife International is a partnership of 120 organisations worldwide and growing, with 13 million members and supporters, over 7,000 local conservation groups and 7,400 staff.

BirdLife International's vision is a world rich in biodiversity, where people and nature live in harmony. The partnership is driven by the belief that local people, working for nature in their own places but connected nationally and internationally through our global partnership, are the key to sustaining all life on this planet. This unique local-to-global approach delivers high impact and long-term conservation for the benefit of nature and people.

The BirdLife International partnership is widely recognised as the world leader in bird conservation. Rigorous science informed by practical feedback from projects on the ground in important sites and habitats enables this truly global partnership to implement successful conservation programs for birds and all nature.

BirdLife Australia

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birds are in our nature