

(thought possibly to be a first occurrence!). However, he apologised for major delays in the distribution of the *Bulletin* 72 (April 1994) which had occurred after printing. In large part these seem to have been the fault of the British Post Office. This had caused substantial problems due to the delay in distribution of conference details and booking forms. A number of possible solutions are being investigated to ensure that such delays do not occur again.

The report was accepted.

7. Co-ordinator's Report

Herman Hötter noted that the WSG Kentish Plover Project will be formally finished next year with a specially workshop to be held at the Portugal meeting. Likewise the WSG Inland Wader Counts Project is soon to formally conclude, and all data collected subjected to full analysis and publication. He noted that Ole Thorup has taken responsibility on the Committee for the projected WSG Project on breeding waders in Europe. Members would be given full details of this new project via the *Bulletin*.

8. WSG-IWRB Liaison Officer's Report

Owing to Nick Davidson's absence from the AGM owing to illness, his written report was tabled. It was noted that the WSG-IWRB link is operating well and that there will be regular news of the link in the *Bulletin*.

The report was accepted.

9. Elections to the Executive Committee

The following were elected for a further term of office on the Executive Committee:

- Herman Hötter - Co-ordinator; and
- Petra de Goeij - General Secretary.

Pablo Canavari was elected for a further term on the Executive Committee.

10. Subscription rates for 1995

There will be no increase of subscription rates in 1995, although as noted in the Treasurer's report, there may need to be an increase for 1996.

In closing the Annual General Meeting the Chairman highlighted the fact that in 1995 the Wader Study Group will celebrate its 25th anniversary. All members are invited to attend the Portugal meeting to celebrate this event in style.

1994 WSG ANNUAL CONFERENCE: BÜSUM, GERMANY

The highly successful 1994 conference was held in the German holiday resort of Büsum on the Schleswig-Holstein coast of the international Wadden Sea. At least according to the attendance list, the meeting was attended by 159 participants from 16 countries, although the attendance over the duration of the meeting seemed highly dynamic! Whilst not all the 159 were WSG members when they arrived at Büsum, most were on their departure thanks to the predatory stalking of non-members by Rodney West and Bob Loos!

A full report of the meeting will be given in the *April Bulletin*, as will the abstracts from talks and posters (and a critical review of 'the Ens Hypothesis' (*Bulletin* 57: 29-33) based on monitoring of participant sex-ratios from five years of WSG meetings).

Thanks are especially due to the following organisations for their most generous financial support: Ministerie van Landbouw een Visserij (The Netherlands), the Stifterverband für Deutsche Wissenschaft, the Bundesminister für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit (Germany) and the Office of the National Park Schleswig-Holsteinisches Wattenmeer.

Logistic support was provided by the WWF-Wattenmeerstelle Schleswig-Holstein and the Forschungs- und Technologie-Zentrum (FTZ).

Herman Hötter's major task of ensuring the smooth and efficient organisation of the meeting was aided by a large and enthusiastic team: Herr Bolz and his helpers at the Youth Hostel, Frau Schmidt at the Conference Hall, Lorenz Greve, Brigitte Kliner-Hötter, Vera Knoke, Gregor Kölsch, Sabine Marxen (who handled bookings and abstracts), Annika Petersen, Hans-Ulrich Rösner (who especially co-ordinated arrangements for the excursion), Rainer Schulz, Anne Segebade, Barbara Strauß and Ole Thorup.

Help with sorting out the complex travel arrangements was given by Gerard Boere, Gerhard Nikolaus and Pavel Tomkovich.

To all of the above, the Group would like to express their thanks for making the 1994 meeting not only possible, but also as stimulating and interesting as ever.