



W A D E R S T U D Y G R O U P
B U L L E T I N

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***WSG ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION UNCHANGED
FOR THE 9TH YEAR RUNNING!***

For the ninth successive year, the WSG Executive Committee is proposing to the 1999 Annual General Meeting that there be no increase in the base annual membership fee, thus keeping it the same as in 1992. Few other scientific societies have kept their fees stable for so long.

How are we able to do this? In large part this is because most of the otherwise substantial running costs of a group as large and active as WSG are undertaken free of cost by officers of the Executive Committee – a large range of activities that tend to go unnoticed as long as everything runs smoothly! This allows us to devote almost all the income from membership fees directly back to the Group's members in producing *Bulletins* and holding annual conferences. Furthermore, in addition to members receiving three increasingly large *Bulletins* each year, we have, through finding additional sources of funding, been able to send all members a copy of each *International Wader Studies* volume (of which there have been five since 1992) free of any additional charge. We have also been able to avoid any increase in membership fees during this time by seeking economies by finding cheaper printers for the *Bulletin* (a large proportion of the annual costs to the Group, as Bob Loos' Treasurer's Report shows). This has allowed us to delay a subscription increase for several years, although our projections are indicating the likely need for membership fees to increase in 2001.

Continuing to deliver this quality of service to members depends largely on all of you continuing as members and paying your subscription dues promptly, thus saving costly reminders. 1999 and 2000 are very good years for members. We will shortly be sending to all members the long-awaited proceedings of the Odessa conference which, at over 500 pages is the largest special issue the Group has ever produced – and the first volume of *Wader Study Methods* will follow shortly after that. Several other *IWS* volumes are in preparation.

We hope that all this provides a good service to members. We also hope that all members will encourage others to join our exciting group: the more members we have, the better service we can offer.....