

# Society of Editors

[www.societyofeditors.org](http://www.societyofeditors.org)

A black and white photograph of a street scene. In the background, a building with large windows and a central doorway is visible. Two people are standing in the doorway. A police officer in uniform is standing on the sidewalk to the right. In the foreground, a person is holding a camera up to take a picture. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT 2006/07' is overlaid in large white letters at the bottom.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2006/07

# Society of Editors

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2006/7





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The Society of Editors was formed by a merger of the Guild of Editors and the Association of British Editors in April 1999.

It has more than 400 members made up of editors, managing editors, editorial directors, training editors, editors-in-chief and deputy editors in national, regional and local newspapers, magazines, radio, television and new media, media lawyers and academics in journalism education.

They are as different as the publications, programmes and websites they create and the communities and audiences they serve.

But they share the values that matter:

- The universal right to freedom of expression
- The importance of the vitality of the news media in a democratic society
- The promotion of press and broadcasting freedom and the public's right to know
- The commitment to high editorial standards

These values give the society the integrity and authority to influence debate on press and broadcasting freedom, ethics and the culture and business of news media.

**To keep up to date with the society's work visit our website**

**[www.societyofeditors.org](http://www.societyofeditors.org)**

*This report is produced in partnership with*



*News images courtesy of the Press Association and Sky News.*

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**WHEN** you set the title for any conference months ahead of schedule, you always wonder if it will still be relevant. No problem this year – A Matter of Trust could not be more applicable, given the headline-grabbing issues of the Royal phone tap scandal and the rows over TV phone-in competitions.

Trust is something we all strive for, closely guard, and lose at our peril. At the Manchester conference we will hear first hand some of the lessons learned.

In the run up to last year's excellent conference in Glasgow, the then president Charles McGhee, editor of *The Herald*, said the SoE had reached a stage where it must decide where it went next. His challenge was firmly met by a constant stream of lobbying on behalf of the whole media industry with some difficult and complex debating on a whole series of issues – with success.

The SoE led the fight to protect the Freedom of Information Act from Government plans to restrict its use and lobbied the Attorney General for a review of contempt laws. The then Attorney, Lord Goldsmith, promised further meetings with the society on a range of legal issues, something we welcomed, and look forward to continuing with his successor Baroness Scotland QC.

Against a background of 24-hour news services and global communications via the internet, the contempt review is aimed at bringing up to date the restrictions on journalists' freedom to report details in high profile cases, and we have urged that research should be carried out among jurors to ascertain what effect, if any, reporting has on their deliberations and just how important is the judge's instruction to try the case on the evidence before the court. This is essential if there is to be proper assessment of a "substantial risk of prejudice".

The draft Coroners bill, which would restrict the right of the Press to report names of witnesses and even the deceased in some cases, now looks set to be reconsidered following much lobbying by the Parliamentary and Legal committee led by Robin Esser.

And when the spotlight was once again turned on self regulation we gave evidence to the Commons select committee to fight off would-be regulators. But there was some critical questioning over payments to tracing agencies. *The Sun's* veteran Royal photographer Arthur Edwards telling MPs that Prince William was sure to marry Kate Middleton only a few months before the courtship hit the rocks, stole the headlines, but events show that he could still be right.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My own proposal to see the setting up of a website cataloguing court orders has met with a positive response from the Ministry of Justice.

Our director Bob Satchwell has worked tirelessly and even took the message of freedom of the media to newspaper editors in Russia and Bulgaria – well, someone had to go! And our treasurer Pat Pilton has wrestled with the thorny issue of changing the accounting period to make the reporting of the society's finances easier. We will finish the year in a stronger financial position. My thanks to them and all of the board for their support.

I am also very pleased that in our next president, Simon Bucks from Sky News, our first president from the broadcast sector, we will have someone who will yet again reinforce the message that the SoE is for the whole media industry.

Every new president faces the challenge of "follow that" and Charles and his team put on a tremendous line-up followed by a Glasgow annual dinner in the fabulous Kelvingrove. I look forward to welcoming you all to my hometown where I have spent all my working life and witnessed a city being transformed to one with a booming reputation. You will enjoy Manchester – I promise.



**PAUL HORROCKS**

EDITOR  
MANCHESTER  
EVENING NEWS



# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**YET** again, the 2006 society conference in Glasgow set the agenda for media debate for the following year.

It was clear that the lessons from the previous year, when we had asked *Whatever Next?*, had been taken on board and in less than 12 months media organisations, ranging from a small independent weekly newspaper through the major nationals to broadcasters and global internet giants such as Google, were on the way to creating a converged media.

This will be, or rather already is, an industry where print, publishing, broadcasting and the web are increasingly redundant terms. Now it is all about the variety of platforms that can be exploited to deliver news and other content that no longer has to exist within the confines of print, TV, radio or even the internet.

In Glasgow under the title of *The Next Generation*, we were told how news had to be delivered in whatever format the audience required, whenever they required it.

It was illuminating, especially for those who had memories of having to mount a business case for reporters being issued with mobile phones only a few short years ago. The pace of change is dramatic.

It was only a decade since a bean-counting newspaper executive expressed his reluctance to give all reporters desktop access to the World Wide Web. He was concerned it might distract them from their work. The prophecy was correct but not in quite the way the manager envisaged and it was certainly not detrimental!

Indeed it is technology that has driven the media back to its customers – readers, listeners, viewers and now of course, bloggers and citizen journalists. The cliché is that necessity is the mother of invention. Maybe, but in the media the speed with which newsrooms have grasped the opportunities shows just how ingenious our industry can be.

Against a challenging commercial background, most of us left Glasgow thrilled by the new opportunities for the industry that were being created by organisations that allow their editors and journalists to display the determination, creativity and indeed cunning that they need every day to deliver news and features to their audiences.

Discussions in Glasgow made it relatively easy to set the theme for the 2007 conference in Manchester. As this report was being prepared the final touches were being put to *A Matter of Trust* – a title that over the year proved to be precisely for the moment.



# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

First, newspapers came under the House of Commons Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee spotlight after the Royal phone tapping affair. Then broadcasting came under the cosh because of phone-in irregularities and questions about documentaries.

With Gavin O'Reilly of Independent News & Media and the World Association of Newspapers, booked to deliver the opening Society of Editors Lecture, the scene is set for another powerful conference.

The gathering is the key annual showcase for the society which brings editors, senior executives, media lawyers and trainers together from all sectors of the 'traditional' media.

Debate focuses on the audience-building that is crucial to the commercial success of the media that is so necessary to finance journalism. But that is only part of the story.

The conference creates the profile and the strength the society needs to lead the fight on behalf of editors, journalists, media companies and, of course, the public, to protect the media's freedom to report and the right to free speech.

And the all-important campaigning front has

been especially busy over the past year as Robin Esser's Parliamentary and Legal report outlines. Despite convergence, the battles have been diverse and varied and the society has always been in the front line.

Last year was something of a time for introspection. Just like the many media companies and organisations for whom it works, the society needed to examine its achievements and working practices in order to maintain efficiency, move on and grow in stature.

By no means have all of the targets we identified at the start of the year been achieved. Many were long term goals and, in some cases, merely part of a wish list.

That said, while we have still a fair distance to travel in order to provide the funds for a full-time secretariat, our finances are improved and indeed impressive for a small administrative organisation, as Pat Pilton's report demonstrates.

The conference is the main source of extra funding for our campaigning, while membership subscriptions and valuable support from major national newspaper companies finance the logistics upon which the lobbying forces rely.





## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The change in the society's financial year will make keeping on top of the books a little easier and help members to see quite clearly where and how their money is spent.

Building on our SWOT analysis, the society has taken significant steps to build on its campaigning reputation. While we remain under funded we have benefited from the talents and efforts of Sarah Goodman who has just completed a year as our first research assistant.

We still cannot do all that we would like to be doing and should be doing, but Sarah has enabled us to lift our level of activity by a surprising amount more than might have been expected by the addition of one member of staff.

We now have some time for thinking as well as doing, and we usually have cover in the office across the working day. The job is hugely valuable and the job holder has been priceless. We will wish Sarah well as she pursues her postgraduate career and look forward to basking in the reflected glory wherever her remarkable talents, commitment and enthusiasm find a new home.

Sarah has also been responsible for more regular updating of the website. That demonstrates the

uplift in our activities which in turn is rewarded by steady growth in visits to the site.

The site has again been redesigned and revamped to be still more user friendly by Lyn Disley and her Magstar team. There are plans to develop the site further as a reflection of our members' capabilities online.

Lyn was responsible for the delivery of the Glasgow conference that was so successful on every level. While she is not directly involved with Manchester, her advice in the background is as valuable as her company's work on the website.

Elena Tulenkova ensures that we meet our day-to-day financial and accounting challenges, satisfying the auditors and keeping us legal.

Angela Varley powers and polishes the administrative machine, supervises our valued database and maintains and builds our membership, which is indeed expanding.

We are sustained by the dedication of our board members and our regional officers. We rely on the encouragement of our Advisory Council members and our Fellows. We are also grateful for tangible financial help from Associated Newspapers, the Guardian and Observer, News International, the Telegraph Group and Trinity Mirror.





# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

We also appreciate the support of regional newspaper groups that encourage membership and the equally valuable assistance of many other newspaper and broadcasting organisations and individuals, too numerous to mention by name, that share our aims and appreciate our work.

We thank our landlords at the University Centre in Cambridge and the teams at Press Gazette and HoldTheFrontPage that publicise our activities.

Thanks again to PR Newswire for the continued partnership that helps us produce this report.

The report is prepared in advance of our annual conference. The Manchester event will mark the end of a busy and fruitful year of office for our president Paul Horrocks, who combined editorship of the Manchester Evening News in a particularly challenging year with his society duties. He had to follow Charles McGhee's Glasgow gala. We are pleased that Charles has agreed to remain on the board.

My personal thanks to all of them. Without their commitment and support the society simply could not exist.



**BOB SATCHWELL**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## PARLIAMENTARY & LEGAL COMMITTEE

**JUST** when you thought it might be safe to relax up pops another threat to the freedom of the media which stands at the heart of modern democracy and is such a pain to those who rule over us.

It reminds me of the many headed Hydra. Cut off one head and two more grow in its place. No sooner do we see the Freedom of Information Act on the statute book than the very Government that brought it in advanced proposals for severe restrictions and a parliamentary exemption which would effectively remove its teeth.

Through high profile campaigning and the Information Rights Users Group your P & L Committee has forced the Government to think again and is on the way to getting the lot sidelined.

Then we had the draft Coroners Bill, which would allow coroners to ban the press from their courts and allow people to disappear off the streets and from communities without public explanation. A good one that. Your society's strenuous objections were only out-played by the objections from the coroners themselves!

Then we had the Companies Act, the Data Protection Act, recent reviews of PACE regulations, openness in the family courts,

which was immediately reversed to secrecy, and proposals to regulate payments to witnesses and criminals. Snake heads all.

We defended the media interests with vigour through government consultation and independent campaigning. Your society also raised the issue of the increased risk to editors facing prosecution under the Sex Offenders Act. And we still are working to mitigate the effect of the proposals to jail journalists for breaches of the Data Protection Act which have been sneaked into Parliamentary time in the Criminal Justice bill.

We have lobbied the Attorney General for a review of contempt laws and look forward to regular liaison between the government and the media on these issues.

We are working to establish a website cataloguing court orders, as an easy reference for journalists. Discussions with the Ministry of Justice are ongoing and positive.

We successfully stood up for self-regulation of the press in the Culture Media and Sport Select Committee's inquiry.

On going discussions with ACPO are inching towards a better understanding between the police and the media. Slow progress is being made we hope.





## PARLIAMENTARY & LEGAL COMMITTEE

We have been working with other media organisations to counter the increasingly worrying trends of sports organisations to try to impose draconian conditions on attendance at sporting events which would severely control coverage and erode the freedom of expression which is the life blood of media comment.

We organised a round table of editors to contribute to the Commission on Integration and Cohesion's report *Our Shared Future*, highlighting the media's role in promoting social cohesion.

The society provided the industry with the newly updated, wallet-sized version of the newspaper and magazine industry Code of Practice, so that every journalist can carry one.

We have overseen a guide to reporting poverty, in partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Media Trust, and have also worked with other media organisations to produce a guide to reporting mental illness and suicide.

We have sought to maintain the highest standards in journalistic training through society representation on the NCTJ Board, as well as individual editors' involvement on exam boards and college assessment panels.

We have represented editors on the Media Emergencies Forum, taking part in exercises to help plan for reporting and following up lessons learnt from major terrorist incidents, a possible flu pandemic and other potential incidents. And we have collected comments from the media after major incidents to feedback into the forum.

We have even been active internationally as we have extended the message of freedom of the media to Russia and Bulgaria.

Orwell's 1984 is still required holiday reading for everyone on the committee. So above all we have tirelessly defended the publishers' and broadcasters' right to report on behalf of the public and tirelessly campaigned for freedom of expression generally and the public's right to know.

The Parliamentary and Legal Committee works closely with the NPA and the Newspaper Society both as a group and as individuals. We are especially grateful for the invaluable support of David Newell, Santha Rasaiah, Catherine Courtney and Sue Oake at the Newspaper Society. And, of course, we could not achieve all this without the hard work and dedication of our executive director Bob Satchwell.

We will not relax. Our aim is one day, like Hercules, to kill the Hydra altogether.



**ROBIN ESSER**  
CHAIRMAN  
EXECUTIVE MANAGING  
DIRECTOR  
DAILY MAIL

# TRAINING COMMITTEE

**THE** society's commitment to the training of journalists, both pre-entry and in career development, remains one of its central priorities.

Training issues are discussed at every board meeting and the chair of the Training Committee continues to be impressed by the interest taken by busy editors in this area of their responsibilities. A succession of presidents has made it clear how important they regard this aspect of their responsibilities, and that has never been more the case than it is today. Despite financial constraints, staffing cuts, and all the challenges of developing multi-media publishing, most editors fully recognise the fundamental need for quality journalists, and that flows from quality training.

The demands on editorial staff as a result of media convergence are greater than ever, and most editors are impressed by the flexibility of recruits and their acceptance of the multi-skilling demands of the new media world.

Over the past year the society has engaged in training by spreading its influence through the various areas where the key issues have been discussed and key policies made. Our input has been strong. There are now four members of the society's board on the board of the NCTJ, which has meant the society's voice has been heard and note taken of it in a series of major developments.

There is a constant dialogue between the two organisations, with the NCTJ recognising that editors are the key stakeholders in journalism training and the society recognising the central role the NCTJ has in the delivery of training.

The society was represented and influential on the working party developing new NCTJ course accreditation criteria and the setting of new standards for gaining qualifications. These have been rolled out during the year and will give editors a clear picture of the abilities of potential recruits. Editors have made their voice heard on the standards of college and university courses by joining accreditation panels in ever greater numbers.

The present chief concern of editors, understandably, is recruiting journalists with the skills and potential to embrace converged media. Course directors across the further and higher education sectors are, to a varying degree, addressing this issue and it is important that editors communicate their views about what they need. Course curricula become ever more crowded and the problem of how to cram in all the multi-media knowledge the industry seeks is a challenging one.

The NCTJ, historically a print based body, is also addressing this issue and has developed an online qualification. Again the society had an input.





# TRAINING COMMITTEE

While the skills demands of print and broadcast journalism are distinct, convergence through online publishing brings them together. While the society recognised this long ago, and embraced print and broadcast in its membership, the same has not been true of the professional bodies representing the two sectors. College and university courses are often badged print or broadcast, and separate bodies accredit them, the NCTJ and Broadcast Journalism Training Council.

This presents some difficulties in the increasingly converged world. A dialogue has begun between the two professional bodies, and again the society is represented on that joint working party. At present this is work in progress, but there is agreement that it is work that must continue in a positive and harmonious way. The society, through its training committee, will in the immediate future give special emphasis to the training needs for the new environment, and will consult editors.

One problem sorted in the course of the year was the integration of the NVQ into the overall qualifications landscape. This is a crucial step in developing the NCTJ as the keeper of newspaper training standards.

The training committee took great pleasure in the award of Journalism Diversity Fund bursaries to a number of journalism students. It was the society's Diversity in the Newsroom report that gave impetus to the setting up of this fund, the generosity of the Newspaper Licensing Authority which provided the money, now supplemented by some publishers, and the NCTJ which took on the administration. And to complete this rare example of a number of bodies working together for a greater good, the society played a part in awarding bursaries.



**PROFESSOR  
PETER COLE**

CHAIRMAN  
PROFESSOR OF  
JOURNALISM  
UNIVERSITY OF  
SHEFFIELD

# TREASURER'S REPORT

**THIS** year's Statement of Accounts pages which follow, may look similar to those of previous years, but they differ in one important respect. They have not yet been subject to the usual scrupulous independent audit. Nothing sinister in this, I hasten to add. It is simply that the society's financial year is changing from July through to June, to January through to December.

This is one of three important amendments agreed by the Board to the financial management and reporting of the Society's accounts. A move supported by our auditors MacIntyre Hudson. Two main difficulties were created by our current arrangements:

First, a considerable proportion of the society's income and expenditure each year relates specifically to the annual conference. The sporadic nature of this income – when, and how much, sponsors' donate; when delegates pay their fees; when hotel bookings have to be paid; and even flexibility over the date of the conference itself – makes budgeting an extremely difficult exercise.

For example, some £37,000 in revenue was received by the month of May for this November's conference that falls in the next financial year. Welcome income, indeed, but it gives a distorted picture of the society's performance, its cash flow, its reserves and,

indeed, its general financial wellbeing. And does little to assist the auditing process.

Second, the current timing of quarterly Board meetings mean that the most up-to-date figures are not available to the Treasurer in time to present to that meeting. Again, making accurate reporting of the society's finances unnecessarily difficult.

At its meeting in June, the Board agreed to extend the 2006-7 budget to the end of 2007 and to prepare a new budget to run from January to December 2008. The quarterly Board meetings will also now be held one month later, ie January/April/July/October. And thirdly, the conference account will be recorded separately and transferred to a final consolidated profit and loss account at the year's end.

The full audited accounts for the extended year will be presented to the Board in the new year, and will be included in the 2007-8 Annual Report and Accounts. I am confident that the "interim" accounts presented here reflect our current trading position and, once again, I am indebted to our part-time finance officer Elena Tulenkova for all her hard work in preparing them.

In a year in which we allocated considerable funds to proactively promote the activities of the society to a wider audience and the recruitment





# TREASURER'S REPORT

of a graduate intern to assist in this, we have managed to finish the "year" in a stronger trading position than in 2006. While we have not achieved all our goals – particularly in terms of growth and new revenue streams – the appointment of Sarah Goodman has been a major success.

Our turnover was up by £31,000 giving us a loss of £3,245 against a deficit of £20,338 in 2005-6. We recorded a surplus of almost £23,000 on the Glasgow conference thanks to both an increase in delegate numbers and £64,000 in sponsorship money (up from £51,000 the previous year). A big thank you to Camelot, the BBC, Royal Caribbean, Dipinto, Royal Bank of Scotland, Foot Anstey, BAA, Newsquest and Glasgow City Council. The Society received a further £22,500 in general sponsorship.

Membership income has stabilized at £49,000 after a disappointing 13 per cent drop the previous year. Shrewd investment by Elena continues to swell our interest income (£6,259) and office expenses and professional services continue to operate within budget. Overall, our reserves stand at a healthy £87,345.

Cause for optimism as we go forward, on the back of a successful Manchester Conference, with greater clarity.



**PAT PILTON**  
TREASURER

# SOCIETY OF EDITORS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

Note	2007 £	2006 £
<b>Turnover</b>	<b>203,332</b>	<b>172,452</b>
Administrative expenses	212,565	197,566
<b>OPERATING LOSS/PROFIT</b>	<b>-9,233</b>	<b>-25,114</b>
Interest receivable	6,259	5,014
Interest payable	-271	0
<b>LOSS/PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>	<b>-3,245</b>	<b>-20,100</b>
Tax on loss/profit on ordinary activities	0	-238
<b>LOSS/PROFIT ON FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>-3,245</b>	<b>-20,338</b>





**SOCIETY OF EDITORS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**  
BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30 2006

Note	2007 £	£	2006 £	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Tangible assets	<b>2,727</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors	<b>2,803</b>		9,233	
Cash at bank and in hand	<b>142,242</b>		124,403	
	<b>145,045</b>		133,636	
<b>CREDITORS: Amount falling due within one year</b>	<b>-60,427</b>		<b>-43,046</b>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>84,618</b>		90,590
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>87,345</b>		90,590
<b>RESERVES</b>				
Profit and Loss Account		<b>87,345</b>		90,590
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<b>87,345</b>		90,590

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part V11 of the Companies Act 1985 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for smaller entities.

These financial statements were approved by the directors on the 21st September, 2007 and are signed on their behalf by:

**R.E. SATCHWELL**  
DIRECTOR

# SOCIETY OF EDITORS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2005).

#### Turnover

Turnover represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of conference fees and subscription fee income received, together with ancillary income. The society invoices fees to its members on an annual basis as at 1 July each year. Amounts invoiced but unpaid as at 30 June 2007 are not included within the financial statements to the extent that membership of the society is dependent upon payments.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives:

Office furniture	12.5% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

#### Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

#### Financial Instruments

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for, according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

#### Taxation

The company is only liable for corporation tax on income from bank deposit accounts.

### 2. OPERATING PROFIT

This is stated after charging:

	2007	2006
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	192	9,044
Auditors fees	2,904	2,350



**SOCIETY OF EDITORS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007**

**3. INTEREST PAYABLE**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Interest payable	<b>271</b>	<b>0</b>

**4. TAXATION ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
UK Corporation Tax based on results for the year	<b>0</b>	<b>238</b>

**5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

<b>COST</b>		<b>£</b>
At 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2007		<b>2,919</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		
At 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2007		<b>192</b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>		
At 30 June 2007		<b>2,727</b>

**6. DEBTORS**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>2,803</b>	<b>9,233</b>

**7. CREDITORS: amounts falling within one year**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Trade creditors	<b>10,170</b>	<b>12,376</b>
Corporation Tax	<b>0</b>	<b>236</b>
Other taxation	<b>-582</b>	<b>2,195</b>
Other creditors	<b>50,839</b>	<b>28,240</b>
	<b>60,427</b>	<b>43,047</b>

**8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the year the company was invoiced by The Satchwell Partnership, of which R.E. Satchwell is a partner, the sum of £39,312 (2006: £37,373) in relation to consultancy fees and reimbursed expenses.

**9. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The Society of Editors is a company limited by guarantee. Every member of the society undertakes to contribute to the assets of the society in the event of it being wound up while they are a member of within one year after they cease to be a member. The amount will not exceed £1 for every full member and 25 pence for every other member.

**10. RESERVES**

Balance brought forward
Loss for the year
Balance carried forward

<b>Profit and loss account £</b>
<b>90,590</b>
<b>-3,245</b>
<b>87,345</b>



# SOCIETY OF EDITORS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	2007 £	£	2006 £	£
Turnover				
Subscriptions	<b>49,245</b>		48,438	
Conference income	<b>130,472</b>		94,526	
Sponsorship	<b>22,500</b>		27,500	
Book sales and other income	<b>1,115</b>		1,988	
		<b>203,332</b>		172,452
<b>Other income</b>				
<b>Bank deposit interest</b>	<b>6,259</b>		5,014	
		<b>6,259</b>		5,014
		<b>209,591</b>		177,466
<b>Administration expenses</b>				
Conference expenses	<b>98,298</b>		88,891	
Secretariat fees	<b>62,082</b>		53,833	
Meeting expenses	<b>4,715</b>		4,931	
Marketing and promotion	<b>0</b>		2,810	
Rent and water rates	<b>10,887</b>		10,861	
Operations	<b>19,966</b>		19,231	
Audit and accountancy	<b>4,888</b>		5,009	
Parliamentary legal fees	<b>12,000</b>		12,000	
		<b>212,836</b>		197,566
<b>Loss/Profit for the year</b> (before taxation)		<b>-3,245</b>		-20,100



# SOCIETY OF EDITORS COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

### 1. Sponsorship

This is in respect of the sponsorship income from national newspaper groups.

### 2. Conferences

This income relates to the 2006 conference held in Glasgow.

### 3. Secretariat

The sum of £62,082 includes fees and reimbursed expenses for Robert Satchwell in the sum of £39,312.

### 4. Rent and Water Rates

This represents payments to the University Centre in Cambridge.

### 5. Operations

This includes printing, stationery, telephone, catering, insurance, postage, bank charges, sundry expenses and irrecoverable input VAT under partial exemption.

### 6. Audit and Accountancy.

Accountancy fees include payments to Elena Tulenkova for the provision of book-keeping services.

### 7. Parliamentary legal fees

The Newspaper Society has charged the society £12,000 per annum for the provision of legal expertise.



# SOCIETY PROFILE

## OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY

- To defend and promote the freedom of the media and to champion the universal right to freedom of expression.
- To represent members' interests in all matters of editorial and professional concern and interest.
- To monitor legislation on matters affecting the news media either directly or indirectly and to make appropriate representations to parliaments, regional assemblies, the European Commission and Parliament and other organisations and authorities at all levels of government and public life.
- To interpret legislation and advisory notices to other organisations.
- To provide a forum for discussion of the practical problems of editorship and to promote the objectives of the Company.
- To provide access to a network of professional contacts.
- To offer advice to members on issues of practical and ethical concern and to support other bodies in promoting standards in journalism, the independence of the media and self-regulation.
- To help improve the quality of journalism through the active support of education and training.
- To represent the UK's senior journalists internationally, assisting editors abroad to establish independence and ethical standards.

## GOVERNING BODY

The society is managed by a board of directors elected by the membership and administered by an executive director and treasurer.

An Advisory Council made up of senior figures in the industry offers advice and support.



# SOCIETY PROFILE

## COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION

The society's two standing committees – Parliamentary and Legal and Training – draw up policy guidelines and report to the board through their chairmen. Working parties and think tanks are set up as required. The society welcomes any time that members can give to support its work.

Society members serve on key industry bodies including the Press Complaints Commission, the Editors' Code Committee, Defence Advisory Committee, the government's Media Emergencies Forum, the National Council for the Training of Journalists, regional training advisory committees, the Journalism Bursary Fund and the Information Users Group at the Department of Constitutional affairs.

The society works closely with other industry organisations and the Newspaper Society's government and regulatory affairs team provides legal and research support. The society supports the work of the Campaign for Freedom of Information.

The society also co-operates with the Central Office of Information and the Thompson Foundation and other organisations by briefing visiting groups of editors from around the world.

The society maintains links with the Government Information and Communications Service, the Association of Police Public Relations Officers, the Information Commissioner and other public organisations. It regularly submits evidence and comments to parliamentary committees and the Competition Commission.

## INTERNATIONAL LINKS

The society has active links with FIEJ (International Federation of Newspaper Publishers) and is an associate member of World Editors Forum.

The society has long-standing relationships with the Commonwealth Press Union and ISWNE (International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors) covering the US and Canada. Their David Greenslade Bursary enables a member to visit North America.





# SOCIETY PROFILE

## SOCIETY OFFICIALS

### President -

Paul Horrocks (from 05.11.06)  
Charles McGhee (from 17.10.05)

### Vice President -

Simon Bucks (from 13.06.07)  
Paul Horrocks (from 07.03.06)

### Immediate Past President -

Charles McGhee (from 17.10.05)

### Treasurer - Pat Pilton

### Chairman, Training Committee -

Peter Cole

### Chairman, Parliamentary and Legal Committee - Robin Esser

### Executive Director and Company Secretary - Bob Satchwell

### Research Assistants -

Sarah Goodman (until 17.09.07)  
Tom Bonnett (from 17.09.07)

### Administrator - Angela Varley

### Finance Officer - Elena Tulenkova

**Board as at 30 June, 2007** - Neil Benson *Trinity Mirror*, Simon Bucks *Sky News*, Richard Catlow *MEN Weekly Newspapers*, Peter Charlton *Yorkshire Post*, Peter Cole *Department of Journalism-Sheffield University*, Steve Egginton, Robin Esser *Daily Mail*, Liz Griffin *Hereford Times*, Paul Horrocks *Manchester Evening News*, Donald Martin *Evening Times, Glasgow*, Charles McGhee *The Herald*, Pat Pilton, Nigel Pickover *The Evening Star*, Alan Qualtrough *Western Morning Press*, Bob Satchwell, Hannah Walker *South London Press & Mercury Group*, Tony Watson *The Press Association*.

**Advisory Council** - Kevin Beatty, Edwin Boorman, Tim Bowdler, Jim Brown, Mark Byford, Paul Dacre, Paul Davidson, Bill Emmott, Ivan Fallon, David Fordham, John Fry, Philip Graf, Phil Harding, Les Hinton, Clive Jones, Carolyn McCall, Chris Oakley, Keith Parker, Michael Pelosi, Paul Potts, Richard Tait.

**Fellows** - Ben Bradlee, W.F. Deedes, Geoff Elliott, Bob Pinker, Peter Preston, Richard Tait.

**Past Presidents** - Geoff Elliot, Neil Fowler, Edmund Curran, Liz Page, Jonathan Grun, Neil Benson, Keith Sutton, Charles McGhee.

**Training Committee** - Chairman: Peter Cole

**Members** - Neil Benson, Joanne Butcher, Drew Cochrane, Robert Cockcroft, Chris Elliott, Colin Grant, Liz Griffin, Jonathan Grun, Tony Johnston, Doug Melloy, Alan Powell, Marc Reeves, David Rowell, Chris Rushton, Peter Sands, Keith Stafford, Keith Sutton, Richard Tait, Rick Thompson.

### Parliamentary and Legal Committee Chairman - Robin Esser

**Members** - John Battle, Ian Beales, Neil Benson, Nick Carter, Ed Curran, Chris Elliott, Jonathan Grun, David Jordan, Anthony Longden, Doug Melloy, Alan Powell, Peter Preston, Santha Rasaiah, Alan Rusbridger, Sue Ryan, John Spencer, Neil Wallis.

### The following are ex officio members of the committees:

President, Vice President  
Immediate Past President  
Executive Director

## FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The income of the society, whatever its source, must be applied solely in promoting the objects of the society.

# THE SOCIETY IN THE REGIONS

Each member of the society is assigned a region. Each regional organisation is autonomous and can decide how to organise itself so long as it signs up to the society's objectives. Regional meetings are organised to meet the requirements of members in those regions. They are encouraged to develop a programme with the help of the executive director and head office.

## Eastern Region

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, North Essex and Kettering.

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr Stuart Rawlins, Editor, Essex Chronicle Series, 01245 600700, [stuart.rawlins@essexchronicle.co.uk](mailto:stuart.rawlins@essexchronicle.co.uk)

## Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr Edmund Curran, Editor-in-Chief, Belfast Telegraph, 02890 264400, [edmund.curran@belfasttelegraph.co.uk](mailto:edmund.curran@belfasttelegraph.co.uk)

## London & Home Counties

Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Berkshire, Central London, Greater London, Surrey, Kent, West and East Sussex, Essex (South).

**CHAIRMAN:** Ms Hannah Walker, Editor in Chief, South London Press, 0208 7106506, [hannahwalker@slp.co.uk](mailto:hannahwalker@slp.co.uk)

## Midlands

Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Humberside south of River Humber, Peterborough, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Hereford and Worcester, West Midlands, Warwickshire, and Welshpool and Banbury.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN:** Mr John Butterworth, Editor, Shrewsbury Chronicle, 01743 283311, [jbutterworth@shrewsburychronicle.co.uk](mailto:jbutterworth@shrewsburychronicle.co.uk)

## North Western

Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Leek.

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr Richard Catlow, Editorial Director, Greater Manchester Weekly Newspapers (North), Rochdale Observer Series, 0161 4804491, [richard.catlow@gmwn.co.uk](mailto:richard.catlow@gmwn.co.uk)

**SECRETARY:** Ken Bennett, 01457 820494, [kd.bennett@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kd.bennett@yahoo.co.uk)

## Yorkshire

South, West and North Yorkshire, and Humberside north of River Humber.

Peter Charlton, Editor, Yorkshire Post, 0113 2432701, [peter.charlton@ypn.co.uk](mailto:peter.charlton@ypn.co.uk)



Left to Right: Elena Tulenkova, Tom Bonnett, Angela Varley, Sarah Goodman.



# THE SOCIETY IN THE REGIONS

## Northern

Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland.

**CHAIRMAN:** Paul Robertson, Editor, Evening Chronicle, 0191 2016231,

paul.robertson@ncjmedia.co.uk

**VICE-CHAIRMAN:** Graham Marples, Managing Editor, News, Tyne Tees TV, 0191 2693700,

graham.marples@granadamedia.com

**SECRETARY:** Mr Malcolm Warne, Editor, Darlington & Stockton Times, 01325 505109, malcolm.warne@nne.co.uk

## Western

Gloucestershire, Avon, parts of Somerset, Wiltshire, Devon and Cornwall.

**SECRETARY:** Mr Andy Cooper, Editor-in-Chief, North Devon Journal, 01271 343064,

acooper@northdevonjournal.co.uk

## Scotland

**CHAIRMAN:** Julian Calvert, Journalism lecturer, Glasgow Caledonian University, 0141 331 3000, julian.calvert@gcal.ac.uk

**SECRETARY:** Mr Donald Fullarton, 01436 673774, dsf@btinternet.com

## Wales

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr Alistair Machray, Liverpool Daily Post, 0151 2272000,

alistair.machray@dailypost.co.uk

**SECRETARY:** Mr Spencer Feeney, Editor, South Wales Evening Post, 01792 510000, spencer.feeney@swwp.co.uk

## Wessex

Dorset, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, parts of Somerset, Newbury, Reading, Salisbury and Wokingham.

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr Ian Murray, Editor, The Southern Daily Echo, 02380 424777,

ianmur@soton-echo.co.uk

joe.scicluna@andoveradvertiser.co.uk





# Society of Editors

[www.societyofeditors.org](http://www.societyofeditors.org)

## NOTICE OF THE NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF EDITORS TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER AT 5.15 PM AT THE RADISSON EDWARDIAN HOTEL, MANCHESTER.

Any full or deputy member who wishes to put a resolution or raise a matter under any other business should advise the executive director by Friday 19 October, 2007. Full and deputy members are entitled to vote and qualified members may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his or her stead in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association. A copy is available on the website [www.societyofeditors.org](http://www.societyofeditors.org) or from the executive director. To be valid a proxy must be received at the society office no later than noon on Friday 19 October, 2007, or at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel by 12 noon on Sunday 4 November.

**BOB SATCHWELL** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COMPANY SECRETARY

## AGENDA

- 1 President's opening remarks
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 MINUTES  
To adopt, if approved, the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th November, 2006.
- 4 To note and approve the board's decision to change the company year to January – December with the 2006-2007 year extended to December 2007.
- 5 ACCOUNTS  
To receive and note the provisional accounts for the financial year up to 30 June, 2007.
- 6 ANNUAL REPORT 2006/2007  
To receive and, if approved, adopt the Annual Report for the financial year 30 June, 2007.
- 7 RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS  
To approve the re-appointment of MacIntyre Hudson as auditors for the forthcoming year.
- 8 To note and approve the reappointment of Robin Esser, executive managing editor of the Daily Mail, as chairman of the Parliamentary and Legal Committee.
- 9 To approve the re-election of former president Charles McGhee, editor of The Herald, Glasgow, as an ordinary member of the board for three years from November 2007.
- 10 To note and approve the re-appointment by the board of Pat Pilton as treasurer.
- 11 To note and approve the re-appointment by the board of Bob Satchwell as executive director and company secretary.
- 12 To elect the president for the year 2007-2008 – Simon Bucks, Associate Editor, Online, Sky News, is the unanimous nomination of the board.
- 13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
- 14 To note that the next annual general meeting will take place in the autumn of 2008.
- 15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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**Email: [info@societyofeditors.org](mailto:info@societyofeditors.org)**

