

Society of Editors

www.societyofeditors.org



2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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 online 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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The case for a vociferous and free media remains as powerful as ever and the Society will continue to make it.



Francesca Unsworth



MY predecessor Robin Esser of the Daily Mail said his presidential year had been a year of challenges and frustrations, of tough battles and even tougher decisions.

Well, I know just how he feels! We journalists are used to writing about people in the public eye. We're less accustomed to being part of the story ourselves.

But this, of course, is what has happened. The constant drumbeat of the year has been provided by Lord Justice Leveson's inquiry – the police, the press, the politicians, explaining, excusing, and, yes, editorialising, as he shines his light on the professional practices of the various estates.

His Lordship has the unenviable task of trying to make sure that we and they, the press and politicians, and the public too, buy into, or at least accept, his conclusions, and we wish him luck because he may well need it, given that the strength and diversity of our media is matched only – dare I say it? – by the strength and diversity of views we have expressed to him.

The Society has consistently argued that ordinary people – and indeed our democratic society – would suffer if the

press is shackled in a way that means it cannot carry out its duties. In this it has been hugely successful... so far.

Most politicians stand up for the free media and recognise its vital place in public life. But there's an obvious contradiction for the inquiry to resolve.

When the education secretary Michael Gove warned Lord Leveson against introducing any laws to reform the press, he suggested that a few slips in standards was the price society had to pay for "precious" freedom of speech.

Lord Leveson replied that he did "not need to be told about the importance of freedom of speech, I really don't."

But he then said he was concerned that "you are in fact taking the view that behaviour which everybody so far in this inquiry has said is unacceptable, albeit not necessarily criminal, has to be accepted because of the right of freedom of speech."

"Don't you think," he asked "that some of the evidence I have heard from at least some of those who have been subject to press attention can be characterised as rather more than, 'Some people are going to be offended some of the time'?"

We can only wait to see how Lord Leveson reconciles the two halves of his own equation, the importance of freedom of speech and the unacceptability of some press behaviour. The next Presidential year, too, I suspect, will be one of tough battles and even tougher decisions!

Meanwhile, the Society has been busy quietly doing what it does best – standing up for journalism in all its forms and on all its platforms. Most of all it has constantly reminded the public that despite some pretty awful evidence, not all journalists are bad and indeed most are considered to be among the best in the world.

In print, broadcast and digital media millions of stories are reported every year. Only a tiny proportion cause concern and some complaints are driven by those exposed or embarrassed by revelations that are in the public interest.

The Society has also continued to monitor and campaign on a host of media freedom issues. The good news on libel reform, promised changes in conditional fee arrangements, the opening up of the courts to cameras reflects the efforts the Society and its members have made.

Providing an optimistic view of the future of the media, highlighting the tremendous innovation and enthusiasm of

editors and journalists is also a key task for the Society.

Through the national and regional awards programmes it celebrates the vitality of newspapers that are uniquely diverse.

The Society has an impressive and growing membership drawn from all parts of the media. As this report shows, that allows a tiny secretariat working within a remarkably tight budget to punch well above its weight on behalf of editors, the media industry and the public it serves.

Above all, the case for a vociferous and free media remains as powerful as ever and the Society will continue to make it at a time when the integrity and independence of the whole of British journalism is under such scrutiny.

Francesca Unsworth
President
Head of Newsgathering, BBC

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Fran Unsworth's year of office was destined to become one of the most momentous in the history of the media.



Bob Satchwell

THE 2011 conference was special. Robin Esser's year as president was topped off at a venue that reflected the core principles of the Society.

Runnymede was where King John signed the Magna Carta which, although it was aimed mainly at placating the unruly landed class, became the first tentative step towards the creation of the freedoms that we all enjoy – and some take so much for granted.

They include freedom of expression which, of course, concerns being allowed to say what we know, what other people are entitled to know, what we think and the opinions we are entitled to share with others. Quite clearly that includes, or at least should include, the freedom of the media.

As the founders of the United States of America realised, the US constitution needed special mention of the freedom of the press in their First Amendment. That was because, in Europe, the equivalent of today's journalists and publishers were still being dragged before the courts, thrown into jail, and worse. Those in power spent their time rubbishising their honest and worthy efforts and undermining the role

of the pubescent press in the eyes of the public. Some things never change.

Magna Carta II – the conference title created long before Leveson had become a household name – was the opportunity for editors to hold up their hands in shame in what appeared to have gone on at News International and to accept the need for improved and tougher self regulation.

Lord Patten opened proceedings with a thoughtful and wide ranging Society of Editors Lecture that was to be expected from a chairman of the BBC Trust who had formidable experience in politics and in dealing with issues such as freedom of the media as he presided over the hand-back of Hong Kong to China.

A galaxy of editors gave their take on events and there were plenty of reminders, especially from regional editors that allegations about the culture and practices of the press bore no relation to their experiences.

The industry was at its lowest ebb last autumn but the conference was the beginning of the fight back. As Lord Justice Leveson began his work the vital and honest

endeavour of the vast majority of journalists in exposing, explaining and enlightening the public was all too easily forgotten.

A view from the inside of what all but the blinkered accept is an honourable trade, is at least as important as that from those with vested interest or who sit in self-appointed judgment or the comfortable safety of academia.

The inquiry has yet to deliver, and despite much wishful thinking it is to be hoped that Lord Justice Leveson remembers the notion that there is a widespread public appetite for a mass media lynching is wide of the mark.

The all-day debate at Runnymede was skillfully chaired by Steve Hewlett of BBC Radio 4's Media Show. He hardly had a chance to pause for breath except when politicians led by Justice Secretary Kenneth Clarke gave their insights. Significantly he pointed out that while as an industry we might feel we were in a perilous place, the outcome would not be as bad as we feared.

Attorney General Dominic Grieve and Culture Select Committee chairman John Whittingdale also recognised the need to defend the role of the free press, as did Director of Public Prosecutions Keir Starmer and Lord Hunt who was embarking on his reinvention of the self-regulatory system.

Despite the unusual focus on Leveson issues the conference did not forget the other huge challenges facing the media. Industry guru Jim Chisholm presented a report on the SoE survey into attitudes about future technology, news platforms and the related commercial connotations required to pay for the journalism.

As Head of Newsgathering for the BBC, Fran Unsworth understandably took soundings before agreeing to take on the role of president of the Society to make sure it would

not add significantly to the pressures of her rather big job. It was too late to back-track, not that she would, when it became clear that her year of office was destined to become one of the most momentous in the history of the media,

In her inaugural address on the day the Leveson Inquiry began its work in earnest, she told the conference:

"In the Society of Editors we have a common interest – the pursuance of good journalism – and we share a common recognition – that we play a vital role in the body politic."

She reminded us of the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Judge's comments on the future after Leveson. Lord Judge, no stranger to Society conferences, said it was important that a new PCC "must not be a toothless tiger", but, equally, it was necessary to ensure that the body did not have too great a power to effect censorship or licensing powers."

And the new president added that while it would be impossible to legislate the Society's ideals, "you can certainly damage them should the law choose to wrap itself too tightly around us."

Jonathan Grun, Editor of the Press Association, was installed as Vice President ready to take on a second term as president in the immediate aftermath of Leveson. His skill and experience has been invaluable over the past year. It will be essential over the next.

Once we have reached the summit of Leveson, the mountain of other issues that often set the SoE's agenda will still be there. They are detailed in the Parliamentary and Legal Committee report.

We have established ourselves in our role as producer and provider of the major awards programmes for both the national and regional press that put the spotlight on the millions of stories that show off all that is good in the UK's brilliant and diverse newspapers.

The Press Awards provide vital funding for the Society's work as the Newspaper Publishers' Association intended. We are thankful for the support of national newspapers and our sponsors, Google, Unison, Precise, Nikon and of course, Camelot.

The Regional Press Awards, with a new chairman of the judges in former president Paul Horrocks, are an investment by the Society in the celebration of achievements of local and regional newspapers, supported by Camelot, UK Power Networks, ASDA, FootAnstey, the Newspaper Society, PA and Holdthefrontpage.co.uk.

Once again professional and personal thanks go to our board members who help fight the causes that affect all editors however they deliver the news. Thanks, too, to all our members for their advice, encouragement and support.

Lucy Ross-Millar, a graduate of Kent University's journalism school, joined us as research assistant on July 4 2011, the day that the Milly Dowler phone hacking bombshell burst. She is now training as a reporter at Cambridge Newspapers and has been replaced by Claire Meadows.

Under the watchful eye of our Treasurer Sue Ryan, Elena Gontarz meets our day-to-day financial challenges and satisfies the auditors. Angela Varley has honed the administrative machine that is essential for all of our activities and events and supports the CPU Trust.

Lyn Disley, Paul Foulsham and the Magstar team have been especially busy on our behalf contributing their skills to the awards programmes, in addition to maintaining our website, conference planning and design.

The awards were ably supported by Kate MacMillan who, because of her role with the Journalists' Charity, helps us to play our part in helping journalists who need assistance.

Amanda Macchi of M-S-G who has supported our conferences for near a decade has moved on to new pastures with our gratitude.

EditorsInc, the consultancy arm of the society, continues to add a small revenue stream but most importantly helps to put editors and former editors in touch with potential consultancy opportunities.

We are ever grateful for the encouragement of our Fellows and Advisory Council.

We thank our landlords at the University Centre in Cambridge and the teams at Press Gazette, HoldTheFrontPage and Journalism.co.uk who publicise our activities and the many organisations that contribute to our work on behalf of editors, the media industry and the public it serves.

Bob Satchwell
Executive Director

TRAINING COMMITTEE

The society's mission is that it should be the central hub for ensuring that training is tailored to the needs of editors and meets our standards.



Simon Bucks

A year ago my report was dominated by the impact on training of the fallout from the hacking scandal, and the start of the Leveson inquiry.

The committee had met in September and identified two chief ambitions: to make ethics a more formal part of journalism training and to promote ongoing training of journalists at all levels, especially around the issue of ethics.

The Society reiterated this in its submission to Leveson and since then it is encouraging to note that the NCTJ, for one, has told the Leveson inquiry that it is creating courses aimed at the "continuing professional development of journalists" to ensure that senior staff "continue to be reminded about their responsibilities." The Society intends to continue supporting these initiatives which should be a key plank of regulatory reform.

In my last report I said that I wanted to identify the Society's mission as far as training is concerned: something which I suspect has been unclear in the past. My belief is that the SoE should be the central hub for ensuring that training is tailored to the needs of editors and meets our standards.

I also think the Society should be responsible for ensuring that aspiring journalists understand the various options for entering the business and can measure the value of accreditation. I would be very keen to hear from any members who have additional or alternative thoughts.

To this end, the Society launched a major survey of editors, academics and students to gain greater understanding of the training landscape. My proposal is that once these results are collated, the training committee will be reconvened to discuss how best they can be used to develop our training policy.

I should like to thank all those who joined the training committee, as well as Claire Meadows, the Society's Research Assistant and her predecessor Lucy Ross-Millar for their work on the survey.

Simon Bucks
Chairman, Training Committee
Associate Editor, Sky News

PARLIAMENTARY AND LEGAL COMMITTEE

The need for more effective policy and regulation that supports, rather than diminishes, the integrity and freedom of the press must spur us on.



Robin Esser

A year may have passed but we are still talking about Leveson, and it has been a year in which the media has continued to hog its own headlines

The delve into the culture, practice and ethics of the press claimed its first casualties in the closure of the News of the World and the dismantling of the Press Complaints Commission. Although most editors recognised that the make-up and the procedures of the PCC needed to be revisited and revitalised, few realised at the outset just how time-consuming and costly the Leveson Inquiry would prove.

During eight months of testimony we saw a drama unfold that bore little relation to most editors' daily lives. Alongside this, submissions from the parents of murder victims, from over-exposed celebrities, from once all-powerful newspaper proprietors and from four Prime Ministers saw the inquiry trawl through much of what was already known after the 2006 investigation and not much of which was not.

From country suppers and police horses to protesters and

a greater grasp of text-talk than your average over 40-year-old, the inquiry provided a window into the occasionally bizarre world of the media. But, despite some fine words about the importance of a free press, there was precious little to highlight the millions of stories the papers handle every year without complaint or hint of wrong-doing.

Now there is frustration, not least because six years down the line ongoing police investigations continue to close off many of the most important paths towards knowing precisely what went wrong at News International. Nevertheless, the need for more effective policy and regulation that supports, rather than diminishes, the integrity and freedom of the press must spur us on.

Alongside the need to filter a mountain of differing and diverse opinion on what shape any future regulator should take, the reality that taxpayers continue to foot a bill of millions means that few of us are envious of the pressure Leveson faces in delivering a valuable result.

The Society has been at the forefront of the debate and as Lord Justice Leveson's report nears, some have

accused the newspaper industry of trying to pre-empt his conclusions by putting forward initiatives to meet the wide variety of challenges that the industry faces. That is our right. And indeed it was what Leveson requested. Having already submitted evidence to all of the inquiry's modules our efforts focused upon module four and the shape of any future regulator.

We supported Lord Hunt's proposals in that they maintained the successful elements of the PCC including the Editors' Code and complaints and mediation procedures while addressing the omissions and perceived failures of the existing system. A main concern was that the case for compensation and fines still needed to be made. We also sought assurances that the costs of an over bureaucratic system and any financial penalties would not damage papers already struggling to stay afloat.

Maintaining the trend of public scrutiny and the many other pressures on the media, the Society also responded to a considerable number of consultations over the year. We gave broad support to the Metropolitan Police Interim guidelines for relationships with the media and similar ACPO guidelines, making it very clear that close relationships must continue. Hopefully a new head of communications at Scotland Yard will engender a sensible and positive approach. Thankfully there have been few reports of deteriorating relationships elsewhere across the country.

Our efforts also focused on the Justice Select Committee's Review of the FOI Act in calling for its scope to be widened, and the Culture, Media and Sport Committee's inquiry into media plurality and a long overdue consultation by the Joint Committee on Privacy and Injunctions. The European Commission's Data Protection Framework Proposals and the Draft Communication Bill will also have our attention.

The Society continued to host Parliamentary and Legal lunches with prominent government ministers and other officials to maintain important dialogues across the whole of our agenda.

We exchanged views with Lord McNally and Lord Hunt and Keir Starmer, the Director of Public Prosecutions, at the CPS to discuss cameras in court and the public interest in cases affecting the media prior to the CPS consultation on the matter. A key point in our submission was that any list of definitions of the public interest should neither be exhaustive nor exclusive. A public interest defence should also include an acceptance of the reasonable motives of journalists when they embark on inquiries.

The Draft Defamation Bill announcement in the Queen's speech was well received. With cross party support, it promised to tackle libel tourism and attempts by big companies to silence criticism. Generally speaking we support the proposals for reform but have outlined on a number of occasions our concern that the current Bill does not provide a new and effective public interest defence. Together with this, promises to restrict the ability of corporations to use libel to deter legitimate debate and criticism are yet to be seen. These two issues are incredibly important and were central to the high profile and unfair libel cases that have made libel reform a national as well as a media issue.

Action to deal with 100 per cent success fees in CFA-funded cases is also promised but we must maintain the pressure as claimant lawyers try to fight back against much-needed reform that has been accepted by both the previous and current governments.

The House of Commons' rejection of an amendment to allow relatives of the dead to sue over libellous stories about their loved ones was encouraging. It is heartening

PARLIAMENTARY AND LEGAL COMMITTEE



that a survey has confirmed that perhaps surprisingly the number of defamation claims remains fairly static but that does not undermine the need for urgent reform.

The Queen’s Speech also announced proposals for lifting the ban on cameras in court. Sky News set the benchmark last year when it became the first organisation to broadcast live continuous coverage of the Supreme Court and we remain dedicated to ensuring the courts are opened up to all modern media, although we do not expect changes overnight.

Thankfully, amid the doom and gloom of phone hacking, shafts of light became visible at the end of a long and, at times, tiresome tunnel. In a year in which the balance of the coalition government suffered serious tests and well-reported backtracking, we greatly welcomed the climb down on aspects of the ‘Secret Justice’ Bill. The prospect of holding any court case behind closed doors turns the stomach of the most seasoned supporters of open justice and a reversal on attempts to introduce closed inquests – which would have paved the way for any information held by the security and intelligence agencies to be heard

only in secret - was received with a loud sigh of relief.

Naturally we were pleased to see that the Justice Select Committee’s review of the Freedom of Information Act rejected plans to charge for FOI requests and add new restrictions on access to policy discussions. Less pleasing was that sour grapes continued to prevail among some ministers [and ex-Prime Ministers] who still bemoan the Act’s ‘chilling effects’. So much for the FOI Act being Tony Blair’s “cornerstone of constitutional reform.”

Calls by local authorities to charge for requests and to name-and-shame ‘request troublemakers’ were sensibly thwarted by the committee’s recognition that the benefits of FOI continue to outweigh its costs.

Following on from the Trafigura affair last year, the Society has campaigned against what seemed like a skyrocketing in the use of so-called super injunctions. We submitted our concerns to the Joint Committee’s inquiry that the internet and social media’s talent for spreading gossip meant that if not judged as a laughing stock, many were deemed a complete waste of time, money and resources.

We have maintained our efforts to shine a light on all parts of the justice system and we are grateful to Lord Judge, the Lord Chief Justice, for his continuing support and not least for his powerful comments about the importance of a free and independent media. We are still working towards better arrangements for reporting Family Courts.

In all our work we remain grateful, year-on-year, to Santha Rasaiah and her team at the Newspaper Society, Marcus Partington and his colleagues at the Media Lawyers Association, other media organisations that assist us in continuing our valuable work and of course to our committee members whose ongoing support, detailed evidence and advice continues to reign supreme.

We have been well-served by the Society’s staff and particularly our research assistants, Claire Meadows and her predecessor Lucy Ross-Millar, who at the start of their careers in journalism demonstrate that the enthusiasm for the fight for media freedom will never be diminished.

Robin Esser
Executive Managing Editor, Daily Mail



TREASURER'S REPORT

As long as newspapers continue to support us in staging the premier awards for the industry the Society's income appears stable and spending is under control.



Sue Ryan

The funding model for the Society changed last year. Income from membership and the conference is declining as a reflection of the financial constraints local papers in particular are under. In recent years we had also been supported by generous grants from the NPA.

In 2011 the SoE took over responsibility for the Press Awards, the success of which helped to pay for the work of the Society and enabled us to finish the year with a surplus of £19,517 which included giving the Journalists' Charity a cheque for more than £10,000.

We also took on the responsibility of organising the Regional Press Awards. The aim here was that of support and we aimed only to break even. In the event we made a small loss of around £3000.

The awards and the huge increase of activity in press freedom matters has given the secretariat a much bigger workload. Turnover last year was double that of 2010. Costs have gone up a little to reflect this, but the director and his team should be congratulated for absorbing so much extra work without spiralling increases.

The current year is the first in recent history in which we budgeted to be self-financing (in 2011 the NPA gave us a £50,000 grant for the start-up costs for the awards) and so we estimated a loss of around £20,000. More awards

sponsors means that we are hopeful that we might end the year breaking even.

The national awards brought in more than £90,000 after our £10,000 donation to the Journalists' Charity. This is therefore going in the right direction towards meeting the target we and NPA set. We managed to get a lead sponsor for the Regional Press Awards in UK Power Networks and by accounting for some of the funds from our main supporters Camelot we expect to break even for the awards.

Last year's excellent conference made a tiny surplus. The days when the conference provided the main income for the Society are over and as with the Regional Press Awards, the only real aim is to serve our members.

To conclude, the Society's income appears to be stable and spending is under control. As long as newspapers continue to support us in staging the premier awards for the industry we are confident that we can get the sponsorship required to run the office.

We take the view that the reserves should remain around the £100,000 mark and I am pleased to report that we have not dipped below that in the last 12 months.

Sue Ryan
Treasurer



ACCOUNTS

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 3047323

SOCIETY OF EDITORS
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 DECEMBER 2011

This is an extract from the full company accounts which are available for inspection at the society’s office and on the website www.societyofeditors.org

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the company during the period was to represent newspaper editors and their counterparts in broadcasting as a professional association.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R E Satchwell, R C Esser, N Benson, D Martin, S Bucks, P L Charlton, G M Dudman, N D Turner, M R Sleight, F Unsworth, Alan Qualtrough, I D Murray, C M Elliott, S Ryan, J D Grun, R Catlow.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Company Secretary | R E Satchwell |
| Registered office | The University Centre Granta Place Mill Lane Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB2 1RU |
| Auditor | MacIntyre Hudson LLP Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor New Bridge Street House 30-34 New Bridge Street London EC4V 6BJ |

DIRECTORS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors’ Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company’s transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

there is no relevant audit information of which the company’s auditor is unaware; and the directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
(PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2011 TO 31 DECEMBER 2011)

| | | 2011 £ | 2010 £ |
|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| TURNOVER | | 430,515 | 233,067 |
| Administrative expenses | | 412,013 | 197,940 |
| OPERATING PROFIT | 1 | 18,502 | 35,127 |
| Interest receivable | | 1,015 | 823 |
| PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION | | 19,517 | 35,950 |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities | 2 | 206 | 173 |
| PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR | | 19,311 | 35,777 |

SMALL COMPANY PROVISIONS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed by order of the directors

R E Satchwell
Company Secretary

Approved by the directors on 17 May 2012

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTS

BALANCE SHEET

31 December 2011

| | | 2011 | | 2010 |
|---|---|---------|---------|---------|
| | | £ | £ | £ |
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 3 | | 879 | 1,425 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | |
| Debtors | 4 | 71,103 | | 31,298 |
| Cash at bank | | 167,119 | | 238,746 |
| | | 238,222 | | 270,044 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year | 5 | 97,231 | | 148,910 |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | 140,991 | 121,134 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | 141,870 | 122,559 |
| RESERVES | 7 | | | |
| Profit and loss account | 8 | | 141,870 | 122,559 |
| MEMBERS' FUNDS | | | 141,870 | 122,559 |

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

These financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 17 May 2012 and are signed on their behalf by R E Satchwell, Director.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)

1. OPERATING PROFIT

Operating profit is stated after charging:

Depreciation of owned fixed assets

Auditor's fees

2. TAXATION ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

Analysis of charge in the year

Current tax:

UK Corporation tax based on the results for the year

Total current tax

3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

COST

At 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2011

DEPRECIATION

At 1 January 2011

Charge for the year

At 31 December 2011

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 December 2011

At 31 December 2010

ACCOUNTS

| 2011 | 2010 |
|-------|-------|
| £ | £ |
| 546 | 623 |
| 3,165 | 3,554 |

| 2011 | 2010 |
|------|------|
| £ | £ |
| 206 | 173 |
| 206 | 173 |

Computer equipment

£

13,313

11,888

546

12,434

879

1,425

ACCOUNTS

4. DEBTORS

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| VAT recoverable | 10,983 | – |
| Other debtors | 60,120 | 31,298 |
| | <u>71,103</u> | <u>31,298</u> |

5. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Trade creditors | 59,239 | 80,509 |
| Corporation tax | 207 | 174 |
| Other taxation and social security | 389 | 1,762 |
| Other creditors | 37,396 | 66,465 |
| | <u>97,231</u> | <u>148,910</u> |

6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company was invoiced £57,117 (2010: £57,090) during the year in relation to consultancy fees and reimbursed expenses by The Satchwell Partnership, of which R E Satchwell, a director, is a partner.

The company was invoiced £nil (2010: £2,000) during the year in relation to consultancy by P G Cole, a director of the company.

7. 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 or 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.

8. RESERVES

| | Profit and loss account |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | £ |
| Balance brought forward | 122,559 |
| Profit for the year | <u>19,311</u> |
| Balance carried forward | <u>141,870</u> |

DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2011

TURNOVER

Subscriptions
Conference income
Sponsorship
Book sales and other income

OVERHEADS

Rent and water rates
Insurance
Repairs and maintenance
Travel and subsistence
Telephone
Printing, stationery and postage
Sundry expenses
Conference expenses
National secretary
Meeting expenses
Books and publications
Gifts and donations
Advertising
Entertaining
Irrecoverable VAT expense
Legal and professional fees
Accountancy fees
Auditors remuneration
Depreciation
Bank charges

OPERATING PROFIT

Bank interest receivable
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

ACCOUNTS

| | Year to 31 December 2011 | Year to 31 December 2010 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Subscriptions | 28,810 | 31,228 |
| Conference income | 340,287 | 100,713 |
| Sponsorship | 57,500 | 100,024 |
| Book sales and other income | <u>3,918</u> | <u>1,102</u> |
| | <u>430,515</u> | <u>233,067</u> |
| Rent and water rates | 12,042 | 12,022 |
| Insurance | 1,671 | 1,567 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 384 | 350 |
| Travel and subsistence | 2,724 | 3,349 |
| Telephone | 5,625 | 4,905 |
| Printing, stationery and postage | 9,867 | 5,859 |
| Sundry expenses | 7,554 | 2,197 |
| Conference expenses | 274,127 | 74,528 |
| National secretary | 85,046 | 82,200 |
| Meeting expenses | 736 | 1,734 |
| Books and publications | 5 | 28 |
| Gifts and donations | 1,311 | 3,645 |
| Advertising | – | 383 |
| Entertaining | 407 | 359 |
| Irrecoverable VAT expense | 1,076 | 1,180 |
| Legal and professional fees | 81 | (3,850) |
| Accountancy fees | 3,996 | 2,211 |
| Auditors remuneration | 3,165 | 3,554 |
| Depreciation | 546 | 623 |
| Bank charges | <u>1,650</u> | <u>1,096</u> |
| | <u>412,013</u> | <u>197,940</u> |
| | <u>18,502</u> | <u>35,127</u> |
| Bank interest receivable | <u>1,015</u> | <u>823</u> |
| PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES | <u>19,517</u> | <u>35,950</u> |



SOCIETY PROFILE

COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION

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 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.

The Society's two standing committees – Parliamentary and Legal and Training – draw up policy guidelines and report to the board through the 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 Editor's 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 long-standing relationships with the Commonwealth Press Union, Media Trust 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 OFFICERS

- President**
Fran Unsworth

Vice President
Jonathan Grun

Immediate Past President
Robin Esser

Treasurer
Sue Ryan

Chairman, Training Committee
Simon Bucks

Chairman, Parliamentary and Legal Committee
Robin Esser

Executive Director and Company Secretary
Bob Satchwell



- Board**
Francesca Unsworth, Robin Esser, Bob Satchwell, Simon Bucks, Neil Benson, Peter Charlton, Paul Connolly, Graham Dudman, Chris Elliott, Jonathan Grun, Barrie Jones, Donald Martin, Ian Murray, Sue Ryan, Moira Sleight, Nick Turner, Doug Wills.

Advisory Council
Kevin Beatty, Paul Dacre, Paul Davidson, Phil Harding, Adrian Jeakings, Clive Jones, Murdoch MacLennan, Chris Oakley, Richard Tait.

Fellows
Ben Bradlee, Geoff Elliott, Walter Greenwood, Phil Harding, Bob Pinker, Peter Preston, Richard Tait, Tom Welsh.

Past Presidents
Robin Esser, Geoff Elliott, Neil Fowler, Edmund Curran, Liz Page, Jonathan Grun, Neil Benson, Keith Sutton, Charles McGhee, Paul Horrocks, Simon Bucks, Nigel Pickover, Donald Martin.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

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

SOCIETY OFFICIALS

- Training Committee**
Chairman: Simon Bucks
Members
Neil Benson, Joanne Butcher, Graham Dudman, Cathy Duncan, Robin Elias, Chris Elliott, Tony Johnston, Marie Kinsey, Stephen Mitchell, David Rowell, Chris Rushton, Sue Ryan, Keith Stafford, Peter Cole, Donald Martin, Peter Sands, Richard Tait, Barrie Jones and Deirdre O'Neill.

Parliamentary and Legal Committee
Chairman: Robin Esser
Members
John Battle, Ian Beales, Neil Benson, Guy Black, Simon Bucks, Peter Cole, Catherine Courtney, Edmund Curran, Mike Dodd, Chris Elliott, Robin Esser, Sarah Edmonds, Jonathan Grun, Phil Harding, Tony Jaffa, Anthony Longden, Marcus Partington, Charles McGhee, Doug Melloy, Ian Murray, Sue Oake, Pat Pilton, Peter Preston, Santha Rasaiah, Alan Rusbridger, David Jordan, Caroline Kean, Mary Russell, Sue Ryan, Bob Satchwell, John Spencer, Malcolm Starbrook, Keith Sutton, Hannah Walker, Simon Westrop, Doug Wills.

- Research Assistant**
Lucy Ross Millar
(until 22/06/12)



- Claire Meadows
(from 09/07/12)



- Administrator**
Angela Varley



- Finance Officer**
Elena Gontarz



THE SOCIETY IN THE REGIONS

Each member of the society is assigned a region. They are given details of board members or other regional contacts for their region. Regional meetings are organised to meet the requirements of members in those regions, if they so wish.

REGIONAL BOUNDARIES

Eastern Region

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, North Essex and Kettering.
Nigel Pickover, Editor-in-chief, Norwich Evening News & EDP
Tel: 01603 772401 Email: nigel.pickover@archant.co.uk
Society of Editors head office, Cambridge
Tel: 01223 304080 Email: office@societyofeditors.org

Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland

Paul Connolly, Group Managing Editor, Belfast Telegraph,
Tel: 02890 264000, pconnolly@belfasttelegraph.co.uk

London & Home Counties

Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire,
Berkshire, Central London, Greater London, Surrey, Kent, West and
East Sussex, Essex (South).
Ms Moira Sleight, Managing Editor, Methodist Recorder,
Tel: 020 7793 0033, editorial@methodistrecorder.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.
John Butterworth
john@jbutterworth.plus.com

North Western

Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and
Leek.
Nick Turner, Digital Strategy Manager, CN Group,
Tel: 01228 612321 Email: nick.turner@cngroup.co.uk
Richard Catlow, richardcatlow@hotmail.co.uk
Ken Bennett, Tel: 01457 820494, kd_bennett@yahoo.co.uk

Northern

Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland.
Malcolm Warne, Editor, Darlington & Stockton Times,
Tel: 01325 505109, malcolm.warne@nne.co.uk

Scotland

Scotland: Donald Martin, Editor, Sunday Post
Tel: 01382 575788 Email: dmartin@sundaypost.com
Julian Calvert, Lecturer in Journalism, Glasgow Caledonian University,
Email: julian.calvert@gcal.ac.uk

Wales

Barrie Jones, Editorial Director, NWN Media
Tel: 01352 707721 Email: barrie.jones@nwn.co.uk

Wessex

Dorset, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, parts of Somerset, Newbury,
Reading, Salisbury and Wokingham.
Ian Murray, Editor-in-Chief, The Southern Daily Echo,
Tel: 02380 424777, ian.murray@dailyecho.co.uk

Western

Gloucestershire, Avon, parts of Somerset, Wiltshire, Devon and
Cornwall.
Andy Cooper, Acting Editor, Cornwall Life
Tel: 01803 860910 Email: andy.cooper@archant.co.uk

Yorkshire

South, West and North Yorkshire, and Humberside north of River
Humber.
Peter Charlton, Editorial Director, Yorkshire Post Newspapers,
Tel: 0113 2432701, Email: peter.charlton@ypn.co.uk

SOCIETY OF EDITORS AGM

NOTICE OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF EDITORS TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER AT 5.00 PM AT THE EUROPA HOTEL, BELFAST

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 Tuesday 30 October 2012. 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 or from the executive director. To be valid a proxy must be received at the society office no later than on Tuesday 30 October 2012 or at the Europa hotel by 12 noon on Saturday 10 November.

R E 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 13 November 2011.
4. ACCOUNTS: To receive and, if approved, adopt the accounts for the financial year up to 31 December 2011.
5. ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012: To receive and, if approved, adopt the Annual Report.
6. RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS: To approve the re-appointment by the board of MacIntyre Hudson for the forthcoming year.
7. To record the thanks of the Society to Peter Charlton - retiring member of the board.
8. To elect Barrie Jones, Paul Connolly and Doug Wills as ordinary members of the board. This is the unanimous proposal of the board.
9. To re-elect Neil Benson and Moira Sleight as members of the board for a further term. This is the unanimous proposal of the board.
10. To note and approve the re-appointment by the board of Sue Ryan 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 vice-president for the year 2012-2013. Ian Murray is the unanimous nominee of the board.
13. To elect the president for the year 2012-2013. Jonathan Grun, Editor, Press Association, is the unanimous nominee of the board.
14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will take place in the autumn of 2013 at a time and venue to be confirmed.
15. Any other business.

Society of Editors

www.societyofeditors.org

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