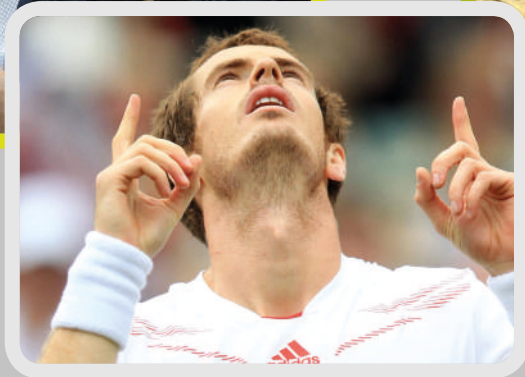


Society of Editors  
[www.societyofeditors.org](http://www.societyofeditors.org)

# ANNUAL REPORT

2012 TO 2013



# Society of Editors

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

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

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Pictures by:  
**PRESS  
ASSOCIATION**



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jonathan Grun



Fran Unsworth enjoyed a distinguished year as President and her leadership was essential as a storm raged over print and TV journalism.

The past year has seen the media continue under the spotlight with the unlikely pairing of Leveson and Savile getting more print and airtime than Cannon and Ball ever did.

Campaigners, politicians and the Orwellian group of academic “free speech advocates”, wanting to impose their idea of free speech on the rest of us, all waded into the row over the future of press regulation. They had a right to their say, particularly after the shameful events in some newsrooms. But the industry was right to oppose measures that would have swept away the birthright of a free press that generations of our fellow citizens have enjoyed.

We can be proud that the Society of Editors has played an important role in this debate, maintaining its place at the forefront of standing up for the industry and making the case for the public’s right to know.

It is a powerful voice promoting the benefits that journalism brings to society. For good, independent, vigorous, fearless journalism truly is a force for good.

We recognise that bad journalism and bad practices – and above all, criminality – have no place in an industry that prides itself on holding others to account. But we should remember that the overwhelming majority of journalists have nothing to apologise for. They did nothing wrong, and should not be shackled in their work of championing the interests of their

fellow citizens. The industry is now in the process of setting up a self-regulatory body that complies with the recommendations of Lord Justice Leveson. Hopefully it will be given the chance to prove itself. In the light of all this the Society’s work has never been so important.

Looking back at the last few years it has a lot to be proud of: lobbying Ken Clarke, Dominic Grieve, Keir Starmer, tirelessly campaigning for libel and CFA reform, and cameras in court.

This year, our good work has included producing a guide on reducing the stigma surrounding drug use, which was laboured on by David Seymour, and our campaigns on issues such as pre-charge anonymity, teacher anonymity, secret courts and facilitating an agreement for the second time between the media and Ministry of Defence over Prince Harry’s deployment to Afghanistan.

Work continues on a good practice guide for online moderation, with the aim of protecting vulnerable people online. This work has firmly established the Society as a leading defender of the precious tradition precious tradition of freedom of expression.

This is all the more vital given that much of its activity takes place beneath the radar – but all of it is aimed at preserving an independent press in its vital role.

With an impressive and growing membership list drawn from all parts of the media, the Society continues to punch above its weight in persuading others of the dangers of removing freedoms that many countries have yet to enjoy.

As we await confirmation of the exact shape of the new regulator, it is vital that the industry continues to be proud of the work it does and the high standards it sets for itself.

I expect the next Presidential year, too, will bring with it tough battles and tough decisions and I wish Ian Murray well.

**Jonathan Grun**  
**President**  
**Editor, the Press Association**





## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bob Satchwell



To say that Fran Unsworth's 2013 Belfast conference did not exactly go without a hitch is an understatement.

We were enjoying a relaxing dinner on the eve of the conference. The then vice president Jonathan Grun and I looked at one another as Fran took a phone call from London warning of the imminent resignation of Director General, George Entwistle. We realised at once that the acting Head of News would have to return to London post haste.

By the time Fran finished the call we reassured her that Jonathan was ready to step into her shoes two days early and we were already re-writing the script. By the time she was heading for the airport early next morning, pausing only to record a faultless video message for delegates as finishing touches were being put to the conference set, Jonathan was prepared. To arriving speakers and delegates, thanks to the professionalism of Jonathan and the conference team, it was an unwanted but almost seamless coup.

We may have lost a President, but returning to Belfast for the first time in 11 years what we lost in leadership, we gained in atmosphere.

Being at the venue of our 2001 conference – A Media Odyssey – was déjà vu. A gathering of key industry figures made the news as well as debating it. That conference was marked by the announcement of weapons decommissioning by the IRA and Piers Morgan announcing the end of celebrity stories on the front page of the Daily Mirror. Celebrity stories made a comeback and a year has passed in which the industry remains in the thick of headline controversy.

The Europa Hotel, where so many journalists were based during the 1970s, 80s and 90s provided a fitting backdrop for a conference focused mainly upon the way forward.

The newly built Titanic Centre, magnificently rising up alongside the waterfront where the doomed liner was constructed ahead of its fateful maiden voyage, played host to a phenomenal gathering for our annual gala dinner – putting paid to misplaced premonitions of an industry going down with a sinking ship.

The evening's keynote speaker, author and editor-at-large Mick Hume, spoke passionately about what the press means to him and highlighted the drawbacks of government interference amid a raft of gourmet food, flowing wine and jovial spirits.

Ahead of the publication of the Leveson report we were honoured to welcome Lord Hunt to give the annual Society of Editors Lecture in the grandeur of Belfast City Hall. Having already made a major contribution alongside Lord Black to the future of regulation, he focused on the challenges and changes in months to come, and what editors could expect to see across a changing regulatory landscape.

With sessions on how best to bring in revenue, a clampdown on the flow of information between journalists and public authorities and what's next after micro TV and hyper-local news sites, the agenda pointed a telescope at what was looming on the horizon in a post-Leveson world. The assertion by the Sun's investigations editor ahead of the report's publication that the fear of arrest was already stopping journalists from pursuing public interest stories meant that most could sympathise with how passengers on the Titanic felt as the iceberg gouged a hole in the 'unsinkable' liner.

The vitally important work that the industry does in acting as the watchdog of our public authorities was not only recognised by John Whittingdale MP, the Chairman of the Culture, Media and Sport select committee, who came out firmly and squarely against statutory regulation of the press, but in the awarding of two fellowships to worthy recipients: Andrew Colman of BBC Northern Ireland and Edmund Curran, former editor of the Belfast Telegraph and past President of the Society of

Editors. Their work provided shining examples of dedication to keeping the public informed through top class public interest journalism. Long may it be allowed to continue.

The conference topped what can only be described as a distinguished year for the Society under the leadership Fran Unsworth in which demonstrated the qualities that have been so valuable to the BBC in its turbulent year. Across the traumas in which the BBC and the wider industry have looked at times to be struggling to stay afloat, her steady hand in her day job and contribution to our work was invaluable.

Her words via her pre-recorded message prefaced those of incoming President Jonathan Grun, whose quick-witted adaptability and thorough dependability as Editor of the Press Association, is only matched by his enthusiasm and experience. Reminding the audience that the overwhelming majority of journalists had nothing to be ashamed of and nothing to apologise for, he emphasised the importance of journalism as a tremendous force for good.

His message was and remains that vigorous, independent, ethical journalism informs the public, stands up for the public and entertains the public. Journalists should be proud of the work that they do. Despite his second ascent to the throne being slightly sooner than anticipated, Jonathan's willingness to fall into the departing President's chair proved, once again, how essential his support continues to be.

Although the summit of Leveson may have been reached, the descent provides further challenges for all – politicians and the public, as well as the Press. The industry is working to provide the robust self-regulatory body that Leveson recommended.

This process cannot be allowed to become entangled in party politics and self-interested interventions. As John Wilkes said and as the Lord Chief Justice has reminded us: "The liberty of the press is the birthright of a Briton." That is every Briton – not just newspaper proprietors and editors.







In addition to the never-ending fight for media freedom, the Society has now established itself as the leader of the major awards programmes for the newspaper and online industry. Providing vital funding for the Society's campaigning work we continue to be thankful for the support of likes of Google, Unison, Precise, Nikon, PA, Reuters and, of course, Camelot – our principal partner since 2001.

The Regional Press Awards, nobly chaired once again by former President Paul Horrocks, continue to champion the invaluable work of the regional and local newspaper industry in a year when they have had to fight against being forced to pay the price for a problem they did not create. We could not highlight the achievements of local and regional newspapers without the support of Camelot, UK Power Networks, ASDA, Foot Anstey, the Newspaper Society, PA and HoldTheFrontPage.

Our thanks also go to our board members and committee members who provide invaluable knowledge and expertise, and to our members for their continuing encouragement and support.

Our latest research assistant, Claire Meadows, has again demonstrated the initiative and commitment that can be nurtured by the dedicated work of journalism training organisations and colleges – and the depth of talent to be found in her native Liverpool and its premier university. The Society's office in Cambridge is working on the accent!

Under the watchful eye of our Treasurer, Sue Ryan, Elena Gontarz continues to keep our auditors happy alongside Angela Varley whose administrative capabilities and support are second to none.

The team at Magstar led by Lyn Disley and Paul Foulsham has become integrated into the Society of Editors' family more so this year than ever. Their contribution is key to the delivery of the awards programmes, conference and management and advice on many of the projects we undertake.

Kate MacMillan provides expert help on the awards and sponsorship that is vital to our finances.

We thank our landlords at the University Centre in Cambridge and the teams at Press Gazette, HoldTheFrontPage and Journalism.co.uk whose continued support alongside the many organisations that contribute to our work allows us to continue to serve an industry that will continue to prosper.

**Bob Satchwell**  
Executive Director





## PARLIAMENTARY AND LEGAL COMMITTEE

Robin Esser



Two years later, having sat through a judicial inquiry that cost in excess of £4million and not only shone a bizarre light into the world of the media but, at times, veered off into a tale of tabloid morals amid a backstop of red-top villains, over-exposed celebrities in distress and humble pie materialising before our eyes into custard pie, we sometimes seem no closer to knowing what the future holds for the regulation of the industry in which we work.

The Society has been at the forefront of the debate surrounding the shape that any future regulator will take. From the minute Lord Justice Leveson delivered his long-awaited report into the customs, practices and ethics of the press, calls of 'broken promises' and 'vested interests' from either end of the legislative fault line have been matched only by mutual suspicion and the public's reservations about whether there is Much Ado About Nothing. The Prime Minister's decision to hold his head above the parapet was hailed by an industry willing to revisit and revitalise as recognition of a free press as a necessary counterbalance to a strong state.

The last year has made it difficult for the industry to move on from the perceived failures of the past. Much criticised 7am door knocks have resulted in more than 100 journalists arrested for alleged wrongdoing whether it be for alleged phone hacking or corrupt payments to public officials. Forced to sweat it out on police bail for more than 18 months while investigations continue our criticism prompted Assistant Commissioner Cressida Dick to try to justify the Met's investigations and methods on the basis of "sound operational reasons" for the

times of day they arrest people. This may or may not be true but it fails to address the issue of genuine concern over the length of time to which bail is being extended. Justice delayed continues to be justice denied.

It is interesting that investigations into hacking and data protection issues are now focusing – very belatedly – well beyond the confines of the newspaper industry, to lawyers and insurers. This was where the information commissioner has always said he had most concern, rather than with journalists.

The government's draft royal charter, born out of what many in the industry see as a stitch-up in discussions from which the press were excluded, saw the bulk of the industry rightly turn its head the other way. The late-night meeting saw a purge of agreed principles established through weeks of long government and industry negotiations replaced by a messy compromise thrashed out between the Deputy Prime Minister and Hacked Off. The Prime Minister was not in attendance. More worryingly, neither were the Press. What resulted was an admirable attempt at shackling an industry that has enjoyed freedom from those it has held to account for more than 300 years.

Party political one-upmanship saw peers attempt to hijack legislation and three year's worth of legislative progress and campaigning for reform of repressive libel laws looked, at one point, to be in seriously grave danger of being held up as the sacrificial goat. Wrecking amendments were added to Bill after Bill in an attempt to force the government's hand and London looked set to remain the libel capital of the world. Despite this, the Society hailed the passage of the Defamation Act as a landmark piece of legislation although the failure to remove an amendment barring private companies contracted to run public services from suing ordinary citizens who criticised the work they do for the taxpayer, was disappointing.

Alas, our work will continue, especially in Northern Ireland which refuses to amend the Victorian legislation. Belfast is set to take over as the new libel capital which is worrying in a part of the United Kingdom where a vociferous free media is needed most.

The politicians' draft Royal Charter – a modern-day equivalent of the Dangerous Dogs Act – means that the Press has reasonable grounds for concern. Proposals look set to extract an unacceptably high price for regional and local newspapers.

An arbitrary arm raises genuine fears that the floodgates will be open to compensation claims from ambulance-chasing lawyers causing further financial woes to an industry already reeling from the threat of new technologies, competitors and a decline in print advertising. It is no wonder that attempts to neuter an entire industry for the fault of a few has boasted little enthusiasm from those it wishes to put down.

The industry alternative will produce a new independent regulator with strong investigative powers and the right to impose fines of up to £1million for wrongdoing, up-front corrections, inaccuracies corrected fully and prominently, and independence from the industry and politicians. They are practical, workable and can be introduced far more quickly than the complicated system proposed by those who would prefer a weakened Press.

As illustrated already by the cross-party draft charter that inadvertently dragged blogs, twitter and small magazines into the lion's den, a worthwhile, effective and Leveson-complaint regulator that can satisfy all interested parties can only be achieved through careful and complex consideration. It will not work through a mentality of 'publish and be damned.'

Setting the agenda for this year's conference theme of Freedom to Inform the Society has maintained its support of public scrutiny by responding to a considerable number of consultations over the year. We welcomed a long sought after review by the Law Commission into reforming contempt of court legislation.

Our efforts focused on opposition to broad proposals to arm judges with additional powers compelling media organisations to take down old stories from electronic archives in order to remove potentially prejudicial material. This proposal would effectively mean that newspapers could be prosecuted over material available on their websites but published long before

a defendant was arrested or charged. Sufficient legislation already exists to prevent the press prejudicing criminal trials and emphasis should be placed upon stronger juror direction into the dangers of researching a defendant online.

The Society has led a number of delegations of industry figures and lawyers to meetings with the Attorney General, Dominic Grieve and Solicitor General, Oliver Heald. We have highlighted broad support from our members for advisories, Section 4 orders and pre-charge anonymity. Our efforts continue to focus on the development of a court reporting restrictions database after our near success on the subject in 2009 saw the-then Justice Secretary Jack Straw foiled by bureaucracy.

Amid a year in which the public have seen a clampdown on the flow of information between journalists and public bodies in the wake of the Leveson report, plans by the Association of Chief Police Officers and support by the College of Policing to implement nationwide guidelines on not naming arrestees until charge look set to take the rights of the public back to before the Magna Carta and remain at the top of our agenda. Arrests are matters of fact and the public is entitled to know about them. There is no law preventing the naming of those arrested, nor should there be.

Most noticeably, the year has been overtaken by shadowy attempts to continuously restrict the work of journalists to report in the public interest. We continue to highlight recently implemented anonymity provisions, contained in Section 13 of the Education Act 2011, that allow accused teachers to be automatically granted anonymity if allegations are made against them. The Society mounted a last-ditch bid to block government plans by writing to all members of the House of Lords and outlining the risk that while the move would place a serious inhibition on the right to freedom of speech it could, more importantly, leave children at risk.

Plans outlined by the Information Commissioner's Office in a proposed code of practice will allow public bodies to label journalists' requests as "vexatious" if they consider them





to be “fishing expeditions” whereas proposals to change the Freedom of Information Act to make it easier for public authorities to refuse ‘disproportionately burdensome’ requests from requesters said to be making ‘industrial’ use of the Act look set to have a chilling effect on Tony Blair’s ‘cornerstone of constitutional reform’ and the public’s right to know. We continue to work tirelessly alongside the vitally important work of the Campaign for Freedom of Information to open up our public bodies to greater transparency.

Naturally the Society welcomed assurances by the new Chief Coroner, Michael Thornton QC, that inquest hearings will become more open, that dates and times will be fixed more clearly and that emphasis will be placed on greater communication between coroners and the media. Our efforts continue to focus on seeking assurance that any reforms should increase the scope of disclosure rather than decrease it and that secret courts are now firmly a thing of the past. Unsurprisingly the Society’s hand was first up in volunteering to educate, assist and inform any guidance to coroners on open justice principles.

Representatives from the Society attended a meeting with Keith Bristow, the new chief executive of the National Crime Agency set up to replace the Serious Organised Crime Agency. Expected to be fully operational by December 2013, ‘the new FBI’ will take on the role of tackling organised crime while also encompassing the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre and parts of the National Policing Improvement Agency. Some of the responsibilities of the UK Border Agency will also fall to the new Agency. We await with bated breath.

Continuing our role as the gatekeeper of safeguarding certain freedoms, the Society again played a key part in arranging media coverage of Prince Harry’s freedom to deploy to Afghanistan. The news of the third-in-line to the throne’s arrival at Camp Bastion in Helmand was announced by broadcasters, national, regional and local newspapers websites simultaneously following weeks of careful planning. Pictures and video of the 27-year-old alongside the Apache flight-line were then broadcast and reported worldwide. The orchestrated PR clearly worked in his favour - even if he did appear a little ungracious upon his return!

Following an announcement in the Queen’s speech last year of proposals to lift the ban on cameras in court, the Society hopes that a decision to allow the broadcasting of footage from the Court of Appeal will set a further precedent for greater access and light shining in our court rooms.

We continue to work in diverse areas, such as sports and music where we continue to highlight and help resolve disputes between clubs and newspapers. In the last year we successfully published a report on “Dealing with the stigma of Drugs”, in conjunction with the UK Drug Policy Commission. Written by David Seymour, former political editor of Mirror Group Newspapers, it explains the problems associated with stigma and the impact they have not just on individuals but their families and society generally, and suggests ways in which media coverage might be able to ease them.

The Society is currently in the process of finalising the publication of a good practice guide on online moderation. The report, produced in partnership with the Department for Communities and Local Government and with the input of the Press Complaints Commission and board members, is being written by Professor Peter Cole and aims to aid understanding of the new threat of online hate crime through research and enable moderators of media sites to address this. At a local level, the survey will intend to assist local partners to continue to lead on controlling access to harmful and inappropriate content in places such as schools.

As with every year, we remain grateful to Santha Rasaiah and her team at the Newspaper Society, the Media Lawyers Association and our committee members for continuing to assist us in our endeavour to hold a magnifying glass to that which the public is prevented from seeing.

**Robin Esser**  
**Chairman, Parliamentary and Legal Committee**  
**Executive Managing Editor, Daily Mail**





## TRAINING COMMITTEE

Simon Bucks



The focus of the training committee this year has been to implement the special section of the Society of Editors website which provides advice to aspiring journalists. This was finally achieved in July after a great deal of debate by the committee members and hard work by the SoE Research Assistant Claire Meadows.

The section evolved from the survey we conducted of editors, trainers and trainees. It seeks to represent completely impartial and independent advice on what editors look for in aspiring journalists – the first time, we believe, that this has been done. Training is a controversial subject because editors' views and needs vary enormously. But there are some things on which they all agree, especially about standards of literacy and accuracy and the need for strict adherence to ethics and the law.

We have set out the skills and knowledge necessary for anyone wanting to be a journalist, the options for training, and the best ways to prepare for an interview. We have also endeavoured to explain the key differences between the accreditation bodies and the value of accreditation.

Our expectation is that this section of the website will become an important resource for careers advisers, teachers and anyone else with an interest in our industry. However it is inevitably only a work in progress, an organic document that will require constant revision as circumstances change.

I propose to call a meeting of the committee early in the New Year to review it and make any changes necessary. All members of the Society (and others in the industry) are urged to submit their views on what needs amending or adding.

I am grateful to everyone who has contributed to this initial stab at what is effectively the Society's policy on training, one of the most important issues on our agenda. Please take a moment to read and review it.

**Simon Bucks**  
Chairman, Training Committee  
Associate Editor, Sky News



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Sue Ryan



Last year I wrote that we took the view that reserves should not dip below £100,000 and despite having to report a loss for 2012, it is worth noting that at no time did we get anywhere near being in danger of doing that.

The two main factors contributing to the £33,130 loss were the significantly increased activity of the Society both in 2011 and 2012, and a small decrease in profit for the three major events that we run. All other items of income and expenditure only changed by £2,716.

The extra activity in the climate of the last two years needs no explanation, but it should be noted that the increased costs of the Secretariat of £116,131 in 2012 against £85,046 in 2011, takes into account the extra workload of 2011 when a profit of £19,517 was made.

If the £12,000 extra fees were moved back to 2011 the real increase after also accounting for them in 2012, there would only be a difference of £7,085. That too is accounted for by the administrative payroll which changed from £11,634 to £16,248.

In terms of the three major events, income in 2011 came to £340,287 and expenses to £274,127 which gave us a hard-earned surplus of £66,160. In 2012 the income was £328,138 and expenses £280,825 giving us a smaller - and ever harder earned income - of £47,314. In other words the income fell by £12,149 and expenses increased by £6,698 leading to a combined effect of £18,846 on the year-on-year comparison. Breaking the figures down further, The National Press Awards

are the main fund raiser (and without which the Society could not survive unless it found another stream of income) while budgets for Regional Press Awards and Conference are more challenging. However, they are key to the work of the Society and essential to deliver debate, recognition and applause across all sections of the media, so cannot be viewed purely in financial terms.

Membership subscriptions, which should be the bedrock of the Society brought in a total of £27,344, just £500 less than in the previous year but now would not be a good time to increase them. Sponsorship was £6,000 ahead of last year at £63,500 which in a difficult financial climate is something to be proud of. With concerns that this year's conference may struggle to break even it is sponsorship that we are putting our efforts into, in the hope that for 2014 we may increase that figure further.

Despite the loss, we were still able to give the Journalists' Charity £10,000 from The National Press Awards and with collections from all three events and the Gorkana award sponsorship the total donations were just over £20,000.

To conclude, times are tough and the increased workload is having an impact on funding but the Society's income appears to be stable and spending is under pressure but also under control.

**Sue Ryan**  
Treasurer





ACCOUNTS

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 03047323

SOCIETY OF EDITORS  
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
31 DECEMBER 2012

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.

DIRECTORS

R E Satchwell, R C Esser, N Benson, D Martin, S Bucks, G M Dudman, N D Turner, M R Sleight, F Unsworth, I D Murray, C M Elliott, S Ryan, J D Grun, B Phillips-Jones (Appointed 12 January 2012), D Wills (Appointed 17 May 2012), P S Connolly (Appointed 17 May 2012), P L Charlton (Resigned 11 November 2012), A R Qualtrough (Resigned 27 June 2012).

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 year.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting 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  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Note	2012 £	2011 £
TURNOVER		423,269	430,515
Administrative expenses		457,425	412,013
OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)	1	(34,156)	18,502
Interest receivable		1,026	1,015
(LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		(33,130)	19,517
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	2	204	206
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		(33,334)	19,311

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 July 2013



BALANCE SHEET

		2012		2011	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	3		332		879
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	4	137,843		71,103	
Cash at bank		100,454		167,119	
		238,297		238,222	
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	5	130,093		97,231	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		108,204		140,991	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		108,536		141,870	
<b>RESERVES</b>					
Profit and loss account	8	108,536		141,870	
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		108,536		141,870	

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 July 2013 and are signed on their behalf by:

R E Satchwell  
Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>1 OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT</b>		
Operating (loss)/profit is stated after charging:		
	2012	2011
	£	£
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	547	546
Auditor's fees	4,179	3,165
<b>2 TAXATION ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Analysis of charge in the year</b>		
	2012	2011
	£	£
Current tax:		
UK Corporation tax based on the results for the year	205	206
Over/under provision in prior year	(1)	-
Total current tax	204	206
<b>3 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</b>		
	Computer equipment	
	£	
<b>COST</b>		
At 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2012		13,313
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		
At 1 January 2012		12,434
Charge for the year		547
<b>At 31 December 2012</b>		12,981
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2012</b>		332
At 31 December 2011		879



4 DEBTORS

	2012	2011
	£	£
Trade debtors	97,089	-
VAT recoverable	-	10,983
Other debtors	40,754	60,120
	<u>137,843</u>	<u>71,103</u>

5 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2012	2011
	£	£
Trade creditors	32,609	59,239
Corporation tax	205	207
Other taxation and social security	3,584	389
Other creditors	93,695	37,396
	<u>130,093</u>	<u>97,231</u>

6 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Included within administrative expenses is £77,732 (2011: £57,117) relating to consultancy fees and reimbursed expenses from the Satchwell Partnership, of which R E Satchwell, a director, is a partner.  
Included within administrative expenses is £4,000 (2011: £6,000) relating to consultancy and treasury fees from S Ryan, 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	141,870
Loss for the year	(33,334)
Balance carried forward	<u>108,536</u>

DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

TURNOVER

	2012	2011
	£	£
Subscriptions	27,344	28,810
Conference income	328,139	340,287
Sponsorship	63,500	57,500
Book sales and other income	4,286	3,918
	<u>423,269</u>	<u>430,515</u>

OVERHEADS

Rent and water rates	12,037	12,042
Insurance	1,779	1,671
Repairs and maintenance	710	384
Travel and subsistence	4,663	2,724
Telephone	6,288	5,625
Printing, stationery and postage	8,714	9,867
Sundry expenses	6,122	7,554
Conference expenses	280,825	274,127
National secretary	116,131	85,046
Meeting expenses	2,807	736
Books and publications	1,040	5
Gifts and donations	1,102	1,311
Entertaining	399	407
Irrecoverable VAT expense	884	1,076
Legal and professional fees	3,900	81
Accountancy fees	3,796	3,996
Auditors remuneration	4,179	3,165
Depreciation	547	546
Bank charges	1,502	1,650
	<u>457,425</u>	<u>412,013</u>

OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT

	(34,156)	18,502
Bank interest receivable	1,026	1,015
(LOSS)PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	<u>(33,130)</u>	<u>19,517</u>



# 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 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.

## 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 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.



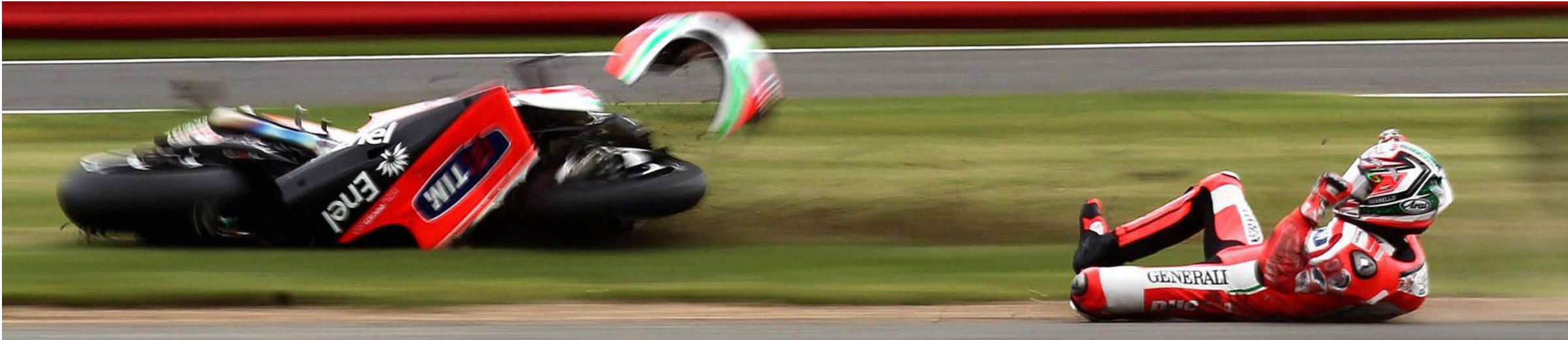


SOCIETY OFFICIALS



- President**  
Jonathan Grun
- Vice President**  
Ian Murray
- Immediate Past President**  
Francesca Unsworth
- Treasurer**  
Sue Ryan
- Chairman, Training Committee**  
Simon Bucks
- Chairman, Parliamentary and Legal Committee**  
Robin Esser
- Executive Director and Company Secretary**  
Bob Satchwell

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



**Research Assistant**  
Claire Meadows



**Administrator**  
Angela Varley



**Finance Officer**  
Elena Gontarz



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

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

**Fellows**  
Ben Bradlee, Andrew Colman, Edmund Curran, Geoff Elliott, Walter Greenwood, Phil Harding, Bob Pinker, Peter Preston, Richard Tait, Tom Welsh.

**Past Presidents**  
Francesca Unsworth, 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.

**Training Committee**  
Chairman: Simon Bucks

**Members**  
Joanne Butcher, Graham Dudman, Cathy Duncan, Robin Elias, Chris Elliott, Jonathan Grun, Tony Johnston, Marie Kinsey, Stephen Mitchell, David Rowell, Chris Rushton, Sue Ryan, Keith Stafford, Peter Cole, Donald Martin, Peter Sands, Richard Tait, Barrie Jones, Deidre O'Neill and Doug Wills.

**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 Jordon, Caroline Kean, Mary Russell, Sue Ryan, Bob Satchwell, John Spencer, Malcolm Starbrook, Keith Sutton, Hannah Walker, Simon Westrop, Doug Wills and Peter Wright.

## 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](mailto:nigel.pickover@archant.co.uk)  
Society of Editors head office, Cambridge  
Tel: 01223 304080 Email: [office@societyofeditors.org](mailto:office@societyofeditors.org)

#### Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland

Paul Connolly, Group Managing Editor, Belfast Telegraph,  
02890 264000, [pconnolly@belfasttelegraph.co.uk](mailto: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, 020 7793 0033, [editorial@methodistrecorder.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:nick.turner@cngroup.co.uk)  
Richard Catlow, [richardcatlow@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:richardcatlow@hotmail.co.uk)  
Ken Bennett, 01457 820494, [kd\\_bennett@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kd_bennett@yahoo.co.uk)

#### Northern

Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland.  
Malcolm Warne, Editor, Darlington & Stockton Times, 01325 505109, [malcolm.warne@nne.co.uk](mailto:malcolm.warne@nne.co.uk)

#### Scotland

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

#### Wales

Barrie Jones, Editorial Director, NWN Media Tel: 01352 707721  
Email: [barrie.jones@nwn.co.uk](mailto: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, 02380 424777, [ian.murray@dailyecho.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:andy.cooper@archant.co.uk)

#### Yorkshire

South West and North Yorkshp, and Humberside north of River Humber.  
Peter Charlton, former Editorial Director, Yorkshire Post Newspapers  
Email: [Peter.Charlton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:Peter.Charlton@blueyonder.co.uk)

## SOCIETY OF EDITORS AGM

### NOTICE OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF EDITORS TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER AT THE TOWER HOTEL, LONDON

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 Wednesday 30 October 2013. 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 on Wednesday 30 October 2013 or at the Tower hotel by 12 noon on Sunday 10 November 2013.

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 10 November 2012.
4. ACCOUNTS: To receive and, if approved, adopt the accounts for the financial year up to 31 December 2012.
5. ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013: 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 retiring members of the board.
8. To elect Francesca Unsworth and Chris Elliott as ordinary members of the board. This is the unanimous proposal of the board.
9. To note and approve the re-appointment by the board of Sue Ryan as Treasurer.
10. To note and approve the re-appointment by the board of Bob Satchwell as Executive Director and Company Secretary.
11. To elect the vice-president for the year 2013-2014. Doug Wills is the unanimous nominee of the board.
12. To elect the president for the year 2013- 2014. Ian Murray, Editor, the Southern Daily Echo, is the unanimous nominee of the board.
13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will take place in the autumn of 2014 at a time and venue to be confirmed.
14. Any other business.



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# Society of Editors

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

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