



# 2013 TO 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

# 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.

Its members are 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)

# Contents

President's Report	2
Director's Report	4
Standing Committee Reports	
Parliamentary and legal	6
Training	9
Treasurer's Report	10
Accounts	11
Society Profile	17
Objectives	
Governing body	
Committees and external representation	
International links	
Society officials	
Financial administration	
The Society in the regions	
Notice of the AGM	21

Pictures by: **PRESS ASSOCIATION**



# President's Report

Jonathan Grun's second term as President of the Society of Editors will go down as one of the most tumultuous in the organisation's history.

He was in at the deep end from the start, having to step in to host the Belfast conference as Fran Unsworth had to fly back to London to take charge of news in the aftermath of the Director General's resignation over the Savile affair.

Alongside the fall-out of the phone hacking revelations, our industry found itself at the very heart of fierce debate about the workings of the Press. In the last year it has had to deal with arguments on pre-charge and teacher anonymity, secret courts,

the row over regulation, accusations of "fishing expeditions" and legislation becoming entangled in party politics. As we feared, the post-Leveson effect has been a clampdown on the flow of information between journalists and public bodies in a way never seen before. Sadly, we are still feeling those effects now.

While the row over regulation has raged on, it has been comforting to see the industry move forward and the Independent Press Standards Organisation becoming a reality.

We have resolutely resisted attempts by those who claim to be advocates of free speech to shackle the industry, and after

more than 300 years it remains free from political interference. We look to the future of tough new regulation that holds journalists to account and provides redress to the public.

We can be proud that the Society of Editors has played an important role in this debate, defending the freedom of the Press and continuing to champion the public's right to know.

We continue to punch above our weight and defend the benefits that openness and transparency bring to society. Our Press continues to be the best in the world.

Looking back over the past year, we have a lot to be proud of. In January, the long-awaited 2013 Defamation Act was implemented. No longer will the UK be judged as the libel capital of the world, and at long last journalists, academics and researchers will be able to publish their work without fear of vexatious libel threats. Our attention is now focused on ensuring the same changes are implemented in Northern Ireland.

The work of the Family Courts has finally been opened up to public scrutiny. Open justice is real justice, and we strongly welcomed guidance by Sir James Munby that has resulted in greater openness in the Family Courts and Court of Protection.

Our meeting with the then Attorney General, Dominic Grieve, led to a backtrack by the Government on implementing laws that would allow the Attorney General and Courts to demand the removal of archive material by publishers. After years of campaigning we have also witnessed cameras enter the Court of Appeal, and we continue to lobby for greater openness through responsible reporting in other courts. This year, our good work has included producing a good practice guide on online moderation. It has been a long time coming and Peter Cole's patience should be applauded.

Despite our achievements, there is always much more to do. Plans by the European parliament to better implement a so-called 'right to be forgotten' in data protection legislation continue to ring alarm bells, and we continue to strongly object to any attempts to create a black hole in history with the removal of matters of public record.



The Society continues to welcome new members and we are currently in the process of exploring the possibility of extending the scope of those we represent to reflect the changing face of the media.

It has been a turbulent few years. The vital work that our industry does on behalf of the public will continue as it has always done. I have no doubt that another year will bring more tough decisions and battles to be fought. I wish Doug Wills well.



**Ian Murray**

President of the Society of Editors  
Editor of the Southern Daily Echo



# Director's Report

After several years with the spotlight shining on the Press, the 2013 Society of Editors conference, aptly entitled *The Way Forward*, was an opportunity after tumultuous times to start looking towards the future.

At the Tower Hotel in London, overlooking Traitor's Gate, Jonathan Grun's second presidential year reached a climax with a conference that set the agenda. Debates looked at the changing face of journalism, where we expected to see ourselves in years to come, and how we could ensure that those who wished to stifle the free press were prevented from succeeding in their endeavour. Grun said intervention of the State in the regulation of the media did not serve society and it sent out a dangerous message of encouragement to repressive regimes across the world.

London Mayor Boris Johnson paid homage to the scouring, disinfecting effect of "a wonderful, glorious, diverse free press". In a year in which few politicians were willing to put their heads above the parapet and defend the media, his words were welcome indeed.

In his annual Society of Editors Lecture, Lord Grade, former chairman of the BBC and ITV and a Press Complaints Commissioner, lent his support to self-regulation. With sessions on the opening up of the Family Courts and the Court of Protection, threats to the media, the work of the new National Crime Agency and relationships between the police and the Press and the future of regulation, the conference lived up to its billing.

Home Secretary, Theresa May, focussed on the vitally important work of the regional and local press as the watchdogs of public authorities. The BBC's domination of the internet was making it impossible for regional newspapers to thrive and she questioned whether the broadcaster's ability to subsidise its online coverage gave it an unfair

advantage. She provoked a defence from SoE past-president Fran Unsworth, which did not go unnoticed. The Society is currently working with the BBC to explore ways in which the Corporation and local news outlets can work together to revive local journalism.

As a regional editor himself, incoming President Ian Murray stressed the necessity for the regional and local press to play a big part in arguing the case for self-regulation. It was timely, he said, to remind those with the misguided views of Hacked Off, that the Press was not just the national papers. "In the shires, the cities, towns and villages, journalists play a vital and influential role."

Keynote speaker, David Price QC, highlighted Section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act that would allow publishers, who declined to join a Royal Charter-friendly regulator, to be forced to foot the entire bill for fighting a libel case regardless of whether they won or lost. "It brings a whole new meaning to the word 'win', which in this context now means lose lots of money," he said.

He wanted to bolster a free press "without the butts, the dabs, the sticks, the carrots or anything else that is going to make the law look even more like an ass".

In keeping with the theme of protecting the media, the Gala Dinner witnessed the presentation of a Fellowship to Robin Esser, chairman of the Society's parliamentary and legal committee and Executive Managing Editor of the Daily Mail.

Robin's Fleet Street career spans 55 years. He has been a powerful supporter of the Society of Editors since its inception and he has fought hard to defend the values we stand for over an exceptionally long career. Fellowships go to those who have played a special part in promoting the objectives of the Society – media freedom, the public's right to know and

high journalistic standards. Robin's expertise and insight have been invaluable to our work and our reputation owes a lot to his powerful beliefs and determination.

The conference topped a distinguished year for the Society under the leadership of second-time president Jonathan Grun. He will step down as editor of the Press Association after 36 years with the news agency next year following the General Election. He has been a rock for the media in the UK and beyond. Every part of our industry owes him a debt of gratitude for his work at PA and for being a steady hand on the tiller of the SoE during a rowdy year.

The new industry regulator, the Independent Press Standards Organisation, looks to be in safe hands under the guidance of Sir Alan Moses whose independence is undisputed. We look forward to it proving itself as the powerful regulator its critics continue to deny.

As well as celebrating the best journalism, the National Press Awards provide vital funding for the Society's campaigning. We are indebted to Google, Unison, Nikon, PA, Reuters and, of course, Camelot who have supported us since 2001. We were also delighted to welcome the backing of L'Oreal, Iceland and HW Fisher this year and will look towards continuing their friendship.

The Regional Press Awards, chaired by former president Paul Horrocks and hosted by Nick Ferrari, champion the work of the regional and local newspaper industry. We could not highlight these achievements without the support of Camelot, UK Power Networks, ASDA, JTI, Foot Anstey, the Newspaper Society, PA and HoldTheFrontPage.

We could not succeed without the support of our Board members and committee members who continue to provide precious knowledge and expertise. Santha Rasaiah and the legal team at the Newspaper Society/NPA and the Media

Lawyers Association help us to maintain our focus. Anthony Longden assists with research and campaigning and Peter Cole worked tirelessly to produce the Moderation Report. Heartfelt thanks also go to our members for their continuing encouragement.

Our research officer, Claire Meadows, demonstrates that those who hold the freedom of the media close to their hearts are not just those of more mature Fleet Street generations. Sue Ryan, our treasurer and Elena Gontarz maintain our finances and ensure that the auditors are kept happy. For eight years, Angela Varley's administrative capabilities have continued to shine. Kate MacMillan provides vital fundraising expertise.

Lyn Disley and Paul Foulsham and colleagues at Magstar become more integrated into the Society of Editors' team each year. Their contribution is key to the delivery of the awards programmes, conference and management and advice on all of the projects we undertake.

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



**Bob Satchwell**  
Executive Director

# Parliamentary and Legal Committee

Three years, following a public inquiry, dawn raids by the police and the trial of the century and what many hailed as the final torpedo in the hull of the sinking Fleet Street ship now appears a little off the mark.

While the Leveson Inquiry may have generated dramatic headlines, daily celeb-spotting and humble pie, the catalyst for the investigation – alleged criminal wrongdoing – was as beyond the remit of the Lord Justice as it was the “discredited” Press Complaints Commission.

Some of Sir Brian Leveson’s cast of famous faces were able to make a re-appearance during the high-profile trial of Coulson, Brooks and Co at The Old Bailey. Amid seven months of salacious headlines, pantomime villains and squirming politicians, the jury decided the plot was a little less dramatic than many had been led to anticipate. Thousands of police hours and millions of pounds later the result was a single conviction, the acquittal of five defendants and a hung jury.

More court cases are to follow. Those found guilty of wrongdoing should face the full force of the law. Despite this, concern remains over the length of time to which bail is being extended and the Crown Prosecution Service’s decisions continue to raise serious questions.

As the industry moves on from the failures of the past it has been less than encouraging to witness the vehemence of politicians and public bodies towards an industry that won’t be shackled. If further evidence was needed as to the responsibility with which most journalists go about their daily routine, it was that in his haste to comment on the conviction of Andy Coulson, the Prime Minister and other politicians nearly caused the trial to collapse by rushing before the cameras while the jury deliberated on further charges. The vast majority of journalists *know and respect* the law.

Not only have rows over regulation been subjected to party political one-upmanship, politicians were willing to not only hijack legislation but potentially put paid to three years’ worth of legislative progress in reforming regressive libel laws. Anti-terrorism legislation was also used in a bid to deter genuine journalistic endeavours and provoked international outcry. The right of individuals convicted of wrongdoing to be ‘forgotten’ is now part of the European data protection legislative agenda and UK politicians must oppose it. The Police College has asked forces to deter from speaking directly to journalists and wants a blanket ban on naming arrestees until charge.

Shamefully for the UK, the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers’ unprecedented decision to send a delegation of publishers and editors to the UK to conduct a press freedom inquiry has secured the country’s ranking among countries such as Libya, Yemen and Mexico.

Reporters without Borders placed the United Kingdom 33rd on the Press Freedom Index register in early 2014. For the first time anyone can remember our placing fell dramatically. It was hardly surprising that the damning WAN-IFRA conclusion was that attempts by the British government to influence the media and “dictate what is in the public interest” have global ramifications for an independent press, and are already being used by repressive regimes to excuse their own practices. The UK must strive to win back its global reputation when it comes to practicing and promoting freedom of expression and the public’s right to know.

Thankfully the government’s draft Royal Charter – billed as an equivalent to the Dangerous Dogs Act – has little, or no, industry support. More than 90 per cent of national and regional newspaper and magazine publishers signed up to the Independent Press Standards Organisation under the

independent chairmanship of Sir Alan Moses. A Court of Appeal judge for nine years Sir Alan was previously a high court judge and was appointed to the role after a rigorous search by an independent selection panel chaired by former high ranking civil servant Sir Hayden Phillips.

IPSO has the ability to impose fines of up to £1 million, as recommended by the Leveson Inquiry. With a built-in majority of lay members it will work independently of the national press and the hundreds of regional and local newspapers and magazines that will pay for it.

The Society has continued to maintain its support for freedom of expression, openness and transparency.

We strongly welcomed the long-awaited Defamation Act 2013 which implements sweeping changes to the law of libel. Alongside the introduction of a new “serious harm threshold” the legislation will hopefully reverse the chilling effect previous libel laws have had on freedom of expression and legitimate debate and will make Britain less attractive to libel tourists. Our efforts are now concerted on ensuring that similar changes are implemented in Northern Ireland.

We continue to voice strong opposition to any plan by the European court to introduce any ‘right to be forgotten’ in forthcoming data protection legislation. The European Court of Justice’s isolated decision in the Gonzalez case has had wide-ranging implications for both publishers and search engines.

Despite the information still remaining online, just no longer indexed by the search engine, the ruling has the potential to create a black hole in history and has already led to thousands of requests to remove links to information. The Society has expressed its concerns in letters to both the Prime Minister and the chairwoman of the European Article 29 Working Party Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin. This is likely to remain high on our agenda.

Following presentations to the Law Society, the Society welcomed new guidelines introduced by Sir James Munby, President of the Family Court and Court of Protection, aimed at opening up the Family Courts to greater scrutiny. The switch

in policy will now allow the default position to be publication, albeit with key names anonymised, shining a long-sought after light on the workings of the courts. By aiding public understanding of the way the system works, greater scrutiny will increase public trust.

We influenced new post-Leveson guidelines in the Information Commissioner’s guide to Data Protection and the Media. The Society helped to update guidelines for the sharing of court registers and court lists in conjunction with the Newspaper Society and the Media Lawyers Association. The Guide to Reporting Restrictions which the SoE championed more than a decade ago was also revised. The guide is part of a common endeavour and is a joint publication with the Judicial College for the day-to-day use and benefit of the courts, judges, magistrates, court advisers and journalists, court reporters, editors and broadcasters.

In the wake of questions arising from The Guardian’s publication of the Edward Snowden revelations, the Society is represented in a review of the DA Notice System. Peter Preston, former editor of The Guardian and Peter Wright, former editor of the Mail on Sunday, represent the media side on the review. The SoE firmly believes that the State in all its guises benefits from the voluntary system which is peculiarly British.

Naturally, the Society welcomed the change of heart by former Attorney General Dominic Grieve over giving judges additional powers to compel media organisation to remove potentially prejudicial material from electronic archives. The Criminal Justice and Courts Bill could have meant that newspapers could be prosecuted over material available on the websites but published long before a defendant was arrested or charged.

In the wake of the Savile revelations and a number of acquittals under Operation Yewtree, the Society remains opposed to calls to implement pre-charge anonymity and any form of secret justice. It is a matter of public record that reporting on arrestees enables witnesses to come forward for both the prosecution and the defence and engenders greater public confidence in the system. What is the difference between

historic sex offences and other crimes of exploitation and violence? Calls for anonymity for defendants would soon spread to all crimes.

The Society was represented by the President at the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee's inquiry into the Future of the BBC. He expressed concern that BBC local news did not face the same commercial restraints as the local press do. The Society continues to work with the BBC to examine ways in which local news providers can work together for mutual benefit.

Among many other representations, the Society attended the launch of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Police Association. We welcomed the lifting of a ban on cameras in the Court of Appeal and fully supported guidance by the Communities Secretary, Eric Pickles, to allow the press to make written reports of council meetings. We remain concerned that some local authorities continue to wilfully flout guidelines on publishing council newspapers and support calls for tougher enforcement measures to protect local newspapers.

We continue to be at the forefront of scrutinising legislation and have held P&L meetings with the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Lord Chief Justice, the Attorney General, the Chief Coroner and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Last year, the Society welcomed assurances by the Chief Coroner, Peter Thornton QC that inquest hearings would become more open and that emphasis will be placed on greater communication between coroners and the media. The Society is alarmed by a number of cases where the opposite has happened. We were told that coroners were to be given fresh guidance on withholding the identities of dead people after The Oxford Mail highlighted a case where the coroner refused to name the deceased but we will remain vigilant.

The Society continues to support the Campaign for Freedom of Information in rejecting attempts to implement charges for Freedom of Information requests.

The Society completed its report into online moderation produced in conjunction with the Department for Communities and Local Government and with the input of the Press Complaints Commission and board members. It was written by Professor Peter Cole.

We are always grateful to Santha Rasaiah and her team at the Newspaper Society, the Media Lawyers Association and our committee members for continuing to support and assist the values that we strive to uphold.

Above all we endeavour to expose the inclination of those in positions of power to deny the public information to which they are entitled. There are too many examples of the police and other public authorities shying away from openness. It is not an exaggeration to suggest that Britain is in danger of drifting towards a police state. Only continued vigilance, investigation and exposure by the media will stop it.



## Robin Esser

Chairman, Parliamentary and Legal Committee  
Executive Managing Editor, Daily Mail

# Training Committee Report

The training section of the Society of Editors' website which was launched earlier this year targeted aspiring journalists and students. It has certainly helped promote the Society as an independent adviser on training.

Our next focus needs to be on existing journalists. The challenges of a rapidly developing media landscape makes it more important than ever that everyone in the newsroom stays on top of the latest technology and ideas.

As Bob Satchwell has written: "Journalists in the new wild west of the digital age need to be multi-skilled from the outset and eager to learn and adapt continuously through their working lives."

The next training committee meeting to be held this autumn will be devoted to exploring what role the Society can play in the promotion of continuous professional development.

The NCTJ in particular has focused on this issue with its recent report "Emerging Skills for Journalists" which identified concerns about the quality and availability of suitable training. The report also acknowledged that local and regional papers, the traditional routes into the industry, are no longer the only ones available. Moreover, all journalists wherever they work, are increasingly going to need multi-platform skills if they are to survive.

I believe that the Society must grasp this challenge and reach out to employers of journalists in all areas. We should be prepared to work not just with the NCTJ, BJTC and the PTC but with everyone involved with the employment and development of journalists.

The Society's principal role, to represent the views and needs of all editors, is especially important when it comes to training. It should extend beyond the initial tuition of journalism students and new entrants to the development of everyone in the industry at every stage of their careers.



## Simon Bucks

Chairman, Training Committee  
Associate Editor, Sky News

# Treasurer's Report

Last year was one of consolidation. Following losses of £33,130 in 2012 the deficit for 2013 was reduced to £7,807 in 2013 – and that included reallocation of some funds that had been incorrectly recorded previously.

Despite the pressures of the increased workload for the Society, reserves remained above the £100,000 mark at the end of 2013 and were just £8,000 down on the previous year end. A fall in income of more than £26,000 was offset by a reduction in costs.

While careful use of our resources has continued, we are working to increase revenue with a major contribution from the national Press Awards. Against that we have reduced receipts from the annual conference, which is an important showcase for the Society's activities. That and the need to improve revenue from the development of membership to reflect changes across the industry are priorities going forward. The Regional Press Awards are organised on behalf of that part of the industry to demonstrate its continuing remarkable achievements. Income from the awards covers only the direct external costs with the Society subsidising the organisation and delivery of the full programme.

The plain fact is that the increased workload in a small operation that has suddenly grown to be dealing with much bigger financial issues has put strain on our financial management. As a result, a full review of finance and accounting systems has been completed and reports are now being produced in formats and with levels of detail as advised by Howard Lewis of our auditors. These enable more useful analysis, more precise monitoring and management accounting plus improved internal and external auditing. I am confident that this and on-going work on the accounts will allow for better short and long term budgeting that has become necessary as the organisation has grown with extra activities and increased turnover.

The improved management accounting and reporting systems will now be organised largely in-house. This will allow for accurate data to be produced quickly at any given point in time. The Treasurer will have an enhanced oversight and strategic role based on more accurate information supplied by the improved systems.

Our focus must be on the income side of the accounts. We simply need more. On costs it is significant that the three major events were all brought in significantly under budget and below the previous year. That said, a detailed review of all expenditure has been instigated alongside the proposals for new systems. A sensible and realistic review of costs and a closer watch on receipts and expenditure will allow us to meet a tighter budget 2014 and begin to refresh our reserves.

This should all be seen against the background of much increased campaigning activity which has enhanced the profile and secured the reputation of the Society. Having established a reputation for speaking up on behalf of the industry it is unlikely that the workload will now be reduced significantly. Plans are in place to maintain the tight control on costs and to achieve increased revenue through growth in membership and especially sponsorship.

We are grateful to our auditors, outside contractors and the secretariat for analysing the issues and finding better solutions. In some cases it has involved taking on new responsibilities which will continue going forward.



**Sue Ryan**

Treasurer

# Accounts

**SOCIETY OF EDITORS  
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
31 DECEMBER 2013**

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](http://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

N Benson, S Bucks, P S Connolly, G M Dudman, C M Elliott, R C Esser, J D Grun, D Martin, I D Murray, B Phillips-Jones, R E Satchwell, S J Ryan, M R Sleight, N D Turner, F Unsworth, D Wills

**Company secretary** R E Satchwell

**Registered Number** 03047323

**Registered office** The University Centre  
Granta Place, Mill Lane  
Cambridge, Cambridgeshire  
CB2 1RU

**Auditor** MHA MacIntyre Hudson  
Chartered Accountants  
& Statutory Auditors  
New Bridge Street House  
30-34 New Bridge Street  
London  
EC4V 6BJ

## DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

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 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.

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' report is approved has confirmed that:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- that director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	Note	2013 £	2012 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>396,991</b>	<b>423,269</b>
Administrative expenses		<u>(405,213)</u>	<u>(457,425)</u>
<b>OPERATING LOSS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>(8,222)</b>	<b>(34,156)</b>
Interest receivable and similar income		<u>415</u>	<u>1,026</u>
<b>LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(7,807)</b>	<b>(33,130)</b>
Tax on loss on ordinary activities		<u>(77)</u>	<u>(204)</u>
<b>LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>8</b>	<b><u>(7,884)</u></b>	<b><u>(33,334)</u></b>

**SMALL COMPANY PROVISIONS**

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed by order of the directors

**R E Satchwell**  
Company Secretary

Approved by the directors

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	Note	2013 £	2012 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	4	<b>73</b>	332
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	<b>120,196</b>	137,843
Cash at bank		<u>82,199</u>	<u>100,454</u>
		<b>202,395</b>	238,297
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	<b><u>(101,816)</u></b>	<u>(130,093)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>100,579</b>	108,204
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>100,652</u></b>	<u>108,536</u>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
Profit and loss account	8	<b>100,652</b>	108,536
		<b><u>100,652</u></b>	<u>108,536</u>

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on

**R E Satchwell**  
Director



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

**1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

**2 OPERATING LOSS**

The operating loss is stated after charging:

	2013	2012
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned by the company	259	547
Auditor's remuneration	4,928	4,179
	<u>4,928</u>	<u>4,179</u>

During the year, no director received any emoluments (2012 - £NIL).

**3 TAXATION**

**Analysis of tax charge/(credit) in the year**

	2013	2012
	£	£
UK corporation tax charge on loss for the year	77	205
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	-	(1)
<b>Tax on loss on ordinary activities</b>	<u>77</u>	<u>204</u>

**4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

**Cost**

At 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2013

Office equipment	£
	<u>13,313</u>

**Depreciation**

At 1 January 2013  
Charge for the year  
At 31 December 2013

	12,981
	259
	<u>13,240</u>

**Net Book Value**

At 31 December 2013  
At 31 December 2012

	73
	<u>332</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

**5 DEBTORS**

Trade debtors  
VAT recoverable  
Other debtors

	2013	2012
	£	£
Trade debtors	92,039	97,089
VAT recoverable	4,278	-
Other debtors	23,879	40,754
	<u>120,196</u>	<u>137,843</u>

**6 CREDITORS**

**Amounts falling due within one year**

Bank loans and overdrafts  
Trade creditors  
Corporation tax  
Other taxation and social security  
Other creditors

	2013	2012
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	1,639	-
Trade creditors	58,070	32,609
Corporation tax	77	205
Other taxation and social security	-	3,584
Other creditors	42,030	93,695
	<u>101,816</u>	<u>130,093</u>

**7 COMPANY STATUS**

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 for every full member, and 25 pence for every other member, towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

**8 RESERVES**

At 1 January 2013  
Loss for the financial year  
At 31 December 2013

Profit and loss account	£
	108,536
	(7,884)
	<u>100,652</u>

**9 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

R E Satchwell is a director of the company. During the year the company incurred consultancy fees and reimbursed expenses of £56,210 (2012: £77,732) from R E Satchwell.

S Ryan is a director of the company. During the year the company incurred consultancy and treasury fees of £2,000 (2012: £4,000) from S Ryan.

**DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

**TURNOVER**

Subscriptions	36,435	27,344
Conference income	299,295	328,139
Sponsorship	58,333	63,500
Book sales and other income	2,928	4,286
	<u>396,991</u>	<u>423,269</u>

**ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES**

Rent and water rates	12,037	12,037
Insurance	4,748	1,779
Repairs and maintenance	-	710
Travel and subsistence	3,258	4,663
Telephone	6,846	6,288
Printing, stationery and postage	4,030	8,714
Sundry expenses	366	6,122
Conference expenses	234,430	280,825
National secretary	107,662	116,131
Meeting expenses	716	2,807
Books and publications	4,431	1,040
Gifts and donations	10,735	1,102
Entertaining	606	399
Irrecoverable VAT expense	1,182	884
Legal and professional	3,593	3,900
Accountancy fees	4,503	3,796
Auditors' remuneration	4,928	4,179
Depreciation	259	547
Bank charges	883	1,502
	<u>405,213</u>	<u>457,425</u>

**INTEREST RECEIVABLE**

Bank interest receivable	415	1,026
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# 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. An advisory council made up of senior figures in the industry offers advice and support.

## INTERNATIONAL LINKS

The Society has long-standing relationships with the CPU Media Trust (formerly the Commonwealth Press Union), WAN IFRA, the Global Editors' Network and ISWNE (International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors based in the USA.) Their David Greenslade Bursary enables a member to visit North America.

## 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 Editors' Code Committee, the Defence Press and Broadcasting Advisory Committee, the National Council for the Training of Journalists, regional training advisory committees, the Journalism Diversity Fund and the Undercover Policing Oversight Board.

The Society works closely with other industry organisations and the Newspaper Society/NPA government and regulatory affairs team provides legal and research support.

The Society also co-operates with 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, the Policing College, the Association of Chief Police Officers and other public organisations. It frequently submits evidence and comment to Government consultations, to Parliamentary committees and the Competition Commission.

The Society has close working relationships with the Campaign for Freedom of Information, the London Press Club, the Media Society, the Journalists' Charity and the Media Trust. It works with other organisations such as the Samaritans, the Youth Media Agency, the Age Action Alliance and other lobbying groups.

## SOCIETY OFFICIALS

### President

Ian Murray

### Vice President

Doug Wills

### Immediate Past President

Jonathan Grun

### Treasurer

Sue Ryan

### Chairman, Training Committee

Simon Bucks

### Chairman, Parliamentary and Legal Committee

Robin Esser

### Executive Director and Company Secretary

Bob Satchwell



**Claire Meadows**  
Research Officer



**Angela Varley**  
Administrator



**Elena Gontarz**  
Finance Officer

## MAGSTAR

The Society is supported by Magstar Ltd who organise events for the Society including the annual conference, the National Press Awards, the Regional Press Awards and regional seminars. Their team is:



**Lyn Disley**  
Director



**Paul Foulsham**  
Director



**Robyn Honey**  
Technical Manager



**Krizia Gallone**  
Project Manager



**Kyril Zinovieff**  
Technical Developer



**Liz Schneider**  
Project Assistant

## FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

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

### Board

Neil Benson, Simon Bucks, Paul Connolly, Graham Dudman, Chris Elliott, Robin Esser, Jonathan Grun, Barrie Jones, Donald Martin, Ian Murray, Sue Ryan, Bob Satchwell, Moira Sleight, Nick Turner, Francesca Unsworth, 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, Robin Esser, Phil Harding, Bob Pinker, Peter Preston, Richard Tait.

### Past Presidents

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

### 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.

**\* Board members can attend standing committees ex officio if they are not already members.**



## 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,  
01603 772401, nigel.pickover@archant.co.uk.  
Society of Editors head office, Cambridge  
01223 304080, office@societyofeditors.org

#### NORTHERN IRELAND AND REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Paul Connolly, 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,  
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.  
Neil White, Editor, Derby Telegraph, 01332 253 058  
nwhite@derbytelegraph.co.uk

#### NORTH WESTERN

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

#### NORTHERN

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

#### SCOTLAND

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

#### WALES

Barrie Jones, Editorial Director, NWN Media  
01352 707721, 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

#### WESTERN

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

#### YORKSHIRE

South West and North Yorkshire, and Humberside  
north of River Humber.  
Peter Charlton, former Editorial Director, Yorkshire Post  
Newspapers, Peter.Charlton@blueyonder.co.uk

# SOCIETY OF EDITORS AGM

NOTICE OF THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF EDITORS TO BE HELD ON  
SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER AT THE GRAND HARBOUR HOTEL, SOUTHAMPTON

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 29 October 2014. 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 29 October 2014 or at the Grand Harbour hotel by noon on Saturday 8 November 2014.

**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 11 November 2013.
4. ACCOUNTS: To receive and, if approved, adopt the accounts for the financial year up to 31 December 2013.
5. ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14: To receive and, if approved, adopt the Annual Report for 2013/14.
6. \* To consider and, if thought fit, pass a special resolution that the draft articles of association produced to the meeting and, for the purposes of identification, initialled by the Chairman be and are adopted as the articles of association of the Society of Editors in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing articles of association.
7. To record the thanks of the Society to retiring members of the board.
8. To elect new ordinary members of the board.
9. To re-elect retiring members as ordinary members of the board for a further period of three years.
10. To note and approve the appointment by the board of the chairman of the parliamentary and legal committee.
11. To note and approve the appointment by the board of the chairman of the training committee.
12. To note and approve the appointment by the board of the Treasurer.
13. To note and approve the re-appointment by the board of the Executive Director and Company Secretary.
14. To elect the President for the year 2014-2015.
15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will take place in the autumn of 2014 at a time and venue to be confirmed.
16. Any other business.

\* Under resolution 6, the Society of Editors is proposing to adopt the articles of association in substitution for the existing articles of association. The principal changes introduced by the new articles of association are to reflect proposals from the Board designed to confirm that the Board has sufficient discretion with regard to membership generally.

A copy of the Company's existing articles of association and the proposed new articles of association marked to show all the changes can be found at the Society of Editors website: [www.societyofeditors.org](http://www.societyofeditors.org). The proposed new articles of association will also be available for inspection at the annual general meeting at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting and up until the close of meeting.



# Society of Editors

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

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

