

**Registered Charity Number: 1081826**

**LIPU - UK  
Trustees' Report and Accounts  
for the year ended  
30 June 2020**

Wright Vigar Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
And Business Advisers  
15 Newland  
Lincoln  
LN1 1XG

**LIPU - UK**

**Trustees' Report and Accounts for the  
Year ended 30 June 2020**

**Contents**

**Page**

1-5	Trustees' Report
6	Receipts and Payments Account
7	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
8	Notes to the Financial Statements
9	Independent Examiner's Report

**Trustees Annual Report for the  
Year ended 30 June 2020**

The Trustees present their Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 June 2020.

LIPU-UK, c/o Fernwood, Doddington Road, Whisby, Lincs, LN6 9BX is registered with the Charity Commission (No 1081826) and is constituted by a Deed of Trust.

The charity is administered by trustees who form an Executive Committee. Committee members during this financial year were:

Chairman:	Mr Matthew Hines
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mr David Lingard
Members:	Miss Patricia Dugard Mrs Shirley Lingard Mrs Lesley Tompkins
Independent Examiner:	Jack O'Hern FCA Wright Vigar Ltd, Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors 15 Newland Lincoln LN1 1XG

**Aims and objectives**

The object of the Charity is to further the charitable works of Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli (LIPU) by making grants or providing such other assistance as the executive committee shall from time to time determine.

LIPU was founded in Italy in 1965 and, in 1989, a British section, LIPU-UK, was formed and based initially in Chelmsford. In 2000, LIPU-UK was registered in England as a charity. Its objectives remain unchanged and consist of providing financial support and any other assistance which will further the aims of LIPU in its work of bird protection and conservation. Each year, the British section agrees with LIPU directors in Parma a set of projects for which it commits to raise funds and those funds are transferred to Italy in June at the end of the financial year.

**Public Benefit**

Italy has a poor record of compliance with European Directives regarding protection of wildlife, habitat and biodiversity and any improvement will bring a clear benefit to the citizens of Europe. LIPU-UK has complied with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 in having due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

**Your Trustees**

There has again been no change in personnel since last year's Annual report though Pat Dugard has stood down as chairman and been replaced by Matt Hines.

Trustees are appointed usually, but not exclusively, from the membership of LIPU-UK and are offered induction training by the Secretary and/or other trustees prior to their first attendance at a trustees' meeting. We welcome enquiries from anyone who feels he/she might want to join us – it won't take up much of your time.

**Trustees Annual Report for the  
Year ended 30 June 2020****Projects in progress 2019/20**

This has been an unusual year in that COVID-19 restrictions impacted on the delivery of some projects and funds allocated were not spent. Thankfully, the impact has been less than appeared likely in March. Details are provided in each project summary. This year's report is based on information provided by Claudio Celada, LIPU Nature Conservation Director.

The year saw funding for:

**1 Bird hospitals**

LIPU-UK has, for many years, helped various bird hospitals, or Recovery Centres, with the provision of consumable items; in some years more substantial funding has been provided to selected centres, depending on what funding is (or is not) available from other sources such as local government. In 2019/20, LIPU-UK funds (€7,000) were all allocated to the Cruma centre (veterinary and for medicines). During the COVID crisis, all rescue activities were carried out regularly. Raptor centres were closed to the public due to safety regulations, but this did not stop our activities.

**2 Protecting Bonelli's Eagle nesting sites, Sicily.**

In the spring of 2020 camps were again held to protect nesting eagles. LIPU-UK funds (€ 7,000) made it possible to monitor a total of 7 nests in two of the three camps. It is gratifying to report that fifty Bonelli's Eagles fledged in 2020, up from 28 in 2019, when poor weather conditions are believed to have impacted success. This is the highest figure since LIPU have started to monitor the species in Sicily (previous high of 40 in 2018). Among the new pairs that are colonizing the island, some are composed of 3-4 year old individuals. This means that nest monitoring in all these years is finally paying off, producing results at the population level. Although the project onset was slightly delayed by the COVID-19 restrictions, nest monitoring was regularly carried out. As well as guarding nests, LIPU actively co-operates with the Carabinieri. As a result, 10 poachers will undergo trial. Intelligence activity made it possible to prove that poachers focus their efforts on the few nests that are not monitored by the volunteers. As a final note, five juvenile Peregrine falcons that were seized from the poachers were successfully reintroduced to the wild.

**3 Anti-Poaching activities**Southern Sardinia

The winter anti-poaching camp went ahead as planned. Very few traps for ungulates (deer and wild boar) and almost none for birds were found, the latter likely due to the reduced numbers of wintering birds, probably related to the mild winter. During the camp the volunteers also took part in conservation education events with local schools.

Messina Strait camp

The spring camp was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**4 Monitoring raptor migration and Messina strait camp.**

Although the LIPU spring camp was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, monitoring of migrating raptors was delivered by a partner organisation (Ornis italica), under an agreement that LIPU will cover double expenses in 2021. LIPU-UK funds allocated for this year's monitoring (€ 15,000) have been re-allocated to meet this commitment.

**Trustees Annual Report for the  
Year ended 30 June 2020****5 Red footed falcon in Parma province**

LIPU-UK allocated €11,000 to continue funding of Red-footed Falcon conservation in around Parma, which holds the most important breeding population in Italy. Population monitoring and the success of a nest box scheme continue, and research into the land use of this species using GPS trackers is now being carried out. The project was unaffected by COVID-19 restrictions. GPS devices have been applied to an adult male and an adult female and data collection (use of habitat) is underway. Initial reports suggest very high breeding success in 2020, due to food abundance (mainly voles).

**6 Kentish Plover in Sardinia**

LIPU-UK agreed to provide €7,000 for survey work to understand better the breeding population of Kentish Plover in Sardinia, the key Italian region for the species. Human disturbance is thought to be major factor in the decline of this beach-nesting species. A dramatic population decline is indicated by data from the only years available (2010 (580-645 pairs) versus 2018 (175-188)). However, a suitable plan of action is not possible with insufficient data. Unfortunately, this project had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**7 Adaptation of alpine species to climate change**

Mountain birds are among the animal groups most threatened by climate and environmental changes. There is an urgent need to develop conservation strategies integrating broad-scale policies and local-scale, fine-tuned, management protocols to allow alpine birds and biodiversity in general to survive in warming mountains. The aim of this project is thus to develop and test management protocols and other conservation strategies in the Alps, to preserve suitable conditions for bird species tied to high-elevation habitats. LIPU-UK agreed to provide €20,000 for consultant, project coordination and field work related expenses, to produce adaptive guidelines and preliminary testing of some of them in a protected alpine area.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, field work could not be undertaken, and a wholesale review of the project was carried out, resulting in significant change of scope. The main output will now be a predicted range distribution of the target species under climate change conditions for a range of different scenarios. The map will be used to support LIPU's advocacy work to stop habitat destruction in the Alps.

**8 Lanner nest sites protection**

LIPU-UK provided €4,000 to fund the protection of Lanner falcon nests by LIPU volunteers, in an effort to prevent their local extinction. The Lanner in Italy is of the subspecies F. B. Feldeggi; of which there are c430-840 pairs worldwide. Recent research has shown a dramatic decline and currently, there are only a few pairs in peninsular Italy and c60 in Sicily. LIPU reported the Lanner population in Tuscany to be on a knife edge, with only 3 known pairs. In 2019, 6 chicks were observed to disappear from 2 nests; nest robbery is judged to be the major cause of breeding failure.

The project was slightly delayed because of the COVID. However, two nests could be monitored on daily basis by our volunteers (Pisa and Grosseto provinces). Their efforts were a success and four fledglings left the nest. An individual attempting to disturb one of the nests was reported to the police.

**9 Continuation of Monitoring of Important Bird Areas, Local Conservation Groups and Key Biodiversity Areas (residual funds from 2019).**

This project is nearing completion. Data collection has been almost completed. Remaining IBAs (less than 10 areas in total) are located in Trento Province, Lombardy, Emilia Romagna, Toscana, and Puglia.

**Trustees Annual Report for the  
Year ended 30 June 2020****10 Collared Pratincole (reallocation of funds from 2019)**

The Piana di Gela in Sicily holds the largest Italian population of Collared pratincole (included on the Italian Red List). As truly natural habitats have declined, their ground nesting colonies are found increasingly on agricultural land. When LIPU started to monitor the colony on the Piana di Gela they found that late spring ploughing was causing numerous breeding failures. As a delay of only 10-15 days would permit successful breeding, local farmers were approached through a door-to-door information and awareness campaign. In 2018 the first direct actions saved part of the colony and in spring 2019, all of the landowners agreed to postpone ploughing, saving the entire colony. Preliminary data for 2019 indicated some success with 14 fledged juveniles and 55-60 breeding pairs, an increase compared to the previous few years. LIPU-UK agreed to re-allocate funds allocated but unspent from 2018/19 to support the project in the 2020 breeding season. Despite COVID-restrictions, the project continued and the affected farmers again delayed ploughing until the Collared pratincoles had bred. About 73 females laid eggs and hatching was verified in at least 40 nests.

**Visit to LIPU Headquarters**

David & Shirley Lingard visited the LIPU headquarters in Parma in September 2019 to receive a first-hand update on conservation activities supported by LIPU-UK. They visited the area selected for research into the effects of climate change on alpine habitat. They also visited the “La Fagiana” Recovery Centre and the LIPU reserve of Caserna Maderno near Milan. A report on the visit was made to the board of trustees.

**Financial Review**a) Income

At the end of the financial year we had received £114,213. A substantial portion of this total was a sizeable legacy of £49,000, for which the Trustees express their gratitude. LIPU-UK's membership responded to the annual appeal with great generosity; the £34,000 raised represents the second-highest total ever for the annual appeal. Another valuable contribution was Gift Aid, which amounted to over £7,000. Given the continued decline in membership and very low interest rates, this has to be seen as an excellent result.

b) Expenditure

At the end of the financial year we had spent £97,291. Expenditure not including project funding was £9,298, which represents only 8.14% of income. LIPU-UK has an informal, desirable target of 10%. The substantially lower ratio this year is pleasing, but should be seen in the context of an income inflated by the sizeable legacy. Such limited expenditure is only made possible by the entirely voluntary efforts of the Trustees, notably the Treasurer/Secretary.

c) LIPU Project Funding

In June 2020, the Trustees approved transfer of €96,000 (£87,993) to LIPU to progress project funding in 2020/21.

**Financial Reserves**

At the year end the charity had total cash reserves of £237,515 (2019: £220,593) represented by £237,515 of unrestricted funds and £nil of restricted funds.

The net funds of LIPU-UK are allocated into three different categories: Restricted Funds, Unrestricted Funds and Designated Funds.

- Restricted Funds consist of money which has been given to LIPU-UK to be used for a specific purpose.
- Unrestricted Funds are funds which can be spent on anything which furthers the objectives of LIPU-UK.
- Designated Funds/Reserves are funds which have been earmarked for use in a particular way and these can include funds which are Restricted or Unrestricted.

**Trustees Annual Report for the  
Year ended 30 June 2020**

LIPU-UK maintains two Designated Funds:

- A Business Reserve – that is the Trustees' estimation of the prudent level of funds needed to guard against any potential liquidity problem that might arise if income unexpectedly dried up and financial commitments had to be met. Its level is set after an annual review and currently it amounts to £10,000. The Business Reserve is made up solely of Unrestricted Funds.
- The Project Reserve – a fund created to hold any surplus funds which may accrue. This fund may be spent on any project which has the approval of the LIPU-UK trustees after discussion with the Conservation Director of LIPU. The Project Reserve consists solely of Unrestricted Funds.

**Risks to the Charity**

a) Financial.

We continue to feel that the complication of several deposit accounts is a necessary safeguard for LIPU-UK funds. Balances, wherever possible, are maintained below £85,000 with each financial institution, now that the limit guaranteed by the FSCS scheme has been returned to this level. The search for safe accounts offering generous rates of interest continues.

b) Membership.

The slow decline in numbers has continued. This year we were joined by 21 new members but sadly we still have to report a nett loss of 13 in the last twelve months (down from 659 to 646). Initiatives to attract new members are ongoing, although this year's planned LIPU-UK stall at the Pensthorpe Bird Fair was another casualty of COVID-19 cancellations.

**Acknowledgements**

We continue to believe that the work of LIPU-UK has a very positive effect in Italy, where conservationists work in a difficult environment. The bulk of this UK work is still largely down to David Lingard, our Secretary/Treasurer, and his wife Shirley (fellow trustee). As always, I am sure that all LIPU supporters are hugely grateful to them for their many hours of dedication. David's efforts are not only on the administration but also the talks which are our main outreach.

We are also grateful to the team of translators, who continue to deliver the good news from Italy.

This year is LIPU's 53<sup>rd</sup>— and sadly, we are still needed. If anyone out there feels they can spare some time to join LIPU-UK's Trustees and maintain LIPU-UK's contribution, do let us know. You may well find the experience enjoyable and rewarding.

**Summary**

This year brought COVID-19 with all its continuing impacts on health, society and economy. No family or organisation has been left untouched in some way; this follows for LIPU (and to a lesser extent LIPU-UK). LIPU staff and volunteers have set aside often difficult personal circumstances and battled to deliver their conservation programme despite restrictions, including lengthy regional and national lockdowns. What has been achieved this year is a testament to their dedication.

Ours is a small charity, but we make a significant contribution to LIPU, which by membership is less than 5% the size of the RSPB. Thanks to you, our LIPU-UK supporters, we continue to make a real impact. Thank you for again making that difference.



Matt Hines  
Chairman — LIPU-UK

**Receipts and Payments Account  
for the Year ended 30 June 2020**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Legacies	49,000	-	49,000	70,680
Subscriptions and donations	17,610	34,152	51,762	42,781
Annual draw	2,922	-	2,922	2,883
Gift aid	<u>7,382</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,382</u>	<u>6,992</u>
	76,914	34,152	111,066	123,336
Deposit account interest	<u>3,147</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,147</u>	<u>2,479</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<u>80,061</u>	<u>34,152</u>	<u>114,213</u>	<u>125,815</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Project funding	53,841	34,152	87,993	102,950
Bank charges	13	-	13	14
Newsletter production	2,529	-	2,529	1,949
Travel	424	-	424	192
Postage	1,682	-	1,682	1,445
Printing	372	-	372	782
Annual Draw	893	-	893	889
Trustees meetings	-	-	-	247
Independent Examination	660	-	660	642
Stationery	55	-	55	191
Advertising, website & promotion	1,430	-	1,430	872
Miscellaneous admin costs	424	-	424	-
Insurance	-	-	-	46
Legal fees	816	-	816	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<u>(63,139)</u>	<u>(34,152)</u>	<u>(97,291)</u>	<u>(110,219)</u>
Net cash inflow / (outflow)	16,922	-	16,922	15,596
Balance at beginning of year	<u>220,593</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>220,593</u>	<u>204,997</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>237,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>237,515</u>	<u>220,593</u>

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2020**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Monetary Assets</b>				
Cash in hand	38	-	38	18
Cooperative Bank Account	2,230	-	2,230	5,466
Other cash at bank	99	-	99	102
Cash on Deposit	<u>235,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>235,148</u>	<u>215,007</u>
	237,515	-	237,515	220,593
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Franking machine – Net book value	191	-	191	286
Laptop computer	<u>366</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>366</u>	<u>-</u>
	557	-	557	286
<b>Other Assets</b>				
Gift Aid debtor	<u>3,223</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,223</u>	<u>3,186</u>
	3,223	-	3,223	3,186
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accruals – independent examination	<u>678</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>678</u>	<u>660</u>
	678	-	678	660

The financial statements on pages 6 and 7 were approved by the trustees on 23 October 2020.



Matt Hines  
Chairman

**Notes to the financial statements****1. Accounting convention**

This year and for future years the Trustees have decided to adopt the Receipts & Payments method in preparing the Financial Statements. Therefore "Income" on the previous page does not include the Gift Aid debtor shown as an asset above, and "Expenditure" does not include the accrual for the Independent Examiner's fee for the year.

The Trustees consider that this is appropriate for an organisation the size of LIPU-UK and ensures that the financial statements are easily understood by the members and other users.

**2. Related party disclosures**

During the year, David Lingard, a trustee of the Charity, was reimbursed £15.60 (2019: £37.60) for travel expenses. Pat Dugard, a trustee of the Charity was reimbursed £Nil (2019: £104.15) for travel expenses. Lesley Tompkins, a trustee of the Charity was reimbursed £Nil (2019: £49) for travel expenses.

**3. Movement in funds**

	At 1.7.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 30.6.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
Business reserve	10,000	-	-	10,000
Project reserve	<u>210,593</u>	<u>16,922</u>	-	<u>227,515</u>
	220,593	16,922	-	237,515
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>220,593</u>	<u>16,922</u>	-	<u>237,515</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
Business reserve	-	-	-	-
Project reserve	<u>80,061</u>	<u>(63,139)</u>	-	<u>16,922</u>
	80,061	(63,139)	-	16,922
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	<u>34,152</u>	<u>(34,152)</u>	-	-
	<u>34,152</u>	<u>(34,152)</u>	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>114,213</u>	<u>(97,291)</u>	-	<u>16,922</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of LIPU - UK**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2020 which are set out on pages 6 to 7.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J O'Hern', is written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is stylized and extends to the right of the line.

J O'Hern FCA  
Wright Vigar Limited  
Statutory Auditors and Business Advisors  
15 Newland  
Lincoln  
LN1 1XG

23 October 2020