

WILDFOWL 48

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and Janet Kear

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Cover photograph: WWT Caerlaverock at dusk by Will McFadyen

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Editorial

It is a great pleasure to have worked with Professor Janet Kear in order to present you with *Wildfowl* 48. Janet has made an enormously valuable contribution to the journal over the years: eight volumes published and in excess of 600 manuscripts scrutinised. I wish to acknowledge her sterling efforts and thank her for taking the time to maintain high standards and considerable enthusiasm for the journal.

For *Wildfowl* 48 we have introduced some changes. Firstly we have revised the layout of the papers, adopting a more appealing style. Then we have removed the 'progress reports' from The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), material which is generally available elsewhere, for example in WWT's annual research report. Finally, we have revised the 'notice to contributors', offering further guidance on the various types of papers we will accept for *Wildfowl*, whilst rationalising and modernising administrative procedures.

Wildfowl 48 contains an impressive selection of papers, with a good balance between contributions on swans, geese, ducks and other subjects. Many thanks to all who have helped to bring it to fruition: to those who offered papers, to the many dedicated referees, and to Denise Rogers, Rachael Priday, David Chamberlain and Nikki Straughan for expert assistance through the production process.

Dr Jeff Kirby