

## Wildfowl 57: Editorial

The 57th edition of *Wildfowl* is a slimmer volume than usual, but I'm pleased to say that the quality of the journal has been maintained. Papers cover a good variety of subjects, ranging from the most recent census of Mute Swans in Britain to an assessment of how feral Greylag Geese living in parks in Stuttgart cope with freezing conditions. Efforts to conserve threatened species are described; we learn that translocation of endangered Laysan Teal from Laysan Island to the Midway Atoll more than doubles the geographic range of the species. Methodological developments in aerial surveys of Trumpeter Swans are assessed, and a detailed study of the diet of duck and coot frequenting gravel pits leads to valuable management recommendations for maintaining the food supply for the birds.

This is the first year that a wildfowl species has not appeared on the cover of *Wildfowl*. Many readers will appreciate that, although flamingos are closely related to the ducks, geese and swans, they are not classified as wildfowl. They do, however, fall very much within the remit of the journal, in being waterbirds that frequent wetland habitats. Moreover, WWT has long been involved in flamingo research and conservation, with all six species or sub-species being included in WWT's collections, and the first International Flamingo Symposium was held at the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge, in 1973. More recently, WWT, Wetlands International and participants at the AEWA/CMS workshop held in Nairobi in September 2006 have been developing a Single Species Action Plan for the Lesser Flamingo, with a view to improving the conservation status of these beautiful birds under the terms of the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement. Implementation of the action plan should help to reduce the risk to the Lesser Flamingo which, although the most numerous of the world's flamingos, is classified as "Near Threatened" in the IUCN's Red List of threatened species, because of its reliance on a single breeding site – Lake Natron. More information on the progress of this initiative hopefully will appear as papers in future editions of *Wildfowl*.

I remain most grateful to the referees for their valuable comments on the papers, and to Mrs Margaret Sage for her assistance throughout. This year we have out-sourced the lay-out and printing of the journal to Cambridge University Press, and I am also most grateful to the team at CUP for their help in producing the journal.

