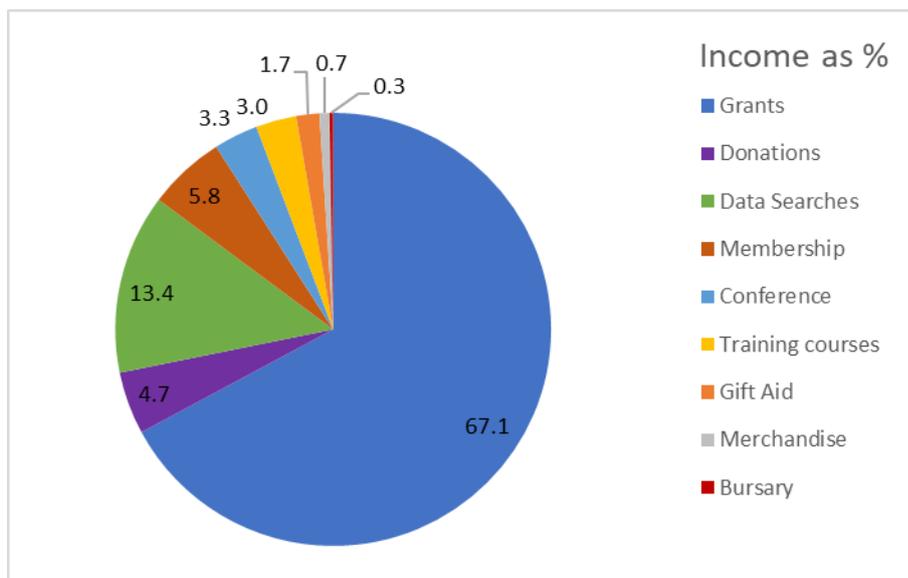


SCOTTISH BADGERS ANNUAL REPORT – 2017/18

- A great year for all projects, with more active members and volunteers
- Greater contact with the Scottish Parliament and MSPs
- Much appreciated help and contact from Colin Smyth, MSP, our LINK Species Champion for badgers
- More contact and networking with Scottish Environment LINK staff and other member organisations
- Challenges still with Police Scotland and the Crown Office over investigation of badger offences, or apparent offences

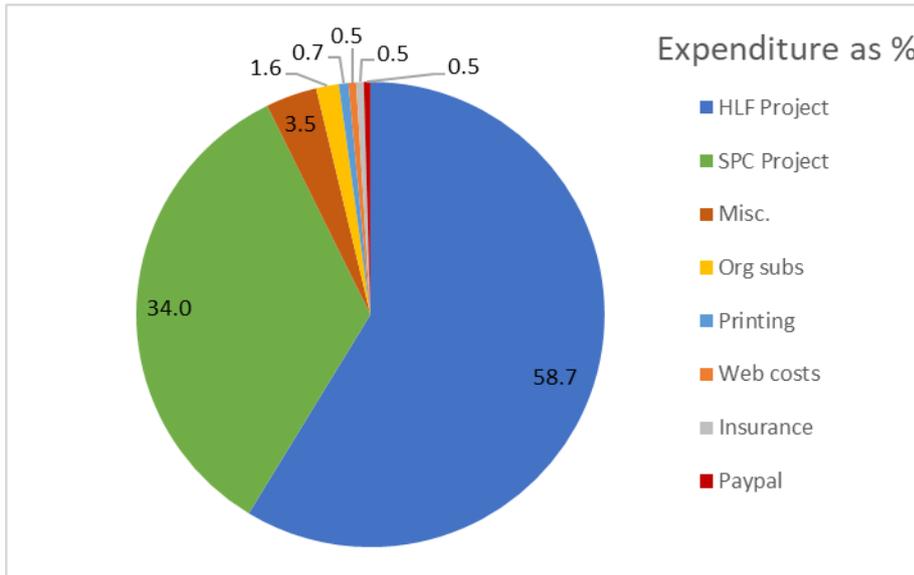
Eddie Palmer, Chairman, July 2018

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR



INCOME

SUBJECT	AMOUNT	%
Grants	£49,000	67.1
Donations	£3,400	4.7
Data Searches	£9,800	13.4
Membership	£4,200	5.8
Conference	£2,400	3.3
Training courses	£2,200	3.0
Gift Aid	£1,250	1.7
Merchandise	£540	0.7
Bursary	£200	0.3
TOTAL	£72,990	100.00



EXPENDITURE

SUBJECT	AMOUNT	%
HLF Project	£34,360	58.7
SPC Project	£19,925	34.0
Misc.	£2,074	3.5
Org subs	£915	1.6
Printing	£387	0.7
Web costs	£311	0.5
Insurance	£306	0.5
Paypal	£265	0.5
TOTAL	£58,543	100

FUNDERS FOR 2017/18

LUSH Charity Pots

Primrose Trust

Patagonia Environmental Grants

Heritage Lottery Fund

Many individual donations, from Members, and the public

The past year has been an excellent one for Scottish Badgers. Our income from memberships has remained similar to 2016-17, but money received from training has

increased by over £1,000 on last year and the income received from desk search fees has increased by over £2,000.

See the table for Funders, some of whom are regular supporters and we are very grateful for their help. Another source of income for us is through Gift Aid, and this year we claimed back over £1,200 in tax relief from your donations and membership fees. This is extremely important income.

Thank you for your support over the past year; we couldn't do it without the hard work and generosity of our volunteers and supporters.

Laura Carter-Davis, Treasurer

BEQUESTS

PLEASE CONSIDER PROTECTING BADGERS WITH A BEQUEST OR DONATION

However large or small, every gift to Scottish Badgers makes a difference.

Badgers in Scotland suffer unimaginable cruelties every day. They are torn to pieces by dogs, beaten, drowned, snared, shot and poisoned. Their dependent cubs are left to die. Road accidents cause agonising deaths to thousands every year. We have to raise all the funds to pay for our work. It costs tens of thousands of £'s each year. We rely totally on donations, membership subscriptions and grants from trust funds. The vast majority of trust funds exclude animal or environmental protection and any grants we get must be 50% matched by our own funds! So, your bequests and donations are vital.

Please consider the following ways to help:

1.Name Scottish Badgers as a beneficiary in your will and continue to protect badgers after you're gone. Generally, you can use the following wording for a bequest:

"I give to Scottish Badgers – registered Scottish Charity number (SCIO) SC034297 and registered address at Hillhead, North Mains of Kinnettles, Forfar, Scotland DD8 1XF – the sum of £..... (insert words and figures or describe the portion of the estate) to be used for its general purposes. I declare that the receipt of the treasurer or another proper officer shall be full and sufficient discharge."

2.Remember a loved one by making a memorial donation to Scottish Badgers and we will add the name of the person to our commemoration wall if you wish.

<http://www.scottishbadgers.org.uk/donate.asp> .

3.Give the perfect birthday or anniversary gift by giving a gift membership and never have to worry about suitable presents again.

<http://www.scottishbadgers.org.uk/join-online.asp>

4.Make a donation, anytime or regularly

<http://www.scottishbadgers.org.uk/donate.asp>

5.Join as a member and you'll receive regular updates on our work and get preferential rates for our conference and courses.

<http://www.scottishbadgers.org.uk/join-online.asp>

6. Tick the Gift Aid box when donating or joining; if you pay tax you're likely to be eligible. At no extra cost to you this increases the value of your donation and membership subscription by 25%.

7. Please consider setting up a Standing Order through your bank for your donations and membership subscriptions. This costs you nothing and saves transaction charges.

For our bank details to set up a Standing Order, and any other questions, contact the secretary:

E: secretary@scottishbadgers.co.uk T: 07772 033382

By post: The Secretary, Scottish Badgers, Hillhead, North Mails of Kinnettles, Forfar, Scotland DD8 1XF.

**PLEASE ENSURE OUR WORK PROTECTING BADGERS NEVER STOPS –
THANK YOU**

Scottish Badgers BUSINESS PLAN

Launched in 2015, Scottish Badgers' strategy exists to help us focus and deliver on our key priorities; Crime Prevention, Education and Awareness Raising, Development Planning, Advocacy and Engagement and Research.

This year we restructured our team to make sure we had all the resources in place to deliver our ambitious Action Plans. We now have a Trustee taking the lead on each priority, supported by a talented and enthusiastic team of Advisors. We've made excellent progress. From new training courses to better engagement with the planning system, our Strategy is allowing us to protect badgers at every level, while helping us attract new funding streams.

Of course we are always looking for more volunteer help – if you'd like to become involved, please ask a trustee.

Steve Jackson-Matthews

EDUCATION TEAM

During the year Scottish Badgers delivered the following courses:

Police Wildlife Crime Officer Training; 3 courses training 21 officers

Level 1 Registered Badger Worker Courses; 2 courses training 26 members

Basic Wildlife Crime Courses; 2 courses training 23 people

Leading Groups in Outdoor Situations Courses; 1 course training 5 members

Badgers for Beginners Courses; 3 courses training 24 members

A prospectus containing details of all our courses can be seen [here](#)

BADGERS IN THE LANDSCAPE – THE HLF PROJECT

It's been another great year for our Lottery-funded project in South Lanarkshire. In its second year, we are now working with over 100 volunteers conducting sett surveys, trail camera projects and sett monitoring. Thanks to the hard work of our volunteers, we added 130 new setts to our national database this year. Our work with young people has really taken off in the past twelve months through our new partnership with Scottish Wildlife Trust, which also included the launch of our national badger hub in New Lanark and the launch of our first ever Scottish Badger Week! The project has also received great publicity through BBC Wildlife Magazine, The Daily Mail, Hamilton Advertiser and Scottish Wildlife Trust's magazine.

Volunteering

We delivered 50 volunteer sessions including 23 survey days, 10 sett monitoring sessions and 17 trail camera expeditions.

Our volunteers clocked up 192 days of volunteering and 1,148 volunteer hours.



When the volunteers were asked to rate their experience, as above, 100% said it had been either Very good or Good.

Training

We delivered 7 training days with more than 70 volunteers attending.

Young people

In partnership with Scottish Wildlife Trust, we delivered 36 Mammal Detectives sessions to over 900 children. We recruited 40 young Animal Ambassadors throughout South Lanarkshire to continue this work.

Scotland's national Badger Hub

In partnership with Scottish Wildlife Trust, we set up Scotland's first badger hub at Falls of Clyde Wildlife Reserve and Visitor Centre – a focus for volunteering, training,

awareness raising and research. We recruited over 80 volunteers in various roles such as sett surveyor, trail camera assistant, badger watch assistant and virtual badger champion.



SPECIES PROTECTION CO-ORDINATOR

Badger Persecution and Crime

80 'Incidents' during the year
22 deemed 'non-incident' - 1 receiving a Police warning

Types of incidents

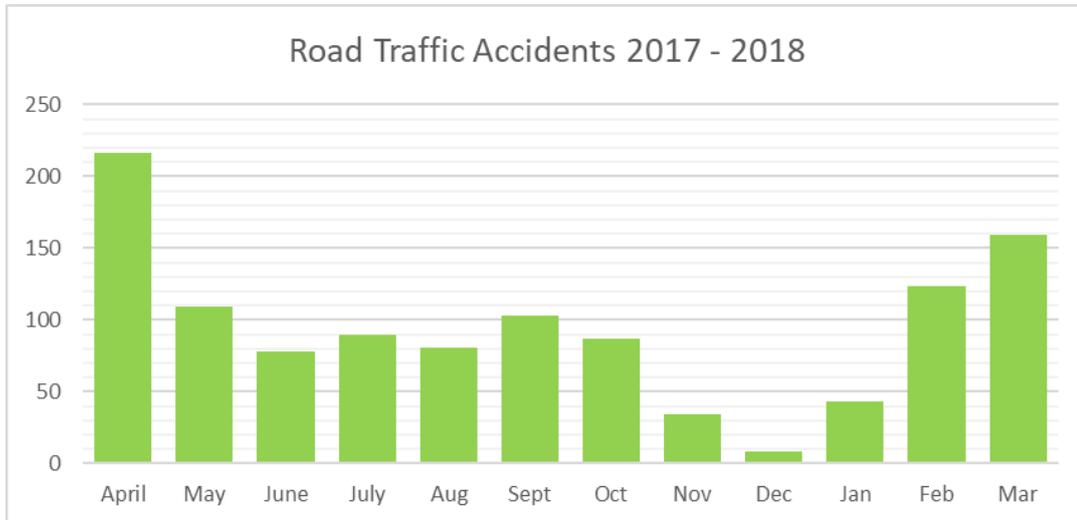
Sett interference (**34**), with 'sett dug' accounting for 6
6 were related to forestry works
5 to development works
5 blocking and 4 disturbance, 3 to agricultural
3 to activities relating to hunts
2 cases of damage/destroy.

Illegal traps and snares (**4**)
Baiting/fighting (**4**)
Potential poisoning (**3**) and shooting (**2**)
'Other', of which there are **11** records.

Locations - Fife has the highest total (**31**), followed by Ayrshire (**24**) and South Lanarkshire (**23**).

Road Traffic Accident reports

1124 road casualties reported over the past year, via our online recording form, phone calls, direct emails and through social media.



The year has seen a higher number of records compared to the 2016-17 year, bar July and August.

Locations - Aberdeenshire (**153**), Borders (**105**) and Dumfries and Galloway (**97**). The roads with the greatest volume of reports were the A96 (**54**), A77 (**22**), and the A70 (**22**).

Sett records - Total of **531** sett records have been logged during the 2017-18 year.

121 'live sightings' reported through. The majority of these sightings relate to badgers being seen in urban areas and gardens.

Enquiries

Well over 500 enquires made to the Species Protection Coordinator and other volunteers, as well as an additional **19** from various agencies (including Forestry and Local Authorities) requiring comment on plans involving badgers (such as scoping comments, long term forest plans and management plans).

Data searches - total of **47** data searches completed in this period.



Species Protection Co-ordinator: EMILY PLATT

For issues related to badger crime, legislation, planning, mitigation, data searches and to log badger records:
speciesprotection@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Project Officer: ELAINE RAINEY

For matters relating to our Badgers in the Landscape - Community Building for Wildlife project
projectofficer@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Trustees:

Chairman: EDDIE PALMER - E-mail Chairman@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Secretary: ELLIE STIRLING - E-mail secretary@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Treasurer: LAURA CARTER-DAVIS – E-mail treasurer@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Advocacy & Engagement: ALLAN BANTICK O.B.E.

E-mail - allanbantick@hotmail.com

Operations & Fund Raising: ANN INNES

E-mail - advisoroperations@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Development Planning: STEVE JACKSON-MATTHEWS

E-mail - steve@scottishbadgers.org.uk

Education & Crime Prevention: ANDY RICHES

E-mail - info@scottishbadgers.org.uk

FOR DETAIL OF ALL VOLUNTER POSTS, AND MUCH MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE GO TO WEBSITE AT www.scottishbadgers@org.uk