Registered Charity No. 267430

Annual Report & Accounts, year ended 31 December 2025

The Society successfully met its charitable aims during this, our 90th anniversary year, marked among other ways by welcoming our first Patron, the author and broadcaster Mr Nick Baker. We are a society for entomologists of all levels of experience and expertise, and we especially welcome novices and young people. Our natural focus continues to align closely with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

MEMBERSHIP

Our total membership at the year-end was 872 (904 in 2024). Most new members had learnt about the Society through online sources, with significant minorities discovering us after attending our Annual Exhibition and by word of mouth. Our members have diverse entomological interests, with Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) and 'general entomology' being prominently noted. Coleoptera (beetles) and invertebrate conservation also feature highly, with many of our members also being members of specialist entomological societies.

EVENTS

Once again this year, the **Young Verrall Lecture** took place in March, at the Staffordshire Invertebrate Fair; a recording is available on our YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/@amentsoc). This event was organised jointly by our Registrar and Membership Administrator, Dr Victoria Burton, and by the Royal Entomological Society (RES). This year's speaker was Prof. Iain Couzin, of the Max Planck Institute. The lecture was tailored to young people and was based on the main Verrall Lecture, which was given by Prof. Couzin the same month.

This year's AES **Members' Day and AGM** was held in June at the Museum of Zoology, Cambridge University; we collaborated with the university's 'Zoology Live!' event during the day. Speakers included our President, Professor Ed Turner; Prof. Christine Miller and Prof. Walter Federle, and the Annual Leonard Tesch Lecture was delivered by Prof. Rebecca Kilner. The event was very well attended, and minibeast hunts were conducted throughout the day at a nearby fen.

Our annual **Bug Club Insect Week** visit to the rooms of the British Entomological and Natural History Society (BENHS) took place during a very warm spell of weather; this is our smallest event of the year, and provides time for young members to meet leading experts in the field as well as to explore the BENHS library and collections. In that respect the event contrasts with our biennial **Summer Camp**, which this year took place at the Whitwell Hall Country Centre in Norfolk and included a day trip to an entomological attraction called the Bug Parc. As usual, this well-attended family event included all aspects of field entomology and was a great success.

This year's **Annual Exhibition** was once again a huge success; in addition to a variety of traders, whose offerings we take great care to ensure are in line with our trading policy and which we actively 'police' on the day, this event included several tables of exhibits by our members and was supported by a number of entomological and natural history societies. Our first Annual Exhibition took place in 1939, and apart from a break during World War 2 and the Covid pandemic, has been held every year since then. Whilst this venue is costly to hire, our members and other attendees favour it and the Society did better than break even on the day.

PERIODICALS AND PUBLICATIONS

As always, our periodicals the *AES Bulletin*, *Entomologist's Record* and the *Bug Club Magazine* appeared regularly throughout the year. Two Supplements to the AES Bulletin were published, to mark our 90th anniversary as a society. The ***Riverflies Handbook***, written by Craig Macadam, a leading conservationist and expert in aquatic entomology, has received positive reviews, and a new edition of the *Silkmoth Rearer's Handbook* is planned to be published in the coming year.

AFFILIATIONS, OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEERS

Collaborating with other societies, organisations and individuals remains a cornerstone of our success. In addition to specific arrangements with societies such as the BENHS, the RES and the British Myriapod and Isopod Recording Group, we are always pleased to receive contributions to our journals from both individuals and natural history charities. The British Arachnological Society, for example, regularly contributes articles on arachnid biology for young people, to the *Bug Club Magazine*. Needless to say, we have several volunteers whose contributions to the Society in a variety of ways are invaluable and much appreciated.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

We donate to societies whose objectives align with our charitable aims, including the Moth Dissection website and the entoLive programme of webinars, and we attend entomological events where it is beneficial, such as the annual insect day organised by the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Entomological Society.

We continue to award prizes to members of all ages for their contributions to our journals (the Hammond and Gardiner Awards) and for their exhibits at our Annual Exhibition (the Bradford and Ansorge awards). This year it was decided to rename our award for invertebrate conservation; this became the prestigious Cribb-Lonsdale Award, for which non-members are eligible, as they are for the Michael Majerus Grant, for projects that benefit younger entomologists. The Skinner Award, established with a ten-year bursary in memory of Bernard Skinner, is conferred at the Annual Exhibition each year, to an outstanding entomologist as determined by Council.

GOVERNANCE

AES Council met 5 times during the year, three times online and twice in person, in London.

AES Membership is a gateway to entomology and natural history, open to anyone paying the annual subscription or admitted as an Honorary Member. We are managed by a Council of not more than 18 members elected by the membership, on a three-year cycle, who also elect the Officers for the ensuing year at each AGM. In 2025 Professor Ed Turner, of the Department of Zoology at Cambridge, handed over the Society's Presidency to Colin Hart, a longstanding trustee and author of the standard work on Plume Moths.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The AES Finance Committee met on-line three times during the year and discussed Annual Exhibition income and expenditure including raising charges, an analysis of the cost of producing journals and a review of journal exchange arrangements, subscription rates, event costs, potential new publications, the use of legacies, the funding of a planned AES strategy awayday, potential solutions for addressing the operational deficit, and our Examiner of Accounts' recommendations; we reported back to AES Council on these items.

AES Council received and reviewed monthly financial and budget reports throughout the year which itemising our income and expenditure, so that the finances of the Society were regularly and closely monitored.

Substantial donations were received from an anonymous donor in support of the Bug Club, and from Magdalen College Trust for general use. Such donations continue to provide useful support of our finances, as do donations from many other members. On 23 April 2025 we received a substantial legacy of £38,135 from the late Stephen Miles.

Receipts for the year were £95,353 (2024: £61,222) which were significantly higher than the previous year due to the legacy mentioned above. However, subscriptions were virtually the same as the previous year. Investment and savings income was £6,325 (2024: £5,645) an increase of £680. Donations (excluding the legacy) were down by £4,496 over the previous year. Publications income increased by £1,668 due to strong sales of our books, which includes the Riverflies book published last year. The Annual Exhibition returned a surplus of £3,277.

Expenditure was £75,264 (2024: £63,862) which was significantly higher than the previous year in the main due to activities and publications to celebrate our 90th anniversary. The cost of the Bulletin (production and postage) which included the first 90th anniversary supplement increased by £5,372, governance increased by £1,000 and the Bug Club Summer camp cost £1,500. The exhibition cost £2,173 more due to its increased size and rising costs to hire the venue. Expenditure on stock increased by £1,347 as we needed to replenish supplies. The cost of producing *the Entomologist's Record* remained static and the Bug Club Magazine cost £700 less.
A loan from a Trustee in 2024 of £4,545 was repaid. A related party honorarium of £4,680 was paid for administrative work. We donated £1,150 to support other entomological organisations. We were able to make cost savings by continuing to hold most meetings online.

We continue to maintain tight financial controls, and with the receipt of one legacy we were able to end the year with a surplus of £20,089 which increased our cash reserves (General and Restricted) to £22,808 (2024: £2,719). The Society is still to receive the other anticipated legacy mentioned last year which will help with future cash flow.

RESERVES POLICY
The Board of Trustees has determined that the AES will have a target for a general cash reserve of a minimum of £2,000 to:

- cover the risk of an unforeseen or unexpected need for funds
- fund short-term deficits in the cash budget

The general cash reserve at the end of the year was £22,808 which was comfortably above the target.

The Society has an investment portfolio with a market value on 31st December 2025 of £150,451 (2024: £140,578). This portfolio generates an income which is included in the Receipts.

The Board of Trustees has determined that up to 10% of the investment portfolio (approximately £15,000) can be used if necessary to:

- cover a shortfall in the cash reserve
- fund a planned commitment that cannot be met by future income alone.

It is accepted that if some of the capital is used the portfolio income will be reduced.

The dividends on our investments, and their capital value at year end, will of course vary with the market.

Dafydd Lewis (Hon. Secretary)
Peter Brown (Hon. Treasurer)
24 April 2026

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Trustees of the Amateur Entomologists Society
on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 5 - 6

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2025.
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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 (other than that disclosed below) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Disclosure

I draw attention to the fact that one trustee received payments totalling£4,680 during the year for administrative tasks undertaken on behalf of the charity. The charity's governing document does not currently permit payments to trustees for services rendered.

The trustees have applied to the Charity Commission to amend the governing document to allow such payments, and approval is pending.

This matter does not affect the accuracy of the financial statements; however, it warrants disclosure due to its relevance to compliance with the charity's governing document.

A Idris FICB
Bookkeeping, Accounting and Consultancy Services (T/A BAnC Services)
Workspace House,
Maxwell Road
Peterborough. PE2 7JE Date: 1 May 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Amateur Entomologists Society	No (if any) 267430

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Jan-25	To	31-Dec-25

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership income					
Subscriptions	26,186	-	-	26,186	26,165
Donations	40,359	-	1,000	41,359	7,721
Publications					
Proceeds of Sale	4,021	-	-	4,021	4,001
Publishers Licensing Society	211	-	-	211	223
Other Income					
AES Exhibitions	14,949	-	-	14,949	11,844
Investment Income	6,325	-	-	6,325	5,645
Advertising revenue	374	-	-	374	795
Goods sold	142			142	283
Miscellaneous - Loan	-			-	4,545
Miscellaneous - Other	138	-	-	138	-
Grant	1,648	-	-	1,648	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	94,353	-	1,000	95,353	61,222
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	94,353	-	1,000	95,353	61,222
A3 Payments					
Cost of Journals	36,159	-	1,581	37,740	33,123
Publications Costs	2,958	-	-	2,958	5,417
Membership services	-	-	-	-	-
AES Exhibitions	11,432	-	-	11,432	9,259
Charitable events	247		-	247	422
Purchase of Goods for sale	1,446	-	-	1,446	100
Registrars Fee & expenses	6,145	-	-	6,145	5,895
Bug Club Activities	2,150	-	-	2,150	653
Awards	1,747		-	1,747	1,010
Governance and support	4,874	-	-	4,874	4,151
Miscellaneous	1,980	-	-	1,980	3,832
Miscellaneous - Loan	4,545	-	-	4,545	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	73,683	-	1,581	75,264	63,862
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	73,683	-	1,581	75,264	63,862
Net of receipts/(payments)	20,670	-	- 581	20,089	- 2,640
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,138		581	2,719	5,359
Cash funds this year end	22,808	-	-	22,808	2,719

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	General Fund	22,808	-	-
	Bug Club	-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	22,808	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

		Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds	Restricted funds
	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Aegon Cofunds	General		89,853
	Artemis	General		6,905
	IFSL CAF	General		35,951
	M&G	General		17,742
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	**150,451**

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Peter Brown	24/04/2026
		Dafydd Lewis	24/04/2026

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

We present our accounts in the Receipts & Payments format.

2. Funds

The General Fund is used for the day to day running of the society. The Society has restricted funds which shall be used only in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the donors. We have received an annual donation for the Bug Club.

3. Expenses

During the year Trustees were reimbursed £2,883.56 (2024: £6,055.01) for travel and subsistence costs incurred while representing the charity at meetings and conferences, and for expenses directly related to delivering the charity's activities, including its annual exhibition.

4. Honorarium

An honorarium of £4,680 (2024: £4,680) was paid to one Trustee during the year, for administering the charity's membership.

Amateur Entomologists' Society
Charity Information as of 31 December 2025

Charitable Trustees

President	Colin Hart (from June 2025)
Vice-president	Prof. Edgar Turner
Secretary	Dafydd Lewis
Treasurer	Peter Brown
Registrar & Memberships	Dr Victoria Burton
Editor, AES Bulletin	Dr Mike Noble
Newsletter Editor	Dafydd Lewis
Advertising Secretary	Peter Hodge

Dr Andy Chick, Joseph Gillson, Chris Hamilton, Ralph Hobbs, Dr Erica McAlister, Sophia Reinisch, Rev. Philip Reynolds, Jacqueline Ruffle, Nicholas Wadham

Volunteers

Malcolm Aldridge	Dr Geoff Oxford
Andrew Beech	Emma Partridge
Dr Clive Betts	Rob Partridge
Rob Edmunds	Dr Kieren Pitts
David Keen	Colin Plant
Ciara Loughran	Douglas Ruffle
Elisa McGarry	Christine Sims
Dr John Muggleton	Dr Peter Sutton
Mrs Christine Muggleton	Stephen Thomas

Custodial trustees: Paul Brock and Colin Hart

Charity Number 267430

Registered Address:
Fourpenny Cottage, Dungates Lane, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BD

Bankers:
NatWest plc, Oxted (A) Branch, 12 Station Road East, Limpsfield, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0PR
HSBC plc, City of London Branch, Victoria Street, EC4N 4TR

Examiner of Accounts:
Aishat Idris, BAnC Services, Peterborough