

Bird Observation  
& Conservation Australia

---

ANNUAL REPORT  
2008

---





Tim Landsberg  
President



Richard Hunter  
Chief Executive Officer

2008 has seen the completion of BOCA's one hundred and third year and has been a year where as an organisation we have seen some gains and have been able to identify some very clear challenges for the future.

BOCA has increased its conservation and education resources allowing for better support for the work being done by volunteers at branch level and a greater ability to respond to threats to the environment from inappropriate development. Support from BOCA's foundation, ABEF has allowed the employment of Conservation Officer, Jenny Lau and an increase to Education Coordinator Annette Cook's hours. ABEF has been able to provide increased support through growth in the Perpetual Fund and a resulting increase in investment earnings.

This year has seen the addition of a new regional branch. Southern Highboca in NSW and the formation of a national special interest group, Photoboca, membership of which is open to all BOCA members interested in developing their photographic skills. These two groups are very valuable additions to BOCA's network.

While the forgoing and other developments reported on later are very pleasing we must also acknowledge that BOCA faces a number of challenges to its survival as an effective environmental organisation providing support and service to its members.

- At the core of each of the other challenges BOCA faces is that of cash flow. While our organisation has no debt, we also suffer from an income level which does not allow proper and vigorous pursuit of the organisation's objectives.
- The greatest challenge facing the Board is to secure an increased and reliable cash flow. Failure to do this will not only prevent necessary expansion of BOCA's activities but may well foresee a reduction at a time when threats to our birds and their habitat demand the opposite.
- The global financial crisis has already had its affect on cash flow, both because of loss of value of investments and on the level of donor support. We can expect it will be some time before this turns around.
- The level of income directly impacts on resources available including both professional and support staff. This in turn

reduces our effectiveness as an organisation and reduces BOCA's voice as an environmental advocate.

In seeking to improve BOCA's financial situation the Board and management must present the organisation as worthy of support from its members and donors. Members themselves should be encouraged to look at what they can do to assist their organisation pursue its objectives. This means not judging membership fees in terms of what return they provide to the individual but rather what they might add to BOCA's resources.

## Governance

BOCA's Board of Directors has responsibility for determining strategy and for monitoring operations which are the responsibility of the CEO. Other than the retirement of Jonathon Crofts, membership of the Board has been unchanged for the year.

Directors attend monthly meetings of the Board, participate in committee meetings on a regular basis and often provide assistance to management in their own areas of expertise. Directors give their time and expertise on an honorary basis as do so many other BOCA volunteers.

The Board is currently working on BOCA's strategic plan, an important part of which will be addressing cash flow issues and when complete this will be put before members.

In preparing the strategic plan one of the most important aspects to be considered will be our relationship with like-minded organisations. This will be increasingly important as the need to maximize resources and impact and reduce duplication grows.

## Volunteers

As an organisation BOCA relies for much of what it does on the efforts of its volunteers. Volunteers are involved in all areas of BOCA's work, among these are:

- Board and committees
- Management of the library
- Branch management
- Conservation – both on ground and advocacy
- Education – particularly the delivery of environmental education to the Community
- Contracted survey work
- Blue Wren Gift Shop
- Activities leadership

This list is intended only as an indication and is by no means exhaustive. BOCA's volunteers contribute some **32,000** hours a year which equates to more than **19 full time** employees, double the number we currently have. This contribution cannot be overstated.

## Supporters

Like any not-for-profit organisation, BOCA is blessed with a number of very generous financial supporters whose contributions allow it to carry out vital education and conservation work. A list of major donors appears later in this report.

Donations from the Cybec Foundation and others have allowed the building of the Clare Miller Environment Centre at Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary. The ongoing donation from the Wood Family Trust is a key to our education program and Geoff Jones through Barra Imaging is funding the development of a new BOCA website. Their support and that of all of BOCA's generous donors is gratefully acknowledged.

## Branches

This year has seen the network of BOCA branches grow to twenty-three with the addition of Southern Highboca in NSW and the special interest group Photoboca, both already very active. In addition, BOCA members Bob and Penne Carr are very active in the Wagga Wagga area and we may well see the establishment of a branch there shortly.

Branches continue to be very active in providing for their local members' interests and supporting those visiting from other areas. Branches also allow BOCA to be involved in environmental issues at a local level. Each branch has its own approach to meeting local challenges but whether it is 'hands on' conservation, advocacy, membership of umbrella groups or a combination of these, local environments are the better for it. Much of the work done at National Office in conservation and education relies on the local knowledge of branch members as does our ability to deliver "on the ground".

An addition to its own network of branches, BOCA has an extensive group of affiliated organisations. These are independent local groups which have a common purpose with BOCA. We are currently examining the nature of this relationship to ensure that it is of real benefit to each partner.



Sea Eagle. Photography - Keith Hindley

# Conservation



Don Saunders

BOCA's conservation capability was greatly strengthened by the addition of a second part-time conservation officer, Jenny Lau, commencing March 2008. This was made possible through funding support from BOCA's Australian Bird Environment Foundation.

BOCA is involved in a wide range of conservation issues relating to birds and bird habitat throughout Australia. A major part of the work of the Conservation team is to prepare submissions, represent BOCA on environmental committees and organisations, support Branches with advice on conservation policy and submissions and to help members with local conservation issues.

During the year BOCA became a member of Victoria Naturally Alliance which is a coalition of nine National and Victorian environmental groups committed to working together to protect the State's biodiversity.

Issues surrounding climate change have been a very significant component of the Conservation team's work. Submissions were made on two Victorian Government strategies: A Climate of Opportunity Summit Paper and Land and Biodiversity at a time of Climate Change – the latter resulting in BOCA being contacted to prepare a paper with Birds Australia on community monitoring as a headline indicator of climate change. BOCA is also represented on the Stakeholder's group reviewing Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy which should provide specific targets underpinning the climate change strategies.

A direct result of climate change has been a strong push for renewable energy, particularly wind farms. Some of these are in locations where birds such as Brolgas, raptors or waterbirds could be affected. BOCA has made submissions to State and Commonwealth Ministers on several such proposals during the year. Other issues associated with climate change where BOCA has made submissions include fire management plans, proposals for major water augmentation schemes and support for biolinks in the landscape.

Submissions to the Commonwealth included Macquarie Island pest control, Savannah Cats, Bruny Island logging and Swift Parrot habitat, Lonsdale Lakes extension to the existing Ramsar Site and reviews of the EPBC Act.

Six BOCA Branches in south-west Victoria participated in monthly Brolga counts during the flocking season. Because of the uncertain nature of Brolga movements and the proposals to construct a vast number of wind turbines in that area, a research project has commenced to track Brolga movements. BOCA has two representatives on the Steering Committee for this research project and BOCA members from south-west Victoria will continue to be involved in surveys.

The Conservation Officer manages the Melbourne Water Survey where BOCA is contracted to survey 10 wetlands in metropolitan Melbourne: surveys are carried out by three BOCA branches; Melboca, Penboc and Bayboca.

Duck hunting continues to be an issue in Victoria, particularly with the numbers of birds being so low as a result of the 12 years of drought, which continues. BOCA and Birds Australia have jointly objected to the Victorian Government's proposal to develop a property based game management scheme which would mean that private land owners can be paid by shooters to kill native ducks and quail on their properties. BOCA and BA have also made joint representations to the Victorian Minister strongly opposing a 2009 duck hunting season.

The conservation officers of BOCA and BA work closely together on a wide range of issues relating to birds and their habitat. BOCA's Conservation Coordinator is a member of the BA Threatened Species Committee and the ABA Technical Advisory Committee.



Top: Beautiful Firetail, Bear Gully. Above: Redthroat male, Bowra Station. Photography - John Barkla

# Education



Annette Cook

BOCA education programs continued to develop during 2008. We saw an expansion of Branch involvement in education activities and an increase in education materials available for use by BOCA members and other community educators. Regular education pages in *The Bird Observer* have provided the opportunity to explore broader issues of environmental education as well as promote and report on BOCA education events.

A collaborative effort between the BOCA Education Committee, East Gippsland BOCA and the BOCA Photography Group, Photoboca saw the successful "Between the Mountains and the Sea" weekend run in October. A packed program including photography and birding workshops and field trips, run by local experts and BOCA members was well received by all participants. The positive feedback was a great reward for the hard work but is also encouragement to put on a similar event in another location.

BOCA Bird Week 2008 – Revealing Raptors proved to be of interest to many if the number of wonderful photographs supplied is any indication. Photographs were used to provide display materials for branches and for the Bird Week Web pages. A raptor identification brochure has been designed and will be available later in 2009.

A team of BOCA personnel again visited the Australian Bird Fair at Leeton. Friday was schools' day and BOCA ran workshops for local schools entitled "Birds Travelling About". The students played a migration game, experimented with using household implements as imaginary beaks picking up imaginary food and made bird masks.

Many BOCA volunteers have delivered bird talks and led bird walks for schools and community groups throughout the year. Most of the school activities have been with primary schools but in 2008 we tried something different and worked with a group of year 11 students. The program involved learning about local birds, a field trip and making a mosaic of their favourite bird.

During 2009 we will see changes in the BOCA website which will further benefit the availability of education resources. The Education Committee will be approaching Branches to survey their hopes and needs for education programs. The information gained will help planning for future BOCA Education Programs.

## Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary



David Coutts

The Sanctuary, under the guidance of the Strategy Committee and management of David Coutts continues to develop. The long anticipated environment centre is very nearly complete and we can expect an official opening in mid June. The building will be named the Clare Miller Environment Centre in recognition of Clare's enormous contribution to the Sanctuary from its very beginning. The centre will greatly enhance the Sanctuary as an educational facility and will also provide an excellent meeting venue for BOCA, the other land owners and local groups.

The CBS Friends Group always has been very active throughout the year and provides the Manager with vital support and advice.



The Clare Miller Interpretation Centre.  
Photographers – John Barkla (top) and David Coutts (above)

## ABEF



Through a number of very generous bequests transferred from BOCA to the perpetual fund, ABEF's investments have grown quite substantially this year. To an unfortunate degree this has been offset by the current global financial crisis, but no doubt this will end eventually and ABEF's ability to provide grants will increase. In the meantime ABEF has continued to provide funds to BOCA for its conservation and education programmes and has been able to resume funding of outside projects. This year in addition to funds provided to BOCA the following projects have been funded:

- Dr Grant Palmer – A burning issue: impacts of prescribed fire on birds in dry eucalypt forest.
- Michelle Plant, University of Queensland – Investigation of bird health and feeding behaviour at supplementary feeding sites.
- Bruce & Sue Tardif, The Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater Inc – enabling multi-media capacity of Helmeted Honeyeater education programs.
- Elizabeth Shaw, Western Port Bird Observation & Conservation – *Birding Bass Coast* Brochure.
- Robyn Cairns, Moomba Park Primary School – Nesting for our Neighbours.

## Publications

The Bird Observer has continued to be published on a bi-monthly basis under the management of the Editorial Committee. This approach has worked well and has seen the magazine continue to improve in both presentation and content. This year our Printer has received accreditation from the Forest Stewardship Council and printing is now done on a paper from a mixed source of recycled product and plantation timbers.

BOCA's specialist publication, Australian Field Ornithology continues to provide interesting material for its readership and is a credit to its entirely voluntary production team of Editor Stephen Debus, Sub-editor Julia Hurley and Editorial Committee chaired by Alan Hill.

## Staff

BOCA's staff continues at nine full and part time people but we have seen an increase of one in the conservation area and a similar decrease in administration staff. Ideally we would employ more people but funding shortfalls will ensure that this won't happen in the near future. A good deal of the national office workload is carried by volunteers working with staff. It should be noted also that a number of staff contribute a great deal of



their time on a voluntary basis, a contribution which allows us to manage BOCA's affairs while containing costs. In addition, BOCA can be justly proud of the quality of its professional people who produce material of a very high standard.

### Conclusion

As outlined at the beginning of this report, the year has seen a number of gains but has also presented us with challenges which have to be met to ensure BOCA continues to develop both as an effective voice for Australian birds and their habitat and as an organisation providing for members' interests. For the objectives clearly outlined in our Constitution to be met, BOCA must have a sound financial base and the necessary structure and resources. It is the Board's intention to develop a new strategic plan which will allow these imperatives to be met.

### Honorary Life Members

Mr Geoff Deason	Mrs Rosemary Payet
Mrs Beryl Jarman	Mr Howard Plowright
Mr Reg Johnson OAM	Mr Len Robinson
Mrs Alma Mitchell	Mr Ken Simpson
Mrs Peggy Mitchell	Mr F T H Smith

### Donations over \$250

Margaret Badminton	Catherine Guy	Janet Limb	A & P Spurgeon
Rosemary Balmford	Robin Harry	John Lorkin	Jim Stockton
D & S Birch	Michael Hirst	Nancy Marriott	June Stringer
Birding NSW	J & P Hutchison	Peggy Mitchell	Esther Townsend
R & N Brice	Tania Ireton	Lesley Moreton	Lyn Trakell
Julie Bucholtz	Ann Jacobs	H & J Plowright	Glen White
W Cooper & R Drummond	I C Johanson	Patsy Robertson	J E Willis
P & A David	Marie Jones	I & M Ross	Wood Family
Jennifer Davidson	D & J Keleher	Don Saunders	Foundation
B & A Fleming	Sybil Kent	E J Savage	Kelvin York
P & J Flinn	Heather Lang	B & D Snape	Anonymous

### Bequests

The Estate of Ethel Marguerite Cowell Ham	\$355,755	The Estate of Thomas James Morris	\$10,000
The Estate of Edwin Lyon Carthew	\$198,341	The Estate of Flora Helen McDonald	\$42,169

# Directors' Report

As at 31 December 2008

Your directors present their report on the company and its controlled entity (referred to hereafter as the Group) for the financial year ended 31 December 2008.

## Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Timothy Martin Landsberg (President)  
 Patricia Jane Bingham (Vice President)  
 David Arthur Reid (Vice President)  
 Ian McGregor Muir (Treasurer)  
 John Graham Barkla  
 Lionel Rodney Bloss  
 Ian Reginald Boyd  
 Jonathon George Crofts (resigned 14 January 2008)  
 Graeme Arthur Hosken  
 Tania Anne Kathleen Ireton  
 David John Torr

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

## Operating Results

The consolidated result of the Group for the financial year after providing for income tax and eliminating outside equity interests amounted to a surplus of \$222,877 (2007 \$59,358).

## Review of Operations

A review of operations of the Group during the financial year and the results of those operations found that the operating result for the year was influenced by the recognition as income of donations received for the construction of the Clare Miller Environment Centre at Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary, a reduction in dividend and interest income, increases in spending on conservation and education and a reduction in retail trading.

The operating result was also influenced by significant unrealised losses on our investment portfolio as a result of the global financial crisis, which was offset by large bequests received during the year.

## Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the state of affairs of the Group occurred during the financial year.

## Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Group during the financial year were to encourage and facilitate the conservation and

study of birds and their habitats, especially in the Australian region, and to provide its members with facilities to encourage participation.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

## After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group in future financial years.

## Likely Developments

The Group expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence there are no likely developments in the Group's operations.

## Environmental Issues

The Group's operations are not regulated by any environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

## Dividends Paid or Recommended

The company is a company limited by guarantee, has no share capital and declares no dividends.

## Meetings of Directors

Directors	Directors' Meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Timothy Martin Landsberg	10	7
Patricia Jane Bingham	10	10
David Arthur Reid	10	9
Ian McGregor Muir	10	8
John Graham Barkla	10	7
Lionel Rodney Boss	10	5
Ian Reginald Boyd	10	9
Jonathon George Crofts	0	0
Graeme Arthur Hosken	10	9
Tania Anne Kathleen Ireton	10	7
David John Torr	10	4

## Indemnification of Officers

During the financial year, the Group paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the company (as named above), the Chief Executive Officer and all executive officers of the company and of any related body corporate against a liability incurred by such a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the Corporations Law. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

The Group has not otherwise, during or since the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such as officer or auditor.

## Proceedings on Behalf of the Group

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Group or intervene in any proceedings to which the Group is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Group for all or any part of those proceedings.

The Group was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

BOCA's Honorary Solicitors **Anderson Rice**, and Honorary Auditors **RSM Bird Cameron**, contribute valuable professional expertise to our organisation, giving us very high quality advice and a considerable saving in funds which can be applied to our environmental work. BOCA owes a great deal of thanks to both firms.



**RSM! Bird Cameron**  
Chartered Accountants

## Branches:

Ballarat, Vic	helendo@googlemail.com
Bayboca, Vic	davcampbellprimus.com.au
Bellboca, Vic	amccaffrey@hugonet.com.au
Brisboca, Qld	brisboca@birdobservers.org.au
Bundyoc, Qld	laldotto@bigpond.com
Cairns, Qld	
Echuca & District, Vic	stocky@echuca.net.au
Egboc, Vic	jill.markey@bigpond.com
Hamilton, Vic	pjhum@bigpond.net.au
Horsham, Vic	tjmr@netconnect.com.au
Macboca, Qld	madgeb@bigpond.com
Melboca, Vic	janetfh@dodo.com.au
Murray-Goulburn, Vic	barry_mclean@bigpond.com
Nhill, Vic	sadie.williams@bigpond.com
Ovens & Murray, Vic	dpphillips1966@hotmail.com
Penboc, Vic	jeanyarpent@bigpond.com
Photoboca, National	bob.young@optusnet.com.au
Southern Highboca	
NSW	mecklenburg1846@hotmail.com
Sou'West, Vic	chrisconnelly@bigpond.com
Sunboc, Vic	georgekerridge@bigpond.com.au
Trboc, Qld	boydie1@yourhub.com.au
Wesboc, Vic	maddigan@aapt.net.au
Yarra Valley, Vic	osborns@hotmail.net.au

## Affiliated Groups:

Bellingen Birders, NSW  
 Bird NSW (NSW Field Ornith. Club)  
 Black-throated Finch Recovery Team  
 Blue Mountains Bird Observers, NSW  
 Clarence Valley Birdos, NSW  
 Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater, Vic  
 Gold Coast Birdwatchers, Qld  
 Gould League Bird Study Camp Club, NSW  
 Hunter Bird Observers Club, NSW  
 Illawarra Bird Observers Club, NSW  
 Manning Valley Birdwatchers, NSW  
 Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc, NSW  
 Nambucca Valley Birdwatchers, NSW  
 NSW Bird Atlasers, NSW  
 Port Augusta Bird Observers, Vic  
 South Gippsland Bird Observers, Vic  
 Suncoast, (Sunshine Coast), Qld  
 Tamworth Birdwatchers Inc, NSW  
 Toowoomba Bird Observers, Qld  
 Tweed Bird Observers, NSW  
 Werribee Wagtails, Vic  
 Woodend Bird Observers Club, Vic

# Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2008

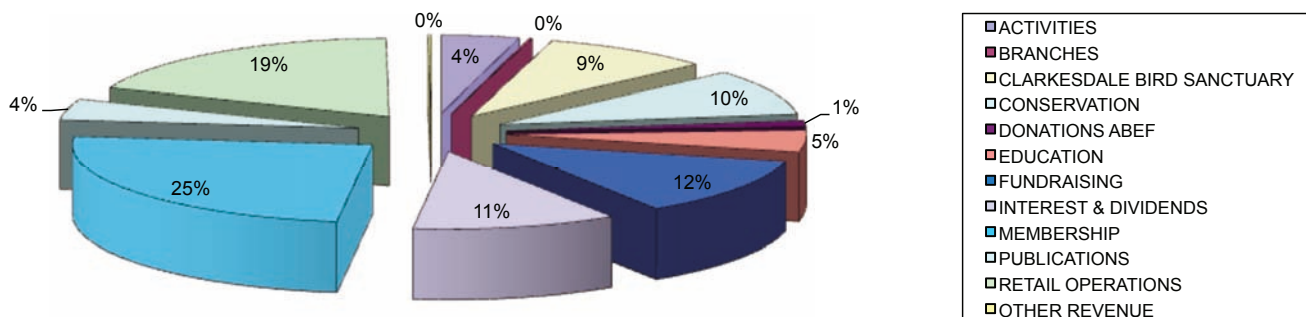
	Note	Consolidated		Parent	
		2008	2007	2008	2007
		\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	3	144,103	64,643	86,712	57,739
Investments	4	1,317,541	1,270,429	37,058	139,138
Inventories	5	56,807	79,329	56,807	79,329
Trade and other receivables	6	35,959	15,026	26,057	14,916
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>1,554,410</b>	<b>1,429,427</b>	<b>206,634</b>	<b>291,122</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Property, plant & equipment	7	1,127,038	1,014,382	1,127,038	1,014,382
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>1,127,038</b>	<b>1,014,382</b>	<b>1,127,038</b>	<b>1,014,382</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>2,681,448</b>	<b>2,443,809</b>	<b>1,333,672</b>	<b>1,305,504</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Trade and other payables	8	108,389	51,113	90,489	51,113
Provisions	9	72,813	31,735	72,813	31,735
Unearned Income		53,037	115,714	53,037	115,714
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>234,239</b>	<b>198,562</b>	<b>216,339</b>	<b>198,562</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Provisions	9	4,410	25,325	4,410	25,325
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>4,410</b>	<b>25,325</b>	<b>4,410</b>	<b>25,325</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>238,649</b>	<b>223,887</b>	<b>220,749</b>	<b>223,887</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>2,442,799</b>	<b>2,219,922</b>	<b>1,112,923</b>	<b>1,081,617</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>					
Reserves	11	2,023,977	1,860,592	694,101	722,287
Retained Surplus	10	418,822	359,330	418,822	359,330
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>2,442,799</b>	<b>2,219,922</b>	<b>1,112,923</b>	<b>1,081,617</b>

# Income Statements

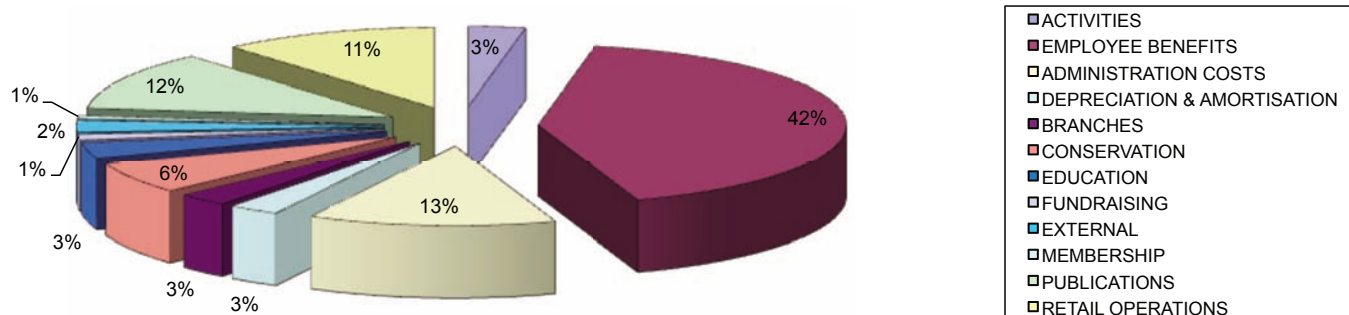
For the year ended 31 December 2008

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Revenue from Ordinary Activities:</b>				
Activities	32,001	68,278	32,001	68,278
Branches	1,256	2,916	1,256	2,916
Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary	70,024	6,076	70,024	6,076
Conservation	71,916	21,280	92,077	27,531
Donations ABEF	10,000	72,929	-	-
Education	34,461	42,558	34,461	45,058
Fundraising	93,546	59,846	93,546	66,169
Interest and Dividends	84,708	107,609	(517)	14,473
Membership	190,188	183,921	190,188	183,921
Publications	33,089	35,516	33,089	35,516
Retail Operations	144,353	178,912	144,353	178,912
Other Revenue	1,277	5,422	1,246	80
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>766,819</b>	<b>785,263</b>	<b>691,724</b>	<b>628,930</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Activities	22,803	59,808	22,803	59,808
Employee benefits	320,008	309,116	320,008	309,116
Auditors' remuneration	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Administration costs	96,631	64,990	96,631	71,313
Depreciation and amortisation	20,276	22,201	20,276	22,201
Branches	20,301	16,794	20,301	16,794
Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary	911	6,698	911	6,698
Conservation	48,231	6,184	48,231	6,184
Education	24,891	3,360	24,891	3,360
Fundraising	8,713	16,502	8,713	16,502
Grants ABEF	17,900	(1,275)	-	-
Membership	4,824	6,581	4,824	6,581
Publications	90,326	77,685	90,326	77,685
Retail operations	87,293	96,691	87,293	96,691
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>766,108</b>	<b>688,335</b>	<b>748,208</b>	<b>695,933</b>
<b>Operating surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>96,928</b>	<b>(56,484)</b>	<b>(67,003)</b>
Bequests	656,265	-	100,000	-
Realised & unrealised losses on investments	(434,099)	(37,570)	(12,210)	-
<b>Operating surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>222,877</b>	<b>59,358</b>	<b>31,306</b>	<b>(67,003)</b>

### INCOME 2008



### EXPENDITURE 2008



## A Legacy for the Birds

Bird Observation & Conservation Australia (BOCA) is a registered environmental charity and all donations are tax-deductible. It is an incorporated organisation, able to accept gifts of land or buildings. **Bequests do not attract any form of tax.**

BOCA is dedicated to advancing the appreciation and protection of Australia's birds, promoting understanding of their diversity, behaviour and habitat needs and working for the benefit of our birds and their habitat.

#### How do we do this?

- We educate the public to understand the value of old, mature trees as well as other habitat.
- We provide funds for habitat restoration and ornithological research.
- We run publicity campaigns for vulnerable bird species such as the ground-dwelling Stone-curlews, the wetland Brolgas, and all the parrots needing nest-hollows for breeding, such as the Glossy Black- Cockatoo.
- We give advice on government recovery plans for endangered species such as the Black-eared Miner and the Plains-wanderer, and make sure that protection for bird habitat is included in management plans for parks and reserves.

- We lobby governments against planning decisions which adversely affect bird habitat, such as highways, developments and broad scale mining.
- We manage **Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary** near Ballarat, a 400 hectare reserve dedicated to the creation of habitat for birds
- Through our network of branches, we carry out many on-ground projects aimed at protecting or restoring bird habitat. This of course also has a beneficial effect for all native animals.
- We undertake and manage long term surveys of birds.

All this work is possible through the generosity and support of people who care about our wild birds.

#### How to Make a Bequest

We recommend that you seek the advice of a solicitor to ensure that your wishes are carried out correctly. In certain circumstances, BOCA is able to help in this regard. Please contact Richard Hunter at National Office if you wish to discuss a bequest.



## *Helping today's birds survive tomorrow*



Front cover image: Superb Fairy-wren  
Photo: John Barkla

### **BIRD OBSERVATION & CONSERVATION AUSTRALIA**

**Email:** [information@birdobservers.org.au](mailto:information@birdobservers.org.au)

**Website:** [www.birdobservers.org.au](http://www.birdobservers.org.au)

**National Office and Education Centre**

183-185 Springvale Road

PO Box 185, Nunawading, Victoria 3131

Phone: 03 9877 5342 or 1300 305 342 (toll free)

Fax: 03 9894 4048