



# Scottish Environment LINK

## Annual Report

June 2000 - May 2001

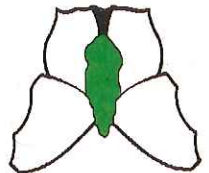
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## Summary of Accounts

1 April 2000 - 31 March 2001



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION (Scotland)



## Scottish Environment LINK

Scottish Environment LINK is the liaison body for Scotland's voluntary sector environmental organisations. Established in 1987, LINK provides a forum and network for its member organisations, facilitating information exchange, informed debate, and assisting co-operation within the voluntary environmental sector, and communication between the sector, government bodies, and other interests.

### Management Team 2000-2001

Chairman	Rear Admiral Neil E Rankin CB CBE
Vice Chairman	Lloyd Austin
Treasurer	Walter Simpson
Members	Ian McCall, John Mayhew, Hilary Maxfield, Joan Geddes

### Staff

Manager	Jen Anderson
Deputy	Alice Walsh
Parliamentary	Elspeth Alexandra, Alan Smart & Jessica Pepper
Administration	Andy Colledge
Information & Policy Support	Rosalind Pearson
Fundraising	Steven Gardner
LEARN Project Officer	Ruth Anderson

### Regular publications

- **The LINK Newsletter** - published quarterly for member bodies and the network of Supporters and Subscribers, carrying reviews of recent work and information on initiatives by member bodies and guest contributors;
- **Holyrood Highlighter** - a weekly digest of Scottish Parliamentary news relating to environmental issues in Scotland and to environmental NGOs.

Scottish Environment LINK  
2 Grosvenor House  
Shore Road  
PERTH PH2 8BD  
Tel: 01738 630804  
Fax: 01738 643290  
Email: [enquiries@scotlink.org](mailto:enquiries@scotlink.org)  
Web: [www.scotlink.org](http://www.scotlink.org)

## Foreword by the Chairman

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A comprehensive review of LINK's organization and constitutional obligations was conducted during the earlier part of the reporting period and this formed the foundation of the way ahead for an improved service to the Membership. Subsequently, the Management Team have been able to focus their limited resources more closely on an ever broadening array of environmental issues with significant success, covered later in the Report.

Better public awareness and a raised political profile of the environment in Scotland has resulted in an increased requirement for LINK to engage more closely with the Scottish Executive and, in particular, facilitate the collective representation of Member bodies. This improved access is being complemented by an enhanced, timely service from the Parliamentary Officer. Additionally, in recognising the important influence that European Parliament regulations have on United Kingdom legislation, the possibility of providing Members with earlier intelligence on such business is being investigated.

There is no doubt that LINK has an important role to play in promoting the requirement for better consideration of environmental matters within both the public and private enterprise sectors and, in this respect, we foresee significant mutual benefits arising from earlier dialogue with industry. There is also a general growing appreciation and understanding that a greater proportion of financial investment will need to be made in respect of Scotland's environment and this is a matter which LINK will seek to influence on behalf of our Members. On a broader front, we continue

to raise awareness of, and promote, environmental issues and related civic responsibilities, including education, within a wider context.

LINK draws together Scotland's main voluntary environmental organisations, providing them with a forum for information exchange, discussion and, in many cases, concerted action. To government and other wider interests it is an entry point for information about, and contacts in, the network. There is no doubt that where the movement works together through LINK it is able to add value to individual efforts.

The Management Team is aware of the increasing workload and responsibility collectively being undertaken by LINK but remains determined to ensure that the fundamental obligations to the charity are discharged and that new commitments are not undertaken to the detriment of core business - in acknowledging the Management Team's appreciation of the Membership's contribution to the work of LINK, it is worth remembering that therein lies the strength of our organization.

Finally, I would wish to thank our dedicated and loyal headquarters staff for their sterling efforts on our behalf; they have coped admirably with a very demanding workload, overcome daunting challenges and provided us all with a first class service of which they can be justly proud and for which we are all profoundly grateful.



Neil E Rankin CB CBE