

## **Report by the Treasurer 2010**

This report covers the period July 2008 to June 2009, which was ably overseen by our Treasurer, Sandra Smith. Sandra passed the baton to me in December 2008. My first task is therefore to thank her for her contribution to IIC over the past years and for a set of accounts in good order.

The annual accounts are included in the Annual Report circulated to members. The content and format is specified by UK Charity legislation. This format is not easy to translate into the real world situation. I should be pleased to answer any questions on the accounts and provide clarification.

The major event and financial commitment of the year was the London 2008 Conference. This was a success from all aspects, not least financial -making a significant profit for the organisation. We are grateful to the Getty Grant Fund for their generosity which supported 14 attendees augmenting the 9 students funded by the IIC Brommelle Fund.

The major source of core funding for IIC's activities is membership subscriptions. This showed a modest rise, due to the increase in subscription rate. However, the continuing drift down in membership numbers is a matter for concern which is being addressed. Council is investigating ways of increasing income, through publications and other activities.

We are continuing to invest in making IIC more accessible, by increasing and improving the ways that the conservation message is heard, through *Studies in Conservation*, *Reviews in Conservation*, *News in Conservation*, and improvements in the website. These investments have been possible by drawing on the capital funds build up in the past. Unfortunately like all other investments, the economic crisis has lowered the value and return of these capital funds. Although IIC is still in an enviable position compared with many other charities, it will now move towards a balanced budget in order to ensure that it has sufficient funds in hand. For instance, the biennial conferences involve large swings of cash which need a substantial pot to draw on for day-to-day activities. In addition, less certain times result in greater risk for which a buffer will be helpful.

IIC will be successful when it is seen to be active. This requires a higher membership base, so I urge all members to recruit a colleague – you know the value of IIC. Although the financial climate is difficult, there are many aspects of conservation which need addressing world wide. We need your help to raise awareness, create momentum, attract the necessary resources, then deliver improvements.

Much of the work is carried out by many people volunteering their services to IIC: editing the publications and web site, organising the conferences, running the Round Tables, the council members, even cleaning the office. If you wish to be involved in vibrant international activities, please put yourself forward. There is plenty to do. All this is held together by a very small office team, Graham Voce (Executive Secretary) and Valerie Compton-Taylor (Membership Secretary), without whose hard work and goodwill IIC would not be able to operate.

*Velson Horie, Treasurer*