

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Twelfth Annual Report



for the Year 1964

PRICE: TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT, 1964

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Variations from year to year in the number and variety of unusual birds visiting our area is of course inevitable and it is not surprising that 1964 compares unfavourably with 1963, the early months of which provided us with so much of interest. The past year did bring us some particularly interesting visitors such as a Little Ringed Plover in September (the first recorded here) and the Wryneck in September, but it was on the whole disappointing, especially the latter months of the year, when there was a distinct shortage of the more unusual waders such as Little Stint, Godwits, Curlew Sandpipers and Purple Sandpiper as well as of divers, grebes and duck. However, this sort of thing is of the essence of bird-watching and in the long run the factor of unexpectedness adds to the interest of the pastime.

The usual Sanctuary Report, Ringling Report, List of Notable Birds of the Area, Notes on Birds seen in the Area, Arrival and Departure of Migrants, Garden Birds, Sea Watching and Movement in

1964, and short accounts of the birds seen at the monthly Field outings are included in this report as well as an interesting article by Mr. Phillips on Kestrels in the Lancing Area. Mr. Marr and Mr. Goddard have again kindly contributed articles on Selsey Hill and Devil's Dyke respectively, and Mr. Marr has also provided an article on Pagham Harbour, now declared a Nature Reserve.

During the winter months the field outings provided some interesting birdwatching as described in the accounts provided by the leaders of the outings as well as opportunities for less experienced members to add to their knowledge, and of course, in common with the indoor meetings, these are enjoyable social occasions. Once again the indoor meetings gave a high standard of interest and were greatly enjoyed by members. A good attendance was achieved at the Town Hall for our showing of two R.S.P.B. films "Swallows at the Mill" and "A Water Bird's World". The substantial profit from these films is a great help to the Society's finances and helps to keep the subscription down to its present modest level.

The number of birds ringed during the year was 1148 for which we are largely indebted to Michael Goddard, Dr. Stafford, owing to the many other demands on his time, having himself been unable to devote any time to bird ringing. Some very interesting recoveries from abroad are recorded; of particular interest is the recovery of the Whooper Swan found dead at Gotland, Sweden. This bird, which was seen by so many Shoreham residents mixing with Mute Swans near the Footbridge during the severe winter of 1962/3, was ringed by David Stone on 2nd February 1963. This was only the fifth Whooper to be ringed in the British Isles, and its recovery was the first evidence of movement of this species between this country and Scandinavia.

It is with regret that it is necessary to record the resignation of Tony Marr from the position of Honorary Secretary at the beginning of the year; he deserves the thanks of the Society for his service in this capacity for three years as well as for other services which he renders to the Society. The Society is grateful to Mrs. June Smith, who has taken on the job of Honorary General Secretary and to Mr. B. Metcalf who has undertaken the work of Honorary Programme Secretary. The energy and efficiency shown by both is evidence that the Society continues to be well served.

During the year the Society suffered the sad loss by death of two of its earliest members, Mr. A. H. Farmer and Mr. C. F. Brown. Both are greatly missed by all who knew them.

The Society is again indebted to a number of members for help in duplicating and distributing notices, in serving tea and biscuits at meetings, stewarding at the Town Hall films and in other ways; also to Mr. and Mrs. Farmer whose loan of their slide-projector has been so invaluable.

Membership showed a small reduction compared with 1963, numbering 155 at the end of the year. F.S.

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SANCTUARY REPORT FOR 1964

The Sanctuary was visited on 112 days during 1964 (excluding visits not recorded in the Diary); 73 different species were seen and one new species, the Shelduck, was added to its list. During the year the number of Wrens seemed to return to normal, several Kingfishers returned and the Goldcrest re-appeared towards the end of the year, but the Long-tailed Tits were still absent. Although the winter was not exceptionally hard, there was a sudden heavy fall of snow which put the Heligoland trap out of action for some time.

Daily recordings in the log are analysed chronologically:

Jan. and Feb: Several flocks of duck were present on the marsh with a maximum of 11 Mallard on 9th Feb. and 11 Teal on 19th Jan. A Water Rail was heard on 7th and 18th Jan. The number of Snipe was down on previous years with only 2-4 there on most days throughout the period. Towards the end of Jan. large numbers of Wood Pigeons collected but dispersed later. A flock of Chaffinches was present all the time and two Brambling were seen among them - a female on 1st and a male on 8th Feb. Two Great Spotted Woodpeckers were seen on 8th, one of which was trapped on the following day, and a Kestrel flew over on 29th Feb.

Spring: A pair of Partridges was present during March and April. The Water Rail was last heard on 22nd March and the Snipe last seen on 13th April. A Firecrest was present on 21st and 22nd March and a pair of Kestrels was seen on 25th. The first Chiffchaff arrived on 21st March and a Blackcap arrived on the same day. There was an influx of some 25 Chiff/Willows on 15th April, and on the next day the first Swallow and Sedge Warbler arrived. The White-throats did not arrive until 25th April, the Reed Warbler until 3rd May and the Lesser Whitethroat until 6th May. Throughout April and May the usual Spring influx was noted with no exceptionally large numbers or unusual migrants, apart from four Shelduck

which flew south over the Sanctuary on 13th April.

Breeding Season: Except for the usual number of Wood Pigeons there were again very few nesting birds. A pair of Reed Warblers and probably a pair of Sedge Warblers nested and the Starlings were back in their old nest box. A pair of Mallard also nested and had six ducklings.

Autumn: July was an uneventful month with a Turtle Dove present on 15th, several Swifts and Swallows, and a general decline in the number of Warblers. Several Finches passed through and a Yellow Wagtail arrived on 8th. It was not until August that the real movement began. The peak occurred on 25th and 26th when 20 Chiff/Willows, about 30 Hirundines were present with 4 White-throats, a female Blackcap, two Sedge Warblers and six Reed Warblers. On the same day 40 Linnets, 25 Goldfinches, large numbers of starlings and Greenfinches were noted. On the following day 60 Corn Buntings collected on the hillside above the Sanctuary.

The migration continued until the beginning of September, the last notable day being 7th when 12 Chiff/Willows, several Whitethroats, five Blackcaps, a Sedge Warbler and two Reed Warblers were present. The Hirundines built up to a peak on 1st when about 50 were present and after a drop to the same number again on 18th. A flock of 50-60 Corn Buntings stayed in the area throughout September and there was a regular number of Finches, mainly Linnets and Goldfinches. Other notable visitors during September included a Kingfisher on 27th, a Green Woodpecker on 28th and a Kestrel which was in the area for most of the month.

By October the only remaining summer migrants were two Chiff/Willows on 10th and 17th; but it was in October that a large flock of Greenfinches collected in and around the Sanctuary, their number increasing to about 250 by 25th. A Heron was present most of the time. Two Stonechats were also seen in the fields nearby on 19th and again on 30th. A Goldcrest was seen on the 17th and 19th.

Nov. and Dec: November started a very dull month and very little indeed was seen. A Stonechat was still there on 10th and the number of Greenfinches decreased from about 150 on 1st to 20 on 21st. A Chiffchaff was seen on several occasions in the latter part of the month, and two Goldcrests on the 21st.

December was fairly cold with some short mild spells. On 18th, during a cold snap, a Water Rail was seen in the dykes nearby and on the same day a Tree Sparrow was trapped. On the

last day of the month a Woodcock was seen just before dusk. But the most interesting record was the presence of Chiffchaffs on a number of occasions during the month: no more than two were seen at any one time, but four were trapped and ringed.

M.J.S.G.

RINGING REPORT for 1964.

The total of 1148 birds of 39 species ringed for this year is down on previous years.

This is largely due to my own inactivity in bird-ringing this season. Michael Goddard accounted for the very considerable total of 1053, all but three of them trapped. Without his efforts we would have had a very poor year indeed. David Stone during his holidays caught and ringed 95 birds, of which 14 were Mute Swans.

In December four Chiffchaffs were caught in the Sanctuary and weighed and ringed.

The Recoveries are of great interest. Who would have thought that the young Whooper Swan that wintered by the footbridge in 1963 would be found in Sweden - this being the first record of movement of this species between the British Isles and Scandinavia.

To some of us it must be equally strange to learn that from among the charms of Goldfinches that frequent our gardens some travel down into France.

This year no expeditions were made to ring Sand Martins but one was actually caught in the Sanctuary area, the first one to be trapped there.

J.S.

RINGING TOTAL FOR 1964

| <u>Bird</u> | <u>Adult</u> | <u>Pull</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Bird</u> | <u>Adult</u> | <u>Pull</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Great Tit | 18 | | 18 | Gt. Spotted | | | |
| Meadow Pipit | 1 | | 1 | Woodpecker | 1 | | 1 |
| Blue Tit | 40 | | 40 | Wren | 2 | | 2 |
| Song Thrush | 42 | | 42 | Yellow Bunting | 7 | | 7 |
| Starling | 82 | | 82 | Missel Thrush | 2 | | 2 |
| Robin | 16 | 3 | 19 | Goldfinch | 55 | | 55 |
| Greenfinch | 237 | | 237 | Bullfinch | 31 | | 31 |
| Kingfisher | 2 | | 2 | Chiffchaff | 20 | | 20 |
| Chaffinch | 124 | | 124 | Willow Warbler | 23 | | 23 |
| Blackbird | 230 | | 230 | Blackcap | 11 | | 11 |
| Duncock | 27 | | 27 | Linnet | 31 | | 31 |
| House Sparrow | 2 | | 2 | Whitethroat | 4 | | 4 |
| Tree Sparrow | 1 | | 1 | Sedge Warbler | 2 | | 2 |

over....

| <u>Bird</u> | <u>Adult</u> | <u>Pull</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Bird</u> | <u>Adult</u> | <u>Pull</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Reed Warbler | 12 | | 12 | House Martin | 4 | | 4 |
| Spotted Flycatcher | 7 | | 7 | Brambling | 2 | | 2 |
| Lesser Whitethroat | 2 | | 2 | Tree Creeper | 1 | | 1 |
| Swallow | 26 | | 26 | Pied Flycatcher | 1 | | 1 |
| Sand Martin | 1 | | 1 | Garden Warbler | 2 | | 2 |
| Corn Bunting | 60 | | 60 | Stonechat | 1 | | 1 |
| Redwing | 1 | | 1 | Mute Swan | 14 | | 14 |

TOTAL: Adult 1145

Pull 3

Total 1148

RECOVERIES

All the birds were ringed at Shoreham-by-Sea.

Foreign Recoveries

Whooper Swan : Juv. ringed 2.2.63. Found dead nr Burgsvik, Gotland, Sweden 29.2.64. D.S.

Mute Swan : Full Grown. ringed 26.6.63. caught and released nr Alkmaar, Netherlands, on 24.12.63. This is only the third Mute Swan ringed in the British Isles to be recovered abroad. D.S.

Starling : Full Grown. ringed 15.1.60. caught and released Mendonck (East Flanders) Belgium on 2.11.63. J.S.

Starling : Full Grown. ringed 5.1.63. Caught and released at Knokke, Belgium 4.11.63 D.S.

Reports of the recovery of these two Starlings were not received until 1964.

Starling : Full Grown. ringed 1.1.63. found dead at Dolice, (Szczecin) Poland 15.4.64. M.G.

Goldfinch : Juv. ringed 30.8.61 Killed at Ondres (Landes) France. 7.11.63 D.S.

This report was not received until 1964.

Goldfinch : Juv. ringed 25.8.64 caught 10.11.64 and put in a cage nr. Soussons, Nr. Bordeaux, France. M.G.

Recoveries in the British Isles

- Mute Swans : Several were recovered and these were all full grown birds ringed at Shoreham, and showed a similar pattern of movement as last year along the Sussex and Hants coastline.
One ringed 29.10.61 was recovered inland at Redhill, Surrey, 30.m. N. on 2.3.64 J.S.
- Starling : Ringed 3.2.63. Found dead nr. Reading, Berks. 50 m. N.N.W. on 1.3.64. D.S.
- Starling : Ringed 6.1.63. Found dead at Gosport, Hants 40 m. W. on 16.2.64. D.S.
- Greenfinch : Ad. (m) Ringed 7.1.63. Trapped and released at Haslemere, Surrey 25 m. N.W. on 4.3.64. M.G.

Ringers Initials:

J.S. J. Stafford
D.S. David Stone
M.G. Michael Goddard

J.S.

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NOTABLE BIRDS OF THE AREA, 1964

This feature is based on records received from the following observers: Miss I.M. Ashcroft, Mrs. O. Chapman, Mrs. P.M. Cook, Mrs. N.A. Hopkins, Mrs. E. Farmer, Messrs. David Cox, B. Forbes, M.J.S. Goddard, C.A. Grigg, C.F. Hellyer, R. Phillips, F. Severs, J.M. Twort, L.A. Whitbourn and G. Sutton, and Dr. J. Stafford.

Abbreviations:- m = male; f = female; W.W. = Wide Water, T.B. = Toll Bridge; C.C. = Cuckoos Corner; F.A. = Flood Arch; F.B. = Foot Bridge; S.P. = Sussex Pad; Br = Brooklands; R.B. = Railway Bridge; imm = immature. R.D. = Rubbish Dump.

Great Northern Diver: One recorded nr. Worthing Pier. Mar. 26 for five days.

Black-throated Diver: One on sea, W.W. Jan. 12th and 27th.

Red-throated Diver: One on sea, Shoreham, Jan. 27th.

Great Crested Grebe Up to four on sea, Jan. 6th to 29th. S'ham. One E. Worthing Beach, Mar. 24th; three on sea W.W. April 7th; one S'ham Hbr., Nov. 15th and one W.W. Dec. 6th and 22nd.

Little Grebe Very few recorded. Pair nested (Mill Pond, Steyning) five eggs, April 7th. Five, Brooklands were most recorded.

Fulmar One flying around for about one hour over sea, Worthing Pier, April 30th.

Gannet One on sea, Southwick, Jan. 21st.

Heron Mr Grigg reports that only two nests occupied at Wickham on April 7th.

Mallard Fifteen at Brooklands Jan. 8th. Pair nested at Sanc. and had six ducklings, June 17th; seven at Sanc. July 26th & a few later.

Teal Small numbers at Sanc. during early months. Most at Brooklands were thirty-six, Jan. 8th and eighteen on 17th. Twelve there Dec. 16th & twenty on 6th.

Gadwall Four on Wiston Lake (one m. and three f.) Jan. 1st. One f. Brooklands, Nov. 15th to 21st.

Wigeon Eight, New Monks Farm Lancing, Dec. 31st.

Shoveler One flying E., Brooklands, Jan. 19th.

Tufted Duck Numbers on Brooklands Pool from early Jan. to March; most were sixteen on Jan. 24th.

Scaup One f. or imm. on Br.Pool, Oct. 28th to Nov. 5th and one m. recorded there Nov. 1st & 7th.

Pochard Up to six on Br.Pool, Jan. 3rd to Feb. 22nd.

Goldeneye One f., Br.Pool, Jan. 3rd to 17th.

Scoter Twelve flying E., E.Worthing, April 6th.

Eider One imm. or f., S'ham Hbr. Jan. 3rd to Feb. 22nd; a drake W.W. Aug. 12th; one f. flying E. off E.Worthing March 29th.

Red-Breasted Merganser Many seen on sea off Lancing during Jan., most being c.100 on January 26th and nineteen on 27th; four were seen off S'ham on same day; three flying E. off E.Worthing Mar.28th; one m. on Br.Pool badly oiled, Mar. 24th to 28th; two flying E. off S'ham Oct. 28th.

Shelduck Eight on Adur above R.B. Jan. 1st and varying numbers later in Jan. & Feb. most being 18; four over Sanc. Apr. 13th; 2 off W.W. end Dec.

White-fronted Goose Several nr. Wickham Dale Farm, Jan. 1st.

Bean Goose Seven on Wiston Lake during March.

Brent Goose C. fifty flying E. off Lancing. Jan. 24th & again on Feb. 26th. Five flying E. off Brooklands Nov. 7th.

Mute Swan Pair nested W.W. hatched seven cygnets.

Hobby One flying E. off Hove Lagoon, Sept. 16th.

Kestrel Nest with six eggs, Lancing, May 20th (see special article.)

Pheasant Hen with two eggs nr. S.P., April 24th to 26th.

Quail Several heard calling nr. Steep Down, June 29th and on downs in Hove area in July and August.

Water Rail One. Sanc. Jan. 7th to March 22nd. One Br.Marsh, Dec. 16th; one Sanc. Dec. 18th and 21st.

Corncrake One nr. Lancing Clump, July 15th and possibly one which was only glimpsed in a field nr. C.C., Jan. 23rd.

Coot A number on Adur through Jan, Feb. to mid-March (most twenty-one on Jan. 26th); up to eight Br.Pool in Nov & Dec.; One or two F.B. in Dec.

Oystercatcher Four, Lancing Jan. 6th, two on 12th and one 26th; two there, Aug. 12th (all seen in flight); one flying E., E. Worthing Mar. 29 & one April 6th.

Little Ringed Plover One N. of R.B. Aug. 18th and probably same bird nr. F.B., Sept. 5th our first record for the area.

Grey Plover Two W.W. on Oct. 11th; one Adur, Aug. 25th; one Nov. 12th and 22nd.

Golden Plover Fifteen in field W. of F.A., Dec. 26th.

Turnstone One S'ham Hbr. Sept. 2nd.

Snipe Most recorded, twenty-five, Br.Marsh, Dec. 6th.

Jack Snipe One nr. T.B., Jan. 29th.

Woodcock One, Sanc. Dec. 31st.

Curlew One nr. T.B., Jul. 16th; flock of 28 and another of 12 flying E., East Worthing. April 6th.

Whimbrel. Two calling flying S.W. & one flying W. over sea, Aug. 17th; five settled nr. T.B. Oct. 27th; all at S'ham. One flying E., E.Worthing, Aug. 25th.

Bar-tailed Godwit Two nr. T.B. Aug. 15th, five in flight E. Worthing, Aug. 30th.

Common Sandpiper Two, nr. T.B. April 24th and one 30th; one Sanc. May 16th; two F.A. July 20th and normal numbers later; one flew E., E.Worthing April 6th.

Redshank Numbers by Adur in early months reached c. 70; a few nested nr. Cement Works in April; numbers by Adur reached 60 by end Nov.

Spotted Redshank One seen various dates, S'ham, Jan. to Feb. 18th. One nr. F.A. Nov. 12th to late Dec.

Greenshank One F.A. on Sept. 6th, 7th and 8th.

Knot Four on mudflats, Jan. 19th; six on 25th and fewer numbers until Feb. 4th. One F.A., Dec. 28th.

Purple Sandpiper One Hbr., Jan. 4th to Feb. 7th; one there Nov. 20th.

Dunlin C.300 on mudflats in Jan. & Feb. by Mar. 21st all had gone; a few on later spring dates passing through; first autumn bird recorded for S'ham was on July 30th; up to 350, Adur, by end of year.

Stone Curlew Three pairs on downs, Steyning/Worthing area recorded.

Lesser Black-backed Gull One, S'ham, Jan. to Mar. 9th and several there till end of Nov., three Dec. 7, two on 9th, one 10th and one 17th.

Mediterranean Gull The one seen on Hove Lagoon last year was still there in Jan. and was last seen there on Mar. 21st.

Kittiwake One imm. S'ham Hbr. Nov. 15th.

Common/Arctic Tern A total of twelve off W.W. Sept. 12th.

Little Tern One flying E. off E.Worthing, April 30th.

Sandwich Tern One mobbing a Kestrel and then a Herring Gull, S'ham July 13th. Six flying E. there Aug. 12th; one flying W., W.W., March 31st

Razorbill One on sea, Lancing, Dec. 18th.

Turtle-Dove One Sanc. May 3rd, last seen there Aug. 31st; one Lancing July 24th.

Collared Dove Two in Mr. Grigg's garden, Steyning, June 24th and another pair seen in the district a number of times.

Cuckoo Three together on downs above Mill Hill; first heard April 12th; juvenile, Buckingham Park, July 29th.

Barn Owl One heard calling, Southwick Green, Oct. 11th and later.

Little Owl One above Mill Hill, June 19th & 27th; one in Buckingham Pk. in June and July; two there and one juv. Aug. 3rd and 16th, one there Nov. 30th; one found ill there, Dec. 29th 1963, which died later. Short-eared Owl - One Sanc. April 25th.

Nightjar. One in Birdbath, 26 Cissbury Rd., Worthing, Sept. 22nd from 9 am until 4 pm. It remained motionless except for occasionally opening its eyes and flew away strongly towards Sompting. Description given.

Kingfisher More records than last year. Pair almost certainly bred W.W., under a staging. Two, W.W. Sept. 9th and one there various dates. Odd birds elsewhere. One trapped at Sanc. Nov. 1st.

Great Spotted Woodpecker Two Sanc. Feb. 9th and 10th; one ringed.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker One in Mr. Weatherhead's garden twice in March.

Wryneck One nr. R.B. S'ham. Aug. 15th; our second record for the area.

Swallow One flying E. over The Green, S'wick, Nov. 2nd and one Easthill Park the same day. First recorded, Brooklands, Apr. 9th.

House Martin One, Shreham, Nov. 2nd.

Sand Martin Two flying N., S'ham, Sept. 18th.

Jay One Erringham Shaw, May 20th and one Lancing Aug. 6th.

Long-tailed Tit Still apparently scarce. Pair seen feeding young in nest nr. Mill Stream, Steyning, April 30th.

Treecreeper Nest found at Lancing; One ringed, Sanc., Mar. 25th.

Wren Numbers increased considerably compared with last year.

Ring Ousel One N. Lancing, Nov. 9th.

Wheatear First were a f. at W.W. and a m. at Brooklands both on Mar. 20th; fifteen W.W., all males, on 25th and twelve on 28th when full song heard.

Stonechat Two nr. Sanc. Oct. 19th and 30th; one trapped Nov. 1st. two, S'ham R.D., Oct. 25th. Several others recorded at S'ham.

Whinchat One F.A. May 3rd; five nr. Sanc. Aug. 19th; One W.W. Sept. 12th. two Brooklands, Sept. 19th and one R.B. on 20th.

Redstart No records except one m. at W.W. April 11th.

Black Redstart One E. of Hbr., Jan. 4th and 10th; one W. of Hbr. Jan. 3rd. to Feb. 22nd, one W.W. Jan. 12th to Feb. 13th (all f. or imm.); one m. there Mar. 28th to April 5th; one f. in garden Steyning, April 2nd; one f. with two fledglings in a yard at Worthing in late June; one W.W. Oct. 11th.

Nightingale Only record one singing, N.Lancing April 26th.

Reed Warbler Small colony nr. C.C., April 30th and several elsewhere, including Sanc. in May; two singing, Sanc. July 13th.

Sedge Warbler One Sanc., April 15th; was earliest record.

Blackcap One Sanc., March 21st and several in garden at Coombes were earliest records; one singing in Sanc. July 13th.

Garden Warbler One singing in copse off Upper S'ham Rd., May 14th, last one seen was in Sanc., Sept. 6th.

Whitethroat One Hove, April 9th, was earliest record.

Lesser Whitethroat Three, Lancing/Coombes Road, April 26th and at least seven heard singing between S.P. & Coombes Church on May 5th and four nr. Erringham Shaw on 6th; two Lancing, July 17th One at Hove, April 7th, was earliest.

Chiffchaff Two, Coombes, March 21st and one Sanc. same date; five Coombes, March 25th and one in garden there March 23rd; One, Sanc. Nov. 18th, 21st and 23rd. two Dec. 6th when one was ringed; two on 13th when another was ringed; and one on 23rd; a further one was ringed on 31st Dec. making a total of at least four in Nov. and Dec.

Goldcrest No spring records. One recorded nr. Canal, Southwick, mid-Oct; One or more heard calling several times in Sanc. in Oct. and Nov. two seen there on Nov. 21st.

Firecrest One, Sanc. March 21st, which was seen again and heard singing on the 22nd.

Spotted Flycatcher First seen at Sanc. on May 3rd. Two there June 8th and one July 5th.

Pied Flycatcher One caught and ringed at Sanc. May 9th.

Rock Pipit A few by Hbr. and Hsepts. Nov. and Dec. Odd birds elsewhere.

Grey Wagtail One, Brooklands, Feb. 26th and another there in Dec.

Yellow Wagtail Three pairs nr C.C. April 30th; up to twenty, Sanc. Sept. (mostly juv.) a number on beach, S'ham, Sept. 18th.

Greenfinch Many caught and ringed at Sanc.

Redpoll C. 20 at S'ham R.D. Oct. 25th, one or two of which from description may have been Mealy Redpolls (e.g. larger size, paler and greyer plumage etc.); c. 25 there Oct. 31st which flew off high to E.

Crossbill A great many in the Wiston, Washington and Ashurst woodlands in parties up to a dozen.

Brambling Two f. Brooklands, Jan. 15th; one caught and ringed, Sanc. 1st and 8th. One, S'ham, R.D. March 2nd.

Corn Bunting Flocks of 50 to 60, Sanc. Sept; 50 to 60 nr. T.B. Oct. 22nd.

Tree Sparrow A few, Brooklands, Jan. 25th; ten there, Feb. 18th; Seven S'ham R.D., Mar. 2nd and three there, Oct. 25th. One ringed in Sanc. 18th Dec.

J.M.T.

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NOTES ON BIRDS SEEN IN THE SHOREHAM AREA DURING 1964

This has been a lean year for birds, but after so many records of unusual birds during the early months of 1963, a reaction to more normal numbers, I suppose, should have been expected.

It was gratifying to notice some apparent recovery in numbers of certain species which were sadly depleted during the hard winter of 1962/1963. Wrens, for example, which were relatively scarce in 1963, appear to have almost recovered to their normal numbers, and Kingfishers, if not seen in their usual numbers, were more in evidence than in 1963. From records received, this does not seem to be the case with such species as Goldcrests or Long-tailed Tits

which still seem scarce, at any event locally. Among other birds which are apparently less common than usual may be mentioned Stone-chats and Little Grebes.

During the early months of 1964, besides the Mediterranean Gull, first seen on Hove Lagoon in December last year, there were a Black-throated and a Red-throated Diver on the sea off Shoreham & up to a hundred Mergansers off Lancing. Also a flock of about fifty Brent Geese were seen in flight off Lancing and a single Gannet off Southwick. There were more records of Black Redstarts than usual in the early part of the year, including three females or immatures and a male along our coast and a female in a garden at Steyning on April 2nd. Later in June, there was a female with two fledglings in a yard at Worthing. In the later months of the year, the only record is of one at Widewater on October 11th. There were two Great Spotted Woodpeckers in the Sanctuary on February 9th, one of which was ringed.

Besides those already mentioned, in the spring there was a Firecrest in the Sanctuary on March 21st and 22nd and a Pied Flycatcher there which was caught and ringed on May 9th. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker visited Mr. Weatherhead's garden twice in March and this species is not often recorded in our area. Also a Great Northern Diver was recorded near Worthing Pier on March 26th.

Summer birds of interest included a Corncrake near Lancing Clump seen by our editor on July 15th, a Wryneck at Shoreham on August 15th seen by a number of our members during one of the Society's field outings, and several Quail heard calling on the downs between Steyning and Hove. The Wryneck is only our second record for the area, and is of particular interest in view of the current enquiry into the present status of the bird. Also recorded were one or two Pied Flycatchers on Easthill Park between August 20th and September 22nd.

Autumn birds included a Nightjar on a bird table in a garden at Worthing, a Ring Ousel at Lancing and about fifty Redpolls at Shoreham. The Nightjar remained motionless, except for occasionally opening its eyes, from 9 am till 4 pm, when it suddenly flew away strongly towards Sompting. Also recorded was a female Gadwall on Brooklands Pool from November 15th to 21st, and a Hobby flying east off Hove Lagoon on September 16th.

Waders recorded during the year were few in numbers except for the commoner species. Our best record was a Little Ringed Plover at Shoreham on September 5th, which was the first record for the area. Other birds of note were two Bar-tailed Godwits on August 15th; a single Greenshank in September; two Purple Sandpipers, one in January and one in November; a few Whimbrel in spring and Autumn; a Spotted Redshank at both ends of the year, and five Bar-tailed Godwits in flight off Brooklands on August 30th. December records included fifteen Golden Plovers in a field west of the Flood Arch and four Chiffchaffs in our Bird Sanctuary.

I think it is of considerable interest that during the last five years, from 1960 to 1964 inclusive, one or more Chiffchaffs have appeared in our Sanctuary (as well as in some years one or two more in other parts of our area) during the winter. This year, although no more than two birds were seen on any one occasion, four separate birds were caught and ringed in December. Previous to 1960 only one was recorded there and that was on February 27th, 1953, the year of our first Bird Report.

Finally, we might mention the two pairs of Collared Doves recorded at Steyning and another in Dr. Gibson's garden at Storrington. However these, as well as the Bean Geese and Gadwall ducks seen at Wiston and the Crossbills in the Wiston/Washington area were really outside our area.

J.M.T.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF MIGRANTS 1964

The following table of the first and last dates on which migrating birds have been recorded in our area are taken from records contributed by the following members :-

| | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|
| D. Cox | C.A. Grigg | M. Goddard, |
| F.F. Helyer | F. Severs | Dr. J. Stafford |
| G.A. Sutton | and | J.M. Twort |

.....

| <u>Species</u> | <u>First date & locality</u> | <u>Last date and Locality</u> |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Whimbrel | | 5 nr.T.B. Oct. 27th |
| Common Sandpiper | 2. nr. T.B. April 24th | |
| Little Tern | 1. Brooklands, Apr. 30th | |
| Sandwich Tern | 1. W.W., March 31st | |
| Swift | 1. Steyning, May 1st | |
| Swallow | 1. Brooklands Apr. 9th | 1. S'wick Green and 1. Easthill Pk. both November 2nd. |
| House Martin | | 2. S'ham, Nov. 2nd. |
| Sand Martin | | 2. S'ham, Sept. 18th. |
| Cuckoo | April 12th Mill Hill | |
| Wheatear | 1. (m) Br. & 1. (f) W.W. March 20th. | |
| Redstart | 1. Westdene, April 4th. 1. W.W., Apr. 11th. | |
| Reed Warbler | C.C., April 30th. | |
| Sedge Warbler | Sanc., April 15th. | |
| Blackcap | Sanc., Mar. 21st; several Coombes Mar. 23. | |
| Garden Warbler | 1. S'ham, May 14th. | 1. Sanc. Sept. 6th. |
| Whitethroat | Hove, April 9th | |
| Lesser Whitethroat | " April 7th | |
| Willow Warbler | First heard Hove Apr. 9th | |
| Chiffchaff | Sanc. & Coombes, both March 21st. | Dec. 31st. (wintering bird) |
| Spotted Flycatcher | Sanc. May 3rd. | |

Note: Abbreviations are as used in the Article "Notable Birds of the Area".

* * * * *

SEA WATCHING AND MOVEMENT OF BIRDS IN 1964

Once again no systematic early morning sea-watching during the spring and autumn migration periods was carried out by members, but such observation as was carried out (by the writer and one or two others) revealed little sign of any movement on a considerable scale either on the sea or along the coastal belt.

A brief but rather fruitful period for sea-watching did occur during a short spell of calm weather towards the end of January. During that time the writer and the Honorary Recorder saw on the sea off Shoreham and Lancing a Black-throated Diver, a Red-throated Diver, several Great Crested Grebes and considerable numbers of Merganser duck on several days in succession, the largest number of the last named species being a raft of about a hundred on 26th January, off Lancing.

The coastal movements actually recorded can be reported in a short paragraph. Following a heavy fall of snow on the night of January 12th, a large and prolonged movement was observed the following morning in a W.S.W. direction. This included Starlings, Goldfinches, Linnets and Skylarks. A small movement in the reverse direction (easterly) was observed at Widewater on the 17th and again the 24th of January, these movements being mainly of finches but including a few Skylarks. Also worth mentioning was a flight eastwards of about fifty Brent Geese on January 24th and again on February 26th. An observer at Brooklands recorded a flock of twenty-eight Curlew and another of twelve flying east on April 6th. The only autumn movements observed were both on a small scale, one of mixed finches on October 26th and the other of finches and thrushes on November 1st, both in an easterly direction.

Michael Goddard's Sanctuary Report includes some interesting records of the varying numbers of different species seen there and particularly illustrates the seasonal passage of warblers, hirundines and finches.

Hardly any records of movements of terns and gulls were received, doubtless because of the absence of observers at the right time and place. The usual seasonal fluctuation in the numbers of gulls was, of course, readily noticeable by observation from the Footbridge, Adur riverbank or at Brooklands. As usual the numbers of gulls appeared to reach their maximum by about the end of November. Again the numbers at Shoreham seemed somewhat lower than average, certainly as regards Black-headed and Herring, although Greater Black-backs at the end of the year were probably almost at their usual level, about 250 being the most counted. Numbers at Brooklands were about average.

The position as regards our three species of common waders followed its usual pattern. Dunlin which of course is not a local breeding bird, numbered about three to four hundred in the early part of the year, but all had left by the end of March, although a few passing through were seen on later dates. They began to re-appear in the early autumn, and by the end of December numbered about three hundred and fifty. Redshank still nest by the banks of the Adur near the Cement Works and higher up the river but are seldom seen in the lower reaches in the breeding season. The maximum numbers counted in the winter months were sixty or seventy. Ringed Plover, whose mating calls could be heard regularly on Shoreham Beach about ten years ago have been driven away as a breeding species by the spread of building. As a winter resident their numbers were at about their usual in 1964, the maximum number counted being approximately forty.

Contributors: D. Cox, M. Goddard, F. Severs
and J.M.Twort.

F.S.

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GARDEN BIRDS FOR 1964

These notes have been compiled from members' records. The following have contributed:- Miss C.Biggs; Mrs. O. Chapman; Mrs. P.M. Cook; Mrs. E.Farmer; Dr. D. Gibson and Messrs: D.Cox; C.Grigg; C.Helyer; M.Goddard; R.Phillips; J.M. Twort and F. Weatherhead.

Garden at Mill Hill (C.B.)

Great Spotted Woodpecker, March 31st and several days after.

Garden at Hove (O.M.C.)

Many species, including Lesser Whitethroat, April 7th, Whitethroats and Willow Warblers, April 9th, Garden Warblers in June and July, Marsh Tits on 24th and 27th April.

Garden at Broadwater (P.M.C.)

Nightjar September 29th (see "Notable Birds of the Area" for details).

Garden at Shoreham (Park Avenue) (E.F.)

Various species. Only one Wren, May 1st to Dec. 9th.

Garden at Sterrington (D.G.)

Various species including Collard Dove (heard), Sparrow Hawk, Nuthatch, Great Spotted Woodpecker (pair and young), Coal Tit etc.

Garden at Worthing (D.C.)

Swift flying N. April 27th, Whitethroat (m) May 4th.

Garden at Steyning (C.A.G.)

Many species including Black Redstart for three days in early April, Collard Doves, two pairs of Mistle Thrushes etc.

Garden at Westdene, Brighton (C.F.H.)

Redstart on April 4th, Chiff/Willow on April 4th, Wryneck Sept. 1963 (report recorded late).

Garden at Mill Hill (M.G.)

A semi albino Dunnock from October 24th to the end of the year. General colour grey with a white tail and whitish wings. Trapped and ringed on November 1st.

Garden at Chester Ave., Lancing (R.P.)

Wren Oct. 17th (first for a year)

Garden at The Green, Southwick (J.M.T.)

Swallow on November 3rd, Bullfinch on July 26th.

Garden adjoining the Bird Sanctuary (F.W.)

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker twice in March.

Reports of members of birds seen in the gardens of friends include a pair of Wrens nesting in a garden in Kingston Lane and several Blackcaps in a garden at Coombes on March 23rd.

F.S.

Erratum to "Garden Birds for 1963" (Page 22 of Annual Report for 1963).

The second and third line under Garden at Steyning (C.G.) should read ".....and c. 60 Brambling feeding at one time...."

* * * * *

KESTRELS IN LANCING AREA

When the nesting site was discovered on 18th May '64, permission to maintain a protective watch was applied for. The landowner courteously gave written sanction, the farmer readily co-operated and the farm foreman, on his lawful occasions, assisted by discreet guard. On May 20th six mottled red eggs were counted during a hurried visit when the bird was known to be off nest. On 24th May an adult bird flew off quietly as the observer approached. May 29th et seq..... This behaviour became general. Several times a single bird presumably the male, flew off from a nearby look-out, while the hen bird crouched low in the nest the whole time.

During early June only a distant watch was kept. On 14th June there appeared to be no activity. A close search of the ground below revealed a 'fresh' headless nestling, of sparrow size; sufficient evidence of continued occupation, by predators.

On 15th June there were at least three well feathered nestlings and one adult, constantly preening, displaying no alarm. 18th - 20th June, observations suggested the young were ready for flight as more than three could be seen at intervals. 23rd June. A ladder was used for close inspection. The nest was empty. There were no infertile eggs, but a few kestrel pellets which are not as informative as owl pellets. Other remains were feet, feathers and wing bones of chaffinch size.

During August and September, particular watch recorded kestrels at Burpham (a pair), Upper Beeding Brooks (a pair); Horsebridge Common, Wiston and Lancing.....not far from the original nest site. In October one has been seen almost daily from the Garden of the Author.

R.P.

THE DEVILS DYKE AREA 1964

As the pattern of Spring and Autumn migrations at the Devils Dyke showed no unusual features, it is not proposed to comment on these in detail. A Ring Ousel present on 12th September was a new bird for the area.

The most interesting feature of the observations in 1964 was further evidence of the route adopted by migrants in reaching the gap between the hill on which the Devils Dyke Hotel stands and Newtimber Hill. It is through this gap that migrants pass when going Northward and Southward. It was fortunate that on April 17th a Cuckoo was seen on the wire at the roadside near the Pylons, where chats have been seen in the past. About 20 minutes later, a single Cuckoo was seen over the road opposite the gap and it was in all probability the same bird. On other occasions Cuckoos were seen at the same point on the fence near the Pylons and all seemed eager to take a rest on the wire and flew only short distances, indicating they had just arrived. The inference is that the birds reach the road near the Pylons and work their way along the S.E. of the Dyke Golf Course and fly across the wooded valley towards the gap.

Certainly, on migration watches, birds going North appear to come from this direction and it would be interesting to know if birds come in from sea near the Electricity Works. Winter weather movements of Chaffinches with other finches such as occurred on Christmas Day and 27th December indicated birds coming in over a wide front from the turning past the Club House down to the pylons. The passage was quite heavy just before dusk, Chaffinches passing through the gap at 50 per 15 minutes. The reverse procedure seems to apply in the autumn when on 21st August c.29 Wheatears were counted along the road up to the Devils Dyke of which c.25 were in one party half way between the pylons and the turning past the Club House.

The organised migration watches were disappointing. The week-end of 29/30th August was ruined by a N.W. wind and it was extremely cold in the early mornings. The watch on 26/27th September was more interesting with a good southward passage of House Martins and Swallows with some Meadow Pipits, Linnets, Alba and Flava Wagtails. A surprising feature was a northward passage of 130 Swallows in 3 parties in the evening of 27th September. Unfortunately, due to holidays, the area was not covered in the migration watch of October 10th/11th. To my fellow watcher, Mr. C.F.Helyer, came the greatest excitement. At Coney Hill, on October 10th, the migration watch week-end, he had a small warbler with 2 wing bars. Unfortunately he was not able to get sufficient detail for the acceptance of a

record of a Yellow-browed Warbler but it was at a time when British Birds reported six of this species as being in this country. At the same place, which is on the ridge which leads up to the Devils Dyke he had a Brambling on 3rd October.

Lastly, one cannot fail to mention three Cranes which were seen in the Spring on the hill on which the Dyke Hotel stands. Escapes can be definitely ruled out; they are still in the Zoo there!

R.E.G.

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SELSEY BILL 1964

The sixth year of regular migration watching at Selsey Bill was one of the least exciting so far. This may have been due partly to the fact that as the years go by, birds which were once considered rare and exciting seem much less so when they appear more frequently, and the standard of observations and the observers' expectations are always rising; but it is also without a doubt due to a very poor autumn everywhere, and most observatories complained that they had few excitements to report.

The first two months of the year saw the usual Short-eared Owls (up to 9), divers and duck in the area; with the occasional Woodcock and party of White-fronted Geese. March started well, with a Barn Owl showing the characters of the dark-breasted form and Rock Pipits which appeared to be of the Scandinavian race on 1st. Cold weather subsequently in the month, however, kept easterly passage at sea to a small scale, but summer visitors started to appear much as usual towards the end of the month - Black Redstarts, White Wag-tails, phylloscopi, Wheatears, with odd Swallows and Sand Martins. April movements at sea were smaller than usual, but excitements included a Gull-billed Tern on 19th, at least three different Mediterranean Gulls, and a Hoopoe on 18th. May was again quiet, with only small arrivals of passerines and little movement at sea; an egret, unfortunately too far off for specific identification, arriving from the sea on 31st was the most exciting bird, but we also had 5 Pomarine Skuas, a bird

now becoming almost annual through the Channel in spring; a Glaucous Gull; four records of Gull-billed Terns; 2 Roseate Terns; and another Hoopoe. Two Hooded Crows recorded in the spring were unusual, and we also had our second spring record of Pied Flycatchers with 3 on 9th May.

The autumn was quiet mainly as a result of the fine, clear weather during much of August and September, so that migrants passed over unhindered. Diurnal movements were small until late September and October, when finch movements reached fairly high proportions. Redpolls and Reed Buntings were more numerous than usual, and Tree Sparrow passage reached an unprecedented peak of over 1000 in a day in mid-October. The sea, however, has rarely been so unproductive, and the autumn total of, for example, Arctic Skuas, is lower than ever before; not the usual 60 or so, but scarcely double figures, were reached. A Tawny Pipit and a Melodious Warbler in September arrived after easterly winds, but were the only typical autumn rarities recorded.

We shall be manning the Bill each weekend in spring and autumn of 1965. Another year's migration to look forward to, with its ever-varying volume and variety of passage to anticipate.

B.A.E.M.

* * * * *

SUMMARIES OF FIELD OUTINGS 1964

Sunday January 26th - Amberley Wildbrooks, with Mr. B. Metcalfe.

About twenty-five members attended and most of the pleasant though overcast day was devoted to duck watching in the marshy area between the old barn and Rackham Woods.

Despite the lack of extensive flood water, there were some waterlogged meadows which had attracted the anticipated duck species. Wigeon, Teal and Mallard were in good numbers, while a few Shoveler and a Pintail were also seen.

The highlight of the day was provided by 11 Bewick Swans which flew in and alighted on the marsh. Later the party lunched at the edge of the woods with a good view of the swans.

A few woodland species were seen for good measure - Nuthatch. Tree Creeper etc., and in the adjoining meadows there were some Fieldfares.

Sunday March 1st - Pagham with Dr. J.Stafford

The day was a pleasant one but the birds were not very exciting. Although there had been rumours of Bitterns and Bearded Tits we neither heard nor saw them, nor were we fortunate enough to see an early Wheatear but only the common birds of estuary and seashore. About 20 members attended.

Sunday April 19th - Selsey Bill with Mr. B.A.E.Marr

True to tradition, it rained on our outing to the Bill, despite the clever idea of arranging a spring outing "as the weather is so much more settled than in the autumn, when we invariably seem to coincide with a gale or heavy rain - or both". The weather obviously deterred all but the most stalwart of the stalwarts, who arrived to hear the joyous news that they had just missed a Gull-billed Tern, one of the Selsey specialities - but little else. A couple of Fulmars came conveniently close, small numbers of duck, with one Brent Goose, were at sea, and odd parties of small waders were passing. Some migrants present or arriving included 2 Black Redstarts, a dozen Wheatears, 3 Yellow Wagtails, a Tree Pipit, and a Ring Ousel. A reasonable variety of birds, but not such a reasonable day for those watching them.

Saturday August 15th - Adur River and Bird Sanctuary with Mr. F.Severs and Mr. J.M.Twort.

Seventeen members met at the Footbridge and walked along the river bank to the Flood Arch thence across the Rubbish Dump to the Railway Bridge, on to the Toll Bridge and along the A 283 road to the Bird Sanctuary.

Very little of interest had been seen during the preceding few days and expectations were not very high. Common Sandpipers at the Flood Arch and Wheatears on the Rubbish Dump provided some interest and the usual waders were seen on the river mud with the addition of two Bar-tailed Godwits. Totally unexpected and of exceptional interest in view of the special survey taking place in respect of this diminishing species was a Wryneck north of the Railway Bridge. A number of members had good views of this bird, although unfortunately a few who were a little behind the others were too late. Amongst the gulls were ten Lesser Blackbacks.

At the Sanctuary Chiff/Willows and other species were seen in the copse, and a Yellow Wagtail, two Reed Buntings and a number of Lapwings in near-by fields. After the party had broken up a few members saw a Kestrel near the Toll Bridge.

Saturday August 29th - Weirwood Reservoir with Mrs Gillett

Seventeen members met at the Reservoir and enjoyed several hours bird-watching in the beautiful countryside on a warm sunny day.

The number and variety of waders has been disappointing this year, but good views were obtained of a Little Ringed Plover, two Common Sandpipers, two Redshanks and four Snipe. There was a good variety of waterfowl including Great-Crested Grebe with four striped young, many Coot and Moorhen with young, two Mute Swans with seven cygnets and several Heron.

Large numbers of duck included Mallard, Teal, Tufted and Pochard. Swallows, House Martins and Sand Martins were circling over the water, and there was a good variety of passerines on the bushes and trees round the Reservoir.

Saturday September 12th - Church Norton with Dr. J. Stafford

The party met at Church Norton and in wonderful weather they saw Pagham at its best.

Some fifty species of birds were identified, and many of the twenty-five members had grand views of common but very beautiful birds such as Grey Plover in summer plumage and Whimbrel flying against the blue sky, calling as they went.

It was indeed a perfect day for bird watching and I am sure all enjoyed the outing.

Sunday October 18th - Pagham Harbour with Mr. Meadows.

A glorious sunny day but not a lot of birds.

A walk along the beach wall first revealed a few Swallows and House Martins over the reed beds, one or two Snipe, and Herons up in their pine trees. A lone Kestrel perched high up in a dead tree.

As we retraced our steps a Clouded Yellow butterfly danced towards Sidlesham.

Round to the seaward side for lunch just in time to see a Kingfisher fly swiftly towards the lagoon. Grey Plover in their usual ones and twos and the usual waders were present. Two unperturbed Dunlin were seen at very close quarters and four or five Bar-tailed Godwit were observed during a short walk across the mud.

Saturday November 21st - East Head with Mr. R.E. Goddard

A party of twelve enjoyed East Head on a mild day but with a nineteen foot tide which made an ominous inroad into the new sea defences. We saw all the usual waders, and disturbances on Pilsey sent the Oyster Catchers into the fields and about 10,000 Dunlin

into the air like a smoke cloud. Most unusual was a flock of sixty Golden Plover which joined the other Waders on the mud when the tide went down. We also saw 15 Wigeon, 22 Mergansers, 6 Brent Geese and 1 Diver.

Saturday December 19th - Chichester and Church Norton with Mr. Metcalfe

Some fifteen members gathered at the Chichester gravel pits. The morning was cold but clear and sunny.

Six or seven pits were viewed and a good variety of attractive waterfowl were seen. These included Pochard, Tufted Duck, Teal, Great Crested and Little Grebes, two Snipe and a Redshank.

The party moved on to Church Norton where in addition to all the usual estuarine waders and Shelduck, a fine gaggle of about forty Brent Geese were watched feeding in the harbour. Five Mergansers were noted near the shingle spit, and from the beach, despite a cutting east wind, a short sea watch added several hundred Mallard, two Great Crested Grebe and a single Brent Goose. From a pool in the Severals, a flock of Wigeon and a Teal flew Harbourwards. Little else was seen apart from flocks of ground feeding passerines, mainly Chaffinch and Greenfinch. Fading light brought operations to a close at 3.30 pm. An enjoyable but quiet day for birds which nevertheless resulted in a tally of 52 species recorded.

* * * * *

SUCCESS AT PAGHAM HARBOUR

At long last, Pagham Harbour has been declared a nature reserve, and its future is thus assured. This successful outcome to long negotiations aimed at reconciling the interests of local residents, holidaymakers, wildfowlers and naturalists was announced early in October, when the West Sussex County Council declared the Harbour a local nature reserve under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. It represents a triumph for the Sussex Naturalists' Trust, whose scientific report on the Harbour prepared in 1962 has at last borne fruit, and it is the first local nature reserve in the county declared under the 1949 Act.

At present, the Reserve covers the area owned by the West Sussex River Board, that part of the Harbour below the high water mark and the beaches on the seaward side of the Harbour, but the Trust is discussing the question of enlarging the Reserve to include the pools, reed beds, and other important areas which surround the Harbour to make it as complete as possible. Bye-

laws are being prepared by the County Council which will aim at preventing unjustified disturbance and damage by visitors to the Harbour, including the use of speed-boats for water-ski-ing, one of the principal causes of disturbance in recent years. Wild-fowling under the control of the local Association, who for more than a year have given the proposal their support, will continue; this is not as paradoxical as it may seem, as it has been found in several national and local nature reserves in the British Isles where shooting is permitted that controlled in this way, it is far preferable to the poaching that occurs where no local association exists.

Pagham Harbour, one of the most delightful areas in the county for studying bird-life, and very popular for outings of this Society ever since it was formed, is the fifth Nature Reserve in Sussex. There already exist two National Nature Reserves managed by the Nature Conservancy, Lullington Heath above the Cuckmere Haven, the Kingley Vale, near Chichester, and the Naturalists Trust own two small areas of marsh and raised bog in West Sussex as private Trust Reserves. Let us hope there will be many more, for with the increasing number of yatching marinas, and threats of hovercraft bases and similar developments, our bird life, particularly on the over-populated coastline, requires specific areas set aside for its protection if it is to continue to thrive in this fiercely competitive age.

* * * * *

B.A.E.M.

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Receipts & Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st December 1964

ABRIDGED

| <u>Receipts</u> | £ | s | d | <u>Expenditure</u> | £ | s | d |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Bal. in hand 1.1.1964 | 93 | 15 | 1 | Subscriptions | 5 | 8 | 0 |
| Subscriptions..155 | 55 | 6 | 0 | Affiliation fees | 4 | 18 | 0 |
| Meetings.Donations | 3 | 1 | 2 | Lectures | 15 | 12 | 6 |
| Tea Receipts | 1 | 3 | 6 | Donation World Wild- | | | |
| Misc. Receipts | 4 | 3 | 5 | life Fund | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Film Show Receipts | 21 | 7 | 1 | Misc.Expenses | 2 | 12 | 3 |
| | | | | Printing Ann.Rpts. | 22 | 6 | 6 |
| | | | | Post.Tel.Statny. | 30 | 11 | 4 |
| | | | | Bal.in hand 31.12.64 | 92 | 2 | 9 |
| | <u>178</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>4</u> | | <u>178</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>4</u> |

(Sgd) F.Severs.
Hon. Auditor

(Sgd) G.W.Rampton
Hon.Treasurer.

LIST OF LECTURES, 1964

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Jan.18th. "Radar Studies of Bird Migration" | Mr.Bill Harper |
| Feb.22nd. Colour cine films of Birds. | Mr.M.Hollings |
| Mar.14th. "To the island for Birds" | Miss P.M.Bond |
| Oct.17th. "Birds of the Waterside" | Mr.W.J.C.Murray |
| Nov.14th. "Swallows at the Mill" & "A Water Bird's World" | R.S.P.B.Films |
| Dec.12th. "Birds of an Estuary" | Mr.S.Bayliss-Smith. |

OFFICERS, ETC.

President & Chairman: Dr. J. Stafford

Council Members: Hon. Gen. Secy: Mrs. J.B.Smith
" Asst.Secy: Miss C.M.Biggs
" Prog.Secy: B.Metcalf
" Treasurer: G.W.Rampton
" Recorder: J.M.Twort
Report Editor: F.Severs

plus: B.A.E.Marr; R.E.Goddard and Miss C.P.S.Griffiths.

Field Committee: A.Burstow; R.E.Goddard and Mrs.Gillett working
with Programme Secretary: Mr.Metcalf.

Sanctuary Committee: A.Burstow; W.McKechie and T.Palmer
Member kindly responsible for distribution of "British Birds"
etc. .T.Palmer.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr.K.G.Adsett, | 45, Warren Drive, Crawley |
| Miss J.M.Ashcroft | 10, Heyshott Cl. N.Lancing |
| Mr.J.A.T.Bagley | 1, Hill Farm Way, Southwick |
| Mrs.B.Baker | 108 Pagham Rd; Pagham, Bognor R. |
| Mr.D.Ball | 28, Adur Ave; Shoreham |
| Miss Barr | 17, Roman Rd; Steyning |
| Miss H.Bartlett | Chancton, The Street, Old S'ham |
| Mr.S.H.Best | 2, Old Swans Cotts: Shoreham |
| Capt.J & Misses C.M. & J.Biggs | 7, Mill Hill, Shoreham |
| Mr.K.Bolingbroke | 24, Cornwall Gdns; Brighton 6 |
| Mr.H.W.Brittain, (J) | 27, Roman Rd; Hove.3. |
| Mr.C.F.Brown | 17, St.Aubyns Rd: Portslade |
| Mrs.F.E.Brown | 166, Old Shoreham Rd: Portslade |
| Messrs.A & J.Burstow | 27, Erringham Rd: Shoreham |

Miss J.E.Cater
 Mr.S.H.Chalke,
 Mrs.O.M.Chapman
 Miss D.A.Chatterton
 Mr & Mrs.Childs
 Mrs.Clackett
 Mr & Mrs.Cole

Mrs.F.Cook
 Mrs.R.P.Cordero
 Miss H.M.Cottingham
 Mr & Mrs.Coutts
 Mr. D.W.Cox (J)
 Mr. N.J.Cox
 Miss B.Crook
 Miss S.Cummings,
 Mr R.E. & Miss W.E.Dickson
 Messrs.G.D.P. & J.Dixon (J)
 Mr.F.O.Edwards
 Mr & Mrs.Farmer
 Mrs.I.W.E.Ferguson
 Miss Forbes
 Mr.B.Forbes (J)
 Dr.D.Gibson

Mrs. & Miss P.Gillett
 A. & M.J.Goddard (J)
 Mr & Mrs R.E.Goddard
 Miss V.Goddard (J)
 Miss I.Goodman
 Mrs.Graves
 Miss D.M.Greenyer
 Miss C.P.S.Griffiths

Mr & Mrs.Grigg
 Mr & Mrs. Hale
 Mr.R.Hamlyn
 Miss V.Hay-Gannell

Miss M.Heath
 Mr & Mrs. C.F.Helyer
 Mr.M.Helps (J)
 Mr.H.Hiscoke
 Mr.R.V.Hitch

73, Old Shoreham Rd: Shoreham
 Grenofen, Henty Rd: Ferring
 42,Downland Drive, Hove 4.
 Bramley, Goring Rd; Steyning
 Cobbers, 6 Bennett Ave: Hove 4.
 17, Hailsham Rd: Worthing
 Barn End, Amberley Dr: Goring-on-
 Sea.

26, Cissbury Rd: Worthing
 Rohan Lodge,Wadhurst Pk:Wadhurst Sx.
 93, High St: Steyning
 Merryhill Cott: Thakeham, Sx.
 113 Park Rd: Worthing
 64, Poulterers Lane: Worthing
 West Ho: Southover, Nr.Lewes
 Bracklyn, Harboro' Hill, Pulborough
 The Mount, Cuckfield, H.Heath
 Rock Cott: Common Hill, W.Chiltington
 6, Wykeham Ct:Wykeham Rd: Worthing
 78, Park Ave; Shoreham
 9, Gundreda Rd; Lewes
 13, Roman Rd; Steyning
 16, Chesswood Rd: Worthing
 Restynge, Hillside Wk: Neath Common
 Storrington.

10, Tongdean Ave; Hove 4.
 34, Mill Hill, Shoreham
 7, Dyke Close, Hove 4.
 7, Dyke Close, Hove 4.
 The Gables) Mill Ln. Shoreham
 20 Court Farm Rd; Hove 4
 28 Queens Place, Shoreham
 c/o John Hornimans Home,
 2, Park Road, Worthing
 100, High St; Steyning
 Lamount, 23, Offington Dr; Worthing
 Stumblefield, Folders Ln; Burgess Hill
 Restynge, Hillside Walk, Heath
 Common, Storrington.
 152, Orchard St; Chichester
 55, Bramble Rise, Westdene, Brighton 5
 23, Highfield Cres; Brighton 6.
 8, Frith Rd: Hove 4.
 23, Kings Walk, Shoreham Beach

Mr.C.Hitchman (J)
Mr.M.Hollings
Mr.A.E.Holman
Mrs.M.A.Hopkins
Miss P.Hughes
Mr.D.E. & Mrs. O.M.Hunt
Mrs.J.R.Hunt
Mr & Mrs Jenking
Misses Joseph
Mr & Mrs.Lacey
Miss M.Landman

Mr.C.Leach (J)
Mr.R.M.Leaney

Capt. Leslie
Miss N.Lawarne
Mr.D.Mann
Mr.B.A.E.Marr
Miss M.D.Marsh

Mr & Miss McKechnie
Messrs. R.P. & M.I.Meadows (J)
Miss E.E.Menzies

Mr & Mrs.B.Metcalf
Miss J.Monks

Mrs.Morrison-Scott
Mr.J.A.Newnham (J)

Mrs.E.D.S.Norris
Mrs.E.Ottley
Mr.Timothy Ovens
Mr.T.Palmer
Mr.J.Pan (J)
Miss S.Pargeter
Miss J.Parry
Miss J.Partridge
Mr.R.Phillips

Mr.G.H.Pope
Mrs.E.M.Purssell
Miss E.M.Rabone
Mr & Mrs. G.W.Rampton

Mill Mead, 56 Mill Rd; N.Lancing
20 Hillside Ave; Worthing
Oakmere, Mill Rd; W.Chiltington
49, Lindum Rd: Worthing
12, Hawkins Cl: Shoreham
24a, Windlesham Gdns: Shoreham
2, Mill Hill, Shoreham
Ashcroft, Maudlyn Pk.Way.Steyning
Under Round Hill, Laines Rd: "
75, Coombe Rd: Steyning
Nurses Home, St.Richard's Hosp.
Chichester.

Rosebank, Barbary Lane, Ferring
The Flat, 4. Nat.Prov.Bank Chamb.
Goring Rd: Goring-on-Sea.
Old Brewery Ho: Steyning
F.7.Riberside Ho: High St.S'ham
8, Church Rd: Rustington
59, The Green, Southwick
52, Crescent Dr: (South)
Brighton 7.

73 Connaught Ave: Shoreham
Ashtrees, Aldingbourne, Sx.
6, Queens Mans; Wordsworth Rd;
Worthing
18, Newham Lane, Steyning
Nurses Home, St.Richards Hosp.
Chichester

4, Castle Way, Steyning
27, Downlands Ave; Broadwater
Worthing
7, Ravens Rd; Shoreham
33, Middleton Ave; Hove
45, Bennett Dr; Hove, 4.
9, Whitelot Way, Southwick
Beach Ho; Vermont Dr: E.Preston
34, Old Shoreham Rd: Hove
35, Woodland Drive, Hove, 4.
Riverways, Riverside Rd: S'ham
19, Chester Ave; Wellan Pk;
Lancing

67, Hillside Ave: Worthing
44, Seamill Pk, Cresc; Worthing
2, Roman Rd; Steyning
34, Croft Ave; Southwick.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Mr & Mrs Ray | Marlows, Mill Hill, Shoreham |
| Mr.H.Richardson | 35, Mill Lane, Shoreham |
| Mr.S.W.Rickards | 21, Pearson Rd: Arundel |
| Mrs.Roe | 3, The Avenue, Shoreham |
| Miss Rogers | 157, Greenways Cresc: Shoreham |
| Mr & Mrs.Ruscoe | Annington Old Farmhouse, Botolphs, Steayning |
| Miss M.Davies-Scourfield | Annington Ho; Steayning |
| Mr.F.Severs | 5, Beach Rd; Shoreham Beach |
| Mr.H.C.P.Smail | 6, Sansdowne Cl: W.Worthing |
| Mrs.J.B.Smith | The Ranch House, West Beach, Shoreham |
| Dr.Gordon Smith | 4, New Rd; Shoreham |
| Mrs.N.Smith | 3, St.Mary's Cl: Shoreham |
| Dr & Mrs.J.Stafford | Stone House, Windlesham Gdns; Shoreham |
| Mr & Mrs. Stephens | 89, Kings Stone Ave; Steayning |
| Mr.D.Stone | 69, The Drive, Shoreham |
| Mr.D.A.L.Stranach | 75, Greenways Cresc: Shoreham |
| Mrs & Miss D.Stringfellow | 7, Queensway, Horsham |
| Mrs.Treadwell | 8, Rosslyn Rd: Shoreham |
| J.E.S. & P. Thompson | 77, Nutley Cresc: Goring-on-Sea |
| Mr & Mrs. J.M.Twort | 63, The Green, Southwick |
| Dr Francis Varley | Southlands Hosp. Shoreham |
| Mr & Mrs.Vegrass | 33, Portland Gate: Portland Rd: Hove 3. |
| Mr & Mrs.Weatherhead | Mill Hill Pumping Station, S'ham |
| Miss S.West | 131, Greenways Cresc: Shoreham |
| Mr. S.R.G.Whetham | 56, Crescent Rd; Burgess Hill, Sx. |
| Mr.L.Whitbourn | 6, Mill Lane, Shoreham |
| Mr & Mrs.Wildish | 137, Nevill Rd: Hove, 4. |
| Mr & Mrs. Williams | Hazelhurst Farm, Wisboro' Green Billingshurst, Sx. |
| Mr. P.S.Wilmshurst | 12, Ashcroft Cl: Shoreham |
| Miss W.M.Woodruff | 17, Hailsham Rd; Worthing |

Total Membership Dec. 1964 - 153

New Members for 1965:

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| Mrs.Anderson | 4, Mill Lane, Shoreham |
| J.Anderson (J) | Olds House, Lancing College, Lancing. |

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Shoreham Ornithological Society is affiliated to or is a member of the following bodies:- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, British Trust for Ornithology, British Naturalists Association, The Council for Nature and the Shoreham Community Association. The Society's President, Dr. John Stafford, is a member of the Council of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The membership fee is seven shillings and sixpence a year, inclusive of a copy of the Annual Report. Junior members must be over thirteen and under eighteen years of age. The fee for these is five shillings a year, also inclusive of the Report.

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained by non-members at two shillings and sixpence each.

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STOP PRESS:::

Just before sending off for printing we have received a report from Mr C.Grigg of a Hawfinch seen near the Allotments at Steyning in November, and also of a possible Red-breasted Flycatcher near Wickham in September.