

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

*Sixteenth Annual Report*



*for the Year 1968*

PRICE: TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE

## SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT 1968

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### EDITORIAL NOTES

Our small society can lay some claim to being considered one of the parents of the Sussex Ornithological Society, a lusty infant which quickly grew to maturity. And it would perhaps have been no surprise if, with most aspects of ornithology so well covered throughout the county, such local organisations as this quietly faded away. However, support for our meetings, both indoor and out, continues encouragingly - except when the weather is really hostile! - and the amount of material sent in to our Recorder has been greater this year than for some time. The Sanctuary continues to be well watched, especially in the university vacations, when Messrs. Michael Goddard and John Newnham have continued their ringing activities, while Dr. Barrie Watson and Philip Belman have also strengthened the scientific aspect of the Society. Watching in the central area has been reinforced by the return to Shoreham of Mr. C.M. Veysey, whilst on the Western Approaches, Mr. Colin Messer has filled the gap left by Bernard Forbes.



But increased interest and support must not be allowed to obscure the fact that the work of running the Society still devolves on the faithful few, and in recording our appreciation of the continuing labours of Miss Catherine Briggs and Mr. Rampton in organising our meetings, we must again make an urgent plea for younger hands to take a share of the work. May we hope for some volunteers?

The year has been a very good one for variety of birds seen, as Mr. Palmer's report shows, despite no extremes of weather to bring in exotics. But bad weather did coincide with most of our Field Outings in the first half of the year, an inevitable hazard in planning an outdoor programme in this country. Joint outings with the Sussex Society are proving successful, and we record our thanks for the co-operation that has made them possible - as well as to Mr. Burstow as Programme Secretary.

For the armchair ornithologists, Mr. Tony Marr has chronicled his exciting trip to the far north and will have many of us looking wistfully at maps and time-tables, while Mr. Eric Goddard shows how a move from suburban chalk to rural sandstone affects the garden check-list.

As always, a feast of slides and films was offered at the indoor meetings, ranging from Turkey to Fair Isle and the Shetlands, but new ground was broken when Mr. M. J. Dawson gave a talk on Falconry, bringing a Kestrel, a Goshawk and a Golden Eagle with him by way of illustration, and none who attended is likely to forget the impact these splendid birds made - in retrospect the Golden Eagle seemed to fill the hall when it spread its wings!

Another innovation was the coach trip to visit the Bentley Wildfowl Collection where members were able to see at close range many species which they could be counted lucky to see in distant and fleeting glimpses in the wild.

We are, as always, indebted to the helpers at our evening meetings and to those whose aid makes possible the printing and distribution of our notices,; and to Mr. Tom Palmer, whose invaluable records form the main basis of this Report.

No apology is necessary for the increase of adult subscription to 10/- - still a very modest one - made inevitable by increased postage rates and other charges.

## SANCTUARY REPORT 1968

1968 has followed the usual pattern at the Sanctuary with a sparse, long-lasting spring passage, a more concentrated autumn migration and a winter roost of thrushes.

It was thought at the beginning of the year that the changing landscape and clatter of bulldozers from the bridge construction, on the Sanctuary's doorstep, would affect the bird population; fortunately however, this has only caused one or two minor changes. Firstly, the removal of an extensive thistle bed on the marsh can account for the absence of large Goldfinch flocks in August and September; similarly many of the dykes were filled in, forcing the Reed Warblers into the copse to breed; and the large areas of chalky ground increased the numbers of Whinchats and Wheatears.

The following is a chronological analysis taken from the entries in the daily log kept in the hut.

### January & February

Very few birds were present until a cold snap during the second week in January when c200 Fieldfare, several Redwing, c18 Snipe, 10 Teal and a few Mallard and Lapwing were present on the marsh. With the exception of the Lapwing, which increased to c80 on the 19th January, these numbers dropped in a following period of mild weather, and then increased again at the beginning of February with another cold spell; the Redwing, Fieldfare and Teal then finally disappeared on 15th March. At least 2 Goldcrests remained with us throughout the winter and the Kestrel's continued to frequent the hillside. Occasional visitors to the Sanctuary included a Barn Owl on the 6th January, a Treecreeper on the 14th January and 2 Stonechat on the 4th February.

### Spring

The first summer migrants, c8 Chiff-Chaffs, arrived at the copse on the 20th March and throughout the rest of March and first week of April 3 or 4 Chiff-Chaffs were present. These were joined on the 30th March and 3rd April by 1 Willow Warbler but no more phylloscopus species arrived until the 19th April. Also on this day c4 Whitethroat, 2 Sedge Warblers, 1 Lesser Whitethroat and 4 'flava' Wagtails arrived, considerably later than previous years. Similarly hirundines were later in arriving at the Sanctuary with the first House Martin on the 12th and first 3 Swallows on the 14th April. This was a remarkable period for the number of 'crests'



present; on most days three Goldcrests were recorded but on the 26th March there were at least six about. There were also more Firecrests than before, one being seen on the 21st. 24th and 25th March, a male trapped on the 9th April and another male trapped on the 20th April. Kingfishers and Water Rails were recorded regularly, a pair of Mute Swans were on the dykes through April and a Barn Owl was seen hunting on the hillside at mid-day on 24th March.

### Breeding Season

Most of the resident tits, Wrens, Robins, Dunnocks and thrushes were building nests at the beginning of April but one pair of Mistle Thrushes were earlier, a nest being found on the 9th April with 4 eggs, and with young on the 12th April. More Reed Warblers bred this year than before; some 6 or 7 pairs squeezed into the small patches of phragmites in the copse. The other nesting migrants included 3 pairs of Sedge Warblers, c4 of Whitethroats and one pair each of Blackcap, Lesser Whitethroat, Turtle Dove and Swallow. On the marsh and hillside, despite the disturbance from the workmen, 2 pairs of Yellowhammer, 2 pairs of Reed Bunting and several Skylarks, Corn Buntings and Meadow Pipits bred. Probably also the Cuckoos, present in June, found some poor individuals to foster their young. On the 5th July an adult Nightingale turned up in a mist net and the same bird was re-trapped on the 11th August.

### Autumn

The first evidence of the autumn migration was on the 28th July when some 15 Willow Warblers were present; this number increased to c25 the following week and on the 11th August, c45 were recorded (30 trapped). Thereafter the numbers dwindled and the last Willow Warbler was recorded on the 9th September. Chiff-Chaffs, usually a later migrant, were present in small numbers throughout August, but replaced the Willow Warblers in September with a maximum of c30 on the 7th and still a dozen or so on the 30th. The Sanctuary's breeding Reed and Sedge Warblers had left by Mid-August but between the 29th August and 18th September there was a small passage, with a maximum of 8 Sedge Warblers and 6 Reed Warblers on the 3rd September. A Sedge Warbler was still present on the 30th September. During this same period there was a somewhat larger passage of sylvia warblers; Lesser Whitethroats were more abundant than previous years with c12 on 29th August and c6 on 3rd September; the 'peak' of Whitethroats occurred on the 3rd and 7th September with c12 on both days; and c25 Blackcaps



on the 9th September. Pied Flycatchers were more common this year with 2 females trapped on the 11th, one on the 24th August and a fourth female caught on the 18th September. This last day, occurring in a settled period of weather with light easterly winds, also produced c8 Whinchats, 4 Redstarts, 1 Black Redstart, 16 'flava' wagtails, 10 Blackcaps and several other migrants. With the increased area of rough land due to the bridge construction Wheatears were more common this autumn, 4 occurring on most days and 6 on the 31st August. The south and easterly autumn movements of hirundines were again much smaller than those observed in '65 and '66 with a max. this year of c200 Swallows on 7th September and a similar number of House Martins on the 15th. Also in the past few years, during the autumn, the copse and adjacent hillside have been permanently full of large finch flocks, with a predominance of Goldfinches; however this year very few were recorded except on two days, on the 5th September there were about 100 Goldfinches and Linnets, and on the 31st September c300 Goldfinches suddenly appeared from the east. By late autumn, the number of thrushes were increasing, notably so on the 30th September when there were c50 Blackbirds in the immediate surroundings of the Sanctuary; these numbers increased through October and were joined on the 26th October by Redwing. The only really unusual bird during the autumn was a Greenshank flying W-E over the copse calling on the 16th September.

### Winter

On the 3rd November, it is pleasing to report, a party of 8 Long-tailed Tits were seen; this is the first record of this species in the Sanctuary since the hard winter of 1962/63 during which they were badly hit. Large numbers of wintering birds weren't recorded until the 14th December when there were c16 Snipe and c80 Redwing, and two days later c300 Redwing roosted with c300 Blackbirds and thrushes. About 100 Redwing stayed to the end of the year. Although few ducks were recorded during the last two months, with the exception of 2 Teal on 25th December, wading birds were quite common with several Redshank, Lapwing, gulls and Snipe on each visit to the Sanctuary, a max. of c30 Snipe occurring on the 28th December. Unusual visitors to the Sanctuary during this period included a further male Firecrest trapped on Christmas eve and a Grey Wagtail and 2 Collared Doves on the last day of the year.

List of contributors: Messrs.A.Burstow, B & F.J.Forbes, M.J.S. Goddard, C.F.Helyer, J.A.Newnham, T.Palmer, F.Severs, J.M.Twort, and Dr.A.B.Watson.

## RINGING REPORT FOR 1968

1968 was an average year for ringing in the Shoreham area. Most of the ringing was done in a concentrated Autumn effort, when, in the three month Autumn period, 867 birds were trapped and ringed at the Society's Copse at the Shoreham Waterworks. The peak days, of course, coincide with those mentioned in the Sanctuary report, but it is interesting to note that during the Autumn period the following birds were ringed:- (those totals represent the absolute minimum numbers passing through this small copse. Figures in brackets represent the peak day for that species).

Blackcap	63	{ 17 on 9th Sept. }
Chiff-chaff	84	{ 12 on 5th Sept. }
Garden Warbler	13	{ 3 on 21st Aug. }
Lesser Whitethroat	24	{ 9 on 29th Aug. }
Pied Flycatcher	4	{ 2 on 11th Aug. }
Redstart	2	
Sedge Warbler	30	{ 5 on 31st Aug. }
Whitethroat	26	{ 5 on 31st Aug. }
Willow Warbler	114	{ 30 on 11th Aug. }

A total of 1567 birds of 45 species were ringed in the Shoreham area during the year, of which 27 were pullus.

Dr.A.B.Watson did some ringing in his garden in Buckingham Road and at the Sanctuary, accounting for 313 birds. John Newnham and myself did the bulk of the ringing, during vacations from our far-flung Universities, and accounted for 1242 and Dr.J. Stafford made up the total with 12 birds.

With training and guidance from Dr.Barrie Watson, John Newnham obtained his A permit during the year and officially joined forces with myself and at the end of the year we registered as a Ringing Partnership. Philip Belman, from Brighton, gained his C permit and Richard Cranshaw commenced training; both under the guidance of Dr.Barrie Watson.

Interesting birds caught during the year included three Firecrests, two in Spring and one in December, the first winter record for the Sanctuary. We also trapped an adult Nightingale on 5th July and again on the 11th August, the first in the Sanctuary for several years.

We supported the B.T.O's nationwide *Acrocephalus* Enquiry (Reed and Sedge Warblers) by registering the Sanctuary as a site



and keeping detailed records of all birds ringed and retrapped during the year. Despite this only being the first year of the enquiry some most interesting results are developing. We had three controls which are shown below. Of the seven breeding Reed Warblers ringed at the Sanctuary in 1967 all seven were again caught in 1968 and for one individual this was his sixth year at the copse. Considering these birds have to make the journey to Africa (their winter quarters) and back every year this shows a remarkable survival rate.

One of the long established ringing projects at the Sanctuary is the Thrush roost. We again contributed to the wealth of data from this roost ringing that has been built up over the past 10 years. It is now that we can begin to analyse the results and build up an interesting picture of the lives and movements of the Thrushes during the Autumn and Winter months.

A new species was added to the Shoreham area's growing list of ringed birds when Dr. Barrie Watson clap-netted 8 Collared Doves in his garden.

#### RINGING TOTAL FOR 1968

<u>Bird</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bird</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mute Swan	25	Garden Warbler	13
Common Gull	1	Whitethroat	28
Black-headed Gull	9	Lesser Whitethroat	24
Woodpigeon	4	Willow Warbler	118
Kingfisher	3	Chiffchaff	94
Swallow	35	Goldcrest	13
House Martin	8	Firecrest	3
Great Tit	25	Spotted Flycatcher	2
Blue Tit	83	Pied Flycatcher	4
Tree Creeper	2	Duncock	41
Wren	32	Starling	84
Mistle Thrush	1	Greenfinch	79
Fieldfare	1	Goldfinch	77
Song Thrush	82	Linnet	10
Redwing	29	Bullfinch	64
Blackbird	281	Chaffinch	21
Stonechat	1	Brambling	1
Redstart	2	Yellow Bunting	11
Nightingale	1	Corn Bunting	10
Robin	25	Reed Bunting	4
Reed Warbler	99	House Sparrow	5
Sedge Warbler	38	Collared Dove	8
Blackcap	65	Total	<u>1567</u>



## RECOVERIES OF RINGED BIRDS

Foreign Recoveries: There is only one this year.

Goldfinch Juvenile ringed 7.9.67. M.G.  
Caught and caged Angre, BELGIUM 23.10.67.

This was not reported until 1968 and is our second recovery of a Goldfinch caught and caged on the continent.

### Recoveries within the British Isles

Reed Warbler: Juvenile ringed 2.8.67. M.G.  
Struck window pane and released, Bognor  
Regis. 17 mls. W.

Sedge Warbler: Juvenile ringed 3.9.68 M.G.  
Controlled at Ecton, near Northampton, 100  
miles N.N.W. This bird must have been dis-  
orientated as its normal movement is south-  
wards in Autumn, as shown by the following  
control which is of a bird ringed by the  
B.T.O.

Reed Warbler: Juvenile ringed 25.7.68 at Tring, Herts  
B.T.O. Controlled Shoreham 70 miles  
S.S.E. 29.8.68. M.G.

The above three recoveries show how the concentrated ring-  
ing of a certain species leads to an increased recovery rate with  
some interesting results.

Blue Tit: Adult ringed 28.9.67. M.G.  
Found dead in tubular scaffolding at West  
Bergholt, Essex. However, the scaffolding  
could have been transported.

Goldfinch: Adult ringed 17.5.68 at Beachy Head M.G.  
Controlled at Shoreham 22 mls. W. 19.9.68.  
There are several other recoveries showing  
movements of up to 10 miles.

M.J.S.G.

### MUTE SWAN RECOVERIES

The following are ringing recoveries of Mute Swans submitted  
by Philip Belman, who writes:

'Several of these are worthy of note, especially Z 17.546  
coming from London - a very unusual movement. The dispersal of the

birds ringed in winter on Hove Lagoon (4 to Littlehampton, 1 to Dell Quay and several to Shoreham) is also perhaps of interest. Z 26 862 is a nicely dated example of a regular movement from Shoreham to Newhaven (5 birds made this movement during the year).<sup>1</sup>

- |          |  |                 |
|----------|--|-----------------|
| Z 0.666  | Adult ringed 14.3.60 Hove (C.J.Mead)                       |                 |
|          | Controlled Littlehampton, 15 miles W.                      | 23.8.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 12.427 | Imm. Ringed 30.9.65 Shoreham (D.A.Stone)                   |                 |
|          | Controlled Newhaven, 14 miles E.                           | 12.9.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 12.436 | Imm. Ringed 30.9.65 Hove (D.A.Stone)                       |                 |
|          | Controlled Littlehampton, 15 Miles W.                      | 23.8.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 18.456 | Imm. Ringed 19.12.65 Hove (J.A.Wigzell)                    |                 |
|          | Controlled Dell Quay 28 Miles W.                           | 4.6.68 P.J.B.   |
| Z 19.738 | Imm. Ringed 23.12.66 Shoreham (D.A.Stone)                  |                 |
|          | Controlled Newhaven, 14 miles E.                           | 12.10.68 P.J.B. |
| Z 19.740 | Full grown Ringed 25.12.66 Shoreham (D.A.Stone)            |                 |
|          | Controlled Newhaven, 14 miles E.                           | 17.3.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 19.746 | Imm. Ringed 28.12.66 Shoreham (D.A.Stone)                  |                 |
|          | Controlled Newhaven, 14 miles E.                           | 29.10.68 P.J.B. |
| Z 26.862 | Adult ringed 4.10.68 Shoreham (P.J.B. for A.B.Watson)      |                 |
|          | Controlled Newhaven, 14 miles E.                           | 8.12.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 14.065 | Imm.ringed 25.2.64 Hove (J.A.Wigzell)                      |                 |
|          | Controlled Littlehampton 15 miles W.                       | 23.8.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 14.504 | Imm.ringed 4.1.67 Emsworth (D.A.Stone)                     |                 |
|          | Controlled Shoreham 28 miles E.                            | 1.9.68 P.J.B.   |
| Z 15.309 | Imm.ringed 10.3.65 Hove (J.A.Wigzell)                      |                 |
|          | Controlled Littlehampton 15 miles W.                       | 23.8.68 P.J.B.  |
| Z 17.546 | 1 year, ringed 2.5.65 Leytonstone, Essex (Harbott & Sayer) |                 |
|          | Controlled Rochester, Kent - date not known                |                 |
|          | Controlled Shoreham 50 miles S.W.(of Rochester)            |                 |
|          | 31.7.68 and 23.8.68  | P.J.B.          |

#### NOTABLE BIRDS OF THE AREA 1968

This feature is based on records sent in by the following observers: Miss C.M.Biggs, Mrs.Rampton, Mrs.Roe, Mrs.Silvester per C.M.B. Dr.Stafford, Messrs. P.Belman, G.Brown, M.J.Goddard, B.Forbes, F.J.Forbes, C.F.Helyer, R.H.V.Hitch, G.E.Holman, R.Jenkins, B.Metcalf, J.A.Newnham, C.E.Messer, R.E.F.Peal, T.Palmer, G.W.Rampton, F.Severs, G.A.Sutton, J.M.Twort, G.M.Veysey.



Abbreviations: m - male; f - female; imm - immature; Br - Brooklands; C.C. - Cuckoo's Corner; C.H. - Coney Hill, Brighton; C.W. - Cement Works; F.A. - Flood Arch; F.B. - Foot Bridge; E.W.B. - East Worthing Beach; Harb. - Shoreham Harbour; R.B. - Rail Bridge; Sh.R.D. - Shoreham Rubbish Dump; Sanct - Sanctuary; Sh - Shoreham; S.P. - Sussex Pad; T.B. - Toll Bridge; W.R.D. - Worthing Rubbish Dump; W.W. - Wide Water.

The numbers in the left-hand margin are those of the B.T.O. Checklist.

4. Red-Throated Diver: 1 off-shore, Sh., Jan. 9.
5. Great Crested Grebe: 1 off-shore, E.W.B. Mar.9. 1 Harb., Dec.19. & 29.
6. Red-necked Grebe: 1 Br.Lagoon, Jan.15.
8. Black-necked Grebe: 1 Br. Lagoon, Jan.12 - 16.
9. Little Grebe: 2 Sompting Brooks, Mar.16. 1 F.B. Sept.25. 2 with young, Steyning Mill Pond, Aug.22. Up to 6 F.B. area, in Dec.
26. Fulmar: 2 flying W. off Hove, June 22.
27. Gannet: 3 E.W.B. flying E., Aug. 1. 1 E.W.B. flying E. Sept.23.
30. Heron: up to 8 Airfield throughout year. 1 Sompting Brooks, Jan.13. 1 flying Westdene, Brighton, June 26. Frequent visitor to Sanct.
- Duck: sp. 2 flying high W. Patcham, Jan. 9.
45. Mallard: 4 Sompting Brooks, Jan.13. Up to 12 Airfield Jan & Feb. 2 Br.Lagoon, Jan - Mar. 14 offshore E.W.B.Nov. 9. 40 Airfield, Dec.7.
46. Teal: Up to 80 Airfield in Jan. and up to 50 there in Dec. 12 Sompting Brooks, Feb.4.
47. Garganey: 1 m. Sanct. May 2 - 3, 1967. This report arrived too late for the 1967 Report.
52. Pintail: 1 m. Br.Lagoon, Dec.14-19.
55. Scaup: Up to 7 Br.Lagoon in Feb. & Mar. and 1 there Dec.18 & 19.
56. Tufted Duck: Up to 12 Br.Lagoon, Jan - Mar. 12 there, Dec. 14 - 31.
57. Pochard: 30 to 40 Br.Lagoon, early morning Jan.13. Normally up to 5 there Jan. to Mar. 3 there Dec.14 - 19.
60. Goldeneye: up to 4 Br.Lagoon, Jan. to Mar. 2 there Dec.21. 1 Adur, Feb.17. 1 Airfield, Feb. 29. 2 Br.Lagoon, Dec.18 & 19.
61. Long-tailed Duck: 2 Br.Lagoon, Jan - Mar.

62. Velvet Scoter: 6 E.W.B. flying E. Nov. 7. and 14 E. there on Nov. 9.
64. Common Scoter: 1 f. Br.Lagoon in Mar. 20 E.W.B. flying W. & 1 flying E. offshore Hove, Nov. 5. 1 there Dec.23.
67. Eider: 1 Harb. Dec.24. 1 Hove, Jan. 28.
69. Red-breasted Merganser: 1 f. put up from Hove Lagoon, Dec.29.
73. Shelduck: up to 4 Adur, Jan - Mar. 6 Lancing flying W. Mar.22. 2 W.R.D. Nov. 16.
80. Brent Goose: 30 offshore W.W. Jan.2. 11 E.W.B. flying E. Oct.11  
Goose sp.: 50 - 60 Harb. flying S. Mar. 4 (reported by Harbour workmen, per F.S.)
93. Sparrowhawk: 1 Downs nr.Patcham, Sept. 24 & 1 there Oct.20. 1 C.H. chasing large Starling flock, Dec.4.
100. Hen Harrier: 1 Lychpole & Cissbury areas, Oct. 30 - seen by F.J.F. and Mr.D.R.Park, a member of the Sussex O.S.
104. Hobby: 1 pr. Lychpole Hill, June 12 & 13. - seen displaying by C.E.M.
110. Kestrel: 1 pr. resident Sompting Brooks. 3 Lychpole Hill area June 13. 1 F.B. & 1 N. Lancing Feb. 2. 2 Westdene, Brighton Jan.21. 1 pr. Royal Sussex County Hospital during May & June. Up to 3 often seen throughout the year over the slopes of Mill Hill, Sh. 1 C.H. Sept.26. & Oct. 28. Recorded over Patcham on more than one occasion. 1 adult trapped and ringed on Downs nr. Patcham, Dec.27. 1 W.R.D. Oct.31. 1 f. mobbed by Starlings Erringham Rd. district, Oct. 28. 1 m. Mill Hill area seen to hover and drop, then fly off with Skylark in talons. 1 W.W. Dec.24.  
Harrier sp. 1 W.W.flying in from sea, Dec.29. believed to be Marsh Harrier.
116. Partridge: small parties of up to 5 reported from W.R.D. Airfield and Ladywells from Jan. to Nov.
120. Water Rail: 1 S.P. Jan.11. 1 Airfield, Mar.3. 1 Sanct. Mar.10. 1 Sompting Brooks, Mar.20 & 3 there Nov. 16. 1 Ladywells, Mar and Apr. 1 Sanct. Mar & Apr. and 1 there Dec.24.
126. Moorhen: 18-20 Sanct. area, Dec. 4 ("an obvious recent influx"). Bred in Sanct.
127. Coot: 12 Br.Lagoon, Jan.27. 3 W.W. 2 Adur. 10 Br.Lagoon, late Dec. 1 or 2 F.B. area in Dec.
131. Oystercatcher: up to 24 Lancing Beach during Oct. and Nov. 2 in flight Southwick, Aug 6. 3 Ferring Beach, Nov. 14. c23 on beach between Palace Pier and Black Rock, Brighton, Jan.5. 3 Black Rock Feb.25.



133. Lapwing: 2 pairs Sompting Brooks, Mar.22. Up to 200 on marshes at Steyning Sept. 29. 300-400 E. of Beeding Hill and 80 Sanct. Jan.19. 100 Sanct. July 21.
134. Ringed Plover: 50 Adur mud-flats, Feb.3. Up to 10 there Jan/Mar. 4 there Aug.20, 20 Aug. 12, 80 Sept. 8, and 30 in Dec. 130 Airfield Dec.7. 15 T.B. Aug. 17.
135. Little Ringed Plover: 1 C.H. Apr. 13.
143. Turnstone: 2 F.B. Feb.25. 1 E.W.B. Aug. 4. 2 E.W.B. Aug.8.
145. Snipe: up to 12 Sanct. Jan. to Mar. "A good many". Airfield Jan.14. Up to 17 Ladywells area, Feb. to Apr. Up to 3 W.R.D. area, Aug.11. 1 and later 3 put up from stubble, Downs nr. Patcham, Nov. 3. 5 Ladywells Nov. 13. 30 Sanct. Dec.28.
147. Jack Snipe: 1 Airfield, Mar. 3. 1 Sanct. Mar.10. 1 W.R.D. Dec.12 and 14.
148. Woodcock: 1 Lychpole Hill, Mar.19. 2 Sompting Brooks, Feb.4
150. Curlew: 1 Cissbury, flying over, Apr. 23. 2 F.B. Aug. 4. 1 T.B. Aug.11.
151. Whimbrel: 14 E.W.B. flying W. Apr. 22. 60 there, flying E. Aug. 8. 1 over sea, Sh. heard and seen, Aug. 10.
154. Black-tailed Godwit: 2 E.W.B. Aug. 8.
156. Green Sandpiper: 2 C.C. flying high, July 28. 2 W.R.D. Aug.12. 1 C.H. July 12.
159. Common Sandpiper: 2 C.C. July 28. 3 there Aug. 9. 4 Worthing Sewage Farm, Aug. 12. Up to 4 F.A. July to early Sept.
161. Redshank: 60 - 100 Adur. on various dates. Jan.-Mar. 1 pr. C.C. June 3. 12 Adur. Aug.20. 40 there Nov.17 and 70 in mid-Dec.
165. Greenshank: 2 W.R.D. Aug. 11 & 12. 1 Sanct. flying E. calling Sept. 16.
169. Knot: 1 on beach Southwick Jan.15. 1 Adur. Aug.31.
170. Purple Sandpiper: 2 Ferring Beach, Nov. 14.
178. Dunlin: up to 350 Adur mud-flats, Jan-Mar. 150 there Aug. 17 and 500 on Dec.12. 300 Airfield, Dec.7.
181. Sanderling: 100 reported Adur mud-flats, Feb.3. and 30 there Feb.4. 40 Ferring Beach Nov.14. Records from the mud-flats are unusual and unexpected.
185. Avocet: 2 reliably reported T.B. June 6 and 7 (per J.M.T. and F.S.).
193. Arctic Skua: 1 flying E and 2 flying W. off-shore Hove, June 22.
198. Great Black-backed Gull: 100 Adur throughout Feb. & 120 there Dec.24. 500 N of F.B. at dusk, Nov.23.

199. Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 Adur, Jan.1. 1 there July 6.  
2 on Oct. 2 & 23. and 1 on Dec.12 & 30. 1 Scand.race F.B.Dec.m 1  
8 and 26.
200. Herring Gull: 50 Adur throughout Feb.
201. Common Gull: 10 Adur throughout Feb.
202. Glaucous Gull: 1 im. (first-year) on beach. Hove Lagoon,  
Feb. 13, 17,18. 1 there Sept.18 and seen between Aug.17 and  
Oct.11. 1 Sh.Harb. Nov.27. (see separate notice)
203. Mediterranean Gull: 1 adult Hove Lagoon, Jan.14 & Feb.10.
207. Little Gull: 1 on beach, Sh., Feb.25. 1 W.W. Oct.25.
208. Black-headed Gull: up to 1500 Adur in Feb.
211. Kittiwake: 5 adults flying E. offshore Hove, July 19.
212. Black Tern: 5 E.W.B. Aug.18. 1 Br.Lagoon, Sept. 5.
- 217/8 Common/Arctic Tern: 12 T.B. Aug. 4.
222. Little Tern: 3 E.W.B. flying E. Apr. 15; 1 there flying  
W. Sept. 24.
224. Razorbill: 1 Sh.Harb. Sept. 3; watched from W.Breakwater  
for several minutes fishing. Very swift under-water  
evolutions, then coming up in the middle of a shoal of white-  
bait which glistened in the sun as they leaped out of the  
sea (F.S.) 1 on sea, oiled, Sh. Dec.19.
227. Guillemot: 2 E.W.B. Oct. 11 and 1 there Oct.20. 1 on sea  
Sh. Dec.22. 1 W.W. Dec.19. 1 on beach, oiled Sh.Dec.22.  
(see separate note of Northern race bird, Nov.27). 2 badly  
oiled Sh.Beach Dec.19 and 1 Dec.29.
232. Stock Dove: 3 Sanct. Feb.17. 2 C.H. Mar.30. 10 Wyckham Farm,  
Steyning, Apr. 23. Heard calling throughout year near South-  
wick garden (J.M.T.)
235. Turtle Dove: 1 Sanct. Apr. 21. 6 Lychpole Hill, May 27.  
1 Coombes Regular in breeding season, C.H. 1 Sanct. Aug.21,  
and 1 there Sept. 24. Bread in Sanct.
- Collared Dove: spreading fast in Shoreham and Steyning Areas.  
Reported from Lancing, Sompting, Southwick and Buckingham Park.  
50 C.H. Nov. 9. From Sept. 1 to Nov. 5. a flock of 20 - 72  
fed on the stubble at Mill Hill, Sh. There were 2 Barbary Doves  
with this flock on Nov. 3. setting a nice problem of  
identification. (Seen by J.S. & C.M.V.)
237. Cuckoo: 1 Sanct. Apr. 21. 1 Devil's Dyke Apr.29 and May 6.  
1 Westdene, May 19.
241. Barn Owl: 1 Cissbury June 15. 1 pr. Sompting, in barn July 21.  
1 Sanct. Jan. 6. Regular at Steyning.



246. Little Owl: 1 Sompting Brooks, Feb. 4. 1 Lychpole Hill, Mar. 27 and 1 there June 29. 1 heard Southwick, Aug. 24 and Oct. 17. Regular at Steyning.
247. Tawny Owl: 1 Lychpole Farm, Mar. 27, 1 there July 11 and 5 heard in the area, Sept. 11. 1 heard in Southwick garden, May 19. and throughout year; 2 or 3 heard there Sept. 12. 1 Broadwater, Aug. 4. Regular at Steyning.
255. Swift: 1 Steyning Apr. 23. 50 Central Brighton, July 30. 200 Broadwater Aug. 6. 1 flying E. over Hove, Sept. 19.
258. Kingfisher: 1 Br. Stream Jan. 21. 1 Adur Aug. 20. 1 Adur at Beeding, Oct. 6. 1 Hove, flying E. along shore, Sept. 19. 1 Worthing R.D. Dec. 19. 1 Airfield Sept. 8.
262. Green Woodpecker: 2 Sompting Abbots, Mar. 27. Regular at Steyning.
263. Great Spotted Woodpecker: 1 C.H. July 25. 1 trapped and ringed; 3 present at nuts in garden near C.H. Nov. 8 and 1 seen there Nov. 19.
265. Wryneck: 1 in Sh. garden Aug. 29.
272. Skylark: 300 in field at Lancing Jan. 12. 100 W.R.D. during Jan. and Feb. 150 Brringham Farm Jan. 8.  
Hirundine sp.: movement of Swallows and House Martins flying W. all morning, Withdean, Brighton.
274. Swallow: 1 Worthing Apr. 1. 3 Airfield Apr. 13. 3 Sanct. Apr. 14. Bred Sact. 200 flying S. Aug. 7. 4 Br. Oct. 29 and 1 there Nov. 1. 2 Downs near Patcham Nov. 3.
276. House Martin: 1 Sanct. Apr. 12. 2 Airfield Apr. 13. 1 S.P. Nov. 7. 2 E.W.B. Nov. 9.
277. Sand Martin: c100 Sanct. Sept. 9. 10 Br. Oct. 29.
282. Rook: c158 nests, Patcham Place
286. Jay: 1 C.H. July 19.
290. Coal Tit: regular in garden at Steyning. 1 in Patcham garden, Dec. 28.
293. Willow Tit: regular and presumed breeding, C.H. and Devil's Dyke. Trapped and ringed at C.H. and on Downs near Patcham.
294. Long-tailed Tit: 8 Sanct. Nov. 3. 6 Steyning Mill Pond, Aug. 22.
298. Tree Creeper: 1 or 2 C.H. Apr. 4 - 13. 1 Homefield Park, Worthing. Feb. 4. 1 garden in Patcham, Jan. 7. 1 Sanct. all year.
299. Wren: large increase at Sanct.
301. Mistle Thrush: nest with young, Sanct. Apr. 12. 4 trapped and ringed in Patcham garden; others present.

302. Fieldfare: small movement S. in cold weather. Patcham Jan.9. Steady stream flying W. all day E.Worthing Jan.11. 10 Sanct. Feb. 7. 9 Ladywells, Mar. 15. 50 flying N. early morning E.Worthing, Oct. 21. A few C.H. winter months. 200 Sanct. Jan 10-12.
304. Redwing: steady stream flying W. all day, E.Worthing. Jan.11. 20 Southwick Green, Jan.12. 50 Sanct. Feb. 7. 4 Ladywells, Mar. 11. 4 C.H. Apr. 4. 300 Lychpole Hill, Oct. 20. A few C.H. from Oct. 22. A few Sanct. Nov. 12.
308. Blackbird: partial albino nested in garden at Southwick; still there on and off till end of year.  
Thrush sp.: large roost in Sanct. in winter months. Max. 300 Dec.16.
311. Wheatear: 4 Sompting Brooks, Mar.22. 3 W.W. and 3 Worthing R.D. Mar. 22. 6 Worthing R.D. Mar. 24. 30 there Aug. 11 and 20 Aug. 22. 1 Garden Sh. Beach July 28, then about till Aug. 19. 16 in three flocks N.Lancing, Aug. 15. 1 E.W.B. Oct.13. 1 Hove Beach, Oct. 29.
317. Stonechat: present throughout year at W.W. Airfield, Worthing R.D. and Br.Sewage Farm, where "many" reported, Jan. 7. 1 m. Hove Lagoon, Feb. 15. 2 Sanct. Feb. 4. Several winter records near Black Rock, Brighton. 1 ringed on stubble, Downs near Patcham, Dec. 26. and 2 there Dec. 27 and 31.
318. Whinchat: 1 Westdene, Brighton, May 8. 1 C.H. Aug. 19 - Sept. 11 (not always same bird). 1 Devil's Dyke, Sept. 5. Up to 8 most autumn days, Sanct. 1 garden Broadwater, Aug. 26. 2 Adur Sept. 8.
320. Redstart: 1 Ladywells, Aug. 9. 1 Lychpole Hill, Sept.11. 4 f. or imm. Devil's Dyke. Aug. 16. Single birds C.H. Aug.19 - Sept. 18 and 1 m. 1 f. there Sept. 9. 4 Sanct. Sept. 18 and 1 there Sept. 24.
321. Black Redstart: 1 E.W.B. Nov. 7 & 8. 1 Sh. Harb. and 1 300 yds. W. on beach, Dec. 19. 1 Harb. Dec. 30. 1 Sanct. Sept. 18. 2 present, 1 trapped and ringed farmland (on rubble) near Patcham, Oct. 19. 1 Sh. Beach by W.Breakwater, Nov. 8, 21 and Dec. 1. 3 there Dec.19. 2 on Dec. 29 & 31 and 2 opposite Coast-guard Div. H.Q. Dec. 31.
322. Nightingale: 1 adult trapped Sanct. July 5. Same bird Aug.11.
327. Grasshopper Warbler: 1 Mill Hill, Apr. 21 (heard reeling by many people on field outing). 1 Cissbury, Apr. 23. 2 Airfield Apr. 21. 1 or 2 Devil's Dyke, Apr. 26 - 29.
329. Savi's Warbler: 1 Devil's Dyke, Apr. 26 (description accepted by "British Birds").



333. Reed Warbler: 1 Sanct. May 11. 2 prs. Sompting Brooks, May 15, 4 Sanct. and 3 Airfield, Singing, May 23. 1 singing C.H. June 3, and 1 there Aug. 23. 3 Sanct. July 19, and 2 there Sept. 18.
337. Sedge Warbler: 1 Airfield Mar. 22 - an exceptionally early date; 20 there Apr. 21. 7 singing Sanct. Apr. 25 and 8 on May 11. 7 singing between Lancing and Coombes, May 14. "Very abundant" Sompting Brooks, May 10. 1 or 2 C.H. in Aug. 2 prs. bred Sanct. 1 there Sept. 30.
343. Blackcap: 1 Lychpole Hill, Apr. 23. Present in breeding season, Devil's Dyke C.H. and Shaves Wood. 1 pr. bred Sanct. Large autumn movement of 6 - 10 birds daily. 25 Sanct. Sept. 9. 1 f. stunned or exhausted, caught by hand inside school buildings, Withdean, Brighton, Oct. 23; released, apparently recovered, after force-feeding.
346. Garden Warbler: 1 Sanct. May 11. 1 C.H. May 12, 2 there June 3; and 1 or 2, Aug. 5 - Sept. 13. 1 Ladywells, Aug. 9.
347. Whitethroat: 1 Br. Apr. 19. "Very abundant" Lychpole and Cissbury area, Apr. 23. 4 prs bred Sanct. 12 there Sept. 7 and 2 on Sept. 30. 8 singing between Lancing and Coombes May 14.
348. Lesser Whitethroat: 1 Br. Apr. 19. 1 on Downs, Sh. Apr. 20. 1 C.H. Apr. 22, 1 there June 3, and 1 - 3 between Aug. 5 and Sept. 4. Autumn passage Sanct. 6 - 13 daily.
354. Willow Warbler: 1 ringed Sanct. Mar. 30 and 1 there Apr. 4. 1 Ladywells, Apr. 9. 1 nesting in garden Southwick, May 1. Large autumn passage through Sanct. - maximum 45 Aug. 11.
356. Chiffchaff: 1 Sompting Brooks and 8 Sanct. Mar. 20. 20 Sanct. Mar. 24. Large autumn passage Sanct. maximum 20 Sept. 5.
357. Wood Warbler: 1 singing Patcham, May 12. 1 Ladywells, Aug. 9. 1 C.H. Aug. 2, 12 & 30. - probably same bird.
364. Goldcrest: 2 Sanct. Jan. 2. then 3 there most days Jan-Mar. 6 Mar. 26. 1 C.H. Jan. 12 and 1 there Mar. 30. - Apr. 8. Up to 4 Ladywells, June to Nov. 1 C.H. Aug. 19 - Oct. 28. and 2 there Nov. 6. 2 Sanct. Nov. 7.
365. Firecrest: 1 C.H. Mar. 8. 1 Sanct. Mar. 24 and 1 ringed there Apr. 9. 1 there Mar. 21 - 25. 1 on Apr. 20 - and 1 on Dec. 24.
366. Spotted Flycatcher: 3 Sompting Brooks, May 15. 1 pr. nested Homefields Park, Worthing, for second year - 3 young. 20 Ladywells, Aug. 9. and again on Aug. 20. 14 Lychpole Hill, Sept. 11. Up to 10 C.H. Sept. 15. 5 Sanct. Sept. 7.

368. Pied Flycatcher: 3 Ladywells, Aug. 9. 2 Homefields Park, Worthing, Sept. 5. 2 Sanct. Aug. 11, 1 there Aug. 24 and 2 on Sept. 18. 2 C.H. Aug. 5 and 1 there on Aug. 6, 12, 28 and 31.
370. (Red-breasted Flycatcher) - see separate notice.
373. Meadow Pipit: 60 Worthing R.D. Oct. 5.
379. Rock Pipit: odd birds noted throughout year at W.W.Harb. Adur. and W.R.D.
380. "Alba" Wagtail: 1 of 'white' race at Worthing Sewage Farm, Jan. 27.
381. Grey Wagtail: 2 Worthing S.F. Jan. 7. 1 Br. July 17; 1 or 2 there through Jan. and Feb. and again in Oct. and Nov. 1 Sanct. Dec. 31.
382. Yellow Wagtail: 1 Airfield, Mar. 20 - a very early date. 4 Sanct. Apr. 19, 16 there Sept. 18 & 6 on Sept. 30. 2 m. Wyckham Farm, Steyning, Apr. 23. 1 Br. May 20 and 20 there Aug. 17. 30 W.R.D. Sept. 4. 2 imm. W.W. Sept. 30. Up to 10 Sanct. Sept. 22.
384. Great Grey Shrike: 1 W.R.D. Oct. 28, 29 and 30; then 2 on Nov. 24 and again on Dec. 1 and 2 seen occasionally till Dec. 21.
389. Starling: Albino nested at Lancing. Partial albino nested at Southwick.
393. Goldfinch: 100 Sanct. Sept. 5 and 300 there Sept. 30.
394. Siskin: 1 pr. Worthing Sewage Farm, Jan. 7.
395. Linnet: 500 Worthing S.F. Aug. 24.
396. Twite: up to 15 Adur - F.B. area, Feb. 3 - 12.
404. Crossbill: 2 flew over J.M.T.'s garden, Southwick, then flew N. Aug. 5. Recognised by call and flight.
408. Brambling: 20 Worthing Sewage Farm, Jan. 13 and 2 there Feb. 11. 10 Steyning Round Hill, Jan. 17.
409. Yellowhammer: 2 prs. bred Sanct.
410. Corn Bunting: Quite common in Lychpole, Cissbury, Sanct. and Devil's Dyke areas.
415. Girl Bunting: singing in breeding season for 8th successive year, Newham Lane, Steyning.
421. Reed Bunting: flocks on Sompting Brooks, Apr. 20. 10 W.R.D. during Sept. and Nov. 2 prs. bred Sanct.
422. Lapland Bunting: 1 reported Airfield, Jan. 14.
423. Snow Bunting: 1 imm. m. Mill Hill, Sh. Oct. 21 and 22.
425. Tree Sparrow: small flock Sanct. Jan. 21. 60 Sh. Beach, Feb. 1. 6 C.H. Feb. 3 - 24, and 6 there Oct. 25. 2 Wyckham Wood, Steyning, Apr. 23. & 12 there earlier in year. 12 W.R.D. Feb. 4. Several trapped & ringed C.H. & Downs nr. Patcham.



## BIRDS AROUND SHOREHAM 1968

It is encouraging to know that in spite of the spread of building and industry and in spite of work involved in the new bridge over the Adur at Shoreham, the past year produced a fine crop of reports from members including a good number of birds not often recorded from the district.

Consider the following: Pintail, Velvet Scoter, Hen Harrier, Hobby, Little Ringed Plover, Turnstone, Woodcock, Glaucous Gull, Avocet, Savi's Warbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher (see separate notice), Great Grey Shrike and Lapland Bunting, then two people had a Water Rail visiting their gardens for considerable periods, while another member had a Wryneck at her bird bath. On the debit side no Quail were heard, which is strange considering the amount of barley being grown on the downs these days. In 1965 there were 8 reports of Quail concerning 10 or more birds. In 1966 none and only 1 in 1967. It is always difficult to estimate whether such shortages are due to fewer birds or fewer observers.

Take this year's figures for the passage of Terns and compare it with those for the last 4 years. On the face of it one might think there were fewer Terns but the fact is that far and away the best and most persistent observer of the passage of these birds we have ever had in the Society, Bernard Forbes, has moved away in the course of his duties and therefore cannot spend much time on the beach at East Worthing. Another facet of the same problem is the long and valuable series of migration notes from Mr. Eric Goddard at the Devil's Dyke. These observations were carried out regularly in the early mornings and were an eye-opener to anyone who held the commonly accepted view that migration passed mainly along river valleys. That view may be correct but a great deal of early morning migration takes place over the hill tops as well.

The same policy has been carried out by Mr. Helyer on his hill top, Coney Hill, no great distance from Devil's Dyke. Here again the variety of migrants is astonishing as a casual look at the 'Notable Birds' feature will show.

The autumn records from both places are impressive and late stragglers seem to be an especial feature of Coney Hill. Now that Mr. Eric Goddard has moved away to Storrington we get very few records from Devil's Dyke, but doubtless the migrants still pass over.

We have received many reports from the Lychpole and Cissbury areas from Mr.F.J.Forbes and Mr.C.E.Messer. These are particularly welcome as this area was regularly covered by the late Mr.Charles Grigg, and they help to fill the gap made by his loss.

A few years ago a well known Sussex ornithologist was heard to remark "Shoreham is finished for bird watching". Well it clearly isn't.!

T.P.

#### MEMBERS' RECORDS

It would be a great help to the Recorder if members would send in their records twice a year, with the second batch in December, leaving the last few records to the first week in January.

Please send in lists by species. If more than a few entries are involved, it would be helpful if they were sent in the Wetmore Order, which is that used in the Field Guide.

The Society's records are set out as shown:-

<u>B.O.U.</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Recorder's</u> <u>Initials</u>
321	1-1-67	Black Redstart	Sanct.	2	A.B.

It would be much appreciated if members sending in long lists would keep to this system where practicable. Rarities should have a full description sent in with particular emphasis on field marks etc.

#### TWO GLAUCOUS GULLS & A NORTHERN GUILLEMOT

The first essential in recording the unusual is to be in the right place at the right time! That was my good fortune on Sept. 18th when, with just half an hour to spare, I went on to the front near the lagoon at Hove. The sea was a flat calm at near high tide, and the only birds to be seen were an adult Common Gull and a large "white" one, together on a groyne opposite the West End cafe about a quarter of a mile away. As I made my way towards them the "white" one raised its wings, showing the tips of the primaries to be the palest part and also the absence of a dark terminal band on the tail. When I drew level with them both gulls were swimming but stayed close in, and I was able to see the details which clearly indicated that the large one was a Glaucous Gull. Its long bill had a dark area on only the outer quarter, and the



head had the typical flattened crown appearance. The general colour of the plumage was creamy-buff with faint ashy streaking on the head, neck and breast and some patches of the same shade on the folded wing, the tip of which was over that of the tail. It was probably a first summer bird.

The following morning a fresh wind had whipped up the sea, and the gull could not be found.

The second Glaucous Gull arrived when I was about to leave the area by the old fort after two hours' fruitless watching on Nov. 27th. It settled on one of the red "baskets" marking the course of the river just inside the harbour mouth. This, too, was obviously a Glaucous Gull, showing the same general characteristics as the previous one, but having a grey mantle and less streaking on its head, etc. The bill had only a small dark area behind a pink tip, and the rest pale pink fading to horn at the base. The surprising feature was the bright pink colour of the legs, and I found afterwards that this colour had apparently only once been recorded in this country, on an immature in 1950. As I was making a rough sketch of it, the gull flew and could not be found again.

When looking for it, I saw what, from its jet-black and white appearance, looked to be a Razorbill but, seen through binoculars, proved to be a Northern Guillemot, which race is not often recorded in these parts. It was swimming against the incoming tide close to the point, and I was able to watch it at under 50 yards. It showed no signs of oiling when it raised its body to flap its wings but appeared to be weak or exhausted and could make little headway.

Had I left five minutes earlier I should have missed two unusual records.

C.M.V.

#### RED BREASTED FLYCATCHER AT SHOREHAM

We have received the following from Mr. R.H.V. Hitch, a member of long standing, who lives at Shoreham Beach.

"I am afraid I am a bit late with my report of the Red-breasted Flycatcher, as I think it was

Date 22nd October 1968 and again next morning.

Site In our back garden and over the wall to neighbour, who also saw it distinctly several times.

.....

Description: Like a small Robin but very definite Grey head, the red breast, instead of merging down the front with the fawn, cut off SHARPLY, not quite half way down; wings black, with white streaks on edges.

He kept flicking his tail up and down while on fence and flew very quickly, dartingly.

I've looked through the Handbook and can find nothing else that fits the description".

This description fits the Red-breasted Flycatcher both in colouring and habits except for 2 things. There is no mention of the white patches at the base of the tail which are said to be conspicuous in flight, and wings are said to be black with streaks on edges. Dark brown with streaks on edges would fit the picture in the 'Field Guide' perfectly, but coloured pictures of birds are notoriously inaccurate. The only bird on the British List "smaller than a Robin with a red breast and a grey head" is the Red-breasted Flycatcher as far as the writer knows.

All things considered, this is a probable record that must go into "square brackets", but the species was recorded elsewhere in Sussex this autumn.

T.P.

#### ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES OF MIGRANTS 1968

This feature has been compiled from the main body of records sent in by members. Abbreviations as in "Notable Birds of the Area".

<u>Species</u>	<u>First Date</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Last Date</u>	<u>Locality</u>
Whimbrel	Apr.22nd	E.W.B.	8th Aug.	E.W.B.
Common Sandpiper			12th Aug.	Worthing S.Farm
Black Tern			18th Aug.	E.W.B.
Little Tern	Apr.15th.	E.W.B.	24th Sept.	E.W.B.
Turtle Dove	Apr.21st.	Sanct.	21st Aug.	Sanct.
Cuckoo	Apr.21st.	Sanct.		
Swift	Apr.23rd	Steyning	28th Aug.	C.H.
Swallow	Apr. 1st.	Worthing	3rd Nov.	Patcham
House Martin	Apr.12th.	Sanct.	9th Nov.	E.W.B.
Sand Martin	Apr.23rd	Adur above Steyning	29th Oct.	Br.
Fieldfare	Oct.16th.	Coney Hill		
Redwing	Oct.20th.	Lychpole Hill		
Wheatear	Mar.22nd.	Sompting Brooks	29th Oct.	Hove



contd.....

<u>Species</u>	<u>First Date</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Last Date</u>	<u>Locality</u>
Whinchat			11th Sept.	C.H.
Redstart			24th Sept.	Sanct.
Grasshopper				
Warbler	Apr.21st.	Mill Hill Shm.		
Reed Warbler	May 11th.	Sanct.	18th Sept.	Sanct.
Sedge Warbler	Mar.22nd.	Airfield	30th Sept.	Sanct.
Blackcap	Apr.11th.	C.H.	15th Oct.	C.H.
Garden				
Warbler	May 11th.	Sanct.	13th Sept.	C.H.
Common				
Whitethroat	Apr.21st.	Sanct.	30th Sept.	Sanct.
Lesser				
Whitethroat	Apr.19th.	Brooklands	4th Sept.	C.H.
Willow Warbler	Mar.30th	Sanct.	13th Sept.	C.H.
Chiffchaff	Mar.20th.	Sompting Brooks	14th Oct.	C.H.
Spotted				
Flycatcher	May 11th.	Erringham Shaw	23rd Sept.	C.H.
Yellow Wag-				
tail	Mar.20th.	Airfield	30th Sept.	W.W./ Sanct.

#### GARDEN BIRDS FOR 1968

The following members have contributed to these notes.....

Mrs.M.Silvester per Miss C.M.Biggs, Mrs.Rampton, Mrs.Roe, Messrs.  
C.F.Helyer, R.H.V.Hitch, A.E.Holman, Richard Jenkins per Mr.R.  
Hamlyn, J.M.Twort, Miss M.Bull.

#### Garden at Portslade

(Mrs.M.Silvester,) per Miss C.M.Biggs.

Water Rail, seen from 31st December 1967 until January 28th, 1968,  
gradually becoming bolder, feeding and bathing near the house  
when all was quiet. A neighbour says that he roosts in her hedge.  
We received an excellent description of the appearance and be-  
haviour of this bird from Mrs.Silvester.

#### Garden at Southwick

(Mrs.Rampton)

Hedge Sparrow, Blackbird and Willow Warbler nesting, Pied  
Wagtail and Wren.

#### Garden at Southwick

(J.M.T.)

Starling nested 13th January, large white patch on tail.

Yellow hammer seen 7th January. Partial Albino Blackbird nested in April and was seen at intervals till the end of the year. 2 Cross-bills flew twice over garden and then flew north on August 5th. Recognised by call and flight. Stock Dove heard throughout the year. Tawny Owl heard many times throughout the year. 2 or possibly 3 heard on 12th September.

Red Breasted Flycatcher - Garden at Shoreham

(R.H.V.Hitch)

22nd and 23rd October. Seen by R.H.V.H. and neighbour several times. For description and discussion see separate notice.

Garden at Westdene

(C.F.H.)

Kestrel 2 flying over 21st January Chiff/Willow. 1 April 18th Whinchat 1 May 8th. Whitethroat, 21st July. Wheatear 24th Aug. Yellow Wagtail in flight Aug. 26th.

Garden at Old Shoreham

(Mrs.Roe)

Wryneck drinking in bird bath. We have received an excellent description of this bird from Mrs.Roe who went to a great deal of trouble to make sure of her identification.

Garden at Burgess Hill

(Richard Jenkins) per Mr.R.Hamlyn.

We have received a letter dated 3rd August from the above with an excellent description of appearance and behaviour of a Wood Warbler in and around his garden, presumably about that date. He makes the point that the bird is right out of its habitat, but if it occurred in early August it could quite easily be on migration and might appear anywhere. However it is a most interesting report and certainly Wood Warblers are not often recorded on rose-bushes or around houses.

Garden at West Chiltonington

(A.E.Holman).

During 1 year : Nested - House Sparrow, Dunnock, Blue Tit, Blackbird, Thrush, Starling, Chaffinch, Wren, Wood Pigeon, Robin, Goldfinch, House Martin, Swallow. Attempted to Nest - Swift. Nested within a few yards of garden boundary: Jay, Magpie, Black-cap and Pheasant. Passed over or through garden: Great Tit, Bullfinch, Coal Tit, Crow, Cuckoo, Pied Wagtail, Mallard, Snipe, Tree Creeper, Moorhen, Water Rail, Honey Buzzard, Melodious/Icterine Warbler, Willow Tit, Goldcrest, Canada Goose. Area of Garden 90 ft by 250ft.



### Garden at Steyning

Green Woodpecker feeding often.

As with the Water Rail in Mrs. Silvester's garden, the one in Mr. Holman's garden became fairly tame for such a notorious skulker. The Melodious/Icterine Warbler visited this garden for 4 or 5 days in two succeeding autumns.

The Honey Buzzard was low enough for Mr. Holman and others to get a good view of its colouration as compared with the Common Buzzard which Mr. Holman knows well.

### NORTH TO THE SNOW

For years I have wanted to go to Lapland and the far North of Scandinavia after the marvellous birds that occur there. But it is so far away, and the distances involved in getting about so enormous, that it was not until last year that I was able to arrange a trip. There were three main requirements - a large, fast car, companions who could take at least a month's leave, and who would be willing to endure conditions that might euphemistically be described as "sometimes trying".

The month's trip was arranged for late May and June a time when the bird life of Northern Scandinavia is at its most lively, and the voracious mosquitoes are not fully fledged and rising in millions at every step. These really are a menace in the late summer, and even hardened Swedes (men, not vegetables!) have been known to refuse to go north at this time of year for this reason.

Four of us were going, camping as we went; we always camp as this permits complete freedom of movement, takes us right into the areas where we wish to study birds, and, of course, by saving the expense of accommodation, allows us to plan more ambitious trips. With the cost of living so high in Scandinavia, our trip would otherwise have been prohibitively expensive.

We were planning to spend most of our time in Finnish Lapland, but also hoped to reach northern Norway if we had time. We had to be prepared for really cold weather in the far north, hundreds of miles inside the Arctic Circle, in complete contrast with the warm weather likely in southern Finland, and took with us masses of extra clothing, heavy anoraks and double sleeping-bags.

We left Immingham, a typical unsalubrious English car-ferry terminal near equally uninspiring Hull, on a Sunday afternoon in late May, and 24 hours later were driving off the ship at Gothenburg. We camped some miles beyond the town that night, and spent Tuesday driving across southern Sweden to the coast north of Stockholm, where that night we caught another car ferry to near Turku in S.W. Finland. The crossing was a memorable one; departing at 10 p.m. we sailed for about nine hours across the Gulf of Bothnia, threading our way through myriads of islands of all shapes and sizes, most of them wooded, and many with small summer-houses and log cabins on them. It was a still, warm night, with only three or four hours of darkness, and at 2.30 a.m. we watched the sun rising out of the sea while dancing to music from a portable record player up on deck.

On arriving in Finland on the Wednesday morning, we headed eastwards to Helsinki, and then along the coast to the Russian border, where we turned northwards. Border guards apprehended us when we started taking photographs at the border fence, and although we feared our camera would be confiscated, they merely opened up the back and exposed the film to the light. We decided to spend no more time in this area, for with our powerful binoculars we might have provoked an international incident, so we moved on northwards.

Finland is virtually one gigantic pine forest, and although it is known as a country of countless lakes, one does not see so very many as the terrain is rather flat with few areas of high ground commanding a view. In some ways this endless coniferous forest becomes tedious, but the lakes that one does encounter are so attractive that any monotony is forgotten. The roads in the south are straight and well-surfaced, and so clear of traffic that we were at times cruising at 90 m.p.h.

The birding in south and central Finland was very enjoyable. On the lakes were some divers and plenty of duck, and the forests had Parrot Crossbills, Golden Orioles, Redwings and Fieldfares, of course with Scarlet Rosefinches on cultivated land, where Ortolans were also found. In a coastal area by the Gulf of Bothnia migration was still taking place on June 1st and 2nd., with small parties of waders heading north - Broad-billed Sandpipers, Temminck's Stints, and Dotterels, and Cranes, Caspian Tern, Osprey, Lapland Bunting were also no doubt migrants. The urgency of the birds to fly northwards was matched only by our own fervent desire to meet them on their breeding grounds, and we thus spent only a short while in any one area. Onward, ever onward, was the order of the day!



We had brought with us enough food, mostly in tins, to keep us going for the first week or so - no, not entirely beans! We were able to cook such exotic dishes as steak & kidney pudding, packet curries, tinned tomatoes and even eggs. But by the end of the first week we began to need more frequent stops to buy provisions, and it was in one of the eastern Finnish towns, Lappeenranta, that I was given £20 cash for a £5 traveller's cheque at the local bank. It was not until the following day, about a hundred miles further on, that I noticed the error, so we stopped at the next branch of the same bank in Joensuu and explained what had happened. When we proffered the extra £15 to the bank-clerk she was astounded that anyone would be so honest as to actually return overpaid money!

We were all the time heading north now, and we reached the Arctic Circle, still in warm weather, on Sunday afternoon - precisely a week after leaving England. The scenery did not change much, but now reindeer and occasional moose appeared, and the odd Waxwing and Great Grey Shrike, and the road surface began to deteriorate gradually. We were surprised at the high standard of living up here; even the smaller towns had smart shops, and everyone was well dressed. One Finnish institution of which we did approve was that of having a small and highly efficient cafe beside each petrol station; these 'barris' had hot drinks and snacks always available, and a juke-box with some of the latest records. It seemed strange to sit in a Lapland cafe and hear the Stones pounding forth (Stones???. Ed)

By now we were really in the land of the midnight sun, and it was a strange experience to have no darkness at all. Sleeping was difficult, particularly in tents, and we moved our day on by about six hours so that we went to sleep at about 4 a.m. when we felt exhausted, and arose at about mid-day each day. The temperature dropped as we headed north from Ivalo, and soon we met our first snow and ice. Camping in this proved quite an ordeal, but the birding was so good that it compensated for the discomforts and rigours of being under canvas; rare owls, wading birds, duck and geese were nesting in the forests and tundra of Lapland, and the concentrations of birds in some marshland areas which had thawed out from the Arctic winter were surprising.

We found that the forests were very still, and the birds few and far between; one might walk for three or four hours, as I did on one occasion, through a lovely area of forest and see



little more than half a dozen Common Buzzards. Then return to the tents - and a Pine Grosbeak would sit up in a nearby tree and look at you! Hawk Owl, Willow Grouse, Siberian Jay, Arctic Woodpecker, masses of Bluethroats, Capercaillie, Siberian Tits and Rough-legged Buzzards were just some of the birds which we found in the forests or clearings or over cleared areas. But of some species we saw only one or two examples, so elusive are so many of these northern forest birds.

By contrast, the marsh-nesting species are very tame and approachable. The wader list was lengthy: Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, Jack Snipe, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Temminck's Stint and Red-necked Phalarope were all nesting, and in the same tundra areas we found Lapland Bunting, Red-throated Pipit, Long-tailed Skua and Bean Goose. The bird activity was tremendous, the whole marsh teeming with life, and although there was still a lot of snow on the ground, we found several waders' nests with eggs already.

We had been on the road for just two weeks when we reached the Norwegian border - to find twelve feet of flood water over the road! We were about to abandon our plans to visit this extreme north-eastern part of Norway, when the flooded river Lana, bringing down the melted snows from the mountains and thus running many feet above its normal height, dropped several feet overnight, and it was soon possible to drive over the border. We faced a 250 mile drive to the town of Vadsø, on Varanger Fjord, where we expected to see several rare species of duck not found anywhere else in Europe, over some dreadful roads. We drove through the 'night' - in broad daylight - with a full tank of petrol, scarcely any food (our evening meal consisted of a cabbage and a tin of peas between four of us!) and no Norwegian money. We had not realised that there was no bank between the frontier and Vadsø!

The road surface was quite diabolical, and I thought the car would be shaken to pieces. Over the highest stretch of the journey we drove for miles through a narrow tunnel between banks of snow in places up to twelve feet high, which had been kept open by snow-ploughs. Needless to say, there was scarcely another vehicle on the road, and we were terrified at the thought of breaking down in this immense and icy wilderness. But we made it without incident, and reached Varanger Fjord at 1.30 a.m. to the most magnificent scenery of the whole trip. Beyond the calm blue water of the fjord, stretching away into Russia in the far distance, were the high snow-covered mountains of northern Norway, the midnight sun from behind us (to the north!) lighting them up in sharp relief.



We could only endure two days of the bitter weather up there, almost the most northerly point in Europe. A freezing wind, near gale force at times, blowing straight from the Arctic, and blizzards, sleet and freezing rain made camping difficult, but the bird life was unique. The spring, we were told, was a late one, so that although thousands of birds had arrived to nest, all the lakes and pools were still frozen, and they were all concentrated along the edge of the fjord, where by driving along the coast road we were able to identify and count them from the car. This was undoubtedly the highlight of the holiday, two days which we do not think could ever be repeated for variety and quantity of birds.

The principal species were the various duck and waders which would soon be nesting. Hundreds of Long-tailed Duck and Goosander over 1200 Common Eider, about 200 Steller's Eider and 80 King Eider (these two being found regularly nowhere else in Europe), several divers, including two White-billed Divers, Glaucous Gull, Lesser White-fronted Geese, and thousands of waders, including displaying Little Stints, 140 Red-necked Phalaropes, Purple Sandpipers and an American Pectoral Sandpiper were spread along the coastline of the fjord. Other highlights included dozens of Long-tailed Skuas, a Grey Phalarope (very rare here), Shorelarks, Red-throated Pipits, Snow Buntings and a gorgeous Snowy Owl which was to me the finest bird of the holiday. And as a farewell gift, a Sea Eagle from the road not far from the fjord. It was the nearest thing yet to a bird-watchers' dream!

It was now time to turn the Volkswagen southwards for the 1700 mile return journey to Gothenberg. Our route was to re-trace our steps to south of the Arctic circle, then to turn south-westwards into Sweden and follow the fast coastal road down the Gulf of Bothnia. We had allowed a week for the journey, and to our delight the weather began to get warmer as soon as we entered Finland again. And in Sweden we ran into a heat-wave which was with us to our departure for England, the hottest June there for thirty years. We took our time on this part of the journey, pausing at Umea for repairs to the front wheel-bearings which had succumbed to the terrible pounding of the Arctic Highway; and spending a lot of time swimming in the lakes of southern Sweden. All too soon, we were back on the ship to England, and nearly four weeks after our departure, docked at Tilbury on a typical English June morning - cold, windy, and raining. As we drove the mud-encrusted estate-car off the ship I noticed an inscription across the back, by one of our fellow-

passengers; it read - "Don't wash me - plough me!" We really were home.

B.A.E.M.

### UNUSUAL OCCURENCES

#### Yellowhammer:

(Variant) Mill Hill. Nov. 11th.

One bird seen with normal plumaged birds showing the pattern of adult male but with yellow of head and neck etc. very pale and normal brown and black areas ashy-grey. The breast was very pale cream to off-white with little evident streaking. Walpole-Bond mentions one similarly coloured bird, presumably leucistic.

#### Barbary Dove:

Mill Hill. Nov. 4th.

One settled on ground just after 12-15 Collared Doves flew off. Plumage generally creamy-buff, very much paler and different from that of Collared Dove. In flight brown primaries conspicuously less contrasty than black of Collared Doves. It was a noticeably smaller bird when joined by Collared Dove in flight.

Mill Hill. Nov. 6th.

2 were present with the 73 Collared Doves when difference in colour was seen by direct comparison and also when making short flights on approach of plough.

Nov. 12th.

One seen resting with 18 Collared Doves in tree in garden of Hazelcroft, The Avenue, Shoreham.

#### Java Sparrow:

Mill. Nov. 4th.

Good views of this bird as it flew with House Sparrows from hedge to stubble and back. In flight showed black crown and tail with slate blue upper parts. White sides of head and bright red base of heavy whitish bill. The white breast and belly were very conspicuous when settled in hedge amongst the sparrows.

(This feature has been condensed from very full notes by Mr. Vesey).

C.M.V.



### A CHANGE OF HABITAT

After living for 20 years on the Downs at the back of Hove, it was an interesting move in early March to the wooded area around Storrington. The 20 years in Hove were accompanied by an unwelcome urbanisation of the area, houses, bungalows, and even several blocks of flats appeared and our half acre became surrounded. We lost the Partridges that were frequent visitors to the lawn, once we even had a Lapwing on it and the nearby bushes where one year a Nightingale and another a Yellow Hammer nested were bull-dozed away. A Gull Bunting which for several years sang from a television aerial disappeared and the Green Woodpecker ceased to bring his young to the lawn for ants.

Unfortunately during more than the first half of our occupation we were not bird watchers and during that period, noticed only the obvious and now wonder what we missed. On the basis of counting what we saw in or from or heard from the garden we accumulated 58 species. In addition to these mentioned above we enjoyed visits from a few Wheatears, a Stonechat, a Reed Bunting, Common and Lesser Whitethroats, Goldcrests, occasional Bramblings and Bullfinches. In 1965, we added the inevitable Collared Dove and in 1968 had 20 Fieldfares on the lawn.

In Storrington we have only one third of an acre but the situation is interesting in that it forms part of a cul-de-sac with 3 bungalows and three houses literally hacked out of thick woodland, mixed but mostly coniferous. The gardens and road form a clearing of about 3 acres. Our garden is edged by thick woodland of which we see the southern edge and it appears that birds tend to move along this edge of this wood. A wire fence in the morning sun, in close view of our bedroom window has this Autumn produced Chiffchaffs, Willow Warblers, Blackcaps, Whitethroats, Spotted Flycatchers and single Lesser White-throat and Pied Flycatcher.

The particular pleasure of the area is that, while in six months, we recorded only one less species than in our whole stay in Hove, there is a very much greater density of bird life and at present anyway, the birds we see are more interesting to us and are seen at very close range. As expected Tits are prolific and we find that Longtailed Tits will eat bread on the

ground 3 feet from our dining room window as also does the Great Spotted Woodpecker. Jays can be studied at a few yards range unlike the one pair of Magpies which are very shy. Whereas we had occasional Goldcrests in Hove, here one seems to find them in the garden at some time each day.

In Spring there is a good volume of bird song, with Woodpeckers drumming as accompaniment. The Blackcap sings persistently but is outdone by a Yellow Hammer which we have never seen but which sings all day, as do the Turtle Doves. The late Spring brings several Nightjars which churr on most nights except when someone comes over to hear them! At dusk Woodcock rode right over the house giving both roding calls. Both Tawny and Little Owls are heard at night and other nocturnal creatures include Hedgehogs, a vixen and one occasion 8 female and 1 male glowworms around the house.

Some overhead electricity wires over the lane are very attractive to cuckoos which frequently perch there. The most exciting happening occurred on a Sunday afternoon in Mid - August when we were having tea in the garden and looked up and saw a Hobby.

So far, the winter has been disappointing in adding to our list and since September when we added Shelduck, Yellow Wagtail and Lapwing the only addition has been a Redpoll in November.

Apart from the changes in local bird population, the move has brought about a change in birdwatching areas. Beachy Head, so rewarding in the Autumn, is now too far away for comfort as are Seaford Head and Tide Mills. For compensation, we have the Amberley area on our doorstep and Chichester and the Selsey peninsular, though only somewhat nearer, can be reached in much shorter time.

However, in spite of the contraction in birdwatching range, the daily journeys to and from Brighton, sometimes in darkness, foul weather or heavy traffic, we have at present no wish to return to Hove.

R.E.G.



SUMMARIES OF FIELD OUTINGS 1968

Saturday January 13th -

Ferring Beach and Rife with Mr. F. J. Forbes

Only one member (and a very gallant one, too!) turned up on a very cold, wet and windy day. We stayed at Ferring Point for about  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour and saw only 9 Shelduck flying E - W. After this, as visibility was so bad the meeting was abandoned.

Sunday February 18th. -

Pagham East Side with Dr. J. Stafford.

On this fine sunny Sunday a small party of the Society had a very enjoyable day.

In excellent light, many common birds were seen to their best advantage. High-lights were close views of two immature male Snow Buntings, two Purple Sandpipers and two male and two female Red-Breasted Mergansers on the lagoon together with an immature Long-tailed Duck.

Those who stayed on and made the trip to Sidlesham Ferry in search of the Avocets reported there, were rewarded by fine views of Twite feeding close by the road; only one member of the party saw an Avocet.

Returning by the gravel pits at Chichester, Scaup were seen on the water.

Saturday March 23rd -

Chichester Gravel Pits & Church Norton, with  
Mr. B. A. E. Marr.

Abandoned in view of the atrocious weather!

.....

Sunday April 21st -

Shoreham Sanctuary with Mr.M.J.Goddard

The only weather conditions which could completely spoil a day at the Sanctuary were prevalent on this Sunday morning. A handful of keen members (it was pleasing to note the presence of some of the younger members) braved the elements, only to find that mist-netting was quite out of the question because of the continuous rain. We took advantage of a brief lull in the rain to hastily erect a mist net, but down came the rain again to finish the day.

It must be emphasised here that it is out of the question to net birds in wet weather as it spoils the plumage, which to a migratory bird could be fatal.

Sunday May 19th -

Coates Common with Dr.M.Hollings

A cool sunny morning with plenty of bird song provided a welcome background to this visit, which was intended to familiarise members of the party with the time quadrat method of woodland survey.

We saw and heard Tree Pipits, Redstart & Wood Warbler and all three species of Woodpecker. A female Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was seen as she flew from her nesting hole, in which young could be heard. A juv. Tawny Owl was watched closely as it perched against a pine trunk, with the parent calling from nearby. Family parties of Long-tailed Tits were also seen very close, and in all we saw or heard 171 individuals of 33 species in the space of 3 hours. A very enjoyable spring morning!

Saturday July 13th -

Bentley Wildfowl Collection and Sheffield Park with Miss C.M.Biggs and Mr.A.Burstow.

Occasionally the Society organizes a Coach Outing and, as a visit to the Bentley Wildfowl Collection presents some difficulty for those without cars, it was felt we should find out if sufficient members were interested.



About two dozen members and friends - including a few juniors - welcomed the opportunity, and on a fine Saturday morning in July we made our first visit to see this collection of about one hundred varieties from all parts of the world.

These were seen in their well sheltered and pleasant surroundings and an interesting few hours was spent here.

Cameras as well as Binoculars were in use, but even in semi-captivity the 'perfect' picture was found to require a degree of patience that proved very irritating at times.

Picnic lunches were much enjoyed beside the Limes Pool and Goose Lake where the more exotic specie were viewed with animated enjoyment.

We saw few other birds however but this was not unexpected as it was in the - so called - off season for many birds.

Continuing to Sheffield Park we experienced a little light rain, but the surroundings here are so enjoyable that irrespective of weather conditions we roamed around the woods and lakes again where only the more common of bird and duck were in evidence.

Mr. Percy Anscombe's Bird Hospital and Sanctuary was approached with some hesitancy and many - after a close inspection and chatting with Mr. Anscombe himself were favourably impressed with what they saw and heard; while others retained their degree of scepticism inherent of ornithologists of wide and long experience.

Without doubt, a very enjoyable outing.

#### Saturday October 5th -

Kingley Vale with Mr. R. P. Meadows

Just over thirty members attended this outing, putting a little strain on the transport arrangements and thanks are due to many drivers.

It was a little late for returning migrants and the one or two Blackcaps seen were elusive; we had to be content with Kestrels, Pipits, Yellowhammers and Tits. At one time the head of the vale was alive with Housemartins. Two members possibly saw one of the Buzzards which the warden had reported in the area.

The pleasant surroundings perhaps made up for the lack of birds but we slowly degenerated into a blackberrying party!

Sunday November 10th -

Fishbourne, Dell Quay and Manhood End with  
Mr.C.M.James (as guests of the Sussex Ornithological  
Society).

Upwards of 25 members of both Societies met at Fishbourne on a grey but dry, mild day. After inspecting the collection of non-wild waterfowl at Fishbourne Mill Pool - including some superb Ferruginous Duck - the party walked along the Harbour edge to Dell Quay and on to Manhood End, seeing en route a late Common Sandpiper, at least two Kingfishers, a Jack Snipe, and several Rock Pipits as well as the usual common waders, Shelduck and Coot - the latter including a party of about 180.

After lunch at Manhood End, during which we watched about 40 Black-tailed Godwits, 3 Pintail and 2 Wigeon and having a further excellent view of a Kingfisher, we retraced our steps with more good sightings of the waders and an unexpected Grey Wagtail.

Our thanks are due to Mr.James for allowing us to join so pleasant and well-led an outing.

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SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Receipts and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st Dec.  
1968.

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RECEIPTS.

£ s d

Balance in hand 1.1.68

39 14 1

Subscriptions

135 at 7/6d.

10 at 5/-

9 Part

55 1 6

Donations

6 10 0

Annual Reports...sale

1 5 6

Sanctuary. Sale of keys

7 6

Tea receipts

1 8 2

Film Show receipts

27 17 3

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£132 4 0

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Audited and found correct:

(signed) C.F.Helyer

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Receipts and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st December  
1968

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		£	s	d
Subscription. British Birds		6	10	0
Binding		1	1	6
Affiliation Fees.				
R.S.P.B.	1 11 6			
B.T.O.	2 10 0			
Birds W & P Assoc.	10 0			
Shore. Com. Assn.	5 0	4	16	6
Sanctuary Expenses				
Purchase of Keys	1 7 0			
Rent	1 0	1	8	0
Lecture Fees and Expenses		25	7	6
Hire of Hall, 5 Meetings		4	2	6
Miscellaneous Expenses		17	0	
Printing, 200 Annual Reports		26	17	6
Duplicating		6	1	9
Stationery		5	4	0
Postage and Telephone		17	16	6
Balance in hand 31.12.1968		32	1	3
		<hr/> £132 4 0 <hr/>		

G.W.Rampton  
Hon. Treasurer



# LIST OF LECTURES 1968

Jan. 24th.	"Spring in Turkey"	Mr.R.Porter
Feb. 24th.	"Lune Valley"	
	"Ripples in the Reeds"	
	"The Call of the Running Tide"	R.S.P.B.Films
Mar. 27th.	A.G.M. and "Studies of Birds and Plants"	Mr.L.G.Holloway
Sept.25th.	"Fair Isle and its Birds"	Mr.J.G.Murray
Oct. 30th.	"Birds of the Orkneys and Shetlands"	Dr.M.Hollings
Nov. 20th.	"Falconry- the Flying and Training of Birds of Prey"	Mr. M.J.Dawson

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## OFFICERS ETC.

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Hon. Prog. Sec:	Mr. A.Burstow
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr. G.W.Rampton
Hon. Recorder:	Mr. T.Palmer
Report Editor:	Mr. C.F.Helyer

plus : Miss C.P.S. Griffiths, Messrs. H. Hiscocke and  
B.A.E. Marr.

Field Committee: Mrs.M.Gillett,  
Messrs: A.Burstow and R.E.McKechnie  
and T. Palmer.

Member kindly responsible for distribution of "British Birds"  
etc. - Mr. T. Palmer

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Mr.J.Lewis	21 Erringham Road, Shoreham



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Mr.T.Palmer	11 Whitelot Way, Southwick BN4 4YF
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Miss J.Parry	35 Woodlands Drive, Hove 4

Miss J.Partridge	Riverways, Riverside Road, Shoreham
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Mr.D.Sadler	27 Stapley Road, Hove 4.
Mr.L.E.Savage	65 Cranmer Avenue, Hove 4.
Mr.F.Severs	5 Beach Road, Shoreham Beach
Mr.H.C.P.Smail	6 Lansdowne Close, West Worthing
Mrs.J.B.Smith	3 Langercroft, Southdown Road, Shoreham
Mrs.N.Smith	3 St.Mary's Close, Shoreham
Dr. & Mrs.J.Stafford	Uplands, Mill Hill, Shoreham
Mr. & Mrs.Stephens	89 King's Stone Avenue, Steyning BN4 3FJ
Mr.D.Stone	69 The Drive, Shoreham



Mrs & Miss Stringfellow	7 Queensway, Horsham
Mr.A.Todd	Field House, Lancing College
Miss E.Theobald	1 Saxon Road, Steyning
Miss M.Theobald	1 Saxon Road, Steyning
Messrs. J.E.S. & P.J.Thompson	77 Nutley Crescent, Goring-on-Sea.
Mr. & Mrs.J.M.Twort	63 The Green, Southwick
Dr.Francis Varley	222 Upper Shoreham Road, Shoreham
Mr. & Mrs.Vegrass	64 Benfield Way, Portslade
Mr.C.M.Veysey	Hazlecroft, The Avenue, Shoreham
Dr.B.Watson	83 Buckingham Road, Shoreham
Miss Watts	15 Oxford Road, Worthing
Mr. & Mrs.Weatherhead	135 Greenways Crescent, Shoreham
Mr.S.R.G.Whothan	56 Crescent Road, Burgess Hill
Miss V.S.White	30 Havelock Road, Brighton 6
Mr. & Mrs.Whitehead	14 South Way, Royal George Rd. Burgess Hill
Mr. & Mrs.G.N.Wildish	Westminster Bank House, Market Square, Petworth
Mr. & Mrs.Williams	Hazelhurst Farm, Wisborough Green, Billingshurst
Mr.P.S.Wilmshurst	12 Ashcroft Close, Shoreham
Miss W.M.Woodroffe	17 Hailsham Road, Worthing

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 1968 = 154

### 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,  
The Shoreham Community Association,  
and the  
Bird's Welfare and Protection Association.

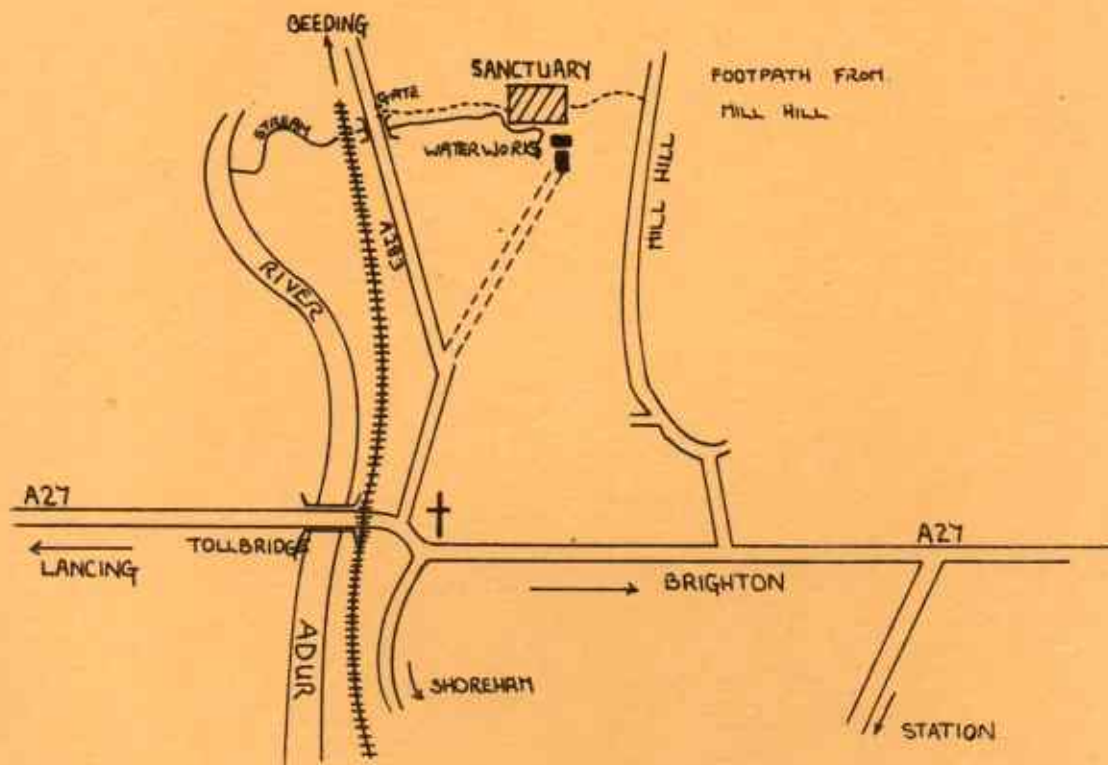
The membership fee is ten shillings a year, inclusive of a copy of the Annual Report. Junior members must be over thirteen and under eighteen years of age. The fee for these is five shillings a year, also inclusive of the Report.

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained at two shillings and sixpence each.

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## SHOREHAM SANCTUARY



Access to the Sanctuary is only through the gate on the Beeding Road, or steeply down from Mill Hill. There is NO access by the Waterworks Road.