

SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Twentythird Annual Report



for the Year 1975

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SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT 1975

CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
Editorial Notes by C.F.H.	1
Sanctuary Report for 1975 by J.A.N.	2
Ringling Report and Recoveries by J.A.N.	7
Notable Birds of the Area by J.A.N.	9
Birds around Shoreham 1975 by J.A.N.	20
Tom Palmer by C.F.H.	21
Mallorcan Interlude by B.J.S.	22
Arrivals and Departures of Migrants by J.A.N.	24
Arkansas Travellers by V.A.B.	25
Slender-billed Curlew at Shoreham? by J.S. & J.A.N.	26
I Remember Easter 1975 by B.M.B.	27
Garden Birds by J.A.N. 1975	29
From our Members' Notebooks	29
Summaries of Field Outings 1975	31
Receipts and Expenditure Accounts 1975	35
List of Lectures 1975	36
List of Members 1975	37
Members' Records - Notice	43
Officers in 1975	44
General Information	45

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Society's 23rd Report records one of our rare warm summers, following an exceptionally mild winter in which several Blackcaps and Chiffchaffs overwintered locally, and Swallows were recorded in Sussex as late as 28th December.

Perhaps as a result the number of records received (although they came in a late rush) was more than usual, and though they predictably did not include many hard-weather visitors from the north, they did include one "first" for the area - at least as far as the previous 22 Reports disclose - in the shape of a Kentish Plover. And, if accepted, Slender-billed Curlew will be a new bird for both the Sussex and British lists (it was one of the deleted "Hastings Rarities"). It was also encouraging to have records of Corncrake - only the second since 1966 -, Hooded Crow - the second since 1960 - and Nightjar. Peregrine, too, although reported annually between 1955 and 1958, has

not appeared in these pages for 17 years. There was not sufficient evidence to claim our first Serin, but that can only be a matter of time for this Continental near neighbour.

The Sanctuary, as shown by his full and excellent report, was regularly observed by Dr. Newnham, to whom we are doubly indebted for filling the other demanding role of Recorder. Indeed the medical profession play a prominent part in the work of the Society, with Dr. Watson contributing substantially to the ringing records, and Dr. Stafford continuing to chair our meetings and our Council.

Local watching has been considerably strengthened by the return of Mr. Richard Porter to take up the post of Regional Officer, R.S.P.B., at Portslade, and the regular stalwarts have made their usual contributions from the Downs and Strivens Reedbeds. Faulty cardiac plumbing has forced the writer to forsake the Alpine heights of Westdene for the gentler pastures of Southwick - would contributors to the Report please note the change of address - and this means an end to Coney Hill records, although he hopes to see the occasional bird in Southwick (Tel: Brighton 594579 !)

Once more we are indebted to Mrs. Farmer for filling the vital role of Secretary, and to Mr. Rampton for so ably managing our finances and to the other officers and Council members for their contributions. As usual, we had some entertaining lectures, and it was particularly pleasant to see Mr. Tony Marr with us again, and to hear about his "Twenty Years of Birdwatching" which were founded in the Society. And once more Mr. Burstow arranged a varied programme of field outings which were enjoyed by an average attendance of about 14 members.

It is with deep regret that we record the death last April of Mr. Tom Palmer, an appreciation of whom appears elsewhere in this Report.

* * * * *

SANCTUARY REPORT 1975

Although fewer than half a dozen members watch the Sanctuary regularly, the copse was attended on well over 140 occasions during 1975. With records from these visits a fairly good picture can be drawn of the changes throughout the year, and eventually it may be possible to see how the avifauna of this area develops over the decades. As years go by the copse changes; the hawthorns now

stand twenty feet high and form a dense canopy reducing the amount of light filtering through the foliage, and consequently diminishing the undergrowth. Many of the original elder bushes have grown old, producing fewer berries and many dying, but slowly being replaced by numerous growing elder saplings. The osier patches continue to grow rapidly taller; small areas of this need regular coppicing each winter to prevent them becoming tall, wispy trees with little use for birds. During the year many of the now ancient timber bridges were further reinforced and two lengths of the boundary fences were strengthened.

The early months of the year were very mild and wet, with both the copse and surrounding fields often flooded. During the daytime, before the 200 Collared Doves arrived to roost, the copse was very quiet with fewer tits, finches and thrushes than usual present, despite the regular stocking up of a feeding station with suet and peanuts. The mild weather helped some of the smaller birds; a Chiffchaff being recorded on six occasions between January 7th and March 25th; a Firecrest on four days, Goldcrests regularly and several Wrens and Long-tailed Tits. The wet habitat may have been responsible for the unusual numbers of Grey and Pied Wagtails recorded, for the three sightings of Kingfishers and for the presence of at least 2 Water Rails in March. The flooded meadows held a maximum of 40 Redshank on February 15th, 300 Lapwing on January 4th, numerous Black-headed Gulls, 200 Common Gulls and 5 Lesser Black-backed Gulls on February 15th, a female Teal on January 21st, and 2 Mute Swans throughout February and March. Stonechats wintered in the area and a Tawny Owl roosted in the copse.

Spring passage was heralded by a definite influx of male Goldcrests on March 11th and 25th; the females arriving somewhat later, with their peaks on April 17th and 19th. On this last date there were at least 15 Goldcrests and 1 Firecrest in the hawthorns. The first 'Phylloscopus' was seen feeding in the bitter cold north wind and snow on April 8th, a Chiffchaff was singing by the 10th and the first Willow Warbler singing by April 12th. Chiffchaffs were scarce throughout spring with a maximum of 3 on the late date of April 29th. Willow Warblers were present in small numbers until April 26th when there were numerous males singing. On April 29th light rain and the return of south-west winds may have grounded the 25 or more Willow Warblers which were avidly feeding in the copse; with them was a single Wood Warbler, the first Blackcap and several Whitethroats. The first 2 House Martins flew over on April 17th,

a Swallow was present on the 19th; the 22nd brought the first Sedge Warbler, Grasshopper Warbler and Whitethroat, and on April 26th the first Lesser Whitethroat was trapped.

Throughout May there was a trickle of 'Phylloscopus' Warblers, but the other migrants were more numerous. After May 3rd Swifts and Reed Warblers were present in good numbers and at least 3 of each Lesser and Common Whitethroat were on the hillside. By May 10th there was a steady passage of Swallows and Martins overhead; the 11th produced the only 2 Wheatears of the year; the 13th the first Spotted Flycatcher; and a Turtle Dove arrived on May 19th. By the end of the month passage birds were few with the exception of a few passing Swallows and Swifts, and a flock of up to 80 House Martins in the area.

Nesting fortunes were rather variable; the resident species, particularly the thrushes, lost many of their early clutches and then the dry weather prevented many of them from having second broods. The nest boxes provided homes for 2 families each of Great and Blue Tits, but the owl nest box put up earlier in the year remained vacant. Some species did remarkably well; Goldfinches and Linnets appeared to have had one of the best seasons for many years, the Moorhens in the dykes produced several young and many Collared Doves nested in the thicket hawthorn bushes. Of the summer visitors 4 pairs of Swallows each had 2 broods, at least 3 pairs of Reed and Willow Warblers nested in the area, and one pair each of Lesser Whitethroat, Whitethroat and Chiffchaff were successful. For the second year Spotted Flycatchers attempted to breed but their nest was destroyed before the eggs were hatched. A pair of Stonechats and Pied Wag-tails were more fortunate, each raising at least one brood in the area for the first time for many years.

Throughout the summer, the warmest and driest for several years, water was scarce and many finches, pipits and Starlings were flocking to the dykes to drink and bathe. The occasional Heron or Common Sandpiper also could be seen feeding along the main dyke, and Kingfishers were recorded on several occasions.

Autumn was both unusual and interesting. August remained hot and settled weather, with mainly north-east winds. At the beginning of this month Swifts, usually amongst the first migrants to leave, were gathered over the hillside in flocks of up to 200, but this number gradually diminished throughout the month until the last 2 were seen on September 4th. During August there were several days, when there were 10 or more Reed Warblers in the withy, mainly

locally bred birds early in the month, but more passage birds later. The numbers of Reed Warblers dwindled through September and the last was recorded on October 10th. Passage of other Warblers was very disappointing, there being no days, as in the past, when there were large numbers of Willow Warblers, Lesser Whitethroats, Chiffchaff or Blackcaps feeding in the copse. Possibly the long settled periods of weather allowed emigration to continue without grounding these night migrants on the south coast. Willow Warblers were the most notable absentees; usually about 100 birds are ringed on autumn passage but 1975 produced only 19. The numbers of the other Warblers ringed, apart from Chiffchaffs, were similar to usual, but spread more evenly through the autumn season. Garden Warblers first appeared on August 2nd, had a peak of 3 on August 23rd and was last recorded on October 5th. Spotted Flycatchers were more numerous than previous years, at least 3 or 4 were present on most days during late August and early September. On August 20th 2 Pied Flycatchers were caught as well. Vast amounts of willow herb growing in the copse and ditches attracted sizeable parties of Bullfinches during August, and on the hillside Goldfinches, Linnets, hirundines and up to 250 Corn Buntings flocked. The first 2 Whinchats were seen on August 23rd and thereafter 2 or 3 were present every day until the beginning of October; it is pleasing to see these birds passing through the area again after so few in the past two years. Birds were numerous between August 30th and September 4th, when during 4 mist netting sessions 440 birds were trapped, many of these were House Martins (196), Goldfinches (51) and Linnets (44, but there was a good sprinkling of other migrants including the only Redstart, a female, on September 2nd. Also during this period there was a small but definite eastward passage of 'Flava' Wagtails.

On September 9th the settled weather broke, then west winds with passing frontal systems dominated the rest of the month. Nevertheless passage continued, hirundines being the most obvious. House Martin flocks were on the hillside on only a few days, but more often large groups, with a maximum of c.400 on September 22nd were seen drifting eastward high in the sky. Swallows were far more numerous, on every day there was an easterly movement, but towards the end of the month passage became heavy with 200 birds present on the 19th, some 800 birds per hour passing over on September 20th and 29th, and 600 per hour on October 2nd. On September 20th I followed some small flocks eastward to Lewes and it appeared they were passing along the line of the downs heading straight for Beachy Head, then

presumably southwards. Hirundines were about, still moving eastward, in October, with the last Swallows recorded on November 2nd and 2 House Martins on November 8th. On September 11th a magnificent adult Peregrine flew over the hillside, dwarfing the 3 regular Kestrels, and on the 15th the only other diurnal predator, a Sparrow Hawk, was recorded. Nocturnal birds of prey were represented by a Barn Owl hunting over Mill Hill on October 18th and a Tawny Owl in the copse at the beginning of November.

October was a fascinating month, one of the most remarkable features being the large movement of cardueline finches. Goldfinches, often in large flocks of 100 or more were frequently present, and many were seen passing over, again towards the east. Likewise Linnets were numerous and on October 27th there was a roost of 250 on the hillside. Redpolls appeared on October 2nd and were subsequently present in flocks of up to 40 until November 16th, with peak numbers occurring on October 11th and 12th, when in two hours 200 and 170 respectively were counted passing over. On October 25th they were joined by 3 Siskins. During October, two other very unusual species occurred at the Sanctuary, both only recorded once before, these being records of Jays on 3 dates, and 1 or 2 Coal Tits present on 4 days. Thrushes were much scarcer in 1975; possibly the small hawthorn berry crop deterred Blackbirds and Song Thrushes from the area. The first 19 Fieldfares were seen on October 11th, another flock passing over on October 27th, whereas Redwings were first seen on October 12th, staying until the end of the year, but never attaining double figures. Towards the end of October Goldcrests were again becoming plentiful and on October 27th the only Firecrest was recorded.

After the middle of November when the 'crest' passage halted, the copse became very quiet with the exception of a few tits returning to the feeders, a small number of finches, mainly Greenfinches, coming to drink and bathe, and the usual dove roost. A Tree Creeper was present between November 8th and 30th, a Chiffchaff on December 6th and 2 or 3 Water Rails in the reeds were the only notable birds in the copse during the last part of the year. However, in the fields Redshank, Lapwing and gulls roosted and fed in sizeable flocks. On November 16th, a pale tame Whimbrel-sized curlew was seen just before dusk. This bird unfortunately remained unidentified, but was probably the Slender-billed Curlew seen later on the river. Other wading birds were 2 Jack Snipe on November 30th and a maximum of 8 Common Snipe on December 21st. Mallard were seen frequently flying up and down the valley in small numbers at dusk, but the

only other waterfowl seen were 35 Wigeon on November 8th and 6 grey geese on December 26th, both flying south.

Once again I would like to thank Mr. Santer and staff of the Waterworks for their kindness throughout the year, and those members who have watched and sent in records from the Sanctuary.

* * * * *

RINGING REPORT FOR 1975

1975 was the best year ever for ringing in the area with about 2920 birds ringed; 88 were ringed as nestlings and the rest as full grown birds. Dr. John Newnham had a bumper year at the Sanctuary with a total of 2169; Dr. Barrie Watson ringed 370, Brian and Phillip Clay between them marked a disappointing 180 birds at Strivens Reed Bed; Dr. John Stafford ringed his usual 4 swallow pulli and the number was made up by 200 gulls ringed by the gull study group of the M.A.F.F. on Worthing Beach at the end of the year.

Below is a table of the birds ringed

Kestrel.....1	Willow Tit.....1	Wood Warbler.....1
Moorhen.....2	Long Tailed Tit....19	Goldcrest.....60
Lapwing.....4	Tree Creeper.....3	Firecrest.....2
Snipe.....1	Wren.....59	Spotted Flycatcher.15
Common Sandpiper...1	Mistle Thrush.....8	Pied Flycatcher....2
Redshank.....1	Song Thrush.....70	Dunnock.....88
Dunlin.....29	Blackbird.....133	Meadow Pipit.....8
Wood Pigeon.....4	Stonechat.....8	'Alba' Wagtail....24
Collared Dove.....36	Whinchat.....2	Grey Wagtail.....2
Turtle Dove.....1	Redstart.....1	Starling.....57
Tawney Owl.....1	Robin.....53	Greenfinch.....258
Kingfisher.....9	Reed Warbler.....111	Goldfinch.....213
G.S. Woodpecker....3	Sedge Warbler.....46	Linnet.....89
Swallow.....189	Blackcap.....44	Redpoll.....20
House Martin....340	Garden Warbler.....11	Bullfinch.....61
Jay.....1	Whitethroat.....17	Chaffinch.....49
Great Tit.....94	Lesser Whitethroat.41	Yellow Hammer.....34
Blue Tit.....206	Willow Warbler.....62	Corn Bunting.....28
Coal Tit.....11	Chiffchaff.....31	Reed Bunting.....54
		House Sparrow.....1
		Tree Sparrow.....2

The Lapwings, ringed as flightless young, were the only possible 'first ringed' for the area, Wood Warblers have only been ringed twice

before, both in spring, and never has there been a year for so many Kingfishers. Most of the large number of Greenfinch, Goldfinch and Linnet were caught round drinking sites during the hot summer. The use of specific bird calls and songs on a cassette tape lured many of the House Martins, Swallows and Redpolls into mist nets during the autumn. A small roost of pied Wagtails in the same reed bed as the Swallows accounted for the unusual number of these trapped.

During the year Catrina Tyson reached a high standard of competence in handling birds so attained her "C" permit. Dr. Barrie Watson, as well as being very active locally held responsibilities for ringing on a national scale whilst he spent his first year as Chairman for the Ringing and Migration Committee of the B.T.O.

The Following are a selection of the recoveries heard about in 1975

1. HOUSE MARTIN. Ringed juv. 7.10.74 Shoreham Sanctuary
 Found dead 23.10.74 Pamiers (Ariege) France

This was not reported until early '75, and is the second recovery of a Shoreham-ringed Martin in France. (see Sussex Ringing Report '74).

2. GOLDFINCH. Ringed juv. 30.8.75 Shoreham Sanctuary.
 Found dead 27.10.75 Lartigue. (Gironde.)
 France.

Up until 1973 there were 96 recoveries of British ringed Goldfinches in France, mostly between Oct. and April. Most of these were ringed in Southern England. There have been at least 4 recoveries of Shoreham-ringed Goldfinches on the continent.

3. BLACKCAP. Ringed Juv. male 7.10.73 Shoreham Sanctuary
 controlled 27. 4.75 Schauen, Halberstadt,
 E. Germany.

Only 4 British-ringed Blackcaps have previously been recovered in Germany. Most recoveries of South Coast ringed Blackcaps are much further South and West; this conforms more with the pattern of birds recovered abroad from East Coast ringing stations.

Warblers also provide most of our domestic recoveries.

4. WILLOW WARBLER. ringed adult 7.5.72 Bamburgh, Northumberland
 controlled 26.4.75 Shoreham Sanctuary.

This bird was possibly on its way to Northumberland or further North to breed for its 5th season.

- | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| 5. | LESSER WHITETHROAT. | ringed juv. | 27.7.75 | Ecton, Northampton |
| | | controlled | 31.8.75 | Shoreham Sanctuary
160km. S.S.E. |
| 6. | REED WARBLER | ringed juv. | 26.7.75 | Walcot, Wellington,
Salop. |
| | | controlled | 14 & 16.8.75 | Shoreham Sanctuary
260km. SE. |
| 7. | SEDGE WARBLER | ringed juv. | 26.7.75 | Shoreham Airfield |
| | | controlled | 22.8.75 | Radipole Lake, Weymouth
155km. WSW. |
| <p>These three show autumn movements of young birds possibly from their natal sites, whereas the following two recoveries are probably birds ringed on autumn passage and returning in the following year to their breeding area.</p> | | | | |
| 8. | REED WARBLER | ringed adult | 20.7.74 | Chichester G.P. Sussex. |
| | | controlled | 8.6.75 | Shoreham Airfield
35km. E |
| 9. | SWALLOW | ringed juv. | 12.9.74 | Shoreham Airfield roost |
| | | recaptured | 19.6.75 | Llangyhi, Monmouth U.S.K.
in a barn. 200km. W.NW. |
| 10. | MUTE SWAN | ringed adult | 22.12.68 | Shoreham |
| | | found dead | 22. 7.75 | Weir Wood Reservoir
35km. N |

This is slightly unusual as the bird has moved inland instead of the usual coastal movements.

NOTABLE BIRDS OF THE AREA 1975

Harb. Shoreham Harbour; O.S.R. Old Steyning Railway; Sanc.
Sanctuary; S.H. Southwick Hill; Sh.R.D. Shoreham Rubbish Dump;
S.R.B. Striven's Reed Bed; W.R.D. Worthing Rubbish Dump;
W.W. Widewater.

- DIVER Sp. 1 flying West Hove Jan. 26, 1 east there
April 25; 1 flying east off Southwick May 12
and 2 on sea Southwick December 7.
5. GREAT CRESTED GREBE 1 W.W. Mar. 31, 14 there Dec. 20, 4
there Dec. 21; 1 Hove December 18.
7. SLAVONIAN GREBE 5 W.W. Dec. 20 (F.J.F.)
9. LITTLE GREBE up to 3 Adur Nov. 26 to end of year;
2 W.W. January 25; 1 Brooklands April 3.
16. MANX SHEARWATER 2, probably this species, eastward W.W.
April 27. (J.A.N.)
26. FULMAR 1 east off Hove May 8; 1 E.W.B. August 22.
27. GANNET 4 Ferring May 3; 4 east Southwick May 12
and 3 May 19; Singles off Worthing June 21,
August 20 and 22.
28. CORMORANT Throughout year up to 20 Adur Level pylons;
1 Stump Bottom Sept. 28. 7 T.B. Nov. 27.
30. HERON 5 nests Wyckham Wood; up to 5 in fields
around Adur in Shm. throughout year;
2 Downs May 24.
45. MALLARD 4 Ferring April 20; parties of 6 or more
flighting up river on Autumn evenings.
46. TEAL 3 Adur levels Jan. 19; 1 Sanct. Dec. 13.
50. WIGEON 35 flying south, Sanct. Nov. 8
64. COMMON SCOTER 4 Ferring March 28; 10 East Ferring April 20;
3 east W.W. May 4; 5 east Hove May 24.
67. EIDER 1 off Southwick Dec. 7.
69. RED BREASTED MERGANSER 6 Ferring Mar. 28 and 5 there April 20;
1 m. and 2 f. W.W. Feb. 1; 1 f.
Brooklands April 3.
73. SHELDUCK 5, Ferring April 20. 1 Airfield. May 14
- GESE Sp. 53 in 2 flocks south S.H. Nov. 8; 12 northwest
Stump Bottom Dec. 6; 6 south Sanct Dec. 26.
76. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE 2 Downs Jan. 1. (B.J.F.)
80. BRENT GOOSE 30 east Shoreham, Feb. 2; 23 east Southwick
Mar. 2.
82. CANADA GOOSE 50 O.S.R. Oct. 25 (P.J.C.)
91. BUZZARD Singles Downs Apr. 24, May 24 and June 6;
8 sightings Downs between Aug. 24 and Nov. 1,
max. 2 on Oct. 10.

92. ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD Singles Downs Jan. 5, 9 and 26;
2 there Feb. 13 and March 22; Single bird
Downs Oct. 24 and 25.
93. SPARROW HAWK Most recorded bird. 54 dates Downs with
max. 4 - 5 in Sept. Also 1 Mill Hill Sept.
15, and 1 Ferring.
100. HEN HARRIER 1 Downs Oct. 12 (P.J.C.) Only record
received for '75.
102. MONTAGU'S HARRIER 1 passage m. Downs June 1 (Per B.J.F) and
1 m. Sept. 7. (B.J.F).
104. HOBBY Singles Downs July 25, Aug. 10 and 30.
1 flying east north of C.C. May 24
105. PEREGRINE 1 ad. Sanct. Sept. 11 (J.A.N)
107. MERLIN 1 f. Downs Jan. 1 (Per B.J.F); 1 Lancing
Jan. 25 (B.J.S) and 1 f. C.H. Mar. 17. (C.F.H)
110. KESTREL Pairs bred in 8 localities. up to 5 Downs
Mar. Fewer than usual Downs, summer, Max. 6
115. RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE 17 Erringham Farm Nov. 21.
116. PARTRIDGE 4 Sanct. Nov. 26.
117. QUAIL 6 dates July 1 - 27 Downs max. 5 July 27.
120. WATER RAIL 2 Sanct. Mar 26, 1 there Oct. 11 and up to
3 until end of year. Minimum of 3 S.R.B.
Oct. 16 onward.
125. CORNCRAKE 1 Downs July 30 and Aug. 6 (B.J.F.; R.I; C.E.M)
126. MOORHEN Numerous Sanct. and Adur water meadows during
autumn.
131. OYSTER CATCHER 17 Ferring Jan. 12, 20 there May 3, 14 on
Oct. 5 and 16 Dec. 20; 6 east W.W. Mar. 28,
2 east Hove April 23 and 2 Lancing Dec. 14.
up to 300 Sanct. fields winter. 700 Downs
Aug. 30; Airfield counts - 270 on Aug. 10,
640 on Aug. 23 and 1350 on Nov. 26; Adur levels
500 Jan. 19 and 1000 Sept. 21, flying south.
9 flew in Southwick June 22 and 400 flew east
Sanct. Aug. 14.
134. RINGED PLOVER Selected Adur counts:-
Jan. 26 - 30 Between Aug. 22 - Sept. 21
Aug. 3 - 55 small parties totalling 40
Aug. 11 - 80 flew w.s.w. high from Adur
Aug. 16 - 121 1 hour before dusk.
Aug. 30 - 175 Ferring counts 35 on

- Sept.19 - 145 Jan.12, 30 on Aug. 27, 40
 Sept.29 - 185 on Aug.29, 130 on Oct. 5
 Oct. 15 - 103 and 19 on Dec. 20. 35
 Oct.19 - 55 in Lancing field Jan. 1.
 Nov. 12 - 45 2 pairs attempted to breed
 Dec. 20 - 170 on Southwick Beach.
136. KENTISH PLOVER 1 imm. T.B. Aug. 3 (R.E.P; R.I) and Aug. 4 (B.J.F).
139. GREY PLOVER Ferring 46 on Jan. 12, 1 on Sept. 6, 9 on Oct.5 and 36 on Dec.20. Single bird Adur Oct.15 - Dec.19.
140. GOLDEN PLOVER Singles Downs Sept.28 and Oct.10
143. TURNSTONE 1 Ferring Jan. 12, 8 there Aug. 27, 5 on Aug.29 and 4 on Dec.20. 1 Adur Dec.20.
145. SNIBE Max. 80 S.R.B. during winter, 1 Stump Bottom Sept.7; up to 8 Sanct. from Sept.9 to end of year.
147. JACK SNIBE 1 C.H. Apr. 7; 1 Sanct. Oct.12 and 2 there. Nov. 30.
148. WOODCOCK 1 flying north S.R.B Feb; 2 Downs Dec.20.
150. CURLEW 2 Ferring May 3; 1 Adur Nov.26 to end of year.
 (SLENDER BILLED CURLEW) A bird showing many features of this species Adur Nov. 23 (J.S.) and presumably same bird seen Sanct. Nov.16 (J.A.N). (see separate notes).
151. WHIMBREL 27 east Ferring May.3; 2 east W.W. May 4; 3 Hove May 9; 4 Wyckham Wood May 10; up to 4 Adur Aug.3 - Aug.26. 1 Sanct. Sept. 17.
154. BLACK-TAILED GODWIT 2 Ferring Sept.6.
155. BAR-TAILED GODWIT 18 east in 1 hour Hove April 23, 61 east there April 25; 5 Adur Sept. 5 and 1 on Sept.6; 3 Ferring Sept. 6.
156. GREEN SANDPIPER 1 W.R.D. Aug.14 (B.J.F), 1 Adur Aug.30 (F.J.F).
159. COMMON SANDPIPER 1 Airfield May 28; Adur between Aug.3 - Oct.1, max. 10 Aug. 24; 5 W.R.D. Aug.14 and 10 there Aug. 19; 2 Steyning Adur Dec.21.
161. REDSHANK Selected counts from Adur:-
 Jan. - 60 Sept. 19 - 105
 Feb. 27 - 10 Sept. 20 - 140
 Aug. 4 - 5 Oct. 15 - 58
 Aug. 4 (later)-50 Nov. 12 - 70

- Aug. 14 - 40 Dec. 20 - 130
 Aug. 17 - 50 Dec. 22 - 60
 Sept. 2 - 80
 At Ferring 11 on Jan.12 and 25 on Dec.20;
 up to 40 in fields by Sanct. Feb. & Mar.
162. SPOTTED REDSHANK 1 T.B. Sept. 8. (R.F.P.)
 165. GREENSHANK 2 Wyckham Wood May 10; singles Adur on
 6 dates Aug. 10 - Oct. 15.
 169. KNOT 4 Worthing Beach Aug. 18; 3 Adur Aug.23,
 5 there Aug.25, Sept.2 and 5; 2 there on
 4 dates between Sept.17 - Oct.15.
 170. PURPLE SANDPIPER 14 Ferring Jan.12, 8 there Dec.20.
 171. LITTLE STINT 1 Adur Sept. 21. (R.F.P.)
 178. DUNLIN Counts from Adur:-
 Jan. 3 - 350 Sept. 5 - 35
 Jan. 26 - 700 Sept. 28 - 15
 Feb. 1 - 800 Oct. 15 - 113
 Mid Feb. - 200 Oct. 19 - 120
 Aug. 3 - 10 Nov. 12 - 360
 Aug. 24 - 15 Dec. 20 - 500
 200 Adur C.C. only Nov. 27; 344 Ferring Jan.12,
 17 there April 20, 20 Aug.29 and 760 Dec.20;
 240 in Lancing field Jan.1.
179. CURLEW SANDPIPER 1 Adur Aug.9 and Aug.30, 3 there Sept.2,
 7 on Sept.5, 9 on Sept.6, 2 on Sept.19 and
 1 on Sept.21; 6 Ferring Aug.29.
 181. SANDERLING 254 Ferring Jan.12, 8 there Aug.29 and 160 on
 Dec.12; 2 Southwick May 12.
 184. RUFF 1 Adur Sept. 11 (B.J.F.)
 198. GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL 125 Adur mud flats Feb. 1, 50 there
 Aug.17 and 60 Aug. 18, 100 there Dec.20 and
 20 Dec. 29.
 199. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL Up to 3 Adur Jan.4 - Mar.8; 5 Sanct.
 Feb.15; up to 2 Adur July 14 - Aug.30;
 6 T.B. Nov. 25 and Dec. 20.
 200. HERRING GULL 1 ad. with yellow legs T.B. Aug.4 and Aug.25,
 2 there Sept. 1.
 201. COMMON GULL 200 Sanct. Feb.15; 280 Downs Aug.27, 300
 there Oct.22 and 500 on Nov.1.
 202. GLAUCOUS GULL Usual wintering adult recorded Hove between
 Jan.1 - Jan.26 and Sept.29 - Dec.18.

205. MEDITERRANEAN GULL 1 adult winter plumage Hove Jan.30.(R.F.P)
1 ditto, possibly hybrid, W.W. Jan. 2.
208. BLACK-HEADED-GULL 100 - 125 Adur mud flats Feb; 300 there
Dec. 22, 500 on Dec. 29 and 2000 Dec. 30.
212. BLACK TERN 3 east Southwick Beach May 19; 5 Ferring Aug.24;
2 Worthing Beach Aug. 26.
- 217-18. COMMON/ARCTIC TERN Spring - first recorded April 20 W.W.
95 east in 45 min. Hove May 8, 18 in 1 hour
May 9 there; 56 east May 12 off Southwick in
1 hour and 20 there May 19.
Small numbers off Shoreham July and August
Autumn - 50 west E.W.B Aug. 20 and 80 there
Aug. 30; Ferring 400 on Aug. 24 and 150 on
Aug. 27; 15 west Sept. 9 Shoreham; 8 Harb.
Sept. 17.
222. LITTLE TERN Max. 6 east 4 coastal sites May 4 - 11. up to
11 T.B. early Aug.; 200 in 2 hours westward
Ferring Aug. 24 and 40 there Aug. 27; 2 Harb.
Sept. 28.
223. SANDWICH TERN First 6 recorded E.W.B. April 6; 24 east Hove
April 23, and 47 there April 25; 20 east
Southwick April 25, 14 on May 12 and 3 on May 19;
30 west E.W.B Aug. 20 and 90 on Aug. 30. At
Ferring in 2 hours 60 west Aug. 24 and 30 on
Aug. 27; 1 ad. and 1 imm. T.B. Sept. 1;
1 Winter plumage Hove Dec. 18. (J.A.N.)
227. GUILLEMOT 1 Harb. Nov. 18.
232. STOCK DOVE 8 Downs Feb. 1; possibly breeding Stanmer
Great Wood and C.H.
234. WOOD PIGEON 3900 east S.H. (0700-0800) Oct. 27; 600 east
Sanct. Oct. 27. (0800-0900)
235. TURTLE DOVE 2 Downs April 24 and 1 there April 28; 30 Downs
Aug. 10; 1 Lancing Manor and 1 T.B. Sept 28.
- COLLARED DOVE 200 roost Sanct. Jan. - April; 250 - 300 roost
Sanct. Sept. - Dec.
237. CUCKOO 3 Downs April 20; recorded 6 other localities
until Aug. 12. 1 Sanct.
241. BARN OWL Single bird Downs Feb. 13, June 3 and 12, Oct.10;
1 dead near Sanct. May 16; 1 dying Shoreham
Beach Oct. 14; 1 Mill Hill Oct. 18; 1 Airfield
Oct. 29.

246. LITTLE OWL Singles on 8 dates throughout year Downs;
2 Downs Jan. 29; 3 Downs July 1.
247. TAWNY OWL Resident and Breeding Shoreham "Street"
and Southwick Green. 1 Sanct. Nov. 8;
2 Cissbury July 1.
248. LONG-EARED OWL Singles Downs Jan. 5 and 9, Feb. 22;
5 seen by gamekeeper Feb. 13. up to 4
roosting Downs Nov. 9 - Dec. 27.
249. SHORT-EARED OWL Max. 6 Downs on at least 15 dates Jan. 1 -
April 26; 1 Airfield May 14 (A.B.W.);
only 3 sightings, single birds Sept. 28 -
Dec. 28, all Downs
252. NIGHTJAR 1 Cissbury July 1.
255. SWIFT 4 Sanct. May 3; 1 Downs May 9; 10 Wyckham
Wood May 10. 100 Sanct. June 17 and 200
there July 23; 1 Downs Sept. 28.
258. KINGFISHER Max. 2 on 20 dates in vicinity of Adur.
More records than previous years
262. GREEN WOODPECKER Singles Downs throughout year. Pairs at
C.H., Stanmer Great Wood and Pycombe.
263. GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER 2 or 3 S.R.B all year; 1 Lancing
Sept. 28.
264. LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER Singles at Westdene Feb. 23,
Lancing College Mar. 31; Southwick Dec. 22;
Pair Lancing Sept. 28. 1 f. in orchard
Sompting July 20.
272. SKYLARK Large west movement Sanct. Oct. 12;
500 Downs Oct. 26.
274. SWALLOW 1 Mile Oak April. 16; 1 Sanct. Apr. 17;
5 in pairs bred Sanct; No definite roost
in 1975; up to 200 pre-roosting Sanct.
Sept. 18 - Oct. 7; heavy eastward passage
Sanct. in autumn, max. 600 per hour Oct. 2.
800 per hour Sept. 20 and 29; 300 moving
south Adur levels Sept. 21; 2 Sanct. Nov. 1;
1 Downs Nov. 12.
276. HOUSE MARTIN 1 Sanct. April 17; 40 Sanct. May 24 and
60 there June 17; c 250 Sanct. Aug. 30,
31st and Sept. 4; 100 Sept. 30; 2 Sanct.
Nov. 8.
277. SAND MARTIN 1 Annington Brooks May 17.

281. HOODED CROW 1 Downs Oct. 30 - Nov. 13. (B.F.J.).
284. MAGPIE Up to 6 Sanct. all year.
286. JAY 2 O.S.R. Mar 28; singles Sanct. Oct. 2, 25 and 27, 2 there Oct. 12; 22 Downs Oct. 10 and 12 on Oct. 16. Up to 4 on 3 other Oct. dates on Downs.
289. BLUE TIT 80 individuals trapped S.R.B Dec. 21.
290. COAL TIT Singles Sanct. Sept. 29, Oct. 2, Nov. 1; 2 there Oct. 27.
293. WILLOW TIT Present all year C.H., Devils Dyke G.C., Stanmer Great Wood.
294. LONG-TAILED TIT All year Sanct., max. 6 in autumn; occasional C.H.
296. NUTHATCH Singles C.H. Mar. 28; Stanmer Great Wood Sept. 25
298. TREE CREEPER 1 C.H. Feb. 28; 1 Sanct. Nov. 8 - 30; 1 Shoreham Dec. 12 - 14.
301. MISTLE THRUSH Up to 4 regular Sanct; nest 3 young July 8 Shoreham.
302. FIELDFARE 50 O.S.R Mar. 23, 300 there Mar. 28; 45 Downs April 10; fewer numbers Downs autumn, 60 max. Nov. 3; 19 west Sanct. Oct. 11 and 17 east Oct. 27.
304. REDWING 100 O.S.R Mar. 23; 4 C.H. April 8; 1 Downs April 10; Many overhead at night Shoreham Oct. 8; 2 Sanct, Oct. 12, but no more than 10 to the end of the year. 100 Downs Oct. 24 and 50 there Nov. 12.
307. RING OUSEL 1 Downs Oct. 16. (B.J.F.)
311. WHEATEAR 1 W.W. Mar. 28; 2 Ferring and W.R.D. Mar. 28; up to 7 Downs last wk. Apr; 8 Downs Aug. 10, 12 there Aug. 11; 12 Sh.R.D. Aug. 17; 6 W.R.D. Aug. 22; max. 6 Downs Sept.; 20 Harb. Sept. 17; 4 Downs Oct. 16
317. STONECHAT Reported wintering from several localities, possibly bred Sanct., Lancing Clump and Downs. Many autumn records from Downs, Sanct, O.S.R., W.R.D., Sh.R.D. S.H., max. 24 Downs Oct. 16. Late Dec. records of 1 or 2 birds on Downs, Sanct., W.W. and airfield.
318. WHINCHAT 2 Downs April 28; autumn records Downs Aug. 10 - Oct. 25 with max. 40 on Aug. 30 and 30 on Sept. 7;

- Sanct. max. 3 Aug. 26 to Sept. 29; 12 W.R.D. Aug. 17; singles at Sh. R.D., airfield and C.H.; up to 15 Brooklands Sept.; 8 No Man's Land Aug. 31.
320. REDSTART 1 m. Downs Aug. 20; 1 f. there April 28; July 16 Westdene 1 imm.; 1 f. Sanct. Sept 2; 1 f. C.H. Sept. 4, 17 and Oct. 1; 1 imm. S.H. Sept. 23; 2 Downs Sept. 10; 1 there Oct. 22 and Nov. 2.
321. BLACK REDSTART 1 Harb. Jan. - Mar.; 1 W.W. Feb. 14; 3 (1m.) Southwick Feb. 24; 2 m. singing Southwick summer and 1 pair produced 1 young, 2 there Dec. 3; 2 Downs Oct. 16, 3 there Oct. 24 and singles Oct. 26. and Nov. 12.
322. NIGHTINGALE 1 Mile Oak April 28; 1 Wappingthorn Wood May 16.; 1 singing Airfield May 24.
325. ROBIN 1 singing 0030 hrs. Bevedean Jan. 1.
327. GRASSHOPPER WARBLER Singles Sanct. April 21, May 10 and June 22; singles Downs April 24, May 5 and 9, with 3 Downs May 7; 1 Mile Oak April 28; singles Devils Dyke area April 26, May 22 and July 9.
333. REED WARBLER 3 Sanct. May 3, 5 pairs bred there, up to 10 during autumn and last bird Oct. 11; bred around Airfield; 1 CH. Sept. 8.
337. SEDGE WARBLER 1 Sanct. April 22; bred around Airfield, numerous in local reed beds in Sept.
343. BLACKCAP 1 O.S.R. Sept. 21.
346. GARDEN WARBLER 1 m. Westdene Jan. 21 - April 16; 1 f. as well from Mar. 19; 1 C.H. April 25; 1 Sanct. April 29; 4 Sanct. Sept. 19 and 3 there Nov. 2.
347. WHITETHROAT 1 C.H. May 1; 4 Downs May 24 and 3 there June 2; max. 3 Sanct. Aug. 23 and 1 there Oct. 5; 1 - 2 C.H. July 28 - Sept. 16.
348. LESSER WHITETHROAT 1 Downs April 24; 4 - 5 Devil's Dyke Apr. 26; seemed more numerous Mill Hill; 7 Sanct. July 8; 20 W.R.D Aug. 17 and 12 there Aug. 22.
- 1 pair C.H. Apr. 25; 1 Sanct. Apr. 26 and 3 or more there in May; 6 Downs Aug. 30; 1 - 2 C.H. July 7 - Sept. 17; Sanct. throughout Aug., max. 5 Aug. 20 until Sept. 23.

354. WILLOW WARBLER 1 Sanct. April 12, over 20 there April 29; 1 Hove April. 15; 1 C.H. April 18; 12 Downs April 24; very few autumn records, marked decrease in autumn passage Sanct.
356. CHIFF-CHAFF 1 Sanct. 7 dates Jan 7 - Mar 4; 1 singing Sanct. Mar. 26 and April 10; 1 S.R.B Mar. 28; 1 C.H. April 12; 4 Sanct. June 19; max. autumn count Sanct. 3 Sept. 19; 1 Sanct. Dec. 6.
357. WOOD WARBLER 1 Sanct. April 29.
364. GOLDCREST Resident Sanct. and C.H.; spring influxes Mar. 15 and April 19; Numerous autumn; 30 S.H. Oct. 27; 9 trapped Sanct. Nov. 2.
365. FIRECREST 1 m. Sanct. Jan. 14 and Feb. 22, single birds Sanct. Feb. 25, Mar. 8 and April 19; 1 Downs Feb. 4 and April 10; 1 C.H. Mar. 17 - April 3; 1 Downs Oct. 24 and 1 Sanct. Oct. 27.
366. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER 1 Sanct. May 13, 3 there May 19; attempted breeding Sanct. produced 4 young at Ferring; up to 10 C.H. Aug. 6 - Oct. 3; 1 W.R.D. Oct. 7; 1 Sanct. Oct. 11.
368. PIED FLYCATCHER No spring records. 14 sightings between Aug. 10 and Sept. 5, all singles, except 2 Sanct. Aug. 20; 2 C.H. Sept. 5 and 1 Shoreham Aug. 17; 2 W.R.D. Sept. 4; 1 No Man's Land Aug. 31.
370. (RED BREASTED FLYCATCHER) Good description of a bird, probably a male, Shoreham April. 25. Not confirmed.
373. MEADOW PIPIT 100 Downs Oct. 16; 30 flew in W.W. Mar. 31.
376. TREE PIPIT 1 Shaves Wood June 15; 1 Downs July 6, 1 W.R.D. Aug. 19 and 2 there on Aug. 22 and 26.
379. ROCK PIPIT Up to 3 Houseboats, winter.
380. ALBA SP. WAGTAIL Bred Sanct; Roost 50 - 70 from early Sept, in reed bed by flyover.
381. GREY WAGTAIL 1 Sanct. Mar. Aug. 12 and Sept. 27; 1 Shoreham Sept. 27; 2 Adur Oct 4 and 1 there until the end of year.
382. YELLOW WAGTAIL 2 C.C. May 4; 3 - 4 Wyckham Wood May 10; up to 4 Sanct. Aug. 4 - Sept. 29; 5 W.R.D. Aug. 19; 5 west Shoreham Sept. 8; 8 Hove Oct. 8.
384. GREAT GREY SHRIKE 1 Downs Jan. 15 (per C.E.M.)
389. STARLING 2000 roost Downs Aug. 27 and 1000 Sept. 6; Many flocks, often of several thousand, flying east to roost over Sanct. Nov. Small roost 200 Sanct. Dec. 18.

392. GREENFINCH 200 Downs Feb. 23
 393. GOLDFINCH Pair bred Southwick sea front; abundant at Sanct. during autumn; 25 Sh.R.D. Sept. 2; 300 Pyecombe Sept. 15; 150 Downs Oct. 10; 12 Southwick Dec. 3.
 394. SISKIN 20 Downs Oct. 16, 1 there Oct. 26 and 5 on Nov. 12; 3 Sanct. Oct. 25; 1 S.H. Nov. 22.
 395. LINNET Sanct. abundant in autumn, 250 roosted Oct. 27; 80 Sh.R.D. Sept. 10 and 250 there Oct. 15.
 396. TWITE No records for Jan. or Feb. 18 Adur Nov. 26, 13 there Dec. 17, 50 on Dec. 18, 10 on Dec. 20 and 4 Dec. 23; 15 Sanct. Dec. 20.
 397. REDPOLL Few individual Sanct. early year. 5 Sanct. Oct. 7; 200 passed over eastward there Oct. 11, 150 on Oct. 12; present until Nov. 16 with max. 40 on Oct. 25, 20 on Nov. 2 and 28 Nov. 16. 1 S.R.B. Oct. 3 and 2 there Oct. 25.
 401. BULLFINCH Present all year C.H., Devils Dyke and Sanct.
 407. CHAFFINCH 150 Downs Oct. 26; 200 there Dec. 9.
 408. BRAMBLING 2 m. W.R.D. Mar 28; 1 Downs Mar 31 and 1 there Dec. 28.
 409. YELLOW HAMMER Downs 80 on Oct. 30 and 200 on Dec. 9.
 410. CORN BUNTING 500 roosting S.R.B. Feb. 8 and 400 there throughout Dec; 200-300 Sanct. Aug; 90 roosting by Adur late Aug.
 415. CIRL BUNTING 1m. Hoe Court June 16.
 421. REED BUNTING Singles at Sanct., Devil's Dyke and C.H. Small parties of 3-4 Mill Hill Nov.-Dec; numerous in ditches around Airfield.
 425. TREE SPARROW Few C.H. Jan. 1 - April 10; 150 Downs Feb. 23; birds visiting nest-box Lancing garden April 19-22; up to 2 drinking in Sanct. summer; 30 Downs Oct. 16, 50 there on Nov. 3, increasing to 200 by Nov. 29; roost 100 S.H. Nov. 8.

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BIRDS AROUND SHOREHAM 1975

By the end of the year so few members had sent in records that the prospects of producing a comprehensive report of the birds in our area seemed remote. Fortunately throughout mid-January of '76 a deluge of reports were submitted, eventually collecting to a greater number of records than the past few years have seen. Although only 12% of society members contributed records, a few have documented certain areas very thoroughly. As usual B.F. and F.J. Forbes have covered the downland regions and the foreshore at Ferring; R.F. Porter, as well as seeing many of the more unusual species, made some useful counts of waders throughout the autumn; and C.F. Helyer propped up our eastern end with records from Coney Hill.

Although most of the area covered by this report is dominated by a huge urban strip, there is however a good variety of habitats ranging from the urban garden to the estuarine mud flat and from the sea shore to the downland landscapes, each with a different bird life. In recent years the "Downs" have been well watched and have produced many of our best records; 1975 was no exception. Although harriers and Rough Legged Buzzards were fewer in number, there were more owls, many records of Sparrow Hawks, 2 or 3 Hobbies, and a Great Grey Shrike. As well as predatory birds there were a good number of migrants, Quail, a Corncrake and Hooded Crow recorded from there. The gardens always produce sightings of migrants, particularly Redstarts and Pied Flycatchers, but in April a bird was described in a Shoreham garden which was almost certainly a male Red Breasted Flycatcher.

A glimpse along the foreshore or out to sea can also be interesting; Glaucous and Mediterranean Gulls were seen at Hove, occasional grebes and divers off Widewater, and during spring and autumn there was a marked passage of terns, waders and even 2 shearwaters. Records of regular sea watching used to be an annual feature of the Society's magazine, unfortunately this has lapsed, but it appears from the occasional watches done in 1975 that we are missing a lot of birds.

Undoubtedly the habitat for 1975 was the mud flats of the Adur; along with the more common diet of waterside birds, came fruitier species like Spotted Redshank, Little Stint, Curlew-Sandpiper and Ruff and the real spice of a Kentish Plover in August and a possible Slender-billed Curlew in November. Should this last bird be accepted by "British Birds" it will be the first U.K. record of this species. Along the tide line, buntings, finches and Twite could be

seen feeding, and in July a small dumpy yellow finch with a Serin-like call was seen there.

During Autumn, several members recorded Jays in unusually large groups or in strange places, likewise they recorded more diurnal migration, particularly of hirundines, Goldfinches, Redpolls, Starlings, larks and pigeons. Escaped exotic birds can provide a bit of colour and excitement to a day's bird watching; in 1975 2 Parakeets were present on the downs north of Brighton and a Cereopsis Goose was seen by the river in July. Another colourful bird, a canary-yellow gull, provoked much discussion earlier in the year; in retrospect this was surely a first year Black-Headed Gull dyed yellow by the London Gull Study Group.

From news letters and journals it appears 1975 was nationally a memorable year for ornithologists with good falls of migrants in spring, fabulous numbers of continental birds arriving in autumn and more than usual new species added to the British List: I don't think we missed out in Shoreham.

J.A.N.

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TOM PALMER

Although not a foundation member of the Society (he joined in 1957), Tom Palmer, who died in hospital in April last, aged 84, was the Society's recorder from 1965-1974, and one of its most enthusiastic and industrious supporters.

In addition, he volunteered to check and pack the Report and other literature sent to members of the Sussex O.S. from the time of its formation.

These are the bare facts of his contribution to local ornithology. To those of us who knew him, he will be remembered as a warm and lively personality, who had no problem in bridging the generation gaps - children were particularly fond of him - and who took pride in remembering and greeting by name the many people he met in both Societies.

Since the loss of his wife, some fourteen years earlier, he had lived with his books - he was widely read, particularly in music and military as well as natural history; and despite failing health was ready to go out bird-watching, often in the mud and cold of winter, until well past 80.

He had a ready wit and delighted in exchanging genial insults

with his friends, who will remember him with pleasure and affection, and amongst whom the writer counts it a privilege to have been numbered.

C.F.H.

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MALLORCA INTERLUDE

On the 26th April, 1975, the Sussex Ornithological Society began one of its most adventurous outings yet, as a party of ten brave souls set out for sunny Mallorca. Now nine months later it is possible only to recount the few moments that live on in one's memory.

For reference when planning a holiday to that Island, I would recommend "Lets look at Mallorca", an Ornitholidays guide. The Island measures roughly 62 miles from east to west, and 47 miles from north to south; it is almost 1,400 square miles in area and supports a population of 400,000 of whom 50% live in Palma. Over 270 bird species have been recorded, using the Island as a stepping-stone for trans-Mediterranean migration. Our base was in the north east of the Island at Puerto Pollensa, a small town at the base of the Formentor Peninsular occupying the narrow coastal plain.

The Spring of 1975 was windier than usual, making some birds more elusive, but generally migrants were thin on the ground. Nevertheless, the party managed to record 112 species during the week. For my part, 26 of these were new.

Before I mention some of the specialities, a word of caution. When in a new environment, do not identify a large black corvid flying low over a field as a Rook/Carrion Crow, they are extremely rare in Mallorca. Their race of Raven is slightly smaller than ours. Fortunately we were told of our error later that evening.

By the end of April the majority of song birds have arrived and are holding territory, whilst moving amongst them are our passage migrants. Around our hotel were 3 Nightingales who kept going almost day and night. Cettis and Fan-Tailed Warblers jockeyed with them. One Fan-Tail found that the curved shape of the hotel acted as an amphitheatre and often flew close past our 5th floor window in its song flight. The hedges of the Island seemed to be alive with Sardinian Warblers, even more so were the pines with Serins.

By the end of April there is just enough light in the morning for a short early morning walk before breakfast and the hardy few were generally rewarded. One morning there was an Osprey carrying a fish flying overhead; on another, 5 Short-Toed Larks, then 6 Honey

Buzzards in a line followed by a dark phase Booted Eagle.

After breakfast we set out on a whole day trip mainly on foot, but assisted by the local bus services and once by coach and hired car. During the week we managed to cover the Boquer Valley, La Albufera Marsh and Salinas, Porto Colom, Salinas de Levante, Ternellas Valley and the Formentor Peninsular. This allowed us to experience the greatest variety of scenery and habitat available - marsh, mountain and sea coast. As much as one could was visited in the short time we had available. This enhanced the number of species of bird encountered.

Nearly all the time was dedicated to birding and it is no surprise, (we felt that we deserved it,) that we had very good views of our new birds. We will all remember how prominent the Sardinian warbler was in the hedge-rows; its counterpart in the damper habitats and reed beds was the Cettis warbler; both were very common. Serins were to be found at all levels and were both more colourful and noisy than expected. The bird of the Salinas has to be the Black-Winged Stilt. Many were still coming out of winter attire, whilst others had their dark crowns and were nesting. They were very aggressive in defence of their breeding areas. Harriers and Purple Herons were actively pursued.

The sea around the Island was very interesting with an abundance of shearwaters. Off Formentor and Porto Colom, parties of Balearic and Cory's Shearwaters can be seen to be to-ing and fro-ing. We were exceptionally lucky in seeing a Mallorcan rarity at each of these two places. At Porto Colom after having seen 2 adult and 1 juvenile Audouin's Gulls fly close past the low cliffs, we caught sight of a GREAT SKUA. Then at Formentor we managed a further 2 Great Skuas and a first winter Gannet during a short sea watch.

When we passed into drier and rockier areas we often met Tawny Pipits - lovely pale birds without any spots on their chests. Hoopoes were a common sight, but we never tired of their beauty and mellow calls. Higher still we found that lovely thrush, the Blue Rock Thrush, but unfortunately never the Rock Thrush. Then up into the mountains by the Ternellas Valley we entered the European stronghold of the Black Vulture. The four birds performed well for us, after our longest walk of the holiday. Finally my three lasting memories:-

- (1) Waders - Never before have I seen a flock in excess of 50 Little Stints together.

- (2) Bee-Eaters - It was worth running nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to see three in an orchard, which were found five minutes before we were due to leave Salinas de Levante.
- (3) Raptors - On the right day and at the right time it is possible to see Eleanor's Falcons in squadron strength over La Albufera Marsh, and even a male Golden Oriole in flight.

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ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MIGRANTS FOR 1975

This feature has been compiled from records sent in by members; abbreviations are the same as in 'Notable Birds of the Area'.

Whimbrel	3.	5.75	Ferring	17.	9.75.	Sanct.
Common Sandpiper.	28.	5.75	Airfield	3.	10.75	Adur
Common/Arctic Tern.	20.	4.75	W.W.	17.	9.75	Harb.
Little Tern	4.	5.75	Adur	28.	9.75	Harb.
Sandwich Tern	6.	4.75	E.W.B.	18.	12.75	Hove
Turtle Dove	24.	4.75	Downs	28.	9.75	T.B. & Lancing
Cuckoo	20.	4.75	Downs	12.	8.75	Sanct.
Swift	3.	5.75	Sanct.	28.	9.75	Downs
Swallow	16.	4.75	Mile Oak	12.	11.75	Downs
House Martin	17.	4.75	Sanct.	8.	11.75	Sanct.
Fieldfare	11.	10.75	Sanct.	10.	4.75	Downs
Redwing	8.	10.75	Shoreham	10.	4.75	Downs
Wheatear	28.	3.75	various sites	16.	10.75	Downs
Whinchat	28.	4.75	Downs	25.	10.75	Downs
Redstart	20.	4.75	Downs	2.	11.75	Downs
Grasshopper Warbler	21.	4.75	Sanct.	9.	7.75	Devils Dyke
Reed Warbler	3.	5.75	Sanct.	11.	10.75	Sanct.
Sedge Warbler	22.	4.75	Sanct.	21.	9.75	O.S.R.
Blackcap	25.	4.75	C.H.	2.	11.75	Sanct.
Garden Warbler	1.	5.75	C.H.	5.	10.75	Sanct.
Whitethroat	24.	4.75	Downs	12.	9.75	C.H.
Lesser Whitethroat	25.	4.75	C.H.	23.	9.75	Sanct.
Willow Warbler	12.	4.75	Sanct.	4.	9.75	Sanct.
Chiff-Chaff	26.	3.75	Sanct.	6.	12.75	Sanct.
Spotted Flycatcher	13.	5.75	Sanct.	11.	10.75	Sanct.
Yellow Wagtail	4.	5.75	Shoreham	29.	9.75	Sanct.

Excluding probably wintering Chiff-chaffs, Blackcaps or Common Sandpipers.

ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS

My wife and I have recently returned to this area after some twelve years and we are new members of the Society. We have also just returned from a visit to the State of Arkansas in the United States.

We were really impressed by the brilliant colouring of some of the more common birds. A daily visitor to our daughter's garden was the Cardinal; there is no other bird which resembles it, being almost completely red, with a very prominent crest and just a little black around the base of its red bill. The length is $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 ins. the female being light brown, with the crest and red bill of the male, but very little of its colour.

Noisy Blue Jays were regular visitors - very striking birds, blue, black and white in colour, a large blue crest, blue black tail and wings and a black necklace across the whitish underparts. Its length 11 to $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches, female and young being similar to the male.

Like its English counterpart the White-breasted Nuthatch creeps down the tree trunks head first. The back and top of the head is much bluer than the Nuthatch found in this country, with white sides to the head throat and breast. Length 5 to $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

The plump Black-Capped Chickadee is named after it's call. The Chickadee is a constant visitor to feeding stations, often feeding upside down.

The Chickadees and Nuthatches are often in winter accompanied by the Downy Woodpecker which often visits feeding stations and is quite similar in size and appearance to our Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. The male has a small red patch on the back of its head and a vertical white stripe down its back. Length $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The female is a little smaller and lacks the red on the head.

"Listen to the Mockingbird" goes the song, and the Mockingbird is, indeed, worth hearing. It's song imitates other birds' song, with something original added. Mockingbirds nest around homes and were seen in the garden daily, they are slender, grey, and have white patches on the wings and on the tail. Length 9 to 11 inches; the female is similar.

One bird which we did not see on this visit, but which we have seen previously is the Robin which is the largest (length 10 inches) of the American thrushes. Homesick colonists named the Robin after the European bird which has a much redder breast. The male has rather an orange-coloured breast, black head, brown back, wings and

tail, with a spotted throat.

There are many more which we could describe, perhaps at some other time. One we saw after the snow on the playing field had melted was a bird which is a rare visitor to Western Europe, the Killdeer. This is a large Plover marked by a double breast band, and orange brown rump and tail. It gets its name from its loud "Killdeer" call; its length is 9 to 11 inches the sexes being almost identical. Its normal habitat would be open meadows and ploughed fields or preferably mudflats and beaches.

V.A. Banbury.

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SLENDER-BILLED CURLEW AT SHOREHAM?

The following two accounts are copies of notes submitted to "British Birds" in support of two independent observations of a bird which, if accepted, will be the first Slender-billed Curlew for Britain.

(a) from Dr. J. Stafford:

November 23rd., 15.30 hrs. West bank of Adur under flyover bridge of A 27, Shoreham. Good sunlight from behind on to bird. Binoculars 10 x 50 and 10 x 40B. Bird at 20 yards feeding in the mud under the bridge. Size of a Whimbrel but Curlew-like; where bill joined head an odd reddish colour; head had a flattened or capped appearance. Bill looked longer than that of Whimbrel. Bird very white on underparts and flanks, with obvious brown circular spots on flanks in profusion, and to a lesser extent on breast. No Whimbrel head markings. Bill dark, long and decurved like a Curlew. Legs dark (covered in mud). A pale over-all bird, not shy; it walked towards us and a dog whilst feeding at this range (20 yds.). Watched feeding 2 - 3 minutes, then it flew off down river. No call. In flight white V-shaped rump, boldly barred tail like Curlew, but paler; circular spotting well seen as it flew. Barred secondaries and dark primaries. Despite search, the bird was not seen again before darkness overtook.

(b) from Dr. J.A. Newnham

November 16th., Mill Hill, Shoreham, 15.30 hrs. Fresh NW wind, cloudy, light fading. Whilst attending to some mist nets set for a Blackbird roost I noticed a large wader feeding in a dry grazed field standing amongst a patch of ragwort some 2ft. high. Above

the weed all that could be seen was the head and bill, which was identical to the shape of a Curlew, with a long evenly-decurved bill. The head markings were not clear in the light, but it appeared fairly even, with a suspicion of a slightly paler eye-stripe. I could not see whether or not there was a crown stripe. As I approached the bird continued to feed, aware but unperturbed by my presence. When it moved out of the dense weed, the most striking feature was its size, which was similar to, perhaps even sligher than a Whimbrel. The bird took to flight with no call when I was within 30 yds. Its flight was more buoyant than Whimbrel. As it flew away, the upper-sides generally appeared much lighter (despite the light) with obvious white rump and barred tail. The back and coverts were paler than Curlew, contrasting more with the primaries. The bird circled overhead and again the undersides appeared exceedingly pale. The bird settled in a nearby field and was left there until dark whilst I continued to attend to the trapped birds. Two days later there was no sign of the bird in the fields nearby, but presumably the same bird was seen by Dr. J. Stafford one week later.

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I REMEMBER EASTER 1975

I remember Easter 1975 and a week spent at Flatford Mill, on the Suffolk/Essex border, as a student on a bird-watching course.

A brief word about the Mill itself: the dining room is in the main building, with four large refectory tables and benches to seat 48 people. The library is used as a lecture room, and has an excellent selection of books. In addition, there are two large and one small laboratories. The bedrooms are upstairs; this part of the building is all boarded, and everything creaked - it was no good trying to creep out unheard! However, it is centrally heated and is very cosy. Then there is Willy Lott's cottage - what a dream, with its beams and rafters; impossible to describe! It is used mainly for sleeping.

On Thursday, the course started with a briefing by our tutor, Geoffrey Abbot, then a walk round the fields and back to the Centre for our picnic lunch. After lunch, over the bridge and along the river, to find Bearded Tits in the reeds and a Short-eared Owl out hunting. Then it snowed, and we had no alternative but to go back to the Mill very pleased with our day.

Friday, and into the Land Rover to visit the Stour Estuary.

To find waders we went to Mistley, where there are acres of mud at low tide. Unfortunately, there was also a blizzard, and we couldn't see birds for snow. But we travelled on and the sun came out; we walked across the fields to the estuary and saw Wigeon, Pintail etc. After lunch we went to Walton-on-the-Naze and found our waders. Home for tea, and a wander round the paddock looking for woodland birds; and the owl at the end quartering the reed bed.

Saturday, and to Abberton Reservoir, described in 1967 as "Britain's No. 1 reservoir for widgeon" - alas! we only saw a pair of Egyptian Geese, Great Crested Grebes displaying and Mallard. As we had also seen Gadwall, Golden Plover and a heronry, and was now very cold we were all ready to return to the Mill.

Sunday was a free day, and five of us decided to walk along the river to Mistley to see what we missed on Friday. We were very pleased with ourselves when we found a Black Redstart on the river bank. We got to Mistley, decided to eat our lunch and guess what? - another blizzard! The only thing to do was to start walking, and once again we were lucky - the sun came out and we were able to walk via the fields to find our owl before it snowed again.

Monday, and to the creek that leads to Havergate. It was a cold but sunny day as we left the Land Rover and walked through the woods to find several parties of Bearded Tits in the reed beds bordering the fields. We crawled up the river bank and looked over to see Avocets and hundreds of other waders. We decided that this was the spot to eat. Imagine our surprise when a raptor flew over the sand dunes - a Rough-legged Buzzard. It circled and climbed ever higher, and on following its flight we found another with it. A super day!

On Tuesday we went to Minsmere, where the first thing we saw were Great Grey Shrikes but only one Avocet and a few other waders on the Reserve, but I was very pleased to see Redpolls feeding on the path just like Sparrows. We then went north to Walberswick, where a Bittern moved in the reedbeds, but went to ground before we all saw it. What we did see was a pair of Marsh Harriers quartering the reeds. Another good day!

Wednesday saw the return home; it rained all the way, but it was nice to recall the friendliness of the other members of our class, the Warden and his wife, Geoffrey, our tutor, and the other staff who were all so helpful. There are other memories too numerous to mention, but I enjoyed every minute!

B.M.B.

GARDEN BIRDS 1975

- Garden at Steyning (P.J.Clay) Kestrel, Coal Tit, Reed Bunting,
Green Woodpecker.
- Garden at Hassocks (Mr. & Mrs.H.E.Cooper) Long-tailed tit, Great
Spotted Woodpecker, Green Woodpecker.
- Garden at Westdene (Mr. & Mrs.C.F.Helyer) Blackcap, Chiff/Willow,
Garden Warbler, Redstart, Pied
Flycatcher, Goldcrest, Coal Tit,
Green Woodpecker.
- Garden at West Chiltington (Mrs.G.C.Holman) Long-tailed Tit,
Bullfinch.
- Garden at Shoreham (Miss E.M.B.Rogers) Goldcrest, Tree Creeper.

* * * * *

FROM OUR MEMBERS' NOTEBOOKS

Garden Woodpeckers at Hassocks.

With the Green Woodpecker an established and regular visitor, May 31st. saw a Great Spotted feeding on ants on the garden lawn, to add to the Lesser Spotted which has appeared in this garden in several previous years.

H.E.C. & Mrs.C.

Peregrine Falcon at the Sanctuary.

Whilst mist-netting at the Sanctuary on the morning of Sept. 11th. I noticed that all the birds in the area suddenly became silent. High in the sky a large, heavy falcon circled over the hillside, having appeared. It dwarfed the two local Kestrels. Wings were pointed and tail was proportionately shorter than Kestrel; it was pale and barred on the underside, including the tail. As it partially stooped, it showed a dark upperside, an obvious white face and black moustachial pattern. The bird remained in the area for less than a minute before drifting off eastwards.

J.A.N.

Not to be Bullied!

On a warm August day, a Collared Dove was enjoying a cool-down in a very large flower-pot saucer with another dove and a Starling waiting to have a go. The Starling, as is their wont, aggressively moved in and took a peck at the dove, but the dove didn't budge - it gave the starling what seemed to be a "dirty look" and continued its bathe, followed by the second dove and the Starling LAST!

E.M.B.R.

Insomniac Robins.

During the past few weeks, when the weather has been mild, one or more Robins have been heard in the neighbourhood of Southwick Green singing for periods of up to twenty minutes at any hour of the night - song has been noted at 11 p.m., midnight, 2, 4, and 6 a.m. A spell of cold weather put a stop to the performance, but milder conditions brought a resumption. It did not appear to relate to the phase of the moon, but may have been associated with yellow street lighting close to the tree roosts.

C.F.H.

Kentish Plover at Shoreham.

August 3rd, '75 one imm. by Tollbridge at dusk (18.00 hrs.). Less wary than Ringed Plover, slightly smaller but head proportionately larger. Bill larger than R.P. Upper parts greyish-buff, slightly golden tinge to crown and very mottled (scalloped) back. Small brownish patch on shoulder/sides of breast. Underparts white and the whole bird had a very 'white' appearance, especially about the face. Legs dark (greyish-green when close). Bill black, wing-bar white and white sides to tail. Flight-call when flushed "tit-tit-tit-tit-tit".

R.F.P.

This bird was also seen next day by B.J.F., who also sent in a detailed description.

Shearwaters off Shoreham.

April 27th (18.00 hrs.), Widewater, sunny, calm sea with a slight mist. Two birds, just discernible with the naked eye but very distant, flew by west to east. Through 10 x 50 glasses they were obviously shearwaters, smaller than the Fulmars which were also flying past, with uniform dark upper parts. No good views were obtained of the undersides as the sea was calm. Flight was straight, 5-6 flaps, followed by a lengthy glide on narrow, stiffly-held wings.

J.A.N.

Mediterranean Gull at Hove.

One adult in winter plumage at Hove Lagoon. Common Gull size, all white apart from pale grey upper wing and blackish line through eye. Bill heavy with noticeable 'droop' at tip. Wing tips white - no sign of any black markings.

R.F.P.

Great Grey Shrikes in Collision

in the late afternoon of October 16th very close to the Observatory at Dungeness, two Great Grey Shrikes were seen in the

air together attacking a Goldcrest. In attempting the kill, their wings collided, and in the distraction the Goldcrest made its escape.

C.F.H.

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SUMMARIES OF FIELD OUTINGS 1975

Sunday, January 26th.

Amberley Wild Brooks with Mr. Frank Forbes.

On a very fine day, about 16 members met in Amberley village and proceeded towards the river. The Wild Brooks were flooded, but provided few duck - 2 Wigeon, 12 Shoveler and a few dozen Teal were noted, plus a Green Woodpecker. But the highlight of the walk was a Goshawk, which was well seen as it flew over the Brooks, and recognised as an adult male.

The subsequent visit to Rackham Woods was rather fruitless apart from 2 Kestrels and another Green Woodpecker.

Sunday, February 23rd.

Sidlesham Ferry to Church Norton with Dr. J. Stafford.

Some twenty members and friends walked from the Ferry to the Church Norton beach and back on a fine warm day.

It was possibly one of the best days I remember for birds on an outing of the Society in that area. We saw a total of well over sixty species starting with a Short-eared Owl quartering the marsh, plenty of waders, seen in a good light, about one hundred Black-tailed Godwits feeding on the mud; Brent Geese calling in flight, Slavonian Grebes feeding in the channel, a strange raptor resting in a pine tree that might have been a Sparrow Hawk. On the way back an Avocet was feeding in the pools left by the tide and as we reached the Ferry a Spotted Redshank flew by calling. It was a fine day for birds.

Saturday, March 8th.

Old Shoreham and Sanctuary with Mr. C.E. Messer.

About a dozen members turned out at the old Toll Bridge on a very dull, miserable day, with the threat of rain coming at any minute. Very few birds were seen along the river bank, so we decided to give it a miss and pay the Sanctuary a visit instead, because a number of Firecrests had recently been seen there.

As we neared the Sanctuary it began to pour with rain, and on reaching it we sheltered under trees, hoping the rain would soon

stop. While we were waiting, some of the members were just lucky enough to catch a quick glimpse of a Firecrest as it darted from tree to tree. Unfortunately, it disappeared as quickly as it had come. This was for us the only good bird of the day, for the rain had got steadily worse and, reluctantly, we decided to call it a day.

Saturday, April 5th.

Strivens Reed Bed with Messrs B.R. and P.J. Clay.

Some fifteen members gathered at 10 a.m. at the site of the old Steyning Station to walk up the former railway track the short distance to Strivens Reed Bed.

The mist nets were already set up - some near some peanuts so that birds, especially tits and woodpeckers, might be attracted and trapped. There was a steady flow of birds all morning, all of which were examined for rings. If they were retraps the ring number was noted; if not a ring of the appropriate size was fitted. All the birds had their age and sex noted and their wing length and weight taken.

The totals of birds caught were:

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>RT</u>	<u>NB</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
Wren	1	0	1	
Great Tit	7	3	10	
Reed Bunting	1	1	2	RT - Retrap
Willow Tit	C	1	1	NB - New bird
Robin	1	0	1	
Greenfinch	0	2	2	
Blue Tit	2	1	3	
<hr/>				
Total	12	8	20	

Despite snow over Easter the weather was warm, and there was little wind, making good ringing conditions. Birds seen included 2 Snipe, 1 Chiffchaff and a Yellowhammer. A fox was also seen.

Sunday, May 11th.

Ambersham Common with Mr. B.Metcalf.

A pleasant sunny day was enjoyed by fifteen members, who met at the common near the old railway track. A good concentration of birds were seen near a stream which had open heath to one side and woodland on the other. Tree Pipit and Reed Bunting were seen on the heath and the wood provided Marsh Tit, Green Woodpecker and fine, close views of a singing Wood Warbler, in a typical oak-wood habitat.

Other warblers seen or heard included Blackcap, Chiffchaff, White-throat, Garden Warbler and Willow Warbler.

A circular route was then taken westward along the old railway line, which produced another Wood Warbler and added Great Spotted Woodpecker and Long-tailed Tit. Thence through rather birdless woods to a viewpoint high on the edge of the common, where a superb panorama of the whole area was enjoyed by all. Then back to the cars for lunch, adding Stonechat, Nuthatch and Willow Tit.

In mid-afternoon, when the party had dwindled to six, the bird of the day was seen when a small raptor, spotted by a sharp-eyed member was identified as a Hobby. This was joined by a second bird, and we all had the greatest pleasure watching a display of aerial manoeuvres conducted by two avian masters of that art - a fitting finale to a fine day's birding in one of the most beautiful settings in Sussex.

Thursday, May 22nd.

Angmering Park and Blakehurst with Miss V. Lyon.

About 15 members assembled at the "Dover" turning on the A 27 on a cold and showery evening. Mr. Bernard Forbes led the first part of the walk eastward into Angmering Park and Miss Lyon then took over for the walk towards Blakehurst Farm.

We started with two Blackcaps singing by the cars, but drew almost blank in the plantation near the road, as it was still rather early in the evening. We had slightly better luck in the forestry between Dover House and Blakehurst Farm with four roding Woodcock and one or two Grasshopper Warblers at dusk, singing on an area of recently felled and replanted forest. Tawny Owls were also vociferous in the wood.

Saturday, June 7th.

Chailey Common with Mr. A. Burstow.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of the appointed leader, the Field Secretary undertook to be at the meeting point to lead any members who might wish to explore the area, which has not before been chosen for a Field Outing.

It was a beautiful June evening, but only three members joined the F.S. and although we spent quite a time, first at the Ditchling end and then the Chailey section of these two adjacent commons, little was seen. A few Willow Warblers, a couple of Moorhens on the pond, and a cuckoo calling occasionally (mockingly?), really summed up the evening.

We hoped for better fortune at Shaves Wood on our way home, as a Nightingale had been reported there. Alas! here too we drew a blank, and although a delightful spring evening, it could hardly be regarded as profitable birdwise.

I have also to report that 1975 was the first year I have not heard a Nightingale singing since its song was first broadcast on the radio - but please don't check on that date!

Saturday, July 5th.

Charlton Forest with Mr. R.P. Meadows.

On a fine evening ten members approached the traditional Nightjar area by the shorter route. Earlier reconnaissance had found warblers and woodpeckers there, but by 8 p.m. these had unfortunately subsided, and the party had to be content with Grasshopper Warbler as the only audible passerine, but had good views of probably three pairs of Nightjars, both churring and "coo-icking". No Woodcock appeared, but a Tawny Owl was heard, and some deer were seen at gratifyingly close range. On the walk back, around 11 p.m., three glow-worms were seen.

SUNDAY, October 26th.

Cissbury and Chanctonbury with Mr. C.E. Messer.

Thirteen members gathered at the Steep Down car park on a bright and windy day, for the usual walk to Chanctonbury. Several interesting raptors had been seen during the previous week, including Rough-legged Buzzard, so we set off full of hope.

Stonechats were plentiful and Tree Sparrows, too, were frequently seen in small parties along the hedgerows. One interesting bird to turn up was a Black Redstart; everyone had good views of it as it hunted insects from a fence -post in front of us.

We soon started to see the odd Kestrel, and later we had some rather distant views of Sparrowhawks, but unfortunately for us all other raptor species eluded us for the rest of the day. So late in the afternoon, after a hopeful start, we reluctantly agreed to call it a day.

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SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1975

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>£.p.</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>£.p.</u>
Brought forward	110.38	Subscription:	
Subscriptions:		British Birds	14.00
148 @ £1		Binding	2.75
6 @ 0.50	151.00	R.S.P.B.	3.00
Sale of Reports	1.60	B.T.O.	3.50
Film Show - Visitors	8.80	Shoreham Community	
Miscellaneous Receipts	0.80	Centre	2.00
Sanctuary Key - sale	0.25	Film Show Expenses	23.14
P.O. Bank Interest	5.51	Sanctuary Rent	4.00
Donation	1.00	Printing	81.55
		Duplicating	3.00
		Stationery	3.84
		Postage	20.42
		Hire of Huntingdon Hall	8.25
		Lecture Expenses	8.50
		Field Day Expenses	2.40
		Miscellaneous Expenses	5.25
		Balance in hand 31.12.75	
		31.12.1975	<u>93.74</u>
	<u>£279.34</u>		<u>£279.34</u>

AUDITED AND FOUND CORRECT

(SIGNED) C. F. HELYER

HON. TREASURER

(Signed) G.W. RAMPTON

LIST OF LECTURES 1975

January 18th	Ornitholidays to Ethiopia	Mr. L.G.Holloway
February 8th	FLYING BIRDS A WELCOME IN THE MUD SHETLAND-ISLES OF THE SIMMER DIM	Three R.S.P.B. films at Shoreham Town Hall.
March 22nd	Annual General Meeting and Twenty Years of Bird Watching	Mr. Tony Marr
October 22nd.	Bird Identification	Dr. J. Stafford
November 19th	Birds and Trees	Mr. A. Mitchell

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SHOREHAM ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Mr. P.J. Clay	" " "
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(J) Mr. G.A. Robbins	" " " " "
(J) Miss J.A. Robbins	" " " " "
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Mrs. & Miss Stringfellow,	7, Queensway, Horsham.
Mr. K.J. Tanner,	31 Clarendon Road, Shoreham
Mr. D.J. Taylor	80 Cleveland Road, Worthing.
Miss E. Theobald,	1 Saxon Road, Steyning..
Miss M. Theobald,	1 Saxon Road, Steyning.
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Mr. P.S. Wilmshurst	12 Ashcroft Close, Shoreham

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6 Charles House, Goring Road,
Worthing

Mr. N.W.S. Yonge,

Homefields Farm, Bull's Lane,
Cowfold.

.....

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.

Items for the "Arrivals and Departures of Migrants" Section should be extracted from General records and detailed separately.

OFFICERS ETC.

President & Chairman:

Dr. J. Stafford

Council Members:

Hon. Secretary

Mrs. E. Farmer
78 Park Avenue,
Shoreham-by-Sea

Hon. Field Secretary

Mr. A. Burstow

Hon. Treasurer

Mr. G.W. Rampton,
34 Croft Avenue,
Southwick BN4 4AB.

Hon. Recorder

Dr. J.A. Newnham

Report Editor

Mr. C.F. Helyer

plus:

Miss C.P.S. Griffiths

Mr. H. Hiscoke

Mr. B. Forbes

&

Mr. C.E. Messer

Field Committee:

Miss C.P.S. Griffiths
Messrs A. Burstow, B. Forbes,
C. Messer & Dr. A.B. Watson

Sanctuary Committee:

Messrs F.J. Forbes, B.R. Clay,
P.J. Clay & Dr. A.B. Watson.

Member kindly responsible for distribution of "British Birds" etc.

Mrs. Farmer

NOTICE

Will members please advise Secretary of any alterations
of name and/or address.

* * * * *

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

and

Shoreham Community Centre

The membership fee is £1 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 50p a
year, also inclusive of the Report.

* * * * *

NOTICE

By a decision of the Council in 1971, membership of the Society
is limited to 180, to avoid overcrowding at meetings. New
applicants for membership may accordingly be invited to join a
waiting list from which vacancies will be filled in order of
application.

* * * * *

NOTICE

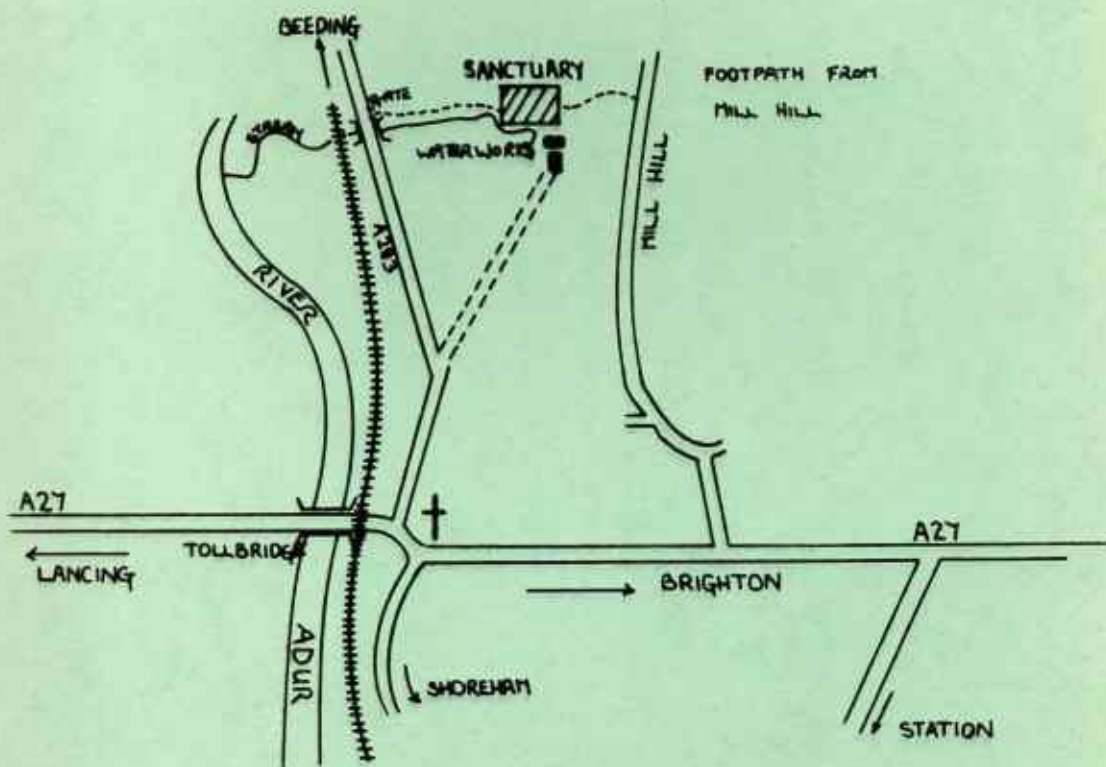
Extra copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary at 30c. each.

EXTRA COPIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORT MAY
BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY AT 30c. EACH

NOTICE

Extra copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary at 30c. each.

SHOREHAM SANCTUARY



The Sanctuary is now held on a new Agreement. *Pedestrian* access is now by the Waterworks Road, at the end of which take a pathway to the left skirting the Waterworks buildings. Cars *must* be left at the junction of the Beeding Road and the Waterworks Road.

Alternative access is through the gate on the Beeding Road, or steeply down from Mill Hill.

Note: The new Adur Bridge and its approaches are omitted from this map for the sake of clarity.