

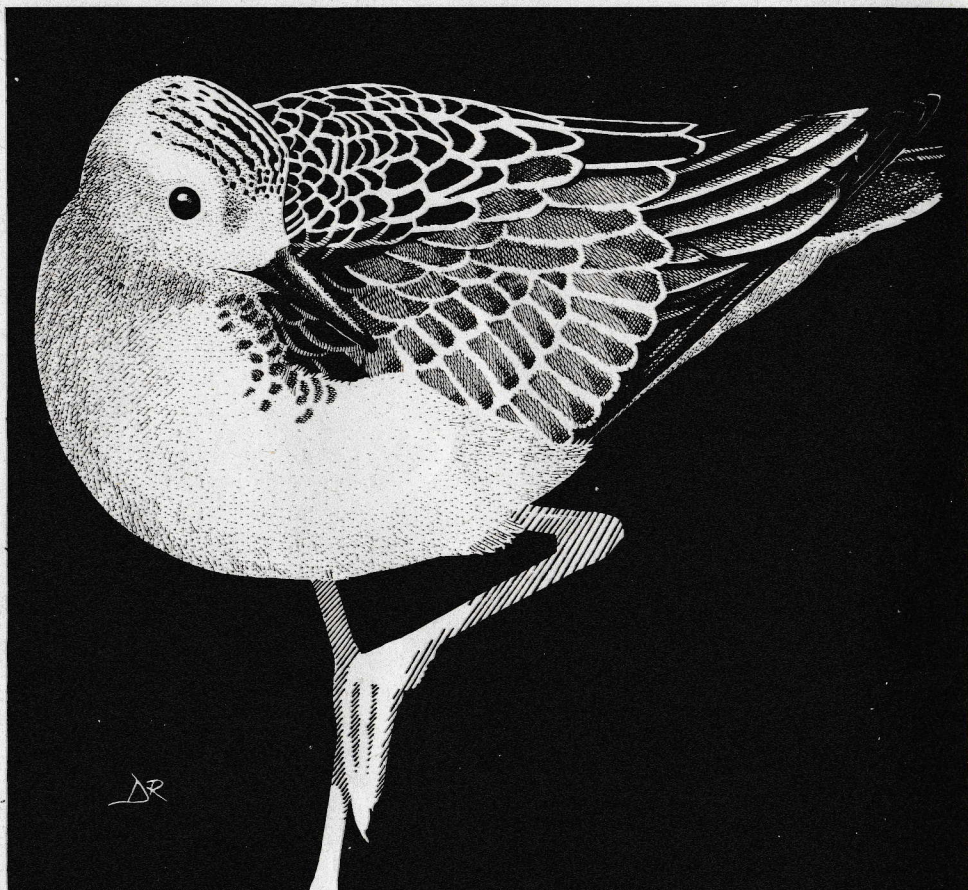


The HAMPSHIRE BIRD REPORT



1982

Published October 1983 by the
HAMPSHIRE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Buff-breasted Sandpiper by Darren Rees

Front Cover: Black Redstart by David Thelwell

HAMPSHIRE BIRD REPORT 1982

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EDITORIAL

Once again a large volume of records was submitted to HOS and for this we thank the many observers who are listed elsewhere in this report. The coverage of the county was similar to that described in the 1981 Editorial, the major gap still being the band of chalk downland and associated woodlands from the north-west across to the south-east. Whilst it is impossible to include information for areas not watched we know that several active observers covering localities for which we have insufficient information are not submitting records. We appeal to them to contribute their observations and so make this annual publication as complete as possible.

The increased volume of records submitted each year means that the task of preparing the Report in time for distribution with the autumn newsletter is becoming increasingly onerous. To spread this load over a longer period of time, preparation of the 1983 Report will begin much earlier than usual. All records should be submitted by January 31st 1984 but in any case late records received after February 28th may well be omitted. We would also be pleased to hear from any readers with a good knowledge of Hampshire birds who would be interested in assembling records and writing part of the *Birds in Hampshire* section of the Report. Please contact John Clark.

The need for records of certain species of scarce or rare birds to be accompanied by notes or a description, especially when the observer involved is an experienced one, has always been a contentious issue. A few observers understandably are reluctant to submit descriptions to any records committee for judgement if they consider themselves more experienced observers than the members of a committee. However, we appeal to all observers to follow the requirements detailed in the *Recording Birds in Hampshire* section of this report. It is felt essential that all records of rare birds in the county should be supported by adequate documentation for the sake of posterity. Future research workers examining our files may not have any knowledge of observers currently known to be reliable, and thus have difficulty in evaluating their records.

The Committee is currently preparing a pamphlet detailing the type of records required for each species. This will be distributed to all HOS members; other observers can obtain a copy from Dave Billett. In the mean time we repeat our plea of last year for observers to give more precise details for locations (*i.e.* grid references) and of the exact area covered where counts of breeding species are concerned.

Several favourable comments were received regarding the Review of the Year and map of the county included in the 1981 Report. We have retained these and added larger scale maps of certain areas. Any other constructive comments or suggestions regarding the report would be welcome.

In addition to all the observers, thanks are also due to Richard Millington, Darren Rees, David Thelwell and John Walters for their artwork, Glynne Evans and Colin Tubbs for their papers, John Marchant of the BTO for the data on Common Bird Census and Waterways Bird Surveys and Tony Prater of the Sussex Ornithological Society for the wildfowl and wader count data from Chichester Harbour. Finally we would like to thank, on behalf of the Society, Michael Bryant and Len Weatherly who have recently retired from the posts of Chairman and Secretary after many years very hard work for both HOS and its predecessor the Hampshire Field Club Ornithological Section.

July 1983

DFB, JMC, DJS, EJW
Records and Publications Sub-Committee

POLICY, MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANISATION OF THE HAMPSHIRE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The society was founded in January 1979, following the winding-up of the Ornithological Section of the Hampshire Field Club. The objects of the society shall be for the public benefit:

- (a) to promote the recording, study and research into ornithology within the County of Hampshire and collate and maintain the results;
- (b) to publish the results of such study and research and to publish reports, newsletters and other papers of ornithological interest as may be deemed by the Society suitable or desirable for promoting its objects;
- (c) to support and encourage the preservation and conservation of wild birds and places of ornithological interest in the County and to protect these from injury, ill-treatment or destruction.
- (d) to promote interest in the objects of the Society and for this purpose to arrange lectures and meetings and to organise tours, rambles, excursions and the like.

Membership is available for the following subscriptions (as from Jan. 1983).

Ordinary Membership	£5
Joint Membership	£6
(2 or more members at the same address)	
Associate Membership	£2
(Students between 18 and 25)	
Junior Membership	£2
(Members under 18)	
Corporate Membership	£7
(Schools, N.H.S.s etc.)	

Application should be made to the Hon. Membership Secretary. Subscriptions are renewable on January 1st each year, but the subscription of any new member joining after September 30th shall cover the succeeding calendar year, save that members so joining shall not be entitled to receive the Bird Report published in the year they are joining.

All members receive the annual Bird Report, quarterly Newsletters, and the Summer and Winter Programmes, which give details of all indoor and outdoor meetings arranged on behalf of the Society.

The Newsletters contain Society news and views, articles on various aspects of Hampshire ornithology, recent reports, ringing news, and details of the organisation, progress and results of surveys organised by the Field Studies Committee. These include wildfowl and wader counts, breeding censuses and migration watches. New surveys are started every year, and the newsletter serves as a medium to contact potential volunteers. All members are invited to take part in surveys and contribute articles to the newsletter.

Regular field meetings are arranged for all parts of the county throughout the year, and venues far afield are also selected, e.g. Cley and Dungeness. Meetings are designed to introduce members to various habitats and to provide opportunity for novices of all ages to learn more about birds under field conditions.

Indoor meetings (usually illustrated lectures) are arranged in the winter months. Most of these will be of interest to all members, but some may cater particularly for specialist groups, e.g. survey workers meetings.

The Society is administered by the Management Committee. Three sub-committees, Field Studies, Records and Publications, and Recruitment, Publicity and Programme are responsible for these particular areas to the Management Committee. Officers of all the committees are listed on page 2, of this report.

RECORDING BIRDS IN HAMPSHIRE

Observers should send their records to the Recorder, Mr D. F. Billett, at 61 Southampton Road, Fareham, Hampshire at the end of each quarter, or, at the latest, by the end of January following the year in which the observations were made.

Records should be tabulated on the special forms obtainable from the Recorder. Species should be listed in the order given in this report, leaving a single line between each species but not between each individual record. Each individual observation should be written in full on a separate line, without the use of ditto marks or abbreviations for localities, which can cause confusion. The practice of listing monthly maxima for the year at one locality on the same line, without the date of each count, should be avoided. Full information on what type of records are required for each species is contained in a special pamphlet obtainable from the Recorder. HOS members should have received a copy.

Records of species considered by the *British Birds* Rarities Committee can be submitted directly, or preferably via the county Recorder, but in either case on the special forms available for the purpose from the Rarities Committee Secretary at 195 Vicarage Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 7TP. The HOS Records Committee would also like descriptions of the following lesser rarities.

All divers	Mediterranean, †Sabine's, †Iceland
Grebes (except Great Crested and Little)	and †Glaucous Gulls
†All petrels and shearwaters	Roseate Tern
Bittern	†Black Guillemot
†Purple Heron	Little Auk
†White Stork	Long-eared Owl
Spoonbill	Hoopoe
†Whooper Swan	Wryneck
†Bean and †Pink-footed Geese	Shore Lark
Red-crested Pochard	†Richard's and †Tawny Pipits
†Ferruginous Duck	Unusual races of Yellow Wagtail
Long-tailed Duck	Waxwing
†Honey Buzzard	†Dipper
†Red Kite	†Bluethroat
Marsh and †Montagu's Harriers	†Savi's, †Aquatic, †Marsh, †Icterine,
†Goshawk	†Melodious, †Barred
†Rough-legged Buzzard	and †Yellow-browed Warblers
Osprey	†Red-breasted Flycatcher
†Spotted Crake	Golden Oriole
†Corncrake	Hooded Crow
†Kentish Plover	†Raven
†Dotterel	Twite
†Temminck's Stint	†Serin
†Pectoral Sandpiper	†Scarlet Rosefinch
†Buff-breasted Sandpiper	†Lapland, Snow, Cirl and †Ortolan Buntings
†All phalaropes	

In most cases, especially when the observer is known to the Committee, a short note showing why the species was identified as such is all that is required. This is best written with the observation on the recording form. However, in the case of those species marked with a † above, which includes ten recently removed from the list of those considered by *British Birds*, a full description is required. Special HOS Unusual Record forms are obtainable from Records Committee members for this purpose. No records of these species will be published unless a description has been accepted by the Records Committee.

The Records Committee may seek supportive evidence in the case of other species occurring under unusual circumstances. The list above is not exclusive and any observer in doubt or needing advice on any species should contact the Recorder.

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Apologies for any errors or omissions.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

1982 was an interesting year for birds in the county although there were no outstanding periods, notable occurrences being well spread through the year. The cold weather in January did not produce anything like the influx of continental visitors experienced in 1979. During the rest of the year the weather was dominated by westerlies and as a result visible migration, especially of passerines in autumn, was inconspicuous. However, there were notable influxes of several passerines species from late October onwards. 15 rarities records have been accepted by *British Birds* with others of **Cory's Shearwater**, **Red-footed Falcon** and **Ring-billed Gull** still pending.

The mild weather which had returned to the country in late December 1981 continued for the first few days of January, the only notable birds at this time being an **Arctic Skua** at Fawley on 2nd and a **Long-eared Owl** at Martin on 3rd. From 6th onwards an anti-cyclone became established to the north-east resulting in cold easterly winds. Heavy snowfall occurred on 8th and in its wake a small cold weather movement took place, largely involving **Lapwings** and **Skylarks**. Large numbers of **Fieldfares** and **Redwings** present in the first few days left the county as did a **Marsh Harrier** present at Titchfield Haven since December 17th. Other species apparently involved in the movement (as shown by their appearance in unusual places) included **Snipe**, **Woodcock**, **Woodlarks** and three **Waxwings** which left west from Titchfield Haven on 10th. **Siskins**, however, were unperturbed. A massive flock of 700 was feeding in alders at Fleet Pond on 9th and good numbers were present elsewhere through the month. The return of the cold weather forced many birds into gardens to feed at bird tables. These included **Bramblings**, **Grey Wagtails** and **Reed Buntings** as well as **Fieldfares**, **Redwings**, **Siskins** and other expected species. 44 **Blackcaps** were reported from 28 sites, mostly gardens, but few were seen after the cold snap. During the cold spell, which lasted to 16th, Southampton Water proved to be an excellent area. All three species of diver were present in small numbers, as well as five **Red-necked Grebes** and probably in excess of 50 **Great Crested Grebes**. A large flock of **Tufted Ducks**, forced on to the sea from frozen inland waters, formed off Weston Shore. A similar gathering in Langstone Harbour Entrance included 230 **Pochard** as well as 180 **Tufted Ducks**. These were thought to be local birds from Sinah G. P. and IBM Lake. Other interesting wildfowl recorded during the cold spell included eight **Red-crested Pochards** on the sea off Hill Head on 13th, up to 25 **Scaup**, seven **Smew** and 25/30 **Ruddy Ducks**. However, there was no influx of **Goosanders** as in 1979, with only eight reported away from the now established Wellington C. P. wintering area. **Slavonian Grebe** numbers reached a very high level, with up to 22 in Hayling Bay throughout the month. A large number of **Hen Harriers** was reported with a minimum of 26 and possibly as many as 50 in the county. Numbers of other raptors were unexceptional. Other noteworthy occurrences included seven **Common Sandpipers** at Eling on 11th, four **Glaucous Gulls** between 13th and February 1st (including one inland at Bramshill), unusually high totals of 12 **Bitterns** and 30 **Jack Snipe** and an immature **Long-tailed Skua** seen at very close range at Hurst on 17th, only the third county record. The rapid thaw from 17th onwards resulted in the return of many passerines such as thrushes and **Skylarks**, and the creation of ideal conditions for wildfowl, especially at coastal localities such as Farlington Marshes and Titchfield Haven and in the Avon Valley. On 23rd at least 6200 **Wigeon** were present in the latter area and probably in excess of 12000 were in the county at the time. 1500 **White-fronted Geese** were near Avon Village on 23rd, but their numbers declined rapidly with the continuing mild weather. **Bewick's Swans** reached a county record of 183 in the Avon Valley on 29th and also a total of 11 **Whooper Swans** was seen at four sites late in the month.

Also of note were a **Snow Bunting** at Hurst on 17th and a dark phase **Arctic Skua** seen off Southampton Docks on 23rd, presumably the individual seen at the beginning of the month.

The weather in February was generally mild with westerlies apart from a period of cold easterlies from 15th to 24th. However, conditions were not sufficiently severe on the continent to force any noticeable westward movement into Britain. Many of the scarcer birds seen in January had left by this time. The highlights included a **Green-winged Teal** at Dibden Bay on 6th, a flock of 150 **Bramblings** at Blackfield on 13th, a roost of up to seven **Long-eared Owls** near Whitechurch throughout the month, six **Twite** flying north at Romsey on 18th, a **Curlew Sandpiper** at Eling Great Marsh on 20th (seen again on March 6th), a **Pink-footed Goose** with the White-front flock at Blashford on 23rd, four **Waxwings** at Totton, 13 **Twite** at Dibden Bay and a roost of 27 **Hawfinches** near Romsey, all on 27th, and finally a peak count of 36 **Goosanders** at Wellington C.P. on 28th.

March was another unsettled month apart from a spell of warm southeasterly weather from 25th onwards. The most notable birds were a **Hooded Crow** at Newtown R. T. on 12th, **Green-winged Teals** at Dibden Bay on 13th (presumably the individual seen in February) and at Stratfield Saye on 14th and 17th, and an adult **Ring-billed Gull** at Dibden Bay on 17th. The only outstanding occurrence of wintering birds was a record count of 32 **Purple Sandpipers** at Southsea on 14th. Migrant **Chiffchaffs** were evident from 7th (only five having been recorded earlier in the year), **Wheatears** from 12th and **Sand Martins** from 13th. Six other migrant species were seen before the end of the month, including a **Stone Curlew** and nine **Garganeys** at Paulsgrove Reclamation on 27th. The latter record was the signal for a very good spring for the species, with over 40 being recorded up to early May.

In early April the weather continued to be favourable to arrivals from the south and a further 13 migrant species were recorded up to 10th, including 12 **Avocets** at Dibden Bay on 2nd, a **Marsh Harrier** at Farlington Marshes on 4th and a **Hoopoe** at West Hayling on 5th. Also of note were a **Raven** flying west over Farlington Marshes on 4th, a **Long-eared Owl** at Titchfield Haven on 9th and 10th and a **Ring-billed Gull** at Dibden Bay on 10th. From 8th onwards the weather remained settled but the westerly movement of the anticyclone pulled in colder northerly winds. Very few migrants arrived in the next few days and visible movements of passerines such as **Meadow Pipits** and **Linnets** were generally small. However, there was a very early **Pied Flycatcher** at Steep on 12th and also inland, some very interesting sea bird occurrences at Fleet Pond. A **Little Gull** was there from 7th to 13th, a **Kittiwake** on 8th and a further 13 **Kittiwakes** arrived on 12th. Most of these stayed during the northerly winds, the last not departing until 23rd, by which time westerly winds were re-established. Other interesting records in mid-month were of a **Red Kite** which left west from Titchfield Haven on 12th, seven **Velvet Scoter** off Hill Head on 15th (five having been present since March 24th), a late **Merlin** at Dibden Bay on 17th, a male **Montagu's Harrier**, and a **Great Grey Shrike** at Avon Tyrrell on 20th, a **Little Egret** at Fleet Pond and a summer plumaged **Red-necked Grebe** off Hill Head on 22nd, an **Osprey** at Pennington and a **Long-eared Owl** at Waltham Chase on 25th, a **Wryneck** at Stubbington on 26th and a male **Red-footed Falcon** at the traditional Bishop's Dyke haunt on 28th. All other regular summer visitors apart from **Spotted Flycatcher** and **Nightjar** had also arrived by the month's end although numbers were generally small. Sea bird movements through the Solent were unspectacular, the most noteworthy records being of 128 **Whimbrels** flying east at Hurst on 17th and 893 **Bar-tailed Godwits** east off Hill Head on 27th. Numbers of terns, skuas and **Little Gulls** were low.

For the first ten days of May the winds were again frequently from a northerly quarter and as a result few interesting occurrences were noted in

what is usually one of the best times of year. The winds were no doubt responsible for **Fieldfares** lingering, 130 being near Hartley Wespall on 1st and others still present on 4th. Considerable numbers of **Whimbrel** were discovered feeding inland from Langstone Harbour at this time, the highest count being of 60 at Havant Thicket on 2nd. A late **Hen Harrier** was at Fawley on 5th and another stayed in the Bishop's Dyke area until 22nd, the latest ever spring date for the county. Other notable raptor records were of six **Marsh Harriers** between 3rd and 23rd, **Ospreys** at Broomy Plain on 13th and Broadlands Lake on 18th, a ringtail **Montagu's Harrier** passing through Crondall on 15th and a first summer male **Red-footed Falcon** at Bishop's Dyke on 30th. From 9th high pressure to the east pulled in southerly winds. These no doubt forced some sea birds migrating up-Channel towards our coast. Records at this time included 12 **Pomarine Skuas** between 9th and 13th, a **Gull-billed Tern** at Warsash on 10th, a **Balearic Shearwater** and 21 **Little Gulls** flying east at Hurst on 11th, three **Long-tailed Ducks** (including two summer plumage males) flying east through the Solent on 11th and 12th and a noteworthy 107 **Black Terns** east off Hill Head on 12th. Wader records included 410 **Whimbrel** east at Hill Head between 8th and 10th, two **Temminck's Stints** at Dibden Bay from 10th to 14th and 424 **Bar-tailed Godwits** east at Hurst on 12th. The **Long-billed Dowitcher** present in the Pennington area since October 1981 was last seen on 11th. A **Spoonbill** was at Farlington Marshes from 15th to 17th but the latter half of the month, so often an excellent time for overshooting migrants, produced very little apart from a summer plumaged **Broad-billed Sandpiper** at Paulsgrove Reclamation from 22nd to 25th, the second county record. For those who saw it, it more than made up for the dearth of other rarities at this time. A **Long-eared Owl** was found dead on the M27 at Cosham on 29th, possibly indicating local breeding.

June was one of the wettest on record, with persistent westerlies and some very heavy thunderstorms. Of note were a **Garganey** at Titchfield Haven on 5th, a **Razorbill** at Pennington on 7th, a female **Red-necked Phalarope** at Titchfield Haven on 9th, a **Golden Oriole** calling at Leigh Park on 13th, a **Honey Buzzard** seen over Weston (Southampton) on 24th and up to seven **Little Gulls** at Farlington Marshes and two at Titchfield Haven throughout the month. Breeding surveys showed that the severe winter had little effect on **Dartford Warblers** and **Stonechats** in the New Forest but caused a significant reduction in the north-east, where the snow cover was more extensive. **Woodlarks** showed a 49% reduction in this area but data for the forest are not complete enough to draw any conclusions. **Cetti's Warblers** were unaffected, a minimum of 22 pairs or singing males being present in the county. The decline of New Forest **Buzzards** appears to have been halted: 19 pairs were located with ten known to have raised young. Records of **Hobbies** were more complete than for several years, the records suggesting a county population approaching or even exceeding 50 pairs. Of the other raptorial species the position of the **Barn Owl** seems precarious — only nine breeding pairs were reported. Tern numbers remain healthy, the establishment of colonies on the RSPB wardened islands in Langstone Harbour contributing to the good position. A pair of **Roseate Terns** was reported for the first time in several years. A pair of **Mediterranean Gulls** bred at Needs Oar for the fourth time but unfortunately they were washed out by spring tides. Records of this species at other times of the year were much more frequent than previously, with several individuals involved in records in the Weston Shore and Langstone Harbour areas. Other notable breeding counts included eight calling **Quails**, at least eight pairs of **Water Rails** proved breeding, 24 pairs of **Little Ringed Plovers**, 74+ pairs of **Yellow Wagtails**, mostly in the Avon Valley and on coastal reclaimed areas, and in the New Forest 14 pairs of **Whinchats** and 12 pairs of **Wheatears**. Singing **Cirl Buntings** were located at two sites so the species would appear to be just surviving in the county.

In July the weather was changeable for a week but then the establishment of a high pressure area over the continent pulled in hot air from the south. As this moved slowly west the winds turned first easterly and then northerly towards the end of the month. The star occurrence in the first half of the month was a **Gull-billed Tern** which fed inside the sea-wall at Pennington for several hours on 11th. This was followed by an injured **Puffin** at Eling on 12th and a very large flock of 45 **Common Sandpipers** on Milford Beach at dusk on 13th. Towards the end of the month further interesting migrants occurred: a **Pectoral Sandpiper** at Farlington Marshes from 21st to 23rd, then moving to Paulsgrove Reclamation where it remained until 27th, a massive count of 196 **Whimbrels** at Farlington on 24th, a **Wryneck** at Weston on 28th and a juvenile **Montagu's Harrier** at Keyhaven on 31st.

In early August high pressure persisted to the south-west, resulting in hot west to north-westerly winds. As a result it was a poor period for migrants, the only birds of note being a **Spoonbill** at Titchfield Haven on 3rd, a **Guillemot** at Langstone Harbour on 13th and an **Osprey** at Titchfield Haven on 16th. The high pressure declined in mid-month with the result that temperatures fell and unsettled weather returned. Although numbers of most of the commoner passage migrants were quite good (including 15–20 **Pied Flycatchers** up to mid-September), the only notable birds were a **Peregrine** at Langstone Harbour from 20th onwards, a **Spotted Crake** on Farlington Lagoon on 22nd and an early **Merlin** at Oxeby Marsh on 31st.

Westerlies persisted in early September and the fairly quiet period continued. The only notable occurrences were on 5th, when an **Osprey** and a **Red-necked Grebe** (the earliest autumn record for the county) were at Titchfield Haven, an early **Ring Ouzel** was at Old Winchester Hill and a large inland movement of **Common/Arctic Terns** took place, with 143 SW in two hours at Fleet Pond and 26 SW with a **Spotted Redshank** at Frensham Great Pond. A high pressure area over the near continent produced south-easterly winds from 9th to 20th. During this period there was an early **Hen Harrier** at Ashley Walk on 10th, three **Marsh Harriers**, **Red-necked Grebes** at Southampton Docks on 11th and Lymington on 19th, two **Ospreys** at Sopley on 12th, a **Temminck's Stint** at Eling Great Marsh on 13th and 14th and on 15th a **Wryneck** at Locks Heath and a noteworthy inland flock of 25 **Black Terns** at Mockbeggar Lake. Strong westerlies returned for the rest of the month, producing a **Pectoral Sandpiper** and a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** in the Keyhaven area from 25th/30th, a storm-blown **Leach's Petrel** at Brambridge on 26th and **Grey Phalaropes** at Farlington Marshes and Brownwich Shore on 28th. No doubt uninfluenced by the weather were a flock of ten **Stone Curlew** at Nether Wallop on 25th, these being accompanied by a **Dotterel**, and a record gathering of 2030 **Canada Geese** at Stratfield Saye the next day.

Mild westerlies dominated the weather in October, with several periods of strong winds and heavy showers or longer spells of rain. Movements of passerines were very small during the month, but notable occurrences on the ground included a **Hoopoe** at Liss and a late **Grasshopper Warbler** at Hamble on 3rd, an early **Snow Bunting** at Pennington on 5th and 6th, a **Tawny Pipit** at Sinah Common on 9th, up to three **Ring Ouzels** at Old Winchester Hill from 24th to 31st and a late **Lesser Whitethroat** at Southampton Container Berth on 30th. Late October also signalled the start of a considerable influx of **Goldcrests**, **Firecrests**, **Chiffchaffs** and **Black Redstarts**, the last three species producing totals of 33, 70+ and 73 to the year's end. An unusually large number of **Black Terns** was seen, with 26 flying west at Hurst on 1st and a sprinkling of records through to 20th when one was at Broadlands Lake. Apart from a **Grey Phalarope** at Keyhaven from 5th to 9th the first half of the month was fairly uneventful for non-passerines, but gales on 16th/17th produced another **Grey Phalarope**, one or two **Pomarine Skuas** and a **Purple Sandpiper** in the Keyhaven area and a **Leach's Petrel** in Langstone Harbour.

In the last week of the month the weather became more settled, notable records being of an **Arctic Skua** flying west over Broomy Plain on 24th, an **Osprey** at Keyhaven from 25th to 27th and at Eling a **White-rumped Sandpiper** on 27th and a **Curlew Sandpiper** on 30th.

Fairly warm, settled weather persisted in the first week of November. Late summer visitors included a **Whinchat** at Twyford on 2nd, a **Reed Warbler** at Fleet Pond on 4th and also an **Osprey** there on 7th. Also of note were a **Long-billed Dowitcher** at Titchfield Haven on 4th and inland a **Red-necked Grebe** at Hatchet Pond and a **Brent Goose** at Fleet Pond, both on 6th. On 8th two extremely early **Smew** were at IBM Lake and an **Arctic Skua** was seen off Hill Head. A **Snow Bunting** was seen at Sinah Common on 10th and by this time westerlies had returned. The winds veered north-westerly on 13th with the result that temperatures dropped. No rarities were seen for the rest of the month although there was a massive arrival of **Brent Geese** and a notable passage of **Short-eared Owls**, at least 25 being seen during the month and some remaining to winter. Two late skuas were a **Bonxie** at Hurst on 21st and an **Arctic** at Hill Head on 23rd. A **Slavonian Grebe** was inland at Broadlands Lake from 19th to 26th and by the end of the month at least 53 **Great Crested Grebes** and 37 **Black-necked Grebes** were present in Langstone Harbour. Also of note was a count of 26 **Purple Sandpipers** at Southsea on 26th.

In December east to south-easterly winds predominated for the first week but thereafter a mild, unsettled westerly airstream became established. The 4th as a good day with 20 **Avocets** at Dibden Bay and flocks of 35 **Greylag Geese** and 97 **Eider** at Keyhaven. On 6th a roosting **Long-eared Owl** was discovered at Sinah G. P. and on 8th a **Glaucous Gull** was seen at Hill Head. Thereafter few noteworthy birds were recorded although numbers of some wintering species were high. Numbers of **Brent Geese** reached record levels with over 7500 at Langstone and 1500 in the Keyhaven area. In the Avon Valley, counts on 29th included 280 **White-fronted Geese**, 108 **Bewick's Swans** and 2950 **Wigeon**. Other wildfowl records included a massive count of 3000 **Teal** at Calshot/Fawley on 5th, a small influx of at least six **Long-tailed Ducks**, up to seven **Ruddy Ducks** at Yateley G. P. from 14th onwards, two **Smew** at IBM Lake continuously and six **Goosanders** back at Wellington C. P. by 26th. **Hen Harriers** were less numerous than during the previous winter but at least 12 **Merlins** were found. Some wintering passerines have already been mentioned, but also worthy of note were a minimum of 33 **Blackcaps**, a flock of 25 **Twite** at Dibden Bay on 18th and a very unseasonal **House Martin** over Beaulieu on 22nd.

JMC

BIRDS IN HAMPSHIRE, 1982

The following abbreviations have been used: N, E, S and W = the points of the compass: these are combined with numbers to show the direction in which birds overhead were moving, e.g. 17 W;

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| CBC = Common Bird Census; | G. P. = Gravel Pit(s); |
| C. B. = Cress Bed; | R. T. = Rubbish Tip; |
| C. P. = Country Park; | S. F. = Sewage Farm/Works; |
| G. C. = Golf Course | S. P. = Sand Pit; |
| — (in tables) = datum not available; | |
| 0 (in tables) = visit made but none seen; | |
| P (in tables) = present when visit made but not counted; | |
| * (wildfowl and Coot) = post-war maximum for area concerned; | |
| § = further details given in Ringing Report; | |
| † = further details given in breeding censuses paper. | |

Species are listed in order of the Voous list. Each is given a code letter; an explanation of these is given below.

- A** = A species for which all records are given.
B = A species for which a summary of the records is given.
C = A species for which selected records are given, e.g. migration, weather movements, unusual dates etc.
D = A species recorded about which there is nothing to report.

A Red-throated Diver

Gavia stellata

Early year: 1, Southampton Water, Jan. 4th; 1, Langstone Harbour, Jan. 9th; 1, Warsash, Jan. 10th and 12th; 1, Hurst/Pennington, Jan. 17th; 1, Fareham Creek, Jan. 19th and 20th; 1, Southampton Water, Jan. 21st and 23rd; 1, Pylewell, Jan. 22nd; 1, Hill Head, Feb. 1st; 1, IBM Lake, Feb. 3rd; 1, slightly oiled, off Southsea, Feb. 23rd; 1, Eling, Mar. 10th; 1, Hayling Bay, Apr. 21st/22nd.
Late year: 1, Hurst, Nov. 7th; 1, Hill Head, Nov. 14th; 1, Eling, Dec. 11th.

A Black-throated Diver

Gavia arctica

Early year only: 1, Warsash, Jan. 10th/Feb. 3rd (DAC); 1, Marchwood, Jan. 21st/26th (PJC); 1, Hurst, May 11th and 2 E there, May 15th (MGWT).

A Great Northern Diver

Gavia immer

Early year: 2, Hayling Bay, Jan. 1st; 1, Langstone Harbour, Jan. 10th; 1, Hayling Bay, Jan. 11th and 13th; 1, Hill Head/Warsash, Jan. 10th/23rd; 1, Lepe, Jan. 22nd; 1, off Southsea, Feb. 13th.
Late year: 1, Hayling Bay, Oct. 30th and Nov. 6th; 1, Eling, Nov. 15th; 1, Hill Head, Nov. 28th/Dec. 2nd; 2, Langstone Harbour, Dec. 12th; 1, from Hayling Bay into Chichester Harbour, Dec. 29th.

A Diver species

Gavia sp.

Early year: 1 NE, Eastney, Jan. 1st; 1 E, Hill Head, Jan. 8th; 1 E, Hayling Bay, Jan. 11th; 1 W, Pennington, Jan. 17th; 1 E, Hill Head, Jan. 22nd; 1, Chilling, Feb. 10th; 1 E, Gilkicker Point, Mar. 8th; 1 E, Hayling Bay, Mar. 21st; 1 E, Hurst, Apr. 1st; 2 E, Southsea, Apr. 3rd; 1 E, Hurst, Apr. 4th, 5 E and 1 W, Hill Head, Apr. 20th/May 8th; 1, Calshot, Apr. 30th; 1 W, Hayling Bay, May 1st; 1 E, Hurst, May 5th; 1 E, Pennington, May 9th; 1, Hurst, May 11th/12th and 2 there, May 13th.
Late year: 1 W, Pennington, Nov. 14th; 1, Langstone Harbour, Nov. 15th; 1 W, Hill Head, Dec. 7th; 1, Hayling Bay, Dec. 9th, 1 E there, Dec. 17th and 1 W, Dec. 27th.

C Little Grebe

Tachybaptus ruficollis

Salt water maxima: 38, Eling, Jan. 21st and 31st; 30, Langstone Harbour/Port Creek, Jan. 12th and 32 there, Dec. 15th.

Freshwater maxima: 39, Longstock/Leckford, Jan. 16th and 35 there, Nov. 13th; 42, Ringwood/Fordingbridge, Feb. 23rd; 32, Eversley G. P., Sept. 26th; 32, Timsbury, Oct. 2nd; 26 Winnall, Oct. 17th.

B Great Crested Grebe

Podiceps cristatus

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	20	14	12	9	2	1	—	2	3	5	53	26
Hill Head	43	17	26	7	1	0	0	0	3	1	14	59
Southampton Water	50	23	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	10
Hurst/Lymington	8	4	—	4	4	1	—	2	6	9	12	—
Ringwood/Fordingbridge	9	28	—	—	40	—	36	33	—	—	27	16
Fleet Pond	14	11	25	20	15	6	8	10	10	24	25	17
Yateley G. P.	14	24	24	24	20	26	27	—	26	19	18	14

Breeding: N. E., 35 prs. attempted at twelve sites, 27 raising 56 yg.; Ringwood/Fordingbridge, 18 prs. present at nine sites, 9+ attempted with 4 raising 7 yg.; Avon Village, 2 prs. present, 1 raising 3 yg.; Hightown G. P., 1 pr. bred; Sowley Pond, 1 pr. raised 1 yg.; Allington G. P., 1 pr. raised 3 yg.; Ewhurst, 1 pr. raised 4 yg.

B Red-necked Grebe

Podiceps grisegena

Early year: Many records from the entire coastline Pennington/Hayling Bay but numbers involved difficult to determine. At least 5 were present in Southampton Water during Jan. where they were seen together off Warsash on Jan. 22nd. 2, Langstone Harbour, Jan. 17th and Feb. 11th. 1 dead and oiled, Pennington, Feb. 6th. 1, Sinah G. P., Mar. 12th/13th. 1 in summer plumage, Hill Head, Apr. 22nd. Records from the open coast off Southsea, Lepe and Hill Head are probably linked with Langstone Harbour and Southampton Water. Minima present were Jan., 7; Feb., 4; Mar., 3.

Late year: 1, Titchfield Haven, Sept. 5th; 1, Western Docks (Southampton), Sept. 11th; 1, Lymington, Sept. 19th; 1, Hatchet Pond, Nov. 6th.

1981: The Broadlands bird remained until Sept. 17th.

B Slavonian Grebe

Podiceps auritus

Early year: Recorded until Apr. 19th with a probable 45 different individuals present in Jan. from Keyhaven/Hayling Bay. Maxima were 22, Hayling Bay, Jan. 25th/Feb. 15th and 7, Pitts Deep, Feb. 14th.

Late year: 2, Langstone Harbour/Hayling Bay, Nov. 2nd; 3 there on 6th and until end of year. Elsewhere, singles in Southampton Water, off Hill Head and Barton-on-Sea in Dec. An inland record of 1, Broadlands Lake, Nov. 19th/26th.

B Black-necked Grebe

Podiceps nigricollis

Early year: Up to 38, Langstone Harbour, Jan.; 20, Feb./Mar. with the last there 1, Apr. 9th. Elsewhere, 1, Titchfield Haven/Hill Head, Jan. 6th, 10th and 21st; 2 off Netley, Jan. 20th; 1, Lepe, Jan. 30th/31st; 1, Netley, Feb. 16th/17th; 1, Lepe, Feb. 22nd; 1, Dibden Bay, Mar. 27th/Apr. 3rd.

Late year: 2, Langstone Harbour, Oct. 15th; 23 there by Oct. 30th; 25, Nov. 27th; 37, Nov. 28th; 35, Dec 25th. 2, Hill Head, Dec. 17th/18th.

B Fulmar

Fulmarus glacialis

Between Hurst/Hayling Bay a total of 15 on ten dates from Feb. 11th/May 16th then singles on Aug. 8th and 13th.

A Manx Shearwater

Puffinus puffinus

1, of the race *P. p. mauretanicus*, off Hurst, May 11th (DBW, MGWT).

A Leach's Petrel

Oceanodroma leucorhoa

1, Brambridge, ringed and released English Channel, Sept. 26th (LTRG). 1, Langstone Harbour, Oct. 17th (RWH, JMW, PAG).

B Gannet*Sula bassana*

1, dead on shore, Pitts Deep, Feb. 14th; 1 dead, Hurst, Mar. 27th. A total of 29 on nine dates, Apr. 1st/July 22nd, mainly from Hurst. 1 SW over Totton, Sept. 23rd.

C Cormorant*Phalacrocorax carbo*

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	—	—	34	—	—	12	14	36	44	41	40	40
Southampton Water	95	52	80	34	14	22	45	73	128	136	91	24

Maximum number inland: 47 on the Avon between Bisterne and Ibsley, Jan. 23rd. In the N. E., away from the main river valleys, peaks in May and Oct. were considered to indicate passage.

A Shag*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

1, off Eastney Point, Mar. 14th (PG) was the only early year record. Then 1 from Oct. 31st/Dec. 31st in the Langstone Harbour entrance/Southsea Castle area (PG).

A Bittern*Botaurus stellaris*

Early year: 2, Sinah G. P., throughout Jan., 1 remaining until Apr. 23rd; 1, Keyhaven, Jan. 1st; 1, Calshot, Jan. 1st; 1/2, Titchfield Haven, Jan. 1st/29th; 1, Warsash, Jan. 6th/12th; 1, found dead, Sowley Pond area, Jan. 8th; 1, Alresford Pond, Jan. 12th/29th; 1, Lepe, Jan. 13th; 1, Ellingham, Jan. 18th; 1, Bishopstoke, Jan. 31st; 1, Leckford, Jan.; 1, Itchen Navigation, Feb. 6th; 1, Ringwood, Feb. 27th/28th; 1, Alresford Pond, Mar. 8th.

1, Fleet Pond, Nov. 12th/Dec. 30th was the only late year record.
1981: 1, Sowley Pond, Dec. 29th.

A Little Egret*Egretta garzetta*

1, Fleet Pond, Apr. 22nd (LSW, GCS, TMJD *et al.*). Accepted by *British Birds*.

C Grey Heron*Ardea cinerea*

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	6	6	8	5	6	6	19	21	20	32	26	22
Portsmouth Harbour	17	8	8	5	6	11	9	14	19	20	18	18
Titchfield Haven	6	5	5	4	4	15	16	9	19	8	8	8

Maximum counts elsewhere were 32, Timsbury, Jan. 17th; 66, Eling Great Marsh, Oct. 30th; 44, Itchen Stoke, Nov. 21st; 50, Lower Test Marshes, Dec. 27th.
Breeding: Blashford, 5 occupied nests; Elvetham Park, 5 o.n.; Fishers Pond, 22 on.; Hinton Admiral. 12/15 o.n.; Sandy Balls Wood, 6/7 o.n.; Sowley Pond, 35/37 o.n.; Tournernbury Wood, 9/12 o.n.

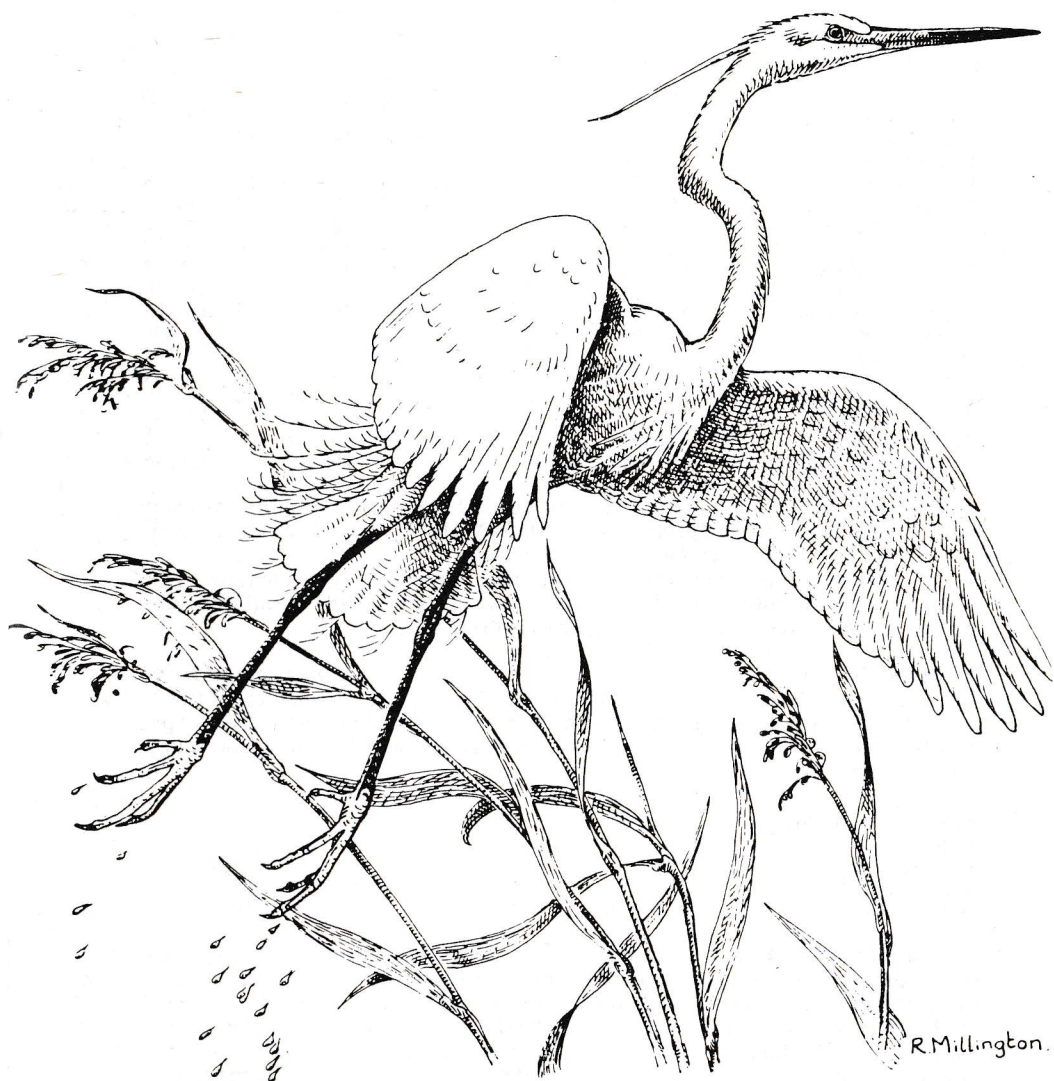
1 N off the sea, Hayling Bay, Apr. 2nd; 1 from SSW, Hurst and 3 E, Hill Head, Apr. 24th; 5 SW, Leigh Park (Havant), Aug. 14th possibly refer to migration.

A Spoonbill*Platalea leucorodia*

1 immature, Farlington Marshes, May 15th/17th (JTS *et al.*). 1 adult, Titchfield Haven, Aug. 3rd (SR).

Wildfowl

Monthly counts in Jan./Mar. and Sept./Dec. organised by HOS on behalf of the Wildfowl Trust continued at some fifty localities in 1982. The only major gaps in coverage were at Marsh Court in Sept. and at various sites in the Upper Itchen Valley in Jan./Mar. and Nov./Dec. On the plus side counting was resumed at Broadlands Estate (north of M27) for the first time since 1979. The tables for the common species show the monthly *maxima* for selected localities; these will not necessarily be the official count figures



R. Millington.

although in under-watched areas they are often the only counts available. Counts are also given for Chichester Harbour, which includes the eastern shore of Hayling Island but is largely in West Sussex. These are not taken into consideration in any comments made in the text.

B Mute Swan § †

Cygnus olor

Monthly maxima at selected localities

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	53	89	35	73	47
Langstone Harbour	—	—	—	15	—	—	30	44	17	18	—	—
Canoe Lake	58	14	10	—	—	—	—	—	16	36	53	53
Baffins Pond	15	36	47	—	39	25	27	—	30	17	17	28
Portsmouth Harbour	25	10	11	3	6	2	4	5	14	19	31	32
Titchfield Haven	23	8	20	30	46	32	9	8	19	7	4	6
Itchen Mouth	26	39	13	12	13	31	44	61	35	38	40	12
Eling Great Marsh	15	4	2	27	32	71	98	95	5	7	6	3
Lymington/Hurst	44	27	28	18	—	—	—	—	15	25	38	26
Sopley/Avon Village	40	35	36	—	6	—	—	20	15	23	18	23
Ringwood/Bickton	100	81	59	50+	92	—	65	54	—	43	124	106
N of Fordingbridge	77	165	95	32	43	—	—	—	73	161	118	152
Mottisfont area	13	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	7	33
Longstock/Leckford	20	10	12	—	—	—	—	—	20	13	24	18
Allbrook (Itchen)	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	23	34	20	—
Alresford Pond	2	2	5	—	40	40	42	50	25	6	—	10
Eversley/Yateley G.P.s	48	40	29	25	24	10	13	16	24	31	42	56*

The only other counts to exceed 20 were 21, Dibden Bay, Jan. 24th and Mar. 14th; 22, Shepherd Springs, Jan. 31st; 54*, Howe Park Lake (Houghton), Oct. 24th; 49*, Moortown (R. Avon), Dec. 14th.

46 pairs were reported breeding, of which 30 are known to have raised 129 young and 4 definitely failed. All breeding records for 1983 should be submitted as a National Survey of the species is taking place.

B Bewick's Swan

Cygnus columbianus

In the Avon Valley present until Mar. 3rd (32, Ibsley) and from Oct. 25th (3, Ibsley), apart from a single immature with Mute Swans at Ibsley from Apr. 1st/24th. Monthly maxima at the four principal sites and for the whole valley are shown below.

	J	F	M	A		O	N	D
North of Fordingbridge	55	40	0	0		0	0	0
Ibsley area	110	130	90	1		3	71	80
Blashford	113*	0	0	0		0	0	36
Sopley/Avon Village	37	0	0	0		0	14	57
Whole Valley	183*	130	90	1		3	71	108

Apart from 37 at Ivy Lake on Jan. 1st, none was seen at Ibsley or elsewhere before Jan. 16th, but a count of 113 at Blashford (an area little used in the past) on 18th suggests their whereabouts during the cold spell. A survey on Jan. 29th produced a total of 183 (BSD), a record count for the valley, with 55 at Castle Hill (Fordingbridge), 110 at Ibsley and 18 at Sopley/Winkton (some just inside Dorset). Late year numbers were normal for recent years. Best counts of immatures were 33 out of 183 on Jan. 29th (18.0%), 23 out of 116 on Feb. 23rd (19.8%), 24 out of 130 on Feb. 28th (18.5%), 11 out of 63 on Nov. 26th (17.5%) and seven out of 108 on Dec. 28th (5.6%).

Other records were of 11, Needs Oar Point, Jan. 1st; 12 (4 imms.), Sopley, Jan. 3rd (same birds?); 1 SE, East Cosham, Jan. 10th; 7 off S, Timsbury, Jan. 31st; a large party flying SE over St. Cross (Winchester) at 0100 hours on Mar. 2nd, this coinciding with a drop from 90 to 32 at Ibsley; 3 NE, Bricksbury Hill, Mar. 7th; 3 N, Pennington, Dec. 29th.

A Whooper Swan*Cygnus cygnus*

1 in the Bishopstoke/Allington area in late Dec. 1981 remained until Feb. 14th (DU, AGK, PGC). Other records were of 4 (2 imms.), Ibsley, Jan. 22nd (NR); 4 (1 imm.) S, Lee (R. Test), Jan. 31st (DRB, KMG, AMH, SWS); 2 N, Lepe, Jan. 31st (KDH).

A Pink-footed Goose*Anser brachyrhynchus*

1 adult was found among 340 White-fronts at Ivy Lake (Blashford) on Feb. 23rd (JMCK, MASc).

B White-fronted Goose*Anser albifrons*

Large numbers were present in the Avon Valley during the severe Jan. weather but the flock mostly kept to inaccessible areas to the south of Ringwood. The only count possible was of ca. 1500 on 23rd. Recorded numbers in Feb. were much lower with ca. 400 at Ibsley on 15th declining to 320 at Ringwood on 28th, the last date any birds were seen. Other records included up to 32, Farlington Marshes, Jan. 1st/25th; 10, Keyhaven/Pennington, Jan. 30th; a flock NE over Titchfield Haven after dark, Jan. 30th; 30 SE, St. Denys, Feb. 4th; 56 E, Normandy Lane (Lymington), Mar. 5th; 1 imm., Tundry Pond/Elvetham, Mar. 14th/Apr. 9th.

The first returns were 8 E and 20 W at Titchfield Haven on Nov. 8th. A small passage was noted there in Dec. with 29 W on four dates between 3rd and 29th and at Farlington Marshes where there were 5 on 2nd and 21 W on 5th. The only records from the Avon Valley were 250, Avon Village, Dec. 11th; 270, Ibsley, Dec. 19th; 280 in flight over Blashford, Dec. 28th.

B Greylag Goose*Anser anser*

Monthly maxima at the two main localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Bransbury Common	192	210	108	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	198	141
Stratfield Saye	105+	—	80+	—	—	—	109	—	171	—	176*	—

At Stratfield Saye ca. 10 pairs raised 49 young.

Records came from a further nineteen localities, many in spring indicating dispersal of the two main flocks. 24+ at Longstock on Apr. 26th (with counts of up to 13 on other dates in Feb./Apr.) were obviously Bransbury birds but the origins of 21 W in two flocks at Titchfield Haven on Nov. 6th and a flock of 35 at Keyhaven on Dec. 4th are more intriguing. Other records were of 7 or less.

B Canada Goose §*Branta canadensis*

Counts in Aug./Sept. in various areas are given below (1981 figures in brackets).

Stratfield Saye/Bramshill area	2030	(1630)
Fleet/Elvetham/Tundry Pond area	440	(300)
Blackwater Valley (Eversley/Badshot Lea)	160	(100)
Petersfield/Liphook area	151	(170)
Itchen Valley (Allington/Alresford)	230	(130)
Test Valley (Eling/St. Mary Bourne)	291	(190)
Avon Valley (Ringwood area)	250	(350)
Needs Oar/Sowley Pond area	64	(25)
Titchfield Haven	2	(0)
Portsmouth area	102	(77)
Totals	3720	(2972)

The total of 3720 birds is probably very close to the actual county population.

Record counts were made at the following localities: Alresford Pond (230, Aug. 22nd), Avon Village (62, Nov. 26th), Baffins Pond (102, Sept. 28th), Eling Great Marsh (291, Sept. 18th), Longstock/Leckford (151, Nov. 13th), Passfield House Lake (Liphook) (151, Aug. 28th), Stratfield Saye (2030, Sept.

26th, probably the largest flock in the country) and Titchfield Haven (73, Jan 22nd).

Breeding was better recorded than in 1981. In the N. E. 472 young were raised at 15 sites, the main colonies being at Ash Vale G. P. (30 young raised), Elvetham Park (72), Fleet Pond (28), Potbridge Fishery (22), Stratfield Saye (108), Wellington C. P. (52) and Yateley G. P. (100). In the Avon Valley 20 pairs raised 87 young at the Blashford area G. P.s, 3 pairs bred at Hightown G. P. and 3 pairs raised 19 young in the Avon Village/Bisterne area, the first there. Other records were of 13 pairs at ten widespread sites with 10 known to have raised 52 young. These included 4 successful pairs at New Forest ponds.

B Brent Goose §

Branta bernicla

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	8571	4682	2431	—	—	—	5	4	6	508+7842	9657*	
Langstone Harbour	5700	4716	2360	500	5	5	5	5	5	2000	5645	7536*
Portsmouth Harbour	506+	87+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55	1048	850+
Hill Head area	248	255	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	170	720*
Warsash/Hamble	372	491*	34	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	22	400
Weston Shore	91	93	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135	97
Calshot/Fawley	330	350	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	82	313	250
Lepe/Needs Oar	230	210	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	160	310	460*
Sowley/Lymington	166	110	200	190	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	84
Lymington/Hurst	900	978	1000	54	3	1	1	0	0	190	760	1500*

Numbers were very high in the late year, reaching record levels at five localities. Further information is given in a paper elsewhere in this report.

Spring passage was indicated by 172 E at two sites in Mar., peak 120 E at Hill Head on 9th. Few were seen moving in Apr. but on May 13th 1 flew SE off Hurst and E off Hill Head (same bird?).

Inland an immature was at Fleet Pond on Nov. 6th.

B Shelduck †

Tadorna tadorna

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	4552	3788	2401	—	—	—	314	137	185	106+629	1826	
Langstone Harbour	1751	2432	920	160	56	62	13	16	35	50	170	410
Portsmouth Harbour	680	31+	31+	53	23	18	1	—	—	—	98	68
Dibden Bay	245	210	208	108	69	—	3	7	—	56	—	32
Calshot/Fawley	415	365	320	230	164	—	50	29	52	25	108	144
Needs Oar Point	140	110	100	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	42	80
Sowley/Lymington	104	86	105	75	13	12	12	—	—	—	—	60
Lymington/Hurst	454	359	290	125	—	—	10	—	12	45	60	141
Sopley/Avon Village	3	8	15	27	14	—	—	—	0	0	0	1
Ringwood/Bickton	6	14	8	24	39*	—	7	2	0	0	0	1

Counts at other localities did not exceed 100.

There was good correlation of spring coastal movements: 50 E at Hurst between Apr. 17th/May 14th and 47 E at Hill Head between Apr. 20th/May 14th.

Broods were reported as follows: Farlington Marshes, 3; Calshot/Fawley, 2; Bailey's Hard (Beaulieu), 1; Pylewell, 1; Lymington/Oxey Creek, 4; Mock-beggar Lake, 5; Ivy Lake, 1. Other inland records suggestive of breeding were 1/2, Petersfield, Mar. 8th/May 16th; a pair, Whitton Pond (Burley), Apr. 9th; a pair, Havant Thicket, May 3rd; 9, Kingston Common (an old breeding site), May 31st; a pair, Bishop's Dyke, June 5th/6th.

Elsewhere inland records came from Alresford Pond (2/3, Jan. 16th/17th; 1, Feb. 14th), Dogmersfield Lake (1, Jan. 11th), Eversley G. P. (1, Nov. 21st), Marsh Court (3, Jan. 17th; 4, Feb. 21st; 3, Mar. 5th), Moortown (Ringwood) (2, Dec. 14th), Park Corner Farm (5 NNE, Feb. 19th), Stratfield Saye (3, Mar. 16th) and Wellington C. P. (1, Jan. 3rd; 1 E, Apr. 3rd and 21st).

B Mandarin*Aix galericulata*

At Stratfield Saye present throughout the year, peaks 13 on Mar. 18th and 16 on Sept. 29th, 1 pair breeding successfully. In the Leckford area there were 9 on Jan. 16th and 6 drakes and 1 duck (others sitting?) on Apr. 26th but no other indications of breeding. Elsewhere a pair nested but failed at Waggoners Wells and pairs probably bred at Eyeworth Wood and Wellington C. P.

Other records were of 1/3 birds at 16 widespread sites. Although some of these were long-staying semi-tame birds some localities featured for the first time, e.g. Ashley Walk, Broadlands, Mockbeggar Lake and Timsbury, indicating the gradual spread of the species in the county.

B Wigeon*Anas penelope**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	774	281	144	—	—	—	2	2	71	79+	525	761
Langstone Harbour	2000+*	200	70	12	0	0	12	3	376	800	400	1000
Titchfield Haven	2110*	1260	750	91	1	2	2	1	12	188	714	1270
Eling Great Marsh	320	340	60	0	0	0	0	0	3	250	200	400
Needs Oar Point	400	450	40	2	2	2	2	2	42	460	450	550
Sowley/Lymington	390	12	2	10	0	0	0	1	20	0	225	53
Lymington/Hurst	400	—	9	2	0	0	0	0	5	70	150	150
Sopley/Avon Village	2500+*	450	8	—	2	0	0	0	0	0	500	1400
Ringwood/Bickton	3700*	1350	440	6	0	0	0	0	0	—	440	2900
Broadlands/Timsbury	195	149	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	123	165
Stratfield Saye	60	44	36	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	17	26

Other coastal localities with counts of 100+ were Portsmouth Harbour (max. 118, Nov. 14th), Warsash (max. 100, Jan. 27th, next best 5) and Calshot/Fawley (peaks 190, Jan. 17th; 100, Oct. 17th). At other inland sites counts did not exceed 20.

Numbers were extremely high during and following the cold Jan. weather. It is estimated that 12000 were present around Jan. 17th/23rd, including 6200+ in the Avon Valley between Sopley and Bickton (the highest ever count for Hampshire — JMCK, KBW) and record counts of 2110 at Titchfield Haven and 2000+ at Langstone Harbour. Most had moved on by mid-Feb. Late year numbers were good and included a count of 2950 between Sopley and Bickton on Dec. 28th, the highest ever Dec. count for the Avon Valley. Most of these were day roosting on Ivy and Mockbeggar Lakes indicating disturbance in the feeding areas at Avon Tyrrell, Blashford and Harbridge. Also of note was the regular use of Eling Great Marsh, the counts being exceptional for recent years. Birds often arrived at dusk to feed on areas exposed by falling tides.

In addition to the summering birds shown in the table above there was also a pair at Winnall until at least June 27th.

B Gadwall*Anas strepera*

Numbers in the county reached a record level in late Jan. (ca. 250) and were also high in Dec. (ca. 220).

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	16	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1
Titchfield Haven	9	7	4	2	0	0	7	0	0	2	6	6
Sopley/Avon Village	5	0	6	3	1	—	—	—	0	3	0	4
Ringwood/Bickton	56	45	—	1	3	—	2	19	44	33	51	95
Marsh Court	69	19	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	17	31
Allington G. P.	12	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	14	16*
Alresford/Northington	11	9	3	2	0	0	0	11	7	1	12	6
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	28*	16	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	18	18

Monthly totals from sites with less regular records are shown below.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
43	20	11	3	7	3	0	11	5	6	30	42

Counts of 10 or more were made at Dibden Bay (12*, Feb. 27th), Needs Oar Point (10, Nov. 22nd), Pylewell (10*, Aug. 29th), Leckford (18, Jan. 16th), Chilbolton Common (10 N, Dec. 28th), Dogmersfield Lake (11/13*, Dec. 2nd/10th) and Fleet Pond (10*, Dec. 12th - Dogmersfield birds). Also of note were summer records from Winchester S. F. (pr., May 7th), Polhampton (Test) (pr., May 12th; 3 ♂♂, May 29th), Needs Oar Point (1♂, May 12th) and Pylewell (3, June 5th).

B Teal

Anas crecca

Despite the cold weather in the early year counts were generally low, only reaching 1000 in the Avon Valley below Ringwood. In the late year numbers were again low apart from a massive count of ca. 3000* at Calshot/Fawley on Dec. 5th (PFF, JMJ), one of the highest counts ever in the county.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	1709	135	265	—	—	—	8	25	502	102+	2170	2235
Langstone Harbour	425	200	50	19	2	5	20	215	600	800+	1000+	400
Portsmouth Harbour	150	38	30	1	0	0	4	3	26	52+	105+	200
Titchfield Haven	300	108	57	120	6	12	22	160	210	340	966	286
Warsash	300	150	23	6	0	0	0	0	7	4	110	91
Eling/Lower Test	150	50	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	25	20	20
Dibden Bay	10	242	150	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0
Calshot/Fawley	200	416	29	2	1	—	6	128	600	1000	950	3000*
Needs Oar Point	350+	350	50	—	—	—	—	—	270	200+	320	320
Sowley/Lymington	750	124	24	—	—	—	—	68	50+	190+	300+	220+
Lymington/Hurst	450	200	13	12	2	0	0	2	10	200+	580	500+
Sopley/Avon Village	1300*	200	130	7	0	—	—	—	6	286	289	320
Ringwood/Bickton	600	210	—	13	0	0	0	17	2	58	161	375
Marsh Court	64	17	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	42	60
Avington	144	78	10	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	50	—
Alresford Pond	165	70	80	46	0	1	6	136	80	184	142	200+
Dogmersfield Lake	90*	69	40	5	0	0	0	13	7	4	56	35
Stratfield Saye	42	22	50	8	0	0	0	2	87	40	70	26

Other sites with counts of 50+ were Broadlands (max. 136, Dec. 10th), Mottisfont (max. 50, Nov. 20th), Eastleigh S. F. (max. 60+, Jan. 2nd), Warnford Park (54*, Nov. 19th) and Hill Side (129* on ice-free water, Jan. 13th).

Single pairs bred successfully at Upper Clatford G. P. and Woolmer, with probably a second pair attempting at the latter site. All summer records, especially from the New Forest, are required.

A Green-winged Teal

A. c. carolinensis

Drakes showing the characteristics of this race were at Dibden Bay on Feb. 6th (TMM) and Mar. 13th (KMG, SWS) and at Stratfield Saye on Mar. 14th and 17th (JMCK). Both were accepted by *British Birds*. The fifth and sixth Hampshire records.

B Mallard†

Anas platyrhynchos

Numbers were unexceptional. Of twenty-eight localities holding over 100 during the year, ten had their maxima in Jan., fourteen in Aug./Oct. and four in Nov./Dec. Maxima at localities with counts exceeding 500 or record counts were as follows: Portsmouth Harbour (331*, Dec.), Lower Test Marshes (550*, Oct.), Sowley Pond (500, Jan.), Sopley/Avon Village (660, Sept.), Alresford Pond (850*, Aug.), Wyck Pond (Alton) (160*, Aug.), Stratfield Saye (900, Sept.), Tundry Pond (405*, Sept.) and Fleet Pond (525, July).

B Pintail*Anas acuta*

Numbers reached their highest ever level in the county during and immediately following the cold spell, with some 540 present around Jan. 17th/23rd including a county record of 210 at Langstone Harbour on 23rd (PG). In the second winter period counts were normal.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	135	125	25	—	—	—	1	0	19	2+	139	190
Langstone Harbour	210*	157	4	0	1	1	1	3	6	30	88	133
Portsmouth Harbour	30*	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	4
Titchfield Haven	4	4	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	8
Needs Oar/Sowley Pond†	75*†	60+	23	—	—	—	—	—	3	25	40	—
Lymington/Hurst	100*	22	0	3	1	0	0	5	1	6	28	18
Sopley/Avon Village	30	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ringwood/Bickton	91	35	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	42

Other coastal records were of 1/6 at five localities up to Mar. 28th, 1 at Calshot/Fawley on July 24th and 1/9 at three localities from Oct. 7th. Inland sightings were made at Moortown (Avon) (3, Dec. 14th), Broadlands Estate (4, Jan. 17th), Allington G. P. (1♂, Feb. 4th; pr., Mar. 14th; 1♀, Dec. 27th/31st), Marwell Zoo (1♀, Aug. 15th), Alresford (3, Jan. 31st) and Eversley G. P. (1 E, Sept. 6th).

A Garganey*Anas querquedula*

There was an unprecedented spring influx with at least 40 recorded. The first were 9 (5♂♂) at Paulsgrove Reclamation, a pair at Sturt Pond (Milford) and a drake at Dibden Bay on Mar. 27th. Records followed from Pennington (1/3, Mar. 29th/Apr. 6th), Dibden Bay (1/2, Mar. 28th/Apr. 3rd; 1♂, Apr. 24th; pr., May 7th), Farlington Marshes (pr., Mar. 31st/Apr. 1st; 2 prs., Apr. 9th; 1 pr., Apr. 12th; 1♂, Apr. 22nd), Titchfield Haven (1/2♂♂, Apr. 4th/5th), Alresford Pond (1♂, Apr. 6th), Fleet Pond (pr., Apr. 8th), Bramshill Common (1♂, Apr. 9th), Marsh Court (pr., Apr. 10th/11th), Harbridge/Ibsley (3, Apr. 16th; 1♂, May 7th) and Avon Village (5, Apr. 16th). Finally a drake flew E at Hill Head on May 14th and another was at Titchfield Haven on June 5th.

The only autumn sightings were of single drakes at Sowley Pond on July 16th, Farlington Marshes on July 24th and Alresford Pond from Aug. 22nd/29th.

B Shoveler*Anas clypeata*

Numbers were generally unexceptional at both ends of the year, only reaching 100 in the two main resorts at Langstone Harbour and in the Avon Valley above Ringwood.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	174	55	30	16	2	8	10	20	61	60	60+	104
Paulsgrove Reclamation	30	26	3	0	0	1	3	0	3	10	53+	50
Titchfield Haven	45	35	28	9	1	3	14	7	15	14	35	43
Dibden Bay	80	32	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Needs Oar Point	18	7	40	5	0	0	0	0	11	9	17	14
Lymington/Hurst	38	25	38	15	0	0	0	1	2	8	40	40
Sopley/Avon Village	41	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	20
Ringwood/Bickton	208	146+	59	9	0	0	0	25	20	33	91	194
Alresford/Northington	17	22	20	3	2	0	0	11	9	3	9	15

Other localities with regular records or counts of 10+ were Sinah G. P. (max. 7, Oct. 22nd and 27th), Baffins Pond (max. 17, Jan. 17th), Fawley Reservoir (43, Jan. 17th; next best 11, Oct. 17th), Sowley Pond (max. 15, Dec. 12th), Broadlands Estate (max. 8, Jan. 10th, Mar. 14th and Nov. 14th), Allington G. P. (max. 7, Feb. 8th), Dogmersfield Lake (max. Dec. 6th), Eversley/ Yateley G. P.s (max. 8, Jan. 31st), Fleet Pond (max. 5, Aug. 3rd, Dec. 6th and 10th) and Stratfield Saye (max. 10, Sept. 26th).

A Red-crested Pochard

Netta rufina

A flock of 8 (6♂♂), the largest ever seen in the county, was on the sea at Hill Head on Jan. 13th (SCK, RKL) and a drake was at Potbridge Fishery on Feb. 4th (MASc *et al*). A considerable number was recorded in the country at this time (including 8 at Minsmere on Jan. 15th) and they could have been continental immigrants.

Other records were of a duck at Fort Brockhurst (Gosport) from Jan. 3rd/ Apr. 4th and Oct. 3rd/Dec. 19th, a drake in the Titchfield Haven area from Feb. 20th/Mar. 19th (BSD *et al*) and a duck at Heath Pond (Petersfield) on Aug. 15th (ACS).

B Pochard

Aythya ferina

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Sinah G. P.	205*	143	106	4	1	2	1	9	25	63	120	160
IBM Lake/Pauls-grove Reclamation	104	55	14	10	4	1	1	0	17	26	100	146*
Titchfield Haven	36	11	9	4	3	1	0	0	0	4	2	3
Fawley Reservoir	100	70	2	1	1	—	3	5	12	21	63	137
Sowley Pond	25	9	11	—	—	—	—	—	12	26	20	58
Sopley/Avon Village	140	10	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	14	28	34
Ringwood/Bickton	317	320	21	2	1	—	19	10	6	25	173	282
Broadlands Lake	90	40	24	6	1	0	0	0	3	11	58	87
Timsbury	105	73	30	19	9	2	2	5	4	4	47	10
Mottisfont	35	19	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	15
Leckford	45	29	23	—	—	—	3	—	—	6	20	—
Allington G. P.	67	40	7	1	0	0	4	3	2	18	44	147*
Alresford Pond	90	82	16	29	10	—	19	10	—	8	1	64
Northington	46	18	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dogmersfield Lake	59	104	100	8	0	2	4	1	4	42	38	34
Fleet Pond	25	35	35	20	8	27	4	6	24	48	33	35
Eversley/Yateley G.P.s	50	71	29	0	0	2	3	3	11	33	51	58
Stratfield Saye	105	20	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	47	57
Wellington C. P.	62	54	11	0	4	0	1	0	0	4	6	19

The cold Jan. weather did not cause any major influx but did result in birds moving to the sea and rivers for a few days, e.g. a maximum of 230 in Langstone Harbour Entrance on Jan. 13th (Sinah G. P. birds), 457 in the Avon Valley (mostly at Avon Village and Harbridge) on Jan. 23rd and 105 (a much higher count than usual) on the River Loddon at Stratfield Saye on Jan. 19th.

Other counts of 20+ came from Salterns (Pennington) (21 at dusk, Oct. 29th), Shepherd Springs/Charlton G. P. (max. 25, Dec. 12th) and Winnall (max. 26, Jan. 10th).

Broods were reported as follows: Alresford Pond, 4; Fleet Pond, 6; Longstock, 1; Timsbury, 2; Upper Clatford G. P., 1.

B Tufted Duck†

Aythya fuligula

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Sinah G. P.	144*	137	65	39	16	12	40	36	35	52	70	90
Langstone Harbour	180*	33	7	26	9	16	6	18	18	0	1	6
Baffins Pond	36	23	35	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	7	14
IBM Lake/Pauls-grove Reclamation	100*	47	20	15	8	1	1	0	0	4	27	50
Titchfield Haven	29	10	5	2	2	1	1	0	1	1	4	14
Fawley Reservoir	70	55	23	19	6	—	43	47	48	42	72	127
Sowley Pond	26	16	10	—	—	—	—	—	10	27	24	46
Ringwood/Bickton	251	373*	84	—	135	—	213	150	126	44+	224	265
Broadlands Lake	126	64	82	49	29	26	24	10	30	68	79	114
Timsbury	118	134*	60	32	35	4	3	15	6	8	24	15
Mottisfont	115*	16	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	25

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Leckford	170*	104	52	60	—	—	—	—	27	22	26	90
Rooksbury Mill	26	21	26	—	—	—	—	—	13	3	29	42
Charlton G. P./ Shepherd Springs	51	37	31	—	—	—	—	—	22	30	38	36
Allington G. P.	74	53	44	24	26	0	0	1	27	32	31	42
Winnall	48	50	55	—	—	—	6	—	8	2	7	59
Alresford Pond	46	14	35	28	—	2	2	7	12	24	11	43
Northington	16	18	35	—	—	—	—	—	25	8	—	—
Dogmersfield Lake	85	90*	82	40	18	0	3	11	12	26	27	51
Fleet Pond	5	25	25	20	13	5	8	0	7	10	7	21
Eversley/Yateley G.P.s	250	224	243	193	119	95	60	—	132	107	160	194
Springhead (Greywell)	46*	0	25	9	8	6	—	12	—	—	14	11
Stratfield Saye	90+*	60	46	49	—	31	—	10	43	74	67	74
Wellington C. P.	27	15	14	17	24	4	1	0	9	3	18	32*

As with Pochard the cold weather forced birds into ice-free areas. In addition to the rivers and Langstone Harbour Entrance a substantial flock appeared in Southampton Water. 18 were off Weston Shore on Jan. 2nd, numbers rising to 102 on Jan. 13th. On 21st 25 were off Western Docks and on 26th 80 were seen from Dibden Bay. 12 remained off Weston on Feb. 4th and the last were 8 there on Feb. 21st.

Other sites with counts of 20+ were Avon above Fordingbridge (max. 42*, Jan. 17th), Avon Village (max. 30, Jan. 23rd), Ewhurst (max. 33, Nov. 14th), Milford Lake (max. 23, Feb. 14th), Overton (32*, Feb. 17th), Potbridge Fishery (max. 20, Apr. 14th), St. Mary Bourne (31*, Oct. 17th), Upper Clatford G. P. (max. 63*, Feb. 1st) and Warnford Park (max. 26, Jan. 17th and Feb. 14th).

Broods were reported as follows: Alresford Pond, 2; Ash Vale G. P., 1; Bickton, 2; Bishopstoke, 1; Broadlands Lake/Estate, 11; Candover Stream, 3; Eversley G. P., 4; Harbridge, 1; Hartley Wood (Oakhanger), 1; Lee G. P., 1; Mockbeggar Lake, 4; Shepherd Springs, 3; Springhead, 3; Stratfield Saye, 2; Timsbury, 3; Upper Clatford G. P., 2; Wellhouse Farm Pond (Bramshill), 2; Wyck Pond (Alton), 1; Yateley G. P., 18.

A Scaup

Aythya marila

A considerable number appeared during the cold spell in Jan. Records came from East Hayling (1♀, Jan. 17th), Sinah G. P. (1/4♀♀, Jan. 8th/12th; 1♀, Feb. 10th, 17th and Mar. 2nd), Langstone Harbour/Farlington Marshes (5/6 (2♂♂), Jan. 13th/24th then 5 (2♂♂) until Mar. 13th), Fareham Creek (2, Jan. 23rd), Gilkicker Point (1♀, Jan. 17th), Hill Head (4, Jan. 9th), Hook Lake (Warsash) (1♀, Jan. 12th), Eling Great Marsh (1♂, Jan. 31st), Calshot/Fawley (1/7, Jan. 9th/11th) and Lymington (2, Jan. 17th).

The only other early year records were of an injured female on the River Test at Broadlands from Feb. 3rd/Mar. 5th, a female at Paulsgrove Reclamation on Feb. 27th and Mar. 27th (probably from Sinah G. P.), an immature male at Stratfield Saye on Mar. 16th and a male at Pennington on Apr. 12th. An injured female seen well at Lower Test Marshes on May 10th was thought to be a Scaup/Tufted Duck hybrid (NHP). Probably this was the Broadlands bird.

Late year records were of single females at Hythe Pier, Oct. 30th; Fawley Reservoir, Nov. 14th; Langstone Harbour, Dec. 11th; Netley G. P., Dec. 18th and 22nd. The last was presumably that seen with a male at nearby Weston Shore on 22nd.

B Eider

Somateria mollissima

Recorded until Apr. 10th (1, Langstone Harbour), on Sept. 18th (2, Pennington) and from Nov. 30th (6, Pennington). Minimum monthly totals are shown below.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
30	17	18	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	124

Counts exceeding 5 were as follows: 8, Dibden Bay, Jan. 10th and 6 there, Jan. 14th/18th; 13, Langstone Harbour, Jan. 17th; 9, Warsash, Jan. 22nd; 6, Hill Head, Feb. 1st; up to 6, Keyhaven area, Nov. 30th/Dec. 30th; a flock of 97 (6♂♂) in flight over Hurst, Dec. 4th — the largest in the county since 1975; 15, Sandy Point/Hayling Bay, Dec. 29th; 11, Langstone Harbour, Dec. 31st (Sandy Point birds?).

A Long-tailed Duck

Clangula hyemalis

In the Langstone Harbour/Hayling Bay area, 1 female/immature was present from Jan. 1st/11th, 2 from Jan. 17th/Mar. 21st and 3 on Mar. 30th/31st, 1 remaining until Apr. 10th. Then an adult male flew E at Hurst, Lepe and Hill Head on May 11th and a pair E at Hill Head the next day.

In the late year a female/immature was at Hill Head, Oct. 22nd (left E); Langstone Harbour/Milton Reclamation, Oct. 23rd/Nov. 17th; Sinah G. P., regularly at dawn, Nov. 17th/Dec. 31st; Paulsgrove Reclamation, Dec. 4th/31st; probably only 1 bird was involved in these records. In common with other parts of Southern England, a small influx occurred in late Nov./Dec., records coming from Mockbeggar Lake (1♀, Nov. 26th/Dec. 31st), Charlton G. P. (Andover) (1♀, Dec. 4th/31st), Titchfield Haven (1♂, Dec. 11th/31st; 1♀, Dec. 21st/31st) and Calshot (1♀, Dec. 23rd/31st).

B Common Scoter

Melanitta nigra

In Jan. recorded only at Hayling Bay/Eastney Point (up to 7, 10th/28th), Gilkicker Point (1, 6th) and Pennington (up to 6, 24th/30th). Then none until Mar. 28th when 3 were off Eastney. Spring passage at Hurst was unexceptional with records on seven Apr. dates (max. 105, including 35 E, on 4th, no other count exceeding 15), a flock of 100+ and 23 E on May 11th, 30 + 8 E on 12th and 30+ on 13th. At Hill Head the only sightings were of 15 on Apr. 3rd and 2 on May 12th, again showing that few pass through the Solent.

There was virtually none in autumn, the only records being of 1 W, Calshot, Aug. 2nd; 5 W, Hill Head, Aug. 29th; 1, Langstone Harbour, Oct. 10th; 10 W, Hurst, Oct. 16th; 2 E, Hayling Bay, Oct. 26th. More appeared in Nov./Dec., records coming from Hill Head (15, Nov. 6th; 20 E, Nov. 7th; 25, Dec. 2nd), Warsash (6, Dec. 13th), Weston Shore (8, Nov. 7th; 1, Dec. 4th and 12th), Calshot (1, Nov. 10th/17th) and Hurst (14, Nov. 7th).

A Velvet Scoter

Melanitta fusca

1♀, Warsash, Jan. 22nd. 2♂♂ E, Calshot, Feb. 15th. Up to 5 (3♂♂), Hill Head, Mar. 24th/Apr. 14th then 7 (5♂♂) there, Apr. 15th. 2 E, Hurst, May 3rd. 2 (1♂), Netley/Weston Shore, Nov. 17th and 20th. 2, Hill Head, Nov. 19th (Weston birds?). 2 W, Hayling Bay, Dec. 14th.

B Goldeneye

Bucephala clangula

Present until Apr. 25th (1, Langstone Harbour) and from Oct. 19th (3, IBM Lake). In the eastern harbours numbers were average at both ends of the year but the early cold spell did result in influxes to Southampton Water (with birds regular at Eling/Lower Test (max. 6) and Weston Shore/Dibden Bay (max. 47) and the Avon Valley between Ringwood and Bickton. In the latter areas many birds fed on the river by day and flew into roost on the gravel pits at dusk, e.g. 46* at Mockbeggar and Ellingham Lakes on Feb. 6th.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	75	35	33	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	44
Langstone Harbour	84	35	21	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	25	30+
Portsmouth Harbour	39	6+	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	24	51
Southampton Water	47	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	14
Lymington/Hurst	8	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25
Ringwood/Bickton	30	46*	11	—	0	0	0	0	0	—	11	13

Other coastal records came from Titchfield Haven/Hill Head (up to 4, Jan.; 1/2, Dec.), Warsash (up to 4, Jan.) and Needs Oar Point (1/2, Feb., Mar. and Dec.).

At inland localities away from the Ringwood area, monthly totals were Jan., 16; Feb., 3; Mar., 1; Oct., 1; Nov., 4; Dec., 1. All records were of single birds on one date only apart from 2, Fleet Pond, Jan. 3rd; 1, Winchester Water Meadows, Jan. 5th/9th; 2, Northington, Jan. 16th; 1, Alresford, Jan. 16th/17th; 1/3, Sopley/Avon Village, Jan. 17th/Feb. 14th; 1/2, Eversley G. P., Jan. 24th/31st; 1, Southampton Common, Oct. 24th/Nov. 18th.

A Smew

Mergus albellus

In the early year records came from three areas. In the Portsmouth area 1 was seen regularly at IBM Lake between Jan. 1st/Mar. 10th (with 2 on Feb. 3rd), presumably moving to Langstone Harbour during the freeze as 1 was there on Jan. 13th. In the Avon Valley there were 2 at Harbridge, 1 at Avon Tyrrell and 1 at Ivy Lake on Jan. 23rd and then up to 4 at various G. P.s in the Ringwood area until Feb. 23rd. In the N. E. 1 was at Fleet Pond on Jan. 23rd/24th and nearby Dogmersfield Lake from Jan. 26th/Mar. 1st.

In the late year birds returned to IBM Lake for the third winter running. 2 were present from Nov. 8th (the earliest ever date for the county — JRH) to Dec. 31st with 3 on Nov. 29th.

All records were of redheads.

B Red-breasted Merganser

Mergus serrator

Apart from singles at Keyhaven on July 4th and Weston Shore on Sept. 14th, present until May 11th (2 E through Solent) and from Oct. 6th (1, Langstone Harbour and 4, Keyhaven).

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	27	29	38	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	55	72
Langstone Harbour	80	80	45	43	0	0	0	0	0	38	194	75
Portsmouth Harbour	8+	2+	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	—	39	51
Hill Head	12	6	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	14	4
Southampton Water	30	16	21	12	0	0	0	0	1	8	18	22
Lymington/Hurst	6	20	10	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	37	24

In recent years counts at Langstone Harbour have shown definite passage peaks in Nov. and Apr. Following the record count of 231 in Nov. 1981, numbers fell to 26 on Mar. 22nd but rose from 28 to 43 between Apr. 8th/11th. Late year numbers peaked at 194 on Nov. 11th but had fallen to 60 by Dec. 31st.

Records came from seven other coastal sites with peaks of 8 at Sowley Shore on Mar. 19th and 5 at Needs Oar on Jan. 17th and Warsash on Mar. 25th.

Only a small spring passage was detected, with a total of 13 E at Hill Head between Apr. 4th/11th.

A Goosander

Mergus merganser

Numbers in the Wellington C. P./Bramshill Common area rose from 9 on Dec. 31st 1981 to 30 (9♂♂) on Jan. 7th. Most moved to the ice-free waters of the River Loddon at Stratfield Saye during the cold spell, e.g. 19 (4♂♂) on Jan. 19th. Following the thaw numbers gradually increased to 36* (7♂♂) on Feb.

28th, the highest count in Hampshire since 1963. 35 (7♂♂) were still present on Mar. 6th but numbers then fell with the last 1 on Mar. 31st, although 3 were at nearby Eversley G. P. on Apr. 3rd. The first return was a drake on Nov. 17th with 6 (3♂♂) present by the year's end.

Other records were as follows: 2♂♂, Hucklesbrook G. P. (Ibsley), Jan. 1st; 3, Leckford, Jan. 16th; pr., Alresford Pond, Jan. 29th; 1, Hatchet Pond, Jan. 30th; 1, Kentford Lake (Romsey), Feb. 12th; 3, Hale (R. Avon), Feb. 14th; pr., Broadlands Lake, Dec. 2nd; 1, East Worldham, Dec. 5th/8th; 6, Mockbeggar Lake, Dec. 10th.

All were redheads unless otherwise stated.

A Ruddy Duck

Oxyura jamaicensis

A small influx occurred in Jan. Records came from the Ringwood area G. P. s (1/4, Jan. 1st/Feb. 15th), Titchfield Haven (4, Jan. 1st/13th, increasing to 8 (4♂♂) on 15th and 12 (6♂♂) from 17th/19th. Then a gradual reduction to 1, Jan. 31st), Weston Shore (9 (2♂♂), Jan. 15th), Alresford Pond (1, Jan. 16th), Paulsgrove Reclamation (pr., Jan. 19th), Broadlands Lake (2, Jan. 21st), Stratfield Saye (1 imm.♂, Jan. 24th) and Dogmersfield Lake (1, Jan. 28th).

In the late year present at Yateley G. P. from Dec. 14th/31st (max. 7 (2♂♂) on 17th/18th) and Broadlands Lake (1/2, Dec. 23rd).

All females or immatures unless otherwise stated.

C Honey Buzzard

Pernis apivorus

1 over Weston (Southampton), June 24th (FMV, DBF).

A Red Kite

Milvus milvus

1, Titchfield Haven, Apr. 12th left SW (JAN, PNR).

A Marsh Harrier

Circus aeruginosus

At Titchfield Haven the female/immature present at the end of 1981 remained until Jan. 10th. 1, Calshot, Feb. 4th was possibly the same individual.

A good spring passage, all records being from the coast except for one. 1♂ N, Farlington Marshes, Apr. 4th. 1♀/imm., Fleet Pond, May 3rd. 1♀ NE, Farlington Marshes, May 9th. 1♀ W, Hurst Beach, May 11th. 1♀ N, Eastney Beach, May 13th. 1♀ WNW, Farlington Marshes, May 15th. 1♀, Titchfield Haven, May 22nd/23rd.

Autumn: 1♀, Farlington Marshes, Sept. 9th/11th and 1♂ W there, Sept. 13th; 1♂, Bishop's Dyke, Sept. 18th.

B Hen Harrier

Circus cyaneus

Almost twice as many records were received for 1982 as for the previous year. After the large influx during the cold weather in Dec. 1981, many sightings were grouped in the initial wintering period. These included birds overwintering on the coast where there were few comparable records in 1981. Favoured localities were Farlington Marshes/Langstone Harbour (1♀/imm., Jan. 7th/Apr. 14th), Titchfield Haven (1♀/imm., Jan. 6th/Feb. 13th), Calshot/Fawley (2 (1♂), Jan. 1st/Feb. 12th) and Keyhaven/Pennington (2 (1♂), Jan. 3rd/Feb. 16th). Of particular note at this time were 5 (1♂) at Needs Oar Point on Jan. 17th. It is not clear if these birds roosted in the vicinity, no such number being subsequently reported. 1♀/imm., Fawley, Apr. 29th and May 5th was the last spring record from the coast.

Inland, principal territories were again in the New Forest with Bishop's Dyke and heaths north of the A31 producing the bulk of the records. This possibly, however, reflects observer bias. At Bishop's Dyke up to 2♀♀/imms. and 1♂ were regularly seen Jan/May, where the last, 1♀/imm. on 22nd (RJS, MJWH), was the latest county date since 1950. In the north the maxima were

5 (3♂♂) at Milkham/Sluffters on Jan. 30th and 4 (2♂♂) at Ashley Walk on Feb. 6th.

On the River Avon (Hale/Ringwood), 2 (1♂) were present Jan./Apr. 3rd. Other records in the NW included 1♀/imm. in Jan. and 1♂ on Mar. 30th at Martin Down.

At other inland localities records indicate the presence of a possible 10/12 birds. These, recorded between Jan./Mar. 28th, included 2 frequenting the Test Valley between Timsbury and Leckford, Jan. 2nd/Feb. 14th, and 1♀/imm. in the Dogmersfield area, Jan. 11th/Mar. 2nd. Males in this period were 1 flying low through Southampton City Parks, Jan. 11th; 1, Marsh Court, Feb. 6th; 1, Bricksbury Hill, Feb. 14th; 1, Baddesley Common, Mar. 9th; 1, Western Court (Alresford), Mar. 16th; 1, Woolmer, Mar. 28th.

Autumn/winter: 1♂, Ashley Walk, Sept. 10th (MR) is the earliest county record. 1♂, Milkham/Sluffters, Sept. 29th, was possibly the same one. Oct. records were 1♀/imm., Milkham, 10th; 1♀/imm., Woolmer, 14th; 1♂, Broomy Plain, 15th; 3♀♀/imms. SW, Cranesmoor, 17th; 1♂, Rhinefield, 18th; 1♂, Ashley Walk, 23rd; 1♂ WNW, Fleet Pond, 27th; 2 (1♂), Broomy Plain, 29th; 1♀, Calshot, 30th. In Nov./Dec. regularly recorded only at Broomy Plain/Milkham and Ashley Walk, where 3 (2♂♂) at Broomy, Nov. 14th/17th and 3 (2♂♂) at Ashley Walk, Dec. 21st were peaks. On the coast 1 imm. ♂ was at Farlington Marshes on six dates Dec. 3rd/31st.

Minimum monthly totals are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Females/Immatures	16	15	8	9	2	0	0	0	0	6	10	8
Males	10	6	7	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	10	10

A Montagu's Harrier

Circus pygargus

2 (1♂) were seen frequently throughout the summer in one locality, the male arriving on Apr. 20th. Elsewhere a female/immature was seen for a short while at Crondall on May 15th (MAsc, DJM) and a juvenile was at Keyhaven on July 31st (PCo, MCC).

B Goshawk

Accipiter gentilis

The two territories in 1981 were again occupied this year. In the first a female was recorded in early Apr. In the second records were for Apr./May. All involved a single bird, considered by two observers to be a male.

B Sparrowhawk†

Accipiter nisus

The response to the request for all records to be submitted has been very good. Although the majority of reports refer only to single birds, these data, when mapped, should prove valuable.

Little breeding data was received. Of interest, however, was an estimate of approximately 35 pairs (but located on a casual basis only) in some 300 sq. km. of N. E. Hampshire. This suggests a minimum breeding density of 1 pair per 850 hectares.

B Buzzard

Buteo buteo

The only early year coastal record was of 1, Titchfield Haven, Mar. 5th, which arrived from W and flew N along R. Meon. At Hatchet Moor on Mar. 24th, 3 were soaring in smoke from a large 'forest' fire (cf. Kestrel).

Breeding: In the New Forest study area, 21 territories were occupied. 10 pairs were known to breed of which 8 raised 11 young. 10 pairs probably did not attempt breeding. Elsewhere, individuals/pairs were reported from at least thirteen localities. At only one of these was breeding confirmed but it was strongly suspected at another.

Autumn: 1, Titchfield Haven, Sept. 11th and 4 W along Portsdown Hill, Sept. 30th were obviously migrants but their place of origin is unknown. In the N.

E., 2, Longmoor Inclosure, Aug. 20th and 1 S, Fleet Pond, Oct. 3rd, were described as typical autumn passage records. 1, Twyford, Oct. 13th was also probably a migrant.

1981: In the New Forest study area, 19 territories were occupied. 14 pairs were known to breed of which 10 raised 16 young. 4 pairs probably did not attempt breeding.

A Osprey

Pandion haliaetus

1, fishing off Pennington sea wall, Apr. 25th. 1, Broomy Plain, May 13th. 1, Broadlands Lake, May 18th.

1, Titchfield Haven, Aug. 16th. 1 adult, Pennington, Sept. 5th. 2, Sopley, Sept. 12th. 1, Keyhaven, Oct. 25th/27th. 1 adult, Fleet Pond, Nov. 7th.

C Kestrel†

Falco tinnunculus

5 were attracted to a 'forest' fire at Hatchet Moor (New Forest) on Mar. 24th (cf. Buzzard).

A Red-footed Falcon

Falco vespertinus

1 adult male, Bishop's Dyke, Apr. 28th (GB, EKB). 1 first summer male, Bishop's Dyke, May 30th (PGA). Both records accepted by *British Birds*.

B Merlin

Falco columbarius

None apparently over-wintered in the Langstone Harbour area, there being no records between Nov. 26th 1981 and Feb. 21st 1982. However, singles occurred at Farlington Marshes on Mar. 5th and 15th and Apr. 3rd. In contrast, on the N. W. Solent Shore at least 2 (1♂) were present throughout the early months until Apr. 4th. Other coastal records were 1♂, Fawley, Jan. 1st; 1♀, Warsash, Jan. 12th; 1, Needs Oar Point, Jan. 17th and Feb. 14th; 1♂, Dibden Bay, Mar. 22nd and 1♀ there, Apr. 17th.

In the New Forest Jan. records were 1 near Burley, 1st; 1♀, Bratley Plain, 17th; 1♀, Ashley Walk, 30th. In Feb. there was 1, Broomy Plain, 6th and singles at Ashley Walk on 6th, 10th, 13th and 21st (1♂ and 1♀ reported). 1♂, Burley, Apr. 9th, was the last.

Autumn/winter: The first return was 1, Oxey Marsh, Aug. 31st. Localities with more than five records Oct./Dec. were Farlington Marshes/Langstone Harbour (1, Oct. 24th/Dec. 2nd), Titchfield Haven/Brownwich (1♂, Oct. 23rd/Dec. 31st) and Keyhaven/Pennington (1, Oct. 1st/Dec. 26th; 2, Nov. 22nd). In the New Forest all records were of single birds with females/immatures at Ashley Walk, Nov. 2nd and 23rd and at Cranes Moor, Dec. 28th. In addition males were recorded at Broomy Plain, Oct. 24th and 29th; Ashley Walk, Nov. 25th and Dec. 23rd; Ocknell Plain, Dec. 30th. Other records were 1♂, Old Winchester Hill, Oct. 24th; 1, Horsebridge, Oct. 24th; 1, Portsmouth Harbour, Nov. 18th; 1♀, Hill Side/Upton Grey, Dec. 2nd/28th; 1♀/imm., Twyford, Dec. 15th.

Approximate monthly totals are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Females/Immatures + those not sexed	5	7	3	4	0	0	0	1	4	5	6	7
Males	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	5

B Hobby

Falco subbuteo

The first spring arrivals were singles at Ashley Walk, Apr. 23rd; Keyhaven Marsh, Apr. 24th; Southampton Airport, Apr. 25th; and Baddesley Common, Apr. 28th.

Breeding: 32 pairs bred in the county and records suggesting possible breeding were from a further sixteen or seventeen areas/sites.

Late records were 1, Southampton, Oct. 1st and 1 at a breeding locality, Oct. 3rd.

A Peregrine*Falco peregrinus*

1, Nether Wallop, Jan. 1st. 1, Ashley Walk, Jan. 3rd. 1, Farlington Marshes/Langstone Harbour, Jan. 3rd. 1, Needs Oar Point, Jan. 17th. 1, Keyhaven/Pennington, Jan. 24th and 30th. 1 imm., Pennington, Feb. 6th and 20th. 1, Black Point (Hayling), Feb. 13th. 1 ad., Titchfield Haven, Feb. 22nd. 1 imm. ♀, Titchfield Haven, Mar. 21st. 1, Bishop's Dyke, Mar. 24th.

1 imm. ♀, Farlington Marshes/Langstone Harbour, Aug. 20th/22nd, Sept. 4th, Oct. 3rd and 15th. 1, Bishop's Dyke, Oct. 27th. 1, Lymington/Keyhaven, Nov. 9th/21st. 1, Titchfield Haven, Nov. 15th. 1, Pennington/Keyhaven, Dec. 4th. 1, Dibden Bay, Dec. 18th.

D Red-legged Partridge†*Alectoris rufa***C Grey Partridge†***Perdix perdix*

Coveys of 20 or more were 40, Crondall, Aug. 12th; 31, Twyford G. C., Nov. 9th; 40+, Mapledurwell, Dec. 12th; 25, Fawley Down, Dec. 28th; 22, Bramdean, Dec. 28th.

A Quail*Coturnix coturnix*

Calling males were recorded as follows: Site A, 1, Apr. 13th/15th; Site B, 2+, mid-June/July; Site C, 1, Aug. 11th; Site D, 2, June 4th/Aug. 10th and 1 flushed, Sept. 1st; Site E, 2, late June/early July.

1981: 1 flushed from a cereal field near Keyhaven, July 25th.

D Pheasant†*Phasianus colchicus***B Water Rail***Rallus aquaticus*

No count anywhere in the county exceeded 6 in the period Jan./Mar. The last bird of the winter at Farlington Marsh was on Mar. 31st.

Breeding: Alresford Pond, 1 pr.; near Brook Farm (Timsbury), 1 pr.; Emer Bog, 1 pr.; Fleet Pond, 3/5 prs.; Titchfield Haven, 2+ prs. 1/2 were recorded at an additional four localities end May/early July.

First return to the coast was 1, Farlington Marshes, Aug. 5th. 50/60 were estimated in the Warsash area on Dec. 30th, but actual counts in the period Sept./Dec. did not exceed 6.

A Spotted Crake*Porzana porzana*

1, Farlington Marshes, Aug. 22nd (RJE *et al*).

C Moorhen†*Gallinula chloropus*

Counts of more than 50 were 52, Titchfield Haven, Jan. and 61 there, Feb.; 90, Bishopstoke, Jan./Feb.; 51, Yateley/Eversley G. P.s, Jan. 16th; *ca.* 100, Elvetham, Feb. 8th.

B Coot*Fulica atra*

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Sinah G. P.	51	24	36	—	—	—	37	94	114	123	105	69
IBM Lake/Pauls-Grove Reclamation	589*	215	103	100	77	22	28	38	36	48	87	250
Titchfield Haven	185	112	36	—	—	51	44	—	31	56	87	124
Ringwood/Bickton	800	540	120	—	—	—	150	375	830	1010	1450*	1200
Lower Test Marshes	600	340	200	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	150	250
Broadlands Lake	110	97	21	13	11	11	32	57	99	113	164	166
Allington G. P.	140	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	80	135	145	185
Alresford Pond	82	53	50	—	—	—	—	156	154	236	—	45
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	465	585	244	—	—	—	—	—	382	458	526	606*
Stratfield Saye	240*	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	130	100

The massive late year flock in the Ringwood/Bickton area was largely concentrated at Spinnaker Lake, where there was a profuse growth of Canadian pond weed.

Other counts of 100+ were 180, Farlington Marshes, Jan. 7th; 120, Longstock/Leckford, Jan. 16th; 180, Sowley Pond, Jan. 16th; 120, Avon Village, Jan. 16th; 169, Baffins Pond, Jan. 17th; 110, Timsbury, Jan. 17th; 115, Wellington C.P., Feb. 20th; 135 Dogmersfield Lake, Sept. 13th.

Waders

For the commoner species (marked*), the monthly counts tabulated are for the Birds of Estuaries Enquiry. Copies of the count cards are deposited with the HOS records in Southampton University Library, but the records may not necessarily have been submitted to the Recorder and been deposited with the rest of the records for the Systematic List.

Coverage, with the dates of the counts, is shown in the following table:-

Coverage: count in month indicated by +

	10	28	28	25	9	6	25	22	19	17	14	5
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	+	+	+				+	+	+	+	+	+
Langstone Harbour	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Portsmouth Harbour	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Southampton Water												
Titchfield Haven	+	+	+				+		+	+	+	+
Warsash/Hamble	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+
Woolston/Weston	+	+	+							+	+	+
Totton/Eling Great Marsh	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dibden Bay	+	+	+	+			+	+	+	+	+	+
Fawley/Calshot	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+
West Solent												
Needs Oar/Beaulieu	+	+	+						+	+	+	+
Pitts Deep		+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+
Keyhaven/Pennington	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Sunday dates are shown, although in practice many counts are carried out on the Saturday of the same weekend. The major exceptions to this in 1982 were that Chichester, Langstone and Portsmouth Harbours were counted on Jan. 23rd, and Chichester Harbour was counted on Feb. 13th and Mar. 13th. Note that there was 100% coverage achieved in the winter months Jan. to Mar. and Oct. to Dec., with the exception of Pitts Deep in Jan. (when there would have been ca. 500 birds of all species combined).

C Oystercatcher*

Haematopus ostralegus

Inland: 1 N, Park Corner Farm, Jan. 19th. 1 N, Romsey, Feb. 12th. 1 NE, Martyr Worthy, Mar. 16th. 1 W, Fleet Pond, Aug. 8th.

Spring passage: 56 NW, Langstone Harbour, Mar. 5th. 11 NW, Hurst, May 16th.

Breeding: Keyhaven/Pitts Deep, 12 prs. (incomplete survey); Needs Oar, ca. 30 prs.; Eling Great Marsh, 1 pr.; Langstone Harbour, 15 prs. Also 2 prs. inland at Badminton Common.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	1544	850	650	—	—	417	858	1216	600	1872	1323	
Langstone Harbour	1013	899	655	450	170	184	545	930	740	1700	1330	1100
Portsmouth Harbour	245	340	185	0	0	11	152	237	121	382	376	12
Southampton Water	272	342	229	144	135	15	542	647	604	573	573	446
West Solent	107	146	179	55	25	8	46	58	157	159	155	190

A Avocet

Recurvirostra avosetta

1, Needs Oar Point, Jan. 1st. 1, Lepe, Jan. 15th. 1, Pennington, Jan. 18th. 12, Dibden Bay, Apr. 2nd. 4 E, Hill Head, May 14th. 2 SE, Hurst, May 15th. 20, Dibden Bay, Dec. 4th and 1 there, Dec. 5th.

B Stone Curlew*Burhinus oedicnemus*

1, Paulsgrove Reclamation, Mar. 27th, flew off NNW over Portsdown Hill.
2 pairs breeding at one locality and ca. 3 pairs at another. Autumn flock at Nether Wallop with 6 on Sept. 7th and 10 on 25th.

B Little Ringed Plover*Charadrius dubius*

First return to breeding areas, Mar. 25th, and coastal passage from Mar. 31st.
Breeding: At least 24 pairs attempted to breed. At least 5 pairs were at one site in the Avon Valley, but only 1 pair known to have raised 1 young. 2 pairs in the Test Valley produced 6 young. 16 pairs at six sites in the N. E. produced at least 7 young. 1 pair bred at a coastal site and produced 1 young.

Last seen inland in the N.E., Sept. 11th, and last one on the coast at Paulsgrove Reclamation, Sept. 10th.

C Ringed Plover**Charadrius hiaticula*

Inland: At Mockbeggar Lake, 1 on Feb. 6th, 1 on Apr. 16th, 13 on May 1st and 1 on May 28th (breeding suggested but not proved). Also in the Avon Valley, 2 at Ibsley on Apr. 16th and 1 at Ellingham Lake on July 10th. 2, Timsbury, Apr. 3rd. 1 W, Wellington C. P., Apr. 26th. 1, Winchester S. F., May 3rd/7th. 1, Bramshill Common, May 20th and July 12th/13th. 1, Woolmer, Aug. 15th.

Only passage record was of 13 E, Hurst, May 6th/12th.

Breeding: A total of at least 82 pairs. Hurst/Pennington, 25 prs.; Lymington/Pitts Deep, 8 prs.; Needs Oar, 15+ prs.; Dibden Bay, 2 prs.; Langstone Harbour, 28+ prs. on the islands; inland in the New Forest, 1 pr. at Ashley Walk and 3 prs. at Badminton Common.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	207	197	61	—	—	—	99	473	413	63	219	364
Langstone Harbour	547	48	12	35	25	20	60	225	300	243	264	300
Portsmouth Harbour	9	15	10	3	1	2	14	214	65	8	—	48
Southampton Water	218	70	38	88	104	—	79	850	419	231	404	271
West Solent	10	79	74	2	6	4	—	124	47	338	298	234

A Dotterel*Charadrius morinellus*

1 with the Stone Curlew flock, Nether Wallop, Sept. 25th (RAL, TJN).

C Golden Plover**Pluvialis apricaria*

Early year flocks in excess of 100 were at Titchfield Haven area (max. 250, Jan.), Warsash (max. 1200, Jan. 10th), Keyhaven (max. 109, Jan. 17th), Hill Side area (max. 250, Feb. 11th), Winchester S. F. (max. 300+, Feb. 1st), Bishopstoke (max. 120, Jan. 6th), Andover (340, Feb. 14th), Ringwood (338, Jan. 4th) and Ibsley Airfield (max. 200, Feb. 6th).

Last spring birds were 230, Hill Side, Mar. 5th; 21, Bishopstoke, Mar. 28th; 200, Grateley, Apr. 8th; 71, Hill Side, Apr. 10th; 40 N, Winchester and 1265+, Danebury, Apr. 11th; 90, Ovington, Apr. 18th; 32, Hill Side, Apr. 20th; 200, Grateley, and 1 E, Hill Head, Apr. 27th; 9 E, Stokes Bay, Apr. 29th; 6, Grateley, Apr. 30th; 1, Mockbeggar Lake, May 1st; and 1, Hurst, May 11th. Gap in records between Feb. (wintering flocks) and Apr. imply that Apr. records refer to a different population.

First autumn birds were 1, Pennington, Sept. 19th; 2, Martyr Worthy, Sept. 20th; 45, Fareham, Sept. 27th.

Late year flocks in excess of 100 were at Titchfield Haven area (max. ca. 400, Dec. 30th), Hamble (max. 600, Dec. 30th), Hill Side (max. 275, Dec. 31st), Alresford (125, Dec. 18th), Twyford (max. 300+, Nov. 19th), Danesbury (500, Dec. 17th), Ibsley Airfield (max. 350, Dec. 28th) and Crow (Ringwood) (390, Dec. 7th).

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	763	605	130	—	—	—	7	56	10	23	390	321
Langstone Harbour	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	0
Portsmouth Harbour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southampton Water	1750	150	0	0	0	—	0	0	16	0	300	604
West Solent	179	242	70	0	0	0	0	0	1	42	43	87

C Grey Plover*

Pluvialis squatarola

Spring passage: 44 E, Hill Head, Apr. 20th/May 19th. 132 E, Hurst area, Apr. 18th/May 13th with max. 91 E, May 11th.

Inland: 1 S, Wellington C.P., Sept. 27th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	716	1666	1359	—	—	—	13	843	1443	847	2648	1971
Langstone Harbour	367	406	522	402	174	208	66	374	594	439	1320	658
Portsmouth Harbour	250	418	13	0	0	0	0	4	0	91	220	352
Southampton Water	495	860	57	1	2	—	1	188	108	342	462	367
West Solent	276	483	270	56	1	1	15	98	324	504	297	294

C Lapwing§†

Vanellus vanellus

Cold weather movement in early Jan. coinciding with exceptional fall of snow in central and S. W. England: on Jan. 8th, 230 ESE at Titchfield Haven, 85 S at Fareham, 30 W and 50 S at Bishopstoke; on Jan. 9th, 1510 SE at Titchfield Haven 180 S at Bishopstoke; on Jan 10th, 310 ESE at Titchfield Haven and 1 in a Southampton Garden.

Counts in excess of 1000 were 1180, Dibden Bay, Jan. 9th; 1000+, Ibsley, Feb. 6th; 2000, Sopley, Feb. 14th; 1000, Odiham, Sept. 9th; 1000, Hill Side, Oct. 9th and 2200 there, Nov. 1st; 1064, Dibden Bay and 1300, Hurstbourne Priors, Dec. 4th; 1296, Hurst, Dec. 12th; *ca.* 1000, Farlington Marshes, Dec. 26th; 2200, Bentley, Dec. 28th.

Apart from breeding birds and cold weather movements, monthly totals to nearest 100 were as follows:

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
5700	11600	1500	100	100	900	3000	2800	5300	7400	8300	17300

C Knot*

Calidris canutus

Spring passage: 65 E, Hill Head, May 11th/13th. 6 E, Lepe, May 11th. 60 E, Hurst, Apr. 17th/May 14th with max. 28 E, May 12th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	27	410	6	—	—	—	0	7	35	0	196	146
Langstone Harbour	945	324	100	0	0	0	1	0	102	84	674	550
Portsmouth Harbour	520	398	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	382
Southampton Water	0	6	0	0	0	—	2	7	14	0	0	0
West Solent	0	0	0	0	0	7	2	5	19	0	0	0

B Sanderling

Calidris alba

Early year flocks at Hayling Bay/Black Point, Jan. 3rd to end Mar./early Apr. with maximum of 25, Jan. 6th, and at Langstone Harbour Entrance, Jan. 1st/end Mar. with maximum 52+, Jan. 24th. Also 1, Keyhaven, Jan. 1st.

Spring passage: 202 E, Hill Head, Apr. 22nd/May 20th. 12 E, Hurst, Apr. 4th/30th and 191 E, May 1st/31st with maxima of 76 E on May 11th, 47 E on May 12th and 43 E on May 14th. 13 E, Lepe, May 11th. Elsewhere, single figures at Hayling Bay, Langstone Harbour and Warsash, except for 11, Hayling Bay, Apr. 22nd, then 19 on May 5th and 15 on May 6th, and 40, Warsash, May 4th, then 30 on May 10th and 13 on May 15th.

Autumn passage: Singles at Keyhaven, July 19th and 22nd; Hayling Bay, Aug. 13th and Sept. 15th; Warsash, Aug. 14th; Pennington, Aug 30th; and Hill Head, Sept. 24th. Also 4, Keyhaven, Oct. 1st and 2, Hill Head, Oct. 28th.

Late year flocks were at Hayling Bay/Black Point, Oct. 17th/Dec. 29th with maximum of 42, Dec. 14th, and at Langstone Harbour Entrance, with 2 on Oct. 17th and 30 + on Dec. 21st.

B Little Stint

Calidris minuta

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Farlington Marshes	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Paulsgrove Reclamation	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	0
Titchfield Haven	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	4	0	0	0
Eling Great Marsh	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Dibden Bay	4	0	0	2	5	2	0	1	0	5	0	0
Keyhaven	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

There were no other records away from these areas.

1981: 1, Fawley, Nov. 7th.

A Temminck's Stint

Calidris temminckii

2, Dibden Bay, May 10th/14th (PJC, RPB). 1, Eling Great Marsh, Sept. 13th/14th (RWR).

A White-rumped Sandpiper

Calidris fuscicollis

1, Eling Great Marsh, Oct. 27th (RWR). Accepted by *British Birds*. The fourth Hampshire record.

A Pectoral Sandpiper

Calidris melanotos

1 adult, Farlington Marshes, July 21st/23rd (PG). 1 adult, Paulsgrove Reclamation, July 25th/27th (TMM, DRB *et al*) may have been the Farlington bird. 1 immature, Keyhaven, Sept. 25th/30th (DRB *et al*).

B Curlew Sandpiper

Calidris ferruginea

1, Eling Great Marsh, Feb. 20th and Mar. 6th may have been overwintering. Otherwise there were no spring records.

Autumn passage: Single figures on thirteen dates from Aug. 3rd/Oct. 8th at Farlington Marshes, with maximum of 3 on Sept. 18th. At Portsmouth Harbour, 2 on Aug. 9th, 1 on Sept. 5th, 4 on Sept. 10th and 1 on Sept. 18th. Maximum of 3, Titchfield Haven, from Sept. 3rd/9th, then 1 on Oct. 2nd. 1, Warsash, Aug. 17th. 1, Dibden Bay, Aug. 18th and Sept. 30th, then 2, Oct. 9th and 17th. Single figures at Keyhaven/Pennington on nine dates from Aug. 1st/Oct. 17th, with maximum of 3 on Sept. 19th. Finally, 1, Eling Great Marsh, Oct. 30th.

B Purple Sandpiper

Calidris maritima

Recorded at Southsea up to Mar. 26th, with maximum of 32 on Mar. 14th, and from Oct. 11th, with maximum of 26 on Nov. 26th. Also, 1 with the Dunlin roost, Portsmouth Harbour, Mar. 27th and 1, Hurst, Oct. 17th.

C Dunlin*§

Calidris alpina

Inland: In N. E.: 1, Wellington C. P., Jan. 7th; 1, Lasham Airfield, Feb. 17th; 1, Fleet Pond, Apr. 22nd; 1, Wellington C. P., Nov. 5th. In the Itchen Valley: 2, Alresford, Jan. 13th; 1, Winchester S. F., May 3rd and 2, July 27th/Aug. 3rd; 1, Alresford Pond, Aug. 11th/14th. In the Avon Valley: 200, Sopley, Jan. 17th; 15, Harbridge and 120, Avon Causeway, Jan. 23rd; 34, Mockbeggar Lake, Feb. 6th; 50, Sopley, Feb. 14th; 53, Avon Tyrrell and ca. 250, Sopley, Feb. 23rd; 10, Mockbeggar Lake, May 1st and 1 there, May 28th; finally, 75,

Sopley, Dec. 11th.

Spring passage: 90 E, Langstone Harbour, May 16th. 198 E, Hurst, on sixteen dates from Apr. 3rd/May 16th with maxima of 33 E on May 11th and 50 E on May 12th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	14892	12264	3309	—	—	—	609	1105	27	310	30084	27751
Langstone Harbour	19400	21000	1950	1065	480	2	1200	2550	1390	7564	20000	15200
Portsmouth Harbour	6070	8000	551	4	70	0	230	113	8	1000	5000	4800
Southampton Water	6757	10706	492	146	222	0	266	489	180	964	5021	5950
West Solent	3070	4940	988	260	56	0	553	575	385	728	3987	5078

A Broad-billed Sandpiper

Limicola falcinellus

1, Paulsgrove Reclamation, May 22nd/25th (RABa, DU *et al.*). Accepted by *British Birds*. The second Hampshire record.

A Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Tryngites subruficollis

1, Pennington, Sept. 25th/29th (LMu, SWS, EJW *et al.*). Accepted by *British Birds*.

B Ruff

Philomachus pugnax

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Farlington Marshes	7	7	1	0	1	0	5	2	0	1	1	0
Paulsgrove Reclamation	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
Titchfield Haven	14	10	12	3	3	0	3	3	2	5	7	2
Dibden Bay	2	10	22	2	0	0	1	2	2	3	0	3
Keyhaven	30	20	4	1	3	0	3	2	4	4	34	22

Other records were at Hamble airfield, 4 on Jan. 22nd and 5 on 27th, 2 on Feb. 28th, 25 on Nov. 13th and 1 on 20th; at Needs Oar, 47 on Jan. 3rd and 4 on 17th, 20 on Dec. 22nd; at Sowley, 14 on Jan. 30th, 68 on Dec. 5th and 21 on 27th; 1 W, Wellington C. P., Jan 18th; 2, Harbridge, and 2, Avon Causeway, Jan. 23rd; 1 W, Frensham Great Pond, Apr. 2nd; 1, Harbridge, and 4, Avon village, May 1st; 1, Winchester S. F., May 3rd/7th and July 29th; and 2, Crow, Dec. 11th.

B Jack Snipe

Lymnecryptes minimus

Recorded up to Apr. 19th from fourteen localities and from Oct. 9th from six localities. All records were of single birds except for 4, Alton S. F., Jan. 10th; 6, Camp Farm S. F., Jan. 12th; 7, Sturt Pond, Jan. 24th and 2 there, Jan. 30th; 6/8, Baddesley Common/Emer Bog to late Mar.; 2, Fleet Pond, Nov. 3rd; 3, Keyhaven, Dec. 11th.

Approximate monthly totals:

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
30	9	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	4

C Snipe*§†

Gallinago gallinago

Records associated with the cold weather in early Jan. were "large" numbers in Keyhaven area, Jan. 9th; 41, Alton S. F. and 1 over a Southampton garden, Jan. 10th; 30, Hill Side, Jan. 11th; and on Jan. 12th, 30 at Camp Farm S. F., five groups totalling 134 birds in the Alresford area, and 13 near Greywell. The areas with flocks in excess of 100 in early year were Farlington Marshes, Titchfield Haven, Eling Great Marsh, Pennington, Sopley/Avon village, Harbridge, and Petersfield.

First autumn returns were at Farlington Marshes, July 8th, then at Keyhaven, Bishopstoke and Winchester S. F., July 18th.

Areas with flocks in excess of 100 in late year were Farlington Marshes, Titchfield Haven, Sowley, and Crow.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	295	148	60	—	—	—	9	2	29	19	83	118
Langstone Harbour	50	120	45	1	0	0	3	5	7	37	156	60
Portsmouth Harbour	11	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	9	9
Southampton Water	66	199	71	6	0	0	5	0	4	28	122	313
West Solent	10	113	4	1	0	0	3	4	3	10	11	75

A Long-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus scolopaceus

The bird at Pennington from Oct. 3rd 1981 remained until May 11th (m.o.). 1, Titchfield Haven, Nov. 4th (BSD, RKL), was the fifth Hampshire record. Both records accepted by *British Birds*.

C Woodcock†

Scolopax rusticola

Records specifically associated with cold weather in early Jan. were 1, Keyhaven, Jan. 9th and 1 in a Cosham garden, Jan. 10th (there were fifteen other Jan. records).

A minimum of 102 roding/breeding birds reported from thirty-nine localities.

C Black-tailed Godwit*

Limosa limosa

Spring passage: At Farlington Marshes, 35 NW on Apr. 19th, 115 NW on Apr. 22nd, 47 NW on Apr. 24th and 37 NW on Apr. 25th. 12 E, Hurst, May 6th and 9 E, May 14th. 3 NE, Warsash, May 15th.

Inland, there were 2 at Ibsley, Mar. 14th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	266	229	201	—	—	—	139	381	1330	416	1360	889
Langstone Harbour	343	247	100	115	16	26	321	485	359	543	485	349
Portsmouth Harbour	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	2	136	2	0	91
Southampton Water	123	208	235	1	1	0	181	231	218	127	171	458
West Solent	74	0	183	67	0	0	80	93	103	158	81	16

The totals for all areas for Sept. 1981/Mar. 1982 are 1835, 1479, 1107, 647, 806, 784, and 709: the low Dec. 1981 count (of 647) was due to cold weather on the day of the count — an additional 300 birds were present at Langstone Harbour two weeks after the count. Despite the cold weather in Dec. 1981 and Jan. 1982, the species returned in strength in late 1982 with totals for all areas for Sept./Dec. of 2146, 1246, 2097 and 1803. Langstone Harbour counts for Sept. and Dec. have been corrected for known movements from Portsmouth Harbour. The Oct. count in Chichester Harbour was only a partial one — a reasonable assumption would be that *ca.* 800 birds were missed, which would have given a total of *ca.* 2000 for all areas to fit the established pattern.

C Bar-tailed Godwit*

Limosa lapponica

Spring passage: 121 E, Hayling Bay, Apr. 22nd/May 12th, with maximum of 50 E, Apr. 28th. 2152 E, Hill Head, Apr. 15th/May 16th, with maximum of 893 E, Apr. 27th. 1699 E, Hurst, Apr. 17th/May 16th, with maxima of 352 E, Apr. 25th and 424 E, May 12th. 55 E, Warsash, Apr. 20th. 230 E, Lepe, Apr. 24th and 122 E, May 11th. 7 E, Eastney, May 13th.

Inland records were of 4, Sopley, Sept. 12th and 1, Curbridge, Sept. 26th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	732	219	100	—	—	—	437	285	439	325	820	878
Langstone Harbour	364	842	300	87	59	108	129	66	250	367	465	591
Portsmouth Harbour	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	2
Southampton Water	3	0	0	1	2	—	0	0	34	11	7	0
West Solent	8	5	0	12	0	0	8	6	32	9	5	24

C Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus

Spring passage: Coastal records from Apr. 5th, with main passage May 8th/10th. At Farlington Marshes, 35 NW on Apr. 24th, 7 NW on May 8th, and 3 NW on May 20th. 560 E, Hill Head, Apr. 14th/May 16th, with maxima of 150, 160, and 100 on May 8th, 9th, and 10th. 65, Eling Great Marsh, May 8th was only double figure count for that area. 295 E, Hurst area, Apr. 12th/May 13th, with maxima of 128, 35, and 58 on Apr. 17th, 24th, and May 12th. Inland double figure counts were 35, Havant Thicket, Apr. 25th and 60, May 2nd; 12, Martin Down, May 2nd; and 23 over Southampton city, May 9th. Also inland a further 23 from ten sites, Apr. 17th/May 16th. A regular movement was noted Apr. 25th/May 9th of birds feeding inland north of Portsdown Hill and returning to Langstone Harbour to roost at dusk.

Autumn passage extended to Oct. 7th, with maxima of 196, Farlington Marshes, July 24th, and 45 at Portsmouth Harbour, 16 at Calshot and 26 at Keyhaven, all on Aug. 7th. Inland, there were 3, Martin Down, Aug. 1st; 2 W, Blackbushe, Aug. 17th; 2 SE, Fleet Pond, Aug. 18th; and 1, Curbridge, Sept. 26th.

C Curlew*§

Numenius arquata

Spring passage: 364 E, Hill Head, Apr. 4th/May 13th, with maxima of 112, 95 and 83 on Apr. 18th, 19th and 20th. 140 E, Hurst, Mar. 7th/May 13th, with maxima of 44 and 35 on Mar. 7th and Apr. 15th.

Breeding records from the New Forest were far from complete with only 7 pairs reported at four sites. 2 pairs were present at one site in the N. E.

There were regular inland records in winter from Southwick area, early and late year, with maximum of 70, Dec. 13th. Also 1, Bishopstoke, Jan. 16th/Mar. 6th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	921	1207	1078	—	—	—	1534	1111	2652	1251	1796	1648
Langstone Harbour	761	628	392	153	58	306	985	937	827	678	909	646
Portsmouth Harbour	220	330	229	0	0	0	252	498	439	400	370	375
Southampton Water	649	748	734	78	10	12	1159	1018	1044	612	565	447
West Solent	206	283	114	27	1	0	363	312	392	415	411	391

B Spotted Redshank*

Tringa erythropus

Inland records were of 1, Alresford Pond, Aug. 29th and 1 SW, Frensham Great Pond, Sept. 5th.

Monthly counts at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	3	0	1	—	—	—	4	8	1	0	2	0
Langstone Harbour	0	0	0	1	0	2	6	11	11	2	1	0
Warsash	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Fawley/Calshot	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	1
Needs Oar Point	4	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	24	11	3	4
Keyhaven/Pennington	21	9	8	2	0	0	2	1	7	3	5	5

Other coastal records were 2, Lepe Beach, Jan. 30th; 2, Weston Shore, Sept. 6th; and 10, Ashlett, Dec. 17th and 30th.

C Redshank*§†

Tringa totanus

Early year inland records were 4, Alresford area, Jan. 12th; 1, Yateley G. P., Jan. 14th; 8, Harbridge and 17, Avon Causeway, Jan. 23rd; 4, Alresford, Jan. 31st. First returns to breeding areas were from Feb. 23rd.

Late year inland records were 12, Harbridge, Nov. 26th; 4, Alresford Pond, Dec. 8th; 2, Sopley, Dec. 11th; 8, Alresford Pond, Dec. 18th; and 1, Harbridge Dec. 28th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	1399	1645	1595	—	—	—	1684	2222	3405	956	2024	1680
Langstone Harbour	417	445	127	60	60	238	1470	1800	2698	1156	567	450
Portsmouth Harbour	27	150	184	1	0	1	339	107	4	135	230	130
Southampton Water	435	675	305	120	73	13	1296	933	437	820	776	455
West Solent	285	193	135	4	4	2	520	499	626	539	725	740

C Greenshank*

Tringa nebularia

Inland records (all singles unless otherwise stated) were Eastleigh S. F., May 1st; Fleet Pond, May 9th; Greywell, May 14th; Bramshill Common, July 13th, 27th and Aug. 8th; flying S over Fritham, July 14th; Woolmer, July 31st/Aug. 1st; Fleet Pond, Aug. 15th; Eversley G. P., Aug. 17th; heard at night flying S over Petersfield, Aug. 20th; Bentley, Aug. 23rd/26th; Alresford, Aug. 23rd; 2, Bramshill, Aug. 28th; Avon Village, Aug. 29th; 2, Eversley G. P., Sept. 6th; Curbridge, Sept. 26th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	2	6	6	—	—	—	89	122	60	1	23	0
Langstone Harbour	0	1	2	3	1	0	127	137	96	29	1	1
Portsmouth Harbour	0	0	1	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	5
Southampton Water	8	2	7	5	5	—	30	29	34	21	26	23
West Solent	3	8	6	3	2	0	13	25	42	9	6	2

C Green Sandpiper

Tringa ochropus

Monthly totals for certain grouped areas:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
North East	4	2	4	8	1	0	6	15	9	4	2	2
Upper Itchen Valley	5	3	7	3	0	1	2	28	5	1	0	5
Test, Andover/Romsey	2	0	1	1	0	0	10	9	0	0	2	3
Avon Valley/Keyhaven	1	3	0	3	0	2	3	6	3	2	2	2
Langstone/Portsmouth	2	1	5	4	0	3	4	9	5	2	0	3
Southampton Water	4	4	6	6	0	3	16	9	4	5	5	10

Additional records were from Overton (1, Dec.), Broadlands Lake (1, Jan.; 3, Apr.; 1, May; 2, Nov), Nursling (1, Apr. and Dec.), Petersfield (1, Sept. and Oct.), Botley Wood (1, Aug.), New Forest (3, Jan; 1, June and Aug.), Sowley (1, Mar.) and Purbrook area (1, Aug. and Oct.).

Only May record was 1, Broadlands Lake, May 1st, followed by a gap until 1, Titchfield Haven, June 3rd. Other June records were 1, Manor Farm C. B. (Alresford), 11th; 1, Titchfield Haven, 12th/30th; 1, Farlington Marshes, 15th, then 2, 19th and 27th; 1, Ashley Walk, 17th; 1, Paulsgrove Reclamation, 22nd and 29th; 2, Blashford, 26th; and 2, Dibden Bay, 27th.

Only double figure counts on autumn passage were 10, Western Court C. B., Aug. 11th and 12, Alresford Pond, Aug. 28th.

A Wood Sandpiper

Tringa glareola

Spring passage: Singles at Titchfield Haven, May 31st, at Farlington Marshes, June 17th, 21st and 24th and at Dibden Bay, June 27th.

Autumn passage: (all singles unless otherwise stated) Farlington Marshes, July 1st. Titchfield Haven, on four dates, July 17th/Aug. 17th. Winchester S. F., July 29th/Aug. 2nd. Paulsgrove Reclamation, Aug. 1st. Farlington Marshes, Aug. 6th/8th and 10th. Keyhaven/Pennington, Aug. 7th/8th and 18th. Dibden Bay, Aug. 27th. 3, Keyhaven/Pennington, Aug. 11th and 14th/15th.

C Common Sandpiper*

Actitis hypoleucos

Early year overwintering birds were 1, north shore of Langstone Harbour, Jan. 17th/Feb. 10th and Mar. 13th/Apr. 14th; 1, Fareham Creek, Jan. 3rd; at

Eling/Redbridge, Jan. 1st/Mar. 27th, with maximum of 7, Jan. 11th; and 1, Pylewell Lake, Jan. 18th.

Spring passage: First was a single at Petersfield, Apr. 5th, but main passage was Apr. 24th/May 14th with records from twenty inland and nine coastal sites to May 31st. Maxima were 6, Liss, May 1st; 6, Petersfield May 2nd; and 8, Timsbury, May 13th.

Autumn passage: From June 11th/Oct. 16th, with records from twenty-three inland and eleven coastal localities. Maximum was an unprecedented 45 in one flock, Milford Beach, July 13th. Other maxima were 15, Dibden Bay, Aug. 3rd; 20, Paulsgrove Reclamation, Aug. 6th, and 19+ there on 7th; 13, Titchfield Haven, Aug. 7th; and 34, Langstone Harbour, Aug. 17th and 19th.

Late year overwintering birds were at Langstone Harbour (2, Oct. 30th and Dec. 28th; 1, from Nov. 11th/Dec. 4th), Eling/Redbridge (1 from Nov. 6th/Dec. 27th) and Mockbeggar Lake (1, Dec. 28th).

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	0	0	0	—	—	—	2	37	7	1	1	0
Langstone Harbour	1	0	2	5	1	0	16	21	1	1	1	2
Portsmouth Harbour	0	0	0	1	0	0	12	1	5	0	0	0
Southampton Water	1	1	1	2	1	0	24	7	6	0	1	0
West Solent	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	2	1	0	0	0

C Turnstone*

Arenaria interpres

Spring passage: In the Hurst/Keyhaven area: 4 N, Apr. 23rd; 16 N, May 10th; 11 E, May 12th; and 5 E, May 13th. 50 NW, Langstone Harbour, May 16th. Also one inland record with 1, Winchester S. F., May 12th.

Monthly counts at coastal localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	21	135	36	—	—	—	86	129	47	118	384	102
Langstone Harbour	50	229	164	166	8	7	85	67	261	41	55	92
Portsmouth Harbour	44	45	23	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	76
Southampton Water	316	437	307	257	196	—	115	300	313	255	375	345
West Solent	40	129	127	56	37	0	10	152	129	213	130	191

A Red-necked Phalarope

Phalaropus lobatus

An adult female was at Titchfield Haven on June 9th from 1230 until flying off NE at 1945 hrs. (BSD, RKL).

A Grey Phalarope

Phalaropus fulicarius

On Sept. 28th, 1 at Farlington Marshes (NRW) and 1 at Brownwich Shore (Hill Head) (JAN, RKL). 1 in the Keyhaven/Pennington area, Oct. 5th/6th, 9th and 17th (m.o.).

1981: A second bird was at Dibden Bay on Sept. 25th (SWS).

A Pomarine Skua

Stercorarius pomarinus

3 SE, Hurst, May 8th and 1 there, May 9th and 11th. 2 NE, Southsea, May 12th. 1 SE, Hurst and 4 E, Hill Head, May 13th. 1 W, Normandy Marsh, Oct. 16th. 1, Pennington, Oct. 17th.

B Arctic Skua

Stercorarius parasiticus

1, Fawley, Jan. 2nd. 1, Southampton Water, Jan 23rd.

Spring passage: A poor showing with 1 E, Gilkicker Point, Apr. 15th; 2 E, Hayling Bay, May 2nd; 9 E, Hill Head, May 2nd/14th; 3 E, Lepe, May 5th; 12 E, Hurst, on seven dates from Apr. 24th/May 11th.

Autumn passage: 8 SW, Langstone Harbour, Aug. 21st. 10 W, Pennington/Hurst area, on seven dates from Aug. 22nd/Oct. 17th. Singles at Hayling Bay, Sept. 5th and 23rd and at Farlington Marshes, Sept. 25th. Singles at Hill Head, Sept. 24th, Nov. 8th and 23rd. Inland, 1 W, Broomy Plain, Oct. 24th.

A Long-tailed Skua*Stercorarius longicaudus*

1 immature, Hurst, Jan. 17th (DRB, KMG). The third Hampshire record.

A Great Skua*Stercorarius skua*

1 immature, Hurst, May 11th (MGWT, DBW, EJW) and 12th (OH *et al.*). 1, Hurst, Nov. 21st (BB).

A Skua species*Stercorarius sp.*

At Hayling Bay, singles on Sept. 26th, Oct. 16th (probably Arctic Skua) and Dec. 19th (probably Great Skua). At Pennington, 1 E on Aug. 1st (probably Arctic Skua), 3 W on Aug. 31st (probably Arctic Skuas), 3 W on Oct. 16th and 1 W on Nov. 7th.

A Mediterranean Gull*Larus melanocephalus*

Majority of records were again from Weston Shore in Southampton Water, and were as follows: first year, Jan. 9th; adult, Jan. 15th and 21st/22nd, Feb. 2nd, 4th/5th and 10th; a different adult, Feb. 22nd; first year, Feb. 21st; 2 adults, Apr. 17th/18th; adult (at Marchwood), May 26th; 2 different adults on thirteen dates from July 4th/Oct. 19th; adult, Oct. 31st, Dec. 10th/11th and 22nd; a second adult, Dec. 11th; first winter, Nov. 23rd; second winter, Dec. 11th/12th and 28th and an adult on Nov. 13th and Dec. 31st and 2 adults on Dec. 28th which may have been different birds to the records from Oct. 31st. There was also an adult/second year over Southampton on Dec. 20th.

There was a smaller series of records for the Portsmouth area with adult, Sinah G. P., Jan. 4th; adult, Paulsgrove R. T., Jan. 29th/30th; adult, Eastney, Jan. 30th; second winter, Bedhampton Creek, Apr. 16th and May 16th; 2 adults, Titchfield Haven, Apr. 23rd; first winter, Southsea, Nov. 8th; and a second winter bird, Titchfield Haven, Dec. 23rd.

A pair nested at Needs Oar Point but were washed out by high tides.

Adult, Sturt Pond, Sept. 19th and Nov. 21st.

B Little Gull*Larus minutus*

Early year records were of an immature, Titchfield Haven, Jan. 4th; second year, Hythe Ferry and an adult, Dibden Bay, Jan. 9th; and an adult, Pitts Deep, Feb. 26th.

Spring passage: 42 E, Hill Head, May 5th/14th, with maximum of 17 E, May 11th. 22 E, Lepe, May 11th. 30 E, Hurst, May 2nd/15th, with maximum of 21 E, May 11th. Records on May 11th may well refer to same individuals. Other records in spring were of 1, Titchfield Haven, Apr. 3rd; 1, Warsash, Apr. 7th; 1, Farlington Marshes, May 11th and 3 there, May 12th. Inland there was 1 oiled adult that cleaned itself up at Fleet Pond from Apr. 7th/13th.

During the summer, 5 were at Farlington Marshes, May 31st/June 1st, 7 on June 6th, 6 on June 9th, 4 on June 14th and 5 again from June 26th/July 13th. At Titchfield Haven there was an immature from June 4th/early Sept. and a second immature from June 5th/25th.

Autumn passage: In Langstone Harbour area from July 9th/Aug. 26th, with maxima of 3, July 14th and 23rd. 2 immatures, Titchfield Haven, Sept. 3rd and 14th and an adult, Sept. 27th. At Pennington, 2 immatures on Sept. 13th, 1 immature on Sept. 19th and 3 immatures W on Sept. 26th. 1, Hurst, Sept. 26th.

Late year records were of 1, Titchfield Haven, Oct. 16th/17th; 3, Hayling and 2 W, Pennington, Oct. 17th; 1 immature, Calshot and 2, Pennington, Nov. 7th; and a second winter bird, Titchfield Haven, Nov. 8th.

C Black-headed Gull*Larus ridibundus*

Estimates of Southampton Water roost were 10,000 (from Dibden Bay), Jan.

3rd and 25,000 (from Fawley), Feb. 13th. Otherwise flocks/counts in excess of 1000 were: 1600, Titchfield Haven, Jan. 16th; 1000, Bramshill R. T., Jan. 30th; 4000+, Lyminster River, Feb. 14th; 1160, Wellington C. P., Feb. 15th; 1800, Ringwood/Fordingbridge, Feb. 23rd; 1100, Sinah G. P., Aug. 11th; 1200, Alresford Pond, Aug. 22nd and 29th; 1170, Titchfield Haven, Nov. 30th; and 4000 of 7500 on Frensham Great Pond (Surrey border) moved SSW into Hants, Dec. 23rd.

5 to 10 pairs attempted to breed at Langstone Harbour. A poor breeding season at Keyhaven/Pitts Deep due to major washouts.

A Ring-billed Gull

Larus delawarensis

1 adult moulting into summer plumage, Dibden Bay, Mar. 17th (DRB, KMG). 1 adult, Dibden Bay, Apr. 10th (PWP, MGWT). Both records accepted by *British Birds*. The third and fourth Hampshire records. (Two others are still pending.)

C Common Gull

Larus canus

Largest coastal counts were 300+ roosting, Dibden Bay, Jan. 3rd; 460, Hill Head, Jan. 13th; 1500 roosting, Fawley, Feb. 13th; and 170, roosting, Hayling, Mar. 3rd. Elsewhere, majority of counts were only in double figures. *Spring passage*: 211 E, Hill Head, Mar. 1st/May 14th. 15 E, Hurst, Apr. 1st and 5th, then 14 E on Apr. 20th, 8 E on Apr. 22nd, and 4 E on May 13th. 5 flying upstream, Winnall, Apr. 11th. 1 E, Basingstoke, Apr. 15th.

Only June records were from Portsmouth Harbour with maximum of 4 (on IBM Lake) on 10th.

C Lesser Black-backed Gull

Larus fuscus

Spring passage: 10 E, Hill Head, Apr. 3rd/May 13th. 13 E, Hurst area, Apr. 3rd/May 14th. 12 (mostly E) from three sites in the N. E., May 11th/June 4th. Single figures from six other localities in similar period.

Largest counts were 163, Crondall, Aug. 22nd; 278 NE, Fleet Pond, Aug. 30th; and 100, Greywell, Sept. 5th. No other counts exceeded 50.

C Herring Gull

Larus argentatus

Largest coastal counts were 390 and 494, Hill Head, Nov. 3rd and Dec. 9th, and largest inland were 413, Ringwood/Fordingbridge, Feb. 23rd and 40, Park Corner Farm, Dec. 19th (numbers in N. E. were low, due to closure of Bramshill R. T.).

Records of yellow-legged birds were 1, Farlington Marshes, July 10th/Sept. 10th; 1, Sinah G. P., July 19th/Sept. 26th (same as Farlington bird?); up to 4, Eling Great Marsh, Sept. 9th/Nov. 14th; 1, Weston Shore, Sept. 27th; and 1, Allington G. P./Bishopstoke, Oct. 31st and Dec. 13th.

A Glaucous Gull

Larus hyperboreus

1 first winter bird, Dibden Bay, Jan. 13th (SWS). 1 immature, Pennington, Jan. 17th (PCo, MCC). 1 second year bird, Weston Shore, Jan. 21st/23rd (MGWT, FMV, SWS). 1 first winter bird, Bramshill Common/R. T., Jan. 31st/Feb. 1st (JMCK, MASc, GCS). 1 immature, Hill Head, Dec. 8th (RKL, BSD).

C Great Black-backed Gull

Larus marinus

Early year maxima: 50, Hill Side, Jan. 1st. 50, Bramshill Common, Jan. 6th and 30th. 104, Paulsgrove R. T., Jan. 23rd. 47, Titchfield Haven, Feb. 5th. *Late year maxima*: At Paulsgrove R. T., 153 on Sept. 19th, 145+ on Nov. 5th and 100 on Dec. 16th. At Langstone Harbour, 241 on Nov. 24th and 230 on Dec. 11th. 117, Titchfield Haven, Nov. 26th. 131, Buriton, Dec. 20th. 132, Hamble, Dec. 30th.

A Kittiwake*Rissa tridactyla*

1, Hayling, Jan. 4th. 1, Pennington, Jan. 16th and Feb. 6th. 1 adult inland at Dogmersfield Lake, Feb. 12th. 1 immature, Hurst, Feb. 28th. 2, Hayling, Mar. 1st. 1 adult, Hill Head, Mar. 11th. 1 partly oiled bird, Weston Shore, Mar. 14th. 1 adult, Dibden Bay, Mar. 20th. 1, Oxy Creek, Mar. 27th.

Spring passage: 25 E, Hill Head, Apr. 7th. Singles at Hayling, Apr. 13th; Hurst, Apr. 15th; and Calshot, Apr. 17th/18th. 2 E, Hill Head, Apr. 19th and 1 E, there, May 9th and 13th. At Hurst, singles on May 4th, 11th and 12th, and 7 E, 3 E and 6 E on May 13th, 14th and 15th. 2 adults, Lepe, May 11th. 2, Needs Oar, May 23rd. Inland at Fleet Pond an exceptional series of records with 1 adult on Apr. 8th, 13 (2 imms.) on Apr. 12th/13th, 8 (2 imms.) from Apr. 14th/16th, 4 (2 imms.) from Apr. 17th/19th and 1 adult from Apr. 20th/23rd. Also 1 adult, Frensham Great Pond, Apr. 14th/15th (probably from Fleet Pond).

Autumn passage: 1 juvenile, Hayling, Aug. 10th. 1 W, Hill Head, Aug. 17th. 1 immature, Hurst/Pennington, Aug. 18th and 22nd. 1 immature W, Langstone Harbour, Sept. 18th. 1 adult, Hurst, Sept. 26th. 2 immatures E, Hill Head, Sept. 27th and 1 immature there, Oct. 1st. 1 adult, Hayling, Oct. 15th and 24th. 72 W, Hurst/Keyhaven, Oct. 16th and 1 E there, Oct. 17th. 1 immature E, Hill Head, Nov. 7th. 3 immatures W, Pennington, Nov. 14th. 1 immature, Langstone Harbour and 2 adults, Sturt Pond, Nov. 21st. 7 E, Pennington, Nov. 24th.

1 first winter bird badly oiled, Titchfield Haven, Dec. 31st.

A Gull-billed Tern*Gelochelidon nilotica*

1, Warsash, May 10th (DAC). 1, Oxy/Pennington Marsh, July 11th (PCo, MCC, EJW). Both records accepted by *British Birds*.

C Sandwich Tern*Sterna sandvicensis*

First at Langstone Harbour, Mar. 26th, then four other Mar. records.

Spring passage: 110 E, Hill Head, Mar. 30th/May 15th. 439 E, Hurst, Apr. 2nd/May 15th, with maxima of 60 E and 97 E on May 8th and 11th. 16 E, Lepe, May 11th. 19 E, Eastney, May 13th.

Breeding: 70 pairs nested at Needs Oar and ca. 140 pairs from Hurst to Sowley Pond.

Autumn passage: Inland, up to 5 SE, Old Winchester Hill, Sept. 12th may have been same birds that left Frensham Little Pond about 1 hour earlier in the day. Also inland, singles at Dean Hill, Sept. 17th, and at Old Winchester Hill, Sept. 19th. Last seen, 1, Langstone Harbour, Oct. 31st.

A Roseate Tern*Sterna dougallii*

A pair possibly nested in the county. 1, Keyhaven, May 24th (EJW). 1, Langstone Harbour, July 2nd and 1 adult and 1 juvenile there, July 24th (RT *et al*). 1 W, Hurst, July 22nd (MLP). 1, Keyhaven, Aug. 8th (PCo, MCC).

C Common Tern*Sterna hirundo*

Breeding: Keyhaven/Pitts Deep, 52 prs. Needs Oar, 260 prs. Langstone Harbour, 35 + prs.

A Arctic Tern*Sterna paradisaea*

Positive records were of 1 immature, Langstone Harbour, July 15th; 2, Titchfield Haven, Aug. 4th; 1 immature inland at Fleet Pond, Sept. 5th; 1, Warsash, Sept. 18th; 1 juvenile, Hurst, Sept. 26th; 1, Pennington, Sept. 28th; and 1 immature, Langstone Harbour, Oct. 17th.

C Common/Arctic Tern*Sterna hirundo/paradisaea*

Spring passage: First seen, Langstone Harbour and Hurst, Apr. 4th. 660 E,

Hill Head, Apr. 20th/May 15th with maximum of 159 E, May 13th. 492 E, Hurst on thirteen dates from Apr. 4th/May 16th with maxima of 64 E, 87 E, 94 E and 142 E on May 9th, 11th, 12th and 13th. 74 E, Lepe, May 5th and 16 E, there, May 11th. Inland, singles at Fleet Pond, Apr. 7th/11th, 21st and May 12th, at Camp Farm S. F., Apr. 27th, and 2 E, Wellington C. P., May 19th.

Autumn passage: Coastal maximum was 130+, Eastney, Aug. 17th. Inland, 23 birds at four sites on twelve dates from July 22nd/Sept. 26th, but on Sept. 5th an exceptional 143 SW, Fleet Pond, and 26 SW, Frensham Great Pond. Last seen at Langstone Harbour, Nov. 5th.

C Little Tern

Sterna albifrons

Spring passage: First seen were 3, Langstone Harbour, Apr. 10th. 217 E, Hill Head, Apr. 19th/May 15th with maximum of 59 E, May 11th. 28 E, Lepe, May 11th. 103 E, Hurst, Apr. 20th/May 14th with maximum of 42 E, May 11th.

Breeding: Hurst/Pennington, 80+ prs. Needs Oar, 46 prs. R. Hamble, 2 prs. suspected. Portsmouth Harbour, 1 pr. suspected. Langstone Harbour, 84 prs.

Last seen, 1, Calshot, Oct. 16th.

B Black Tern

Chlidonias niger

Spring passage: First was 1, Titchfield Haven, Apr. 20th, where 173 E, May 10th/15th with maximum of 107, May 12th. 1 E, Hurst, Apr. 24th then 96 E, there, May 11th/15th with maximum of 51 E, May 12th. 7 E at Lepe and 8 inland at Fleet Pond, May 11th. 2 E at Eastney and inland, 3 at Nursling and 2 at Winchester S. F., May 12th. 2, Langstone Harbour, May 13th.

Autumn passage: Singles in Langstone Harbour on seven dates from July 19th/Oct. 3rd, except for 3 at Eastney, Sept. 1st. Singles at Titchfield Haven on seven dates from Aug. 8th/Sept. 29th. In Keyhaven area, 1 on July 24th/25th, 5 on Aug. 1st, 3 on Aug. 7th, 10 on Sept. 13th, 1 on Sept. 19th and 26 W on Oct. 1st.

Inland: 1, Tundry Pond, July 26th; 2, Fleet Pond, July 27th; 1, Broadlands Lake, July 31st and Aug. 4th and 6th; 3, Fleet Pond, Aug. 26th; 22, Mockbeggar Lake, Sept. 15th; 2, Broadlands Lake, Sept. 24th; 1, Tundry Pond, Sept. 26th; and finally at Broadlands Lake, 3 on Oct. 1st and 7th, and last of year, 1 on Oct. 20th.

A Guillemot

Uria aalge

1, Langstone Harbour/Hayling, Jan. 9th/12th and 4, Southsea, Jan. 13th. At Hill Head, 1 oiled on Jan. 9th, 1 E on Jan. 10th and 1 ashore on Jan. 11th. 1, Hythe, Jan. 9th. 1, Pennington, Feb. 9th. 1, Langstone Harbour, Feb. 10th. 1, Warsash/Hill Head, Feb. 15th. 1 dead, Keyhaven, Mar. 6th. 1, Hill Head, Mar. 8th. 1, Hurst, May 3rd. 1, Langstone Harbour, Aug. 13th and 29th. 1 dying, West Hayling, Nov. 19th.

1981: 1, Pennington, Dec. 29th.

A Razorbill

Alca torda

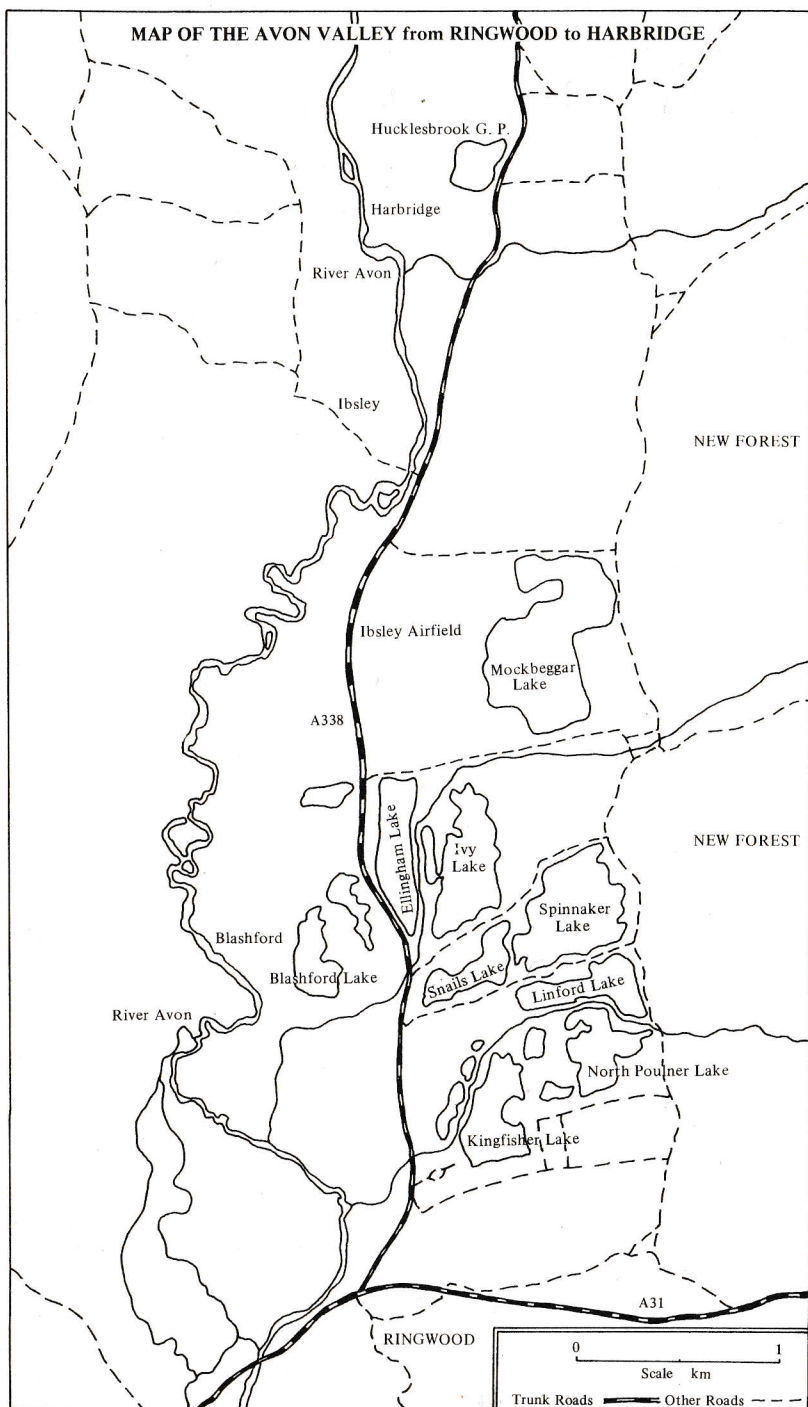
1, Lepe, Jan. 1st. 1, Eastney, Jan. 5th. 1, Hythe/Dibden, Jan. 9th. 1, Eastney, Jan. 20th. 1, Lee-on-the-Solent, Apr. 13th. 1 W, Hurst, Apr. 24th and 1 there, May 1st. 1, Langstone Harbour, May 21st. 1, Pennington, May 22nd and June 7th. 1, Weston Shore, Aug. 25th. 1, Langstone Harbour, Aug. 26th and Sept. 10th. 2, Hurst, Oct. 16th.

A Puffin

Fratercula arctica

1 immature bird picked up at Eling, July 12th, was cared for by the RSPCA and released off the Needles, July 16th.

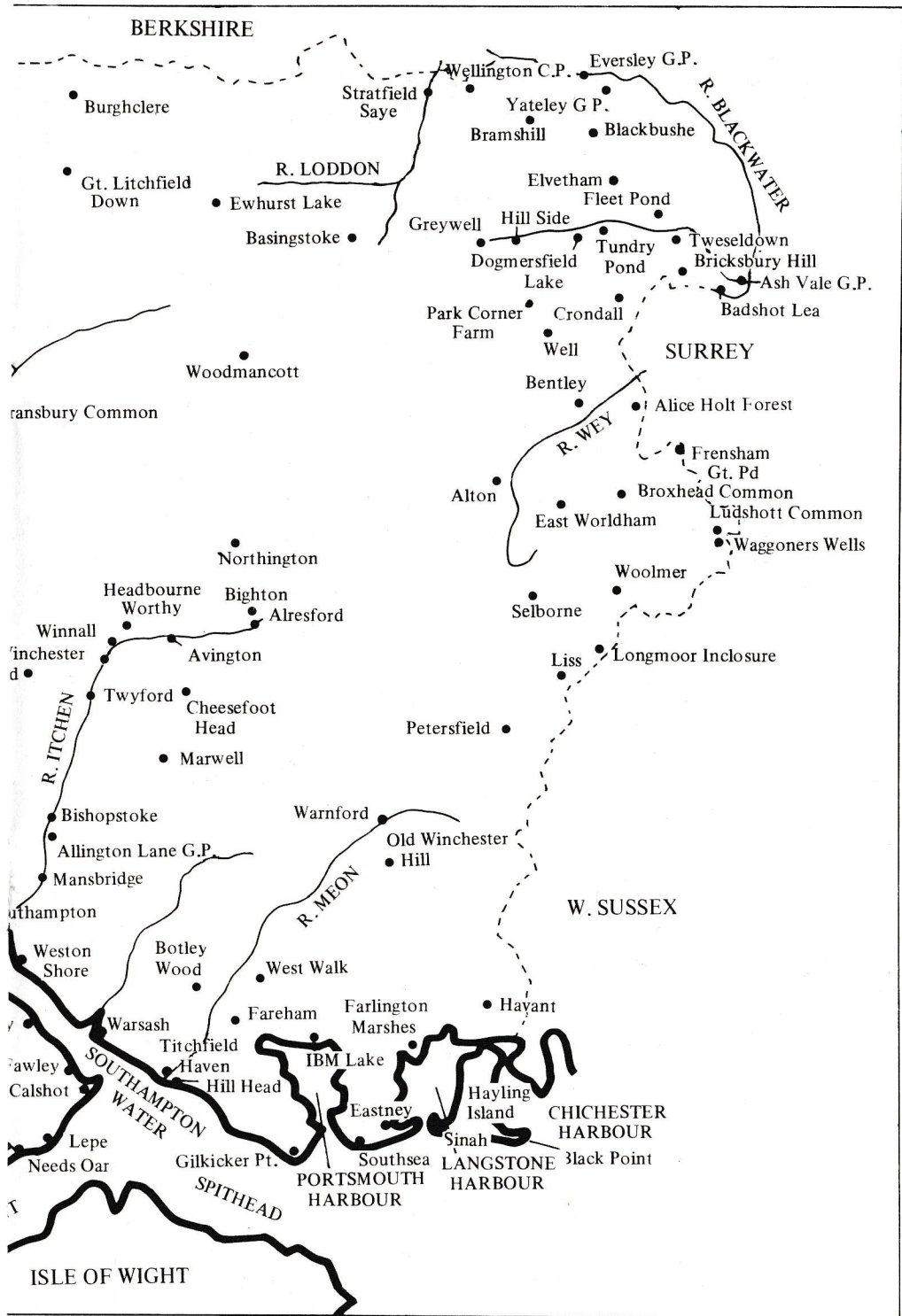
MAP OF THE AVON VALLEY from RINGWOOD to HARBRIDGE

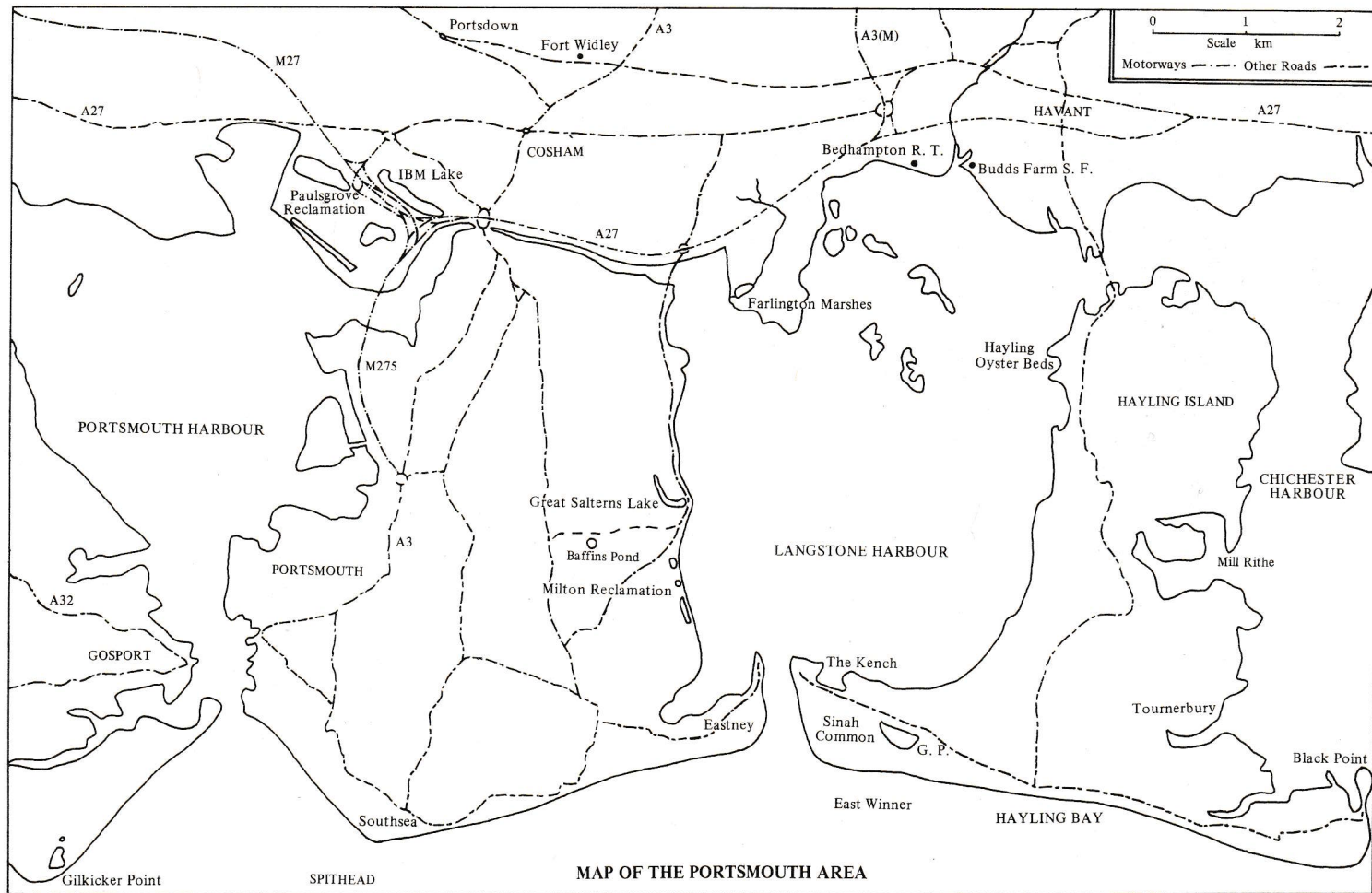


HAMPSHIRE

A map showing some of the main localities mentioned in the text.







C Stock Dove†*Columba oenas*

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 10 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	235	377	55	88	50	0	0	146	168	50	515	569
Localities	4	8	1	3	1	0	0	3	3	1	5	9

Those reaching three figures were 100, Lodge Farm (Odiham), Feb. 15th; 200, Crondall, Nov. 14th; 140, Northfields Farm (Twyford), Nov. 15th; 150, Broughton Down, Dec. 24th; 100+, Bishopstoke, Dec. 26th.

The only signs of autumn movement were 10 E at Timsbury on Oct. 17th and 4 W at Fleet Pond on Oct. 28th.

C Woodpigeon†*Columba palumbus*

Flocks of 1000+ were reported in Jan. (5), Feb. (4), Mar. (1), Nov. (1) and Dec. (2). Those to reach 2000 were 2000, Dogmersfield Park, Jan. 12th and 19th; 2100, Whitedell Farm (Fareham), Jan. 16th; 3500+, Park Lane, (Basingstoke), Feb. 21st; 7000+ flying from roost at Burnt Ground Wood/ Franchises Wood (New Forest), Nov. 14th; 3100+ roosting, Tunworth, Dec. 15th.

The only indication of cold weather movement was of 32 E at Titchfield Haven on Jan. 8th. Autumn passage was noted between Oct. 16th/Nov. 26th with 14 reports of 3/257 moving S/W totalling 1250 and 1500 SE at Fleet Pond on Oct. 28th.

C Collared Dove§†*Streptopelia decaocto*

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 20 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	62	0	173	120	0	120	200	0	195	1089	424	392
Localities	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	4	7	4	5

Highest numbers occurred at Alton (173, Mar. 30th), Northfields Farm (peaks 200+, July 1st and 300+, Oct. 25th) and in the Titchfield Haven/Peak Lane (Fareham) area (max. 467, Oct. 11th and 200+ to the year's end).

C Turtle Dove†*Streptopelia turtur*

The first were at Martin Down on Apr. 9th and Goose Green Inclosure (Alice Holt) on Apr. 17th but there were only five other records for that month. There were the usual signs of immigration in May, e.g. 11, Lower Test Marshes, May 12th; 16 N, Wellington C. P., May 14th; 18 NE, Park Corner Farm (Odiham), May 27th.

Survey work has shown the species to be uncommon in the New Forest with only odd pairs in young conifer plantations. The total population there may be less than 50 pairs (GCE).

The only autumn flocks reported were 25, Chalton Down, July 26th; 12, Northfields Farm, Aug. 23rd; 24, West Hayling, Sept. 1st. Sightings continued throughout Sept. with the latest at three sites on 30th apart from 1 at Hayling West Shore on Oct. 10th.

C Cuckoo†*Cuculus canorus*

Another early arrival with the first flying north at Mansbridge and presumably the same bird at Bishopstoke on Apr. 5th, singles at eight sites between 8th/12th and widespread records by 27th. There were the usual reports of autumn juveniles with the latest at Dean Hill on Sept. 7th and Southwick on Sept. 18th.

B Barn Owl*Tyto alba*

A total of 9 pairs was suspected or proved breeding with 3 known to have raised 6 young. Other breeding season reports involved a further twelve localities. In Jan./Mar. and Sept./Dec. sightings were made at twenty-eight additional sites, including 1 in the Pennington Marshes area up to Apr. 13th and 1/2 at Dibden Bay up to Mar. 17th.

5 dead or dying birds were reported but only 1 was a road casualty.

B Little Owl*Athene noctua*

A total of 49 pairs was proved or suspected of breeding as shown below.

Baddesley Common	2	Liss	1
Barleywood Farm (W. Worldham)	1	Lower Froyle	1
Blashford G. P.	1	Marwell Zoo	5
Cron dall/Greywell/Odiham area	15	Pennington	1
Dean Hill	2	Romsey/Squabb Wood	2
Dogmersfield Village	1	Stratfield Saye	5
Elvetham Park	1+	Titchfield Haven	3
Fort Widley (Portsdown)	1	Tundry Pond	2
Foxhill Farm (Marchwood)	1	Tunworth	1
Houghton	1	Weston Corbett	1
Kingsley S. P.	1		

9 pairs raised at least 16 young. Other records involved single birds or pairs at forty sites during the breeding season and at a further eighteen sites in Jan./Mar. and Sept./Dec. only.

3 corpses were reported, all road casualties.

B Tawny Owl†*Strix aluco*

In the breeding season widely reported with a total of 58 hooting males or pairs at forty sites including built-up areas at East Cosham, Southsea and Winchester. Breeding was confirmed at (single pairs unless stated) Ampfield Wood, Crab Wood (2 yg.), Creech Walk (2 prs.), Emer Bog, Goodworth Clatford (2 yg.), Hartley Park (1 yg.), Lordswood (1 yg.), Marwell Zoo, Squabb Wood and West Walk (1/2 yg.).

A Long-eared Owl*Asio otus*

A good number of records: 1, Martin Down, Jan. 3rd; up to 7 at a roost near Whitchurch throughout Feb.; 1, Milkham Inclosure, Mar. 5th; 1, Titchfield Haven, Apr. 9th/10th; 1, Waltham Chase, Apr. 25th; 1 freshly dead on the M27 at Cosham, May 29th; 1, Sinah G. P., Dec. 6th.

B Short-eared Owl*Asio flammeus*

Recorded up to May 7th (2, Langstone Harbour), on Aug. 29th (2, Pennington) and from Sept. 30th (1, Pennington). Monthly totals are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour area	2	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	5	1
Lymington/Hurst	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	1
Other coastal sites	4	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	5	8
Inland sites	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	14	7
TOTALS	12	10	7	4	3	0	0	2	1	16	25	17

Away from two main areas also recorded in the early year at Titchfield Haven (1/2, Jan. 13th/Mar. 23rd), Calshot/Fawley (4, Jan. 1st then 1/2 until Mar. 26th) and Ashley Walk (1, Jan. 1st/24th and Mar. 27th). Single birds on one date only at three coastal and three inland sites.

In the late year also recorded at Tournurbury (1, Dec. 4th and 22nd), Paulsgrove Reclamation (1/2, Nov. 5th/Dec. 31st), Titchfield Haven, (1/4, Oct. 11th/Dec. 31st), Lower Test Marshes (1, Dec. 13th and 28th), Dibden Bay (1, Oct. 12th/30th and Dec. 18th), Calshot/Fawley (1/2, Oct. 15th/Dec. 31st with 3, Dec. 28th), Old Winchester Hill (1, Oct. 20th; 2, Oct. 24th), Farnborough Airfield (1, Oct. 27th and Nov. 9th), Fawley Down/Cheesefoot

Head (1/2, Nov. 3rd/Dec. 18th), Martin Down (1, Nov. 11th and 13th), Upper Clatford (2, Nov. 14th) and Southampton Airport area (2, Nov. 27th/Dec. 31st). Single birds on one date only at one coastal and ten inland sites — presumably mostly migrants.

3 corpses were reported, at Salterns Marsh on Apr. 21st (the latest early year date in the Lymington/Hurst area), at Lasham Airfield on May 5th (long dead) and at Paulsgrove Reclamation on Nov. 18th (an M27 casualty).

1981: 1, Lasham Airfield, Dec. 8th; 2, Ashley Walk, Dec. 31st.

B Nightjar

Caprimulgus europaeus

The first were at Longmoor Inclosure and Botley Wood on May 11th. Away from the New Forest, for which few records were received, churring males/pairs were reported as shown below.

Bramshill	11	Ampfield Wood	5+
Bramshill Common	3+	Baddesley Common	3+
Bramshott Common	1	Botley Wood	2
Bricksbury/Beacon	7+	Creech Walk	1
Broxhead Common	1	Farley Mount	1
Eelmoor	1	Havant Thicket	2
Kingsley Common	2	Kingsmead	1
Longmoor Inclosure	12	Martin Down	3
Ludshott Common	4	West Walk	2
Velmead Common	2		
Woolmer	20		
Yateley Common	2+		

The indications are that 1982 was possibly a better season than the survey year of 1981; at two major N. E. sites covered fully in both years increases were noted — 20 at Woolmer (in an area holding 17 in 1981) and 11 at Bramshill (9 in 1981).

Of note was a migrant on the coast at Lisle Court Lagoon (Lymington) on Aug. 31st but the latest was in a breeding area at Hinchelsea Moor on Sept. 15th.

C Swift

Apus apus

1 was at Titchfield Haven on Apr. 21st and 2 were at Fleet Pond the next day. Further arrivals were noted at ten sites between 25th and 30th but the main passage at coastal sites occurred between May 3rd and 12th.

Mid-summer gatherings included 750 feeding at Titchfield Haven on the evening of June 13th (the largest gathering yet recorded there) and 500 feeding over barley at Crondall in dull weather on July 19th.

Emigration was under way by late July, the largest movements reported being of 100 SW high over Farlington Marshes on Aug. 2nd and 118 W over Sinah G. P. in 30 minutes on the evening of Aug. 10th. There were fourteen Sept. sightings of single birds up to 15th (ten of them on 5th/6th), then 3 W over Milton Reclamation on 21st, 1 at Sinah G. P. on 22nd and the last inland at Upper Clatford on 28th.

B Kingfisher

Alcedo atthis

In Jan./Mar. recorded at nine inland and fourteen coastal sites (mostly in Jan.). This compares with twenty-three inland and seven coastal sites during mild weather a year earlier. All reports were of 1/2 apart from 3 at Dibden Bay on Jan. 9th and 24th and 3 at Fleet Pond on Mar. 9th.

Breeding was suspected or proved* at the following localities: Ellingham G. P.*, near Fleet Pond*, near Frensham Outlet Pond*, Harbridge, Langstone Mill, Longwater Lawn (River Beaulieu), Nursling Mill*, Potbridge, Shawford*, Timsbury, Winchester Water Meadows and Yateley G. P.* Single birds were seen at a further fifteen sites in summer but several observers reported absence

from traditional sites following the severe winter.

Returns to coastal localities were noted from July 17th onwards and subsequently there were reports of 1/2 birds from twenty-eight inland and ten coastal sites to the year's end (*cf.* early year).

This species is the subject of a HOS breeding survey in 1984-86 and thus all 1983 summer records are required.

A Hoopoe

Upupa epops

1, along the old railway track at West Hayling, Apr. 5th (JMW). 1, Andlers Ash Farm (Liss), Oct. 3rd (PTw *et al.*).

A Wryneck

Jynx torquilla

A poor year with only three reported: in a garden at Stubbington on Apr. 26th (VMP), at Weston (Southampton) on July 28th (DBF) and in a garden at Locks Heath on Sept. 15th (TMM).

C Green Woodpecker†

Picus viridis

1 flew strongly from Needs Oar Point towards the Isle of Wight on Jan. 3rd.

D Great Spotted Woodpecker§†

Dendrocopos major

B Lesser Spotted Woodpecker

Dendrocopos minor

Recorded in Apr./July at seventeen New Forest sites but breeding only proved at Brockenhurst Woods. Other reports (* = breeding proved) were from Botley Wood, Brambridge, Conford, Dogmersfield Lake, Drivetts Copse (Purbrook), near Emer Bog, Fleet Pond, Frensham Outlet Pond, Guillemont Fields (Farnborough), Hazeley Heath, Humbers Wood (Kings Somborne), Kimbridge, Leigh Park, Lower Test Marshes, Ower, Park Corner Farm, Petersfield, Ramsdell, Regents Park (Southampton), Southampton Common (2♂♂), Springhead (Greywell), Squabb Wood, Stratfield Saye, Swaythling, Tatchbury Mount*, Tundry Pond (2 prs.), Wellington C. P.*, Wellow, Widley, Winchester, Yateley G. P. (2♂♂) and Yew Tree Copse (Broadlands).

In Jan./Mar. and Aug./Dec. recorded at thirty-one additional sites including 1 at Northfields Farm on Feb. 1st, the first ever there, and 1 at Dibden Bay on Aug. 28th, the only sighting from the coast during the whole year.

B Woodlark

Lullula arborea

The severe weather on Jan. 9th/10th produced a small movement. Records came from Bidden Water (Greywell) (2, Jan. 9th/10th), Hill Head (2 W, Jan. 9th; 1, Jan. 10th), Liss (1, Jan. 9th), Marwell Zoo (1 at a bird table, Jan. 9th/12th) and Pennington Marshes (3 inside sea-wall, Jan. 9th, these leaving south towards the Isle of Wight). None was recorded at breeding sites until Jan. 31st.

Breeding numbers were clearly adversely affected by the severe winter. In the N. E. a total of 28 pairs/singing males was located at twelve sites which held 55 pairs/singing males in 1981, a reduction of 49%. New Forest records involved only 15 pairs/singing males but coverage was poor in this area. Only 3 pairs were found in the tree and shrub nurseries which held 11 in 1981, the reduction being attributable to poor coverage and the hard weather. Elsewhere single singing males were heard at Rowland's Castle on Apr. 3rd and near Winchester on Apr. 11th.

Maximum post breeding gatherings were 9 on a New Forest common on Aug. 22nd and 16 at a N. E. locality the next day. None was seen at breeding sites after Oct. 3rd. Other late year records were of 1 SE at Wellington C. P. on Oct. 1st, 10 with Skylarks on plough at Pencroft Farm (Crondall) on Nov. 8th, 3 at Liss on Nov. 13th and 3 N at Liphook on Nov. 18th.

C Skylark†

Alauda arvensis

The cold weather of early Jan. resulted in an exodus from the county. Between 8th and 11th a total of 2497 was recorded moving at eight inland and three coastal sites, mostly in a S/SW direction. Peak counts were 500 SW at South Warnborough and 500 SE at Titchfield Haven on 9th and 800 W in two hours there the next day. This period also produced eight flocks exceeding 100, the largest 640 at North Hayling on 6th and *ca.* 1000 at Weston Lane (Nursling) on 8th. Between 11th and 16th few were recorded, the only notable flock being of 100 on ice-free sludge beds at Camp Farm S. F. on 14th. The thaw from 17th onwards produced a small return movement (e.g. 30 NE at Woolmer in an hour on 17th) and five flocks exceeding 100, the maxima 400 at Hamble on 22nd and 450 at North Hayling on 27th. Subsequently the only flocks of 100+ were in Oct. (1), Nov. (3) and Dec. (3), none exceeding 150.

Autumn passage was evident between Oct. 3rd/Dec. 1st with a total of 569 reported moving mostly between SE/W at seven sites, peak counts 41 W/SW at Park Corner Farm on Oct. 9th, 56 W at Fort Purbrook on Oct. 15th, 36 S at West Hayling on Oct. 16th and 70 NW at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 23rd.

C Sand Martin §

Riparia riparia

Three were at Fleet Pond on Mar. 13th but the next was not until Mar. 22nd at Titchfield Haven. 18 were at Fleet Pond by 29th and 20 at Bishopstoke on 31st but Mar. birds were only noted at four other sites (*cf.* 1981 *HBR*). Subsequently the largest spring gatherings were at Titchfield Haven (max. 120 roosting, Apr. 10th), Fleet Pond (max. 350, Apr. 13th and counts of 110/280 on five other dates between Apr. 5th/May 4th), Bishopstoke (100+, Apr. 18th) and Heath Pond (Petersfield) (100, May 8th).

Numbers of occupied nest holes were as follows: Bramshill R. T., O; Ellingham Lake, *ca.* 20; Holmsley Ridge G. P., 1; Hogmoor S. P. (Bordon), 30+; Kingsley S. P., 230; Potbridge S. P., 10; Rockford S. P., a few; Sleaford S. P., 100+; Steep S. P., 15; Woolmer, 22. All such records are required.

Records of autumn roosts included maxima of 160 at Titchfield Haven on July 6th and 425 at Fleet Pond on July 22nd, 200 roosting on roofs at Southampton Airport on Aug. 21st and 500+ in maize at Timsbury on Aug. 21st with 400+ still there on Sept. 4th. Apart from 400+ at Bishopstoke on Aug. 13th other counts were small. There were six Oct. records with the last 2 at Farlington Marshes on 9th.

C Swallow §†

Hirundo rustica

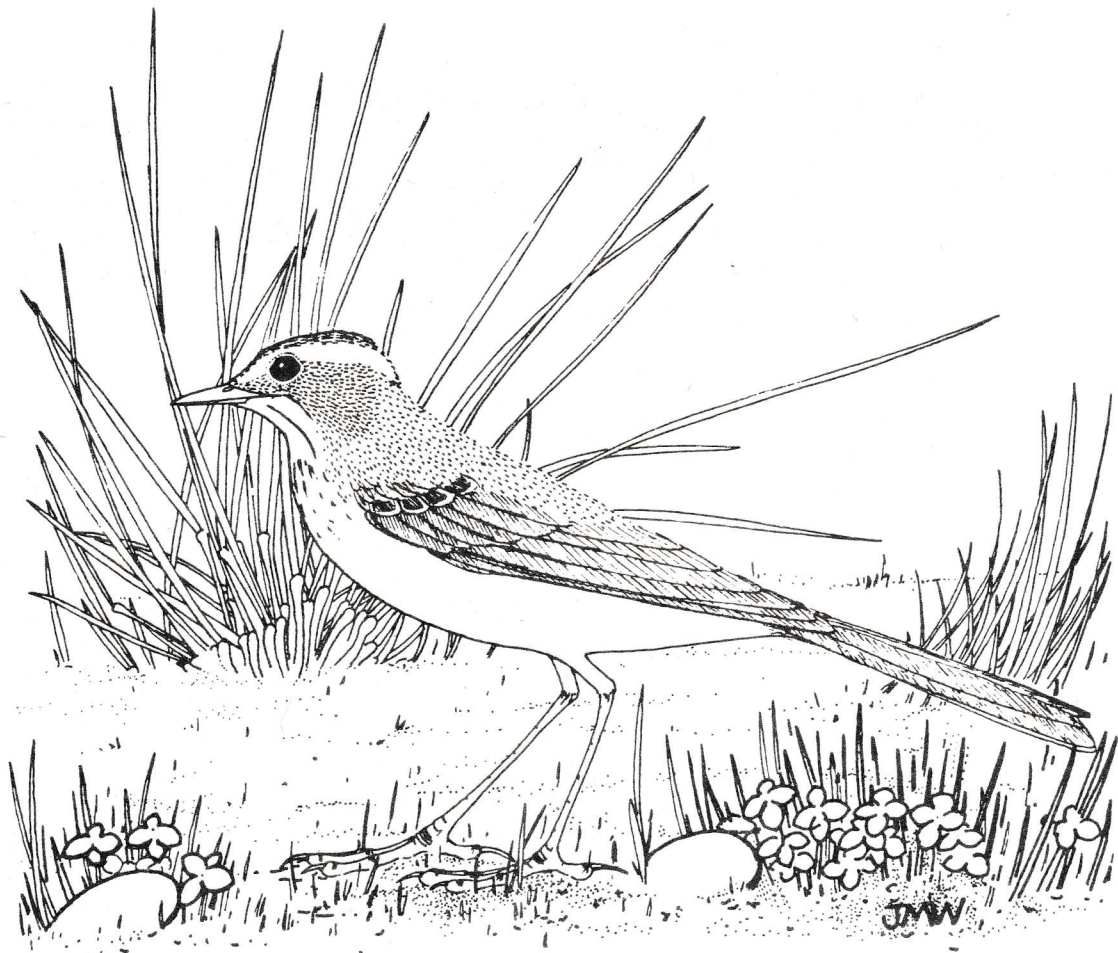
The first was at Bishopstoke on Mar. 31st with records following from seven other sites between Apr. 2nd/4th. The main arrival occurred between May 10th/12th with 189 in from the south at Hill Head on 10th, 200+ in off the sea at Hurst on 11th and very large numbers arriving there all day on 12th.

Autumn roost numbers were generally very low. At Milton Reclamation (Portsmouth) there were 800 on Sept. 6th and 500 on three other dates up to 21st. However at Titchfield Haven the only count to exceed 100 was of 500 on Sept. 16th and at Fleet Pond numbers did not reach three figures. 200 roosted in maize at Timsbury on Sept. 4th. Numbers reported moving were also low the maxima being 200 S in an hour at Widley on Sept. 30th and 200 S at Timsbury on Oct. 2nd. There were four Nov. records up to 15th, then singles at South Hayling on 22nd, Calshot on 24th, IBM Lake (Cosham) on 29th and Titchfield Haven on Dec. 1st.

C House Martin

Delichon urbica

2 flew north at Springhead on Apr. 3rd to be followed by "firsts" at ten other sites up to 10th, including 20 at Ovington on 8th. Apart from 100+ in off the sea at Hurst on May 11th no spring record involved more than 27



birds.

Considerable autumn movement was recorded, e.g. 446 W in 20 minutes at Titchfield Haven on Sept. 14th, 2000 E in two hours at Portsdown Hill on Sept. 22nd, 1000+ S there in one hour on Sept. 30th and 600+ S at Timsbury on Oct. 2nd (cf. Swallow). There were nine Nov. records up to 17th then singles at Drayton (Portsmouth) on 22nd, Woolston on 26th, Stokes Bay (Gosport) on Dec. 1st and Beaulieu Mill Pond on Dec. 22nd.

A Tawny Pipit

Anthus campestris

1 juvenile, Sinah Common (Hayling), Oct. 9th (JMW). Accepted by *British Birds*.

C Tree Pipit

Anthus trivialis

The first were at Portsdown and Denny Wood on Apr. 3rd and at four sites the next day. Birds were widespread by Apr. 12th. Away from breeding localities spring passage records involved a total of 21 birds at five inland and two coastal sites between Apr. 4th/May 10th.

Survey work in the New Forest showed the species to be breeding everywhere with young birch woodland, the total population being no higher than 300 pairs (GCE). Elsewhere the only notable counts were of 9 pairs at Ampfield Wood and 10 at Botley Wood/Ridge Copse/Whiteley Pastures.

In autumn visible migration was noted at ten inland and five coastal sites with a total of 118 mostly S/SW between Aug. 2nd/Sept. 18th. Peak counts were 9 SW over Nursling on Aug. 21st and 7 SW over Regents Park on Aug. 23rd and 27th. In addition a "fall" of 23 was noted at Bramshill on Aug. 27th. The last was 1 heard at Keyhaven on Sept. 18th.

C Meadow Pipit§†

Anthus pratensis

The only flocks to exceed 50 in the early year were of ca. 100 at Monxton on Jan. 7th and 150 at Camp Farm S. F. on Jan. 14th.

Spring passage was noted between Mar. 8th/Apr. 11th, the largest movements being on Mar. 27th when 124 flew N at West Hayling and 100+ N at Acres Down (New Forest). At Camp Farm S. F. 110+ roosted on Apr. 2nd and 100 on Apr. 4th but other flocks on the ground did not exceed 55. Autumn passage was detected between Sept. 15th/Nov. 14th, peak numbers being 200, Purbrook Heath, Sept. 21st/22nd; 140 + 70 S, Portsdown Hill, Sept. 22nd; 85 S, Park Corner Farm, Sept. 23rd; 187 N/NW, Portsdown Hill, Sept. 30th; "hundreds" S, Hamble Common, Oct. 1st; large numbers at Pennington, Oct. 3rd/6th, max. 300+ on 4th; 90 E/SW, Old Winchester Hill, Oct. 9th; 150+, Dibden Bay, Oct. 17th; 98 W, South Hayling, Oct. 25th.

Flocks in Nov./Dec. did not exceed 71 apart from 150 Camp Farm S. F. on Nov. 28th which left north to roost, 100+ there on Dec. 30th and 130 at Dibden Bay on Dec. 11th.

B Rock Pipit

Anthus spinoletta petrosus

Recorded at seven coastal sites up to Apr. 2nd with counts exceeding 3 only at Warsash (max. 10, Feb. 10th but none during the severe weather), Eling Great Marsh (max. 10, Feb. 27th) and Pennington (max. 10, Feb. 12th).

At least 3 pairs bred at Hurst Castle. 8 at Pennington on Aug. 31st were possibly these birds dispersing. Then recorded from Oct. 9th at nine coastal sites with counts exceeding 3 only at West Hayling Oyster Beds (max. 5+, Oct. 30th), Warsash (3, Nov. 10th, increasing to 22+, Nov. 13th, the highest there for many years; 16, Dec. 30th), Eling Great Marsh (max. 10, Dec. 4th) and Pennington (max. 12, Oct. 30th). Also 1 inland at Bighton Lane C. B. (Alresford) on Oct. 9th.

B Water Pipit

Anthus spinoletta spinoletta

Recorded up to Apr. 21st (1, Camp Farm S. F.) from Bighton Lane C. B. (2, Jan. 24th), Camp Farm S. F. (max. 5, Jan. 22nd), Dibden Bay (max. 7+, Jan. 1st), Eastleigh S. F. (2, Mar. 28th), Eling Great Marsh (1, Jan. 19th and 31st), Headbourne Worthy C. B. (2, Jan. 6th), Langstone Harbour (1, Jan. 13th), Lepe (1, Jan. 1st), River Avon at Ringwood (11/14, Mar. 20th; 7, Mar. 28th; 1, Apr. 3rd), Romsey S. F. (1, Feb. 12th/Mar. 24th) and Shepherd Springs (1, Jan. 16th).

Then from Oct. 27th (1, Camp Farm S. F.) at Allbrook (1, Oct. 30th), Bighton C. B. (max. 9, Nov. 27th), Camp Farm S. F. (max. 4, Dec. 30th), Dibden Bay (max. 10, Dec. 28th) and Winnall (1, Dec. 12th).

This species was much under-recorded in 1982 with only occasional reports for some regular haunts and none for others, e.g. Lower Test Marshes. 1981: 6, Headbourne Worthy C. B., Dec. 28th.

B Yellow Wagtail§

Motacilla flava

The first were an early male at Bidden Grange (Greywell) on Mar. 25th and singles at Wellington C. P. on Apr. 3rd and Farlington Marshes on 4th. Records followed for nine sites between 9th/11th. Passage continued at non-breeding sites until May 13th, half-monthly totals being shown below.

Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15
1	15	45	17

The only count above 4 was of 7 at South Hayling on Apr. 22nd. The peak count at Farlington Marshes (not included above as presumably mostly breeders) was 32 on Apr. 28th.

Coverage during the breeding season was better than for many years. Counts of pairs/singing males are shown below.

Avon Causeway/Avon Tyrrell	8	Fawley Oil Refinery	10
Bishopstoke/Mansbridge	2	Langstone Harbour Islands	3
Blashford/Bickton	18	North Warnborough	1
Burgate	1	Paulsgrove Reclamation	2+
Dibden Bay	9	Ringwood	4
Farlington Marshes	15	Western Docks (Southampton)	1+

These counts show the species' strongholds in the county – in Langstone Harbour, on coastal reclaimed land and in the Avon Valley. It is now virtually absent from the Test and Itchen Valleys and other areas.

1 was at Pennington on July 17th and 2 flew north at Waltham Chase on July 28th but the main passage was from Aug. 10th. Half-monthly totals (not including roosts) are shown below.

Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sept 1-15	Sept 16-30	Oct 1-15
6	302	298	42	26

Maxima at localities with counts exceeding 20 were 127+, Keyhaven, Aug. 28th; 28, Hayling Island, Aug. 28th; 32+, Blashford, Aug. 29th; 20+, Newtown, Sept. 11th; 58, Portsdown Hill, Sept. 12th; 100, Bishopstoke, Sept. 13th; 22, Petersfield, Sept. 13th.

Reed bed roosts were reported at Farlington Marshes (peaks 70, July 28th; 120, Aug. 25th; 100, Sept. 11th; 45, Oct. 2nd), Milton Reclamation (peaks 150, Sept. 6th; 60, Sept. 19th) and Titchfield Haven (peaks 220, Aug. 25th; 270, Sept. 5th).

The last were singles at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 18th and 27th.

Males showing the characteristics of races other than *flavissima* were reported as follows: *flava*: 1, Farlington Marshes, Apr. 30th; 1, Fawley, June 6th; 2, Farlington Marshes, Aug. 31st; *beema*: 1, Eling Great Marsh, Apr. 24th and May 8th.

B Grey Wagtail§†

Motacilla cinerea

No count exceeded 5 in the first winter period.

48 breeding pairs were located in the New Forest (65 in 1981) distributed as follows: Avon River, 2; Bartley Water, 4; Beaulieu River, 6; Cadnam River, 1; Lymington River, 27; N. W. streams, 8 (TGH). All pairs were within the New Forest perambulation and coverage was similar to 1981; presumably the significant decrease can be attributed to the previous severe winter. Elsewhere a total of 43 pairs/singing males was reported as follows (* = breeding proved).

Alresford C. B.	1	Langstone Mill Stream	1*
Bedhampton Stream	1	Liss (R. Rother)	1*
Bickton	1*	Longwater Bridge (Funtley)	1
Bishopstoke	5*	Mapledurwell C. B.	1
Broughton	1*	Mattingley	1*
Candover Stream	1	Northington	1
Coldrey Lake (Bentley)	1	Regents Park (Southampton)	1
Damerham C. B.	1	Riseley Mill	1
Elvetham	1	Romsey Mill	1
near Fleet Pond	1*	Sheet (R. Rother)	1*
Frensham Outlet Pond	1*	Sherfield-on-Loddon	1*
Greywell Water Works	1	Southwick	1
Hartley Wespall (R. Lyde)	1*	Stratfield Saye	1
Headley Park	1*	Twyford	2+*
Hill Side	1	Waggoners Wells	1
Houghton	1*	Warnford	1*
IBM Stream (Havant)	2	Wellington C. P.	1*
Isington (R. Wey)	1	Yateley G. P.	2*

Pairs were absent from at least twelve sites where reported in 1981.

More evidence of autumn passage than ever before, with 64 birds reported moving or at non-breeding coastal localities between Aug. 19th/Nov. 13th. The majority (46) were in Sept. with a maximum of 8 (including 3 W) in the Pennington area on Sept. 28th. Other records for Sept./Dec. were of 1/5 apart from 7 at Camphouse Farm (R. Wallington) on Sept. 9th and 6 at Brighton Lane C.B. on Oct. 9th.

All summer records of this species are required as it is the subject of an HOS breeding survey in 1984–86.

B Pied Wagtail§†

Motacilla alba yarrelli

The records submitted are summarised below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Total of flocks	237	75	190	10	0	0	20	68	87	440	230	90
Localities	3	2	3	1	—	—	1	1	2	5	3	2
Total of roosts	0	449	250	0	0	0	0	40	80	360	743	872
Localities	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	6	5
Total of movements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	87	0	0
Localities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—

The peak passage period was suggested by 19 W in an hour at South Hayling on Oct. 3rd and 20 W at Gilkicker Point on Oct. 9th.

A White Wagtail

Motacilla alba alba

Recorded from the following localities: Farlington Marshes (16+ birds, Apr. 4th/30th, max. 5 on 11th, 12th and 24th), Park Corner Farm (1, Apr. 6th), Fleet Pond (1, Apr. 10th/11th), Needs Oar Point (1, Apr. 11th), Titchfield Haven (1, Apr. 13th), Calshot (1, Apr. 18th; 2, Apr. 25th), Camp Farm S. F. (1, Apr. 21st), Hurst Beach (2, Apr. 24th), Dibden Bay (4, May 6th), Fritham (1, May 8th) and Keyhaven Marsh (1, May 9th).

A Waxwing

Bombycilla garrulus

3 left west from a hawthorn hedge at Titchfield Haven on Jan. 10th (SB). 2 were seen in a Totton garden on Feb. 25th (TA) and 4 nearby on 27th (GEL).

C Wren†

20 roosted in a nest box at Over Wallop on Jan. 11th during the severe weather.

Troglodytes troglodytes

D Dunnock§†

Prunella modularis

D Robin†

Erithacus rubecula

B Nightingale

Luscinia megarhynchos

The first were 2 singing males at Botley Wood on Apr. 9th but no further arrivals were detected until Apr. 20th when birds were present at Abbotstone Down, Martin Down and Timsbury.

112 singing males were reported at thirty-seven widespread localities. Selected counts were Ampfield Wood, 8+; Botley Wood/Ridge Copse/Whiteley Pasture, 30 (16 in 1981); Goodworth Clatford area, 5; Hartley Wood, 3 (5 in 1981); Martin Down CBC, 9 (16 in 1981); West Wood/Crab Wood, 7 (5 in 1981).

Autumn migrants recorded were 3 juveniles trapped at Western Docks (Southampton) between Aug. 4th/8th, 1 at Dibden Bay on Aug. 14th and 1 at Sinah Common on Sept. 19th.

B Black Redstart

Phoenicurus ochruros

By far the best year ever with a minimum of 88 birds reported. Monthly totals are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Inland sites	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	19	1
Coastal sites	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	26	13

Note that most long stay wintering birds in Jan., Feb. and Dec. were on the coast whilst spring passage birds (Mar. 19th/Apr. 8th) were largely inland. Autumn passage from Oct. 22nd was exceptional. All records were of 1/2 apart from 3 at Kench (Hayling) on Oct. 31st, 5 at Dean Hill on Nov. 2nd and 3 at Southsea Castle on Nov. 13th.

B Redstart

Phoenicurus phoenicurus

Early females were at New Milton on Mar. 27th, Bishop's Dyke the next day and Farnborough Airfield on Apr. 1st. The next were 3 males at Eyeworth Wood on Apr. 9th and singles at three other sites on 11th/12th. Spring passage at non-breeding localities involved a total of 28 birds at nine inland and four coastal sites between Apr. 11th/May 14th. All records were of 1/3 apart from 5 at Hayling Island on Apr. 29th.

In the New Forest there were 19 occupied territories in the CBC area near Fritham (14 in 1981). Further work in SU21 showed numbers similar to 1981 when 400 pairs were estimated but fewer in SU20 where there is less suitable habitat. Other records submitted involved at least 120 pairs/singing males with the total population probably of the order of 1000 pairs (GCE).

On the N. E. heaths counts of pairs/singing males were as follows: Bramshill, 1; Bricksbury Hill, several; Eversley Common Wood, 1; Longmoor Inclosure, 5+; Minley, 1; Waggoners Wells, 5+; Woolmer, 9. Other breeding records involved single pairs breeding at Humbers Wood (Kings Somborne) and in a pile of logs at a Long Sutton farm.

Autumn passage was evident from July 2nd onwards with a minimum of 109 birds recorded. Half-monthly totals are shown below.

July 1-15	July 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sept 1-15	Sept 16-30	Oct 1-15
4	2	2	36	44	13	8

Highest counts were at Dean Hill (max. 6, Aug. 25th), Old Winchester Hill (peaks 16, Aug. 29th; 8, Sept. 4th; 14, Sept. 12th) and Farlington Marshes (max. 5, Sept. 11th). The last were singles at Long Sutton on Oct. 18th and at Cosham on Oct. 21st.

B Whinchat*Saxicola rubetra*

The first was a male at Camp Farm S. F. on Apr. 21st. Spring passage involved a further 34 birds at fifteen inland and five coastal sites up to May 17th. All records were of 1/2 apart from 5 near Nursling Church on May 6th and 3 at Camp Farm S. F. the next day.

New Forest breeding records involved 14 pairs/singing males at eight sites, mostly in the N. W. At least 9 pairs bred successfully.

Early autumn migrants were 3 (pr. + juv.) at Martin Down on July 3rd/4th (possibly a local breeding pair), 2 at Sinah G. P. on July 8th and 1 at Crondall on Aug. 1st. The main passage was from Aug. 8th/Oct. 23rd. Half-monthly totals are shown below.

Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sept 1-15	Sept 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-30
14	120	140	52	24	9

Not all records submitted could be used in compiling the above totals as they did not list individual counts. Counts in excess of 8 were 10, Park Corner Farm, Aug. 24th; 10 Farlington Marshes, Aug. 26th; 9, Bishopstoke, Aug. 31st and Sept. 11th; 28+, Hayling Island, Sept. 10th; 22, Portsdown Hill, Sept. 12th; 11, Farlington Marshes, Sept. 12th and 12 there, Sept. 25th. The last were singles at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 26th and Northfields Farm on Nov. 2nd.

B Stonechat*Saxicola torquata*

Monthly totals at inland non-breeding and coastal sites are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Inland sites	5	1	2	1	0	1	4	11	15	7	6	6
Coastal sites	26	8	4	8	2	2	4	0	8	11	30	15

None was reported from New Forest and N. E. heaths during the severe Jan. weather, the first returns being on Feb. 13th (at Ashley Walk) and Feb. 24th (at Bricksbury Hill) respectively. By contrast there were records in Dec. of 16 birds at nine New Forest sites (mostly in the S. E.) and 11 birds at three N. E. sites.

Breeding numbers in the New Forest were apparently unaffected by the severe winter. Amongst records submitted were the following counts of pairs/singing males: Bramshaw Commons, 11; Millersford Bottom/Ashley Walk, 10; other areas north and west of A31, 43+; Beaulieu Heath East, 17; Beaulieu Heath West, 20; Bishop's Dyke/Denny Lodge area, 20.

In the N. E., sites covered fully in 1981 and 1982 showed a reduction from 33 to 23 pairs - 30%. In particular, territories in marginal habitats were not occupied, e.g. none returned to the Blackwater Valley gravel pits where there were 7 pairs in 1981 (3 on the Surrey side of the border). Counts of pairs/singing males were as follows: Blackbushe/Yateley Common, 6; Blackmoor G. C., 1; Bramshill Common, 1; Bramshott Common, 1+; Bricksbury/Beacon Hill, 4+; Hazeley Heath, 1; Longmoor Inclosure, 5; Ludshott Common, 4; Velmead Common (Fleet), 1; The Warren (Oakhanger), 1; Woolmer, 10. Other reports of breeding came from Baddesley Common (3 prs.), Martin Down (1+ prs.), Portsdown Hill (2 prs.) and Sinah Common (1 pr.). Birds were absent from some other coastal and downland sites occupied in recent years.

B Wheatear*Oenanthe oenanthe*

The first were at Baddesley Common on Mar. 12th and at Farlington Marshes from 13th/18th. Birds were widespread by 27th when there was a considerable influx. Spring passage, which again showed two peaks, continued until May 30th (1, Paulsgrove Reclamation). Half monthly totals are shown below.

Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15	May 16-31
2	65	105	84	179	9

Counts in excess of 10 were: 11, Farlington Marshes, Mar. 27th; 16, Hayling Island, Mar. 27th; 11, Hurst/Keyhaven, Mar. 27th; 19, South Hayling,

Apr. 2nd; 31, Hayling Island, Apr. 29th; 11/18, Blackbushe Airfield, May 5th/6th; 11, Farnborough Airfield, May 7th; 45, Dibden Bay, May 7th and 15+ there, May 10th.

During the breeding season at least 12 pairs/singing males were present at seven New Forest sites. 9 pairs are known to have raised young. For the second consecutive year a pair bred successfully at Dibden Bay.

A male was at Keyhaven on July 17th but the main autumn passage lasted from July 25th/Oct. 30th. Half monthly totals are shown below.

Jul 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sept 1-15	Sept 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31
12	33	144	93	185	57	21

The largest numbers were recorded at Farlington Marshes (peaks 11, Aug. 17th; 12, Aug. 26th; 12, Sept. 25th; 17, Sept. 30th) and Hayling Island (peaks 21/22, Aug. 27th/28th; 14, Sept. 25th; 31, Sept. 30th; 14, Oct. 3rd). Other notable counts were 10, Pencroft Farm (Crondall), Aug. 23rd; 10, Calshot/Fawley, Aug. 30th; 33, Portsdown Hill, Sept. 14th; 11, Dibden Bay, Sept. 17th; 16, Fawley Down (Winchester), Sept. 26th; 14, Keyhaven/Pennington, Sept. 28th.

There were 4 later individuals, at North Hayling Shore on Nov. 2nd, Farlington Marshes from Nov. 2nd/13th, Pennington Marsh from Nov. 8th/14th and Southsea Castle from Dec. 10th/15th (JM, ACS), the latest ever for the county.

A Ring Ouzel

Turdus torquatus

A poor year, the only records coming from central Southampton (a pair, Apr. 4th — per DRB) and Old Winchester Hill (1, Sept. 5th and 7th; 1, Oct. 24th; 3, Oct. 31st — JBN, KWM, MJWH).

C Blackbird§†

Turdus merula

Notable counts included 60+, Stockbridge S. F., Jan. 12th; 50+, Bishopstoke, Nov. 7th and 106 there, Nov. 27th; 79, Lower Test Marshes, Nov. 29th; 117, Titchfield Haven, Dec. 23rd.

A nest containing four eggs was found in a Christmas tree in Bargate (Southampton) on Jan. 6th. It was destroyed when the tree was taken down. Three partial albinos were reported at Overton, Widley and Woolston.

B Fieldfare§

Turdus pilaris

Approximate monthly totals of flocks on the ground are shown below.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
5250	6820	4520	2120	153	0	0	0	0	95	2700	3100

Very large numbers were present in early Jan., e.g. 430 at Titchfield Haven and 950 at Crondall on 4th. Heavy snow on Jan. 8th/9th produced a considerable movement on the coast with a total of 1262 moving SE/W at four sites. Also large numbers moved into gardens with fallen apples and parks with berry-bearing shrubs, e.g. 160 in an East Cosham garden on 10th and "vast numbers" at Woolston the next day. Most had moved on by 15th. The thaw brought a return later in the month (max. 300, Potbridge, Jan. 26th) but it was not until Feb. that large numbers reappeared. The biggest flocks were at Park Corner Farm (max. 1000, Feb. 6th), Bickton (400, Feb. 6th), Barleywood Farm (West Worldham) (max. 354, Feb. 8th), Hursley Forest (1000, Feb. 22nd) and Sherfield-on-Loddon (max. 400, Feb. 23rd). Numbers remained high during Mar., peak counts being 720 at Park Corner Farm on 4th, 440 near Romsey on 14th and 500 at Martin Down on 20th. Apr. saw a considerable reduction although 500 were at Crondall on 6th. By the end of the month the Sherfield/Hartley Wespall area was the only one to hold any numbers of note, with 200 there on Apr. 28th, 130+ on May 1st, 70+ the next day and 1 until 4th. Other May records were of 11 at Avon Causeway on 1st, 9 near Hazeley on 2nd and single birds at Barton Stacey

and Calthorpe (Fleet) on 3rd and flying NE at Park Corner Farm on 4th.

The first returns were 8 W over Park Corner Farm on Oct. 10th but apart from 7 at Petersfield on Oct. 15th no more were seen until 24th/25th when a widespread arrival occurred. Another influx was apparent in mid-Nov., with 830 coming into roost at Ashley Walk on 14th and several small movements at other sites. Subsequently the only counts to exceed 200 were of 206 at Titchfield Haven on Dec. 6th, 250 roosting at Woolmer on Dec. 20th, 300 at Weston (Southampton) on Dec. 29th and 252 in the Wickham area and 220 at Newnham (Basingstoke) the next day.

C Song Thrush§†

Turdus philomelos

A few were noted moving in Jan., Oct. and Nov., the highest count being of 11 W in two hours at Sinah Common on Nov. 13th.

B Redwing

Turdus iliacus

Approximately monthly totals of flocks on the ground are shown below.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
3920	2150	1690	16	0	0	0	0	0	580	2060	4040

Good numbers were present in early Jan. (max. 1200 at Crondall on 4th but no other count exceeding 330). Considerable movement occurred between 8th and 10th, e.g. 150 W at Normandy Marsh on 8th, 401 W there on 9th and 300 W at Titchfield Haven on 10th. Some birds moved into gardens but generally very few were present over the next few days. The thaw resulted in a return but numbers were unexceptional, no flock in late Jan. or Feb. exceeding 250. Considerable passage was evident in mid-Mar., e.g. a build-up to 450 at Park Corner Farm on 12th, flocks of 100/150 at five other localities at this time and small diurnal and nocturnal movements. As usual few remained in Apr. with the last on 11th apart from singles at Hazeley Lea on 18th and Marwell Zoo until 29th.

The first returns were 24 N at Wellington C. P. on Oct. 7th. Although numbers on the ground were fairly low in Oct. considerable movement took place between 8th/10th (max. 500 SW at South Warnborough on 10th) and 24th/26th (max. 380 SW at Fleet Pond on 25th). Nocturnal movements were noted on most intervening dates and almost daily in Nov. Largest flocks on the ground were 450 at Pitts Wood/Ashley Walk on Nov. 14th and 300 at Dean Hill on Nov. 25th. Some passage continued in Dec. and large numbers were present on the ground. Flocks of 100/200 were present at seven sites and larger gatherings were of 400 at Howen Bushes (New Forest) on 5th, 450 at Bishopstoke on 13th, 900 in the Bramshaw area on 18th and 370 at Wellow on 27th.

C Mistle Thrush†

Turdus viscivorus

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 10 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	49	0	0	0	0	0	152	348	183	40	0	0
Localities	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	10	3	1	0	0

Those flocks to exceed 50 were of 70+ at Stratfield Saye on Sept. 12th and 65 at Gibraltar Barracks (Minley) on Sept. 30th.

B Cetti's Warbler

Cettia cetti

Coverage was better than in 1981 and a total of 22 pairs/singing males was located as follows: Avon Valley, 9 at five sites; Lymington, 1; Lower Test Marshes, 1; near Romsey, 1; Itchen Valley, 7 at five sites; Titchfield Haven, 3. Despite the severe winter these data show a considerable increase on the estimated 1981 population of 15 pairs/singing males.

Birds were recorded throughout the year at several of these sites and additionally 1 was singing at Dibden Bay on Aug. 23rd and 1 was at Springhead on Nov. 25th and Dec. 20th.

B Grasshopper Warbler

Locustella naevia

The first were singing males near Mottisfont on Apr. 8th and at Titchfield Haven the next day. Birds were noted at three other sites between 11th/15th but the main arrival was in late Apr./early May.

Numbers of pairs/singing males in suitable breeding habitat (see below) were low at 37 (49 in 1981). All such records are required.

Baddesley Common	1	Highbridge (R. Itchen)	4
Bishopstoke	2	Ibsley	1
Bonhams (Wickham)	1	Lower Test Marshes	1
Botley Wood area	6	Martin Down	2
Bramshill Common	1	Nursling	1
Easton (R. Itchen)	1	Titchfield Haven	4
Exton (R. Meon)	1	Upper Titchfield Haven	2
Gaston Copse (S. Warnborough)	1	Winnall	3
Goose Green Incl. (Alice Holt)	1	Yateley Common	1
Hartley Wood (Oakhamper)	3		

None was recorded after Aug. 2nd apart from 1 trapped at Hamble Common on Oct. 3rd.

C Sedge Warbler§†

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus

First arrivals were noted at Bishopstoke on Apr. 5th, Mottisfont on 8th and Titchfield Haven on 9th. Birds were widespread by Apr. 22nd. Away from CBC areas the only notable count of pairs/singing males was 65 at Bishopstoke (72 in 1981).

Numbers were low on autumn passage (e.g. only 132 trapped at Lower Test Marshes, where there were no aphids in the reeds) and the last were singles at Hamble Common and Southampton Container Berth on Oct. 3rd.

C Reed Warbler§†

Acrocephalus scirpaceus

An early bird was located at Titchfield Haven on Apr. 9th but no further arrivals were noted until 19th when singles were at Martyr Worthy and Keyhaven. Birds were widespread by the end of the month. Away from CBCs the only notable breeding season count was of 25 pairs/singing males at Bishopstoke (18 in 1981). 1 singing in a completely dry conifer plantation at Ampfield Wood on May 26th was interesting.

Few were recorded on autumn passage (e.g. only 118 trapped at Lower Test Marshes). Late records were of 4 birds at three sites on Oct. 3rd, 2 at Fleet Pond until Oct. 13th and 1 there on Nov. 4th (TMJD), the second latest ever for the county.

B Dartford Warbler

Sylvia undata

Records of birds away from breeding sites were 1, Keyhaven Marsh, Jan. 30th; 2, Standford (Bordon), late Feb.; 1, Warsash, Apr. 2nd Sept. 30th and Nov. 13th; 1/2, South Hayling, Nov. 6th/Dec. 31st.

The severe weather apparently had little effect on the New Forest population (cf. Stonechat). Records involved a total of 56 pairs/singing males in three main areas. Extrapolating this data to cover all areas of suitable habitat CRT estimated the total population at 250 pairs. In the N. E., where the snow cover was more extensive, the species was wiped out in all but one area, where 3 pairs bred successfully on one heath and another did so on a nearby site not previously known to be occupied.

B Lesser Whitethroat†

Sylvia curruca

The first were at Sinah G. P. on Apr. 20th, Martin Down on 23rd, Farlington Marshes on 24th and at four sites the next day. Migrants were conspicuous in early May, e.g. 6 at Warsash on 10th and 8 at Lower Test Marshes on 12th.

In addition to 12 confirmed territories on CBC plots a total of 58 pairs/singing males was reported at 34 sites. Counts exceeding 2 came from Bishopstoke/Mansbridge (6), Botley Wood (3), Ellingham/Ivy Lakes (3), Farlington Marshes (5), Sinah Common/ G. P. (6) and Wellington C. P. (3). All such records are required as this species is the subject of a HOS breeding survey in 1984–86.

Autumn numbers reached a peak in late Aug. with 15+ at Dibden Bay on 28th and 8 at Old Winchester Hill the following day. Sightings continued throughout Sept. and the last were singles at West Hayling and Old Winchester Hill on Oct. 3rd, Park Corner Farm on Oct. 6th/7th and Southampton Container Berth on Oct. 31st (LTRG), the second latest ever for the county.

C Whitethroat§†

Sylvia communis

Single males were found at Bishopstoke on Apr. 10th, Titchfield Haven on 14th, Ampfield on 17th and Normandy Marsh on 19th but the main arrival was from Apr. 20th onwards with "firsts" at 16 further sites up to Apr. 25th.

Notable counts of pairs/singing males were Bishopstoke/Mansbridge, 27; Botley Wood/Ridge Copse/Whiteley Pastures, 22; Green Lane (Old Netley), 18.

A trickle of migrants was recorded in Aug./Sept. with the last at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 2nd and West Hayling on Oct. 3rd.

C Garden Warbler§†

Sylvia borin

The first was an early bird at Crab Wood on Apr. 16th, records following from a further seven sites during that month from 20th onwards. The main arrival was in the first week of May.

Survey work in the New Forest revealed only odd pairs present in plantations with conifers between 2m and 5m high. The total population there was probably no higher than 200 pairs (GCE).

More conspicuous than usual on autumn passage, e.g. 18 trapped in an East Cosham garden between Aug. 3rd/Sept. 23rd (4 in 1981) and a peak of 8 at Farlington Marshes on Sept. 11th. The last were single birds at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 2nd and Boorley Green on Oct. 8th.

B Blackcap§†

Sylvia atricapilla

During the severe Jan. weather a total of 44 birds was reported at twenty-eight widespread sites, the majority at garden bird tables. Many disappeared with the thaw, Feb. records involving only 12 birds at six sites. Up to Mar. 20th 14 were noted at six sites but migrants were evident from that date with records from a further seven sites during that month including 6 males singing in an East Cosham garden on 28th. Arrivals continued throughout Apr.

In the New Forest survey work showed the species to be common in deciduous woodland with holly scrub layer, the population probably exceeding 1000 pairs (GCE).

Some good counts were made in autumn, e.g. peaks of 20 at Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 5th and at least 10 on Hayling Island on Sept. 12th. 20 were trapped in an East Cosham garden between Aug. 1st/Sept. 23rd (11 in 1981).

Only 4 were recorded in Oct. but wintering birds were again conspicuous with 18 at fourteen sites in Nov. and 33 at twenty-seven sites in Dec.

B Wood Warbler§

Phylloscopus sibilatrix

The earliest arrival was a male at Eyeworth Wood on Apr. 17th but the main

influx occurred in early May. Records of presumed migrants included one at Dogmersfield Lake and four at Hartley Wood on May 10th.

Breeding season records during the second year of the HOS survey indicated totals of pairs/singing males as follows:

New Forest (including adjacent woodlands)	450		
Southampton Common	1	Bramshott Common/Waggoners Wells	5
Crab Wood	1	Lodge Inclosure (Alice Holt)	2
Monkwood	1	Sheephouse Copse (Froyle)	1
Whitehill Chase	1	Phoenix Green (Hartley Wintney)	1
Grayshott	1	Wellington C. P.	1

Once again negative results were obtained in the N. W. and S. E. of the county, so these figures confirm the previous estimate of around 500 pairs/singing males for the total Hampshire population (GCE).

Over 60 nests were recorded and monitored in the New Forest and, as in 1981, the young had fledged from the last of these by July 9th. After this date there were only four sightings in the New Forest up to Sept. 2nd. Elsewhere there were six records between July 4th and Sept. 4th indicating dispersal/passage, all these being in the east of the county. The last recorded was at Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 4th.

B Chiffchaff†

Phylloscopus collybita

There were very few in the early year (*cf.* Blackcap), the only records coming from Dibden Bay (1, Jan. 3rd), Paulsgrove Reclamation (1, Jan. 3rd) and Eastleigh S. F. (1/3, Jan. 2nd/7th; 2, Jan. 16th and 27th; 1, Feb. 24th).

1 at Timsbury on Mar. 7th was possibly a migrant but the next was not until Mar. 12th. Only odd birds were noted in the next few days with the main influx apparent from Mar. 23rd.

Autumn records showed the peak passage to be in Sept., e.g. a peak of 38 at Old Winchester Hill on 12th, but good numbers were still present in Oct.

In contrast to the early year there was a marked influx in Nov./Dec. (*cf.* Firecrest). In Nov. 26 were found at eighteen sites, all holding 1/2 apart from 4 at Eastleigh S. F. on 15th. In Dec. 49 were present at twenty-eight sites, all holding 1/2 apart from Camp Farm S. F. (3), Dibden Bay (4), Eastleigh S. F. (6) and Titchfield Haven (5).

Birds showing the characteristics of the race *P. c. abietinus* were trapped at Lower Test Marshes on Sept. 11th and Southampton Container Berth on Oct. 3rd, whilst one showing the characteristics of *P. c. tristis* was trapped at the Container Berth on Oct. 31st.

C Willow Warbler§†

Phylloscopus trochilus

Two early birds were seen and heard at Baddesley Common and Ower on Mar. 18th but the main arrival was from Mar. 27th onwards. Large numbers were noted at several sites between Apr. 9th/12th.

In contrast to Chiffchaff the main return passage was in Aug. with peak counts of 49 at Old Winchester Hill on 8th and 40+ at Bishopstoke on 14th. There were a few Sept. records with the last two singing at Sinah G. P. on Oct. 9th and one trapped at Southampton Container Berth on Oct. 24th.

Birds showing the characteristics of the race *P. t. acredula* were trapped at Otterbourne on Aug. 3rd and Southampton Container Berth on Aug. 28th.

C Goldcrest†

Regulus regulus

There were the usual reports of influxes in Oct. with some suggestion that above average numbers remained to winter in the county (*cf.* Chiffchaff and Firecrest).

A Firecrest

Regulus ignicapillus

Before the breeding season single birds were reported as follows: Titchfield

Haven, Jan. 16th and Mar. 14th; West Hayling, Mar. 27th; Pig Bush (New Forest), Mar. 28th; Farley Mount, Mar. 31st; Bricksbury Hill, Apr. 15th; Nursling, May 15th.

At Bolderwood (New Forest) singing Firecrests were present from Apr. 5th. However a number of Goldcrests in that area appear to sing Firecrest-like songs. Thus probably the only satisfactory means of identification is by sight which is extremely difficult in the tall trees of the Arboretum. In May/June 1982 a dozen or more crests were singing Firecrest-like songs; of these, three were seen to be Firecrests and two appeared to be Goldcrests (cf. 14 singing male Firecrests recorded in 1981, not all of which were seen.) A more thorough study of the situation in Bolderwood Arboretum would be of considerable interest.

In other areas of the Forest Goldcrest songs were mostly normal and the occasional Firecrests could be easily distinguished. One or two males, including one displaying to a female Goldcrest for 15 minutes, were present in Islands Thorns Inclosure in May/June and one was singing in Eyeworth Wood on May 19th.

In autumn single birds were seen at Winchester on Sept. 20th and Salterns Marsh (Pennington) on Oct. 3rd. These were followed by an unprecedented influx of wintering birds from Oct. 24th onwards. Records came from Eling Churchyard (1, Oct. 24th), Bitterne (1, Oct. 30th), Pitt Wood (1, Oct. 31st), Sinah G. P./Common (1/2, Oct. 31st/Nov. 20th then 4, Nov. 30th and up to 5 in Dec.), Farlington Marshes (1/2, Nov. 7th/Dec. 31st), Springhead (Greywell) (1, Nov. 12th), Titchfield Haven (up to 4, Nov. 14th/Dec. 31st), Alverstoke (1, Nov. 16th), Fort Fareham (1, Nov. 20th), West Hayling (2, Nov. 20th then up to 5 in Dec.), Browdown (1, Nov. 28th), Portsdown Hill (1, Dec. 3rd and 9th), Totton (1, Dec. 4th), Tournembury (4, Dec. 5th then 2/3 to Dec. 31st), Dibden Bay (1, Dec. 11th and 28th), Keyhaven (2, Dec. 27th) and Wickham (1, Dec. 30th). Note that only three birds were any distance from the coast. Of the 33 birds reported the concentration of 14 at three sites on Hayling Island (which was carefully searched by JMW) is particularly noteworthy and suggests that many were missed at other sites.

C Spotted Flycatcher†

Muscicapa striata

The first were singles at Mottisfont on May 3rd and Fleet Pond on 6th, then at four sites between 7th and 10th and widespread records by May 16th.

Well recorded in autumn, double-figured counts showing the main period of passage: 11, Old Winchester Hill, Aug. 8th; 15, Tundry Pond, Aug. 16th; 20+, Wyck Pond (Alton), Aug. 28th; 36+, Old Winchester Hill, Aug. 29th; 25 there, Aug. 30th; 11 there, Sept. 4th; 11, Widley, Sept. 5th; 20, Park Corner Farm/Horsedown Common, Sept. 5th. There were several sightings during the last few days of Sept. but the latest birds were singles at Park Corner Farm on Oct. 4th and Goodworth Clatford Water Meadows on Oct. 10th.

A Pied Flycatcher

Ficedula hypoleuca

A good year. A male at Steep on Apr. 12th (ACS) was the second earliest ever for the county. Other spring passage records were: 1♂, South Hayling, Apr. 29th; 1♀, Shutts Copse (West Meon), May 1st; 1♀, Widley, May 3rd; 1♂, Southampton Common, May 3rd; 1♂, Warsash, May 10th.

During the breeding season a male was seen at West Walk on May 31st and a pair was present near Millyford Bridge (New Forest) from May 15th into June but breeding was not confirmed.

In autumn recorded at Old Winchester Hill (1, Aug. 1st; 3/1, Aug. 29th/30th), Southampton Common (2, Aug. 7th), Horsedown Common (2, Sept. 2nd), Widley (1, Sept. 9th, 13th and 15th; 2, Sept. 25th), Cosham (1, Sept.

9th and 12th), Farlington Marshes (1, Sept. 11th), South Hayling (1, Sept. 13th and 19th) and Victoria Park (Portsmouth) (1, Sept. 21st).

A Bearded Tit§

Panurus biarmicus

In the first winter period recorded at Farlington Marshes (max. 5, Jan. 23rd, then 2/3 until Apr. 21st), Great Salterns Lake (Portsmouth) (6, Feb. 28th), Titchfield Haven (max. 4), Lower Test Marshes (3/4, Jan. 24th) and Keyhaven (1+, Jan. 1st/Feb. 28th).

2 pairs bred at Titchfield Haven with poor fledging success. Up to 20 were present there in Oct. with eruptive behaviour noted on 19th (5 off high W) and 23rd (6 off high W), but only 1 remained in Nov./Dec.

Other records for the second winter period came from Farlington Marshes (1/2, Oct. 24th/Dec. 5th), Lower Test Marshes (2+ heard, Nov. 28th), Keyhaven (1, Dec. 27th) and Fleet Pond (5/6, Nov. 12th; 2, Dec. 18th).

1981: 2, Milton Reclamation, Dec. 25th

C Long-tailed Tit†

Aegithalos caudatus

Flocks of 20/30 were recorded in Jan. (1), Feb. (1), May (1), June (1), Aug. (1), Oct. (3) and Nov. (4).

B Marsh Tit†

Parus palustris

In addition to 18 territories on CBC plots a total of 54 pairs/singing males was present at 30 widespread sites. Successful breeding was noted at Headley Park, Highnam Copse, Houghton, Longparish, North Boarhunt and Wellington C. P.

B Willow Wit

Parus montanus

Recorded in Apr./July (* = breeding proved) at Ampfield Wood*, Botley Wood (3 prs.), Brockenhurst Woods*, Emer Bog*, Fleet Pond, Frensham Outlet Pond, Goose Green Inclosure, Hamble C. P. (2 prs.), Nursling*, Old Winchester Hill, Patchbourne Copse (Oakley), Slab (Oakhanger), Springhead, Squabb Wood*, Timsbury, Warren Bottom Copse (Oakley), Wishanger and Woolmer*. Also in Jan./Mar. and Aug./Dec. at twenty-three sites where not seen in summer, including 6 together at Liss Forest on Sept. 19th and 5 at Dogmersfield Lake on Nov. 12th.

D Coal Tit†

Parus ater

C Blue Tit§†

Parus caeruleus

The only flocks exceeding 50 reported were of 50+ at Hinchelsea Moor on Jan. 22nd, 56 at Lower Upham on Aug. 11th and 100+ feeding with Chaffinches amongst leaf litter at Bramshill Common on Dec. 24th.

C Great Tit†

Parus major

The only notable record was of a flock of 134 at Old Winchester Hill on Feb. 14th. Large gatherings of this species are very unusual.

D Nuthatch§†

Sitta europaea

D Treecreeper†

Certhia familiaris

A Golden Oriole

Oriolus oriolus

1 was heard calling for five minutes at Leigh Park (Havant) on June 13th (CBC).

B Great Grey Shrike

Lanius excubitor

Present in the New Forest until Apr. 15th (1, Ashley Walk) and from Oct. 18th (1, Wilverley Plain). Approximate monthly totals are shown below.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
8	5	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	6

Most sightings were of single birds (largely in the N. W. and Bishop's Dyke areas) but other reports were of 2, Backley Plain, Mar. 13th; 2, Ashley Walk, Mar. 24th and 30th; 3 there (all in view simultaneously), Nov. 9th; 2, Bishop's Dyke, Nov. 20th; 2, Ashley Walk, Dec. 11th.

Elsewhere single birds were reported as follows: Woolmer, Jan. 1st/26th; Fullerton Station, Jan. 16th; Martin Down, Jan. 24th/Mar. 5th; Ludshott Common, early Feb./Mar. 27th; Houghton, Feb. 28th; Woolmer, Mar. 23rd/26th; Avon Tyrrell Farm, Apr. 20th; Woolmer, Oct. 24th; Martin Down, Nov. 22nd.

C Jay†

Garrulus glandarius

Several records suggested spring passage, the first time this has been detected. At Old Winchester Hill a total of 13 moved NE/SE between Apr. 25th/May 23rd and 3 W on May 16th. Other records were of 5 NE, Bishopstoke, May 7th; 3 N, Warsash, May 10th; 6 SW, Keyhaven, May 14th; 6 N, Farlington Marsh, May 16th.

Only small numbers were recorded in autumn, no count exceeding 11 (cf. 1981 HBR).

C Magpie†

Pica pica

Roost counts (early and late year maxima, as available, in brackets) came from Barton-on-Sea (40, Jan. 20th), Camp Farm S. F. (50+, Jan. 30th), Fleet Pond (113, Mar. 13th; 64, Dec. 30th) and Titchfield Haven (47, Feb. 15th; 69, Nov. 24th). Other flocks included 40+ at Locks Heath on Feb. 21st, 37 at Southwick Woods on Feb. 28th and 32 at Cuckoo Lane (Stubbington) on Dec. 8th.

C Jackdaw†

Corvus monedula

Autumn passage was recorded at Titchfield Haven (56 S/SW, Oct. 18th/Nov. 18th, peak, 22 SW, Nov. 17th) and South Hayling (452 W, Oct. 23rd/Nov. 11th, peak 223+ W in three hours, Oct. 23rd). The only sizeable roost count reported was of 10000+ at Park Corner Farm on Feb. 25th.

C Rook

Corvus frugilegus

Autumn passage was recorded at Titchfield Haven with 128 S between Sept. 29th/Nov. 22nd, peak 64 S, Nov. 17th. The largest roosts reported were of 9000+ at Park Corner Farm on Feb. 25th and 3000 + near Tidworth Ranges on Nov. 27th.

C Carrion Crow†

Corvus corone corone

Counts exceeding 50 came from Longmoor Inclosure (max. 73, Nov. 24th), Newtown R. T./Weston Shore (max. 60, Mar. 12th), Tournerbury (103, Dec. 4th) and Yateley Common/Blackbushe (119, Nov. 4th).

Several reports were received of birds with white-wing flashes (e.g. 12 in the flock of 60 at Weston above).

A Hooded Crow

Corvus corone cornix

1, Newtown R. T./Weston Shore, Mar. 12th (MGWT, DBF, FMV).

A Raven

Corvus corax

1 was seen soaring and moving west over Farlington Marshes on Apr. 4th (RT, DFB).

C Starling§†

Sturnus vulgaris

The largest roosts reported were at St. James Hospital (Portsmouth) (12000+, Jan.), Stubbington Study Centre (9000+, Dec.) and Fleet Pond (2000, July). Several thousands were seen flying at dusk from the north into Whale Island (Portsmouth) in Nov./Dec. but it is not known if this is the actual roost site. Feeding flocks reported included 11000 at Hamble Airfield on Feb. 28th and 2000 at Hill Side on Oct. 6th.

Autumn passage was well recorded on Hayling Island with a total of 6203 W between Oct. 16th/Nov. 30th, peaks 428 W, Oct. 17th; 1004 W, Oct. 24th; 1201 W in two hours, Oct. 25th; 519 W, Oct. 27th; 520 W, Nov. 11th; 550 W, Nov. 13th; 429 W, Nov. 20th. Other records included 270 W at Fort Purbrook on Oct. 15th and a total of 1050 W/SW at Fleet Pond between Oct. 24th/27th.

Complete or partial albinos were reported at Cheriton, Southwick and Wickham.

C House Sparrow†

Passer domesticus

Four flocks of 120/400 reported were all in July/Sept. A partial albino was reported from Winchester.

B Tree Sparrow

Passer montanus

Winter numbers continue at a low ebb in the county. Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 5 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	103	102	78	0	25	0	0	0	0	32	48	12
Localities	7	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	5	1

Highest counts were 39, Southwick Lodge Farm, Jan. 3rd and 50, Roke Farm (Odiham), Feb. 20th/21st.

A search by MASc showed the species to be fairly common on the farmlands in the Odiham/Cronhall/Bentley area. Colonies of 5 to 6 pairs were located at Coldrey Park and Lower Swanthorpe Farm; breeding was proved at both sites with as many as 29 juveniles at the latter on Aug. 1st. 2 pairs bred at Park Corner Farm and single pairs were present at nine other sites.

Elsewhere there were summer reports (mostly of single pairs) from Braishfield/Kings Somborne, Elvetham, Isington, Lance Levy Farm (Sherfield), Paulsgrove Reclamation, Rowlands Castle, Tunworth and Upper Swanmore Park.

Visible autumn passage was virtually non-existent, the only movements being of 2 S, Fleet Pond, Oct. 13th; 5+ W, South Hayling, Oct. 23rd and 1 W there, Nov. 20th.

C Chaffinch†

Fringilla coelebs

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 50 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	1300	700	650	230	0	0	0	0	120	75	1000	1850
Localities	8	4	6	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	4	13

Those exceeding 200 were 400, Southwick Lodge Farm, Jan. 3rd; 500, West Wood, Nov. 10th; 400, Nomansland Green (New Forest); Nov. 27th; 300, West Wood, Dec. 8th. Most of the late year flocks were feeding on beechmast.

Autumn passage was noted between Oct. 5th/Nov. 13th with a total of 560 mostly W at four coastal sites, peak 59 N at West Hayling Shore on Oct. 24th. Also on this date 24 flew W at Fleet Pond but the only other inland movement was of 33 E/S at Old Winchester Hill on Oct. 9th.

B Brambling*Fringilla montifringilla*

In the early year numbers were low, approximate monthly totals for Jan./Apr. being 190, 255, 95, 40. Apart from a flock of 150 at Blackfield (Fawley) on Feb. 13th no other count exceeded 30. The majority of reports involved birds forced into gardens to feed at bird tables during the severe Jan. weather, many remaining until early Apr. As many as 18 were in a Winchester garden in late Jan. but other sightings were of up to 10. The last was 1 at Wellington C. P. on Apr. 26th.

Numbers in the late year were very poor. The only signs of movement were 2 S at Park Corner Farm on Oct. 9th and at Titchfield Haven 1 W on Oct. 23rd, 2 W on Nov. 3rd and 6 W on Nov. 4th. Other records from Nov. 10th onwards involved a total of 8 at two sites in Nov. and 36 at eleven sites in Dec. Most were feeding under beeches with Chaffinches.

C Greenfinch§†*Carduelis chloris*

Very few flocks were reported. Those of 50+ are summarised below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	200	75	250	0	0	0	0	80	135	0	160	510
Localities	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2

None exceeded 200 apart from 360 at Egbury (Whitchurch) on Dec. 1st.

Autumn passage was light with a total of only 1035 W/SW at four coastal sites between Oct. 9th/Nov. 29th, mostly in late Oct. Highest numbers were 203 W in three hours at South Hayling on Oct. 23rd and 177 W in two hours there on Oct. 25th.

C Goldfinch†*Carduelis carduelis*

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 20 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	90	0	37	0	0	0	30	326	547	200	80	96
Localities	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	6	9	4	3	4

Those to reach three figures were 100, Hale Meadows, Aug. 21st and 180+, Dibden Bay, Sept. 22nd.

Little visible migration was detected. In spring the only reports were of 15 N at Bishopstoke on Apr. 25th and 29 N off the sea at Gilkicker Point the next day. In autumn there were 25 E at Fort Purbrook on Sept. 30th and totals of 40 W and 86 E at South Hayling between Oct. 22nd/Nov. 17th, peak 41 E on Nov. 3rd.

B Siskin§*Carduelis spinus*

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 10 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	2214	826	821	202	0	0	0	0	0	50	175	477
Localities	28	14	19	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	10

Following the influx in late 1981 numbers remained at a high level during the severe Jan. weather. Small flocks feeding on alder seed were widespread and there were many records of birds visiting gardens in numbers up to 20. However apart from 160 at Archers Park (Woolston) on 6th and 100 at Woodmill (Southampton) on 10th, flock size only reached three figures in the N. E. Peak counts were 140 at Liss on 1st, 700 at Fleet Pond on 9th, 150 at Stratfield Saye and 100 at Elvetham on 15th and 300 at Yateley G. P. on 16th. Overall numbers were lower in Feb./Mar. although flock size was maintained at some sites. Three-figure counts were made at Dogmersfield Lake (max. 150, Feb. 2nd), Fleet Pond (peaks 250, Feb. 7th; 125, Mar. 3rd), Tundry Pond (max. 150, Mar. 8th) and Bricksbury Hill (100, feeding in

Scots Pine, Mar. 25th). A small passage was apparent in Apr. with 15 N/NW at Old Winchester Hill on 9th and most other records for the month between 9th and 12th. Most of these birds were in Scots Pine. Away from the New Forest none was seen after Apr. 14th apart from a female in a New Milton garden on May 3rd and a male in a Grayshott garden on May 12th.

During the breeding season there were reports from at least 17 areas of the New Forest with breeding proved at three sites. The population appears to be at a very high level at present, GCE commenting that singing birds and odd pairs were present almost everywhere with mature conifers. He estimated numbers to be in excess of 100 pairs.

Up to 3 juveniles were in a Fleet garden in late Aug. suggesting local breeding. 6 were at Yateley G. P. on Sept. 11th and 4 flew SSE at Park Corner Farm on Sept. 30th but the main arrival was from Oct. 8th onwards. However coastal passage numbers were low, e.g. only 14 W at Titchfield Haven between Oct. 8th/Nov. 4th, 12 W at South Hayling between Oct. 15th/27th and none in the Pennington area. Late year numbers were below average and once again most occurred in the N. E. The only locality to hold more than 50 was Fleet Pond, with the first 15 there on Oct. 15th, rising to 40 on Oct. 24th, 80 on Nov. 25th and 150+ on Dec. 18th.

C Linnet§†

Carduelis cannabina

Monthly totals of flocks on the ground exceeding 20 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	305	57	233	550	0	90	250	760	575	1393	339	825
Localities	5	2	2	3	0	2	2	4	7	9	5	10

Despite the high total for Dec., flock size at both ends of the year did not exceed 150. Larger numbers were recorded during the two passage periods, those to exceed 200 being 300+, North Hayling, Apr. 9th; 550, Old Winchester Hill, Aug. 8th; 600+, Tanners Lane area (Fareham), Oct. 8th. Diurnal movement was well recorded, but not substantial, in both passage periods. In spring a total of 285 flew N at eight inland and five coastal sites between Mar. 22nd/Apr. 18th, peaks 60 N, Romsey, Mar. 22nd; 25+, N, West Hayling, Mar. 27th; 24 N, Hill Head, Apr. 17th. In autumn small movements totalling 154 birds (mostly S) were noted at one inland and two coastal localities between Sept. 28th/Oct. 24th and then 646 mostly W at South Hayling between Oct. 23rd/Nov. 20th, peak 398 W on Oct. 24th.

B Twite

Carduelis flavirostris

In the early year regular at Dibden Bay up to Mar. 27th with a maximum of 13 on Feb. 27th. Other records were of 6 flying north up the Test at Romsey on Feb. 18th and 2 at Keyhaven on Feb. 20th.

Late year records were of 6, Calshot, Nov. 3rd and 1 there, Dec. 5th; 3, Normandy Marsh, Nov. 10th and 1 there, Dec. 29th/30th; 5, Keyhaven Marsh, Dec. 18th; 25, Dibden Bay, Dec. 18th.

B Redpoll

Carduelis flammea

Monthly totals of flocks on the ground exceeding 20 reported and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	431	209	167	292	0	0	0	40	95	239	225	285
Localities	7	7	2	7	0	0	0	1	2	6	5	4

Numbers were low at both ends of the year. In the early months most were in the N. E. (cf. Siskin), counts reaching three figures at Yateley Common/Blackbushe (max. 155, Jan. 4th), Elvetham (100, Jan. 10th), Church Farm (Eversley) (150 in kale with Fat Hen, Mar. 6th) and Bramshill (110 in Scots Pine, Apr. 22nd/24th — passage birds). Elsewhere the only

counts to exceed 25 were of 50 at Fair Oak on Jan. 1st and 40 there on Apr. 6th.

Pairs/singing males were reported in May/July in the New Forest at Bishop's Dyke, Furzley Common and Wilverley Plain, in the N. E. at Bricksbury Hill (2), Fleet Heath, Longmoor Inclosure (2), Tundry Pond, Wellington C. P. and Woolmer, and also at Baddesley Common/Emer Bog (3+), Queen Elizabeth Forest, Squabb Wood (Romsey) and Timsbury. All summer records of this species are required.

Following the breeding season 40+ were at Blackbushe Airfield on Aug. 26th, rising to 60+ on Sept. 18th. Also 35 were at Tundry Pond on Sept. 23rd. These dates are early for flocks of this size although they could be local breeding birds. 1 was at Pennington on Sept. 25th but the main arrival was from early Oct. onwards. Coastal passage as with most other finches was minimal, e.g. only 15 W at Titchfield Haven between Oct. 18th/Nov. 13th, 55 W at South Hayling on Nov. 13th and 31 W there on Nov. 28th. Once again most wintering birds were in the N. E. The main locality was Fleet Pond with 35, Oct. 13th; 120, Oct. 30th; 100, Nov. 28th and 200+, Dec. 30th. The only other counts to exceed 25 were at three N. E. sites (max. 60, Elvetham, Nov. 14th), Botley Wood (34, Oct. 23rd) and West Wood (30, Nov. 10th).

A Crossbill

Loxia curvirostra

Few were reported from the New Forest, reflecting either poor coverage or that numbers are at a low ebb. In the breeding season singles or pairs were reported at Anses Wood, Ashley Walk, Bishop's Dyke, Bolderwood, Dur Hill Inclosure and Sandy Ridge. A pair and one juvenile at Bishop's Dyke was the only proof of breeding. Other records were of 6 at Knightwood Inclosure on Oct. 30th and 5 at Bolderwood on Nov. 27th.

The only record elsewhere was of a pair and 1 juvenile (presumably locally bred) at Sager's Down (Botley Wood) on June 27th.

C Bullfinch†

Pyrrhula pyrrhula

18 at Sinah G. P. on Dec. 22nd was the largest flock reported.

B Hawfinch

Coccothraustes coccothraustes

In Apr./July reported at fifteen New Forest sites (breeding proved at Burley and Honey Hill Wood) and at Arford (Bordon), Butter Wood (Greywell), Goodworth Clatford, Hartley Wintney, Humbers Wood (Kings Somborne), Noar Hill, Squabb Wood (Romsey), West Down (Chilbolton), Weston Common (Alton) and Winchester. Most of the records involved 1/3 birds on one date only but up to 15 were at Arford from Apr. 8th/14th and breeding was suspected at Humbers Wood (1+ pr.) and Squabb Wood (2+ prs.).

In Jan./Mar. and Aug./Dec. there were reports of 1/3 from a further three New Forest sites and fourteen elsewhere. A roost near Squabb Wood held a maximum of 27 on Feb. 27th.

A Snow Bunting

Plectrophenax nivalis

1, Hurst Beach, Jan. 17th (DRB *et al.*). 1♀/imm., Pennington Marsh, Oct. 5th/6th (JMJ, EJW). 1♀/imm., Sinah Common, Nov. 10th (JMW).

C Yellowhammer†

Emberiza citrinella

In the early months several large flocks were found, some attracted to cattle food. Those to exceed 100 were at Warsash (max. 140, Jan. 27th) and Roke Farm (Odiham) (max. 250, Feb. 7th) whilst others were 30/100 strong. The only roosts reported were at Hill Side (up to 50, Jan., in bramble) and Springhead (max. 75, Jan. 12th).

Late year numbers were lower with only five flocks 30/70 strong and maxima of 120 at Roke Farm on Dec. 23rd and 125 on fields near Fleet Pond on Dec. 28th. The only roost count was of 30+ at Springhead on Dec. 7th.

A Cirl Bunting

Emberiza cirlus

A few records were submitted showing that the species is just hanging on in the county. Single birds were discovered amongst Yellowhammer flocks at Holybourne on Feb. 4th and Roke Farm on Feb. 13th (NEGE). Subsequently there was a pair and possibly a second female near Danebury on Apr. 11th (PPJ) and a male in song near Mottisfont in late May/early June (PPJ).

C Reed Bunting†

Emberiza schoeniclus

Several birds were reported at bird tables during the severe Jan. weather. Also 200 were present in very weak condition in the Warsash area on Jan. 10th. Few reports of flocks were submitted, those to exceed 40 being 88, Springhead, Jan. 13th (max. early year roost); 40, Ashley Walk, Jan. 16th; 75, Springhead, Nov. 20th (max. late year roost); 60, Hamble Common, Dec. 4th; 50+, Hook Common (Odiham), Dec. 13th; 50, Fleet Pond, Dec. 28th.

There was little indication of autumn passage with only 12 W and 6 E at Titchfield Haven between Oct. 10th/20th and 7 W at South Hayling between Oct. 23rd/25th.

B Corn Bunting

Miliaria calandra

Monthly totals of flocks exceeding 10 and the number of localities involved are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	236	154	60	20	21	0	30	35	20	0	32	95
Localities	5	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	4

Those to reach 40 were: 72, Springhead, Jan. 12th (max. early year roost); 60, Warsash, Jan. 27th; 50, Roke Farm, Feb. 2nd/7th; 90, Soberton, Feb. 5th; 40, Crondall, Mar. 29th; 40, Danebury, Dec. 26th.

During the breeding season pairs/singing males were reported as shown below.

Barton/Milford Cliffs	5	Odiham/Greywell/Crondall area	50+
Bentworth/Lower Wield	4+	Old Winchester Hill	4
Castle Farm (Warblington)	5	Peak Lane (Fareham)	1
Chalton/Blendworth	40	Portsmouth Hill	2+
Danebury Hill area	5	Toyd Down	4
Farley Mount	2	West Hayling	1
Kings Somborne	2+	Weston (Buriton)	1
Ladle Hill	1		

ESCAPES AND FERALS

A Sacred Ibis

Threskiornis aethiopicus

1, Fleet Pond, Apr. 7th and 15th.

A Flamingo sp.

Phoenicopterus sp.

2, Dibden Bay, Feb. 13th. 1, Farlington Marshes, Apr. 2nd.

A Black Swan

Cygnus atratus

1 immature, Ibsley, Jan. 16th/Feb. 20th and Apr. 16th.

A Bean Goose

Anser fabalis

1, Elvetham, Apr. 11th and near Yateley, May 5th.

A Emperor Goose

Anser canagicus

1 S, Chilbolton Common (R. Test), June 4th.

B Snow Goose

Anser caerulescens

1/2 (blue phase), Ringwood area, Jan./Apr. 1, Allington G. P., Mar. 6th and Apr. 10th. 1, Needs Oar, Apr. 3rd and 11th. 1 N, Titchfield Haven, Apr. 17th. 1 W, Regents Park (Southampton), May 7th. 1 (blue phase), IBM Lake, May 21st. 1 (blue phase), Eling Great Marsh/Broadlands Lake, Dec. 2nd/10th.

At Stratfield Saye, 10 on Jan. 31st and 16 on Sept. 12th. On the latter date a further 20 (including 2 blue phase) were inside the collection and all appeared capable of flight. 18 flying over Yateley on Oct. 14th presumably originated from Stratfield Saye. There were occasional records of 1/2 from other N. E. localities.

A Bar-headed Goose

Anser indicus

Up to 3 free-flying birds were at Stratfield Saye throughout the year. 1 pair bred inside the collection and raised 6 free-flying young.

B Barnacle Goose

Branta leucopsis

The flock of 10 present in the Pennington/Keyhaven area from Dec. 1981 remained until Feb. 28th. At least 9 has returned to Slimbridge by Apr. 3 were at Keyhaven on Dec. 24th. In the Ringwood area, up to 4 throughout the year. In the N. E., many records from the Stratfield Saye/Elvetham/Tundry Pond area, maximum 16 at Elvetham on Mar. 21st and 22nd. 1 pair raised 3 young at Potbridge Fishery and 2 pairs raised 4 free-flying young inside the collection at Stratfield Saye.

Other records of 1/2 came from Alresford Pond, Broadlands Lake, Dibden Bay, East Hayling, Farlington Marshes, Longstock, Needs Oar Point and Titchfield Haven.

A Egyptian Goose

Alopochen aegyptiacus

Single birds were recorded as follows: Stratfield Saye, Jan. 31st; Farlington Marshes, Apr. 15th; Sinah G. P., Apr. 30th, Oct. 23rd and Dec. 13th; Titchfield Haven, May 6th; Pennington, Aug. 8th; Eling Great Marsh, Dec. 1st/2nd; Broadlands Lake, Dec. 10th.

A Australian Shelduck

Tadorna tadornoides

1 female, accompanied by a Shelduck, flew off E from Wellington C. P. on Apr. 21st.

A Wood Duck

Aix sponsa

1 male, Warsash, Mar. 19th.

A Ringed Teal

Anas leucophrys

1 male, Springhead (Greywell), Jan. 12th.

A Cockatiel

Nymphicus hollandicus

1 E, Eastney, Mar. 28th and 1, West Hayling, Sept. 18th. These records may refer to the individual regularly seen in the Pagham Harbour area.

A Ring-necked Parakeet

Psittacula krameri

Single birds were recorded as follows: Hamble Common, Mar. 27th; Fleet Pond, Apr. 8th; East Cosham, May 14th; Titchfield Haven, July 25th/26th; Fawley Down, Sept. 13th; Conford, Nov. 9th; Sinah Common, Dec. 28th. All records of this species are required.

A Golden Sparrow

Auripasser luteus

1 male, trapped, Western Docks Extension (Southampton), Aug. 10th.

A Red-headed Bunting

Emberiza bruniceps

1 male, Toot Hill (Romsey), Mar. 1st.

BREEDING CENSUSES IN HAMPSHIRE, 1982

J. M. Clark

COMMON BIRD CENSUS

Details of 15 plots covered in 1981 were given in the 1981 *Hampshire Bird Report* (pp. 61–63). 14 of these were surveyed again in 1982: numbers 1–5 and 7–15. Data for four further plots were received for 1982. Two were new but the other two were surveyed in 1981 and earlier years: unfortunately data for these years were not received from the BTO. Details of those plots not given previously are shown below.

15. *Name of plot:* Southampton Common; *10 km. square:* SU41; *Habitat:* urban parkland; *Altitude:* 39 m; *Area:* 56.7 ha.; *Observer:* J. R. Simms.
16. Brockenhurst; SU20; open grassland with bracken and scrub; 20 m; 16.0 ha.; A. M. B. Butterworth.
18. Hurst Castle; SZ39; shingle/saltmarsh; 0 m; 29.5 ha.; E. J. Wiseman (new).
19. Brockenhurst Woods; SU30; old deciduous woodland; 20 m; 10.7 ha.; Mrs. J. Irvine (new).

Counts of confirmed territories of selected species are shown in Table 1. Space does not permit the inclusion of all species but counts of some of the scarcer ones will be found in the *Birds in Hampshire* section of this report. Also included in Table 1 are totals of occupied territories in each plot and densities of territories per sq. km. In Table 2 total numbers of confirmed territories at sites covered in both 1981 and 1982 are given for selected species.

Table 2. Comparison of 1981 and 1982 Hampshire CBC data for selected species.

	Total territories in plots 1–5, 7–15	
	1981	1982
Moorhen	42	39
Woodpigeon	56	62
Skylark	104	77
Meadow Pipit	53	39
Wren	315	221
Duncock	156	124
Robin	204	146
Blackbird	268	242
Song Thrush	68	65
Sedge Warbler	73	50
Reed Warbler	79	108
Whitethroat	40	41
Blackcap	40	38
Willow Warbler	126	133
Goldcrest	43	53
Coal Tit	40	29
Blue Tit	209	186
Great Tit	118	95
Chaffinch	248	249
Linnet	59	55
Yellowhammer	82	59
Reed Bunting	65	41

WATERWAYS BIRD SURVEY

Four observers covered plots for this survey in Hampshire in 1982. Details of each plot are shown below.

1. *Name of plot:* Basingstoke Canal; *GRs of extreme points:* SU777520–800524; *Altitude:* 79–76 m; *Length:* 3.8 km; *Observer:* F. W. P. Radford.
2. Rivers Lyde/Loddon; SU697572–683584; 19 m; 3.1 km; J. H. Stenning.
3. Candover Stream; SU564354–569323; 70–55 m; 4.4 km; J. Pain.
4. Itchen Navigation; SU477266–472241; 29 m; 2.7 km; H. Fuller.

Counts of confirmed territories of species recorded are shown in Table 3.

Table 1. Numbers of confirmed territories on CBC plots in Hampshire in 1982.

Plot number:	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Shelduck							1	8	3	2		16		1				
Mallard					1		1	2	4	2		8	nc	1	2		2	
Sparrowhawk													1		1			
Kestrel							1		1	1	3	1	1					
Red-Legged Partridge							1			1	2							
Grey Partridge						3				2	1							
Pheasant		2		1	1	9	1			1	6		2	1				1
Moorhen									1	4		10	19	5	2			
Coot												8	15					
Lapwing					10		2			2		10	12					
Redshank							1					5	6				5	
Stock Dove	3	4	20	1						4	3			1				
Woodpigeon	3	7				8	2	2	2	5	21	3	4	5	nc	3		
Turtle Dove						6		1		2	7		5	3				
Cuckoo		1	1	1		1	2			3	2		2	1				1
Tawny Owl		1	1		1						1							
Green Woodpecker	1	2	2	3	1		1		1		5			1	2			2
Great Spotted Woodpecker		1	1	1	2						2				2			1
Skylark						10	5	11	1	18	6	21	2	3			3	
Meadow Pipit			1			1	14	6	2		7	7	1				10	
Pied Wagtail						1	1	1	2			2					1	
Wren	5	12	25	20	16	4	5	8	5	31	17		45	28	41	11		7
Duncock			2			34	2	5		32	10	17	11	11	4	6		
Robin	7	15	20	5	13	11	4	4	5	12	25	1	14	10	42	16		11
Blackbird	2	14	18	6	9	16	7	9	9	74	30	21	15	12	23	16	2	3
Song Thrush	1	4	14	5	1	5	3	1	1	10	7	5	2	6	3	3		
Mistle Thrush		2	1	1	2		1	1	1	2	3		1	1	2	2		1
Sedge Warbler												6	33	11				
Reed Warbler								1	5	4		21	71	6				
Lesser Whitethroat						3			1	2	3	1	1					
Whitethroat						22		2	2	3	3	4	5					
Garden Warbler						4	1											
Blackcap		1	6	1	5	9			1	1	6		4	4	9	1		

Plot number:	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Chiffchaff			1	1	2	1				1	3		1	2	3			1
Willow Warbler		8	5	1	1	54	12	6	5	3	32	1	4	1	8	7		1
Goldcrest	5	5	11	6	4	5	1			2	14				10			3
Spotted Flycatcher			9								1							
Long-tailed Tit		3	4	2	2	1				1	1		1	1		2		3
Marsh Tit	1	1	8	1	1						3							3
Coal Tit	3	7	5	5	3		2				4				1			4
Blue Tit	9	36	39	22	13	1	2	3	5	27	5	1	17	6	19	10		10
Great Tit	7	9	13	7	9	4	3	2	3	13	12	1	7	5	16	6		8
Nuthatch	1	6	10	4	3		2								2			2
Treecreeper	3	2	5	1	1						1			1		1		3
Jay	1	1	1		2		1			1	1		3	2	2			
Magpie			1		1	3	1	1	2	9	6	1	4	2	4	2		
Jackdaw	2	3	10				3	1			7							
Carrion Crow	1	1	1		1	1	1			5	7	1		1	2	2		
Chaffinch	4	30	49	22	9	20	21	9	4	21	50	2	5	3	12	15		5
Greenfinch							2	1		9	2	1	1			1		
Goldfinch							1		1	3			1					
Linnet						7	2	16	1	8	12	15	4			1	3	
Bullfinch						3	1	1	1	1	4		2	1				
Yellowhammer					26	2	5			20			3	3				
Reed Bunting							1	3	1			11	19	6				
TOTAL TERRITORIES	65	177	318	130	114	284	131	110	80	373	362	211	373*	154	212†	107	46	74
TERRITORIES PER SQ. KM.	802	518	1078	778	820	526	196	327	506	526	583	636	417	846	374	669	156	690

* = no count of Mallard † = no count of Woodpigeon or Starling

Table 3. Numbers of confirmed territories on Waterways Bird Survey plots in Hampshire in 1982.

Plot number:	1	2	3	4
Little Grebe	5	2	2	4
Mute Swan	1	1		2
Mallard	2	2	32	2
Tufted Duck			2	2
Moorhen	10	14	16	9
Coot	6		7	7
Lapwing			8	
Snipe			1	
Redshank			4	
Grey Wagtail		2	1	2
Pied Wagtail		1	1	2
Sedge Warbler			1	5
Whitethroat	1			1
Reed Bunting		1		1
TOTAL TERRITORIES	25	23	75	37
TERRITORIES PER KM.	6.6	7.4	17.0	13.7

BOTLEY WOOD AREA SURVEY

281 ha. of varied habitats in the Botley Wood area were surveyed in 1981 by R. K. Levett and D. Parsons. Details of the area covered and the numbers of confirmed territories of the species present were given in the 1981 *Hampshire Bird Report* (pp. 61–63). In 1982 a larger area of 321 ha. was surveyed so the data are not comparable. It included Botley Wood, Ridge Copse, Lee Ground, Whiteley Pastures and Flagpond Copse. The different habitats and the areas of each were as follows: mixed woodland (predominantly coniferous with many young trees and coppice), 115 ha.; mature deciduous, 44 ha.; mature coniferous, 34 ha.; scrub, 73 ha.; grass/pasture, 55 ha. Counts of confirmed territories are shown in table 4.

Table 4. Numbers of confirmed territories in 321 hectares in Botley Wood area in 1982.

Mallard	2	Pied Wagtail	1	Willow Tit	3
Sparrowhawk	1	Wren	122	Coal Tit	25
Kestrel	2	Duncock	34	Blue Tit	27
Pheasant	13	Robin	106	Great Tit	38
Moorhen	3	Nightingale	30	Nuthatch	1
Lapwing	3	Blackbird	100	Treecreeper	9
Woodcock	3	Song Thrush	57	Jay	10
Stock Dove	2	Mistle Thrush	2	Magpie	11
Woodpigeon	39	Grasshopper Warbler	6	Jackdaw	2
Collared Dove	1	Lesser Whitethroat	3	Carriion Crow	6
Turtle Dove	21	Whitethroat	22	Starling	7
Cuckoo	5	Garden Warbler	20	House Sparrow	4
Tawny Owl	5	Blackcap	49	Chaffinch	118
Nightjar	2	Chiffchaff	41	Greenfinch	1
Green Woodpecker	7	Willow Warbler	88	Goldfinch	1
Great Spotted Wdpkr.	7	Goldcrest	35	Linnet	3
Lesser Spotted Wdpkr.	1	Spotted Flycatcher	1	Bullfinch	13
Skylark	10	Long-tailed Tit	13	Yellowhammer	22
Swallow	6	Marsh Tit	10	Reed Bunting	3
Tree Pipit	10				

If any observers are interested in participating in either the Common Bird Census or the Waterways Bird Survey they should write for details to the Populations Section, BTO, Beech Grove, Tring, Herts. Once again the Society is indebted to John Marchant of the BTO for supplying the bulk of the data for this paper and also to Richard Levett for the results of the survey in the Botley Wood area.

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REPORT ON BIRD RINGING IN HAMPSHIRE, 1982

Glynne Evans

Only 12,100 birds of 95 species were ringed in the county during 1982. This is the lowest total for over 10 years, and compares with a peak of 24,800 birds ringed in 1979. The reasons for this low total are mainly associated with the activities of ringers, the demise of one or two good sites, and pure chance, rather than any downfall in bird numbers.

Four ringing groups, plus about fifteen individual ringers were active during the year, and much of the effort was concentrated on individual species or groups, rather than on large-scale ringing. In the species accounts below, I have drawn attention to particular studies in progress, as well as summarising approximately 130 recoveries reported to HOS. As usual I have tried to include all particularly interesting or unusual recoveries, and also to comment on any obvious patterns.

Mute Swan

There was only one recovery involving movement of more than 50 km.

Z43717 ringed as an adult ♀	26.7.80	Eling
found dead	Feb. 82	Bognor Regis (Sussex)

Canada Goose

Nine recoveries were reported, all involving movements of less than 40 km. No Canada Geese were ringed in the county during 1982, because Hampshire ringers wished to avoid being associated with the fitting of neck-collars by a group from Reading University.

Brent Goose

An adult ♂ ringed at Farlington on 10.2.80 was controlled at Suederhafen (North Friesian Islands), WEST GERMANY on 10.5.82.

Teal

Nearly 50 Teal were ringed at Titchfield Haven during the 1981/82 winter. Two of these were shot in DENMARK in the following August/September.

Waders

Less than 300 waders were ringed in 1982. This all-time low was mainly the result of loss of sites, and unsuitability of conditions.

Oystercatcher

There was one distant recovery:

FS29925 ringed as an adult	5.3.72	Horsea Island
released from netting	June 81	100 km north of Trondheim, NORWAY

Ringed Plover

Three foreign recoveries showed movements similar to those in previous years:

BV51707 ringed as an adult ♂	27.9.76	Fawley
shot	21.10.82	Baie de Somme, FRANCE
BV79128 ringed as an adult ♀	25.8.79	Farlington
controlled	30.4.82	Greifswald (Rostock), EAST GERMANY
BV79353 ringed as 1st-year ♀	22.9.79	Horsea Island
controlled	8.6.81	Fehmarnsund, WEST GERMANY
and again	15.5.82	Fehmarnsund

Lapwing

DS76248 ringed as a 1st-year	26.10.76	Fawley
dead	1.11.81	Longeville (Vendee), FRANCE

There have been very few recoveries of Hampshire-ringed Lapwing.

Dunlin

Twelve recoveries were reported.

Ten of these involved birds caught in Hampshire during the winter months (October to March), and these show the "normal" pattern for *C.a. alpina* originating from WEST GERMANY (3), SWEDEN (1), FINLAND (1), NETHERLANDS (1), and Norfolk (4). The last four were probably on passage when captured on The Wash, and included one of the oldest Dunlins on record a bird ringed at Terrington Marsh on 9.9.67, and controlled at Farlington on 27.2.82.

The remaining two recoveries show a different type of movement:

BB89051 ringed as a juvenile	15.8.78	Girvan (Strathclyde)
controlled	7.8.82	Farlington
NB98049 ringed as an adult	10.5.80	Morecambe (Lancs)
controlled	6.8.82	Farlington

Given the early autumn dates at Farlington, and the more westerly origin of these birds, these could well have been Dunlin of the Icelandic race *C.a. schinzii*.

Snipe

One first ringed at Farlington on 19.8.76 was retrapped there on 22.2.82. As well as being quite an old bird, this retrap shows a combination of dates which perhaps suggest that wintering birds arrive very early.

There was also one recovery:

CE84010 ringed as a 1st-year	6.1.79	Colden Common
shot	19.12.81	Bungay (Suffolk)

Curlew

There were two recoveries of birds found nesting in WEST GERMANY.

3035191 ringed as an adult ♂	22.11.76	Fawley
controlled at nest	27.4.82	nr Rothenuffeln (Detmold), WEST GERMANY
3065495 ringed as an adult ♀	20.7.78	Fawley
controlled at nest	27.4.82	nr Hanmel (Weser-Ems), WEST GERMANY

Note the July ringing of the last bird.

Redshank

Four recoveries involved movement within England, including one ringed at Horsea Island on 12.10.80 and controlled at its nest on the Ribble Estuary (Lancs), 14.6.82.

There was also one foreign recovery:

DS76154 ringed as an adult ♀	20.7.74	Fawley
dead	15.1.82	Cereret (Manche), FRANCE

A particularly old bird was retrapped at Farlington on 27.2.82, having been ringed there on 24.12.71.

Black-headed Gull

Three recoveries reported during 1982 involved birds ringed in their continental breeding areas two from Parnhu, ESTONIA, and one from Schleswig-Holstein, WEST GERMANY.

Collared Dove

Over 100 Collared Doves were ringed at Twyford in 1982, and there were two distant recoveries from the large numbers ringed in earlier years.

EJ12623 ringed as an adult	21.3.79	Twyford
dead	16.1.82	Mulsanne (Sartle), FRANCE
EJ69532 ringed as an adult	27.4.81	Twyford
injured	19.5.82	Caersws (Powys)

Great Spotted Woodpecker

A bird killed by traffic in Sway on 28.9.82 had been ringed there on 20.11.76.

Sand Martin

There were no recoveries involving movements of over 200 km. Relatively few were caught during the year.

Swallow

The five recoveries reported included one in the species' winter quarters:

KH17553 ringed as a juvenile	31.8.76	Titchfield Haven
killed by traffic	14.11.81	Hope Town (Cape Province), SOUTH AFRICA

There was one other recovery involving movement of over 200 km.:

B567237 ringed as a juvenile	4.9.82	Frodsham (Cheshire)
controlled	10.9.82	Eastney

Meadow Pipit

In view of the very few Hampshire Meadow Pipit recoveries, the following is of interest:

A207621 ringed as an adult	3.4.80	Calf of Man
dead	23.4.82	Rownhams

Yellow Wagtail

One recovery:

B541618 ringed as a juvenile	2.9.82	Feltham (Greater London)
controlled	14.9.82	Farlington

Grey Wagtail

Nearly 170 were ringed in the county in 1982, mostly as nestlings by Terry Heathcote in the New Forest. This was about 15% of the national total for the species.

The large numbers ringed by Terry in 1980 and 1981 produced two distant recoveries . . . one killed by a cat in Thames Ditton on 28.2.82 and another found dead at Harrow on 20.5.82. Both had been ringed as nestlings in the New Forest.

Pied Wagtail

There were a number of recoveries, but none over 50 km.

Duncock

A quite amazing recovery recently came to my attention:

KP02120 ringed as a juvenile	6.10.76	Isle of May (Fife)
killed by cat	11.3.77	Hayling Island

Dunlocks are normally very sedentary.

Blackbird

Another rather strange recovery involved an adult ♀ Blackbird first ringed at Bordon on 30.6.73. It was retrapped there on 9.7.77 and 11.11.79, but then was found dead in Felstead (Essex) on 18.5.82!

There were also three distant recoveries of continental Blackbirds.

XA85861 ringed as a 1st-year ♂	10.1.79	Titchfield Haven
dead	14.6.79	Rheinsberg (Potsdam),
		EAST GERMANY
XE57217 ringed as a 1st-year ♀	18.1.81	Whitchurch
controlled	19.10.81	Helgoland, WEST GERMANY
XN00050 ringed as a 1st-year ♀	14.2.82	Portsmouth
hit window	22.3.82	Drente, NETHERLANDS

Fieldfare

There was one recovery:

CN21244 ringed as a 1st-year ♂	10.1.82	East Cosham
shot	21.11.82	St. Pol, FRANCE

Song Thrush

Two movements may have been the result of the hard weather in the 1981/82 winter:

XA04174 ringed as an adult	5.6.76	Wicken Fen (Cams)
dead	25.12.81	Martin
NX44552 ringed as a 1st-year	3.2.79	Eastleigh
dead	12.1.82	Weymouth (Dorset)

Sedge Warbler

Only about 500 were ringed in the county in 1982, this being the lowest total for many years. The main reason was the almost total absence of aphids in the coastal reedbeds during late summer.

Of four reported recoveries, two involved movements of over 200 km.:

KS90988 ringed as a juvenile	21.8.77	Titchfield Haven
controlled	9.8.82	Long Rock (Cornwall)
B172316 ringed as a juvenile	27.7.81	Goole (Humberside)
controlled	8.8.82	Kings Worthy

Reed Warbler

Although the Reed Warbler is thought not to be dependant on aphids for its migration, numbers ringed in Hampshire coast reed-beds seem nevertheless to correlate with aphid abundance. Only about 500 were ringed in the county in 1982.

There were 13 recoveries/controls reported, of which two involved movements of over 200 km.:

B167113 ringed as a juvenile	18.8.81	Lower Test Marshes
controlled	25.7.82	Long Rock (Cornwall)
B255395 ringed as a juvenile	23.8.81	Titchfield Haven
controlled	28.7.82	Wakefield (Yorks)

The other 11 recoveries included movements to/from Bucks, Greater London, Kent, Sussex, Avon and Jersey.

Whitethroat

In response to the NCC/BTO request for ringing of more *Sylvia* warblers, John Kieser managed to ring nearly 150 of this species. No recoveries were reported.

Garden Warbler

A bird ringed as an adult ♀ in Winchester on 8.7.81, was killed at Guadalajara, SPAIN, on 15.8.82. There are very few recoveries of Hampshire-ringed birds of this species.

Blackcap

John Kieser's efforts were not confined to Whitethroats, and he did exceptionally well to ring over 170 Blackcaps during the year.

Two recoveries were both of interest:

KP47774 ringed as an adult ♀	11.1.80	Rhos-on-Sea (Clwyd)
controlled	17.3.82	Cosham
NH41605 ringed as a nestling	8.6.81	Sholing
controlled	17.9.81	Gibraltar Point (Lincs)

Note that KP47774 appeared to be wintering in this country, both when ringed and when controlled two years later.

Wood Warbler

Over 260 nestlings were ringed in the New Forest by Tony Prater and myself. Although this was about 30% of the national total for the species, there were no recoveries.

Willow Warbler

There was a single recovery:

1B3062 ringed as an adult ♂	27.8.79	Lower Test Marshes
controlled	14.8.82	Bolton (Manchester)

Bearded Tit

1982 produced one fairly typical inter reed-bed movement, from Lodmoor (Dorset) on 12.9.82, to Farlington on 2.11.82.

Blue Tit

The number of Blue Tits ringed in the county dropped to around 1800 in 1982, from the 4000 level which has been more usual during the past several years. This decrease may have been due partly to increases in ring prices, but also probably to the difficulties in obtaining useful results from ringing of this species.

The only recovery involving movement of over 30 km was of a 1st-year bird ringed at Alton on 7.11.81, and controlled in Sevenoaks (Kent) on 21.3.82.

Nuthatch

Several broods ringed by John Kieser in the Hedge End area produced two recoveries within a couple of months. Although the distances involved were only 6 km and 9 km, any movements at all of this sedentary species are quite unusual.

Starling

Two recoveries/controls were both to/from the NETHERLANDS.

Greenfinch

Ten recoveries/controls showed the normal pattern of movement to/from the counties to the north-east of Hampshire Essex (4), Herts (2), Norfolk (1), Northants (1), Kent (1), and Surrey (1). The longest movement was 222 km from West Tofts (Norfolk).

In addition, there were two movements a little different to the norm:

NE06348 ringed as an adult ♀	8.3.78	Market Drayton (Salop)
controlled	14.2.82	Winchester
NE08469 ringed as a 1st-year ♂	15.1.82	Gillingham (Dorset)
controlled	2.4.82	Cosham

Siskin

About 120 were ringed in 1982 — a slightly lower total than in some previous years. There were four recoveries reported, but only one involved movement of over 100 km.:

KC64971 ringed as a 1st-year ♂	10.5.81	Beaulieu (Highland)
controlled	25.1.82	Winchester

Linnet

A female ringed at Hamble on 25.4.81 was recovered in Capbreton (Landes), FRANCE on 25.3.82, a fairly usual wintering area for British Linnets.

As usual, my thanks are due to all the ringers who sent me details of their ringing activities:

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Farlington R. G., Fleet Pond R. G., Itchen R. G., and Lower Test R. G. Thanks also of course to all of the associates, trainees, and helpers, too numerous to mention, who make such a valuable contribution to the ringing effort.

Glynne Evans, 9 Woodland Close, East Wellow, Romsey, Hampshire.

THE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* IN HAMPSHIRE

D. J. Steventon

The account of Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* in the county avifauna (Cohen and Taverner, 1972) draws mainly on observations of movements and roosts sent in to the county recorder and published in the annual Hampshire Bird Reports with very little information available on the results of ringing. A study at Christchurch Harbour (Rogers and Webber, 1971) (in that part of Hampshire transferred to Dorset in the 1974 local government re-organisation) was based entirely on autumn migration counts from 1957 to 1969. A study in Southampton Water (Insley and Young, 1981) was based on the results from ringing autumn migrants from 1974 to 1980. The present paper brings together the results of monthly counts throughout the year from 1971 to 1980 for the Birds of Estuaries Enquiry (Taverner 1970–1979, Billett *et al* 1981–82), the results from ringing in Portsmouth and Langstone Harbours from 1970 to 1981, records of breeding pairs submitted to the county recorder and unpublished notes on spring migration observations at Langstone Harbour from 1955 to 1971.

COUNTS

Means of ten years of counts carried out for the Birds of Estuaries Enquiry are shown in table 1.

Table 1: Means of ten years of monthly counts of Ringed Plover, 1971 to 1980.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	161	73	23	12	23	7	24	298	281	289	238	176
Portsmouth Harbour	79	49	15	5	19	3	11	229	292	108	95	104
Southampton Water	223	172	72	32	137	15	68	820	486	369	192	249
West Solent	85	76	42	33	35	27	39	100	186	176	153	105
TOTAL	548	370	152	82	214	52	142	1447	1245	942	678	634

It is apparent that

- (i) the wintering population is of the order of 500 to 600 birds,
- (ii) this wintering population moves away in February and March,
- (iii) there is an obvious May passage and
- (iv) there is a substantial number of autumn migrants from August to October.

Being based on monthly counts, these data are not sensitive enough to show the major peak in late August and minor peak in late September/early October already noted for Christchurch Harbour (Rogers and Webber, 1971). As the counts are usually made at high tide roosts, the numbers counted in June do not reflect the true numbers of breeding birds in the county (see below). Southampton Water is the preferred location of passage and wintering birds with roosts centred on Calshot/Fawley, Dibden Bay/Southampton Container Berths extension and Warsash/mouth of River Hamble.

SPRING PASSAGE

Observations made at Langstone Harbour suggest that the May passage birds are of N. W. Britain/Icelandic origin. The numbers and direction of birds seen leaving Langstone Harbour on spring passage are shown in table 2 (from D. F. Billett, unpublished notes).

Table 2: Spring movements of Ringed Plover (1955 to 1971) and Black-tailed Godwit (1953 to 1972) at Langstone Harbour.

Period:	April 10-16	April 17-23	April 24-30	May 1-7	May 8-14	May 15-21	May 22-28
Ringed Plover			6	41	12	14	21
Black-tailed Godwit	217	1625	458	87			
Direction:	WNW	NW	NNW	N	NNE	NE	
Ringed Plover		46	23	3	8	14	
Black-tailed Godwit	1095	1191	27	74			

There is a strong north-westerly trend with a peak in the first week in May. This same pattern, although in an earlier period, is shown by Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* which are known from measurements to be of Icelandic origin (Cohen and Taverner, 1972). The direction, although not the timing, is in direct contrast with the few records of passage at Hurst. Major movements there have all been of birds flying eastwards with 34 on May 2nd 1969, 31 on May 3rd 1973 and 34 on May 7th 1981. However it is thought that these are merely local coastal movements by Ringed Plovers caught up with other wader species migrating at the same time and that in practice they subsequently leave the coast in a northerly direction, as shown by 10 flying off north at dusk from Keyhaven Marshes on May 20th 1975 (E. J. Wiseman, *pers comm*).

BREEDING

The total number of breeding pairs in Hampshire reported each year to the county recorder varied between 40 and 80. The total numbers by area for the years 1971 to 1980 are shown in table 3.

Table 3: Numbers of pairs of Ringed Plover breeding in Hampshire, 1971 to 1980.

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Langstone Harbour	—	0	2	5	3/4	5	3	2/3	17	29
Portsmouth Harbour	2	1	0	0	3/5	0	2	1	2/4	1
Southampton Water	9	13	17/18	9	3	13	4	3	11/12	1
West Solent	30+	30	37	38	35	44+	47+	46+	47+	45+
elsewhere (inland)	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	1/2	1
TOTAL	41+	44	57/58	52	46/49	62+	56+	53+78/82+	77+	

The main breeding area is the north-west Solent shore from Needs Oar to Keyhaven (contrast with the preferred passage and wintering areas). Note that pairs were occasionally reported breeding inland: this was especially at Beaulieu airfield and Ashley Walk in the New Forest. Year to year variations were probably more due to changes in observer coverage and discovery of opportune breeding sites than to genuine population trends. For example, the peak numbers in Southampton Water in 1972 and 1973 were due to birds reported from reclamation areas at Calshot and Dibden Bay and in 1976 and 1979 due to birds reported from Southampton container berths extension area. Also the small peak in Portsmouth Harbour in 1975 was due to birds breeding on the reclamation area prior to the opening of the M27/M275 motorways. The recent large numbers from Langstone Harbour involved records from the islands in the harbour, now wardened and observed by the R. S. P. B., where previously surveys could not be carried out. In that situation it is not known whether numbers have increased due to protection, or whether numbers were similar in earlier years when the islands could not be covered. It is evident that not all breeding pairs were reported to the county recorder as the B. T. O. Ringed Plover Survey in 1972 reported 74 pairs from the coast and three pairs inland for Hampshire (Prater, 1976) compared with the 44 reported in the Hampshire Bird Report.

AUTUMN PASSAGE

Whereas the study at Southampton Water (Insley and Young, 1981) was largely based on mist-netting throughout July to October, the study at Portsmouth and Langstone Harbours was largely based on cannon-netting in August, which provided a much larger sample size. It is probable that neither method samples the population uniformly, but that cannon-netting has less of a bias towards juveniles (Pienkowski and Dick, 1976). The monthly distribution of ringing is shown in table 4.

Table 4: Numbers of Ringed Plovers ringed and retrapped at Portsmouth and Langstone Harbours, 1970 to 1981.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	TOTAL
Mist-netted	0	0	11	1	22	0	4	93	45	0	0	0	176
Cannon-netted	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	527	77	3	2	0	620

The majority of birds were weighed, their winglengths measured and in autumn the details of primary moult recorded. There is no evidence to suggest that any subspecies other than *C. h. hiaticula* was involved on autumn passage as there were no small and dark birds (Prater, Marchant and Vourinen, 1977), but the data from ringing point to two different populations being involved.

The adults caught fell clearly into two sets: one undergoing primary moult, the other not. 27 adults caught in moult in one autumn and retrapped in a subsequent autumn were all in moult again when retrapped. They were generally halfway through their primary moult when caught in August with about five primaries new or growing and the balance old. Of 13 adults not in moult in one autumn and retrapped in a subsequent autumn, 11 were again not in moult when retrapped. The other two had shed the three innermost primaries only when retrapped and may have been in the process of suspending or arresting moult. (This occurs in several wader species, a few primaries being replaced and the sequence stopped at the end of the breeding season or at an autumn migration stop-over and then he moult completed on arrival in winter quarters.) Three new birds in a catch of 103 in August 1981 exhibited suspended moult, two having new primaries and the third with one new primary with the rest of the primaries old.

The weights of the moulting and non-moulting sets were quite different, as show in table 5.

Table 5: Mean weight in grams by period for moulting and non-moulting Ringed Plovers, with standard deviation and sample size.

Period:	Moulting			Non-Moulting		
	Mean	s.d.	sample	Mean	s.d.	sample
August 19–25	63.1	4.34	106	65.9	9.23	137
August 26 – September 1	64.4	5.98	86	68.5	8.81	88
September 2–8	66.3	8.75	6	75.3	8.53	13
September 9–15	64.0	6.97	31	75.9	7.39	15

The non-moulting birds have a significantly higher variation in weight (F test, $p < 0.01$ for Aug. 19–25 and Aug. 26 – Sept. 1) and are significantly heavier (t test, $p < 0.05$ for Sept. 2–8 and $p < 0.01$ for Sept. 9–15). This suggests that the non-moulting set is comprised of relatively light new arrivals along with heavier birds fattening for onward migration. It has already been calculated that non-moulting adults with a mean weight of 77.0g are capable of reaching the Moroccan coast in a single flight from Southampton Water (Insley and Young, 1981).

The recovery patterns of the moulting and non-moulting sets were also quite different. Recoveries and controls of adults that were in moult in Hampshire in August and September came from East Germany (nestlings, May and June,) West Germany (adult and a nestling, both July), Denmark (adults, May and June) and the Netherlands (adult and a nestling, both May). Recoveries and controls of adults that were not in moult in Hampshire in August and September came from Morecambe Bay (one adult in April, two in May), Teesmouth (adult, May), Severn Estuary (adult, August), Cornwall (adult, August), the Netherlands (adult, August) and Norway (adult, September). This last bird was apparently undergoing suspended moult in one autumn at Farlington Marshes (Langstone Harbour), having shed the three innermost primaries only, but it was not moulting when caught in a subsequent autumn at the same place.

DISCUSSION

The moulting set apparently breed in western Europe. Other recoveries and controls that belong to this set are: two juveniles caught in autumn at Portsmouth Harbour and trapped on the nest in West Germany in May and June; a nestling from Essex caught in the same autumn at Farlington Marshes as a juvenile; and an adult (moult not recorded) from Farlington Marshes found dead in Sussex in June.

The non-moulting set apparently take a spring passage route to the west of Hampshire and may occur in different places on return passage in autumn (Severn Estuary, Cornwall, the Netherlands and Norway). They probably breed in north-west Britain, Iceland and Greenland. Proof that autumn passage birds originate from the north-west comes from an adult from Farlington Marshes in August that was shot in N. E. Greenland in July: unfortunately it was not recorded whether or not this bird was in moult at Farlington Marshes.

Additional recoveries and controls show that locally bred birds also moult locally (a Farlington nestling retrapped in moult in August), that the moulting birds winter locally (a Farlington adult recovered in Langstone Harbour in January and a Portsmouth Harbour wintering bird in January caught in moult in September) and that the West European breeding birds winter locally (an adult from Denmark in May controlled at Portsmouth Harbour in November). There is no evidence from ringing recoveries that the non-moulting birds winter further south but the weight data show that they are capable of further passage to the north-west African coast.

The autumn data are therefore in accord with the situation already found at Southampton Water (Insley and Young, 1981) of two different populations of autumn migrants involved.

SUMMARY

Up to about 80 pairs of Ringed Plovers breed in Hampshire each year and at least a proportion of the population moult and winter locally. Spring migrants seen in late April and early May are from the population that breeds in north-west Britain, Iceland and Greenland. This same population on autumn migration do not moult locally but rather fatten up for a journey to winter quarters presumably further south. A second group of autumn migrants do moult locally and are from the population that breed in the southern North Sea and Baltic coastal regions. They also winter locally to give a total wintering population of about 600 birds, more than could be accounted for by local breeding birds only. The fact that three different breeding populations use the Hampshire coast and estuaries for breeding, moulting, migration stop-over and wintering has important conservation implications.

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TERRESTRIAL FEEDING BY BRENT GEESE *Branta bernicla bernicla* IN THE SOLENT DURING WINTER 1982 – 1983

C. R. Tubbs

The numbers of Brent Geese in the Solent estuarine system (the respective eastern and western limits of which have been taken as Pagham Harbour and Hurst Spit) increased from about 300 in 1951–1952 to probably more than 29 000 in 1982–83. Until 1973–74 the geese remained in the intertidal zone, where they fed on eelgrass *Zostera* spp and green algae *Enteromorpha* spp and *Ulva lactuca*. However, only part of the annual production of eelgrass and algae is available to geese because of autumn and early winter leaf-fall and die-

back, storm damage and other factors. From 1973–74 geese fed in increasing numbers on pasture, playing fields and autumn sown cereals after an initial period each winter during which they concentrated on the diminishing amounts of eelgrass and green algae. In a general sense there is no doubt that the numbers of geese have outstripped the capacity of the intertidal zone to support them throughout the winter but the position is not straightforward, for there is evidence to suggest that in some localities or in some winters the food resources of the intertidal zone could support the whole of the local goose population. Until the late 1970s terrestrial feeding was clearly stimulated by large numbers of first winter birds in the flocks, but in recent winters feeding ashore appears to have become an established part of the winter behaviour pattern irrespective of the percentage of young present. The population history, food resources and feeding behaviour of Brent Geese in the Solent were studied by Tubbs & Tubbs (1982; 1983) and terrestrial feeding was studied in detail in Chichester Harbour by Round (1982).

The feeding of geese on farmland around the Solent has led to a growing chorus of complaint from farmers. There is no doubt that persistent goose grazing, particularly in wet weather, depresses yields of autumn sown cereals and retards the growth of grass leys in the early spring, although the degree of crop damage appears to vary widely between sites. The policy adopted by the Nature Conservancy Council and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has been to encourage farmers to scare geese systematically from valuable crops but to accept them on permanent pasture, where they do relatively little damage. How many geese the Solent will support in future is likely to depend on the area and distribution of permanent grassland refuges (preferably nature reserves) where they can be accommodated. At present provision of refuges remains inadequate, especially around Chichester and Pagham Harbours, where most of the conflicts between Brent Geese and farmers have arisen.

Table 1 gives information about Brent Goose numbers in the Solent in recent winters in relation to the total population of the sub-species. It will be seen that the number in the Solent 1982–1983 reflects the increase in the total population brought about since the previous winter by a good breeding season and low adult mortality. The peak (in December) was the highest yet recorded and terrestrial feeding began early and created problems.

Table 1. Peak counts of Brent Geese *Branta Bernicla* in the Solent in relation to mid-winter European population.

Winter	European Population	Approx. % Juveniles	Peak Number in Solent	% World Popn. in Solent
1978–1979	140 000	35	18 100	12.9
1979–1980	167 000	40	23 560	14.1
1980–1981	162 000	1	18 900	11.7
1981–1982	140 000	3	21 800	15.6
1982–1983	200 000	50	28 550	14.3

Table 2 shows the distribution of geese during the monthly wildfowl counts or a date close to them for which such data are available. The table reflects less the preference of feeding geese than the effectiveness of scaring from cereal crops. For much of the winter, but especially during November and December, many more persistently attempted to feed on cereals but were not doing so during the counts.

Experience in previous winters, both on the south and east coasts of Britain, had shown that fertiliser bags hung on poles and distributed over the fields at a relatively high density, were all that was required to deter geese from cereal feeding. However, during winter 1982–1983 it became evident that most geese had become tolerant of such deterrents, as indeed, they had earlier become tolerant of various other, more conventional deterrents such as gas-

Table 2. Distribution of Brent Geese *Branta bernicla* during monthly counts in the Solent, winter 1982–1983.

Month	Mudflats	Grassland	Cereals	Total
October	2 707			2 707
November	6 251	9 301	2 459	18 011
December	3 336	20 593	4 617	28 546
January	2 109	20 927	3 259	26 293
February	5 584	19 858	823	26 265
March	6 279	6 950	1 054	14 283

guns and 'flash harries'. There was considerable pressure from farmers, especially in West Sussex, to shoot them and, indeed, in discussions with farmers and their supporting organisations a cull of numbers was propounded as a means of resolving what was claimed to be an acute problem.

Section 16 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act provides that the Minister of Agriculture may issue licences to kill or take birds that are otherwise protected, in order to prevent serious damage to crops. He has to consult the Nature Conservancy Council about the exercise of this function and he cannot grant a licence until he has been advised by the NCC as to the circumstances in which, in their opinion, licences should be granted. In the case of Brent Geese the main points made by the NCC in this context were that licences should only be issued if it could be demonstrated that other means of deterring geese from feeding on crops did not work; that shooting should only be employed as a means of scaring, not as a means of culling numbers; and thus that licences should be issued for specific numbers of geese on specific farms.

During winter 1982–1983, 17 licences were issued for the Solent area (18 including a renewal late in the winter) for a total of 385 geese; numbers of geese specified in individual licences varied between ten and 30. Nine licences were for farms around Chichester Harbour (of which three were in Hampshire); four were for farms around Pagham Harbour; one was for a farm at Bracklesham Bay; one for Keyhaven; and one for Newtown Harbour on the Isle of Wight. The number of geese killed is not at present known precisely (although the licences require a return) but it was probably in excess of 250. In addition, some geese are known to have been killed without the benefit of a licence. The licenced total would have represented 0.013% of the peak number present.

Shooting was not always carried out efficiently and in a few cases flocks were fired into indiscriminately. Late in the winter there were many wounded birds in Chichester Harbour. In most cases the licences appear to have been used more responsibly. In one instance, on a farm which did not at that stage possess a licence, Disyston — a toxic organo-phosphate insecticide lethal to rats at 9mg/kg in solution — was spread with fertiliser on a pasture because it was thought its smell deterred geese. It failed to deter the geese and, remarkably, there were no known casualties.

Shooting a number of birds from flocks feeding on farmland was undoubtedly an effective deterrent and in the absence of shooting it is likely that the numbers on cereals (see Table 2) during December–February would have been much higher. In the latter part of the winter most birds fed on permanent grass (including playing fields on Portsea Island and between Portsmouth Harbour and Titchfield Haven) but around Pagham and Chichester Harbours such sites are few and the potential for creating grassland refuges is least. An exception is at Thorney Island, where the grassland on the former airfield has been mown since 1980–1981 in order to obtain the correct height for grazing geese. The area has been kept free from disturbance and decoys have been used to attract flocks which might otherwise use farmland. In 1982–1983 about 2 600 grazed this site in January and February (Prater 1983).

This demonstrates the practicability of managing suitably located land specifically for geese. Similar success was obtained on a smaller scale on Mr Martin Beale's farm at Chidham.

Further west, 1982–1983 was notable for the dispersal of the Portsmouth Harbour flock westward onto playing fields near the harbour, the RNAS Lee-on-Solent and cereal crops at Brownwich where birds from Southampton Water also fed. Terrestrial feeding also occurred for the first time at the Gins, where the whole of the Beaulieu estuary flock fed for most of December, January and February; and at Pitts Deep, where 83 were on cereals on 15 January and 155 on a ley on 13 February. At Keyhaven the events of the winter seem a good demonstration of the effectiveness of shooting as a deterrent. There flocks persistently attempted to exploit barley and an autumn sown ley from mid-November until late January, but with constant scaring, organised largely by Eddie Wiseman, they were encouraged onto a permanent pasture where they were tolerated by the farmer. At the end of January, however, there was concern that goose grazing would delay early grass growth and also a desire to see the end of the periodic raids onto cereals. A licence was obtained, about 12 birds were shot and the whole flock moved 1½ miles east to Oxeby Barn meadows where they were permitted to remain until they dispersed onto the intertidal zone at the end of the winter.

Unless the goose population crashes, both terrestrial feeding and the issue of licences to deter them from crops, are likely to become an annual pattern of events. How many geese the Solent will ultimately support is likely to depend on the number and size of grassland refuges and the extent to which the managers and users of playing fields in urban South Hampshire will continue to tolerate the birds. The sub-species may be capable of yet further large increases in population. If this is so, conflicts in future winters may become acute, both in the Solent and elsewhere within the winter range, and may themselves set limits on the total population by limiting winter food supplies.

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