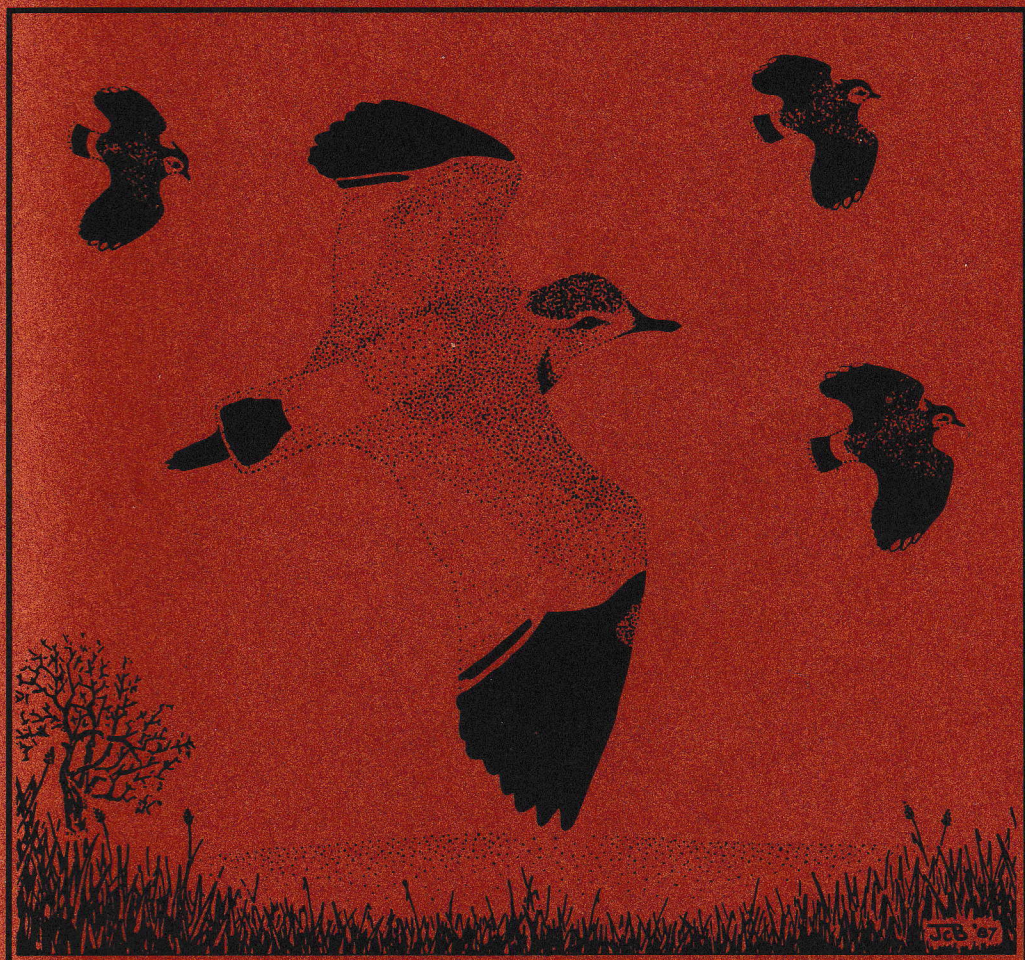




HAMPSHIRE BIRD REPORT

1986



Published November 1987 by the
HAMPSHIRE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

HAMPSHIRE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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HAMPSHIRE BIRD REPORT 1986

ISSN 0438 - 4903

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by

THE HAMPSHIRE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Price £2.50
(+ 25p postage)

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No doubt in years to come, 1986 will be remembered as the year in which the Society launched its county-wide Tetrad Atlas Breeding Bird Survey. The Survey occupied much of our time during the year not just in the field-work, but also in the organisation and administrative aspects. Meanwhile of course the Society continued with all of its other activities, and it was perhaps not surprising that several Committee members concluded that 1986 was a busy year!

Membership

Perhaps it was too much to expect our unprecedented growth-rate of 1985 to be maintained through 1986, but we were nevertheless disappointed with the very moderate rise from 813 members at the beginning of 1986 to 841 in January 1987. As our President has observed on several occasions in the past, there is surely scope for a much greater membership of a county bird society in an area so large and ornithologically interesting as Hampshire!

Finance

As expected, the biggest increase in expenditure in 1986 was attributable to the Tetrad Atlas Breeding Bird Survey. The Society was fortunate though in receiving a number of generous donations during the year most of them specifically as a contribution towards the costs of the Tetrad Atlas project.

We are extremely grateful to the following

Hampshire County Council.....	£600
Southampton City Council.....	£250
TV South Charitable Trust.....	£250
Grocers' Charity Trust.....	£100
Hart District Council.....	£50
Guy Mountfort.....	£50
British Gas Southern.....	£25
Other (mainly individuals).....	£120

(Of donations specifically for the Tetrad Atlas, one quarter of receipts were set off against costs incurred in 1986, and the balance carried forward to subsequent years of the survey.)

Looking at our finances overall, our income by way of members' subscriptions once again fell significantly short of expenditure. However, the shortfall of £1500 was largely offset by income from Bird Report sales, income tax refunds (through Deeds of Covenant) and interest. In fact, thanks to donations, and particularly the grant from Hampshire County Council, the Society was able to achieve a surplus of £457 just £80 more than in 1985.

The accumulated balance of the Society now stands at about £3,160, compared with a current annual expenditure of £4,700, and with a steadily rising membership your Committee believes that subscriptions can be held at the present level for the time being.

Officers

The occasion of our seventh Annual General Meeting, held in Winchester on 15th March, marked the retirement of our President, Guy Mountfort. The Society was greatly honoured to have had such a distinguished ornithologist as its first President, and as a token of our appreciation, Guy was presented with a painting of Hawfinches by David Thelwell.

In proposing James Hancock as President, Guy Mountfort said that he was very pleased to hand over the Presidency to such an able and energetic ornithologist. James is of course also President of the British Trust for Ornithology, and the whole Society is delighted to welcome him as the new President of HOS.



Scene from the 1986 AGM. Michael Bryant (left), the first Chairman of HOS, presents an original watercolour of Hawfinches by David Thelwell to the first President, Guy Mountfort, on the occasion of his retirement. Glynne Evans, the 1986 HOS Chairman, is in the background

The AGM also brought a change to the Chairmanship of the Field Studies Sub-Committee. Dr. John Eyre was elected as the new Chairman, on the departure of Mr. David Steventon who was leaving to take up a new job in Cheshire. Over a period of 13 years David has made a very major contribution to the high standards of the Society's survey work and publications, and has more recently been a guiding force in the launch of the Tetrad Atlas project. We wish David well in Cheshire.

The only other change to the Management Committee was the election of Mr. Ralph Hollins as an Ordinary Member (replacing James Hancock).

Field Studies Sub-committee

Under the new Chairmanship of Dr. John Eyre, the Field Studies Sub-committee continued to organise all of the ongoing surveys of wildfowl, waders etc. The year was dominated however by the launch of the Tetrad Atlas project. This survey was greeted with enthusiasm by a very large number of members, and it is quite clear that we will be able to obtain complete coverage of Hampshire within three or four years. Thoughts are now turning towards the massive task of analysing and publishing the Atlas results, and the preparation and financing of our proposed definitive books on the "Birds of Hampshire".

Recruitment, Publicity and Programme Sub-committee

The steady rise in membership has undoubtedly been due to the continued efforts of the RPP Sub-committee. Adverts, articles and displays now regularly appear in a wide variety of places, and serve to highlight the Society's activities and the benefits of membership. During 1986 the Committee was chaired by Mrs. June Irvine, who was particularly assisted by Mr. Richard Leach (Publicity Officer) and Mrs. Penny Raynor (Outdoor Meetings Organiser).

The Sub-committee would still like to hear from more people who could help a little with additional publicity; a county-wide society needs county-wide publicity!

Records and Publications Sub-committee

As usual the main task of the Records and Publications Sub-committee was to collect and collate bird records and produce the annual Bird Report. And once again, thanks to our Recorder, Eddie Wiseman, and our Bird Report Editor, John Clark, the 1985 Bird Report set yet higher standards to be matched in the years to come.

Conclusion

This short report does little justice to the work undertaken by those members who contribute to the running of the Society. As you read this year's Bird Report, please spare a thought for those who spend fine summer days embroiled in its compilation (**too true - Ed.**), or hot summer evenings planning our publicity, or wet winter afternoons delivering Newsletters!! As 1986 came to an end, the Management Committee agreed to the Society's purchase of two small computers which will assist with the workload but maybe you could also help a little. If there is some job you could do, however small, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

*Glynne Evans
Chairman (1986)*

EDITORIAL

1986 was an outstanding year in Hampshire, with 243 species recorded including five new to the county. Three of these occurred during a "purple patch" at Titchfield Haven, with a Spotted Sandpiper discovered on Oct. 4th, a Sociable Plover on Oct. 17th and a Cattle Egret on Nov. 4th. All of these made long stays and delighted observers from all over the country. Also during this period, the fourth new bird, a Baird's Sandpiper, was seen at Warsash on Oct. 7th. Earlier in the year, ringers at a Reed Bunting roost at Winnall Moors on Mar. 17th were very surprised to find a Little Bunting in one of their nets. There have been several claims of this species in the county in the past, but this is the first confirmed record. A Black Guillemot off Southsea on Jan. 31st is arguably another "first", as the only other occurrences are rather vague records from the last century detailed in Kelsall and Munn's *Birds of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* (1905).

Yet again harsh conditions were experienced in the opening months of the year, a severe cold spell lasting from late January until early March. This resulted in considerable movement between Feb. 5th and 10th and the usual influx of hard weather birds, including good numbers of divers and grebes, over 30 Smew and a single flock of 38 Scaups off Lymington. There were also county record counts of 275 Bewick's Swans at Ibsley and 255 Pintails at Langstone Harbour at this time. The only rarities recorded were the Ring-necked and Ferruginous Ducks in the north-east of the county which were first seen in late 1985. In addition to the Little Bunting, March produced a Red Kite at Titchfield Haven, a long-staying Long-billed Dowitcher on the River Hamble at Curbridge, a brief stop by a Bonaparte's Gull at Gilkicker Point and a Ring-billed Gull at Sinah and Eastney.

Spring seabird passage was poor for the second year running, although a Long-tailed Skua was seen off Hayling. Other notable spring records included a Spotted Crake at Farlington, a Kentish Plover at Eversley G.P., a Red Kite just inside the county boundary near Newbury and a trip of seven Dotterel at Danebury. Mid summer was quiet, the only excitement being provided by a Terek Sandpiper at Pennington, a Black Kite over Ashley Walk, both in June, and at least one wandering White Stork which was seen on a few occasions between late May and mid August.

August produced two rare herons: a Purple Heron at Lower Pennington and a Little Egret at Titchfield Haven and then subsequently Langstone Harbour. Farlington Marshes had a very good spell at this time, with a ten day stay by a Lesser Yellowlegs and two rare warblers: Aquatic and Barred. The momentum continued in September, with Ring-necked and Ferruginous Ducks at Dogmersfield Lake, a long-staying Pectoral Sandpiper at Warsash, a Melodious Warbler and a White-rumped Sandpiper at Eling and three migrant Honey Buzzards.

Thereafter most of the excitement was in the Titchfield Haven area but one "local patch" birder was rewarded by the discovery of a Yellow-browed Warbler far inland at Wellington Country Park in late November. An influx of Long-eared Owls occurred at this time and by the end of the year seven were roosting at Farlington Marshes.

The somewhat late appearance of this report compared to recent years is due to the ever-increasing amount of work involved in sorting the records submitted and compiling the Systematic List. We appeal to observers to read carefully the *Guidelines for Submitting Records* which were recently distributed to HOS members as a Special Supplement to the Newsletter. Further copies can be obtained from the Recorder on receipt of a s.a.e. It is difficult to generalise on how observers can help speed up the production of the report. The most helpful thing would be to submit records at three or six monthly intervals, rather than at the end of the year. This would greatly assist the computerisation of records, which we are hoping to introduce for the 1987 report, by spreading the work load.

I would again like to thank the many people who have contributed to this report, notably Bob Chapman, John Eyre, Graham Stephenson, Dave Unsworth, John Walters and Ed Wiseman for compiling sections of the Systematic List, Brian Dudley and Peter Potts for their papers, J.C. Broadley for his excellent cover drawing of the Sociable Plover, Glynne Evans for the Chairman's Report and of course the many birders who submitted records.

John Clark
October 1987

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 January 1986):

Ordinary membership	£5.00
Joint Membership	£6.00
(2 or more members at the same address)	
Associate Membership	£2.00
(Students between 18 and 25)	
Junior Membership	£2.00
(Members under 18)	
Corporate Membership	£7.00
(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 the inside front cover of this report.

RECORDING BIRDS IN HAMPSHIRE

Observers should send their records to to the Recorder, Mr. E.J. Wiseman, at Normandy Farmhouse, Normandy Lane, Lymington, 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 abbreviation 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 Flat 4, Pentland Flats, St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21 0HY. The HOS Records Committee would also like descriptions of the following lesser rarities.

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

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

BIRDS IN HAMPSHIRE, 1986

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

N.F. = New Forest

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(s);

G.P. = Gravel Pit(s)

- (in tables) = datum not available;

0 (in tables) = visit made but none seen;

* = record maximum for area concerned.

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.

Chichester Harbour counts. These are included in the tables for certain species but are not covered by any comments in the text. The area counted is largely in West Sussex but it does include East Hayling Shore. Our thanks are due to the *Sussex Ornithological Society* for providing this data.

Blashford Lakes is used to refer collectively to all the gravel pits in the Avon Valley north of Ringwood (see map in *HBR* 1982). *Warsash* refers to the Hamble Estuary, the shore from Hook Park to Warsash village and Hook-with-Warsash Nature Reserve.

Red-throated Diver (B)

Gavia stellata

Good numbers were again present in the early year. Approximate half monthly totals for this period are shown below.

	Jan 1-15	Jan 16-31	Feb 1-14	Feb 15-28	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15
On sea	9	3	5	4	6	4	4	1	2
Moving E	0	0	4	0	0	2	2	0	12

The records are summarised below.

Black Point/Hayling Bay/Southsea: 1, Jan. 3rd and 9th; 1/2, Jan. 26th-Feb. 9th; 2 E, Feb. 1st.

Gilkicker Point/Browdown/Hill Head: 8, Jan. 4th; 2, Jan. 11th; 1, Jan. 17th-26th; 1-3, Feb. 1st-15th; 2 E, Feb. 8th; 1, Feb. 22nd, Mar. 9th and 18th, Apr. 12th and 26th, May 1st/2nd.

Weston Shore/Dibden Bay/Eling: 1, Feb. 4th-17th; 2, Feb. 23rd; 3-5, Mar. 2nd-10th; 3, Mar. 20th-Apr. 12th.

Needs Ore: 1 dead on beach, Feb. 15th.

Spring passage: 1 E, Gilkicker Point, Mar. 21st and 23rd; 2 E, Browdown, Apr. 12th; 8 E, Gilkicker Point. and 3 E, Hayling Bay, May 3rd; 2 E, Lepe, May 4th; 1 E, Hill Head and Hayling Bay, May 5th; 1 E, Hurst, May 7th; 1 W, Hayling Bay, May 10th.

During the late year there were only three records of singles off Hill Head on Sept. 13th (an early date - JD, AH, DJP), from Chichester Harbour and off W on Nov. 1st and E at Lepe on Nov. 22nd.

Black-throated Diver (A)

Gavia arctica

There were noticeably fewer records than last year.

During the early year recorded from Black Point (1, Feb. 8th), Hayling Bay (2 W, Mar. 28th), Portsmouth Harbour (1, Mar. 3rd), Gilkicker Point (2 W, Jan. 4th; 1 E, Mar. 1st), Browdown (3 E, Feb. 1st), Hill Head (1 E, Feb. 19th; 1, Mar. 11th) and Northam/Weston Shore/Dibden Bay/Eling (1, Jan. 16th-Feb. 8th and Mar. 7th-24th).

During the spring recorded from Hayling Bay (1, Apr. 23rd; 2 E, May 5th; 1 E, May 14th), Gilkicker Point (1 E, Apr. 5th and May 10th) and Hill Head (4 E, May 4th; 1 E, May 5th).

Late year records came from Browdown (1, Nov. 15th), Sandy Point (1, Dec. 13th into Chichester Harbour) and Dibden Bay (1, Dec. 20th).

1985: There were 2, not 1, at Warsash on Jan. 11th/12th. Delete the record of 16 W at Sandy Point on Nov. 16th.

Great Northern Diver (A)

Gavia immer

In the early year there were records from Black Point/Hayling Bay/Southsea (1-3, Jan. 2nd-Feb. 7th with 4 together, Black Point, Jan. 25th), North Binness, Langstone Harbour (1 sick, Mar. 10th; found predated next day), Hill Head/Brownwich (1/2, Jan. 1st-9th; 1, Jan. 25th-Feb. 8th, Mar. 1st and 26th), Woolston/Weston Shore/Dibden Bay (1, Jan. 1st, Mar. 7th-10th and Apr. 6th) and Lepe (1, Jan. 8th).

A few were identified on spring passage at Hayling Bay (1 E, May 4th and 16th) and Lepe (2 E, May 4th).

During the late year there were records from Black Point (2, Dec. 11th; 1, Dec. 20th), Langstone Harbour (1, Dec. 24th), Hill Head/Brownwich (1, Nov. 20th-Dec. - 31st with 2, Dec. 6th, 23rd and 24th), Lepe (1 W, Dec. 1st) and Pennington (1, Dec. 29th).

Diver sp. (B)

Gavia sp.

Between Hayling Bay and Lepe there were 21 E and 18 W in the period Jan. 1st-Feb. 15th. Most were noted at Hayling Bay, where the peak counts were of 8 W on Jan. 5th and 4 E on both Feb. 1st and 2nd. Also five were off Black Point on Jan. 26th and one flew E over Old Winchester Hill on Feb. 16th.

Spring passage records involved a minimum of 33 E and 7 W, records coming from Hayling Bay (20 E + 6 W, Mar. 20th-May 17th), Southsea (2 E, May 6th), Gilkicker Point (4 E + 1 W, Apr. 5th-May 10th), Hill Head (6 E, Mar. 18th-May 5th) and Lepe (5 E + 1 W, May 2nd-5th).

In the late year very few: a single W at Lepe on Nov. 2nd and three E at Hill Head on Dec. 24th.

1985: 16 W, Sandy Point, Nov. 16th.

Little Grebe (C)

Tachybaptus ruficollis

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	50	29	18	—	—	—	17	27	30	42
Langstone Harbour	—	9	9	2	—	—	—	4	6	11
Ports Creek	15	12	6	—	—	—	—	24	31	24
Eling/Lower Test	35	35	40	13	15	—	5	14	22	36
Blashford Lakes	2	8	22	—	42	87	57	23	—	5
Longstock/Leckford	51	49	39	—	—	—	—	60	51	59
Winchester College	16	18	20	19	15	—	19	21	26	20

The only other counts of 15+ were: 17, Winnall Moors, Feb. 9th; 25, Eversley G.P., Sept. 6th and 22, Timsbury, Oct. 12th. The high autumn counts at Blashford Lakes are believed to include passage as well as local birds.

74 breeding pairs were reported, including 16 at Blashford Lakes, nine at Timsbury, eight at Eversley G.P. and seven at Winchester College.

1985: Delete the record of two in flight over Winnall; it referred to Great Crested Grebes.

Great Crested Grebe (B)

Podiceps cristatus

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	13	25	18	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	21	19
Langstone Harbour	47	30	15	7	4	2	3	4	12	37	90	73
Gilkicker/Brownwich	50	40	37	6	2	1	1	1	0	2	16	13
Weston/Eling	10	27	126*	3	0	0	0	0	2	—	19	30
Ringwood/Bickton	21	26	35	23	—	28	41	26	19	15	—	17
Tundry Pond	5	0	14	14	22*	22	11	—	6	6	16	13
Fleet Pond	10	3	12	13	3	5	5	3	3	3	20	28
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	17	14	20	—	—	—	—	—	19	11	15	18

Other double figure counts were: 13, Warsash, Jan. 13th; 10, Eastney, Jan. 31st; 13, Sowley Pond, Feb. 5th; 30, Hayling Bay, Feb. 9th and 34 there, Nov. 29th.

Pairs in territory were recorded as follows: Allington G.P., 2; Avon Tyrrell, 1; Blackwater Valley G.P.s (Eversley/Badshot Lea), 22; Bickton (R. Avon), 1; Blashford Lakes, 13; Bramshill, 1; Broadlands Lake, 2; Dogmersfield Lake, 2; Ewhurst Lake, 1; Fawley Reservoir, 2 (the first there); Fleet Pond, 2; Hale (R. Avon), 1; Ibsley (R. Avon), 1; Sowley Pond, 2; Stratfield Saye, 2; Timsbury G.P., 1; Timsbury Lake, 1; Tundry Pond, 7; Wellington C.P., 2. Of the 66 pairs, 37 raised 82 young, 20 definitely failed and for nine the outcome was not recorded.

Red-necked Grebe (A)

Podiceps grisegena

There was a noticeable influx in the early year, records coming from Black Point/Hayling Bay/Southsea (1 on six dates, Jan. 3rd-Mar. 3rd and 2, Black Point, Feb. 22nd and 2, Southsea, Feb. 26th), Browndown (1, Jan. 4th), Hill Head/Brownwich (1, Jan. 9th, Feb. 1st-11th and Mar. 18th), Lepe (1, Jan. 12th), Shepherd Springs, Andover (1, Jan. 21st), Dogmersfield Lake (1, Jan. 28th-Feb. 8th), Keyhaven (1, Feb. 1st), Netley Shore (2, Feb. 7th), Sowley Shore (1, Feb. 22nd), Warsash (2, Feb. 23rd), Eling (1, Mar. 2nd-13th) and Gilkicker Point (1 W, Mar. 29th).

At least five were present in the late year, records coming from Hill Head (1, Oct. 16th), Hayling Bay (1, Oct. 18th; 2, Nov. 22nd; 1, Dec. 13th), Eling (1, Nov. 6th-8th), Black Point (1, Dec. 11th) and Langstone Harbour (1, Dec. 24th).

Slavonian Grebe (B)

Podiceps auritus

Recorded until Apr. 5th and from Nov. 8th. Numbers in the county reached a record level in January and remained high in the following two months.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A		N	D
Black Point/Hayling Bay	26	20	21	0		2	1
Langstone Harbour	5	3	2	0		1	5
Eastney/Southsea	6	3	2	—		—	—
Hill Head	2	1	4	2		1	1

A total of 31 was seen around Hayling Island on Jan. 4th - 19 at Black Point, seven in Hayling Bay and five in Langstone Harbour. Other records came from Lepe (1, Jan. 5th),

Weston/Netley (2, Jan. 5th-13th; 1, Feb. 5th-11th and Apr. 1st), Hurst (1, Jan. 5th and Mar. 14th), Hatchet Pond (1, Jan. 12th), Keyhaven (1, Jan. 14th), Warsash (1, Jan. 15th and Mar. 8th; 2, Mar. 11th), Gilkicker Point (1, Feb. 8th and Mar. 23rd), Needs Ore Point (3, Feb. 15th), Marchwood/Eling (1, Feb. 28th-Mar. 3rd and Nov. 8th-11th), Sowley Pond (1, Nov. 8th), Pennington (2, Dec. 11th) and Calshot (1, Dec. 13th).

Black-necked Grebe (B)

Podiceps nigricollis

Present in Langstone Harbour until Apr. 11th, monthly maxima being Jan., 29; Feb., 38; Mar. 27; Apr., 1. The only other early year records were of singles at Lepe on Jan. 16th, Warsash on Mar. 11th, Fareham Creek on Apr. 10th and Spinnaker Lake (Blashford) on May 10th, and four at Black Point on Feb. 22nd.

Then recorded in Langstone Harbour from Sept. 25th, when two were present, monthly maxima being Sept., 5; Oct., 11; Nov., 32; Dec., 37. The only other records were of singles in Hayling Bay on Dec. 6th and 20th.

Fulmar (B)

Fulmaris glacialis

The only early year record was of one W off Hayling Bay on Jan. 4th.

During the spring recorded from Hayling Bay (21 E + 37 W, Mar. 28th-May 17th, peaks 17 W + 2 E, Apr. 20th and 15 E, May 4th), Southsea (1 W, Apr. 21st), Gilkicker Point (11 W + 3 E, Mar. 21st-May 10th), Hill Head (1, Apr. 21st; 1 E, May 2nd; 3 E, May 21st), Lepe (3 E + 6 W, Apr. 21st-May 4th) and Hurst (2, May 7th and 10th; 1 W, May 25th).

The only other record was of a single W off Lepe on Sept. 16th.

Manx Shearwater (A)

Puffinus puffinus

A good year with 13 individuals seen or found dead.

In spring a flock of six flew W off Hayling Bay on May 4th and two were off Hurst on May 10th. A fresh corpse was found on South Binness island (Langstone Harbour) on June 23rd.

One came in from the E and landed on the sea off Gilkicker Point on July 29th. A storm driven bird was found at Hatherden (Andover) on Sept. 3rd and released, apparently fit, later that evening at Eling. Another corpse, with an elastic band round it, was found at South Binness on Sept. 9th. Finally one flew W off Hill Head on Oct. 30th.

Storm Petrel (A)

Hydrobates pelagicus

One was found exhausted on the container ship *Kowloon Bay* at Southampton Docks after a crossing from Le Havre on Nov. 27th. It was fed and rested overnight, and released south of the Isle of Wight from the same ship the following day (GA, MFG).

Petrel sp. (A)

Hydrobates/Oceanodroma sp.

1984: One was seen in the Solent from a Southampton-Cowes ferry on Nov. 3rd (JL).

Gannet (B)

Sula bassana

There were two early year records of a single W at Hayling Bay on Jan. 2nd and a fresh corpse at Colgrims, Lymington on Jan. 12th.

Again most of the spring records came from Hayling Bay, where there were 111 W + 8 E between Mar. 30th and May 20th, peaks 18 W on Apr. 20th and 79 W on May 10th (HG) -an unprecedented number for the county. Other sightings were Langstone Harbour (oiled corpse, Apr. 4th), Gilkicker Point (1 W + 3 E, May 10th), Hill Head (1 E, May 17th; immature, storm driven, May 20th, later died) and Hurst (2, May 7th).

Records for the rest of the year came from Hayling Bay (2 E, Aug. 30th; 21 E + 4 W, Sept. 13th), Eastney (1, July 16th), Southsea (1 E, July 15th), Gilkicker Point (1 W, July 30th and Aug. 1st; 3, Aug. 6th), Warsash (1, Sept. 14th), Lymington (2 E, July 19th) and Pennington (2 E, Aug. 2nd).

Cormorant (B)

Phalacrocorax carbo

The BTO survey of this species during the winter 1985/86 produced the following totals for the county: Sept., 208; Oct., 354; Nov., 376; Dec., 288; Jan., 308; Feb., 249; Mar., 311; Apr., 165. The peak count of 376 represents about 2% of the British population, the main concentrations being in Southampton Water (174) and the Langstone/Portsmouth Harbours (104).

Monthly maxima at selected localities in 1986:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	42	35	23	—	—	—	—	—	92	131	93	48
Langstone Harbour	31	43	68	36	32	30	36	87	138*	98	75	80
Portsmouth Harbour	8	16	—	—	—	1	1	1	41	43	64	56
Southampton Water	107	75	154	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	172	147
Test Valley	26	19	13	11	2	0	0	0	2	1	12	8
Avon Valley	79*	77	48	36	22	5	5	4	4	15	—	58

The numbers for the eastern harbours are daytime counts; these birds are known to fly out into the Solent at dusk, e.g. 20 were noted roosting on Horse Sand and Nomansland Forts on Apr. 17th. Further observations are needed to ascertain the numbers roosting in the Solent. Southampton Water birds roost on various jetties and cranes off Hythe, Fawley and Netley; birds in this area during the day are augmented by arrivals from inland up the Itchen (max. 5) and Test Valleys. However, some remain in the Test Valley at night, a roost at Bossington holding a maximum of 15 on Jan. 12th. Numbers along the coast west of Southampton Water are low (max. 30 in Jan.), and these mostly fly out at dusk to the Needles area of the Isle of Wight, joining birds from there and Dorset to roost. A few do remain, however, as nine were roosting at Sowley Shore on Dec. 16th. The Avon Valley population is largely self-contained, the birds roosting in two trees at Avon Village and flying up the valley to feed at Blashford Lakes and north to Salisbury. There is some movement to and from Christchurch Harbour but this has not been monitored.

Records from other areas included five flying SE over Liphook on Apr. 14th, and four at Heath Pond (Petersfield) on Feb. 2nd, Fleet Pond on Sept. 4th and Eversley/Yateley G.P.s on Dec. 17th. Smaller numbers were regular at the last three named sites and at Stratfield Saye at both ends of the year.

Shag (A)

Phalacrocorax aristotelis

In the east Solent there were early year records from Black Point (1, Jan. 4th-Feb. 1st), Eastney/Southsea (1-3, Jan. 6th-Mar. 30th), Haslar/Portsmouth Harbour entrance (1-3, Feb. 16th-Mar. 16th), Gilkicker Point (1, Jan. 4th and Mar. 23rd) and Hill Head (1, Apr. 21st). The same individuals may be involved in several of these records. Elsewhere, one was off Mayflower Park (Southampton) on Jan. 5th and a second winter was inland at Blackwater meadows (Hawley) from Feb. 16th to Mar. 2nd.

Late year records were of singles at Hayling Bay on Sept. 13th, Eastney from Nov. 8th to 11th, Hill Head on Dec. 6th and Heath Pond (Petersfield) on Dec. 28th.

Bittern (A)

Botaurus stellaris

Again there was an influx during the cold weather in the early year. Single birds were recorded at Winnall Moors (early Jan.), Broadlands Lake (Jan. 9th and 30th, Feb. 4th, Mar. 7th and 11th), Northfields Farm, Wickham (Jan. 24th), Nether Wallop (Feb. 8th, 13th, 21st

and Mar. 2nd), Twyford (Feb. 25th/26th - following a manure spreader with Black-headed Gulls!), Sluifers Inclosure, N.F. (calling at dusk, Mar. 3rd) and Fleet Pond (Mar. 7th and 9th).

The only late year records came from Fleet Pond with one on 11 dates between Nov. 23rd and Dec. 26th and two on Dec. 27th and 31st.

Cattle Egret (A)

Bubulcus ibis

An adult was present in the Titchfield area from Nov. 4th into 1987 (SC, PMP, BSD *et al.*). It fed with sheep just below Titchfield Village and later during its stay was often found with cattle at Hook Lane. At dusk each day it flew into roost at Titchfield Haven. Accepted by *British Birds*. The first Hampshire record.

Little Egret (A)

Egretta garzetta

One was at Titchfield Haven on Aug. 23rd (DB, MJP) and presumably the same bird at Langstone Harbour on 24th (GF, RAB) and 25th (RWH). The Titchfield Haven sighting has been accepted by *British Birds*.

Purple Heron (A)

Ardea purpurea

An immature was at Lower Pennington on Aug. 21st (GF, EJW).

Grey Heron (C)

Ardea cinerea

Counts of 20+ were recorded at Alresford (33, June 26th), Eling/Bury Marshes (53, Dec. 14th), Itchen Stoke/Itchen Abbas (35, Jan. 20th, but no other count above 19, no doubt due to anti-predator netting at the adjacent trout fishery), Langstone Harbour (48, Oct. 18th - the second highest since 1952; 34, Nov. 16th) and Timsbury (21, Jan. 19th; up to 53, Dec. 6th-31st).

Breeding records (counts of occupied nests) were as follows: Blashford, 7; Elvetham Wood, 11; Fort Elson (Gosport), 49+; Marwell, 16; Ramridge Copse (Weyhill), 16/17; Sopley, 7; Sowley Pond, 37/38; Trotts Wood (Marchwood), 13/14. The Fishers Pond site was deserted due to disturbance, but some pairs presumably moved to the new heronry at nearby Marwell. No counts were made at Hinton Admiral or Tournerbury.

White Stork (A)

Ciconia ciconia

Several records, probably involving more than one individual. On May 30th one flew SW over Burley Lawn (N.F.) (SJ, GB) and on June 26th one was watched soaring high to the S over Winnall Moors (CRC). On July 1st one was seen soaring over Buriton (Petersfield) (DM) and Beaulieu Road Station (MW). Finally on Aug. 15th one was disturbed from stubble at East Wellow (AJ per GCE).

Spoonbill (A)

Platalea leucorodia

An adult at Titchfield Haven on May 3rd and 4th left high to the N at 1550 hrs. on the second day (BSD, RKL). Presumably the same bird was at Farlington Marshes on May 5th (PG). On Oct. 5th an adult and an immature flew from Pilsea Island (W. Sussex) over Hayling at 1253 hrs. (CBC, MAC); they were then seen over Farlington Marshes (GF, JJG) and arrived unseen at Titchfield Haven at about 1300 hrs., where they remained until Oct. 10th (BSD).

Mute Swan (B)*Cygnus olor**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	90	25	42	37	—	—	—	73	74	124	138	135
Langstone Harbour	5	10	9	—	13	31	54	62	41	13	—	—
Canoe Lake, Southsea	32	36	47	25	15	—	—	—	2	16	37	25
Baffins Pond, Portsmouth	20	16	26	—	—	—	—	—	15	26	5	10
Haslar Creek, Portsm'th Hbr.	32	33	31	10	13	7	—	10	19	22	25	17
Titchfield Haven	13	2	10	24	19	22	—	6	10	14	10	5
Itchen Estuary	29	26	35	23	21	59	81	76	42	31	23	29
Eling Great Marsh	4	5	7	4	23	41	106	—	90	7	10	8
Lymington/Hurst	24	8	17	9	9	—	—	—	4	—	14	—
Sopley/Bisterne	37	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	53
Ringwood/Bickton	100	128	163	102	78	50	—	—	36	115	90	138
Woodgreen Hale	166	—	101	—	—	—	—	—	111	159	119	120
Broadlands Estate/Lake	43	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	21	22
Timsbury/Mottisfont	42	26	24	32	12	8	2	15	40	26	18	24
Longstock/Leckford	37	47	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	52	97
M27 G.P. Eastleigh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	36	28	27	24
Alresford Pond	1	0	0	0	4	2	—	24	26	25	25	2
Dogmersfield Lake	30*	27	15	0	2	0	0	0	0	8	11	0
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	50	22	24	—	—	—	—	—	14	32	41	39

The only other count above 20 was of 42 at Houghton on Nov. 3rd.

43 pairs were reported breeding (coast, 15; river valleys, 12; lakes, 9; G.P.s, 6; canals, 1). Of these 28 pairs raised 58 young and six definitely failed.

Bewick's Swan (B)*Cygnus columbianus*

The wintering flock in the Avon Valley continues to expand with a record count of 275 on Jan. 11th (Sopley, 177; Ibsley, 98) and several other counts of 250+ up to Mar. 12th. Birds were present until Mar. 22nd (43) and from Nov. 9th (8) with a single first winter at Ibsley from Apr. 30th to May 10th. Monthly maxima for the main sites and the whole valley are shown below.

	J	F	M	N	D
Woodgreen/Hale	8	0	22	0	0
Ibsley area	260	270*	260	75	210
Sopley/Avon Village	177*	0	4	0	56
Whole Valley	275*	270	260	75	210

Highest counts of first winters were 33 out of 275 on Jan. 11th (12%) and 21 out of 205 on Dec. 26th (10.4%).

Other records were: 32 NW, Farnborough Airfield and 14 overhead, Lymington, Jan. 9th; first winter, Bishopstoke, Jan. 21st; 1 (probably feral), Itchen Stoke area, Jan. 20th-Apr. 14th at least; 27 NW, Southampton, Mar. 12th.

Bewick's/Whooper Swan (A)*Cygnus columbianus/cygnus*

A first winter was seen in flight over Meonstoke on Nov. 2nd.

Bean Goose (A)*Anser fabilis*

One of the race *fabilis* was at Stratfield Saye from Feb. 8th to Mar. 2nd, Wellington C.P. on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st and Tundry Pond on Dec. 24th.

White-fronted Goose (B)*Anser albifrons*

In the Avon Valley numbers showed a steady rise in January, with 450+ on 2nd, 615 on 11th, 612 on 25th and 790 on 31st. In February there were 654 on 9th (including 40 which

arrived from the S) and 650 on 18th. 391 were still present on Mar. 7th, but at 1345 hrs. on this date c. 300 left ENE. The last record was of c. 100 the next day. Returning birds were late and low in number, with only 60 on Dec. 17th rising to 210 by 24th.

Other records included the following: 7, Eling, Jan. 18th; 66 N, Lepe, Feb. 5th; 10, Pennington, Feb. 5th and 8 there, Feb. 15th; 11, Titchfield Haven, Feb. 14th-18th; 2, Stratfield Saye, Feb. 16th-Apr. 6th; 53 E, Keyhaven, Mar. 22nd; 12 W, Hilsea Lines, Oct. 30th (early); c. 50 W, Langstone Harbour, Dec. 23rd.

Greylag Goose (B)

Anser anser

Early and late maxima from the two main localities were: Bransbury/Longstock, 135, Feb. 27th and 78, Nov. 16th; Stratfield Saye, 310, Feb. 20th and 315, Dec. 28th.

Breeding took place at Stratfield Saye with 15 young raised. In the Test Valley three pairs nested at Longparish, three at Bossington and one at Longstock.

Records from 26 other localities (mainly in the Avon and Test Valleys and N.E.) were of less than ten birds apart from 23 at Winnall Moors on Mar. 16th, 20 between Mottisfont and Bossington on Mar. 20th and 27 there on Oct. 7th, and 12 SE over Wellow on Aug. 28th.

Canada Goose (B)

Branta canadensis

Counts in August-November in various areas are shown below (1985 figures in brackets).

Wolverton/Ewhurst Lake	—	(62)
Stratfield Saye/Bramshill area	1850	(2010)
Fleet/Elvetham/Tundry Pond area	510	(460)
Blackwater Valley (Eversley - Badshot Lea)	550	(620)
Petersfield/Liphook area	246	(175)
Itchen Valley (Allington - Alresford)	250	(420)
Test Valley (Eling - St. Mary Bourne)	120	(250)
Avon Valley (Avon Village - Bickton)	325	(350)
Needs Ore/Sowley Pond area	205	(146)
Titchfield Haven	228	(175)
Portsmouth area	56	(79)
TOTALS	4340	(4747)

The 1986 figure is an underestimate, the counts for the Test and Itchen Valleys certainly being lower than the actual numbers present. Record counts were made at Heath Pond, Petersfield (246, Sept. 17th), Sleaford Reservoir, Bordon (159, Sept. 21st), Badshot Lea (271, Oct. 11th) and Titchfield Haven (228, Nov.).

A poor breeding season was indicated by many successful pairs raising only small broods. In the N.E., where coverage was far from complete, 38 pairs raised 85 young and 104 eggs were taken from nests at one site as a control measure. In the Itchen and Test Valleys there were 38 and 17 breeding pairs respectively, and elsewhere in the county there were reports of 17 pairs which raised 64 young.

Brent Goose (B)

Branta bernicla

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	10361	9966	8879	—	—	—	—	—	166	3980	7043	9229
Langstone Harbour	8646	6700	7300	960	38	12	14	11	2000	3000	6108	7753
Portsmouth Harbour	370	1377	156	71	0	0	1	0	23	2347	1541	1708
Hill Head/Chilling	1370	400	580	40	0	0	0	0	13	70	542	1167
Warsash	287	185	270	100+	0	0	0	0	0	5	109	280
Weston Shore	50	12	100	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	37
Fawley/Calshot	735	610	660	3	0	0	0	0	0	63	620	740
Lepe/Needs Ore	490	470	320	451	478	0	0	0	13	500	654	530
Sowley/Lymington	340	160	220	133	0	0	0	0	0	180	120	280
Lymington/Hurst	2046	1600	1105	557	0	0	0	0	40	108	990	1366

As the table shows, exceptional numbers were in the Lepe/Needs Ore area in May, with 478 on 6th, 158 on 16th and 65 on 21st. However, visible movement through the Solent in spring was light, with only 345 E between Mar. 23rd and May 10th. Autumn passage was clearly seen with 32 W over Hilsea on Sept. 24th and 32 W at Pennington the next day. Although late year numbers were at a similar level to 1985 few first winter birds were evident, with four at Langstone Harbour and one at Keyhaven the only ones reported.

Inland, singles were at Eastleigh on Jan. 1st, Sopley on Jan. 2nd, Ibsley on Feb. 1st and Mockbeggar and Ellingham Lakes on Apr. 30th. 30 flew W over Tunworth (Basingstoke) on Oct. 29th.

Single light-breasted birds (*B. b. hrota*) were at Keyhaven on Jan. 18th and Lepe on May 1st and 2nd.

Shelduck (B)

Tadorna tadorna

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	2556	2225	2489	—	—	—	—	—	104	195	640	953
Langstone Harbour	1110	1097	1080	440	107	30	50	13	45	6	108	300
Portsmouth Harbour	6	101	18	66	51	32	10	0	19	7	28	8
Titchfield Haven	21	18	24	29	70	34	10	6	6	1	11	14
Warsash	—	106	95+	18	17	11	2	2	0	0	0	0
Fawley/Calshot	162	152	252	22	202	27	32	5	8	0	53	55
Needs Ore	115	121	107	70	—	—	—	—	50	82	88	110
Sowley/Lymington	235	82	85	150	38	29	12	0	5	6	1	80
Lymington/Hurst	300	392	258	335	64	0	0	0	37	30	—	130
Ringwood/Bickton	5	2	16	9	15	4	8	3	2	2	3	5

Counts at other localities did not exceed 100.

Broods were reported as follows: Langstone Harbour, 4; Paulsgrove R.T., 1; Brownwich/Chilling, 1; Lepe, 1; Sowley/Lymington, 6+; Mockbeggar Lake, 4; Hucklesbrook G.P., 1. Inland, reports of pairs in suitable breeding habitat came from Southwick, Hamer Warren S.P. (Ibsley), Bishop's Dyke, Longcross Plain and Plaitford Common. Other inland records came from Alresford Pond (3, Feb. 16th; 1, Feb. 23rd-Mar. 13th; 2, Apr. 18th-27th; 1 juv., Sept. 29th-Nov. 2nd), Dogmersfield Lake (1, Apr. 28th), Eversley G.P. (2, May 16th/17th), Fleet Pond (1, Jan. 18th), Marsh Court (1, Feb. 23rd and Mar. 16th), Heath Pond, Petersfield (1, Jan. 19th), Holmsley G.P. (2, Feb. 2nd), Sopley/Bisterne (up to 8, Jan. 1st-Apr. 3rd; up to 4, Dec. 21st-31st) and Timsbury G.P. (1, Apr. 21st/22nd).

Mandarin (B)

Aix galericulata

Successful breeding was reported only from Stratfield Saye where a pair raised three young. A female giving a broken wing display at Warwickslade Cutting (N.F.) indicated that a brood was nearby. Elsewhere, reports of pairs in suitable habitat came from Bramshill Common, Fleet Pond, Longstock, Monxton, five New Forest sites, Waggoners Wells and Wellington C.P.

In other months records came from a further eighteen localities, mainly from the New Forest and N.E. Counts over four were made at Fleet Pond (5, Oct. 18th), Leckford (9, Jan. 12th; 6, Feb. 15th), Passfield Pond, Liphook (11, Sept. 7th), Roydon Woods, N.F., (10, Feb. 3rd) and Stratfield Saye (up to 12, Jan.-Mar., 13, June 29th; 36, Aug. 30th; 15, Sept. 21st; 22+, Oct. 5th). Also of note were a drake at Titchfield Haven on Jan. 1st, two there on Oct. 16th and another drake with Wigeon at Eling on Dec. 14th.

Wigeon (B)*Anas penelope*

Despite the cold snap in February numbers were well below the record level of early 1985. Late year numbers were at their normal level.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	1085	525	580	—	—	—	—	—	103	728	860	1013
Langstone Harbour	1256	800	490	27	4	2	2	10	1220	770	800	474
Titchfield Haven	1577	1590	1207	37	2	0	0	3	11	144	650	1070
Eling Great Marsh	300	450	250	2	0	0	0	0	82	128	85	270
Fawley/Calshot	40	68	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	68	35
Needs Ore	580	460	20	0	0	0	0	4	28	210	370	290
Sowley/Lymington	350	270	120	0	0	0	0	0	80	105	60	286
Lymington/Hurst	370	230	150	0	0	0	0	0	23	24	200	185
Sopley/Bisterne	2410+	1000+	750	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	1095
Ringwood/Bickton	2150	2315	417	9	0	0	0	0	5	181	280	1025
Broadlands/Leckford	95	73	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	65
Stratfield Saye	24	61	58	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	9	18

No other coastal site recorded a 50+ count apart from a late year low water roost at Hythe, where there were 475 on Nov. 11th and 340 on Dec. 13th. Inland, the only sites with double figure counts were Avington (up to 14, Jan.-Mar., max. on Feb. 23rd), Dogmersfield Lake (18, Jan. 17th), Fleet Pond (14, Jan. 1st) and River Avon above Fordingbridge (12, Jan. 12th).

Gadwall (B)*Anas strepera*

Numbers declined from the high level of c. 450 in December 1985 to c. 260 in January and February, chiefly due to a large drop at Mockbeggar Lake (Ringwood) and Overton. Numbers were estimated at c. 330 in December.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Titchfield Haven	12	39*	20	7	2	2	1	6	18	30	20	18
Sowley Pond/Needs Ore	18+	15	16	6	—	—	—	—	6	4	9	8
Ringwood/Bickton	61	49	28	7	4	2	2	43	55	115	45	119
Laverstoke/Overton	54	50	28	27	4	—	—	7	6	7	15	44
Allington G.P.	24	20	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	12
Alresford Pond	7	20	24	10	4	1	—	10+	26	9	19	11
Stratfield Saye	2	6	4	4	4	5	—	12	13	18*	2	0
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	21	19	19	8	1	0	0	0	0	13	26	41*

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

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
66	52	75	14	9	9	1	8	1	9	43	81

Double figure counts were made at Bramshill Common (12, Mar. 18th), Dogmersfield Lake (11, Nov. 20th), Fawley/Calshot (18, Dec. 14th), Leckford (max. 20, Dec. 13th), Winchester S.F. (16, Mar. 23rd; 17, Dec. 31st) and Winnall Moors (18, Feb. 9th).

Successful breeding was reported at Winchester S.F. (2 broods, 19 young), Winchester College (1 brood, 3 young) and Polhampton, Overton (2 broods - the first confirmed breeding record from the Test Valley). Breeding was suspected at Alresford Pond, Southington (Overton) and Stratfield Saye and may also have occurred along the coast between Lepe and Lymington, there being summer records from several sites in this area.

Teal (B)*Anas crecca**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	2169	588	573	—	—	—	—	—	576	1072	1834	1526
Langstone Harbour	520	230	357	60	2	17	25	89	412	700	157	309
Portsmouth Harbour	350+	59	30	12	0	0	0	40	252	222	700	230
Titchfield Haven	420	110	182	37	1	37	20	105	59	90	196	161
Warsash	64+	78	77	0	0	0	2	100	48	64	57	62
Fawley/Calshot	1120	740	510	23	0	0	0	111	139	240	810	584
Needs Ore	610	300	35	—	—	—	—	—	320	450	400+	460
Sowley/Lymington	400	130	50	2	0	0	0	0	120+	110	370+	200+
Lymington/Hurst	200	176	200	16	0	3	2	14	140	103	240	240
Sopley/Bisterne	63	100+	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	150
Ringwood/Bickton	260	43	309	7	0	0	0	19	80	150	26	122
Broadlands/Timsbury	39	28	25	20	0	0	0	3	9	40	124	14
Avington	95	75	42	22	1	—	—	—	0	180	175	103
Alresford Pond	75	97	45	—	0	0	0	35	112	95	70	79
Dogmersfield Lake	21	20	3	4	1	0	0	13	25	28	45	140*
Fleet Pond	82*	30	13	6	0	2	1	2	16	35	51	45
Stratfield Saye	93	56	11	9	0	0	3	20	105	106	54	83

Counts of 50+ were also made at Allington G.P. (60+, Jan. 6th), Darkwater, Lepe (93, Aug. 31st; 75+, Sept. 15th; 270, Dec. 29th), Dibden Bay (220, Mar. 8th), Eling/Redbridge (200, Jan. 25th; 106, Dec. 8th), Hillside (50, Dec. 6th), River Avon above Fordingbridge (50+, Jan. 12th), Warnford Park (57, Dec. 14th) and Winchester S.F. (50, Mar. 16th).

Successful breeding was reported from Liss Forest Pond (1 brood, 5 young) and Woolmer (3 broods, 13 young). The only New Forest record even suggestive of breeding was of a drake at Holmsley Bog on May 23rd.

Mallard (B)*Anas platyrhynchos*

Of 29 sites with 100+ counts, eight had their maximum in Jan./Feb., thirteen in Aug.-Oct. and eight in Nov./Dec. Four localities recorded counts of 500+.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	520	486	388	—	—	—	—	—	260	436	640	549
Langstone Harbour	93	143	70	39	30	60	80	111	110	42	45	60
Baffins Pond, Portsmouth	145	270	143	—	—	—	—	—	195	160	213	265
Portsmouth Harbour	115	52	32	27	21	36	105	136	325	280	236	195
Titchfield Haven	236	144	140	—	47	99	75	260	109	133	156	164
Needs Ore	540	390	45	—	—	—	—	—	170	320	480	325
Sowley/Lymington	120	300	—	—	—	—	34	—	70+	40+	120+	100+
Ringwood/Bickton	140	140	120+	—	—	110+	170+	—	620	320+	127	84
Broadlands	490	321	323	32	39	17	19	15	557	870	585	353
Leckford/Longstock	200	37	152	—	—	—	—	—	—	53	320	133
Allington G.P.	290	14	51	10	10	18	26	18	39	45	118	94
Avington	171	165	65	—	46	—	—	—	—	108	235	47
Alresford Pond	97	102	120	—	—	105	165	—	147	250	35	60+
Northington	153	60	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	318	110	175
Stratfield Saye	80	150	75	—	—	50+	200+	250	470	480+	300	200
Dogmersfield Lake	74	157	60	15	41	—	—	185	225	375	150	0
Tundry Pond	64	96	—	—	—	—	—	200+	240	217	150	90
Fleet Pond	507	221	50	30	20	35	35	150	120	162	450	300

Counts did not exceed 200 at any other locality.

Pintail (B)*Anas acuta*

Very high numbers were present in Langstone Harbour at both ends of the year, but elsewhere numbers were low, continuing the trend of recent winters. Present until May 11th (1 m, Titchfield Haven) and from Aug. 4th (1, Langstone Harbour).

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	132	64	137	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	65	88
Langstone Harbour	168	215	255*	—	0	0	0	8	26	52	62	178
Portsmouth Harbour	18	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10	12
Titchfield Haven	3	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Needs Ore	87	44	0	2	0	0	0	0	10	24	72	56
Sowley/Lymington	5	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Lymington/Hurst	1+	12	8	9	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	10
Ringwood/Bickton	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9

Other coastal records came from Dibden Bay (4, Mar. 8th), Fawley/Calshot (max. 19, Dec. 14th), Hythe (2, Nov. 22nd), Lower Test Marshes (2, Nov. 16th), Sinah G.P. (2, Jan. 16th) and Warsash (2, Feb. 25th).

Inland records away from the Ringwood area came from Alresford Pond (1, Jan. 1st and Mar. 6th), Avington (1, Jan. 4th), Bramshill Common (1, Oct. 12th), Dogmersfield Lake (1, Sept. 23rd), Laverstoke (1, Jan. 6th), Nursling (1, Feb. 20th; 3, Feb. 26th), Timsbury (1, Nov. 8th) and Winchester S.F. (2 S, Dec. 1st).

Garganey (A)

Anas querquedula

The only records were of a drake at Pennington Marsh on May 1st, a pair at one locality on June 29th, singles at Farlington Marshes on Aug. 12th, 14th, 20th, Sept. 20th and Oct. 4th, Warsash on Aug. 13th and Fleet Pond on Aug. 24th, with two there on Aug. 30th.

Shoveler (B)

Anas clypeata

Numbers remain at a low level, with Blashford Lakes at Ringwood the only area where counts reached three figures.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	51	45	63	20	3	4	11	30	50	56	42	48
Paulsgrove R.T.	15	19	7	4	0	0	0	2	22	8	22	40
Titchfield Haven	38	56	48	24	0	4	1	24	28	32	25	45
Fawley/Calshot	23	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Needs Ore	32	19	4	4	0	0	0	0	13	8	13	34
Lymington/Hurst	4	41	40	10	2	0	0	0	3	10	14	30
Ringwood/Bickton	150	187	62	16	0	2	0	15	5	23	43	164
Allington G.P.	16	11	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	16
Alresford Pond	6	40	11	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	2	4
Stratfield Saye	0	8	2	0	0	0	1	4	25	24	11	11

Other localities with counts exceeding ten were Avon Village (40, Jan. 25th), Baffins Pond (26, Feb. 15th; 24, Oct. 19th), Dogmersfield Lake (14, Feb. 10th; 12, Aug. 27th), Shepherd Springs, Andover (12, Jan. 4th), Sowley Pond (22, Jan. 24th; 13, Nov. 30th) and Tundry Pond (10, Aug. 26th -Dogmersfield birds; 10-12, Dec. 19th-28th).

Breeding was proved at Winchester S.F. where a brood of ten young was seen between June 29th and July 6th. The last successful breeding was also at this site in 1979.

Red-crested Pochard (A)

Netta rufina

The duck at Dogmersfield Lake in December 1985 remained until Apr. 13th and was also seen at Fleet Pond on Jan. 4th, 19th and 26th, and at Hillside on Feb. 26th. At Blashford Lakes a drake was seen on Jan. 25th/26th, Mar. 14th, June 13th/14th and Dec. 21st/22nd, and a female on July 4th and 28th. Elsewhere there were single ducks at Alresford Pond on June 15th and Heath Pond, Petersfield on Sept. 28th.

Pochard (B)*Aythya ferina**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Sinah G.P.	140	159	153	—	—	—	—	—	12	87	79	82
Titchfield Haven	26	111	77	1	0	0	1	0	3	7	9	20
Fawley Reservoir	108	260	45	0	0	0	0	6	10	0	72	69
Sowley Pond	65	69	15	2	0	0	0	2	28	27	32	120
Ringwood/Bickton	348	275	166	11	2	3	14	18	13	114	101	317
Broadlands Lake	55	45	86	67	3	2	0	0	1	14	6	8
Timsbury G.P.	106	85	65	40	10	26	20	25	20	16	120	146
Allington G.P.	52	108	19	2	0	4	4	0	6	11	37	58
Alresford Pond	52	40	39	17	2	5	5	5	0	15	5	18
Fleet Pond	176	90	12	7	3	3	4	1	2	21	48	45
Tundry Pond	43	24	62	17	0	0	0	0	0	4	66	45
Dogmersfield Lake	144	101	53	5	4	2	0	3	11	42	40	0
Stratfield Saye	87	113	88	10	—	1	0	0	0	3	40	70
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	40	46	39	5	—	—	1	—	2	15	40	81

Other localities with counts exceeding 40 were Highwood Reservoir, Allington (42, Feb. 12th), IBM Lake, Cosham (max. 42, Nov. 15th), Netley Shore (150+, Feb. 10th and 30 still there, Mar. 9th), River Avon at Avon Village (46, Jan. 25th; 53, Dec. 31st), River Avon above Fordingbridge (40, Jan. 12th), River Test at Mottisfont (110, Feb. 24th; 47, Dec. 24th), Salterns Pond, Lymington (40, Jan. 22nd), Wellington C.P. (max. 50, Dec. 14th) and Winchester S.F. (118, Mar. 16th).

Broods were reported as follows: Alresford Pond, 5; Ellingham Lake, 1 (the first successful breeding record for the Avon Valley), Fleet Pond, 1; Longstock, 1; Timsbury, 6.

Ring-necked Duck (A)*Aythya collaris*

The drake present in November and December 1985 remained in the Ash Vale G.P. area until Apr. 16th; it was mostly resident on the Surrey side of the border but occasionally moved to Hampshire water (m.o.). What was presumably the same bird was seen at Fleet Pond on May 17th (JMCK) and at Dogmersfield Lake on May 19th (MASc). It returned on Sept. 9th, taking up residence at Frimley G.P. (Surrey) where it remained into 1987 apart from a brief visit to Dogmersfield Lake on Sept. 14th (PMT). All records accepted by *British Birds*.

1985: The Blashford record has been accepted by *British Birds* and is the fourth for Hampshire.

Ferruginous Duck (A)*Aythya nyroca*

The duck at Eversley G.P. in late December 1985 was relocated there on Jan. 26th, remaining until the water froze on Feb. 8th (JMCK *et al.*). After the thaw it was refound at Yateley G.P. on Mar. 16th (CDT). In autumn another or the same duck was at Dogmersfield Lake on Sept. 16th (MASc, KBW), Frimley G.P. (Surrey) on 18th, Dogmersfield again on 19th and finally at Fleet Pond on 21st.

Tufted Duck (B)*Aythya fuligula**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Sinah G.P.	162	153	100	—	—	—	—	—	7	34	47	53
Paulsgrove R.T./IBM Lake	68	77	15	8	0	2	0	0	0	2	12	52
Fawley Reservoir	89	82	43	0	0	0	0	6	21	—	61	48
Sowley Pond	31	36	5	12	2	0	2	—	24	12	41	54
Ringwood/Bickton	376	190	295	245	—	—	207	206	197	154	—	219
Woodgreen/Hale	53	0	76	—	—	—	—	—	8	3	16	30

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Broadlands Estate/Lake	138	164	119	25	24	14	12	9	5	18	49	42
Timsbury G.P.	190*	120	120	60	45	42	6	45	46	25	125	180
Leckford/Longstock	84	90	38	—	—	—	—	—	0	15	31	11
Rooksbury Mill	6	0	14	—	—	—	—	—	6	38	35	47
Charlton G.P./Shep'd Springs	69	55	21	—	—	—	—	—	30	38	43	48
Allington G.P.	80	74	64	30	32	19	16	5	27	25	55	97*
Highwood Reservoir	94	97*	69	11	—	—	—	8	14	37	50	59
Winnall Moors	79	76	42	43	10	—	—	—	—	—	36	—
Alresford Pond	44	50	20	17	14	—	2	1	1	3	20	30
Dogmersfield Lake	94*	85	83	25	23	11	4	21	40	50	12	0
Stratfield Saye	119	125	117	79	—	40	15	25	60	57	75	65
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	240	317*	300	—	—	—	—	—	61	95	97	233

Cold weather movements to the sea and rivers during February included 53 at Langstone Harbour entrance and 80 at Netley Shore on 10th, and 150+ at Mottisfont on 26th. Other localities where counts reached 40 were Fleet Pond (max. 72, Jan. 18th), King's Pond, Alton (40, Feb. 25th), Overton (max. 77, Apr. 27th), Titchfield Haven (max. 59, Mar.) and Wellington C.P. (max. 73, Dec. 14th).

Broods were reported as follows: Alresford Pond, 1; Blashford Lakes, 20; Bossington, 2; Broadlands Estate/Lake, 2; Eversley G.P., 14; Farlington Marshes, 1 (first record there); North Warnborough, 1; Overton Ponds, 1; Quidhampton (Overton), 1; St. Mary Bourne, 1+; Shepherd Springs, 1; Sleaford Reservoir (Bordon), 2; Springhead (Greywell), 3; Stockbridge Common, 1; Stratfield Saye, 5; Timsbury, 7; Wellhouse Farm Pond (Bramshill), 1; Winnall Moors, 1; Yateley G.P., 4+.

Scaup (A)

Aythya marila

The cold weather in the early year produced a flock of 38 (12 m), one of the largest ever seen in the county, at Tanners Lane (Lymington) on Feb. 9th (EJW) and a small influx at other localities. Records came from Sinah G.P. (1-5, Jan. 19th-Mar. 9th, max. Feb. 8th-16th), Langstone Harbour entrance (4 f + 1 m, Feb. 15th - the Sinah birds), Southsea Castle (1 W, Feb. 16th), Paulsgrove Reclamation (2, Jan. 25th), Gosport/Haslar (1, Feb. 13th, 23rd, Mar. 14th and 15th), Titchfield Haven (1, Feb. 11th/12th), Gilkicker Point (pr W, Mar. 23rd), Netley/Lower Test Marshes (up to 6 f + 1 m, Feb. 4th-Mar. 28th, max. on Feb. 22nd), Ashlett Creek (1 m, Feb. 6th), Sowley Pond (1, Jan. 29th), Sowley Shore (3 m, Feb. 22nd), Pennington/Keyhaven (1 f + 2 m, Mar. 1st/2nd), Snails Lake, Blashford (1, Jan. 1st-6th), Dogmersfield Lake (1 m, Jan. 1st-Feb. 11th, seen also at Fleet Pond on Jan. 22nd, Eversley G.P. on Jan. 26th and Yateley G.P. from Feb. 13th-20th) and Eversley G.P. (1/2, Mar. 20th-28th).

A pair flew E at Hill Head on May 2nd.

In the late year the only records were of singles at Langstone Harbour on Oct. 12th and Sinah G.P. on Nov. 29th.

All were females unless otherwise stated.

Eider (A)

Somateria mollissima

A good flock was present at Black Point/Hayling Bay in the early months, with maxima of 23 on Jan. 4th and 25 on Feb. 1st, 15th and 16th but only one was seen in Mar. on 23rd. Otherwise it was a poor year. The only other records at this time were from Southsea (5 W, Jan. 3rd), Hill Head (up to 3, Jan. 1st-19th), Warsash (1, Jan. 11th, Feb. 25th and Mar. 11th), Sowley Shore (4, Feb. 2nd), Tanners Lane (5, Feb. 9th), Pennington (4, Jan. 4th) and Hurst (2, Jan. 11th).

In spring there were two at Pennington on Apr. 6th, one there on Apr. 12th and 13th, ten off Southsea on Apr. 17th, one E off Gilkicker Point on Apr. 26th, three W off Hill Head on May 5th and two in Hayling Bay on May 11th.

The only late year records were from Hayling Bay (2 W, Dec. 27th), Langstone Harbour (1, Dec. 24th), Hill Head (up to 5, Sept. 29th-Oct. 18th and Dec. 7th-31st) and Pennington (1, Nov. 23rd).

Long-tailed Duck (A)

Clangula hyemalis

In the early year recorded at Tournerbury (3, Mar. 8th), Black Point (1 m + 2 f, Jan. 1st-18th; 1, Feb. 16th; 2, Mar. 28th), Langstone Harbour (1, Jan. 11th; 2, Jan. 16th; 3, Feb. 15th; 4, Feb. 16th and 19th; 5, Feb. 22nd; 4, Mar. 19th), Weston Shore (1 f, Jan. 8th; 1 m, Mar. 7th), Marchwood (1 m, Mar. 2nd) and Oxy Creek, Lymington (1, Jan. 26th, Feb. 8th, Mar. 29th, 31st and Apr. 12th). Spring passage was indicated by records of single females from Hill Head (Apr. 17th and E on May 4th), Langstone Harbour (Apr. 26th-May 15th) and Hurst (Apr. 27th).

The only late year records came from Hill Head with singles E on Nov. 20th and offshore on Dec. 23rd/24th.

Common Scoter (B)

Melanitta nigra

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
On sea	10	17	0	1	153	50	0	2	9	3	44	1
Flying E	0	2	4	150	315	0	0	3	144	5	0	0
Flying W	12	5	10	7	2	0	7	18	5	2	2	0

The only double figure counts in the early year were of ten W off Browndown on Jan. 4th and 15 at Sowley Shore on Feb. 15th.

A poor total of 469 E was recorded on spring passage between Mar. 20th and May 18th with peaks of 74 E, Hurst, May 2nd and 45 E, Hayling Bay, May 15th. Off passage flocks were only evident at Hurst with a peak of 45 on May 6th. Inland, single females were at Frensham Great Pond on Apr. 1st and 12th.

Mid summer records were of c. 50 off Pennington on June 22nd and seven W at Oxy (Lymington) on July 5th.

Autumn passage was reported between Aug. 2nd and Sept. 30th but numbers were small apart from 133+ E off Hurst and Keyhaven on Sept. 14th. Thereafter, records were of one to four birds apart from 40 at Warsash on Nov. 4th.

Velvet Scoter (A)

Melanitta fusca

None was recorded until March when four flew E off Southsea on 9th and a drake W off Gilkicker Point on 21st.

A small spring passage was noted as follows: 2 E, Hurst and Hayling Bay, Apr. 23rd; 3 E, Southsea, Apr. 24th; 6 E, Hurst, Apr. 25th and 3 there, May 5th; 1 E, Hayling Bay, May 8th.

Late year records were of a female at Warsash on Nov. 13th and Dec. 11th, a pair at Hill Head on Nov. 30th, a female at Weston Shore on Dec. 1st and 6th and a drake there on Dec. 10th.

Goldeneye (B)

Bucephala clangula

Present until May 10th (1 m, Fareham Creek) and from Oct. 18th (1, Langstone Harbour).

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	42	46	100	—	—	—	—	—	0	0	23	23
Langstone Harbour	49	52	51	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	29	35
Portsmouth Harbour	13	25	12	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	17	7

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Netley/Lower Test	25	60	55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	13
Lymington/Hurst	7	10	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Ringwood/Bickton	32	41	46	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	1+	19

Elsewhere on the coast records were of one to four birds at five sites.

Away from the Ringwood area, inland records came from Bishopstoke (1, Feb. 12th), Broadlands Lake (1, Jan. 30th, Nov. 14th and Dec. 19th), Eversley G.P. (5, Jan. 1st-7th; 1-3, Jan. 12th-Feb. 2nd; 1, Nov. 16th-23rd), Heath Pond, Petersfield (1, Jan. 19th and Feb. 6th) and Tundry Pond (1, Jan. 23rd).

Smew (A)

Mergus albellus

In the early year, coastal records came from IBM Lake/Paulsgrove Reclamation (1/2, Jan. 1st-Mar. 12th), Titchfield Haven (2, Jan. 10th; 1, Feb. 16th), Needs Ore (1, Jan. 19th), Keyhaven (1, Feb. 8th) and Eling (6 (2 m), Feb. 22nd/23rd; 1 m, Mar. 2nd/3rd).

Inland records came from Timsbury G.P. (1, Jan. 10th), Eversley G.P. (1, Feb. 2nd-4th), Hatchet Pond, N.F. (1, Feb. 8th), Blashford Lakes (1, Feb. 9th-24th; 3, Feb. 27th; 8 (5 m), Mar. 5th), River Itchen at Bishopstoke (1, Mar. 2nd), River Test at Timsbury (6 (1 m), Mar. 2nd), River Test at Mottisfont (3, Mar. 7th) and Wellington C.P. (1, Mar. 7th).

In the late year the only records were of singles at Tundry Pond from Nov. 20th to 22nd and at Yateley G.P. from Dec. 29th to 31st. No birds were present at the regular IBM Lake/Paulsgrove Reclamation site for the first time in six years.

All were redheads unless otherwise stated.

Red-breasted Merganser (B)

Mergus serrator

Present until May 10th (2, Langstone Harbour and 2, Keyhaven) and from Sept. 27th (3, Langstone Harbour).

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester harbour	32	24	41	—	—	—	—	—	0	0	68	126
Langstone Harbour	29	30	104	53	2	0	0	0	3	49	77	131
Portsmouth Harbour	7	25	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	51
Hill Head/Brownwich	18	30	14	18	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	6
Netley/Eling	33	25	17	12	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	26
Lymington/Hurst	26	22	5	6	2	0	0	0	0	1	14	22

The only other coastal localities with double figure counts were Black Point/Hayling Bay (up to 38 in Dec.) and Calshot (11, Apr. 13th).

A small spring passage was recorded with 62 E and 14 W between Apr. 4th and May 5th, mainly observed from Hayling Bay, Gilkicker Point and Hurst.

Goosander (B)

Mergus merganser

In the Wellington C.P. area numbers were low in January but rose to the normal level of recent years with the onset of cold weather at the end of the month. Elsewhere numbers were a little above average and at some sites birds remained for much longer than usual. Half monthly totals are shown in the table below.

	Jan 1-15	Jan 16-31	Feb 1-14	Feb 15-28	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30
Wellington C.P. area	4	4	30	31	29	23	8	1
Elsewhere	5	5	6	4	12	9	1	2

In the Wellington area selected counts were: 21 (6 m), Eversley G.P., Feb. 2nd; 30 (14 m) roosting, Wellington C.P., Feb. 2nd; 31 (10 m) roosting, Stratfield Saye, Feb. 23rd; 1, Strat-

field Saye, Apr. 19th and 20th. Other records came from Sowley Pond (3, Jan. 1st-Feb. 8th; 2, Apr. 19th), Blashford Lakes (pr., Jan. 12th; 1 m, Feb. 9th; up to 6, Feb. 14th-Mar. 16th), Eling (1, Jan. 17th and Mar. 18th), Fleet Pond (1, Jan. 26th and Mar. 11th), Titchfield Haven (1, Feb. 7th-Mar. 1st), River Itchen at Northam (3 (2 m) S, Mar. 8th), River Avon at Bisterne (1, Mar. 8th and 16th), River Avon above Fordingbridge (3, Mar. 16th), Broadlands Lake (2, Mar. 18th) and Tundry Pond (1, Apr. 13th). All were redheads unless otherwise stated.

In the late year there were up to four drakes and one redhead in the Wellington area from Dec. 9th-31st, two drakes and two redheads at Titchfield Haven on Dec. 9th and single redheads at Fareham Creek on Dec. 25th and at Titchfield Haven on Dec. 28th.

Ruddy Duck (A)

Oxyura jamaicensis

At Blashford Lakes the records were: 1 f, Mar. 8th; 1 m, May 10th and 18th; up to 7 m in June; up to 11 (3 m) in July; 3 (1 m), Aug. 31st; 2 prs., Sept. 4th; 7 (2 m), Sept. 14th and Oct. 12th; 5 (2 m), Oct. 31st; 11 (4 m), Nov. 22nd. Other records came from Hill Head (7, Feb. 8th), Southsea (1 m, Feb. 22nd), Potbridge Fishery, Odiham (1 m, Mar. 19th), Eversley G.P. (1 f, Mar. 26th/27th), Fleet Pond (1 f, Apr. 5th), Timsbury (1 m, May 25th and July 27th), Sowley Pond (1 f, Oct. 18th; pr., Nov. 15th) and Eling (1 m, Nov. 23rd).

Honey Buzzard (C)

Pernis apivorus

One flew SSW over Titchfield Haven on Sept. 5th (BSD, DW) and two moved SW over Timsbury on Sept. 14th (DAT).

Black Kite (A)

Milvus migrans

One flew S over Ashley Walk (N.F.) at 1500 hrs. on June 12th (MR). Accepted by *British Birds*. The second Hampshire record.

Red Kite (A)

Milvus milvus

One was watched soaring over Titchfield Haven at 1235 hrs. on Mar. 17th and left W later (BSD, RKL, MJP), and another moved N over Headley into Berkshire at 1100 hrs. on Apr. 30th (JAN).

Marsh Harrier (A)

Circus aeruginosus

More records were received than in 1985.

A male was at Needs Ore on Jan. 16th and a female/immature moved NW over Keyhaven on Apr. 23rd.

In autumn records came from Farlington Marshes (1 W, Aug. 12th; 1 juv., Sept. 9th; 1, Sept. 12th; 2 (1 m), Sept. 14th), Titchfield Haven/Lee-on-the-Solent (single female/immatures on Sept. 4th, 5th, 12th and 16th - at least two individuals involved) and Hurst/Pennington (1 m, Aug. 16th; 1 female/immature, Sept. 13th-15th).

Hen Harrier (B)

Circus cyaneus

Recorded until Apr. 26th (singles, New Forest and Titchfield Haven) and from Oct. 16th (1, New Forest).

Minimum monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	O	N	D
Coastal sites	3	3	2	1	1	1	0
New Forest/Avon Valley	9	10	5	3	2	4	5
Elsewhere inland	4	4	6	0	1	0	3

Away from the New Forest, records came from Langstone Harbour (male, Jan. 16th;

ringtail, Jan. 17th), Keyhaven area (male regularly, Jan. 18th-Mar. 12th), Needs Ore Point (ringtail, Feb. 1st), Warsash (ringtail, Feb. 6th), Titchfield Haven (ringtails, Mar. 7th and Apr. 26th), Sinah Common (1 S, Oct. 18th), East Hayling Shore (ringtail, Nov. 8th), Old Winchester Hill area (male and ringtail regularly, Jan. 4th-Mar. 9th), Woolmer (male and ringtail regularly, Jan. 19th-Mar. 1st; male, Oct. 30th), Fawley Down (male SW, Jan. 19th), Tidpit (male, Mar. 6th), Bramshill Common (ringtail, Mar. 18th), Tunworth (male N, Mar. 30th), Wootton St. Lawrence (ringtail, Dec. 7th) and Broughton (male and ringtail, Dec. 17th-24th).

Records of birds sexed indicate that a minimum of 14 adult males and 12 ringtails were present in the early year but only five adult males and five ringtails in the late year.

Montagu's Harrier (C)

Circus pygargus

In spring a male was in the New Forest on May 12th and 14th (JW *et al*). Autumn produced a ringtail at Sowley which flew towards the Isle of Wight on Aug. 19th (RFC) and another ringtail at Keyhaven Marsh on Aug. 28th/29th (JE, MR).

Sparrowhawk (C)

Accipiter nisus

Breeding season records for areas outside the New Forest refer to at least 56 pairs in territory, 16 of which were proved breeding.

Buzzard (C)

Buteo buteo

Coastal records came from Lymington/Keyhaven (singles, Jan. 11th, 18th, 19th (probably the same bird), Sept. 13th, 17th and Oct. 17th), Southampton Water/Titchfield Haven (1, Mar. 2nd; 2, Apr. 5th; singles, Sept. 14th, 23rd, 27th, Oct. 15th and Nov. 25th), Portsmouth Harbour (1, Aug. 12th) and Lepe (2, Sept. 19th).

In the New Forest, 19, possibly 21, pairs were located in territory. Nine pairs bred, of which seven raised ten young and two failed. Four pairs did not breed, and for the remaining six the results of any attempted nesting are not known.

Elsewhere in the county, minimum monthly totals were as follows:

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
11	5	8	5	9	5	8	12	28	7	7	7

These involve records from 52 localities, at many on one date only. Records at least suggestive of breeding came from 13 localities, 11 in the west of the county, one in the N.E. and one in the S.E. The high Sept. total indicates passage/dispersal (*cf.* coastal records) and included the highest count recorded - five soaring over Andover Airfield on 22nd.

Osprey (A)

Pandion haliaetus

Single birds were recorded as follows: flying N, Langstone Harbour, Apr. 11th; Old Winchester Hill, Apr. 15th; Lymington Estuary, Apr. 26th; flying E, Pennington, May 17th; flying SE, Langstone Harbour, Sept 11th and NE there, Sept. 18th.

Kestrel (C)

Falco tinnunculus

Breeding season records refer to at least 58 pairs in territory, 19 of which were proved breeding.

One flying in from the S at Hill Head on Aug. 11th and at Timsbury, three on Mar. 16th, four on Mar. 23rd and six on Oct. 18th suggest spring and autumn influxes. On Oct. 18th birds were well spread over the Test Valley and appeared to be discrete individuals rather than a family.

Merlin (B)*Falco columbarius*

Recorded until Apr. 23rd (1, Hurst Beach) and from Sept. 4th (1, Titchfield Haven).

Minimum monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	S	O	N	D
Coastal sites	6	5	3	3	4	5	4	3
New Forest	4	1	2	2	0	2	1	6
Elsewhere inland	1	3	4	1	3	0	1	4

Coastal records were exclusively from three areas: Langstone Harbour, Titchfield Haven/Southampton Water and Lymington/Hurst, with one or two birds fairly regular in each at both ends of the year.

Away from the New Forest, inland records (all of singles) came from Bickerley Common, Ringwood (Jan. 12th), Ladle Hill (Feb. 5th), near Greywell (Feb. 14th and Dec. 16th), Fordingbridge (Feb. 26th), Ibsley (Mar. 2nd, Nov. 30th, Dec. 22nd and 30th), Facombe (Mar. 6th), Chidden (Mar. 6th), East Hoe (Mar. 13th), Petersfield (Apr. 6th), near Meonstoke (Sept. 5th), near Corhampton (Sept. 26th), South Warnborough (Sept. 28th) and Whitewdown, Wootton St. Lawrence (Dec. 13th).

Records of birds sexed indicate that at least seven adult males and 13 female/immatures were present in the early year and six adult males and seven female/immatures in the late year.

Hobby (B)*Falco subbuteo*

The first and last occurrences were in the New Forest on Apr. 20th and Oct. 4th. Coastal migrants were recorded between Apr. 22nd-May 23rd and Aug. 24th-Sept. 20th; minimum monthly totals are shown below.

Apr	May	Aug	Sep
3	8	3	8

During the breeding season pairs or singles were recorded from at least 40 sites; ten pairs were known to have raised at least 16 young.

Peregrine (B)*Falco peregrinus*

The welcome increase in observations continues. The majority of reports came from two coastal areas and are summarised below.

Southampton Water: A male was at Eling throughout January and February. A female at Dibden Bay in January was presumably the one which joined the Eling male in early March. Both birds were finally seen at Dibden Bay on Mar. 23rd (male) and 31st (female). A male at Eling on Sept. 4th and a female at Western Docks and Brownich cliffs on Sept. 17th were the first autumn records. Bird(s) were subsequently recorded on a further 15 dates up to Dec. 23rd and included both on Oct. 26th, Nov. 8th and 20th.

Lymington/Keyhaven: Singles on Jan. 3rd, 11th, Feb. 8th, Apr. 9th, 28th and July 1st, 13th and 23rd. Then an adult and/or an immature on at least 15 dates between Aug. 24th and Dec. 27th.

Other records were (singles unless otherwise stated): male, Fawley Down (Winchester), Jan. 19th; imm., Langstone Harbour, Jan. 24th and 31st; Cheriton, Jan. 31st; imm., Southwick, Feb. 18th; Needs Ore, Feb. 18th; 2, Exbury, Mar. 13th; imm. male, Bratley Plain (N.F.), Mar. 17th; female S, Hayling Bay, May 15th; Beaulieu Road, June 28th; female, Farlington Marshes, Aug. 24th; Martin Down, Sept. 10th; Farlington Marshes, Dec. 3rd; adult, Ashley Warren, Dec. 27th; male, Cheesefoot Head, Dec. 28th.

Red-legged Partridge (D)*Alectoris rufa*

Grey Partridge (C)*Perdix perdix*

The largest numbers reported were: 80, Timsbury, Feb. 2nd; 70 (a minimum total), Greywell/Hillside, Dec.; a single covey of 35, Old Winchester Hill, Oct. 12th.

One appeared in a garden at Bitterne (Southampton) on May 18th and 15 were in a Winchester garden, at least one mile from "normal" Partridge habitat on Oct. 4th.

Quail (B)*Coturnix coturnix*

Recorded at five sites between May and August but at three of these heard on one date only.

Pheasant (D)*Phasianus colchicus***Golden Pheasant (A)***Chrysolophus pictus*

Two males were heard at Oxenbourne Down (Petersfield) on May 10th and on the same date a male was seen at Exbury.

Lady Amherst's Pheasant (A)*Chrysolophus amherstiae*

A single male was at Exbury on May 16th, 20th and Oct. 31st.

Water Rail (C)*Rallus aquaticus*

Breeding pairs/territories were located as follows: Fleet Pond, 1; Romsey, 1; Titchfield Haven, 6; Warsash, 1; Woolmer Pond, 1. Single birds were also seen or heard at two other sites in May.

At Farlington Marshes the last spring record was on Apr. 7th with the first return there on July 7th. At Fleet Pond, 12 on Feb. 21st, 15 on Mar. 2nd and c. 20 in Dec. were the most recorded at a single locality.

1985: Delete the record of three territories at Winnall Moors.

Spotted Crake (A)*Porzana porzana*

One was at Farlington Marshes on Apr. 5th (PMP). The first spring record since 1976.

Moorhen (C)*Gallinula chloropus*

Localities where counts exceeded 50 were Titchfield Haven (93, Jan. 1st; 102, Feb. 10th), Leckford/Longstock (53, Jan. 12th), Timsbury (80, Feb. 16th), Tundry Pond (70, Dec. 5th, 60, Dec. 27th) and Bishopstoke (50+, Dec. 27th).

At Titchfield Haven 32 breeding territories were located.

Coot (C)*Fulica atra*

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	413	68	228	—	—	—	—	—	56	97	61	72
Farlington Marshes	60	101	79	34	—	—	—	—	28	—	—	—
Paulsgrove R.T.	111	128	40	29	23	32	—	4	8	14	46	65
Titchfield Haven	136	113	38	34	26	42	42	14	27	—	40	35
Eling/Lower Test	122	100	100	—	—	—	—	16	—	46	70	70
Ringwood/Bickton	660	540	370	146	—	—	360	605	670	1010	—	980
Broadlands Lake	142	75	69	36	30	30	44	45	30	23	6	8
Timsbury	105	90	60	60	40	30	30	55	110	115	120	135
Alresford Pond	—	—	—	—	—	25	90	—	155	211	196	38
Dogmersfield Lake	249	210	79	44	26	28	66	136	130	89	95	0
Yateley/Eversley G.P.s	388	270	174	—	—	—	—	—	193	235	257	305

The only other sites with counts exceeding 100 were Baffins Pond, Portsmouth (max. 112, Feb. 15th), Sinah G.P. (max. 102, Feb. 28th) and Stratfield Saye (max. 185, Feb. 20th).

At least 80 pairs bred at Blashford Lakes including 40+ on Mockbeggar Lake. A pair raised two albino chicks at Farlington Marshes.

Crane (A)

Grus grus

One was seen soaring over the Kench (Hayling) at 0925 hrs. on Oct. 12th (PMP, GCS). It left NW and was later seen on the ground at Titchfield Haven (m.o.) and then flying E over Farlington Marshes (PG). Accepted by *British Birds*.

Oystercatcher (C)

Haematopus ostralegus

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	813	1132	703	—	—	—	—	—	707	1391	1065	698
Langstone Harbour	1150	1328	846	492	620	425	460	1230	1400	1380	2060*	1340
Portsmouth Harbour	479	163	10	83	14	3	66	310	372	356	140	88
Titchfield Haven	132	111	108	—	32	52	68	94	130	130	144	100
Warsash	—	100	—	130	10	—	—	230	300	107	250	81
Eling Great Marsh	27	37	29	47	27	37	4	—	3	52	45	97
Fawley/Calshot	230	275	340	200	120	84	90	200	390	250+	300	110
Needs Ore area	89	92	45	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lymington/Hurst	94	35	98	73	37	17	24	70	46	65	55	82

Evidence of spring passage was given by birds heard moving N/NW over Portsdown Hill on six dates between Mar. 6th and May 14th. The only other inland records were of singles heard over Church Crookham at 0005 hrs. on July 12th, at Eversley G.P. on July 26th and at Ivy Lake on Aug. 17th.

Breeding records were: Langstone Harbour islands, 34 pairs; Titchfield Haven, 1; Warsash, 1; Upper Hamble C.P., 1; Calshot Power Station, 4; Cadland Creek, 1; Needs Ore, 4+; Pitts Deep-Hurst, 51.

Avocet (A)

Recurvirostra avosetta

In the early year two were at Paulsgrove Reclamation from Jan. 2nd-6th and singles were at Eling from Jan. 12th-Mar. 15th and in the Keyhaven/Pennington area from Feb. 9th-Mar. 15th.

In spring two flew E past Gilkicker Point on Mar. 21st, one was at Langstone Harbour from Mar. 25th-31st, 14 were there on May 2nd and one on June 15th and 27th.

Autumn records were of one at Titchfield Haven on Sept. 20th, two at Pennington on Oct. 8th and one at Langstone Harbour on Oct. 31st.

Stone Curlew (C)

Burhinus oedicnemus

Apart from breeding records the only reports were of one flying N over Timsbury at dusk on May 15th, one flying SW low over Basingstoke on July 29th, at least three heard at Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 21st, at least two heard in fog at Tunworth on Oct. 5th and four in a breeding area on Oct. 17th.

Little Ringed Plover (B)

Charadrius dubius

The first was one at Bramshill (Warren Heath) on Mar. 10th (GPG) and presumably the same bird at nearby Wellington C.P. the next day. This is the earliest yet for the county. Records of spring migrants on the coast came from Farlington Marshes (1 NW, Mar. 13th; 1 E, Apr. 8th; 1, Apr. 27th; 2, May 1st; 1, May 2nd and 13th) and Gilkicker Point (1 W, Mar. 25th).

During the breeding season 21-25 pairs were present at 11 sites; breeding was proved at seven of these with at least seven pairs raising young.

The first return to the coast was a juv. at Oxy Marsh on June 29th. Thereafter records came from Farlington Marshes (1/2, July 8th-Aug. 14th), Titchfield Haven (2, July 12th; 4, Aug. 13th; 1/2, Aug. 15th-24th; 1, Sept. 4th, 21st and Oct. 2nd - a late date), Paulsgrove R.T. (2, July 15th; 1, July 28th; 4, Aug. 7th) and Warsash (1, Aug. 24th).

1985: One was roosting with Ringed Plovers at Warsash on Mar. 12th (DAC). At the time, the earliest record for the county.

Ringed Plover (B)

Charadrius hiaticula

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	203	93	77	—	—	—	—	—	192	507	624	585
Langstone Harbour	640	185	262	98	75	75	70	928	662	550	450	460
Portsmouth Harbour	6	7	0	8	2	—	—	304	290	147	15	68
Warsash	80+	114	105	22	14	—	19	253	132	280	152	100
Fawley/Calshot	220	60	130	10	4	6	16	205	295	170	160	130
Lymington/Hurst	29	24	50	8	14	—	12	132	106	52	110	67

Also of note were 100 roosting at H.M.S. Daedalus (Lee-on-the-Solent) on Nov. 6th, 85 at Eastney beach on Oct. 21st and 84 at Lepe on Sept. 21st.

Breeding records from the coast were: Langstone Harbour islands, 38 pairs; Paulsgrove R.T., 1; Browndown, 1; Warsash, 2; Southampton Western Docks, 1; Dibden Bay, 2; Calshot, 4; Pitts Deep-Hurst, 29.

Spring records inland included one at Eversley G.P. on Mar. 11th (found dead on 16th), two at Ibsley from Mar. 12th-25th with three on 14th, singles at Winchester S.F. on Mar. 16th, Blackbushe Airfield on Apr. 13th and Timsbury G.P. on Apr. 16th, with three there on Apr. 20th. Breeding records were of three pairs at two sites in the N.E. (no young seen), seven pairs at four sites in the New Forest (young seen at three sites), four pairs in the Avon Valley (three broods seen) and one pair which failed due to disturbance at M27 G.P. (Eastleigh).

Kentish Plover (A)

Charadrius alexandrinus

A male was at Eversley G.P. on Apr. 11th (JMCK, MASc *et al.*). The first since 1981.

Dotterel (A)

Charadrius morinellus

Seven were at Danebury on May 5th (RB).

Golden Plover (B)

Pluvialis apricaria

Recorded until Apr. 20th (35, Needs Ore) and from Aug. 19th (1, Warsash) apart from one at Langstone Harbour on June 22nd, July 29th, Aug. 7th and 10th and 2 there on Aug. 12th.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	2441	742	0	—	—	—	—	—	43	71	239	1971
Titchfield Haven/Brownwich	401	650	39	0	0	0	0	1	1	247	312	170
Keyhaven area	62	32	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	4	11
Danebury	—	—	400+	300	—	—	—	—	40	—	—	100
Eastleigh area	350	600+	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	86	95
Odiham/Crondall	100	75	210	302	0	0	0	0	13	80	375	375

Other localities with less regular records but counts reaching 100 were River Avon at Bisterne (400, Jan. 11th), Hamble Airfield (1000, Jan. 13th; 200+, Feb. 10th), H.M.S. Daedalus (200, Oct. 28th; c. 600, Dec. 30th), Weston (140, Feb. 19th; 162, Feb. 24th -forced on to shore by severe weather), South Wonston (c. 900, Dec. 27th) and Wootton St. Lawrence (max. 125, Apr. 12th). Counts of 50-100 were made at Grateley, Hockley

(Winchester), Rockford (Ringwood) and Warsash.

A small cold weather movement occurred in early Feb., with 134 ESE at Titchfield Haven on 5th and 180 S at Netley Shore on 6th.

Grey Plover (B)

Pluvialis squatarola

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	807	1065	814	—	—	—	—	—	2044	3168	1283	1258
Langstone Harbour	984	241	479	951	296	600	452	964	1260	1289	1281	775
Portsmouth Harbour	250	431	415	6	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0
Fawley/Calshot	370	444	307	8	4	0	6	170	79	2	36	163
Needs Ore area	184	170	210	56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lyminster/Hurst	234	137	194	158	39	6	2	209	300	387	300	215

There were several interesting inland records: 4, Avon Causeway, Feb. 23rd; 13 with Lapwings, Hatchet Moor (N.F.), Mar. 9th; 1, which left N, Mockbeggar Lake, June 15th; 1 S, Tunworth, Oct. 7th and 1 S there, Oct. 26th.

Spring passage through the Solent involved a total of 39 E off Hurst, Lepe and Gilkicker Point between Apr. 19th-May 4th (peak 24 E, Hurst, May 2nd) and 19 E off Hill Head between Apr. 14th-May 17th (degree of overlap unknown).

A leucistic bird, presumably the one present in earlier years, was seen at Paulsgrove R. T. in Jan. and at Langstone Harbour in Apr., Aug., Oct. and Nov.

1985: Five left high to the S from Langstone Harbour at 1955 hrs. on Aug. 13th (cf. Dunlin).

Sociable Plover (A)

Chettusia gregaria

An immature was located on the scrapes at Titchfield Haven at 1445 hrs. on Oct. 17th (BSD, PH). It was subsequently seen by many observers there and on the nearby shore and farmland at Brownwich and Chilling until Oct. 23rd. Between Oct. 24th and Nov. 8th it was present on the H.M.S. Daedalus Airfield (Lee-on-the-Solent). Accepted by *British Birds*. The first Hampshire record.

Lapwing (B)

Vanellus vanellus

Approximate monthly totals of flocks (20+) on the ground:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Inland total	11180	6700	430	30	20	510	675	1790	1005	2905	4405	4885
Sites	18	11	4	1	1	3	3	8	5	10	10	11
Coastal total	10560	7350	960	120	60	60	745	795	750	705	2140	1715
Sites	7	8	6	3	1	1	6	6	6	4	8	7

High numbers were present in Jan. and early Feb., peaks counts being of 2500 at Bisterne and 2900 at Langstone Harbour on Jan. 11th and 2800 at Brownwich/Chilling on Feb. 5th. The arrival of severe weather resulted in a marked drop in numbers and considerable movement between Jan. 24th-Feb. 13th, especially from Feb. 5th-9th when 8040 moved, mostly S, over seven sites. Peak counts were of 3500 S over Netley on Feb. 5th, 1907 ESE at Titchfield Haven in six hours on Feb. 6th, and 1400 off S from there at 0830 hrs. the next day. In early March few birds remained although there was some evidence of return passage, e.g. 670 N/NE at Hambledon between Mar. 6th-13th and smaller numbers elsewhere.

Breeding season records came from 26 sites, the highest counts being of 45 pairs at Farlington Marshes and 34 in the Hillside/Crondall area. Exceptionally none bred at Martin Down or Keyhaven/Normandy Marshes.

Late year numbers were low with a maximum of 1200 at Danebury on Nov. 15th.

Knot (B)

Calidris canutus

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	184	25	222	—	—	—	—	—	6	8	189	100
Langstone Harbour	1570	107	200	46	11	3	0	11	18	81	150	249
Portsmouth Harbour	200	300	230	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

The only other records were: 2, Lower Test Marshes, Jan. 18th and 7 there, Feb. 11th; 9 E, Hill Head, May 1st and 1 E there, May 2nd; 22 E, Hurst, May 2nd; 1, Pennington, July 5th; 4, Pennington/Hurst, Aug. 25th and 1-6 there, Sept. 13th-25th; 6, Warsash, Oct. 7th.

Sanderling (B)

Calidris alba

Few counts were received from the main wintering area on South Hayling although peak numbers were high, with 125+ at West Winner on Jan. 5th and 200 at Black Point on Mar. 28th. (Estuary counts from Chichester Harbour, which no doubt included these birds, were as follows: 291, Jan. 11th; 1, Feb. 8th; 165, Mar. 8th.) Other early year records came from Gilkicker Point (max. 16, Jan. 11th) and Eastney/Southsea (max. 24, Jan. 31st).

Spring passage was noted at Hurst (89 E, Apr. 25th-May 20th, peaks 29 E, May 2nd and 28 E, May 17th), Lepe (25 E, May 2nd-6th) and Hill Head (104 E, Apr. 27th-May 20th, peak 35 E, Apr. 27th). Other May records included 35 at Hayling Bay on 10th and the last two at Calshot on 25th.

In autumn the only records were of singles at Warsash on Aug. 8th and Keyhaven on Aug. 23rd and Sept. 25th, and two at Hill Head on Aug. 28th.

At South Hayling there were 15 on Oct. 25th, 28 on Nov. 15th and a maximum in Dec. of 138 on 13th. (Estuary counts from Chichester Harbour were as follows: 161, Sept. 20th; 364, Oct. 18th; 206, Nov. 15th; 113, Dec. 13th.) The only other late year records came from Hythe (1, Nov. 15th) and Gilkicker Point (50+, Nov. 20th).

Little Stint (B)

Calidris minuta

One was at Lower Test Marshes on Mar. 6th.

None was noted in spring, but in autumn records came from Farlington Marshes (2, Aug. 18th; 1, Aug. 23rd; up to 5, Sept. (max. on 23rd); up to 5, Oct. (max. on 7th/8th); 1, Nov. 1st-8th), Titchfield Haven (1, Aug. 19th-24th; up to 4, Sept. 11th-27th; 1, Oct. 12th-16th), Keyhaven/Pennington (1, Aug. 23rd; 2, Aug. 26th; 1, Sept. 13th, 14th, 19th and 27th), Warsash (2, Aug. 29th; 1, Sept. 3rd/4th) and Paulsgrove R.T. (1, Sept. 15th and Oct. 19th).

White-rumped Sandpiper (A)

Calidris fuscicollis

One was at Eling Great Marsh on Sept. 29th (RWR). Accepted by *British Birds*. The eighth Hampshire record.

Baird's Sandpiper (A)

Calidris bairdii

One was at Warsash on Oct. 7th (DAC). Accepted by *British Birds*. The first Hampshire record.

Pectoral Sandpiper (A)

Calidris melanotos

One was at Warsash from Sept. 23rd-Oct. 2nd (DAC *et al*).

Curlew Sandpiper (B)

Calidris ferruginea

Only recorded in autumn, records coming from Farlington Marshes (1, Aug. 11th-19th; up

to 6, Aug. 20th-24th; 2, Sept. 5th-7th rising to 10, Sept. 10th and 11, Sept. 21st; 3, Sept. 24th; 1, Oct. 6th and 18th), Paulsgrove R.T. (2, Aug. 16th), Calshot (3, Aug. 24th), Warsash (1-3, Sept. 18th-27th; 1/2, Oct. 8th-17th; 2, Nov. 20th) and Keyhaven/Pennington (1/2, Sept. 14th-27th).

Purple Sandpiper (B)

Calidris maritima

At Southsea Castle present until Mar. 23rd (monthly maxima 7, 7, 5), on May 1st (4) and from Oct. 28th (monthly maxima 5, 5, 5). Elsewhere, four flew E at Gilkicker Point on May 2nd, three moved E with Turnstones at Hill Head on May 9th and one was feeding there with Turnstones on Nov. 4th.

Dunlin (B)

Calidris alpina

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester harbour	26997	11478	8392	—	—	—	—	—	160	22680	12537	19361
Langstone Harbour	25000	11600	11200	1500	4300	55	1650	1800	4100	27700	25800	15000
Portsmouth Harbour	4000	1975	4200	120	7	—	3	201	250	1650	1370	6000
Warsash	900	950	1200	80	128	0	5	132	41	140	1100	837
Eling Great Marsh	750	600	525	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	183	400
Fawley/Calshot	710	7470	420	28	136	—	—	152	190	—	1400	1080
Needs Ore area	2700	1700	800	250	—	—	—	—	—	—	610	950
Lymington/Hurst	3390	2075	1907	660	10	166	444	273	262	1515	3000	—

Floods in the Avon Valley in Jan. proved attractive, with a maximum of 370 in the Sopley/Bisterne area and 17 at Ibsley on 25th. Eight were still at Ibsley on Feb. 9th but no more were seen until the thaw, after which one or two were seen from Mar. 8th-27th. Other inland records came from Camp Farm S.F. (1, Feb. 8th/9th), M27 G.P., Eastleigh (1, Apr. 22nd and July 27th), Eversley G.P. (1, Apr. 25th, May 11th-13th, July 5th, 12th and Aug. 13th), Mockbeggar Lake (2, May 5th, July 12th and 19th; 3, Aug. 3rd; 1, Aug. 31st; 2, Sept. 27th), Sleaford Reservoir, Bordon (1, May 12th/13th) and Fleet Pond (5, Aug. 20th).

Spring passage on the coast involved a minimum total of 258 E at Hurst, Lepe and Gilkicker Point between Apr. 21st and May 20th (peaks 52 E, Hurst, Apr. 21st; 66 E, Lepe, May 2nd and 86 E there, May 4th) and 147 E at Hill Head between Apr. 27th and May 6th (degree of overlap unknown).

1985: 29 left high to the S from Langstone Harbour at 1955 hrs. on Aug. 13th.

Ruff (B)

Philomachus pugnax

Present until May 10th (1, Keyhaven) and from Aug. 4th (1, Farlington Marshes) apart from a moulting male at Warsash from June 18th-28th.

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Farlington Marshes	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	7	3	3	3	3
Titchfield Haven	19	19	22	7	1	0	0	3	0	3	9	9
Lymington/Hurst	15	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	6	6	11	19

Other records came from Lepe (5, Jan. 24th; 3, Mar. 31st; 1 W, Dec. 29th), Warsash (4, Feb. 10th), Needs Ore (3, Feb. 16th; 9, Apr. 13th; 5, Apr. 20th), Calshot/Fawley (2, Mar. 1st and Aug. 24th), Gosport Boating Lake (5, Mar. 3rd/4th), Paulsgrove R.T. (1/2, Aug./Sept.), Lower Test Marshes (1, Sept. 4th) and Alresford Pond (1, Sept. 28th-Oct. 4th).

1985: The seven at Hook in late Jan. were in fact in a field near Hamble Airfield.

Jack Snipe (B)*Lymnocyrtes minimus*

Recorded until Apr. 26th (1, Titchfield Haven) and from Oct. 13th (1, Keyhaven).

Approximate monthly totals:

J	F	M	A		O	N	D
10	16	11	3		2	7	2

All records were of 1/2 apart from: 4, Titchfield Haven, Jan. 16th; 3, Winchester College, Jan. 25th; 4, Camp Farm S.F., Feb. 6th; 3, Farlington Marshes, Nov. 2nd.

Snipe (B)*Gallinago gallinago**Approximate monthly totals:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Coastal sites	450	425	420	84	0	1	6	27	46	65	82	222
Inland sites	425	1134	497	6	—	—	2	6	9	12	56	72

As the table shows large numbers were again present at ice-free sites in Jan./Mar., most notably in the Avon Valley. Counts in the Ibsley/Harbridge area included 215 on Jan. 25th, 550-600 on Feb. 8th, 525 on Feb. 9th and 420 on Mar. 8th. Counts on the restored water meadows at Titchfield Haven peaked at 233 on Feb. 8th with 170 remaining into Mar. Other notable counts were of 180 at Timsbury on Feb. 9th, 150 at Sopley on Feb. 18th, 150 at Farlington Marshes on Mar. 8th and counts of 100 at Brookfield Farm (Fair Oak) on Jan. 26th, Camp Farm S.F. on Feb. 7th and Budds Farm S.F. on Mar. 9th.

Spring/summer records indicative of breeding came from: New Forest, 34 pairs/drumming birds at 13+ sites; Moortown, 1; Ibsley/Harbridge, 2/3; Lower Test Marshes, 1; Winchester water meadows, 2; Winnall Moors, 2/3; Itchen Abbas/Itchen Stoke, 4; Candover Stream, 2.

Late year counts were low with a maximum of 130 at Titchfield Haven on Dec. 13th.

Long-billed Dowitcher (A)*Limnodromus scolopaceus*

One was present on the River Hamble at Curbridge from Mar. 10th to Apr. 16th (TDC *et al.*). Accepted by *British Birds*. The sixth Hampshire record.

Woodcock (B)*Scolopax rusticola*

Widely reported during the early year cold spell with a particularly large number of records in late Feb./early Mar. Half-monthly totals for Jan./Mar. are shown below.

Jan 1-15	Jan 16-31	Feb 1-14	Feb 15-28	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31
3	3	6	19	22	1

Both Mar. 1st and 2nd produced totals of 11 birds at eight sites, maxima being four at Havant Thicket on 1st and at Farlington Marshes on 2nd. In addition to these up to eight were at Beacon Hill (Warnford) during Jan./Feb. The stress imposed on these birds by cold weather showed in the numbers feeding during daylight in relatively open unfrozen sites and also in the record of one found dead at Stoke Fruit Farm, Hayling Island on Feb. 22nd.

Breeding season records, mostly of roding birds, came from all over the county amounting to some 115 in all; 16 roding males were estimated at Alice Holt Forest whilst almost every New Forest tetrad visited produced sightings.

Following one at Yateley Heath Wood on Aug. 13th none was recorded until Nov. 5th, when one was at Wildgrounds (Gosport). A small arrival was apparent in late Nov. with records from five sites between 22nd and 29th. Records for Dec. came from ten sites.

Black-tailed Godwit (B)*Limosa limosa**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	26	190	205	—	—	—	—	—	551	393	521	189
Langstone Harbour	906	200+	252	350	46	40	110	804	805	1075	1019	498
Portsmouth Harbour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	82	1	0	0
Titchfield Haven	359	186	45	2	0	10	9	16	19	58	165	300
Warsash	0	3	19	0	0	0	10	29	111	35	5	0
Fawley/Calshot	48	130	69	0	0	0	25	139	86	—	230	96
Needs Ore area	32	12	38	134	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lymington/Hurst	45	37	120	238	0	3	12	54	130	71	50	20

Passage was indicated by birds leaving NW from Langstone Harbour, with 54 on Apr. 23rd, 90 on Apr. 29th and 68 on Apr. 30th. 10/11 flew W at Hurst on May 6th and in autumn birds were heard at night over Portsdown Hill on Sept. 29th.

Bar-tailed Godwit (B)*Limosa lapponica**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	207	687	703	—	—	—	—	—	653	670	75	900
Langstone Harbour	484	702	390	47	100	30	110	158	90	358	352	498
Lymington/Hurst	58	22	22	15	0	2	4	7	30	14	—	4

The only other double figure counts were of 20 at Inchmery Marshes (Beaulieu River) on Apr. 11th and 12 at Pitts Deep on Apr. 26th. Spring movement through the Solent was generally poor with a minimum total of 695 E between Apr. 19th-May 6th, with peaks of 220 E at Hill Head on May 1st and 218 E at Hurst and 281 E at Lepe the next day. 1985: 11 were at Warsash on Feb. 13th. (Counts of the total wintering population between Warsash and Brownwich would be welcome.)

Whimbrel (B)*Numenius phaeopus*

One flew S at Broadlands Lake on Jan. 20th (NHP). This is the first winter record since January 1976.

The first migrants were early, with two on the River Hamble at Curbridge on Mar. 22nd, one with Curlews at Southwick on Mar. 28th and 31st and three flying NW over Half Moon Common (N.F.) on Apr. 6th. Coastal passage was small, with only 118 E in the Hurst/Lepe area between Apr. 13th and May 17th (peak 42 E, May 19th) and 50 E at Hill Head between Apr. 13th and May 5th (degree of overlap unknown). Elsewhere double figure counts were made at Langstone Harbour (max. 50+ leaving NE, Apr. 24th), Paulsgrove R.T. (21, Apr. 27th; 23, May 10th), River Hamble (18, Apr. 10th; 17, Apr. 28th), Dibden Bay (82+, Apr. 25th; 70, May 3rd; 46, May 10th), Keyhaven (11, Apr. 26th) and inland at Botley Wood (35+, May 5th), Southwick (max. 33, Apr. 23rd) and Widley (30 SE, May 3rd). Other inland records involved a total of 20 at 11 sites between Apr. 20th and May 12th.

The only June records were of one at Oxy Creek (Lymington) on 7th and three there on 11th.

Autumn records started with singles at Curbridge and Paulsgrove R.T. on July 3rd. As in spring numbers were fairly low, double figure counts coming from Langstone Harbour (max. 29, July 12th), Paulsgrove R.T. (40, July 24th and Aug. 9th), Warsash (10, Aug. 8th and 13th) and Dibden Bay (20, July 20th and 26th). Inland there were six at five N.E. sites between July 13th and Aug. 26th and eight flew S over Bisterne Common on Aug. 1st. Few were seen in Sept. with the last one flying S at Sandy Point on 25th.

Curlew (B)*Numenius arquata**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	980	1003	395	—	—	—	—	—	1741	1270	1522	837
Langstone Harbour	563	407	444	362	120	500	835	1253	951	1838	793	597
Portsmouth Harbour	265	140	124	214	0	0	5	20	300+	36	296	380
Titchfield Haven	137	73	65	34	0	1	1	2	4	72	86	103
Warsash	100+	160	110	10+	1	2	50	84	55	80	150	100
Fawley/Calshot	318	397	48	76	10	—	350	348	460	28	28	78
Needs Ore area	420	70	24	5	—	—	10	117	—	—	—	—
Lymington/Hurst	313	163	82	154	9	12	227	179	178	209	214	333

The only other notable coastal count was of 150 at Dibden Bay on Jan. 4th. Records of bird feeding inland came from Purbrook/Widley (max. 5), Southwick (90, Jan.; 60, Feb.; 82, Mar.; 55, Apr; 1, May 6th; then from Aug. 24th, max. 19), Broadlands (60, Jan. 9th), Romsey (early year max. 30, late year 5) and Sopley (max. 7, Jan.; 3, Dec. 31st). Further inland and away from breeding areas birds were reported in Feb. (1), Mar. (4), Apr. (2), June (3), July (2), Aug. (3), Sept. (4), Oct. (2) and Nov. (1).

In the breeding season records came from throughout the New Forest with at least 37 pairs at 29 sites; a pair was also present at Woolmer.

Spotted Redshank (B)*Tringa erythropus**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	1	1	1	3	1	8	22	54	33	25	5	1
Titchfield Haven	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	14	11	2	0
Warsash	—	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	2	0	0
Needs Ore area	1	2	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Lymington/Hurst	6	7	13	7	6	1	0	2	1	6	3	5

Other records were: 1, Eling, Mar. 13th; 2, Curbridge, Mar. 22nd; 2, Pitts Deep, Apr. 13th; 2, Paulsgrove R.T., July 3rd; 1 SW, Hythe, Aug. 13th; 1, Lower Test Marshes, Aug. 21st; 4, Fawley, Aug. 22nd and 24th; 1, Sowley Marsh, Dec. 23rd.

Redshank (B)*Tringa totanus**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	1527	1122	832	—	—	—	—	—	830	1171	1363	1522
Langstone Harbour	491	347	328	118	180	180	470	1203	1009	874	729	529
Portsmouth Harbour	170	30	18	86	—	—	60	39	—	71	225	24
Warsash	116	220	156	59	5	—	120	198	200	140	160	100
Eling Great Marsh	113	34	50	32	3	4	—	—	—	64	50	117
Fawley/Calshot	552	394	206	194	43	15	150	210	—	120	145	130
Lymington/Hurst	376	164	126	101	—	—	203	294	312	175	152	195

Early year inland wintering birds were present at Ibsley (6, Jan. 2nd; 4, Feb. 9th; 25, Mar. 14th; 23, Mar. 30th), Bisterne (1, Jan. 25th), Alresford Pond/C.B.s (6, Jan. 20th; 7, Feb. 23rd; 12, Mar. 13th; 15, Mar. 29th) and Purbrook (1, Feb.). Mar. records probably refer to some wintering birds mixed with returning breeders and migrants. 35 left inland from Farlington Marshes on Apr. 23rd.

60 pairs bred on the Langstone Harbour islands with good breeding success.

Late year inland records were few, coming from Alresford (1/2, Oct. 31st-Dec. 31st), Ibsley (3, Dec. 21st) and Bisterne (1, Dec. 31st).

1985: A count of 150 on playing fields at the Mountbatten Centre, adjacent to Portsmouth Harbour, exceeds the monthly maxima given for that site (55).

Greenshank (B)*Tringa nebularia**Monthly maxima at selected localities:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	0	0	2	—	—	—	—	—	99	36	1	1
Langstone Harbour	1	1	1	2	7	4	75	182	90	57	0	0
Portsmouth Harbour	1	0	0	1	5	0	11	7	2	1	0	0
Titchfield Haven	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	0
Warsash/Curbridge	2	4	6	7	0	0	9	16	14	12	7	6
Fawley/Calshot	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	13	4	1	1	4
Needs Ore area	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Lymington/Hurst	6	3	4	7	2	0	6	15	15	7	2	3

Other coastal records came from Tanners Lane (3, Jan. 12th; 1, Feb. 9th; 2, June 29th; 4, July 13th), Stone Point, Lepe (1, Jan. 26th) and Woolston (1, Feb. 23rd).

Inland records came from Eversley G.P. (1, May 17th and July 5th), Woolmer (1, July 2nd; 1/2, Aug. 12th-19th), Winchester S.F. (1, July 9th-11th and Aug. 24th), Quidhampton, Overton (1, Aug. 10th and 14th), Dogmersfield Lake (1-4, Aug. 14th-27th; 2 SW, Sept. 3rd), Blashford Lakes (3, Aug. 17th; 1-3, Aug. 31st-Sept. 5th; 1, Sept. 29th), Wellington C.P. (1, Aug. 20th), Avington (2, Aug. 23rd), Timsbury (1, Aug. 24th), South Warnborough (1 S at night, Sept. 5th) and Whitenap (1 heard at night, Sept. 6th).

Lesser Yellowlegs (A)*Tringa flavipes*

An adult was at Farlington Marshes from Aug. 17th-27th (TJ, PMP, DAB *et al.*). Accepted by *British Birds*. The tenth Hampshire record but the first since 1977.

Green Sandpiper (A)*Tringa ochropus*

Recorded until May 10th (1 N, East Wellow) and from June 11th (1, Titchfield Haven).

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Coastal sites	3	4	11	2	1	7	22	50	25	16	7	7
Inland sites	12	18	19	13	2	11	17	43	22	12	18	26

Counts reached five at Paulsgrove R.T. (5, July 6th), Titchfield Haven (10, July/Aug.; 9, Sept.; 5, Oct.), Eversley G.P. (max. 7, Aug. 11th), Quidhampton, Overton (max. 10, Aug. 14th), Dogmersfield Lake (5, Aug. 19th), Warsash (12, Aug. 19th - the highest count there for many years) and Alresford Pond/C.B.s (5-12, Sept. 7th-28th; 5, Nov. 15th; 9, Dec. 21st).

Wood Sandpiper (A)*Tringa glareola*

A very poor year, the only records being of two at Woolmer Pond on Aug. 19th, one at Fleet Pond from Aug. 19th-21st, one at Titchfield Haven on Aug. 25th and 27th and one at Farlington Marshes on Sept. 23rd/24th.

Terek Sandpiper (A)*Xenus cinereus*

One was found on the saltmarsh off Oxye/Pennington on the evening of June 10th (DS). Accepted by *British Birds*. The fourth Hampshire record.

Common Sandpiper (B)*Actitis hypoleucos*

Wintering records in the early year came from Eling/Lower Test Marshes (1-3, Jan. 1st-Mar. 16th) and Curbridge (1, Jan. 1st-Mar. 29th).

The first migrant was at Langstone Harbour on Apr. 13th. Passage continued through May with maxima of five at Keyhaven/Pennington on May 10th and Curbridge the next day. Two were at Lower Test Marshes throughout June.

Autumn passage began in early July with double figure counts at Curbridge (up to 29, July; 20, Aug. 3rd; 19, Aug. 16th), Paulsgrove R.T. (max. 25+, July 24th), Farlington Marshes (max. 14, Aug. 9th), Eversley G.P. (max. 17, Aug. 13th), Warsash (max. 15, Aug. 27th) and Titchfield Haven (max. 14, Aug.).

Late year wintering records came from Eling/Lower Test Marshes (3, Nov. 6th; 2 to Dec. 31st), Curbridge (2, Nov. 9th; 1 to Dec. 31st), Broadlands Estate (1, Nov. 15th) and Sinah G.P. (1, Nov. 29th).

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Coastal sites	3	2	3	3	25	2	88	111	26	5	6	3
Inland sites	0	0	0	24	30	0	27	51	9	0	1	0

Spotted Sandpiper (A)

Actitis macularia

One was at Titchfield Haven from Oct. 4th into 1987 (BSD, DJP, JMW *et al*). Although considered by many observers to be a juvenile it was proved to be an adult when caught and ringed. Accepted by *British Birds*. The first Hampshire record.

Turnstone (B)

Arenaria interpres

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Chichester Harbour	74	101	74	—	—	—	—	—	363	379	156	126
Langstone Harbour	305	217	118	260	61	86	74	477	506	496	268	71
Titchfield Haven	64	4	40	60	20	0	2	8	34	48	73	40
Warsash	100+	152	200	126	105	0	67	217	204	201	100+	150
Weston Shore	55	127	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	7	67
Fawley/Calshot	160	120	116	79	23	2	10	110	132	130	185	96
Lymington/Hurst	128	107	35	46	67	6	1	47	156	279	77	125

Also of note were counts of 100 at Hayling Bay on Jan. 11th, 120 there on Nov. 15th, 100+ at Hythe on Nov. 23rd and 155 there on Dec. 6th.

Spring passage records were: 23 E, Hurst and 15 E, Lepe, May 2nd; 1 E, Lepe, May 3rd and 4th; 40 E, Hill Head, May 9th; 2 E, Gilkicker Point, May 10th. Inland 12 were at Mockbeggar Lake on May 10th, with one there on 18th which left NW at 2045 hrs. and a single at Eversley G.P. on 19th which flew off N at 2040 hrs.

Pomarine Skua (A)

Stercorarius pomarinus

Few were recorded. One dark phase flew E at Hill Head on May 2nd. On May 4th one dark phase was seen off Lepe at 0618 hrs., Hill Head at 0630 hrs. and Sandy Point (Hayling Bay) at 0712 hrs. Later that day a second bird passed Sandy Point as did further singletons on May 10th and 14th.

Arctic Skua (B)

Stercorarius parasiticus

One was seen off Pennington on Jan. 18th (PC, MCC). The third record for that month, the only previous ones being in 1982.

Spring passage through the Solent involved a minimum total of 74 E and 3 W between Apr. 21st (3 E, Lepe) and May 29th (2 E, Keyhaven). The largest movements were on May 2nd (8, Hurst; 7, Lepe), 4th (8, Hurst; 17, Lepe; 12, Hill Head; 14, Hayling Bay) and 5th (9, Hurst).

One pale phase was at Pennington on June 11th, 21st and 22nd.

Autumn records from July 3rd onwards involved five in July, eight in Aug. (including 5 W, Oxye on 1st), four in Sept., six in Oct. up to 26th and a late juv. W at Browndown on Nov. 15th.

Long-tailed Skua (A)*Stercorarius longicaudus*

One flew E at Hayling Bay at 1140 hrs. on May 11th (HG). The fifth Hampshire record.

Great Skua (A)*Stercorarius skua*

A very good year, with single birds flying E as follows: Hurst, Apr. 16th; Southsea, Apr. 24th; Lepe, Apr. 25th and May 2nd; Gilkicker Point, May 10th; Hayling Bay, May 11th; Gilkicker Pt., Aug. 6th; Hurst, Aug. 25th.

One seen and photographed at Eling Great Marsh on Dec. 27th flew off inland (MR).

Skua sp. (A)*Stercorarius sp.*

3, Hurst, Apr. 23rd. 3 N, Hurst, May 4th. 10 E, Hayling Bay, May 4th. 12, very high, Hurst, May 6th. In all 114 skuas were observed in the Solent in spring.

1 W, Lepe, Nov. 2nd.

Mediterranean Gull (B)*Larus melanocephalus*

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Adults	8	5	6	6	0	0	2	1	2	1	4	3
Second years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
First years	1	1	1	2	2	3	6	1	0	0	2	3

The records are summarised below:

Langstone Harbour/Sinah G.P. area: 4 adults and 1 first winter, Jan.; 2 adults and 1 first winter, Feb.; 3 adults and 1 first winter, Mar.; 2 adults, 1 first winter and 1 first summer, Apr.; 3 first summers, June; 1 adult, 5 first summers and 1 juv., July; 1 first summer, Aug.; 2 adults and 1 second winter, Sept.; 1 adult, Oct.; 3 adults and 1 second winter, Nov.; 2 adults, 1 second winter and 1 first winter, Dec. These records included four adults in the Sinah G.P./Hayling Bay area on Jan. 11th/12th, five different adults and two first winters at Sinah G.P. from Mar. 28th-Apr. 2nd and five first summers together at Farlington Marshes on July 12th.

Canoe Lake/Southsea/Eastney: adult, Jan. 24th-Mar. 25th, July 14th and Dec. 17th (probably Langstone birds).

Paulsgrove R.T.: second winter, Oct. 19th.

Gilkicker/Browndown: adult, Feb. 13th/14th.

Titchfield Haven: adult, Jan. 9th.

Curbridge: adult, Mar. 22nd.

Weston/Netley: adult, Jan. 1st-Apr. 19th, July 15th-Aug. 13th and Nov. 3rd-Dec. 9th with a second adult, Mar. 1st and Apr. 19th.

Newtown R.T.: first summer, May 29th.

Eling Great Marsh: first winter/summer, May 14th.

Lepe: 2 adults W, Apr. 13th; first winter off N at dusk, Nov. 15th.

Inchmery Marshes (Beaulieu River): adult, Jan. 26th.

Beaulieu Village: adult, Jan. 25th (probably the Inchmery bird).

Efford R.T.: first winter, Dec. 13th.

Bramshill R.T.: adult, Jan. 6th, 12th, Feb. 9th and 15th.

Old Winchester Hill: first winter, Nov. 2nd.

Wellington C.P.: first winter, Dec. 24th.

Little Gull (B)*Larus minutus*

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Adults/Second years	2	0	1	16	13	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
First years	1	0	2	6	12	3	3	3	4	3	0	0
Not aged	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

In Jan. there were singles at Lepe on 5th and Black Point on 8th and 11th.

Spring records covered the periods from Mar. 20th-Apr. 7th and Apr. 21st onwards. Passage through the Solent involved a minimum total of 32 E, records coming from Hurst (25 E, peaks 7 E, Apr. 23rd and 9 E, May 4th), Lepe (10 E), Hill Head (18 E, peak 7 E, May 4th) and Hayling Bay (3 E). Other records at this time were from Titchfield Haven (a total of 11 on the scrapes from Apr. 24th-30th; 1, May 15th), Farlington Marshes (2 E, May 2nd) and Sleaford Reservoir, Bordon (1, May 11th).

Summering birds were reported from Oxy Marsh (May 25th-June 2nd), Langstone Harbour (May 27th, June 8th-16th, July 6th (2) and 12th) and Dibden Bay (June 29th-Aug. 16th). Subsequent records were all of single birds apart from four at Langstone Harbour on Sept. 25th/26th and two flying W at Normandy Marsh on Oct. 24th. The last was at Bedhampton on Oct. 27th.

1985: A first summer was at Langstone Harbour on July 18th.

Bonaparte's Gull (A)

Larus philadelphia

A first summer bird was at Gilkicker Point on Mar. 21st (JL, RJW). Accepted by *British Birds*. The third Hampshire record.

Black-headed Gull (C)

Larus ridibundus

In Jan./Mar. counts exceeded 1000 at Paulsgrove R.T. (1500, Jan. 6th), Fawley/Calshot (1175, Jan. 12th), Timsbury (2000 S to roost, Jan. 19th), Eastleigh (4000+, Jan. 21st), Newtown R.T. (max. 2500, Feb. 10th) and Bramshill R.T. (max. 6000, Feb. 26th).

Two pairs bred, one raising two young, at Langstone Harbour. No counts were received for colonies in the S.W. but 10000+ were estimated at Needs Ore on Apr. 20th. Elsewhere, the maximum summer gathering reported was of 1000 at Newtown R.T. on July 30th.

In Aug./Dec. counts exceeded 1000 at Paulsgrove R.T. (1300, Aug. 23rd), Newtown R.T. (max. 2000, Dec. 1st), Timsbury (3890 S to roost, Dec. 6th), Bramshill R.T. (2000+, Dec. 24th) and Bisterne (3200 N at dawn, Dec. 31st).

Aberrant birds reported included an albino with black wing tips at Bramshill on Jan. 4th/5th, different leucistic birds at Bishopstoke on Mar. 21st and Curbridge on Apr. 19th, a melanistic bird at Newtown R.T. on Dec. 1st and 17th and an albino at Leigh Park on Dec. 5th.

Common Gull (C)

Larus canus

In Jan./Mar. counts exceeded 200 at Paulsgrove R.T. (300+, Jan. 6th), Gilkicker Point (350, Jan. 11th), Southsea (500, Jan. 31st), Newtown R.T. (max. 300, Feb. 10th), Tidpit (max. 1300, Feb. 23rd), Bramshill R.T. (max. 850, Feb. 26th), Titchfield Haven (500, Mar. 3rd) and Sinah G.P. (250, Mar. 8th).

Reported spring passage was small, with a total of 144 E through the Solent from Apr. 5th-May 17th, and a maximum inland gathering of 200+ at Long Down on Apr. 11th. 200 arrived from inland to roost at Langstone Harbour on Apr. 16th but only 50 first years remained on Apr. 30th.

The only June records were of a first summer at Fleet Pond on 24th and an adult and first summer at Newtown R.T. on 26th but five returned to Langstone Harbour on July 1st. In Aug./Dec. the only counts to exceed 200 were of 1600 at Old Winchester Hill on Nov. 2nd and 300+ at Beacon Hill (Warnford) on Dec. 31st.

Ring-billed Gull (A)

Larus delawarensis

A second summer bird was seen at Sinah G.P. on Mar. 28th (TDC, JMW) and Eastney sewage outfall on Mar. 30th (PMP). Accepted by *British Birds*. The seventh Hampshire re-

cord. One other 1986 and two 1985 records are still pending.

1985: Adult, Paulsgrove R.T., Apr. 4th (RJW), now accepted by BB; second winter, Haslar Creek, Dec. 8th, was rejected by BB.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (B)

Larus fuscus

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	1	4	4	0	0	0	1	8	4	15	5	12
Newtown R.T.	8	8	7	19	24	5	14	9	3	3	7	8
Timsbury	15	10	15	8	2	1	3	25	25	10	58	45
Bramshill R.T.	40	25	10	75	—	—	—	—	—	200	400	50

Approximate monthly totals at other sites:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Coastal sites	28	12	24	6	12	1	11	6	11	9	1	15
N.E. sites	—	—	—	10	18	12	40	359	340	192	30	—
Elsewhere inland	9	2	10	10	14	—	—	5	6	115	5	12

Double figure counts were: 10, Paulsgrove R.T., Jan. 6th and July 6th; 17+, Eling, Jan. 25th; 11 E, Widley, Mar. 13th; 35, Eversley G.P., July 21st, 77 there on Aug. 13th and 100 on Oct. 25th; 105, Blackbushe R.T., Aug. 17th, 265 there on Aug. 31st and 272 on Sept. 14th; 68 E at dusk, Fleet Pond, Sept. 6th; 74, Dogmersfield Lake and 100, Sydmonoton, Oct. 4th; 18 SW, Tunworth, Oct. 26th; 30, Crondall, Nov. 23rd.

Herring Gull (C)

Larus argentatus

Counts exceeded 200 at Bramshill R.T. (400, Jan. 6th and Feb. 4th; 500+, Dec. 24th), Newtown R.T. (max. 300, Feb. 24th) and Meonstoke (600, Mar. 31st; 700, Apr. 3rd - very late for such high counts).

One pair raised two young at Southampton Docks.

Yellow-legged Herring Gull (B)

Larus argentatus

Recorded until Feb. 6th and from July 6th. Unless otherwise stated all records refer to the Mediterranean race *L. a. michahellis*.

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Adults/4th years	5	2	0	0	0	0	10	8	8	9	4	2
2nd/3rd years	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	1
1st years	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	1

The majority of records came from Eling Great Marsh. Sightings here included the presumed adult *L. a. omissus* first seen in 1984 on Sept. 29th and Oct. 1st, the presumed adult *L. a. heuglini* with a ring first seen in 1984 on Nov. 2nd/3rd and an unringed *heuglini* on Dec. 6th (RWR, IRW). Other records involved up to four adults in Jan./Feb. and at least four adults, three third winters and three first winters in July-Dec.

Reports elsewhere came from Pennington (adult and third winter, Jan. 1st), Paulsgrove R.T. (adult, July 6th, 16th and Sept. 15th), Langstone Harbour/Sinah G.P. (adult, July 15th, 27th, Aug. 23rd, Oct. 12th and Dec. 7th with 2 adults, Oct. 27th), Newtown R.T. (3 adults and second summer, July 16th; adult, Aug. 13th, Sept. 24th and Oct. 8th; second winter and first winter, Dec. 9th), Hill Head (adult, July 20th, Aug. 21st, 25th, Oct. 5th and 11th), Eversley G.P. (adult, July 31st), Weston Shore (adult, Aug. 13th) and Efford R.T. (adult, Aug. 16th, Sept. 19th and 25th with 2 adults, Sept. 30th).

Iceland Gull (A)

Larus glaucoideus

A second winter bird was at Titchfield Haven on Feb. 28th/Mar. 1st (RAC) and a first winter was at Newtown R.T./Weston Shore on Mar. 3rd (MGWT).

Glaucous Gull (A)

Larus hyperboreus

The adult at Hardway (Portsmouth Harbour) was again present, with sightings up to Feb. 8th, on Sept. 21st and from Nov. 7th. Reports of adults at Browndown on Feb. 14th and Mar. 20th and at Hill Head on Mar. 7th, 18th and 23rd probably referred to the same bird. Other records were of a third winter at Titchfield Haven/Hill Head from Jan. 13th-Mar. 31st, a first winter at Stokes Bay on Mar. 22nd and an adult at Sandy Point/Black Point on Dec. 20th.

Great Black-backed Gull (C)

Larus marinus

Monthly maxima at selected localities:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Langstone Harbour	135	—	—	—	—	37	60	—	—	40	60	150
Paulsgrove R.T.	166	—	—	2	—	—	—	50	150	42	—	102
Hill Head	198	—	—	—	28	21	—	40	24	75	11	129
Newtown R.T.	175	40	—	4	8	—	—	12	—	—	—	110

Other counts to reach 50 were: 100 S at dusk, Sopley, Jan. 2nd; 70, Weston Shore, Jan. 6th (+ 175 at nearby Newtown R.T. that day); 75, Bramshill R.T., Jan. 6th; 60, Hurst/Oxey, Jan. 11th; 50, Hamble Airfield, Jan. 28th; 64, Pylewell saltings, July 13th; 133 N at dawn, Bisterne, Dec. 31st.

Kittiwake (B)

Rissa tridactyla

Approximate monthly totals:

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
274	6	25	7	85	1	1	2	0	1	15	1

Double figure counts were: 259 E (2 imms.), Hurst Castle, Jan. 19th (gales the previous day); 21 W, Hayling Bay, Mar. 28th; 26 E, Hurst, May 2nd; 8 E and 4 W, Lepe, May 4th; 18 E, Hurst, May 17th; 30 E and 4 W, Hayling Bay, May 17th; 13 W and 1 E, Pennington, Nov. 1st.

The mid summer records were of singles at Pennington on June 3rd (adult), Oxey Marsh on July 12th (adult), Langstone Harbour on Aug. 10th (juv.) and Lepe on Aug. 26th (juv.). The only inland record was of an adult at Fleet Pond on Dec. 1st, which left ESE at 1510 hrs.

Sandwich Tern (B)

Sterna sandvicensis

The first was at Eastney sewage outfall on Mar. 23rd. A further seven were seen before the end of the month at Southsea, Lepe and Sturt Pond (Keyhaven). Spring movement east was noted between Apr. 5th and May 20th, with totals of 187 at Hurst, 88 at Lepe, 115 at Hill Head, 118 at Gilkicker Point and 389 at Hayling Bay. Unfortunately some observers have not submitted individual daily counts so it is impossible to calculate an overall total. Inland, one flew SW over Frensham Great Pond on Apr. 20th.

Breeding numbers showed a welcome increase, with 140 pairs at Needs Ore Point and 45 between Hurst and Pitts Deep. None have yet bred at Langstone Harbour where the species was absent between June 23rd and Sept. 10th.

Few were noted in autumn and the last was at Langstone Harbour on Oct. 19th.

Roseate Tern (A)*Sterna dougallii*

Adults were at Hayling Bay from May 7th-11th (HG), Titchfield Haven on May 13th (2) (RKL, RJC, MJP) and Warsash on Aug. 19th (DAC).

Common Tern (C)*Sterna hirundo*

Breeding was recorded as follows: Langstone Harbour islands, 28 pairs raised 45 young; Needs Ore Point, 375 pairs; Keyhaven/Pitts Deep, 54 pairs; Eling Great Marsh, 2 pairs; Upper Hamble C.P., 1 pair; Mockbeggar Lake, 2 pairs.

Common/Arctic Tern (B)*Sterna hirundo/paradisaea*

Apart from breeding records, all sightings of Common Tern are summarised under this heading.

The arrival was late, with the first at Eastney sewage outfall on Apr. 19th and records from six other sites in the next two days. Spring passage through the Solent occurred between Apr. 21st and May 20th, with totals of 2018 E at Hurst (peaks 422 E, May 5th and 448 E, May 17th), 1378 E at Lepe (peak 864 E, May 4th), 1722 E at Hill Head (peak 621 E, May 4th), 478 E at Gilkicker Point (peak 242 E, May 3rd), 300 E at Southsea (on May 6th) and 1322 E at Hayling Bay (peak 419 E, May 5th). Inland records, all of Common Terns, came from Paultons Park (2, May 2nd), Tundry Pond (1, May 4th and 6th; 2, June 18th), Broadlands Lake (2, May 10th and 23rd), Hatchet Pond (1, May 25th), Fleet Pond (1, June 1st) and Wellington C.P. (1, June 7th).

Autumn numbers on the coast were low, with maxima of only 70 at Hill Head/Titchfield Haven on Aug. 18th (cf. previous reports) and 150 at Hayling Bay on Sept. 6th. Inland records involved a total of 83 at 11 sites between July 21st and Oct. 3rd, including eight flying S at Cowplain on Aug. 10th and a maximum of 39 at Blashford Lakes on Aug. 26th. The last were two at Langstone Harbour on Oct. 18th.

Arctic Tern (C)*Sterna paradisaea*

Inland, single adults were at Fleet Pond on May 22nd and Aug. 26th. On the coast very few were identified but one at Eling on July 10th was unusual.

Little Tern (B)*Sterna albifrons*

The first was at Hurst on Apr. 15th. Spring passage involved a minimum of 341 E through the Solent between Apr. 20th and May 17th (peaks 60 E, Hayling Bay, May 4th and 82 E, Hurst, May 5th). Inland, one was at Mockbeggar Lake on Apr. 24th and two were at Fleet Pond on May 25th.

Breeding season counts totalled 204 pairs at three sites.

210 were recorded in Hayling Bay on Aug. 2nd but otherwise autumn numbers were low with the last at Keyhaven on Sept. 25th.

Black Tern (B)*Chlidonias niger*

In spring, singles E at Warsash and Hill Head on Apr. 30th, then a total of 23 E through the Solent up to May 16th and singles at Titchfield Haven on May 1st and 4th and Broadlands Lake on May 3rd.

In autumn, singles at Langstone Harbour on July 13th and Titchfield Haven on Aug. 1st, then almost daily records from Aug. 12th-Sept. 15th. A minimum of 95 occurred during this period, with counts exceeding four as follows: 16, Fleet Pond, Aug. 14th; 5, Sowley Pond, Aug. 26th; 5, Weston Shore, Aug. 27th; 16, Blashford Lakes, Aug. 28th and 23 there, Aug. 31st; 16, Hurst Castle, Sept. 13th; 7, Lepe, Sept. 15th. The last was at Langstone Harbour on Sept. 20th.

Guillemot (B)*Uria aalge*

In the early year recorded until Mar. 31st, records coming from Black Point/Hayling Bay (3, Jan. 1st; 1/2, Jan. 8th-Mar. 9th; 1 dead, Feb. 22nd), Sinah G.P. (1 oiled, Feb. 17th), Langstone Harbour entrance (1, Jan. 1st), Southsea (1, Feb. 9th and 14th), Portsmouth Harbour (1, Jan. 3rd-Feb. 25th; 1 dead, Feb. 1st), Gilkicker Point (9, Jan. 4th; 8, Jan. 11th; 3, Jan. 25th; 1, Feb. 1st, 8th and Mar. 31st), Browndown (1, Feb. 1st; 2, Feb. 15th), Hill Head (1, Jan. 11th and 30th), Weston Shore (1, Jan. 5th-17th and Mar. 31st), Woolston (1, Jan. 3rd and 15th), Dibden Bay/Mayflower Park (1-4, Jan. 4th-12th; 2, Feb. 6th) and Hurst (1, Jan. 5th; 1 dead, Mar. 21st).

During the rest of the year much scarcer, with singles recorded as follows: Portsmouth Harbour entrance, May 2nd and Oct. 30th; Gilkicker Point, May 3rd, July 30th and Nov. 12th; Hurst, May 6th and 18th; Hill Head, June 8th; Hamble Common, Oct. 18th; Southsea, Oct. 28th.

Razorbill (B)*Alca torda*

In the early year recorded until Feb. 9th, records coming from Black Point/Hayling Bay (1-6, Jan. 1st-26th; 4, Feb. 1st-9th), Langstone Harbour entrance (1, Jan. 12th), Southsea (1, Jan. 28th and Feb. 3rd), Gilkicker Point (1, Jan. 11th; 2, Feb. 1st), Browndown (2, Jan. 4th and Feb. 1st), Warsash (1, Jan. 9th), Dibden Bay (1, Jan. 4th) and Hurst Castle (1, Jan. 5th; 7, Jan. 19th).

Thereafter very scarce, the only records being of a fresh corpse at Lepe on Mar. 30th, three E at Hayling Bay between May 4th and 17th, and singles at Hurst on May 5th, Lepe on Oct. 17th and Pennington on Oct. 25th (flying W).

Black Guillemot (A)*Cephus grylle*

A first winter bird was watched at close range at Southsea for 30 minutes on Jan. 31st (PMP). The first Hampshire record.

Stock Dove (B)*Columba oenas*

Reported numbers were low.

Approximate monthly totals of flocks (10+) on the ground:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	271	292	172	1083	127	55	0	0	30	127	360	326
Localities	5	6	4	7	3	1	0	0	1	4	2	2

Those to exceed 100 were: 160, Winters Down, Jan. 16th; 101, Clare Park (Crondall), Apr. 6th; 200, Swanthorpe (Crondall), Apr. 19th; 130, Southwick, Apr. 26th; 550, Sowley Farm, Apr. 27th; 300 near Eversley G.P., Nov. 12th; 300, Soberton Down, Dec. 27th.

Seven flew SW at Church Crookham on Sept. 29th and at Tunworth 19 flew mostly SW/NW between Oct. 3rd and Nov. 17th.

Woodpigeon (C)*Columba palumbus*

A few movements were noted in the early year as follows: 150 W, Kench (Hayling), Jan. 11th; 100 S, Langstone Harbour, Jan. 23rd; 71 E, Titchfield Haven, Feb. 6th; 47 WSW and 10 SE, Church Crookham, Feb. 6th. The largest flocks on the ground at this time were of 2500 in kale at Greywell on Feb. 15th and 1500+ at Temple Valley on Feb. 27th.

Systematic watching at Tunworth produced a total of 23050 moving in 44.65 hours watching between Oct. 3rd and Nov. 20th (MASc). The totals moving to various points of the compass are shown below.

N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
0	290	0	645	3171	4745	10338	3861

In addition 3965 were recorded leaving a roost at Tunworth, mostly to the W or SW, during the same period. The heaviest movement was from Oct. 26th-Nov. 9th with the peak counts 3845 in two hours on Oct. 31st and 5140 in 3.25 hours on Nov. 2nd.

The largest gathering on the ground in the late year was of 4000+ at Temple Valley/Cheesefoot Head on Nov. 15th.

A leucistic bird was at Winnall Moors from Apr. 19th-May 9th.

Collared Dove (C)

Streptopelia decaocto

Movements were noted as follows: 2 E, Titchfield Haven, Feb. 6th (cold weather); 2 E and 2 S, Gilkicker Point, May 3rd; 1 S, Lepe, Aug. 26th (to IOW); 1 SE very high, Tunworth, Oct. 26th.

The largest flock reported was of 100 at Lainston Farm (Sparsholt) on Feb. 7th.

Turtle Dove (B)

Streptopelia turtur

The first arrivals were two at Titchfield Haven and one at Keyhaven on Apr. 26th. Passage continued through May as shown by five flying NW at Normandy Marsh on 18th, nine at Southampton Western Docks on 20th and two groups totalling 15 at Chalton on 26th.

There was a welcome increase in breeding season records after the request in *HBR* 1985. In all a total of 107 pairs/singing males was reported from 55 sites, with noteworthy concentrations at Titchfield Haven (10), Martin Down (9 - 7 in 1985), Old Winchester Hill (6), Alice Holt Forest (6), Micheldever (5), Greywell (5) and Timsbury (4). Interestingly there was only one report from the New Forest, at Holmhill Passage. Please continue to submit all such records of this species.

Autumn numbers were low with only six Sept. birds reported, the last flying S at Greywell on 28th.

Ring-necked Parakeet (A)

Psittacula krameri

The only reports were of one at Titchfield Haven on July 3rd and 12th, an immature at Bishopstoke on Aug. 17th, one at East Cosham on Oct. 5th and a male at Winchester College on Nov. 14th. All records of this species are required.

Cuckoo (C)

Cuculus canorus

The first was at Wildgrounds (Gosport) on Apr. 15th. Birds were widespread by Apr. 24th.

Rufous phase females were noted at Bishopstoke on May 16th and Farlington Marshes on June 21st. There were seven breeding territories at Titchfield Haven and at least four juveniles were raised at Farlington.

There were six Sept. sightings, including the latest one moving through Teglease Down on 25th, and one for Oct., at Hamble Common on 11th.

Barn Owl (B)

Tyto alba

Seven pairs were proved breeding of which two definitely failed. Other summer sightings were made at a further 18 sites and in Jan.-Mar. and Sept.-Dec. there were reports from 18 additional localities. Two road casualties were reported.

Little Owl (B)

Athene noctua

42 pairs were reported at 33 sites, with 22 proved breeding. Other summer reports involved a further 25 localities. In Jan.-Mar. and Sept.-Dec. noted at 25 sites where not seen in summer. Of interest was a record of six calling simultaneously in fog at Stratfield Saye at 1000 hrs. on Oct. 5th. Three road casualties were reported.

Tawny Owl (C)

Strix aluco

Reported as very common in several areas, especially in the New Forest. 13 pairs were proved breeding with six known to have raised 16 young.

Long-eared Owl (A)

Asio otus

Two roosting at Titchfield Haven on Jan. 23rd/24th were probably present for much longer.

In the breeding season reported from two areas; in one, heard on May 23rd only, and in the other, where breeding occurred in 1985, a juvenile was heard on July 11th, 19th and 29th.

In late autumn there was a major influx to eastern Britain and Hampshire received a small number. At Farlington Marshes, two were found roosting on Nov. 22nd, numbers increasing to three on Nov. 29th, four on Dec. 13th and seven by Dec. 31st. The area was last used as a colonial roost in the winter of 1975/76. Other records were of singles at Colt Hill (Odiham) in mid morning on Nov. 23rd, roosting at Titchfield Haven from Dec. 15th-31st and hunting at dusk at Springhead (Greywell) on Dec. 28th.

Short-eared Owl (B)

Asio flammeus

Numbers were again on the low side. Recorded until May 1st (1, Langstone Harbour) and from Sept. 17th (1, Keyhaven).

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Coastal sites	7	4	10	5	1	0	0	0	2	6	5	8
Inland sites	8	19	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1

Sites with regular records or counts exceeding two were Farlington Marshes/Langstone Harbour (1/2, Jan. 1st-May 1st but 6, Mar. 10th; 1, Oct. 5th-26th; 2, Oct. 28th-Dec. 31st with one found freshly dead, Dec. 16th), Keyhaven area (1/2, Jan. 1st-Apr. 26th and Sept. 17th-Dec. 31st), Meonstoke (1, Jan. 26th, Feb. 22nd and Mar. 16th), Cheesefoot Head (4, Feb. 23rd) and near Kingsclere (4 roosting in long grass, Jan. 6th and 10 there, Feb. 19th, but none found in late year possibly due to disturbance by scramblers).

Singles were recorded at Woolmer Pond on Jan. 24th, Headbourne Worthy on Jan. 25th, Ashley Walk on Feb. 15th, East Aston on Feb. 19th, White Hill (Kingsclere) on Feb. 22nd, Martin Down on Mar. 30th, Howen Bottom (N.F.) on Mar. 31st, Park Shore (Beaulieu) on Apr. 6th, Baddesley Common on Apr. 15th, Sinah Warren on Oct. 4th, Slufers Inclosure (N.F.) on Oct. 16th, Titchfield Haven on Oct. 17th/18th, Sandy Point on Nov. 2nd, Tunworth on Nov. 3rd and Broadlands Lake on Dec. 19th.

Nightjar (B)

Caprimulgus europaeus

The first was a male which flew in off the sea at Southsea on May 11th. Counts of pairs/singing males included the following: Ampfield Wood, 1; Botley Wood, 1; Bramshill (Warren Heath), 8/9; Bramshott Common, 2/3; Bricksbury Hill, 8/9; Havant Thicket, 2; Hundred Acres, 1; Longmoor Inclosure, 6+; Ludshott Common, 3+; Martin Down, 1; Mortimer West End, 2; woodland behind Pound Lane nursery, North Baddesley, 3; Sandford Wood (Kingsclere), 1; West Wood (Winchester), 2; Woolmer, 20; It would be useful if observers would give grid references for breeding records of this and other species so that they can be used in the tetrad atlas.

There were several autumn records including two at Lower Test Marshes on Aug. 12th and singles at Woolmer on Sept. 2nd, Keyhaven Marsh on Sept. 14th, Needs Ore on Sept. 17th and near Wallop Brook (Broughton) between Sept. 19th and 24th.

Swift (C)*Apus apus*

There were only five Apr. sightings of two over Roydon Woods (N.F.) on 20th, seven at Nursling and one at Swaythling on 26th, and nine at Titchfield Haven and one at Winchester on 29th. Many sites reported firsts on May 2nd and thereafter gatherings of 100-250 were widespread.

Mid and late summer records included 160 NW over Chilling on June 18th, 275 at Warsash on June 24th, 700 at Beacon Hill (Warnford) on June 29th, 1500 there on Aug. 4th and 1400 at Old Winchester Hill on July 16th. An obvious southerly movement was noted at several localities from Aug. 8th-10th. After Aug. 20th only ten birds were reported in that month and in Sept. only five were noted with the last at Titchfield Haven and Farlington Marshes on 14th.

Kingfisher (B)*Alcedo atthis*

26 pairs were suspected or proved breeding with summer records for a further 19 localities also received. Comparative figures for 1985 were 16 and nine respectively, but since a request was made for all records in *HBR* 1985 this may not necessarily indicate a recovery. Please continue to submit all breeding season records.

Outside the breeding season, sightings were made at a further 39 inland localities and nine on the coast. At Keyhaven/Pennington five were counted on Jan. 26th.

Hoopoe (A)*Upupa epops*

Single birds were at Wellington C.P. on Mar. 25th (per AJN) and Whitemoor (N.F.) on May 16th (per RAC).

Wryneck (A)*Jynx torquilla*

Singles were at Farlington Marshes on Apr. 30th and Aug. 30th/Sept. 1st (PG), Lyndhurst on Aug. 30th (GM) and Church Crookham from Sept. 15th-22nd (IH, RH *et al.*).

Green Woodpecker (C)*Picus viridis*

Coastal records were of one at Farlington Marshes from Jan. 26th-Mar. 9th, a pair breeding just inland of Lepe and subsequently up to five feeding on short turf areas near the shore there, an adult feeding young at Brownwich and at least two pairs at Warsash.

Great Spotted Woodpecker (C)*Dendrocopos major*

Coastal records were of five drumming birds at Titchfield Haven in Apr., two flying W there on Oct. 16th, at least three pairs at Warsash and one at Farlington Marshes from Oct. 23rd-Dec. 31st.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (B)*Dendrocopos minor*

Breeding was proved at Bartley Heath (Hook), Bishops Dyke, Ellingham Lake, Hamble C.P., Highbridge, South Warnborough, Stodham Park (Liss), Wildgrounds (Gosport) and Yew Tree Heath (N.F.). 13 other pairs were seen on more than one date and other summer records were received for a further 43 sites. In Jan.-Mar. and Aug.-Dec. birds were noted at 56 sites where not recorded in summer, including singles at Farlington Marshes on Mar. 2nd, Sept. 20th-24th, Nov. 2nd (2), Nov. 30th and Dec. 24th.

Woodlark (B)*Lullula arborea*

A good number was recorded away from breeding sites in the early year, with one at Blackmoor Fruit Farm on Jan. 2nd, two over Bramshill R.T. on Jan. 11th, one or two at Browndown from Jan. 11th-Feb. 8th, four flying E at Hill Head in a cold weather movement

of Skylarks on Feb. 6th (others probably missed), one flushed from reedbed at Eversley G.P. on Feb. 9th, four at Purbrook from Feb. 23rd-Mar. 3rd, one flying NW over Fleet Pond on Mar. 29th and another singing and moving W over Titchfield Haven on Apr. 4th. The last two records probably refer to birds returning to breeding sites.

The BTO organised a national survey of this species in 1986. In Hampshire a total of 70-73 pairs/singing males was located, with 34-36 in the New Forest, 34 at 15 sites in the N.E. and 2/3 at a nursery site. Allowing for incomplete coverage, especially in the New Forest, a total of about 90 pairs is indicated.

Post breeding records included a flock of 15 at a N.E. site on Sept. 8th, one on a ploughed field at Hillside on Oct. 25th, two flying S over Bricksbury Hill on Nov. 4th and two at a N.F. site on Dec. 20th.

Skylark (C)

Alauda arvensis

The cold weather in early Feb. brought visible movements and big numbers to both coastal and inland sites. 600 moved S at Netley on 5th and 520 S at Fleet Pond on 6th. Also on 6th, 2038 moved E in eight hours at Hill Head/Titchfield Haven and a flock of 600 was at Brownwich. The movement at Hill Head continued on 7th with a further 794 E in three hours. On 8th/9th there were 2000+ at Brownwich, 1100+ at Danebury, 1000+ at Southwick and 800 at Higworth (Hayling). Later in the cold spell 800 were at Temple Valley (Winchester) on Feb. 27th and 500 were at Brownwich and Bushy Down (Droxford) on Mar. 1st.

In autumn a comprehensive series of counts at Tunworth (Basingstoke) showed a steady movement between Sept. 20th and Nov. 11th. A total of 735 moved SE/S/SW in 65 hours with peaks of 72 in three hours on Sept. 26th and 64 in three hours on Nov. 3rd. During the same period passage was also noted at coastal sites with counts of 80 W at Sinah Common in two hours on Oct. 26th and 148 W there in four hours on Nov. 2nd.

Sand Martin (C)

Riparia riparia

The first was at Avon Causeway on Mar. 16th, then small numbers were recorded until the end of the month with 11 at Bishopstoke on 31st. In Apr. significant counts included 20 at Fleet Pond on 4th/5th, 50 there on 28th and 45 at Timsbury G.P. on the same day. The highest spring count was of 100 at Sleaford Reservoir (Bordon) on May 17th.

Breeding numbers continued to recover after the crash of 1984. Counts of pairs/occupied nests were: Bishopstoke, 120; Hamer Warren (Ibsley), 140; North Boarhunt, 6; Sleaford S.P., 160; Timsbury, 65. Unfortunately the Sleaford colony was destroyed by contractors in mid July.

Autumn reed bed roosts were reported from Fleet Pond (max. 110, Aug. 4th), Farlington Marshes (max. 50, Sept. 8th), Titchfield Haven (50, Sept. 18th) and Milton Lakes, Portsmouth (30, Sept. 18th). On Hayling, there were 80 at Sandy Point on Sept. 5th and the same number at Sinah G.P. on 22nd. The last was at Titchfield Haven on Oct. 8th.

Swallow (C)

Hirundo rustica

The first was at Fleet Pond on Mar. 27th. High counts during the spring included 150 at Winchester on Apr. 27th and 200 at Eversley G.P. on May 11th and Tundry Pond on May 17th.

Return migration was noted from early July with 17 SE at Sway in 35 minutes on 1st. A roost at Farlington Marshes peaked at 500 on Sept. 8th. Peak movements occurred in mid Sept. At Lepe easterly movements of 600 per hour occurred on 18th and at Twyford a flock of c. 500 moved through on 19th. At East Cosham up to 1000 moved E/NE in the morning of 20th. Most had left by the end of Sept. and no count exceeded 13 in Oct. apart from 150 at

Timsbury on 5th. 45 were noted on Nov. 1st/2nd including 29 at Sinah but only nine more were recorded in that month with the last at Chilling on 28th and Sway on 30th.

House Martin (C)

Delichon urbica

The first was at Ashley Walk (N.F.) on Apr. 1st but there was only a handful of records until the third week of Apr. when steadily increasing numbers were reported. High counts during the spring passage included 250 at Winchester on May 2nd and 200 at Yateley G.P. on May 10th and Longparish on May 13th.

In autumn four figure flocks included movements of about 1000 per hour at Bishopstoke on Sept. 11th, 1000+ at Warsash on Sept. 18th, several thousands moving E/NE at East Cosham on Sept. 20th, 1000 per hour at Portsdown Hill on Sept. 24th and 1000 at Titchfield Haven on Oct. 3rd. Passage continued throughout Oct. with 82 at Titchfield Haven on 23rd and 33 at Gosport on 24th. 40 were recorded on Nov. 1st/2nd including 34 at Sinah. Thereafter 11 were recorded with the last at Farlington on Nov. 30th.

Tree Pipit (C)

Anthus trivialis

The first arrival was at Stoney Cross on Mar. 30th. Only eight passage birds were noted with most spring records being of singing males in suitable breeding habitat. The species is widespread in the N.E. with a total of 90+ pairs/singing males reported from 13 sites.

In autumn return migrants were seen from mid July until early Oct. with half monthly totals as follows:

Jul	Aug	Aug	Sept	Sept	Oct
15-31	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15
2	31	196	69	41	3

Counts included 82 at Old Winchester Hill between Aug. 3rd and Sept. 21st, 39 at Titchfield Haven between Aug. 14th and Oct. 2nd, 18+ over Farlington Marshes between 0320 and 0600 hrs. on Aug. 24th, 22 at Beacon Hill (Warnford) on Aug. 31st and 24 there on Sept. 7th. The last was one flying S over Tunworth on Oct. 3rd.

Meadow Pipit (C)

Anthus pratensis

The cold spell in early Feb. caused visible movement through and into the county. On 6th 28 moved E at Hill Head and six SSE at Church Crookham in a heavy movement of other species. Several flocks of 100+ were in cabbage fields at Hamble Lane on 7th and the wintering flock at Camp Farm S.F. peaked at 260 on 15th. At Ibsley a flock of 100 was present on 18th.

Spring migration was noted from Mar. 8th (10 N, West Hayling and 60, Hayling Oyster Beds) until mid Apr. Peak counts were made in late Mar./early Apr. with 127 N at Rake, 326 NNW at Tunworth in two hours and 404 N at Long Down in 2.5 hours on Mar. 26th and 626 NNW at Tunworth in 2.5 hours on Apr. 1st.

Return passage brought 200 to Longwater Lawn (Lyndhurst) on Aug. 31st. A painstaking series of counts at Tunworth in autumn showed daily movements ranging in numbers from just one or two birds per hour to high counts of 384 SE/S in 3.5 hours on Oct. 3rd and 154 SE/S/SW in 2.5 hours on Oct. 7th. In all 1688 were noted there between Sept. 18th and Nov. 15th. The most elsewhere was 173 E at Hayling Bay in 5.5 hours on Oct. 4th.

Rock Pipit (C)

Anthus petrosus

In the early year recorded from coastal sites until Apr. 17th. At Langstone Harbour islands 98 were counted on Jan. 3rd, 51 on Feb. 21st, 13 on Apr. 8th and the last two on Apr. 16th. At Warsash a similar pattern of falling numbers occurred from a peak of 11 on Jan. 13th to the

last on Apr. 17th. The highest numbers elsewhere were at Eling with a maximum of eight on Mar. 9th.

In autumn birds were back at wintering sites from Oct. 4th. At Warsash one was present on Oct. 10th, seven on Oct. 23rd and ten on Nov. 4th and Dec. 18th. The highest number recorded elsewhere was at Budds Farm S.F. with five on Dec. 14th.

Water Pipit (B)

Anthus spinoletta

Recorded until Apr. 16th (3, Titchfield Haven) and from Oct. 5th (1, Hillside).

Monthly totals at various habitats:

	J	F	M	A	O	N	D
Coastal sites	1	4	8	5	6	10	3
Cress beds	2	6	12	8	0	2	3
Sewage farms	3	6	3	8	0	2	1
Others	0	1	12	5	1	2	2

Counts reached five at Alresford C.B. (max. 5, Feb. 8th), Camp Farm S.F. (max. 8, Apr. 6th), Headbourne Worthy C.B. (max. 8, Mar. 23rd and Apr. 6th), River Avon at Ringwood (10+, Mar. 31st; 5, Apr. 12th) and Titchfield Haven (7, Mar. 23rd; 6, Nov. 9th).

Yellow Wagtail (B)

Motacilla flava

As in recent years wintering birds were again present on the coast with two at Dibden Bay in Jan.

The first migrants arrived on Apr. 1st when two flew over Tunworth. Half monthly totals of spring passage birds are shown below.

Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15
27	83	38

The highest counts were of eight NNE at RAF Odiham on Apr. 14th and eight at Eversley G.P. and nine at Broadlands Lake on Apr. 23rd.

Breeding was proved or suspected at seven sites with 20 pairs/singing males involved.

One or two birds were seen away from known breeding sites in July but return passage did not get underway until the second half of Aug. Approximate half monthly totals, excluding roosts, are shown below.

Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sept 1-15	Sept 16-30	Oct 1-15
1	495	662	85	10

Peak movements occurred in late Aug./early Sept. High counts included 50, Warsash, Aug. 24th and 90 there, Aug. 29th; 38, Beacon Hill (Warnford), Aug. 31st; 36, Pennington Marsh, Sept. 2nd; 146 NW, Titchfield Haven, Sept. 4th; 40+, Bishopstoke, Sept. 5th; 205, Sinah, Sept. 6th and 40, Beckford, Sept. 12th.

Counts of roosting birds also peaked in early Sept. At Farlington Marshes, the reed bed roost increased from 70 on Aug. 16th to 300 on Sept. 6th and fell to 20 by Sept. 23rd. At Titchfield Haven the peak count was 140 on Sept. 9th. Ten were seen in Oct. up to 11th but the last for the year was one at Paulsgrove R.T. on Nov. 1st.

Birds showing the characteristics of the Blue-headed Wagtail *M.f. flava* were at Farlington Marshes on Apr. 16th, 26th and 27th.

Grey Wagtail (C)

Motacilla cinerea

Few significant counts were made in the early year apart from ten at Budds Farm S.F. on Jan. 9th and 17th and 27 at Eastleigh S.F. on Feb. 10th.

After a poor breeding season in 1985 (only 35 pairs reported) numbers increased with 64 pairs proved or suspected breeding in 1986.

A trickle of autumn migrants was noted at coastal and well-watched inland sites. There were peak counts of four at Keyhaven/Pennington on Sept. 7th, six at Lepe on Sept. 15th, four at Warsash on Sept. 23rd, three over Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 28th and four at Timsbury on Oct. 12th.

The only count of note in the late year was of five at Budds Farm S.F. on Dec. 14th.

Pied Wagtail (C)

Motacilla alba yarrelli

There were few records of migrant birds in spring but regular counts from Tunworth in autumn between Sept. 20th and Nov. 15th identified a steady passage totalling 152 birds in 50 hours observation. The peak count was 23 S on Oct. 4th.

The roost on steam pipes at North Baddesley was counted regularly through the year, monthly maxima being 541, 636, 380, 221, 130, 20, 65, 20, 0, 150, 475, 820. The count of 820 on Dec. 22nd was the highest in the county since 1961.

Reported roosting numbers elsewhere were generally low, the only counts of note being of 250 in a Sway greenhouse on Nov. 4th and 500 at Queen Alexandra Hospital (Cosham) on Nov. 8th.

White Wagtail (A)

Motacilla alba alba

The first of the year was at Timsbury on Mar. 30th but as usual the majority of records was in Apr. On the coast the first was at Farlington Marshes on Apr. 3rd followed by four on 6th and one or two on several dates until the end of the month. Two were at Titchfield Haven on Apr. 11th. Inland, there was one at Tunworth on Apr. 1st followed by singles at Eversley G.P. on eight dates in Apr. with two there on 19th. Other Apr. records included three at M27 G.P. (Eastleigh) on 14th/15th, and singles at Fleet Pond on 21st and Winchester College on 27th. There were only two May records of singles at Farlington Marshes on 5th and Eversley G.P. on 11th.

Wren (D)

Troglodytes troglodytes

Dunnock (D)

Prunella modularis

Robin (C)

Erithacus rubecula

Passage was suggested by a total of 31 caught and ringed at Southampton Western Docks between Aug. 4th and Oct. 12th and a possible influx of 12 at Lepe on Oct. 6th.

Nightingale (B)

Luscinia megarhynchos

The first was at Holybourne Down on Apr. 16th, records following from several sites before the end of the month. A total of 80 pairs/singing males was reported from 43 sites, with the highest counts nine at Martin Down CBC (where numbers have varied between 7 and 16 since 1981) and four at Hazeley Heath and Lepe.

In August, migrants (single birds unless otherwise stated) were reported from Southampton Western Docks (10th, 22nd, 30th; 3 on 23rd), Lepe (2 on 12th; 3 on 19th), Keyhaven (16th/17th), Southwick (17th), Hamble Common (18th), Browndown (29th), Sinah (30th) and Rownhams (3 on 30th). The last were singles at Farlington Marshes from Aug. 22nd-Sept. 10th and Lepe on Sept. 18th.

Black Redstart (A)*Phoenicurus ochruros*

In the early year recorded from Budds Farm S.F. (1 m, Jan. 9th), Dibden Bay (1/2, Jan. 4th-Mar. 7th), Paulsgrove R.T. (1 m, Jan. 2nd and 12th; 1 f, Jan. 26th) and Gilkicker Point (1, Jan. 1st-Feb 8th with 2, Jan. 4th; 1, Mar. 14th).

All spring sightings were inland, with singles at Acres Down on Mar. 16th, Ringwood on Mar. 19th, Eastleigh S.F. from Apr. 3rd-5th, Crondall, Tadley, North Baddesley, Widley Farm (Portsdown) and Basingstoke between Apr. 12th and 15th, Beacon Hill, Warnford on Apr. 28th, East Meon on May 9th and Widley Farm on May 16th.

Autumn records began with an early male at Old Alresford on Sept. 9th. In Oct. singles were recorded from 11th at Hamptworth, Dean Hill, Tichborne Down, Beacon Hill, Butlocks Heath and Minstead, but in Nov. the only inland record was one at Otterbourne on 8th. Sightings on the coast were made from Nov. 1st, records coming from Keyhaven (1, Nov. 1st and 29th), Calshot (1, Nov. 9th), A.R.E. Portsdown (4, mid Nov.), Freemantle, Southampton (1, Nov. 10th), Gilkicker Point (1, Nov. 20th), Hurst Castle (1, Dec. 6th), Sandy Point (1, Dec. 7th), Weston sailing club (1, Dec. 10th), Dibden Bay (1, Dec. 14th) and Hayling oyster beds (1, Dec. 31st).

Redstart (C)*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

The first were two males at Pitts Wood on Apr. 18th. Few migrants were reported with a total of only 12 away from known breeding sites up to May 19th.

Breeding numbers are difficult to assess because of incomplete coverage, but densities in suitable habitat were similar to previous years with 15 singing males at Woolmer Forest and 20 in three tetrads in the New Forest.

One was at Farlington Marshes on July 27th but no further migrants were recorded until Aug. 17th, when the main movement got underway. In contrast to the spring, higher than usual numbers were recorded. Approximate half monthly totals are shown below.

Aug	Sept	Sept	Oct
16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15
41	123	83	3

Notable totals came from Beacon Hill, Warnford (43, peaks 12, Sept. 4th; 17, Sept. 7th), Old Winchester Hill (33, peaks 10, Sept. 7th and 21st), Farlington Marshes (29, peak 5, Sept. 8th) and Titchfield Haven (13). Six at Winchester College on Sept. 26th was said to be unprecedented. The last for the year were single males at Twyford and Farlington on Oct. 6th.

Whinchat (B)*Saxicola rubetra*

The first was at Lodge Farm (Odiham) on Apr. 20th. Thereafter 27 migrants were recorded until May 21st with a maximum of three at Farlington Marshes on May 5th.

Summering birds were again present in the New Forest with ten pairs/singing males located in suitable breeding habitat.

A strong autumn passage was noted between July 24th and Oct. 20th. Half monthly totals for the peak period are shown below.

Aug	Aug	Sept	Sept	Oct
1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15
1	166	203	227	3

High counts included 34 at Beaulieu Heath East on Aug. 27th, 14 at Bishopstoke on Sept. 8th and 25 there on Sept. 12th, 19 at Farlington and 25 at Dibden Bay on Sept. 18th, ten at Timsbury on Sept. 19th/20th and 14 at Lower Test Marshes on Sept. 21st. The last birds of the year were singles at Hayling Island on Oct. 17th and Farlington Marshes on Oct. 20th.

Stonechat (C)

Saxicola torquata

Up to Feb. 10th a total of 39 was reported from the coast (29 at eight sites, max. 6, Paulsgrove, Jan. 12th and 9, Titchfield Haven, Jan. 16th), river valleys (6 at four sites) and the N.E. heaths (4 at two sites). None was reported from the N.F. - this may be due to under recording but cf. late year records below. During the severe weather which lasted until Mar. 8th the only records were of singles at Ludshott Common on Feb. 15th and Broadlands Lake on Feb. 21st and two at Langstone Harbour entrance on Feb. 20th. The thaw brought an immediate return with eight at seven non breeding sites between Mar. 8th and 26th and records from traditional New Forest and N.E. localities.

In the N.E. the decline in the breeding population noted last year continued, with only 10 pairs located compared with 21 in 1985 and 44 in 1984. Although coverage was probably less thorough in 1986, counts at two well-watched sites, Woolmer and Ludshott, illustrate the decline over the past few years.

	1983	1984	1985	1986
Woolmer	14	14	6	3
Ludshott	6	8	4	3

In the New Forest the weather was not so severe and possibly a slight recovery occurred, e.g. at Bishop's Dyke three pairs raised young compared with only one in 1985, but the lack of systematic coverage makes firm conclusions difficult. Elsewhere single pairs bred successfully at Baddesley Common, Brownwich Cliffs, Havant Thicket, Lower Test Marshes and Warsash, and two pairs were seen near Winchester S.F. on May 9th.

Autumn numbers were low with a maximum of eight at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 5th. In Nov./Dec. a total of 46 was reported from the coast (24 at nine sites, max. 7, Farlington Marshes, Dec. 6th), river valleys (5 at three sites), N.E. heaths (5 at three sites) and the New Forest (12 at four sites, max. 7, Ashley Walk, Nov. 28th).

Wheatear (B)

Oenanthe oenanthe

The first was near Basingstoke on Mar. 14th with spring passage heavy in early Apr. and extending to mid May. Half monthly totals for the migration period are shown below.

Mar	Apr	Apr	May	May
16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15	16-31
40	249	51	30	4

The high total in early Apr. included 40 at Farlington Marshes and 25 at Bishopstoke/Southampton Airport on Apr. 3rd.

In the New Forest up to six males were located in suitable breeding habitat between mid May and mid July but only one pair was known to have bred successfully.

Four migrants were recorded in July from 12th but the main movement started on Aug. 8th. Approximate half monthly totals are shown below.

Jul	Aug	Aug	Sept	Sept	Oct
16-31	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15
3	57	538	134	79	22

During the peak movement counts in excess of 15 were: 26, Beaulieu Heath and 34, Sinah Common, Aug. 27th; 23, Sinah Common, Aug. 30th; 30, Southampton Western Docks and 22, Farlington Marshes, Aug. 31st; 18, Crondall, Sept. 7th. The last was on Oct. 12th apart from a late bird at Farlington Marshes on Nov. 3rd/4th.

Ring Ouzel (A)

Turdus torquatus

In spring two males were at Sandy Point on Apr. 6th with a female there on May 10th. Single males were also recorded at Old Winchester Hill on Apr. 17th, Ashley Walk on Apr.

18th, Beacon Hill (Bricksbury) on May 2nd/3rd and Portsdown on May 6th (flying N).

In autumn a female at Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 30th was the only record for that month. Other records were of three at Farlington Marshes on Oct. 5th with two there until 19th and one remaining until 31st, two at Sandy Point on Oct. 11th and singles there on Oct. 18th and 25th, a female at Eversley G.P. on Oct. 12th/13th and one at Tunworth on Oct. 13th.

Blackbird (C)

Turdus merula

Notable winter counts included 76, Titchfield Haven, Jan. 16th and 34 there, Dec. 22nd; 50, Thornhill Park Woods, Feb. 21st and 32, Farlington Marshes, Jan. 4th.

In spring one was heard moving after dark at Farlington Marshes on Mar. 13th. Very little breeding information was received apart from a pair feeding young at Southampton Station during Jan. and 12 pairs at Winchester College.

More than usual were recorded during autumn. Selected counts included c. 100, Southampton Western Docks, Oct. 12th and 80 there, Oct. 18th; 57, Sandy Point, Oct. 18th; 40+, Tunworth, 34, Beacon Hill (Warnford) and 45, Timsbury, Nov. 2nd; 30+ moving at night, Farlington Marshes, Nov. 4th; 50, Sandy Point, Nov. 15th and 52, Titchfield Haven, Nov. 20th. A total of 12 were observed moving at Tunworth between Oct. 16th and Nov. 15th.

Fieldfare (B)

Turdus pilaris

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	O	N	D
Total on ground	5975	4800	2225	455	21	1350	590
Localities	28	31	15	13	3	17	11
Total moving	115	21820	2220	0	5	7990	0

Flocks exceeding 400 were: 450+, Shepherd Springs (Andover), Jan. 1st; 600, Crondall, Jan. 11th; 575, Sherfield-on-Loddon and 440 roosting, Fleet Pond, Jan. 12th; c. 2500, Southwick/Widley area, Feb. 6th-10th; 500, Stoke Fruit Farm (Hayling), Feb. 8th-16th; 650+, Bishopstoke, Feb. 9th; 1000, Fawley Down, Mar. 2nd.

A massive influx/movement occurred during severe weather around Feb. 5th-10th. 21620 were observed moving during this period, the highest counts being of 1870 S at Netley in two hours on 5th, 14114 E at Hill Head in three hours on 6th and 925+ S/SE over Church Crookham in three hours on the same date and 3794 E at Hill Head in three hours on 7th. A coastal movement occurred on Mar. 1st when 2190 were observed including 870 W at South Hayling and 1134 W at Browdown. The last spring birds were two at Eversley G.P. on Apr. 24th and one at Ringwood on May 2nd.

In autumn the first was at Tunworth on Oct. 15th followed by three moving W at Eversley G.P. on Oct. 18th. Numbers remained very low to the end of the year apart from Nov. 2nd/3rd, when a total of 7695 moved mostly W. The largest counts were, on 2nd, 2435 W in three hours at Tunworth, 656 W at Fleet Pond, 843 off W/NW from Beacon Hill (Warnford) and 500 SW over Old Winchester Hill and, on 3rd, 2200 W in three hours at Tunworth.

Song Thrush (C)

Turdus philomelos

The largest counts were: 42, Winchester College, Feb. 2nd; 27, Titchfield Haven, Feb. 10th; 30+, Sinah Common and 35, Sandy Point, Oct. 12th. Seven moved NW at Warsash in cold weather on Feb. 10th (*cf.* Redwing and Fieldfare).

As with Blackbird there was evidence of a substantial autumn immigration. Between Sept. 20th and Nov. 15th 195 were recorded moving including 13 W/SW at Beacon Hill

(Warnford) on Sept. 28th and a total of 101 at Tunworth between Sept. 26th and Nov. 15th. 40+ were estimated moving at Farlington Marshes after dark on Nov. 4th.

One showing the characteristics of the continental race *T.p.philomelos* was at Sway on Oct. 29th.

Redwing (B)

Turdus iliacus

Approximate monthly totals:

	J	F	M	A	S	O	N	D
Total on ground	5660	4950	1845	92	14	110	1150	240
Localities	30	28	24	10	3	25	17	7
Total moving	30	16650	4025	0	2	3230	7920	0

The largest flocks on the ground were: c. 500, Sowley Estate, Jan. 13th; 400, Crookham Wharf, Jan. 30th; c. 2000, Southwick/Widley area, Jan. 6th-10th; 400+, Bishopstoke, Feb. 9th.

As with Fieldfare, large numbers were observed moving between Feb. 5th and 10th. The largest counts were of 2800 S at Netley on 5th, 9669 E at Titchfield Haven in three hours on 6th and 1357 E there in three hours the next day. A total of 14050 was noted moving during this period. On Mar. 1st 3915 moved W along the coast, the largest counts being of 2137 in two hours at South Hayling and 1574 in two hours at Browndown. During Apr. there were several records until 13th, then two at Eversley G.P. on 24th and the last at Littleton (Winchester) on May 10th.

In autumn the first were seven at Bishopstoke, two at Warsash and one flying S at Tunworth on Sept. 27th. A total of 10022 moved over Tunworth between Sept. 30th and Nov. 20th including a peak of 6190 W in three hours on Nov. 3rd. Numbers remained very low in the late year with the largest flock on the ground 118 at Telegraph Hill (N.F.) on Nov. 4th.

Mistle Thrush (C)

Turdus viscivorus

Approximate monthly totals of flocks (10+) on the ground:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	28	20	21	62	14	30	31	61	137	82	46	19
Localities	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	5	3	3	1

The largest counts were: 50, Wilverley Plain (N.F.), Apr. 6th; 51, Queen's Parade (Aldershot), Aug. 2nd; 70, Ashley Walk, Sept. 21st; 31, Winchester College, Oct. 14th.

One flew SSE at Church Crookham in severe weather on Feb. 6th.

Cetti's Warbler (B)

Cettia cetti

During April-July the numbers of pairs/singing males reported were: Avon Valley, 8 at six sites; Test Valley, 10 at four sites; Itchen Valley, 7 at four sites; coast, 10 at four sites; total 35 at 18 sites. Allowing for incomplete coverage, especially in the Avon Valley, the county population is likely to approach 50 pairs/singing males. At Titchfield Haven, seven breeding territories were recorded and 30-40 were estimated present in Oct.-Dec. including 16 singing males in Nov.

Outside the breeding season reports were received from two further river valley sites and two coastal sites.

Grasshopper Warbler (B)

Locustella naevia

1986 appears to have been the worst year ever for the species in Hampshire. The first were singing males at Titchfield Haven and Old Winchester Hill on Apr. 24th. A further 11 was reported on one date only up to May 16th and all probably related to passage birds. The only

pairs/reeling males apparently holding territory were at Titchfield Haven (2), Bishops Dyke (2), Baddesley Common (1) and Itchen Abbas (1). During June/July single birds were recorded on one date only at five other sites. There were reports of absence from Winnall Moors, Martin Down, Brambridge and Bishopstoke - all sites which have held birds in previous years.

In autumn three were at Lower Test Marshes on Aug. 12th with one there on 14th. One was trapped at Titchfield Haven on Sept. 4th and the last was at Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 7th.

Sedge Warbler (C)

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus

The first was at Lower Test Marshes on Apr. 22nd followed by one at Broadlands Lake the following day. A further 15 were reported to Apr. 27th including eight at Titchfield Haven on 24th (the first there). Breeding season records suggest that the population has stabilised following the decline since 1984. Selected counts of pairs/singing males were: Bishopstoke/Mansbridge, 20+; Titchfield Haven, 49; Winchester College, 11; Winnall Moors, c. 40.

During autumn 251 were trapped at Farlington Marshes from July 20th-Sept. 24th with peaks of 107 on Aug. 9th, 40 on Aug. 10th and 21 on Sept. 6th. On Aug. 9th the reedbed there was estimated to have held a minimum of 300 birds. Passage was poor at Lower Test Marshes where only 72 were trapped from July 6th-Aug. 24th. In addition 69 were trapped at Southampton Western Docks from Aug. 4th-Sept. 28th. The last were four at Winchester College on Oct. 4th.

Aquatic Warbler (A)

Acrocephalus paludicola

A first year bird was trapped at Farlington Marshes on Aug. 10th (PMP, DAB).

Marsh Warbler (A)

Acrocephalus palustris

Single singing males were present in two areas from June 14th-25th and June 29th-July 11th.

Reed Warbler (C) *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

The first were two at Titchfield Haven on Apr. 24th.

Counts of pairs/singing males during the breeding season included: Bishopstoke/Mansbridge, 25; Ellingham/Ivy Lake, 12; Farlington Marshes, 17; Mockbeggar Lake, 2 (the first ever there), Titchfield Haven, 89; Winnall Moors, 25-30, a 25% reduction on 1985 and the worst season there since 1980.

In autumn 174 were trapped at Farlington Marshes from July 20th-Sept. 24th (peak 36, Aug. 9th). 156 were trapped at Lower Test Marshes from July 4th-Aug. 26th and 46 at Southampton Western Docks from Aug. 4th-Oct. 8th. A leucistic individual was at Titchfield Haven on Sept. 2nd and the last was there on Oct. 13th.

Melodious Warbler (A)

Hippolais polyglotta

One was at Eling on Sept. 26th (PFF). The eleventh Hampshire record.

Dartford Warbler (B)

Sylvia undata

In the New Forest about 50 pairs were reported to HOS; overall numbers were believed to be similar to 1985 with about 200 pairs present, despite the severe spells of weather. Elsewhere five pairs/singing males were present at one locality, one pair bred at another and at least one individual was present at a third site with no evidence of breeding. Outside the breeding season and excluding the New Forest birds were recorded at two inland and 11

coastal localities. Monthly totals are shown below.

	J	F	M	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	11	3	0	6	11	7	8	2
Localities	5	3	0	5	5	3	4	1

Barred Warbler (A)

Sylvia nisoria

A first winter bird was at Farlington Marshes on Aug. 22nd (PEC, BS *et al*). This is only the third Hampshire record with previous sightings in 1943 and 1965.

Lesser Whitethroat (B)

Sylvia curruca

The first were four singing males at Eversley G.P. on Apr. 24th. A further 23 were reported from 16 localities from Apr. 26th-May 3rd. In the breeding season a total of only 69 pairs/singing males was reported from 44 localities. The largest counts received were of seven singing males at Winchester S.F., five pairs at Eversley G.P., five pairs at Martin Down CBC (seven in 1985) and four pairs again in the Bishopstoke/Mansbridge area.

During autumn the highest numbers were present during late Aug. 113 were recorded on Hayling Island between Aug. 9th and Sept. 6th with a peak of 21 on Aug. 23rd. At Lepe 59 were recorded from Aug. 10th-Sept. 22nd with ten on Aug. 29th the highest count. A total of 34 was trapped at Southampton Western Docks from Aug. 10th-Sept. 22nd including ten on Sept. 20th. The last was at Tunworth on Sept. 27th apart from one at Farlington Marshes on Dec. 2nd (CBC). This is the second Dec. record for the county.

Whitethroat (B)

Sylvia communis

The first was one at Winnall Moors on Apr. 19th. A further 27 were recorded from Apr. 22nd-29th. During the breeding season a total of 116 pairs/singing males was reported from 42 localities. Despite lower numbers being reported compared with 1985, the population is likely to have remained stable as there were 15 pairs in the Bishopstoke/Mansbridge area (14 in 1985) and six pairs at Martin Down CBC (five in 1985). Other notable counts included: Titchfield Haven, 10; Eversley G.P., 8; Ludshott Common, 6+; Winchester S.F., 6.

In autumn 78 were recorded at Lepe from Aug. 11th-Sept. 20th and 51 were recorded on Hayling Island from Aug. 9th-Sept. 20th. Passage was very poor at Southampton Western Docks where only 17 were trapped Aug. 4th-Sept. 6th. 30 at Dibden Bay on Aug. 17th was notable. The last was at Bishopstoke on Sept. 27th.

Garden Warbler (B)

Sylvia borin

The first was at Romsey on Apr. 12th followed by two at Rownhams on Apr. 21st. A total of 91 pairs/singing males was reported in the breeding season including 14 at Beacon Hill (Warnford) and 12 at Yateley G.P. and Ellingham/Ivy Lakes.

Autumn passage was poorly reported. 28 were trapped at Southampton Western Docks from Aug. 9th-Oct. 8th and 20 were trapped in an East Cosham garden from Aug. 18th-Sept. 20th. The last were singles at Tunworth on Oct. 11th and Hillside on Oct. 14th apart from one trapped at Plaitford Green on Nov. 29th (GCE, MJB). This is the latest ever for the county.

Blackcap (B)

Sylvia atricapilla

Approximate monthly totals of individuals wintering:

	J	F	M	N	D
Males	18	15	20	2	8
Females	7	21	22	2	4
Not sexed	1	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	26	36	43	4	13
Localities	18	20	28	3	10

As in 1985 many records were of birds forced to feed at garden bird tables during the severe Feb. weather. Some of these subsequently remained well into Apr., making it difficult to judge when the main arrival of migrants took place. During the breeding season the highest counts of pairs/singing males were: Beacon Hill (Warnford), 9; Bishopstoke/Mansbridge, 20+; Ellingham/Ivy Lake, 17; Old Basing, 10; Roydon Woods, 9; Southampton Common CBC, 8.

Autumn passage reached a peak during late Sept. Peak counts were of 26 at Beacon Hill on Sept. 21st and 30+ at Gilkicker Point on Sept. 27th. 99 were trapped at Southampton Western Docks between Aug. 4th-Oct. 18th (including 43 in Oct.) with peaks of 15 on Sept. 20th and Oct. 4th. 52 were ringed in an East Cosham garden from Aug. 15th-Oct. 11th (peak 9, Sept. 20th). At Lepe 50 were recorded from Aug. 11th-Oct. 6th with most in late Aug.

Yellow-browed Warbler (A)

Phylloscopus inornatus

One was with a tit party at Wellington C.P. on Nov. 30th/Dec. 1st (RNS, MASc, JMCK).

Wood Warbler (B)

Phylloscopus sibilatrix

The first were at Islands Thorns Inclosure and Fritham on Apr. 25th. A further 14 were reported until May 12th with nine between May 3rd and 5th. Away from the New Forest breeding season reports of pairs/singing males were as follows: Bourley Common, 4; Bramshott/Hammer Commons, 2; Crab Wood, 1; Glenbervie Inclosure (Alice Holt), 2; Ludshott Common, 1; Waggoners Wells, 5. Few autumn migrants were recorded, the last being at Dogmersfield Lake on Aug. 21st and Broughton on Aug. 31st.

Chiffchaff (B)

Phylloscopus collybita

Minimum numbers wintering:

Jan	Jan	Feb	Feb	Nov	Nov	Dec	Dec
1-15	16-31	1-14	15-28	1-15	16-30	1-15	16-31
14	9	5	3	15	10	24	27

In the early year the largest count was of six at Eastleigh S.F. on Jan. 4th with no other count exceeding three. Numbers were greatly reduced during the severe weather in Feb. Singles were at Bishopstoke, Headley Down and Winchester on Mar. 2nd followed by the first obvious arrival of migrants from Mar. 12th.

Good numbers were again recorded on autumn passage. At Southampton Western Docks 84 were trapped from Aug. 31st-Oct. 12th (peak 20, Sept. 20th), 45 were trapped in an East Cosham garden from Sept. 14th-Oct. 11th and 46 were recorded at Lepe from Sept. 4th-24th. Other large counts included 59 at Beacon Hill (Warnford) on Sept. 7th and 34 there on Sept. 28th, 36 at Old Winchester Hill on Sept. 21st and 25 at Bishopstoke on Sept. 27th. Good numbers remained well into Oct. with 15 at Bishopstoke on 11th and 11 at Old Winchester Hill on 12th. Ten at Sinah Warren on Nov. 2nd may have included some migrants. At Eastleigh S.F. 20 were ringed from Nov. 27th-Dec. 27th (including 9, Dec. 12th) and ringing revealed a minimum of eight at Budds Farm S.F. during Dec.

Individuals showing the characteristics of one of the northern races *P.c.abietinus* or *P.c.tristis* were at Bickton on Apr. 25th and Eastleigh S.F. on Dec. 27th/28th.

Willow Warbler (C)

Phylloscopus trochilus

The first was at Eversley G.P. on Mar. 25th followed by one at Dibden Bay on Mar. 31st. Numbers remained low during early Apr. with the main arrival from 14th onwards including 40 at Sinah Common on 14th, 45+ at Springhead (Greywell) on 23rd and 30+ at Emer Bog (Romsey) on 25th. Counts of pairs/singing males included Beacon Hill (Warnford),

23; Bishopstoke/Mansbridge, 25+; Titchfield Haven, 13; Wellington C.P., 25.

Peak autumn numbers occurred in mid Aug. 409 were recorded at Old Winchester Hill from July 27th-Sept. 17th and at nearby Beacon Hill 237 were logged from July 27th-Sept. 7th (peak 105, Aug. 10th). Other notable counts were of 50 at Dibden Bay on Aug. 17th and c. 100 at Warsash on Aug. 19th. There were three Oct. records to 9th followed by the last at Stubbington on 22nd.

Goldcrest (C)

Regulus regulus

The severe weather during Feb. appears to have greatly reduced the breeding population with several observers commenting on the low numbers present. In the Bishopstoke/Mansbridge area there were no singing males present (5 in 1985) and at Martin Down CBC there was also none (3 in 1984). Autumn passage was very poor, e.g. none was recorded at Titchfield Haven.

Firecrest (A)

Regulus ignicapillus

During the early year the only record was of one at Bishopstoke on Feb. 15th. In spring singles were at Hampton Ridge on Apr. 21st, Purbrook the next day and Bramshill on Apr. 24th. In the breeding season at least four singing males were present in one area of the New Forest and one held territory in Alice Holt Forest. A female was trapped at Winnall Moors on June 15th.

In the late year records came from Tunworth (1, Sept. 26th), Buriton (1, Oct. 4th), Sandy Point (2, Oct. 11th and Nov. 29th; 6, Dec. 6th; 3, Dec. 7th; 1, Dec. 13th), Old Winchester Hill (1, Oct. 12th), Ashley Walk (1, Oct. 26th, 29th and Nov. 8th), Sinah (2, Nov. 29th and Dec. 6th), Whitehill (1, Dec. 6th), Ridley Wood, N.F. (1, Dec. 20th) and Pitts Wood, N.F. (1, Dec. 20th; 3, Dec. 26th).

Spotted Flycatcher (B)

Muscicapa striata

The first were singles at Liss and Dibden Bay on May 3rd. 54 pairs/singing males were reported from 24 sites. The largest counts received were of 4 pairs at Roydon Woods (N.F.) and six along the River Itchen at Winchester.

In autumn 97 were recorded at Old Winchester Hill from Aug. 10th-Sept. 28th. Other notable counts included 23 at Wherwell on Aug. 29th, 14 at Danebury Ring on Aug. 31st and 11 at Farlington Marshes on Sept. 5th and at Beacon Hill (Warnford) on Sept. 7th. The last were singles at Church Crookham on Sept. 30th and East Cosham on Oct. 5th.

Pied Flycatcher (B)

Ficedula hypoleuca

The first was a male at Southampton Common on Apr. 20th, followed by a female at Pitts Wood on 25th and a male at Fernycroft (N.F.) on 30th. A further eight were recorded from May 2nd-11th at Titchfield Haven, Southampton Common, Studley Wood, Thornhill Park Woods, Sway, Bishopstoke and Sinah Warren (2).

Autumn migrants were recorded between Aug. 9th (1, Mengham, Hayling) and Sept. 29th (1, Portsdown Hill). Half monthly totals are shown below.

Aug	Sept	Sept
15-31	1-15	16-30
40	11	9

All records were of singles except on Hayling Island, where 22 were recorded (peaks 4, Aug. 16th; 9, Aug. 23rd; 3, Sept. 20th) and at Old Winchester Hill (2, Aug. 17th), Southampton Common (2, Aug. 19th), Rownhams (4, Aug. 26th) and Titchfield Haven (2, Sept. 15th).

Bearded Tit (B)*Panurus biarmicus*

During Jan./Mar. recorded at Titchfield Haven (2 throughout), Farlington Marshes (8, Jan.; 0, Feb.; 11, Mar.), Fleet Pond (1-3, Jan. 1st-Feb. 9th; 5, Mar. 23rd/24th) and Keyhaven (5/6, Jan. 25th).

At one site three pairs bred, one raising two broods, and at another one male bred with three females and 26 young were raised.

In Sept./Dec. recorded at Titchfield Haven (16, Sept.; 9, Oct.; 27, Nov.; 6, Dec.), Farlington Marshes (19, Sept.; 17, Oct.; 7, Nov./Dec.), Fleet Pond (1-3, Oct. 19th-Nov. 8th), Lower Test Marshes (12, Nov. 6th) and Darkwater, Lepe (2, Nov. 8th).

1985: At least two pairs bred at another site.

1984: At least two pairs bred at another site.

Long-tailed Tit (C)*Aegithalos caudatus*

Flocks of 20+ were recorded in Jan. (6), June (1), July (1), Aug. (1), Sept. (1), Oct. (5), Nov. (4) and Dec. (2) with a maximum of 57 at Winchester College on Oct. 14th.

Marsh Tit (C)*Parus palustris*

As usual, small numbers were recorded throughout the year. Breeding season reports suggest that the species is particularly widespread in the New Forest and on the chalk.

17+ were counted along a one mile stretch of the Basingstoke Canal between Crookham Wharf and Coxmoor on Jan. 9th.

Willow Tit (C)*Parus montanus*

During Apr./July reported from 28 localities. Breeding was proved or suspected at Ampfield Wood, Botley Wood, Buriton, Cheriton, Crab Wood, Emer Bog, Goose Green Inclosure (Alice Holt), Hut Wood, Mallard Wood (Lyndhurst), Martin Down, Oxenbourne Down, Rownhams Plantation and Thornhill Park Woods.

Coal Tit (D)*Parus ater***Blue Tit (C) *Parus caeruleus***

The largest flocks reported were: 100+, Ancell's Farm (Fleet), June 28th; 60, Camp Farm G.P., Aug. 22nd; 50+, Dogmersfield Lake, Sept. 8th; 42, Keyhaven, Sept. 26th; 53+, Church Crookham, Sept. 29th; 150+, Tundry Pond, Sept. 30th; 125, Hazeley Heath, Nov. 28th.

Great Tit (C)*Parus major*

Two high flying birds were observed over Lepe on Nov. 6th.

Nuthatch (C)*Sitta europaea*

One was discovered in scrub along the shore at Lepe on Aug. 30th.

Treecreeper (C)*Certhia familiaris*

One on filter beds at Southwick S.F. on Feb. 8th was an interesting hard weather observation.

Golden Oriole (A)*Oriolus oriolus*

One was at Keyhaven Marsh on May 7th (per EJW) and another was heard calling for five minutes in Pamber Forest on June 25th (JAL).

Great Grey Shrike (A)

Lanius excubitor

In the early year the wintering Ashley Walk individual was present through to Apr. 19th, and this may have been the bird seen at Broomy Bottom on Mar. 8th. Two birds appeared in the New Forest in the late year: at Ashley Walk from Nov. 1st and at Bishop's Dyke from Dec. 14th.

Sightings away from traditional sites have become few and far between in recent years, so the appearance of singles at Normandy (Lymington) on Jan. 16th and at Titchfield Haven on Apr. 2nd is of particular interest.

Jay (C)

Garrulus glandarius

20 W at Winchester College on May 13th was considered unusual there, but there have been several records of spring passage in recent years.

There was clearly a moderate autumn influx with movement in various direction between Sept. 20th and Oct. 16th. At Tunworth (Basingstoke) 248 moved over between Sept. 20th-Oct. 7th (peaks 34 E/NE, Sept. 26th; 114 NE, Oct. 3rd, including a flock of 32). Elsewhere a total of 104 moved over Bishopstoke on three dates and smaller numbers were noted at Normandy Marsh (peak 18 N, Oct. 8th), Titchfield Haven, Beacon Hill (Warnford), Fleet Pond, Gilkicker Point, Old Winchester Hill, Southampton, Sway and Warsash. Late in the year 25+ were at Alver Marshes (Gosport) on Nov. 15th.

Magpie (C)

Pica pica

The largest counts were at the Fleet Pond roost where early and late maxima were 150 on Mar. 14th and 185 on Dec. 28th. The only other reports of roosting came from Martin Down, Titchfield Haven (82, Jan. 3rd) and Winchester College. Feeding gatherings of 30 or more were seen at six sites including 65 at Timsbury on Dec. 28th.

Jackdaw (C)

Corvus monedula

The only coastal movement reported involved 35 W at Titchfield Haven on Oct. 17th and 75 W at Sinah Common on Nov. 2nd.

Rook (C)

Corvus frugilegus

3000 flew over Timsbury to roost on Jan. 19th and 325 pairs bred in that area.

Carrion Crow (C)

Corvus corone

The largest numbers reported were at Weston Shore, with 100 on Jan. 10th and 120 on Dec. 1st.

Starling (C)

Sturnus vulgaris

Reports of roosting were mainly for the winter periods with an unusual lack of late summer records. A peak of 10000 at North Farnborough on Mar. 30th indicated a considerable spring influx, whilst elsewhere sizeable gatherings were noted at Purbrook Heath (2500, Jan.), Farlington Marshes (1000, Oct.), Marsh Lane, Lymington (1600, Nov.) and Southampton Docks (5000, disturbed from dockside cranes by a Peregrine, Dec. 20th). The largest feeding flock reported was of 3000 at Hill Farm (Yateley) on Jan. 19th.

In autumn a total of 24205 was reported moving W between Oct. 24th and Nov. 22nd. Regular watching at Tunworth accounted for 14408 of these, with peaks of 1765 on Nov. 2nd and 8825 the next day. Of the remainder, most were reported from Hayling Island where 4900 moved through on Nov. 22nd.

House Sparrow (D)

Passer domesticus

Tree Sparrow (B)*Passer montanus*

22 at Oakhanger on Mar. 3rd was the largest of only three double figure counts, highlighting the decline of this species. The N.E. is now the only area where Tree Sparrows are recorded on a regular basis, with summer sightings at Coldrey Park, Bentley (1 pair), Isnage Farm (7), Roke Farm (pair feeding young), Stapely Farm (5), Standford (3 pairs) and Well (1 pair).

Chaffinch (C)*Fringilla coelebs*

Approximate monthly totals of flocks (50+) on the ground:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	2270	1710	350	50	0	0	0	75	80	360	325	960
Localities	11	10	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	4	3	5

Numbers were above average during Jan. and included sizeable gatherings near Corhampton on 16th (400) and at Timsbury on 26th (350). Several winter flocks were on stubble but the best count was of 500 in gardens at Greywell on Feb. 14th.

Apart from 203 W at Titchfield Haven from Oct. 2nd-31st, reports of autumn movement came exclusively from the N.E. where a total of 2526 was recorded, moving mainly W, at five sites from Sept. 26th-Nov. 20th. These included 2096 at Tunworth (max. 305 SW/W/NW, Oct. 31st).

Brambling (B)*Fringilla montifringilla*

Approximate monthly totals of flocks (5+) on the ground:

	J	F	M	A	N	D
Totals	637	538	561	419	0	17
Localities	11	12	13	9	0	2

Good numbers were present in the early year, the largest gathering being a regular flock at Crookham Wharf which peaked at 275 on Jan. 18th. Other three figure counts were made at Ashley Farm, Kingsclere (200, Jan. 6th), Lordshill Way, Southampton (100, Mar. 13th) and Nursling (125, Apr. 11th). In addition to the above, ones and twos were noted at many localities, with several reports of birds coming to food in gardens. Birds stayed well into Apr. at a number of sites, small flocks hanging on until 20th, e.g. 50 at Fleet Pond on 11th, 43 at Elvetham on 13th and 40 at Monxton on 18th. One at Eversley G.P. on 23rd and a pair at Fleet Pond on 24th were the last.

First returns were in the N.E. during early Oct., with singles over Church Crookham on 2nd and Tunworth on 3rd, 4th and 7th. A small westerly passage was in progress from about 8th, most reports coming from the N.E. (including 107 over Tunworth, peak 30 on Nov. 2nd) and the coast (21 at four sites). Movement ceased around mid-November and thereafter extremely scarce.

Greenfinch (C)*Carduelis chloris*

Feeding gatherings were of little significance with only seven three figure counts reported during the year (max. 300, RAF Odiham, Nov. 22nd). There was, however, a marked late autumn westerly movement, particularly along the coast where 834 were noted at three sites from Oct. 10th-Dec. 9th. Peaks were 263 over Sinah Common on Nov. 2nd and 301 over Warsash on Nov. 20th. Inland, 98 moved over Tunworth between Oct. 3rd and Nov. 17th.

Counts at roost were received from Bull Farm, Kingsworthy (max. 200 in conifers, Feb.) and Farlington Marshes (max. 100, Mar.).

Goldfinch (C)*Carduelis carduelis**Approximate monthly totals of flocks (20+) on the ground:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	270	250	0	90	0	0	0	150	590	220	120	155
Localities	6	6	0	2	0	0	0	2	7	4	3	4

Reports followed the pattern of recent years with the highest numbers occurring in early autumn. The largest flocks appeared in the S of the county at Dibden Bay (200, Sept.), Farlington Marshes (100, Aug.) and Sway (100, Sept./Oct.). Winter flocks occurred at several sites but were generally small (max. 100, Fleet Pond, Jan. 5th and 100, Winchester S.F., Feb. 9th).

A total of 217 was seen moving between Oct. 1st and Nov. 27th, the heaviest passage being along the coast with peaks of 55 W at Sinah Common on Oct. 26th and 96 W there on Nov. 2nd.

Siskin (B)*Carduelis spinus**Approximate monthly totals of flocks (10+) on the ground:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	2515	1180	835	425	20	0	0	0	32	120	325	1050
Localities	31	23	18	11	1	0	0	0	2	5	7	13

Clearly present in some numbers at the start of the year, a fact underlined by the large number of widespread sites holding small flocks of up to 50/60. Three figure gatherings were seen at 12 localities, including Broadlands Lake (350-500, Jan. 20th), Fleet Pond (300, Jan. 5th), Liss (210, Jan. 2nd), Purbrook (230, Mar. 9th), Thornhill Park Woods (200, Mar. 2nd) and Timsbury (300, Jan. 1st and 3rd). Numbers held up well into early spring although gatherings were small and scattered, the largest being of 105 at Silchester on Apr. 3rd and 70 at Half Moon Common (N.F.) on Apr. 5th. Once again reported from numerous New Forest sites during the breeding season, mainly in June, although few records were of confirmed breeding. It was especially common in SU21 (Bramshaw), breeding in all conifers visited. However, elsewhere the only records were of 20 at Mortimer West End on May 10th and eight other single date sightings including singles W at Titchfield Haven on June 23rd and July 30th.

A small autumn movement, noted from late Sept., was most obvious during the first half of Oct. Reports included 60 at Keyhaven Marsh on Oct. 5th, 67 W over Tunworth between Sept. 28th and Oct. 17th and 94 E at Sandy Point on four dates between Oct. 4th and 18th. Late winter numbers were poor with only two gatherings exceeding 100, although at Fleet Pond there was a considerable influx when a flock of 50 on Dec. 17th increased to 600+ by 28th.

Linnet (C)*Carduelis cannabina**Approximate monthly totals of flocks (20+) on the ground:*

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	1350	1050	415	985	0	0	0	680	1670	920	130	675
Localities	7	4	6	9	0	0	0	5	10	12	3	2

Winter counts were dominated by reports of 600 at Ashley Farm (Kingsclere) on Jan. 6th, 450 at Old Winchester Hill on Jan. 26th and Feb. 22nd and 600 at Sutton Scotney from Dec. 9th-11th.

Despite several reports of passage flocks during Apr., e.g. 160 at Portsdown on 19th and 150 at Mockbeggar Lake on 30th, there were only two movements of note: 73 N over Tunworth on Apr. 1st and 117 N at Hurst Beach in 15 minutes following rain on Apr. 21st. In

autumn, records of note included a flock of 500 near Corhampton on Sept. 26th and movements of 403 SE/SW/NW over Tunworth between Sept. 18th and Nov. 17th (peak 65 S/SE, Oct. 24th) and 150 N off the sea at Warsash on Oct. 3rd.

Twite (A)

Carduelis flavirostris

At Dibden Bay 30 on Jan. 26th and 20 on Apr. 6th were the only reports, although presumably present between these dates. At Eling Great Marsh 20 on Mar. 2nd had reduced to three by 8th.

Two at Normandy Marsh on Dec. 28th was the only late year record.

Redpoll (B)

Carduelis flammea

Approximate monthly totals of flocks (10+) on the ground:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Totals	220	330	295	610	97	0	0	12	0	120	170	210
Localities	4	6	6	10	4	0	0	1	0	5	3	2

An unexceptional year with well below average numbers during winter. The best counts were both part of large Siskin flocks: at Thornhill Park Woods during Mar./Apr. (max. 160, Mar. 29th) and Fleet Pond (200, Dec. 28th).

In the New Forest breeding season reports were similar to last year with c. 25 pairs/singing males noted at 18 sites. Elsewhere, slightly fewer records this year with breeding proved at Alice Holt and Regent's Park (Southampton) and suspected at a further five sites (including 4 singing males at Ludshott Common).

25 at Church Crookham on Sept. 30th marked the start of a poor autumn influx that saw small numbers on the move at several sites (max. 31 W, Sinah Common, Nov. 2nd).

At least one showing the characteristics of the continental race *C.f.flammea*, the Mealy Redpoll, was at Fleet Pond on Dec. 28th.

Crossbill (B)

Loxia curvirostra

In the New Forest reported in small numbers from 14 sites in Jan.-June (max. 20, Sluifers Inclosure, June 13th) but only regular in the Beaulieu Road area where also seen in Aug. and Dec. Sightings that suggest breeding were only made at two sites.

Elsewhere breeding probably occurred at Bramshill and Yateley Heath Wood, where several pairs were present in Apr./May. However, most reports were of presumed migrants at several localities between June and Aug., particularly in the Southwick/Purbrook area (up to 12, June 30th-Aug. 5th) and at Whitely Pastures, Botley Wood (20, June 15th) and Chilling (12 W, June 18th).

Bullfinch (C)

Pyrrhula pyrrhula

Diurnal movement was noted at three localities and involved a total of 21 moving W between Oct. 10th and Nov. 3rd (max. 10 over Camp Farm, Oct. 11th).

Hawfinch (B)

Coccothraustes coccothraustes

New Forest records were predominantly for localities W of Lyndhurst and N of the A35, particularly in the areas of Islands Thorns/Broomy Inclosures and Bolderwood. The majority of the 40 or so reports was for Mar.-July but only one concerned a flock of more than ten (17, Withybed Bottom, Mar. 8th) and only one confirmed breeding.

There were relatively few sightings elsewhere, although regular at Greywell at both ends of the year (max. 6) and singing noted at Goodworth Clatford on Apr. 2nd.

American Redstart (A)*Setophaga ruticilla*

1985: The record was accepted by *British Birds*.

Lapland Bunting (A)*Calcarius lapponica*

There were three records, all of birds making typically brief appearances. One alighted briefly in roadside Sea Purslane at Titchfield Haven on Feb. 6th before returning W (RAC), one was at Keyhaven Marsh from Sept. 25th-28th (PC, MCC, EJW) and one flew W at Sandy Point on Oct. 18th (KWM, MJWH).

Snow Bunting (A)*Plectrophenax nivalis*

There were three records of female/immatures in the early year: at Keyhaven on Jan. 5th (CHC, BEC) and Feb. 22nd (EJW) and Titchfield Haven on Jan. 17th (BSD, RKL, RAC).

Yellowhammer (C)*Emberiza citrinella*

The largest gatherings were during the early year and included 100 at Petersfield on Jan. 1st, 200 in gardens at Greywell on Feb. 14th and 125 at Pennington Marsh on Mar. 8th.

Little Bunting (A)*Emberiza pusilla*

One was trapped at a Reed Bunting roost at Winnall Moors on Mar. 18th, kept overnight and released the next morning (CRC *et al*). The first Hampshire record. Not as yet submitted to *British Birds*.

Reed Bunting (C)*Emberiza schoeniclus*

Roosting was reported from Fleet Pond (max. 514 during an organised count on Dec. 14th), Springhead, Greywell (max. 30, Dec. 28th) and Winnall Moors (max. 60, Jan. 25th). Few other concentrations were reported, the most noteworthy being of up to 70 coming to feed in a garden at Winchester Road, Romsey during Feb./Mar. (including 40 trapped) and 60 at Baddesley Common on Mar. 16th.

There were no breeding season reports for several key sites, but the species was well recorded at Langstone Harbour islands (10 pairs bred - the most since 1981), Titchfield Haven (63 territories), Blashford Lakes (19/20 pairs) and in the N.E., where 40 singing males/pairs were found at 16 sites, excluding Fleet Pond (max. 11 pairs at Greywell).

25 W at Sinah Common during a large passerine movement on Nov. 2nd was the only report to suggest passage.

Corn Bunting (C)*Miliaria miliaria*

Breeding season reports included concentrations in the Crondall area (16 pairs/singing males) and at Hillside (10), and a pair in territory at a new site at Keyhaven.

During the winter months flocks of 50-60 were seen at Itchen Stoke on Feb. 15th (roost), Whitenap/North Baddesley on Dec. 8th and Long Down on Dec. 24th, but the largest count was a cold weather gathering of 100 in gardens at Greywell on Feb. 14th. Reed bed roosts were reported from Winnall Moors (Jan., Mar. and Nov., max. 105, Mar. 8th) and Titchfield Haven (up to 21, Feb./ Nov. and Dec.).

ESCAPES AND FERALS

Pink-footed Goose (A)*Anser brachyrhynchus*

3, Sleaford Reservoir (Bordon), May 12th. 1 with Canada Geese, Timsbury, Sept. 14th.

Lesser White-fronted Goose (A)*Anser erythropus*

A single adult was with Canada Geese at Harbridge and Spinnaker Lake on Dec. 21st and at Kingfisher Lake on Dec. 31st.

Snow Goose (B)*Anser caerulescens*

In the N.E. regular at Stratfield Saye with a maximum of 24 on Sept. 21st. This flock visited Wellington C.P. on Nov. 30th. In the Avon Valley a single bird was present from Jan. 2nd-Feb. 2nd. Single blue phase birds were at Sowley Pond on Mar. 11th, 16th and Sept. 7th and at Timsbury G.P. from Aug. 24th-Dec. 31st.

Barnacle Goose (B)*Branta leucopsis*

In the N.E. there were maxima of 25 at Stratfield Saye (Feb. 8th and Nov. 2nd) and 26 at Wellington C.P. (Nov. 30th), and records of one to eight birds from seven other localities. One pair bred successfully at Potbridge Fishery. Elsewhere, recorded in the Avon Valley (1), Test Valley (2), Itchen Valley (2), at Curbridge (1, May 7th), Keyhaven (1, Jan. 2nd-18th), Langstone Harbour (1, Apr. 25th-May 5th; 14 E, May 14th), Lepe (1, Apr. 18th-May 2nd), Needs Ore (1, Mar. 24th; 5, Apr. 6th-13th), Sinah (16 W, Apr. 13th) and Titchfield Haven (15, May 6th/7th and 15th; 1, May 28th; 13, May 29th).

Egyptian Goose (A)*Alopochen aegyptiacus*

In the Eling area an adult and five first year birds were present between Jan. 1st and Feb. 17th, one remaining until Mar. 15th. One was regularly recorded at Frensham Great Pond between Jan. 1st and Aug. 22nd.

Records were also received of Black Swan, Bar-headed Goose, Magellan Goose, Ruddy-headed Goose, Ashy-headed Goose, Cape Shelduck, Ruddy Shelduck, Wood Duck, Chiloe Wigeon, American Wigeon, Bahama Pintail, Ringed Teal, Marbled Teal, Red-crested Pochard, Black Kite, Cockatiel, Eagle Owl, Chestnut-flanked White-eye, Superb Starling, Red-eared Waxbill and Canary.

BREEDING CENSUSES IN HAMPSHIRE, 1985 and 1986

P.M. Potts

COMMON BIRDS CENSUS

All sites covered in 1984 were again censused in 1985 and 1986, with the exception of Plot 3 which wasn't surveyed in 1986. However, it is expected that the observer is going to resume it in 1987. Three new plots were started in 1985 and another in 1986, see below:

- 22 Crab Wood, Winchester: SU42; Derelict hazel coppice with oak standards, altitude 140m; area = 21.5 hectares; observer: Mrs. A. Kinahan.
- 23 Charity Down Farm, Longstock: SU33: Mixed farmland - 99m; area = 75.0 hectares; observer: J.O. Latham.
- 24 Wherwell, Nr. Andover: SU44; Farmland - 69m; area = 82.6 hectares; observer: C. Stodate
- 25 Brownwich and Chilling, Hill Head: SU50: Arable farmland and derelict hazel/oak coppice - 10m; area = 130 hectares; observer: R.K. Levett.

These welcomed new plots brought the number covered in Hampshire to 21 in 1985 and 20 in 1986. (Plot 22 not surveyed in 1986, but is expected to be continued in 1987). The Hampshire plots represent about 11% of the total number in Britain being covered annually, not a bad show at all! A slightly more detailed analysis of plot types in Hampshire in relation to CBC's nationally can be seen in table 1.

TABLE 1.

Summary of Census Plots used in the 1984 - 85, 1985 - 86 Index Calculations for Hampshire in comparison with those nationally

	No. in Hants	As % of total BTO plots	No. in Britain
Woodland	12	14	88
Farmland	6	8	77
Special	4	16	25
Total	22	12	190

(figures taken from BTO News No. 150)

Tables 2a and 2b show counts of confirmed territories of selected species on Hampshire CBC plots in 1985 and 1986 respectively. Note that some of the scarcer species are excluded but counts are included in the Birds of Hampshire section of this report. Also included are the totals of territories of all species in each plot and calculated densities per km². Table 3 shows direct comparisons of Hampshire CBC totals for 1984 - 85, 1985 - 86 for those species with 50 or more territories in at least one year. The percentage change columns show the best estimates of population change.

POPULATION CHANGES OVER THE PERIOD 1984 - 1986

1984 - 1985: January and February 1985 produced some severe cold spells which led to significant decreases in some of our resident bird populations. Those showing marked reductions in breeding numbers in 1985 in Hampshire included Moorhen, Skylark, Wren, Robin, Song Thrush and Goldcrest. The 16% drop in Moorhen numbers in Hampshire compared well with 17% decline on farmland CBC's nationally, though interestingly the Waterways Birds Survey index remained unchanged.

As might be expected following a cold winter, insectivorous species suffered badly. Goldcrests being particularly hard hit in Hampshire (a drop of 38% on Hants CBCs), though

nationally the woodland CBCs only showed a 7% decline. However, the reductions in Wren, Dunnock and Robin on Hampshire plots were similar to those measured by the BTO for the country as a whole. The other startling reduction in numbers as measured by the Hampshire CBCs, was that of Song Thrushes showing a drop of 32%. This was way above the national calculated fall of 19% for woodland CBCs. Song Thrushes are showing a long term declining trend, the cause of this is still unclear. Though Shrub 1986 (see BTO News No. 143, p.6) suggests a major switch to autumn cultivation may be the cause.

On a brighter note, Reed Warblers, Blackcaps and Willow Warblers showed excellent increases in number of territories on Hampshire CBC plots. The 15% increase of Blackcaps on Hants CBCs paralleling the +14% shown on the BTO's farmland plots. However, the huge increase (+53%) in Willow Warblers as measured on Hampshire plots was much larger than that shown nationally, i.e. +11% on farmland plots. Unfortunately no national index exists for Reed Warblers due to difficulties in censusing the species accurately and partly due to a lack of reedbed CBCs.

Though the above summer migrants appeared in force, the decline of the Sedge Warbler continued, though not significantly. The peak year for Sedge Warblers on CBC plots, 1968, saw numbers four times the 1985 national index. Nationally its fluctuations continue to show very close parallels with those of Whitethroat. The sample size is unfortunately too small for a Hampshire index of this species.

Another alarming trend is the continued reduction in Linnet breeding numbers. Hampshire CBCs recorded a drop of 24% (similar to BTO's drop of 20% on farmland and 39% on woodland plots). Linnets have been on the decline in Britain since the early 1970s, these losses have been paralleled by those of Tree Sparrow and Corn Bunting. The changes in farming practice and increased use of herbicides have been blamed as the major cause of the Linnet decline (see BTO News No. 146, p.9).

1985 - 1986: The end of January to early March 1986 saw a sustained period of hard weather of Siberian origin producing the coldest February since 1947. This had obvious repercussions on the resident small bird populations. Wrens declined by 12% on Hampshire plots, though well below the average drop of 25% as measured by the BTO's CBCs and Constant Effort Ringing Scheme. Nationally there was a higher than average winter mortality rate of Wrens but not as high as that in the 1978/79 and 1981/82 hard winters.

Goldcrests were again hit badly, the number of territories showing a 29% reduction on Hampshire CBC plots. This was the picture nationally, though we seemed to have done better in Hampshire than Wales and Western England where Goldcrest numbers decreased by 90%. The BTO's woodland index for the species hit an all time low.

The Tits also showed an increased winter mortality, e.g. Blue Tits, which declined by 14% on Hampshire census plots - slightly above the average 9% drop on woodland CBCs, these losses were also attributed to the cold spell.

Increased rain in the Sahel zone of Africa, where many of our summer migrants winter, led to increases in the number of territories in 1986, e.g. Sedge Warbler. We can breathe a sigh of relief at last as the species increased by 28% on Hampshire CBCs, compared to 11% on farmland and 43% increase on all habitats combined, monitored by the BTO's CBCs. Nationally, Redstarts, Whitethroats and Spotted Flycatchers all showed similar big increases, and probably did so in Hampshire too, but sample sizes are too small to produce any indices to monitor them in the county. The Hampshire CBCs showed an increase of 11% for Reed Warblers.

Blackcaps and Willow Warblers however, showed significant declines, those calculated using Hampshire CBCs showing a larger decline than that based on all CBCs nationally.

One interesting trend revealed by Hampshire CBCs is the apparent increase in Reed Buntings, +51% over the period 1984 - 86. This is against the national decreasing trend which began in about 1977. A more detailed look at the Hampshire CBCs shows substantial increases only on the two Titchfield plots. This can be explained by the creation of new reedbed areas from wet meadows during the period. This then highlights the problem of calculating indices for species based on only a small number of plots (only 6 or 7 for Reed Bunting) and results should, therefore, be interpreted with caution.

WATERWAYS BIRD SURVEY

Just 3 plots were surveyed in Hampshire in both 1985 and 1986. Full details are given in previous reports. No new surveys were started during the period. Table 4 gives counts of confirmed territories per plot.

Two surveys finished in 1984 (Plot 1 - Basingstoke Canal and Plot 2 - Rivers Lyde/Loddon). Note that although plots 1 and 4 were covered in 1984, details were received too late for inclusion in the 1984 report.

With only 3 W.B.S. plots in the county, covering just 11.9km of a potential 614kms of river in Hampshire, there is clearly great scope for further W.B.S. At present none of the Test, Beaulieu or Blackwater for example is being censused.

Due to the small sample size, no really constructive comments can be made on population changes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to all the observers listed above who carried out either CBCs or WBSs in Hampshire. The success of the BTO's monitoring schemes depends entirely on volunteer observers censusing plots each summer. Without so many Hampshire plots we would be unable to make any constructive comments on population changes.

Both the Common Bird Census and the Waterways Bird Survey are run by the BTO and any observers interested in starting a census should write to: Populations Section, BTO, Beech Grove, Station Road, Herts HP23 5NR. The BTO would be particularly keen to hear from anybody wishing to start a farmland CBC plot, as their sample size has been dropping recently.

John Marchant again supplied the census data making the inclusion of this report possible, the Society is indebted to him.

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TABLE 2a Numbers of confirmed territories on CBC plots in Hampshire in 1985

Plot Number	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	19	21	22	23	24
Shelduck								2	2	2	nc										
Mallard								3	5	6		9	10	1	8						
Kestrel						1															
Grey Partridge					6					2	1		1	1						3	1
Pheasant	5				2	11	1				16		6	3				1	6	4	4
Moorhen									1	3		12	22	7	1						
Coot												15	21	2							
Lapwing					1		2			4		14	15							6	
Redshank								1	1			7	6								
Stock Dove	3	9	15	3			1			2	2		1	2	1					1	
Woodpigeon	3	6	12		3	5		2	2	7	15	nc	3	9	9	nc		nc	8	nc	
Collared Dove						1				6		2		1	1				1		
Turtle Dove					7		1			3	7	3	2						1		
Cuckoo	1	1	1	2		1	1			3	3	1	5	3			2			1	1
Tawny Owl	1	1	1	2						1							1	1	1		
Green Woodpecker	2	1	2	3			1			3		1		1	1	1					1
Great Spotted Woodpecker	2	1	2	1	1					1		1	2	1		2		2	1	1	
Skylark					9	3	15	2	15	8	14	1						2	3	4	
Meadow Pipit					1	11	13	2		3	4	1							1		
Pied Wagtail									1	2		2				2					
Wren	7	8	27	21	14	11	3	11	7	27	19		60	39	43	8	14	4	8	2	4
Duncock			3			22	1	5	3	28	13	15	13	12	1	4		2		3	2
Robin	10	30	32	7	13	11	11	3	8	17	13	1	6	10	33	19	9	14	16	2	3
Redstart	3		22	10																	
Blackbird	2	13	19	12	7	9	6	9	12	64	21	24	19	13	21	21	7	11	8	8	10
Song Thrush	1	3	7	4		3	2	2	2	9	2	5	3	3	7	3	1	3	3	1	
Mistle Thrush	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	5		2	1	2	1					
Sedge Warbler							1		1			25	5								
Reed Warbler								3	2	5		12	74	12							
Lesser Whitethroat						7		2		1	2	2	5	2					1		
Whitethroat						5		3	2	3	1	1	6	3							
Garden Warbler			2	2		2	1			3									2	1	
Blackcap		2	10	1	3	10	1			5	5	1	7	5	8	1		6	3	1	4
Wood Warbler			4	3																	
Chiffchaff			2	1	2				2			4	3	6				5	4		2
Willow Warbler	1	7	5			38	8	11	7	6	25	3	13	3	5	12	2	6		5	9
Goldcrest	1	2	7	6	1	1	4	1			13				9		5	3	1		
Spotted Flycatcher				1																1	
Long-tailed Tit	1	1	1	1		3	1	1		4		3	1		1	1	1	3	1	4	
Marsh Tit	2	3	8			1				4								1	1	10	
Coal Tit	3	3	8	7	2		2			6				3				2	6	4	
Blue Tit	13	41	42	30	10	1	4	4	8	28	11	1	17	11	18	14	15	3	24	2	10
Great Tit	8	13	21	7	5	7	3	2	2	15	10	4	11	8	11	4	10	9	15	1	7
Nuthatch	2	6	15	5	1					1						1	3		8		2
Treecreeper	2	2	4	3	1					2						1	3		2		
Jay	1	1	1		1					2		3	1	2				3	3	1	
Magpie	1		2		1	3	1	1	2	15	8	3	4	4	4	3		3	1	1	2
Jackdaw	2	1	6				12		2	5	5						1			2	
Rook						17			7												nc
Carriion Crow	1		1				1		1	8	4	1		2	2	2		1		1	1
Starling			1	1			3		6	8	1		3	2	nc	nc				8	
House Sparrow						nc	1		1	8			1	1		nc				6	
Chaffinch	6	41	58	25	8	20	22	16	7	23	36		6	3	8	17	15	10	10	12	23
Greenfinch			1				2	1	2	13	10	2	2			1					
Goldfinch								1	3	5			1								
Linnnet						4		18	2	5	10	11	6							1	
Bullfinch		1	1			4	1	1	2	2	6		4	2		2		2			
Yellowhammer						25	2	8	3	17	27		1			2				7	1
Reed Bunting								5	5	1		11	27	17							
TOTAL TERRITORIES	84	203	352	159	77	256	117	152	110	395	337	186	459	210	206	121	99	103	117	107	97
TERRITORIES PER KM ²	1037	594	1193	952	554	474	175	452	696	557	543	560	513	1154	363	756	908	392	544	143	117

TABLE 2b Numbers of confirmed territories on CBC plots in Hampshire in 1986

Plot Number	1	2	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	19	21	23	24	25
Shelduck							4	3	1	nc										2
Mallard							2	7	4	14	9			5	3				1	1
Kestrel						1	1	1	1											1
Grey Partridge					6					1								8		
Pheasant		3			9	1				20			5	2				5	3	
Moorhen									1	4		11	25	7	1					
Coot											10	19	2							
Lapwing						1			1		17	3						7		
Redshank						1	1	1			9	3								
Stock Dove	2	4	6			1			3	2			1							1
Woodpigeon	2			5	6	2	3	3	5	9	nc	4	12	nc	5			9	nc	11
Collared Dove						1			6			2		2	1			1		1
Turtle Dove					9		1		3	7		6	4							1
Cuckoo	1	1	2		1	1			2	2	1		3			1		1	1	1
Tawny Owl	1	1	1							1							1			1
Green Woodpecker	2	1	2	1					5				1		2	2		1		1
Great Spotted Woodpecker		1	1	1		1								2		2				1
Skylark					10	2	18	2	19	10	10		2					3	4	21
Meadow Pipit						15	7	1		3	2	1								3
Pied Wagtail						1									1					1
Wren	5	12	22	10	8	6	7	5	20	10		51	35	38	5	11	1	2	9	21
Dunnock					17	1	2	2	35	19	12	18	12	2	5			1	1	7
Robin	9	23	9	11	5	10	3	6	24	11		10	10	34	15		5	3	3	14
Redstart	3	3	10													2				
Blackbird	4	13	10	8	10	8	10	10	63	17	20	18	13	25	18	7	7	17	14	17
Song Thrush		2	3	1	2	1	1	1	9	2	5	2	5	9	5	1	3	2		1
Mistle Thrush		2	2	1		1			4	1		2	1	2	2					3
Sedge Warbler							3				1	38	11							1
Reed Warbler							2	3	6		17	74	15							1
Lesser Whitethroat					5	1	1	1	3	1	2							1	1	2
Whitethroat					6		1	2	5		3	9	1							2
Garden Warbler			1		3	1											1			
Blackcap		1		1	5	1	1		3	8		5	6	8	1		2		1	7
Wood Warbler		2	3													1				
Chiffchaff				2	1				1		2	2	4				2		1	2
Willow Warbler	1	8	2		31	10	6	7	2	19	1	8	5	5	7	1	2	6	8	2
Goldcrest	1		1			1								13		2				
Spotted Flycatcher				1						1						1		1		
Long-tailed Tit		3				1	1					5				2			5	
Marsh Tit		2	1							3						1	1			
Coal Tit	3	1	5			2				2						3	4			
Blue Tit	10	29	27	9		6	2	6	25	5	1	21	12	15	14	9	1	3	15	16
Great Tit	6	10	7	6	5	1	1	2	22	12	3	10	7	9	2	11	5	4	7	8
Nuthatch	2	5	5	1						1				2		2	1			
Treecreeper	2		2							2		1	1	2	1	1		1		
Jay	1	1	1	2		1				1		3	2	2		2	2		2	1
Magpie	2		1	1	4	1	1	2	13	5	3	6	5	2	3			3	2	5
Jackdaw	2	2		1		2		1	5	3					1	1	2			
Rook					22					12									40	
Carion Crow	1	1			1	2	1	1	5	3	2	2	4	2	2			2		5
Starling			4			4		3	13			3	3	1	1			5		7
House Sparrow						8	1	1	4			1	1		1			5		3
Chaffinch	5	35	30	7	20	17	16	6	16	36		8	5	10	16	10	7	21	21	17
Greenfinch						1	2	2	13	3	3	1			1					7
Goldfinch						1				2		1								1
Linnet					3	1	18		7	8	10	4								3
Bullfinch					5	1	1	2		8		3	2			2				1
Yellowhammer					26	4	5	2	15	23				1				1	10	1
Reed Bunting							3	3	4		9	36	27					1		
TOTAL TERRITORIES	68	167	159	69	232	127	127	88	392	270	178	453	240	199	112	84	56	135	141	219
TERRITORIES PER KM ²	840	488	952	496	430	190	378	557	553	435	536	506	1319	351	700	771	213	180	171	169

KEY TO PLOT NUMBERS
(for full details see previous reports)

W = Woodland

F = Farmland

S = Special

1 - RUSHPOLE WOOD, New Forest (W)	Mrs. J. Irvine
2 - STUBBS WOOD, New Forest (W)	Mrs. P. Grant
3 - EYEWORTH WOOD, New Forest (W)	G.C. Evans
4 - BURLEY OLD INCLOSURE, New Forest (W)	Mrs. R. Cook
5 - KNIGHTSWOOD, Chandlers Ford (W)	T.G.B. Hackston
7 - MARTIN DOWN (W)	P. Toynton
8 - BEAULIEU HEATH, New Forest (W)	Mrs. P. Grant
9 - KEYHAVEN, Lymington (F)	E.J. Wiseman
10 - KEYHAVEN MARSHES (F)	E.J. Wiseman
11 - WARBLINGTON, Havant (F)	A.C. Gutteridge
12 - OLD WINCHESTER HILL NNR (S/W)	K. Maycock
13 - FARLINGTON MARSHES LNR (S)	P.M. Potts
14 - LOWER TITCHFIELD HAVEN (S)	B.S. Duffin
15 - UPPER TITCHFIELD HAVEN (S)	R.K. Levett
16 - SOUTHAMPTON COMMON (W)	J.R. Simms
17 - BROCKENHURST, New Forest (W)	A.M.B. Butterworth
19 - WOODHOUSE COPSE, Brockenhurst (W)	L.G. Broomfield
21 - HEAD DOWN PLANTATION, Petersfield (W)	J. Allen
22 - CRAB WOOD, Winchester (W)	Mrs. A. Kinahan
23 - CHARITY DOWN FARM, Longstock (F)	J.O. Latham
24 - WHERWELL, near Andover (F)	C. Stoate
25 - BROWNWICH & CHILLING, Hill Head (F)	R.K. Levett

**TABLE 3 Hampshire Bird Population Changes between 1984 - 1985 & 1985 -1986
all habitats**

	1984 Index	Total 1984	Total 1985	No. of Plots	% change	1985 Index	Total 1985	Total 1986	No. of Plots	% change	1986 Index
Moorhen	118	53	46	6	-16	102	46	49	6	+6	108
Woodpigeon	97	62	67	12	+7	104	63	60	12	+5	99
Skylark	80	82	67	9	-15	65	74	80	11	+5	70
Wren	87	358	323	17	-9	78	302	257	18	-12	66
Dunnoch	80	131	122	13	-6	74	124	127	14	+2	76
Robin	86	304	247	17	-16	70	220	198	19	-7	63
Blackbird	88	305	290	17	-4	84	289	292	19	+1	85
Song Thrush	107	86	60	17	-32	75	54	54	18	0	75
Sedge Warbler	46	34	32	5	-3	43	32	53	5	+28	71
Reed Warbler	118	93	108	6	+19	137	108	117	6	+11	148
Blackcap	113	57	65	13	+15	128	60	45	16	-32	96
Willow Warbler	76	127	217	15	+53	129	161	129	18	-26	103
Goldcrest	120	78	53	14	-38	82	28	18	11	-29	53
Blue Tit	98	250	271	17	+8	106	241	210	19	-14	92
Great Tit	84	142	150	17	+5	89	137	130	19	-5	84
Chaffinch	98	308	321	17	+4	102	298	286	18	-4	98
Linnet	114	71	56	8	-24	90	57	51	9	-9	81
Yellowhammer	91	76	85	9	+10	101	93	90	11	-3	98
Reed Bunting	96	54	66	6	+21	117	66	83	7	+30	147

**Table 4 Numbers of confirmed territories on Waterways Bird Survey Plots in
Hampshire in 1985 and 1986**

	1985			1986		
<i>Plot number</i>	3	4	5	3	4	5
Little Grebe	2	7	4	3	8	3
Mute Swan	0	1	2	0	1	2
Canada Goose	5	0	5	7	0	5
Teal	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mallard	32	6	18	29	6	15
Tufted Duck	3	1	19	3	0	8
Pochard	0	0	1	0	0	0
Water Rail	0	0	2	0	0	1
Moorhen	11	10	28	14	10	25
Coot	9	6	21	11	10	11
Lapwing	5	0	4	1	0	5
Snipe	1	0	3	0	0	0
Redshank	2	9	1	0	0	2
Kingfisher	0	0	1	0	0	1
Grey Wagtail	2	1	3	2	2	4
Pied Wagtail	1	3	3	1	1	4
Sedge Warbler	0	3	0	1	2	0
Reed Warbler	1	1	0	0	1	0
Reed Bunting	0	1	1	0	1	2
Total Territories	74	40	116	72	42	89
Territories per km	16.8	14.8	24.2	16.4	15.6	18.5

Key to Plot Numbers:

3 - Candover Stream (River Itchen) - *J. Pain*

4 - River Itchen Navigation - *H. Fuller*

5 - River Meon (West Meon - Exton) - *Cdr. A.Y. Norris*

REPORT ON BIRD RINGING IN HAMPSHIRE, 1986

Brian Dudley

In contrast to 1985 the year was very good for ringing in the county, the reported total of 18,284 birds ringed being on a par with the late 1970s, and almost twice the 1985 total. The three main factors responsible are: (i) much better weather in the main autumn migration period; (ii) greater ringing effort; (iii) an excellent response by Hampshire ringers in sending ringing totals and recovery details.

With such a high ringing total, the number of noteworthy recoveries has also risen; (there were 19 foreign passerine recoveries in 1986, compared with 10 in 1985).

Any comparison of totals should be used with caution as so much depends on individual ringers' efforts, but species with particularly low numbers ringed in 1986 include Lapwing (very few pulli ringed), Collared Dove, Swift, Skylark (a much under-ringed species), Wood Warbler, Goldfinch and Corn Bunting.

Those showing significant increases include Sand Martin (two colonies ringed in 1986), House Martin (large numbers tape-lured during autumn migration), Yellow and Pied Wagtails (several roosts worked during the year), Sedge and Reed Warblers (attracted by heavy aphid infestations at the main coastal ringing sites), Dartford Warbler (a colour ringing study started in the New Forest; the 1986 total is particularly significant, representing c. 21% of the all-time grand total ringed in the U.K.), Rook (also due to a colour ringing study) and Greenfinch and Siskin (large numbers trapped in gardens).

Three national 'rarities' were caught during the year: Lesser Yellowlegs (the first to be ringed in the country), Spotted Sandpiper and Little Bunting.

Three Hampshire ringing sites were registered as 'Constant Effort Sites' with the British Trust for Ornithology in 1986. This involves using a fixed number of netting sites at the ringing locality on a year to year basis, during May to August inclusive. The resulting data, which can be used in conjunction with other annual surveys such as the Common Birds Census and the Waterways Bird Survey, should provide vital information on population trends, site fidelity, breeding success etc, and will constitute a major research tool.

It provides a nice example of how important the amateur contribution can be to the Ringing Scheme, as not every ringer has the time, or the inclination to produce scientific analyses of his own field-work, but may provide valuable data to those who are more academically inclined.

Once again my thanks are due to those ringers who operate in Hampshire who sent me their totals and recoveries for 1986. They are: *J. Buckley, Dr. R.A. Cheke, F.A. Courtier, A.J. Crease, P.G. Davis, B.S. Duffin, N.E.G. Elms, G.C. Evans, Farlington R.G., Fleet Pond R.G., T.G. Heathcote, Itchen R.G., T. Jorgensen, J.H. Kesby, J. Kieser, Dr. E.S. Lawrence, Lower Test R.G., J. Marchant, J.A. Miller, G. Murphy, J. Pain, S.H. Sporne, C. Stoute, M.W. Tyler, A.J. Welch and E.J. Wiseman.*

Apologies for any omissions

Brian Dudley, 2 St. Catherine's Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO5 4GP

SUMMARY OF RECOVERIES & CONTROLS REPORTED IN 1986

SHAG

1221036	(Nestling)	16.07.85	Isle of May (Fife)
	Found long dead	02.10.86	Langstone Harbour 603km S

This species features very rarely in Hampshire ringing recoveries.

MUTE SWAN

Z42221	(Adult)	30.12.83	Poole (Dorset)
	Field record	11.02.86	Southsea 62km E
Z30573	(2nd year)	31.01.84	Hungerford (Berkshire)
	Field record	11.02.86	Southsea 77km SSE

These were the longest movements recorded in the county during 1986; most of the Hampshire recoveries involve birds moving up or down the main river valleys, but these two had changed wintering areas.

CANADA GOOSE

5126408	(Full-grown)	04.02.82	Elvetham
	Controlled	07.07.84	Beaulieu Firth (Highland) 725km NNW

This record is taken from the 1985 B.T.O. Ringing Report, and involves a bird controlled at the Beaulieu Firth moulting grounds, where a large number of the British Canada Goose population spend their moult period.

MALLARD

GH05833	(Full grown ♂)	03.03.85	Titchfield Haven
	Shot	27.09.85	Tardingham (Pas-de-Calais) FRANCE 50°52'N 1°38'E 201km E

A not unusual movement for this species

SHOVELER

FR742678	(Full grown ♂)	22.01.84	Titchfield Haven
	Shot	18.12.86	Baie de Somme (Somme) FRANCE 50°14'N 1°33'E 207km E

While not a particularly long movement, very few Shoveler are ringed in Hampshire, so any recovery is worth noting.

MERLIN

EK60495	(Nestling)	24.06.84	Loch Rannoch area (Tayside)
	Found dead	c.14.02.85	Beaulieu Road Station 670km SSE

This recover, published in the 1985 B.T.O. Ringing Report, shows that at least some of our wintering Merlins belong to the Scottish breeding population.

OYSTERCATCHER

FS64661	(1st year)	03.09.78	Horsea Island
	Dead on road	c. 15.06.86	Havelte (Drente) NETHERLANDS 52°46'N 6°14'E 547km ENE

There are several breeding-season recoveries of Hampshire-ringed Oystercatchers in the Netherlands.

RINGED PLOVER

BV79371	(1st year)	25.08.80	Horsea Island
	Controlled (Nesting)	24.05.86	Ellewoutdijk (Zeeland) NETHERLANDS 51°24'N 3°51'E 350km E

A not untypical recovery of a Ringed Plover ringed on autumn passage in Hampshire.

LAPWING

DS99638	(Nestling)	24.06.72	Farlington Marshes
	Dead on road	c. 05.03.86	Plougonvelin (Finistere) FRANCE 48°20'N 4°43'W 385km SW

Many British-bred Lapwing wander abroad during the winter, but this may have been a cold weather movement.

DUNLIN

There were four foreign recoveries/controls involving wintering Dunlin of the race *Calidris alpina alpina* during December/January: from W Germany, Poland and E. Germany, which followed the usual pattern for Dunlin ringed in Hampshire during this period. The four following birds, all ringed or controlled during the early autumn, probably belonged to the race *C.a. schinzii*, (which includes British breeding birds) whose winter quarters lie further south.

NS05972	(Adult)	08.05.82	Waterfoot, Annan (Dumfries & Galloway)
	Controlled	09.08.86	Farligton Marshes 483km SSE
NS68310	(Adult)	02.08.85	Farlington Marshes
	Found dead	20.07.86	Baie de Somme Nord (Somme) FRANCE 194km ESE
SA747785	(2nd year)	04.04.86	Louik (Banc d'Aguin) MAURETANIA 19°52'N 16°18'W
	Controlled	23.07.86	Farlington Marshes 3695km NNE
NS77425	(1st year)	03.09.86	Farlington Marshes
	Controlled	30.09.86	Sidi Brahim (El Jadida) MOROCCO 33°05'N 8°29'W 2064km S

RUFF

CC91720	(Adult ♀)	16.07.77	Farlington Marshes
	Shot	10.08.86	La Grande Briere (Loire Atlantique) FRANCE 47°22'N 20°15'W 395km S

This bird was probably still on passage when shot, the winter quarters lie mainly south of the Sahara.

REDSHANK

There were six recoveries in the Farlington area of birds ringed locally. All were found dead between 09.03.86/18.03.86 and reflect the severe weather conditions at that time

COLLARED DOVE

EJ69559	(1st year)	24.05.81	Twyford
	Dead on road	26.07.86	East Chinnock (Yeovil) Somerset 99km W

Very few of this species were ringed in Hampshire during 1986 compared with previous years, and the only distant recovery involved a bird ringed in 1981, which followed the general westerly direction of many recoveries.

BARN OWL

GP57839	(Adult)	09.04.82	Oakhanger
	Found dying	27.01.86	Graffam (Petworth) Sussex 76km E

Movements of any distance are unusual for Barn Owls.

SWIFT

Two birds ringed at Eastney on 08.06.74 were retrapped there on 17.05.86.

SKYLARK

An exceptional recovery was published in the B.T.O. Ringing Report for 1985:

B648553	(Full grown)	13.10.84	Den Haag (Zuid Holland) NETHERLANDS 52°3'N 4°13'E
	Freshly dead	c. 07.03.85	Winnall 395km WSW

Very little is known regarding the movement of this species either within the U.K. or to/from the continent.

SAND MARTIN

A large number of Sand Martins were ringed in 1986, due to greater effort. Four recoveries/controls were reported, including one movement of over 200km:

C253642	(1st year)	18.08.85	Congleton (Cheshire)
	Controlled (Sexed ♀)	12.07.86	Kingsley G.P. 243km SSE

SWALLOW

There were five long distance controls from roost netting at Farlington Marshes, all showed similarity in direction of movement.

A921357	(1st year)	10.08.85	Stubbers Green (Aldridge) W. Midlands
	Controlled (Sexed ♂)	08.09.86	Farlington Marshes 208km SSE
KB15647	(Nestling)	22.06.86	Kielder (Northumberland)
	Controlled	08.09.86	Farlington Marshes 500km SSE
C655783	(Nestling)	05.07.86	Lockgate (Drumclog) Strathclyde
	Controlled	08.09.86	Farlington Marshes 569km SSE
E108943	(1st year)	10.08.86	Errol (Tayside)
	Controlled	08.09.86	Farlington Marshes 634km SSE
E255473	(1st year)	01.09.86	Ellon (Grampian)
	Controlled	08.09.86	Farlington Marshes 729km S

One other recovery involved a juvenile ringed at Lytchett Bay (Dorset) on 20.08.84 found dead on nest containing five live young at Alton on 02.08.86.

HOUSE MARTIN

The large numbers ringed in 1986 resulted in five long distance recoveries/controls.

B746435	(1st year)	13.10.83	Quorn (Leicestershire)
	Controlled (Sexed 7)	05.09.86	Soberton 202lm S
C656555	(1st year)	28.08.86	Walesley (Strathclyde)
	Controlled	25.09.86	Titchfield Haven 569km SSE

Also one ringed at Sandwich Bay B.O. (Kent) on 03.09.86 controlled at Titchfield Haven on 25.09.86 (190km WSW), and two ringed at Titchfield Haven on 04.10.86 controlled at Sandwich Bay on 09.10.86 (190km ENE).

ROCK PIPIT

The colour-ringed bird from SWEDEN reported at Farlington Marshes in previous winters was seen again on 27.12.85., showing considerable fidelity to its winter quarters.

DUNNOCK

One ringed at Winchester on 15.10.77 was retrapped on 24.04.86. showing considerable longevity.

BLACKBIRD

XJ70645	(2nd year ♂)	16.03.86	Kingsworthy
	Controlled	26.03.86	Sheringham (Norfolk) 269km NE

Presumably this was a Scandinavian bird on return passage when controlled in Norfolk.

FIELDFARE

Three fairly typical recoveries, although XN36790 shows fairly rapid movement.

XN36790	(2nd year ♂)	07.01.85	Leckford	
	Shot	15.01.85	Plover-sur-Rance (Côtes-du-Nord)	FRANCE
				48°32'N 2°00'W 290km S

(Taken from 1985 B.T.O. Ringing Report)

RA84216	(2nd year ♀)	22.02.86	Hayling Island	
	Shot	14.11.86	La Choquechaguere (Vendee)	FRANCE
				46°51'N 1°21'W 440km S

RA84141	(2nd year ♀)	02.03.86	East Cosham	
	Found dead	15.09.86	Brumunddal (Hedmartz)	NORWAY
				60°53'N 10°56'E 1339km NE

SONG THRUSH

The two long distance recoveries reported may also have involved Scandinavian birds on return passage (c.f. Blackbird).

XP38359	(Adult)	08.12.85	Fareham	
	Found dead	12.03.86	Brantham (Suffolk)	198km NE
RX66435	(Adult)	17.01.86	Budds S.F.	
	Killed by cat	09.04.86	Stanstead (Essex)	144km NE

REDWING

3267540	(Adult)	08.04.85	Utklippan (Blekinge)	SWEDEN 55°57'N 15°42'E
	Found dead (cold weather)	05.02.86	Sparsholt	1250km WSW

A fairly typical recovery for the species.

CETTIS WARBLER

Although a record total was ringed in 1986, only one movement was recorded: an adult female ringed at an Itchen Valley site on 13.07.85 was controlled at another Itchen site on 18.08.86. When ringed, the bird had a brood patch indicating breeding in that year (although it was the only record of the species from the ringing locality for 1985). It seems likely that it was a failed breeder which was wandering around the Itchen Valley, (perhaps from the control site, which is a known breeding area).

SEDGE WARBLER

Twice as many were ringed in the county during 1986 than in the previous year, and the nine long-distance movements included six movements to/from overseas.

019348	(Adult)	24.04.86	Laguna de San Juan, Chinchon (Madrid)	SPAIN 40°8'N 3°26'W
	Controlled	16.05.86	Lower Test Marshes	1209km N
C787643	(1st year)	14.08.86	Titchfield Haven	
	Controlled	18.08.86	St. Philbert de Grand Lieu (Loire Atlantique)	FRANCE 419km S
E133231	(1st year)	16.08.86	Eastney	
	Controlled	01.09.86	Guerande (Loire Atlantique)	FRANCE
				47°20'N 2°26'W 397km S
E073969	(1st year)	30.08.86	Southampton Docks	
	Controlled	07.09.86	St. Sevrin D'uzet (Charente-Maritime)	FRANCE
				45°30'N 0°50'W 604km S
C787952	(1st year)	31.08.86	Titchfield Haven	
	Controlled	05.09.85	Treogat (Finistere)	FRANCE 392km SW
C787706	(1st year)	05.09.85	Titchfield Haven	
	Found in poor condition	04.10.86	El Jadida MOROCCO	33°16'N 8°30'W 2038km SSW

019348 is the first Spanish-ringed Sedge Warbler to be caught on spring passage in the U.K. The four same-autumn movements to France are no doubt the result of increased ringing activity in that country.

REED WARBLER

Although good numbers were ringed in the county during 1986 (cf Sedge Warbler), there were few recoveries/controls, and only four of these involved movement over 100km. Only one was from overseas:

A0231363	(1st year)	27.08.81	Mouchao das Garcas (Ribatejo)	PORTUGAL
	Controlled	25.07.82	Titchfield Haven	
	Dead on road	01.06.86	Titchfield Haven	1464km N

GARDEN WARBLER

B320346	(1st year)	12.08.82	Hamble	
	Entered house, found dead	25.12.86	Obagie, NIGERIA	6°25'N 5°32'E 4978km S

This is only the second Garden Warbler recovery from south of the Sahara and was slightly further south than the previous one, (at 6°41'N, Ghana, 1983).

BLACKCAP

C737709	(1st year ♀)	06.09.86	Southampton Docks	
	Controlled	24.09.86	Kenfig Pool (Glamorgan)	171km WSW
2475628	(1st year ♀)	06.09.86	Herne (Brabant) BELGIUM	50°43'N 4°02'E 387km W

It seems likely that both of these were intending to winter in Great Britain.

CHIFFCHAFF

Two long movements reported, one of which had moved to Spain!

4B4630	(Nestling)	22.06.79	Hamble	
	Found dead	18.10.80	Aljaraque (Huelva) SPAIN	37°16'N 7°01'W 1576km S

The ringer only received the recovery details for this bird in 1986!

BEARDED TIT

C370295	(1st year ♂)	21.07.85	Stodmarsh (Kent)	
	Controlled	21.09.86	Titchfield Haven	178km W

A typical movement.

JAY

DS87644	(1st year)	07.08.77	Thatcham Marsh (Newbury) Berkshire	
	Controlled	14.06.86	Itchen Abbas	35km S
EJ43746	(Nestling)	04.06.86	Old Netley	
	Shot	18.12.86	Potterspury (Northants)	136km N
EJ43747	(Nestling)	04.06.86	Old Netley	
	Shot	13.12.86	Downton Castle (Ludlow) Shropshire	195km NW

British Jays are normally very sedentary, which makes the 100+km dispersal of the two brood-siblings mentioned above very remarkable.

GREENFINCH

Seven long-distance movements were reported; six of these followed the usual pattern of recoveries/controls to or from the E/NE quadrant, i.e. Herts, (1); Essex, (5), while the seventh was a west country movement:

NN62423	(1st year ♂)	07.12.83	St. Columb Manor (Cornwall)	
	Controlled	12.03.86	Alton	288km ENE

SISKIN

There were a large number of long-distance recoveries/controls, including two foreign movements and two which may have involved birds of the Scottish breeding population.

C211307	(Full grown ♀)	07.04.84	Totton	
	Controlled	25.04.84	Anholt DENMARK	56°42'N 11°34'E 1070km NE

(Taken from 1985 B.T.O. Ringing Report)

C773707	(2nd year ♂)	26.01.86	Alton	
	Controlled	10.05.86	Clochran (Buckie) Grampian Region	732km N
C888770	(2nd year ♂)	20.02.86	Southampton	
	Controlled	16.04.86	Tegelen (Limburg) NETHERLANDS	528km E
C888794	(2nd year ♀)	25.02.86	Southampton	
	Controlled	13/15.04.86	Kirkcudbright (Dumfries & Galloway)	470km NNW

The remainder were to/from Bucks: (1), Dorset: (1), Hampshire: (1), Shropshire: (2), Surrey: (4), Gtr. London: (1), and Herts: (1).

REED BUNTING

The three distant movements reported included a foreign control:

25V75305	(Full grown ♂)	28.10.84	Heusden (Oost-Vlaanderen) BELGIUM	
	Controlled	20.02.86	Titchfield Haven	353km W

It is known that some continental Reed Buntings visit Britain in autumn/winter, but this appears to be the first foreign-ringed Reed Bunting recorded in Hampshire.

RINGING TOTALS REPORTED TO H.O.S. 1985

(As at least two active ringers sent no totals in for 1986, these totals are short by an unknown degree)

Species	Fg.	Pull	Total	Species	Fg.	Pull	Total
Mute Swan	10		10	Robin	368	41	409
Shelduck		5	5	Nightingale	5	6	11
Gadwall	4		4	Black Redstart	1		1
Teal	55		55	Redstart	17	5	22
Mallard	67		67	Whinchat	5		5
Pochard	4		4	Stonechat		42	42
Sparrowhawk	10		10	Blackbird	608	89	697
Kestrel	1	12	13	Fieldfare	172		172
Merlin	1		1	Song Thrush	161	74	235
Water Rail	5		5	Redwing	66		66
Moorhen	34		34	Mistle Thrush	31		31
Coot	7		7	Cetti's Warbler	36		36
Little Ringed Plover	2	4	6	Grasshopper Warbler	2	3	5
Ringed Plover	43	7	50	Sedge Warbler	779	8	787
Lapwing	4	3	7	Reed Warbler	700	21	721
Little Stint	4		4	Aquatic Warbler	1		1
Pectoral Sandpiper	1		1	Dartford Warbler	6	156	162
Curlew Sandpiper	6		6	Lesser Whitethroat	90	5	95
Dunlin	487		487	Whitethroat	87	19	106
Ruff	1		1	Garden Warbler	110		110
Jack Snipe	1		1	Blackcap	400	32	432
Snipe	10		10	Wood Warbler		4	4
Black-tailed Godwit	2		2	Chiffchaff	370		370
Spotted Redshank	2		2	Willow Warbler	539	134	673
Redshank	49	1	50	Goldcrest	33		33
Greenshank	31		31	Firecrest	1		1
Lesser Yellowlegs	1		1	Spotted Flycatcher	21	74	95
Green Sandpiper	1		1	Pied Flycatcher	6		6
Common Sandpiper	10		10	Bearded Tit	59		59
Spotted Sandpiper	1		1	Long-tailed Tit	182		182
Black-headed Gull	12		12	Marsh Tit	27		27
Common Gull	2		2	Willow Tit	7		7
Stock Dove		22	22	Coal Tit	94	44	138
Woodpigeon	5	4	9	Blue Tit	2003	703	2707
Collared Dove	28		28	Great Tit	640	259	899
Turtle Dove	1	2	3	Nuthatch	13	38	51
Cuckoo	1	1	2	Treecreeper	35		35
Barn Owl		8	8	Jay	20	17	37
Little Owl	1	3	4	Magpie	9	42	51
Tawny Owl	1	8	9	Rook	208	104	312
Nightjar	1		1	Carriion Crow	1	4	5
Swift	44		44	Starling	300	8	308
Kingfisher	7		7	House Sparrow	2		2
Green Woodpecker	3		3	Chaffinch	356	31	387
Great Spotted Woodpecker	18		18	Brambling	12		12
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	2		2	Greenfinch	1020	23	1043
Woodlark		7	7	Goldfinch	41		41
Skylark		3	3	Siskin	678		678
Sand Martin	559		559	Linnnet	47	85	132
Swallow	745	269	1014	Redpoll	8	19	27
House Martin	1141	1	1142	Bullfinch	162		162
Tree Pipit	6	15	21	Yellowhammer	37	25	62
Meadow Pipit	50	30	80	Little Bunting	1		1
Rock Pipit	1		1	Reed Bunting	271	19	290
Water Pipit	2		2	Corn Bunting	5		5
Yellow Wagtail	153		153				
Grey Wagtail	29	23	52				
Pied Wagtail	539	13	552				
Wren	283	6	289				
Dunnoek	322	39	361				
				Grand Total	15,663	2,621	18,284
				115 Species			

The Status of the Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti* in Hampshire

Brian Dudley

Introduction

The spread of the Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti* across north western Europe since the 1920s has been well documented (Bonham and Robertson 1975), as has the first record for Great Britain (Suffern and Ferguson-Lees 1964) which occurred at Titchfield Haven, Hampshire from 4 March to 8 April 1961. Very little has been published about the subsequent colonisation of Hampshire. This paper describes the increase in records, breeding numbers and status of the species from 1972 to the present.

Cetti's Warblers are notoriously skulking birds, which can make observation difficult, but the loud, abrupt song of the male is diagnostic, and can be heard from a considerable distance, so that many records refer to singing males rather than birds seen. Proving breeding can be a still greater problem as females are even more unobtrusive. The nest is built by the female alone (Le Sueur 1980) and is situated in deep cover, so that nest finding without damaging the habitat is usually impossible. Females also do all the incubation, and nearly all feeding of the young, approaching the nest very low in the vegetation, so that watching for birds carrying food can be very unrewarding. Many of the cases of proven breeding in the county refer to birds which have been mist-netted at some of the regularly frequented sites, enabling females to be examined for active brood-patches (indicating incubation of eggs) or ageing of juveniles in the hand.

Male Cetti's Warblers are larger and heavier than females, and in common with many sexually "size dimorphic" birds, polygyny has often been recorded, with males mating with up to three females (Bibby 1982). Assuming this to be the case in Hampshire, numbers of breeding birds are very likely to be under-estimated, especially in places where only counts of singing males are available.

Summary of Records of Cetti's Warbler in Hampshire, 1972-1986.

Following the 1961 individual, there were no more records for Hampshire until 1972, when two birds were trapped. Including these two, there was only a total of twelve records up to 1976, from three coastal and five inland localities. The records are summarised in Table 1.

TABLE 1. RECORDS 1972/76

LOCALITY	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
FARLINGTON MARSHES	1	1			
TIMSBURY	1				
COAST SITE (A)			1		1
ITCHEN SITE (A)			1		
EASTLEIGH				1	
FLEET POND				1	
TITCHFIELD HAVEN				3	
TWYFORD					1

Only two of the above records involved males holding territory for any length of time: at coast site A from 24 March to 21 April 1974 and at Itchen site A from 5 May to 20 June 1974. Both localities have since become breeding sites.

1977

This was the first year in which a male held territory throughout the breeding season; one was present in the Winchester area from 16 February to 31 July. Although breeding was not

suspected, up to five individuals were seen or trapped in the Itchen Valley during the autumn. The only other breeding season record was of a singing male at Hale (Avon Valley) on 13 May. (Records of singing males from April to July for 1977-86 are summarised in Table 2.)

Six birds arrived at Titchfield Haven in October, at least four of these remaining to the year's end. One male (possible two) was singing at Coast site A on 29 October and another bird was trapped at a Test Valley site on 27 November.

1978

At least four of the Titchfield Haven birds remained until 16 April but there were no other county records between January and March. None was recorded at Titchfield Haven during the breeding season apart from an isolated June record, but the Avon Valley was colonised, with up to four singing males present (sites A-D). The Winchester bird also sang during May in the same locality as the previous year. Although breeding was not proved, it seems likely that it occurred in the county during 1978.

The spread of birds up the river valleys closely resembles the colonisation of Kent (Harvey 1977).

At least 11 birds were recorded in autumn and winter: five at Titchfield Haven, and singles at Lower Test Marshes, Avon Valley sites A, C and E, Itchen site A and Farlington Marshes (trapped on 14 October).

1979

The year began with very severe weather, and all the Titchfield Haven birds recorded in late 1978 disappeared, either having succumbed to the low temperatures or moved elsewhere. There was only one record for the area in the early year, a single on 5 May.

During the breeding season, the Avon Valley held five singing males, with one pair breeding successfully (sites A, C, E), while Itchen site A had two singing males. Two females were caught, one of which had an inflamed brood patch, and breeding was thought to have occurred.

Another influx was noted at Titchfield Haven in October and November with a minimum of ten birds present, at least five remaining to the year's end.

One was trapped at Itchen site B on 28 September, one seen at Winchester on 9 October and one trapped at Lower Test Marshes on 21 October.

1980

Up to ten singing males were recorded during the breeding season. Avon Valley: four at site A, one at site B (on 14 April only) and one at site E. Itchen Valley: site A held three males, with at least two pairs definitely breeding; at site C one male sang from April to August. This bird was trapped on several occasions, but no females or juveniles were seen, and it was presumed to be unmated. The only other June record was of a male trapped at Lower Test Marshes on the 29th, which was not located subsequently.

Two birds remained at Titchfield Haven from January to April, with one present until 17 May. There were no more records from this locality until 24 September when a singing male arrived and sang regularly until 9 November. It was joined by another singing male in early October but no birds were recorded in the late year.

Other autumn records were of one at Fleet Pond from 24 September to 16 November and one or two at Greywell on 29 November.

1981

There was a slight increase in the number of singing males recorded, although the true picture may be somewhat obscured due to variations in coverage of some localities, *e.g.* the only record for the Avon Valley was of a singing male at site A on 23 April, but it was estimated that a further seven pairs may have been present. The Itchen Valley held birds at sites A (where they probably bred) and C (where the male was again thought to be unmated). Lower Test Marshes held one singing male, and breeding was proved when two very young juveniles were ringed on 18 and 19 July. Further up the Test Valley, a male sang at site B from 15 March to 3 May and again on 12 July. Two pairs were present at Titchfield Haven, one at least breeding successfully.

Apart from odd winter records at some of these sites, the only other sightings singles at Greywell were of in January, Bishopstoke on 28 March and an Itchen cress bed on 2 July.

1982

The winter of 1981/82 was very severe, but in spite of this there was an increase in the number of singing males recorded during the breeding season, with an estimated 22 heard. Coverage of the Avon Valley was better this year: two singing males (site A), one (site C), one (site E), three (site F), one (site G) and one (site H). In the Itchen Valley, two pairs probably bred at site A, one was calling excitedly at site B in mid June, and the male at site C was caught with a young juvenile on 8 July. One sang from a new site (D) from 17 April to 6 June. In addition to these records, one was in song at Brambridge on 3 May and another at a cress bed on 29 August. Breeding was proved at only one site at Titchfield Haven, although three males held territories. Song was heard only briefly at Lower Test Marshes, and none was caught there during ringing activities in the breeding season. A new coastal site (B) was found to hold a singing male on 7 June.

The only records away from these sites were of two males heard and seen at Dibden Bay on 23 August and one at Greywell from 25 November to the year's end.

1983

Coverage of some sites was very poor in 1983 (*cf.* 1981), and the following birds were reported in the breeding season. Avon Valley: three singing males (site A), two (site F), one (site I). Itchen Valley: three singing males, two broods reared (site A), two males (site B), one male (site C), one male (site D). Test Valley: single males at site A, C and D. Titchfield Haven, only one singing male, breeding proven. Lower Test Marshes, one male, breeding also proven. On the coast, two singing males were recorded at site B.

Allowing for sites not covered in 1983, it was estimated that the breeding population was of the order of 28 pairs/singing males.

Outside the breeding season, records were from: coast site A (February/March, November/December), with two birds in the early year; Sinah G.P. (2, 5 October) and Warsash (2, 2 December).

1984

Although more singing males were recorded during the 1984 breeding season, it is difficult to assess the true number as several areas were not covered well. For the Avon Valley, one record states "at least 12 singing regularly" but gives no indication as to the localities of the birds. Those records which give locations for the area are: two (site A) and single males (sites I, J and K). It was estimated that there may have been as many as 15 males holding territories in the Avon Valley during the year.

In the Itchen Valley, only one male (plus one female) was reported from site A, but as this site was very poorly covered during the year it is likely to be an underestimate. Site C was not occupied, but a female from the site was caught at site B in May - see ringing section for details).

There was only one bird reported from the Test Valley (site A), but the population at Lower Test Marshes increased to at least three singing males with two pairs known to have bred successfully.

Titchfield Haven also held up to three singing males, with three broods noted in one area where one male was considered to have mated with two females.

On the coast, coverage was better, with two singing males at site A, six or seven at site B and one from March to June in a new area (site C).

These records give a total of at least 33 singing males recorded. (This is a higher total than published in the *Hampshire Bird Report* and incorporates previously unpublished records).

Most records outside the breeding season were from the breeding sites except for two at coast site D from October to December, one singing at Farlington Marshes on 27 August, a female trapped there on 13 September, and one male at Fleet Pond from 12 October into 1985.

1985

The winter of 1984/85 was very severe, and reductions of up to 75% occurred in the Kent and Suffolk populations. In Hampshire, where the weather was less severe, the population increased, with at least 39 singing males reported between April and June. (This is a higher total than published in the *Hampshire Bird Report* for 1985, cf. 1984).

In the Avon Valley the records were as follows: three singing males (site A), one (site B), three (site E), three (site J), one (site L) and two (site M). No records were received for several sites in the valley so the actual population may have been higher.

The Itchen Valley held four singing males, two at site A and singles at new sites (F and G).

Only one bird was reported from the Test Valley (site E), but Lower Test Marshes had an increase, with up to seven singing males (several pairs raising young).

The population at Titchfield Haven also increased to six singing males, and the good breeding success was reflected in the high autumn numbers there, e.g. at least 20 present in November including ten singing males.

The coastal population was perhaps slightly under-recorded, with one singing male (site A), at least four (site B), one (site C) and two at a new site (D).

Outside the breeding season most records were from the above mentioned sites other than singles at Mansbridge (January), Fleet Pond (January to March), Leckford (September/October) and Winchester (November).

1986

In spite of a request for all records (including absence) in the *Hampshire Bird Report* for 1985, many areas were very poorly reported, e.g. in the Avon Valley only eight singing males (13 in 1985) and at Coast site B one singing male (four in 1985). As numbers at other sites showed slight increases or were stable, these areas were very likely under-recorded. Assuming that numbers remained stable at these sites, the Hampshire population was at an all time high with perhaps as many as 50 singing males present.

A breakdown of the year's records shows the disparity in coverage in some of the areas:
 Avon Valley: two singing males (site A), two (site E), one (site I), two (site K) and one (site N).

Itchen Valley: four singing males (site A), singles (sites B, F, H and I).

Test Valley: singles at sites A, E and F.

Lower Test Marshes: seven singing males. Good breeding success at this site, with 16 juveniles trapped.

Titchfield Haven: seven singing males. 30-40 birds were present between October and December, reflecting the continuing increase in numbers and good breeding success in the county.

Coast: singles at sites B, C and E, a new location. No data was received for site A which has held birds in previous years.

As usual, there were few records away from these areas: one was trapped at Hamble Common on 12 September and one or two were at coast site D in October and November.

TABLE 2. SINGING MALES RECORDED DURING APRIL/JULY (1977-1986)

AREA	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
AVON VALLEY	1	4	5	6	*8	9	*14	15	13	*15
ITCHEN VALLEY	1	1	2	4	2	6	7	1	4	8
TEST VALLEY					1	1	3	1	1	3
LOWER TEST MARSHES					1	1	1	3	7	7
TITCHFIELD HAVEN					2	3	1	3	6	7
COAST						1	2	10	8	*9
TOTALS	2	5	7	10	*14	21	*28	33	39	*49

* Indicates where totals have been estimated to allow for poor observer coverage or lack of data

Ringling totals and recoveries

Up to 1986 a total of 157 Cetti's Warblers had been ringed in Hampshire, which represents c. 12% of the national total. Table 3 lists the annual totals from 1972 to 1986.

TABLE 3. HAMPSHIRE RINGING TOTALS FOR CETTI'S WARBLERS (1972-1986)

1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
2	0	0	1	1	7	5	8	11	8	4	17	26	30	36

(This table does not include the 1961 individual)

The majority of these birds has been trapped at regular ringing stations at Titchfield Haven, Lower Test Marshes and in the Itchen Valley. Retrapping of individuals shows that many birds survive cold weather conditions and that males are often faithful to their territories, some having been captured in the same place for several years. However, there is much scope for further research in this respect. There is as yet little evidence of interchange between sites within Hampshire, but as ringing totals increase much more should be learned regarding dispersal within the county. The only movements within the county reported so far involve a bird ringed at Titchfield Haven in November 1979 controlled further up the Meon Valley a month later, the Lodmoor ringed bird mentioned below, and a movement between sites within the Itchen Valley (see *Hampshire Ringing Report 1986*). Such movements probably occur regularly as juveniles disperse from their natal areas.

There have been two distant movements recorded, both to or from Lodmoor (Dorset). The first of these was a bird ringed as an adult near Titchfield on 7 April 1980, controlled at Lodmoor on 27 April 1980. The origins of this bird are unknown; it may have overwintered in the Titchfield area (at least ten were present at nearby Titchfield Haven in October 1979) or it may have been a spring migrant passing through.

The second bird had been ringed at Lodmoor as a juvenile female on 5 October 1980. It was controlled breeding at Itchen site C on 8 July 1983, where it was paired with a male which had held territory there since 1980. In 1984 no song was heard at the site, and the female was later controlled as Itchen site B on 19 May. It seems likely that the male had died and the female was wandering around looking for a mate. It has not been relocated subsequently.

Discussion

It is clear that the Cetti's Warbler is now an established member of the county avifauna, and with so much suitable habitat as yet uncolonised there is much potential for further expansion.

The habitat requirements of the species have been documented by others (e.g. Hollier 1973, Harvey 1977) and the breeding territories at Titchfield Haven and Lower Test Marshes were found to conform closely to these, with marshy ground, dense scrub (willows *Salix* sp and bramble *Rubus fruticosus* being especially important), stands of common reed *Phragmites communis* growing next to or intermixed with the scrub, and a rich herb layer forming thick ground cover (Duffin 1982, Dudley 1983). Territories are often linear in extent, almost invariably incorporating a length of ditch or stream, an area of water-logged ground or a pond.

The majority of Hampshire's Cetti's Warblers is found in the main river valleys and in suitable habitat at or near the coast. It still remains very scarce in the north of the county, where records refer mainly to birds found in early spring or autumn, perhaps indicating passage. If the current trend of population increase continues (the situation in 1987 suggests that the number of singing males has almost doubled in some areas) and barring another extremely severe winter (such as that in 1962/63), Cetti's Warblers are likely to be encountered in many more areas than at present. All records (including additional ones for the period covered by this paper) should be sent to the Hampshire Ornithological Society so that the species' fortunes can be closely monitored.

Acknowledgements

I am particularly grateful to Eddie Wiseman for access to the records of Cetti's Warbler in Hampshire (1972-85) and to Dave Unsworth for the 1986 records. John Clark, Barry Duffin and Norman Pratt provided constructive criticism and comments on the original draft.

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Summary

The increase in records of Cetti's Warbler in Hampshire during 1972-86 has been summarised. Coverage was found to be poor at some sites in several years, so that totals have been estimated in some cases, but there is no doubt that the species has an increasing breeding population in the county with probably 50 singing males in 1986. Ringing totals and recoveries are briefly discussed. Sites are coded as some observers wished localities to be withheld.

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