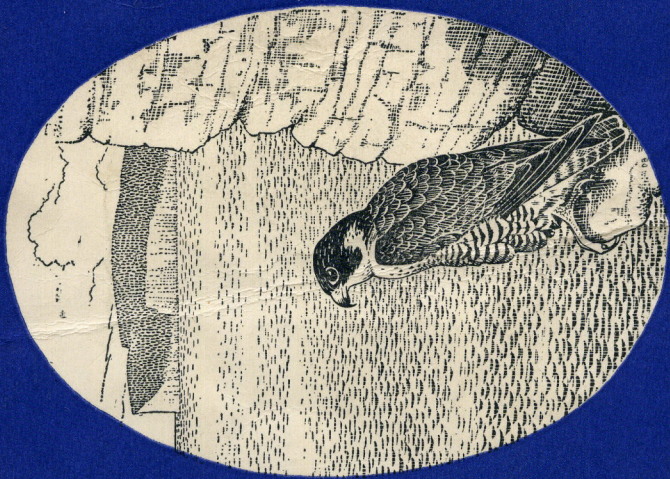


THE SUSSEX
BIRD REPORT

1959



EDITED BY D. D. HARBER

PRICE FIVE SHILLINGS

THE SUSSEX BIRD REPORT

THE FIRST SUSSEX BIRD REPORT covered the year 1948 and it now appears annually in May and reports on the previous calendar year. It is entirely supported by the proceeds of sales to subscribers, the number of which limits its size and determines the price.

We adopt the order and also the serial numbers used in the B.O.U. checklist (1952). The English names are in general those used in *British Birds* (vide Vol. XLVI, p. 1).

Objects.—The principal object is to record in a systematic order unusual occurrences, whether of birds rare at any time of the year, or of commoner birds seen at unusual times of year or in unusual localities. In addition, records are published which give detailed information on migration, since relatively little is known on this subject, and counts of breeding populations and other work of a fairly exact nature.

A secondary object is to publish information on Sussex birds within the scope of the principal object mentioned above but not relating to the year of the Report and which has either not been published before or if published and accepted as correct seems open to doubt upon consideration of unpublished details. Generally, this information will come from unpublished diaries but it is perhaps worth adding that only the more important records of previous years will be dealt with. We should greatly appreciate the chance to see any diaries and similar material known to readers.

The Report is in no sense a guide to Sussex birds and it cannot be fully appreciated without a good knowledge of the subject or frequent reference to *A History of Sussex Birds* (1938). Considerations of space prevent us from taking a wider view of the function of county reporting.

Contributions.—We welcome contributions from all observers, but reserve the right to decide what to include in the Report without explanation. All records are, however, kept on separate species-sheets and much which is not referred to in the Report may prove of value in years to come. Care is taken to assess the accuracy of records, but observers would greatly assist if they would particularly study the note on this subject which appeared on page 1 of *British Birds*, Vol. XLV.

It is helpful if records are sent in periodically, but not more often than at three-monthly intervals (except in the case of extreme rarities which should be reported immediately), but observers are particularly asked to avoid sending in a large volume of notes after the end of the year when the Report is being drafted. If periodic instalments are burdensome then observers are asked to send the bulk of their records along in November or December, and then a supplementary sheet covering the last weeks or days of the year later. All records should be received by us not later than mid-February.

Many regular contributors do not normally send records unless specifically asked to do so by letter. The extra correspondence entailed for this reason—as well as in collecting the price of the Report—ought surely to be unnecessary!

Abbreviations.—"G.P.": gravel pits. "S.F.": Sewage Farm. "E.", "W.", etc.: cardinal points of the compass are intended only to give a general direction unless the context indicates otherwise. In particular this applies to birds going up or down the Channel and which are referred to as flying E. or W.

THE SUSSEX BIRD REPORT

1959

EDITED BY
D. D. HARBER

OBTAINABLE FROM
D. D. HARBER
1 GORRINGE ROAD, EASTBOURNE

ADDITIONS TO 1958 REPORT

67. **EIDER**.—Large numbers off Norman's Bay in early April, most c. 75 on 10th (F. J. Walker).
 100. **HEN HARRIER**.—One, Barnhorne Marsh, February 4th-27th (F. J. Walker). One on downs near Alfriston, November 1st-December 27th (L.A.C.).
 120. **WATER RAIL**.—Present on Barnhorne Marsh throughout the year. Two there on May 11th (F. J. Walker).
 156. **GREEN SANDPIPER**.—One on Pevensey Levels, January 30th (L.A.C.).
 159. **COMMON SANDPIPER**.—Two near Litlington on January 18th (L.A.C.).
 230. **PUFFIN**.—An oiled bird at Rye Harbour on November 29th (F. J. Walker).
 263. **GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER**.—One on the Crumbles on February 15th (F. J. Walker).
 321. **BLACK REDSTART**.—One at Alfriston on June 29th. One there on October 5th (L.A.C.).
 425. **TREE SPARROW**.—C. 24 pairs in 6 localities on Pevensey Levels during the breeding season (F. J. Walker).

SUSSEX WILDFOWL COUNTS, 1958-59

Counts were continued in Chichester Harbour, Chichester G.P., Pagham Harbour, the Arun Valley, Burton Park Ponds, Darwell Reservoir, Weirwood Reservoir, Powdermill Reservoir, Pett Level, Glynde Level, Piddinghoe Pond and the Cuckmere. In addition, in September, counts were started at Knepp Lake, Hammerwood Pond, Fen Place, Rye Harbour and the Midrips.

No very large numbers of duck were present in the county, and only two small groups of Grey Geese were recorded on count days. The dry Spring and the resultant good breeding season were reflected in the very large numbers of Mallard, and to a lesser extent, Teal, recorded in the Autumn. Details will be found in the body of the *Sussex Bird Report*.

Since September, monthly interim reports have been published by The Wildfowl Trust estimating the population of Mallard, Teal, Wigeon, Pintail, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck and Goldeneye in the British Isles, based on counts conducted on a small sample of specially selected waters. These "priority" waters, totalling about a 100 in all, are chosen for their big populations, and often carry more than half of all the ducks counted. Three areas have this "priority" status in Sussex—Weirwood Reservoir, Darwell Reservoir and the Arun Valley.

Any information relating to the breeding success of Mallard would be most welcome. Besides the actual numbers of birds present, we also would like the opinion of the observer as to the composition of the flock, including the percentage of young birds.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all counters for all their hard work which enables the scheme to operate so smoothly.

P. R. MILLS,
Regional Organizer.

BIRD RINGING

The total number of birds ringed was slightly smaller than in 1958. Seven ringers, 6 of them resident in the county, ringed between them 3,508 birds of 77 species, nearly all being trapped with very few ringed as nestlings. Among them was the first Barred Warbler for the county. The largest individual totals were: J.S.—1,810, mainly for Shoreham; D.D.H.—653, nearly all for Eastbourne; J.A.W.—501, mainly for Burgess Hill.

The following have contributed records:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| L. P. Alder | J. Reynolds* | J. A. Hicks |
| H. G. Alexander | Lt.-Col. D. B. C. Robertson | R. C. Homes |
| A. Allen | R. L. Rolfe | Mrs. O. Howard |
| Miss M. A. Ash | G. Rouse | Cmdr. C. V. Jack |
| G. J. Barker | R. Ruston | C. M. James |
| A. A. Barnard | R. E. Sandison | Miss G. J. Jasper |
| R. B. Barstow | R. E. Scott | C. E. Jenkinson |
| C. L. Bergne-Coupland | A. Shaw | Mrs. H. M. Johnson |
| D. F. Billett | A. B. Sheldon | H. C. B. Jollye |
| W. R. P. Bourne | D. L. Shilcock | H. C. Jones |
| M. Branwhite | M. Shrubbs | M. Kendall |
| R. Branwhite | T. B. Silcocks | S. F. Knight |
| Mrs. Brayne | Miss J. V. Stacey | D. Langford |
| W. G. Breed | Dr. J. Stafford | H. Lockett |
| D. M. Broom | A. H. W. Stokes | Capt. C. E. Lucas |
| C. F. Brown | Miss E. G. Stoward | B. A. E. Marr |
| M. Bryant | G. A. Sutton | Miss M. D. Marsh |
| R. G. H. Cant | R. G. Sutton | D. B. Maynard |
| P. Campbell | Miss L. H. Tanner | C. J. Mead |
| N. Catchpole | J. B. Tatum | B. S. Meadows |
| H. A. R. Cawkell | S. J. Teideman | Miss E. Milligan |
| S. H. Chalke | E. P. Thorne | C. J. Mills |
| R. H. Charlwood | J. M. Twort | D. T. Minton |
| G. T. Chater | F. Underwood | N. Money |
| D. R. Coda | E. M. Venables | C. J. Mortimer |
| D. J. Cogan | K. Verrall | Miss M. A. Mount |
| Dr. L. A. Collins | C. M. Veysey | Dr. A. H. Murch |
| R. P. Cordero | W. J. Vinnall | J. Norrie |
| R. L. Day | F. J. Walker | R. J. Oliver |
| S. J. K. Eames | Mr. & Mrs. K. Walker | W. D. Park |
| Mrs. M. A. Edwards | P. D. Waters | C. W. G. Paulson-Ellis |
| R. Elphick | C. Watkins | R. E. F. Peal |
| R. D. English | Dr. A. Barrie Watson | G. Peate |
| Miss A. Fawcett | Miss C. Weber | F. P. Penfold |
| M. D. Finlasen | Miss W. P. White | Mrs. N. Petrie-Hay |
| G. des Forges | J. A. Wigzel | Mrs. L. Pett |
| Professor P. Ford | R. J. Wilmshurst | Major W. W. A. Phillips |
| Mrs. E. Fraser | P. J. Wilson | Miss F. Pillepick |
| R. Gilbert | R. G. Wiseman | M. H. Port |
| Miss V. A. Gillham | E. J. Wiseman | R. F. Porter |
| D. Goodson | Mrs. H. M. Woodall | Mrs. K. N. Quarterman |
| Lady Dudley Gordon | D. B. Woodridge | R. L. Rabbetts |
| S. Greenwood | Miss W. M. Woodruffe | J. Reaney* |
| C. A. Grigg | F. Woolley | G. L. Rennant |
| D. D. Harber | | B. W. Renyard |
| M. Helps | | |

*Records from J. Reynolds indicated by initials "J.R."; from J. Reaney by use of full name.

SELSEY BILL

As will be seen from records published in the present *Report*, a group of observers spent a good deal of time at Selsey Bill during 1959, paying particular attention to visible migration there. It is intended to continue this watch during 1960 and in order to facilitate the compilation of material from this locality observers are requested to send in records from Selsey Bill to B. A. E. Marr, 59 The Green, Southwick.

RECORDS OF RARE BIRDS

As most subscribers to the *Report* will be aware, *British Birds* has now put into operation a new scheme for dealing with records of rare birds. Details, including the list of birds considered as belonging to this category, can be found in Vol. LII, pp. 241-4. *The Sussex Bird Report* is fully co-operating with *British Birds* in this matter. All records of rarities covered by the scheme which are sent in to the *Report* will be passed on to the Rarities Committee of *Brit. B.* for its consideration (unless, of course, the recorder has also sent the record in to this latter). No such records, which have been rejected by *Brit. B.*, will be published in the *Report*. Records which have been accepted by *Brit. B.* will be published in the *Report* with a statement to this effect and without a description, except in the case of first county records. It is inevitable that some records submitted to *Brit. B.* should still be pending when the *Report* goes to press, though this can be minimised by records being sent in with full descriptions as soon as possible. Where there seems no reasonable doubt that the record will be accepted it will be published in the *Report* with the comment "under consideration by *Brit. B.*" Otherwise, pending records will not be published in the *Report* but all that have been accepted will appear in the issue for the year following.

CLASSIFIED RECORDS FOR 1959

1. **BLACK-THROATED DIVER**.—One at Chichester G.P. on January 31st and February 1st (M.B., P.R.M., A.B.W.).
One, in partial summer plumage, off Langney Point on October 4th (D.D.H.). The earliest autumn date for the county. One off Selsey Bill on October 24th (M.A.J., A.B.S.) and 1 off there on 25th (B.A.E.M.). One at East Head, West Wittering, on November 28th, and 1 off at Selsey Bill on 29th (B.A.E.M.). One on Pagham Lagoon, December 9th-15th (W.W.A.P.). One at Chichester G.P., December 21st-28th (L.P.A., P.R.M., F.U. *et al.*).
2. **GREAT NORTHERN DIVER**.—One off Newhaven on February 21st (L.P.A.). One, in summer plumage, off Selsey Bill on May 10th (A.B.S.). One off there on November 14th (B.A.E.M. *et al.*).
3. **GREAT CRESTED GREBE**.—The usual inland records for both ends of the year. At Weir Wood Reservoir there was only a single bird of the year in October, then 6 birds on November 1st and up to 8 till the end of the year (R.L.R.).

A pair at Rye Harbour G.P. during the summer but no young seen (R.H.C., D.D.H.). One on Thorney Channel on June 6th (D.D.H.) and 14th (B.A.E.M.). An adult off Langney Point on July 19th (R.H.C.) and a juvenile at Pagham on 24th (W.W.A.P.).

6. **RED-NECKED GREBE**.—One at Pagham, December 13th-21st (D.L., W.W.A.P. *et al.*).
7. **SLAVONIAN GREBE**.—Up to 3 were seen together off the coast in January and February and up to 6 there in November and December. All records were for the west of the county.

8. **BLACK-NECKED GREBE**.—Up to 9 were seen together on the coast in the early part of the year and single birds there in October-December.

One in summer plumage at Chichester G.P. on May 19th (A.B.W.). Only the second county record for such a date. One at Rye Harbour G.P. on September 6th (C.M.J.).

12. **LEACH'S PETREL**.—On September 19th G.P. saw one flying S.20-25 feet up near Tunbridge Wells. "In silhouette was entirely black, or very dark coloured. Long slender wings, small head, forked tail, larger appearance than a Swift and flight . . . very buoyant and erratic with most definite flapping, but also with a typical shearwater gliding." It was a period of N.E. winds. On November 14th one was found dying in an Arundel garden. It was later seen by D.L. On November 15th D.L. saw 1 flying E. off Pagham. The observer, who is familiar with the Storm Petrel, describes in detail the typical flight.

14. **STORM PETREL**.—On May 9th 1 was feeding for c. 20 minutes c. 200 yards off Langney Point (D.D.H.). On November 13th 1 was found alive in the grounds of the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. It was taken to P.C. who confirmed identification at the Booth Museum. It was later released on the beach.

16. **BALEARIC SHEARWATER**.—On October 17th 1 flew W., some way out, off Selsey Bill. "About size of Manx Shearwater with similar flight. Dark brown upper parts. The under parts were paler and afforded no marked contrast with the upper parts" (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., J. Reaney). The first two observers had had previous experience of this race.

26. **FULMAR**.—One flying W. off Selsey Bill on March 22nd (A.B.S.). The second county record for this month. Up to 3 were seen together in this locality on a number of occasions between April 17th and May 31st. No doubt these were from the Isle of Wight. Single birds were recorded for the coast between the Wicks and Hove on a number of occasions between April 20th and June 10th. One flying E. over Aldwick Bay on July 21st (W.W.A.P.).

27. **GANNET**.—One off Brighton on January 22nd (M.H.P.). No large numbers were recorded. One off Pilsea Island, Chichester Harbour, on October 18th (P.R.M.).

29. **SHAG**.—One at Southwick Lock on January 16th (M.H.P.).

30. **HERON**.—All known heronries were visited, the numbers of occupied nests being: Fishbourne 22 (S.J.K.E.); Parham 48 (P.D.W.); Henfield 13 (C.A.G.); Firle Park 5 (E.P.T.); Glynde 6 (E.P.T.); Eridge 34 (Mrs. Brayne); Glynleigh 13 (J.A.H.); Udmore 6 (J.A.H.); and Leasham 11 (J.A.H.). A pair raised 2 young at a new site near Boreham Street (R.H.C.).

32. **LITTLE EGRET**.—One at Thorney on July 30th (H.L.). What was no doubt the same bird was seen at Fishbourne on August 3rd (G.R.) and there and at Manhood End on many occasions up to August 23rd (S.J.K.E., D.D.H., J.S. *et al.*). This record, which is the fifth for the county, has been accepted by *Brit. B.*

45. **MALLARD**.—Unusually large numbers were recorded for the latter part of the year, particularly at Chichester G.P., where there was a maximum of c. 1,220 on October 17th (P.R.M.).

46. **TEAL**.—The largest numbers were again recorded from the Amberley-Pulborough area where there were c. 1,150 on January 25th (A.B.S.).

47. **GARGANEY**.—A drake at Thorney on March 8th (B.A.E.M.). An early date. Spring records were much more numerous than usual, the most recorded together being 15 at the Midrips on March 24th (L.A.C.). Birds were reported in May and June from 6 localities.

49. **GADWALL**.—A pair at Weir Wood Reservoir on January 18th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). Three at Thorney on February 7th (D.D.H.).
- Two at Manhood End on July 18th (D.L.). Two on Pagham Lagoon on October 5th (W.W.A.P.). A pair at Weir Wood Reservoir, October 18th to November 1st (R.L.R.), and a female there on November 15th (M.H.P.).
50. **WIGEON**.—C. 2,500 in the Amberley-Pulborough area on January 25th (A.B.S., B.A.E.M.), and c. 2,100 there on December 23rd (P.R.M.). One at Weir Wood Reservoir on August 21st (R.L.R.).
52. **PINTAIL**.—The largest number recorded was 84 in the Amberley-Pulborough area on January 1st (P.R.M.). Five on the sea off Langney Point on July 8th (R.H.C., G.T.C.) and 2 at Rye Harbour G.P. on 9th (D.D.H.).
53. **SHOVELER**.—Up to c. 100 were recorded in the Amberley-Pulborough area in January and February. Single males were seen at Rye Harbour G.P. throughout the breeding season (R.H.C., D.D.H.) and there was a party of 8, 6 of which were adult males, there on June 21st and a juvenile (able to fly) on July 25th (D.D.H.). A pair at Thorney on June 13th (M.B.).
54. **RED-CRESTED POCHARD**.—The female at Chichester G.P., recorded in the 1958 Report, remained there till January 26th (W.P.W. *et al.*). One, apparently a male in eclipse, at Weir Wood Reservoir, July 13th-24th (R.L.R.). Both these records have been accepted by *Brit. B.* as being of this species. The last, in particular, could have related to an escaped bird.
55. **SCAUP**.—A male at Weir Wood Reservoir on February 2nd and 2 males there on October 18th (R.L.R.). A male on Pett Level pools on July 31st (R.H.C., G.T.C., D.D.H.) and August 2nd (R.E., W.J.V.). A male at Chichester G.P., December 13th-31st (D.L. *et al.*).
56. **TUFTED DUCK**.—Up to 200 at Chichester G.P. during January and early February (M.B., P.R.M., A.B.W.).
- Two pairs bred successfully at Rye Harbour G.P. (R.H.C., D.D.H.). Five pairs bred at Weir Wood Reservoir, raising 19 young (R.L.R.). A pair probably bred successfully at Darwell Reservoir (M.H.P.).
57. **POCHARD**.—The largest number recorded was c. 380 in the Amberley-Pulborough area on February 1st (A.B.S.). In January and early February there were c. 200 at Chichester G.P. (D.L., P.R.M.). A female at Chichester G.P. on June 13th (D.L.) and a male at Weir Wood on 14th (M.H.P.). Two males at Rye Harbour G.P. on July 9th (D.D.H.).
60. **GOLDENEYE**.—The maximum number recorded together was 28 in Chichester Channel on January 31st (D.L.).
- A male, able to fly well, at Rye Harbour G.P. between July 31st and August 30th (R.H.C.). Otherwise the first autumn record was of one at Pagham on October 25th (D.L.).
61. **LONG-TAILED DUCK**.—Two at Pagham on October 30th and till the end of the year (W.W.A.P. *et al.*). Apparently a different bird at Sidlesham Ferry on December 12th (B.A.E.M., M.S.). A first winter bird on the sea off Langney Point on October 30th and 2 (also first winter) flying W. there on 31st (D.D.H.). An adult female there on November 23rd (R.H.C.). An oiled bird on the Cuckmere Old Channel on November 6th (R.G.). Two flying W. along the coast at Selsey Bill on November 29th (B.A.E.M.). One at Manhood End, November 22nd-December 31st (D.L., M.H.P. *et al.*). One at Chichester G.P. on various dates between November 10th (W.P.W.) and December 21st (D.L., P.R.M.).
62. **VELVET SCOTER**.—Between October 18th and November 28th 28 flew W. and 7 E. off Selsey Bill (several observers). The usual records for the east of the county.

64. **COMMON SCOTER**.—A oiled bird at Weir Wood Reservoir on December 13th (R.L.R.).
67. **EIDER**.—In the early months of the year birds were present at East Head, Pagham, Littlehampton and Langney Point but numbers were small (1 to 10). At Selsey Bill there were c. 25 on March 28th and numbers rose until by April 5th c. 85 (8 of them adult males) were present there. This is the largest number recorded for the county. There were still 55 there on April 19th, 24 on May 9th, 6 on 17th and 1 on 19th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). On April 3rd R.L.R. saw 4 (1 an adult male) flying E. off Newhaven. On May 1st there was one off Beachy Head (R.H.C.) and on 21st 10 off Seaford (L.A.C.).
- On August 1st and 15th there were 4 off Selsey Bill (B.A.E.M., R.R. *et al.*) and on 31st 1 off Rye Harbour (R.E.). On September 26th there were 5 off Selsey Bill (M.A.J., B.A.E.M. *et al.*). Up to 5 (including 1 adult male) were seen there in October and 2 single birds elsewhere. In November and December c. 50 were recorded, 4 of them adult males, most (26) being seen off Selsey Bill on December 12th (several observers).
69. **RED-BREASTED Merganser**.—The largest number recorded together was c. 50 off East Head, West Wittering, on January 24th (P.R.M.). There are a number of records for May, including 1 off Seaford Head on 23rd (L.P.A.), 1 in Pagham Harbour on 28th (W.P.W.) and 6 flying E. close in off Selsey Bill on 30th (A.B.S.).
70. **GOOSANDER**.—One on Pett Level pools on January 4th (R.H.C.). One at Weir Wood Reservoir on 5th (R.L.R.). One at the Midrips on February 1st (R.H.C.). One at Darwell Reservoir on 22nd (F.J.W.). A male and a female at Weir Wood Reservoir on March 15th (R.L.R.).
- One at Pagham on November 14th (W.W.A.P.). One on the Cuckmere Old Channel on 22nd (R.H.C.). One at Weir Wood Reservoir on December 8th and 18th (R.L.R.). Two at Chichester G.P., December 21st-31st (P.R.M. *et al.*).
71. **SMEW**.—One at Weir Wood Reservoir, January 5th-28th (G.J.B., R.L.R. *et al.*). A male and a female there on February 2nd (R.L.R.) and a male there on 22nd (R.G.H.C.). One at Darwell Reservoir on January 17th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). A male and 2 females at Weir Wood Reservoir on December 13th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). Two there on December 18th and 28th (R.L.R.).
73. **SHELDUCK**.—Inland records were of 1 in the Amberley-Pulborough area on February 1st (A.B.S.), 2 at Weir Wood Reservoir on August 16th, 1 there on November 1st and 3 there on December 8th (R.L.R.), and 1 on the Glynde-Loughton levels on December 11th (D.D.H.).
- The largest number recorded was c. 1,550 off East Head, West Wittering, on February 15th (P.R.M.). Between October 18th and December 13th small numbers were seen flying W. along the coast at several localities.
75. **GREY LAG-GOOSE**.—On February 14th M.H.P. and G.A.S. had close views of 8 at Weir Wood Reservoir and on 22nd R.H.C. saw one in flight at Rye Harbour.
76. **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**.—One at Pagham on January 4th (R.L.R.) and 6 or 7 in the Pagham-Sidlesham area between January 18th and February 1st (M.S., A.B.W.). Twenty there on January 25th (S.H.C.). One or 2 in the Amberley-Pulborough area between January 18th and February 7th (B.A.E.M., R.J.S.). Fifty-two in flight over Darwell Reservoir on January 24th (J. Reaney). Eleven on Glynde Levels on December 13th (D.R.C.).

78. **BEAN GOOSE**.—One at Manhood End from February 22nd to March 27th was independently identified by D.L., B.A.E.M. and A.B.S. The latter describes it as having "orange legs, bill black, save for nail flesh-coloured and whitish yellow patch near tip extending across bill. A very brown goose with darker neck than body. In flight complete absence of contrast on wings."

80. **BRENT GOOSE**.—In the first two months of the year up to 219 were recorded in Chichester Harbour (P.R.M.) and only small numbers elsewhere except for c. 50 off Roedean on February 26th (C.M.J.). An E. movement along the coast was recorded in March. In November and December very few were recorded with no party larger than 6 birds.

84. **MUTE SWAN**.—A pair had a nest with eggs at Manhood End on March 30th (B.A.E.M.), an early date.

86. **BEWICK'S SWAN**.—A party of 13 at Weir Wood Reservoir on January 9th and 4 there on 12th (G.J.B.).

91. **BUZZARD**.—Single birds were reported from six localities and there is a record of unsuccessful breeding, the nest being blown out in a high wind.

93. **SPARROW HAWK**.—On August 30th 1 flew inland over the sea wall at the Wicks (R.H.C.). On September 27th 1 flew in from the S. at Selsey Bill (S.F.K., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.).

98. **HONEY BUZZARD**.—One frequented Warnham Park from August 27th to September 6th. It is described as much like a Buzzard only darker. It was seen to descend from a fence and destroy a wasp's nest (C.E.L.). This is only our second record since the war.

99. **MARSH HARRIER**.—One at Sidlesham on May 7th (M.S.).

100. **HEN HARRIER**.—Again unusually few records. A male on the downs N. of Mile Oak on February 18th (G.A.S.). One at the Midrips-Wicks on March 15th and 30th (R.H.C.). A harrier, considered by the observer to be of this species rather than a Montagu's, flew in N.E. from the sea at Seaford Head on April 18th (L.P.A.).

One on the downs above Mile Oak on November 11th (G.A.S.). One on Glynde Level on December 2nd (R.H.C.) and 11th (D.D.H.). One in the lower Cuckmere valley on December 18th and 21st (D.G.).

102. **MONTAGU'S HARRIER**.—A male at Rye Harbour G.P. on May 17th (R.H.C.) and a female near Stanmer Park, Brighton, on 30th (J.B.T. *et al.*). An immature at Sidlesham, August 31st to September 9th (M.S., J.V.S.).

103. **OSPREY**.—M.H.P. saw 1 at Darwell Reservoir on September 12th and 13th. It was reported to him as having also been seen there the previous week-end.

104. **HOBBY**.—Birds were seen during the summer in 3 localities and successful breeding is known to have taken place in one of these.

107. **MERLIN**.—Six were recorded, January-March, all on the coast except for 1 at Rushlake Green on January 3rd (C.L.B.-C.) and 1 at Wiggonholt on February 1st (A.B.S.).

On October 18th 1 flew in from the S. at Selsey Bill (D.F.B., M.A.J., B.A.E.M. *et al.*), and on 29th 1 flew S.E. out to sea at Langney Point (D.D.H.). Otherwise there are only 3 records for the end of the year, all for early October.

110. **KESTREL**.—On April 4th 1 flew in S. to N. at Selsey Bill (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). On September 5th 1 flew S. out to sea there (J. Reaney, A.B.S.), and on October 4th 3 (separately) flew S.S.W. there (B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). On October 13th 1 flew S. out to sea at Langney Point (R.H.C.). On October 31st 1 flew in there S.E.-N.W., and on November 4th 1 flew in likewise at Camber (D.D.H.).

117. **QUAIL**.—One was shot at Sidlesham on December 10th (M.S.).

120. **WATER RAIL**.—One on the Crumbles on September 15th (D.D.H.). The earliest autumn migrant in recent years.

121. **SPOTTED CRAKE**.—One at Pett Level pools on November 4th (D.D.H.) and 1 there on December 26th (R.E.S. *et al.*). One at Pagham on November 23rd (W.W.A.P.). One at Thorney on November 15th (R.J.S., K.W.). Full descriptions have been given in each case.

125. **CORNCRAKE**.—One freshly killed at Eartham on August 6th (D.L.). One at Sidlesham on 17th (J.V.S.) and 1 there on 31st (M.S.).

127. **COOT**.—One on the sea off Selsey Bill on May 17th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M.).

131. **OYSTERCATCHER**.—Two pairs attempted to breed at the Midrips, 1 of these having young on May 29th (L.P.), and about 2 pairs at Rye Harbour (D.D.H.). Two or 3 pairs attempted to nest at Pagham (W.W.A.P.). On June 21st B.A.E.M. found a nest with 3 eggs in a new locality in Chichester Harbour.

133. **LAPWING**.—During a cold spell, January 10th-12th, the usual W.-S.W. weather movements were recorded.

On May 23rd 3 flew in S.-N. at Selsey Bill and on June 13th 1 flew in N. there (M.A.J., B.A.E.M.). On June 21st 2 flew in N. over Hove front (G.A.S.). Between October 5th and November 4th small numbers flew in from between S.E. and S.W. at several localities on the coast, most (120) at Langney Point on November 4th (R.H.C.).

134. **RINGED PLOVER**.—A bird was sitting on 4 eggs at Chichester G.P. on March 31st (J.R.), an early date.

135. **LITTLE RINGED PLOVER**.—None were present in the usual breeding locality. At the newer site (first occupied in 1956) a pair with a young bird were seen in July (G.J.B. *et al.*). The only other records are of 1 at Manhood End on April 18th and 19th (A.B.S.) and 1 near Rye on May 1st (L.A.C.).

139. **GREY PLOVER**.—No large numbers recorded. Five at Pilsea Island on June 21st (B.A.R.M.).

140. **GOLDEN PLOVER**.—Three at the Wicks on July 23rd (R.H.C.). A very early date for autumn arrival.

143. **TURNSTONE**.—Six on Pilsea Island on June 21st (B.A.E.M.).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER.—One at Thorney was first found by Dr. C. Sufferin *et al.* on November 2nd and remained there until at least November 11th, being seen by many observers including G.d.F. and C.W.G.P.-E. (who photographed it) and D.D.H. who was able to identify it as being of this species with the help of information given by I. C. T. Nisbet. American ornithologists have now separated the Dowitcher (Red-breasted Snipe) into two species, the Long-billed Dowitcher and the Short-billed Dowitcher (formerly considered as "a single thin keek, occasionally trebled" as against a trebled metallic "Tutu" (from R. T. Peterson); (b), the flanks and sides tending to be barred rather than spotted; and (c), the under tail-coverts being barred right across. All these features were noted in the Thorney bird (which was extremely tame) and in addition a photograph showed the ratio of the length of bill to that of the head which is characteristic of this species. This record has been accepted by *Brit. B.* It is of interest to note that from its call the Thorney Dowitcher of October, 1950, must also have been of this species.

145. **COMMON SNIBE**.—One flew in from the S.S.W. at Selsey Bill on October 3rd (B.A.E.M., R.J.O.) and 1 flew in from the S. there on 25th (B.A.E.M., N.M.). One flew in from the S. at Seaford Head on November 22nd (R.H.C.).

147. **JACK SNIBE**.—One N. of Pagham Harbour on August 29th (M.K.). The earliest autumn date for the county.

148. **WOODCOCK**.—One, first seen far out, flew in from the sea at Rye Harbour on March 23rd (F.J.W.). One on the Crumbles on September 30th (R.H.C.). This is the earliest date for autumn arrival on the Sussex coast.
151. **WHIMBREL**.—One at Manhood End on April 12th (A.B.S.). One at the Wicks on June 12th (D.D.H.), 1 flying W. off Selsey Bill on 13th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M.), 1 at Thorney on 14th (B.A.E.M.) and 1 at Pagham on 16th (W.W.A.P.). Two at Shoreham on November 11th and 1 seen and heard daily there until 21st (J.M.T.).
154. **BLACK-TAILED GODWIT**.—In the Chichester Harbour area the maximum monthly numbers were: c. 300 on February 22nd (B.A.E.M.); 77 on March 30th (L.P.A.); c. 150 on April 18th (D.L.); c. 55 on May 16th (B.A.E.M.); c. 25 on June 6th (D.L.); c. 200 on July 26th (L.P.A.); c. 320 on August 9th (M.H.P.); 12 on September 6th (L.P.A.) (data for this month are incomplete); c. 25 on October 13th (W.P.W.). There were 2 at Pagham on January 4th (R.L.R.) and up to 7 there in spring and autumn. Elsewhere the species only occurred in one's and two's at the migrations.
155. **BAR-TAILED GODWIT**.—The largest number recorded was c. 620 at Pilsea on February 22nd (B.A.E.M.). Four at Pagham on July 6th (W.W.A.P.) and 2 flying W. at Langney Point on 19th (R.H.C., M.H.P.).
156. **GREEN SANDPIPER**.—Nine were recorded in January-February and 2 in December. The only records certainly relating to spring migration are of one in the lower Cuckmere valley on April 17th (R.L.R.) and of a party of 7 at Weir Wood Reservoir on May 10th (G.d.F.). This is a most unusual number to be seen together in spring. Then no records until June 21st where there were 4 at Thorney and 1 one at Chichester G.P. (B.A.E.M.). Seven at Thorney on July 4th (D.D.H.), after which date autumn arrival began to be apparent in a number of localities.
157. **WOOD SANDPIPER**.—The only spring record is of 6 at Rye Harbour G.P. on May 17th (R.H.C.). This is the largest spring party recorded. One in the lower Cuckmere valley on July 20th (R.H.C.), 1 at Thorney on 26th (L.P.A.) and 1 at Weir Wood Reservoir on July 31st (G.J.B.). C. 18 were recorded in August and September (up to 7th), all single birds except for a party of 5 at the Wicks on August 9th.
159. **COMMON SANDPIPER**.—At the beginning of the year one was wintering at Manhood End (D.L.) and 1 at Sidlesham (G.J.B.). One was wintering at Manhood End at the end of the year (D.L.).
One at Holywell, Eastbourne, on June 23rd (D.D.H.). One at Manhood End and one at Thorney on 27th (D.L.).
161. **REDSHANK**.—On June 28th there were 3 at Weir Wood Reservoir where they do not breed (R.L.R.).
162. **SPOTTED REDSHANK**.—One at Shoreham, January 17th to March 23rd (J.M.T.). One near Nutbourne on February 26th (W.P.W.). One, perhaps the same, at Thorney on March 8th (M.B.).
Up to 4 at the Midrips, March 15th-30th (several observers). Then no records until May 24th where there were 2 at Manhood End (G.J.B.). Two at the Midrips on June 14th (R.B.B., G.P.) and 3 at Thorney the same day (B.A.E.M.). Two at Thorney on June 20th and 1 there on July 4th (D.D.H.). Seven there on July 26th (L.P.A.). C. 30 were recorded, August-October, all from the coast except for 2 at Weir Wood Reservoir on August 20th (R.L.R.). Up to 3 at Manhood End in November (B.A.E.M., M.H.P.) and 1 there on December 5th (D.L.).

165. **GREENSHANK**.—One near Nutbourne on February 7th (D.D.H.) and possibly the same bird at Thorney on March 28th (M.H.P.).
First recorded on July 4th when there was one at Thorney (D.L.). One at Pagham throughout November and on December 26th (W.W.A.P.).
169. **KNOT**.—One at Pilsea on June 21st (B.A.E.M.). The first July record was for 20th when there was one at Pagham (W.W.A.P.). On October 29th 1 flew in from the S.E. at Langney Point with a party of Starlings (D.D.H.).
171. **LITTLE STINT**.—One at Thorney on March 30th (L.P.A.). One at Weir Wood Reservoir on May 18th (R.L.R.) and 1 at Manhood End on 30th (D.L., A.B.S.).
The only July record is of one at Weir Wood Reservoir on 31st (G.J.B.). Otherwise c. 30 were recorded in autumn all from the coast, except for 1 at Darwell Reservoir on September 12th (M.H.P.). One in the lower Cuckmere valley on November 9th (R.H.C.) and 1 at Thorney on 19th (D.D.H.).
175. **WHITE-RUMPED (BONAPARTE'S) SANDPIPER**.—One at Thorney was first found by R.J.W. on November 9th and remained there until at least November 23rd being seen by many observers including W. B. Alexander, M.B., R.H.C. and D.D.H. This record has been accepted by *Brit. B.*
178. **DUNLIN**.—On October 29th 13 flew in from between S. and S.E. at Langney Point during a 3-hour watch, some with migrating Starlings. Three were seen to continue on inland. On October 30th 15 flew in likewise there in an hour-and-three-quarters while c. 40 flew W. along the coast (D.D.H.).
179. **CURLEW SANDPIPER**.—One at the Midrips on April 28th (D.D.H.). The earliest spring record in recent years. Three at Sidlesham Ferry on May 24th (A.B.S.).
Two at the Midrips on July 25th (D.D.H.). Then no more until August 30th when there were 26 at the Midrips (R.H.C.). The largest number recorded together in the county since the war. Elsewhere over 30 were recorded between August 31st and October 7th, there being 12 at Sidlesham Ferry on September 11th (M.S.).
181. **SANDERLING**.—July records were 1 at Selsey Bill on 12th (A.B.S.) and 3 at Rye Harbour G.P. on 25th (D.D.H.).
184. **RUFF**.—Fourteen at Thorney on February 22nd (B.A.E.M.) and up to 5 there in March. Five at the Midrips-Wicks on March 14th (D.D.H.) and 6 there on 22nd (R.H.C.). Two at Sidlesham Ferry on 22nd (D.L., B.A.E.M.). In April and May c. 50 were recorded including the following from Selsey Bill; 7 coming from the S.W. flew E. on April 18th, 1 flying W. on 26th, 2 flying E. on May 2nd (M.A.J., A.B.S.), 1 on beach on 10th, 8 flying E. close in on 24th and 2 flying E. on 30th (A.B.S.). June records were 1 at Rye Harbour G.P. on 12th (D.D.H.), 1 at Thorney on 27th (D.L.) and 1 at Weir Wood Reservoir on 28th (R.L.R.).
In July there was 1 at Sidlesham on 5th (M.H.P.), 2 (separately) at Thorney between 11th and 30th (D.L.) and 1 on the lower Rother on 31st (R.H.C.). C. 10 were recorded for August, including 2 at Weir Wood Reservoir, and only 1 for September. There was 1 at Thorney on November 7th and 8th (B.A.E.M., G.A.S.).
185. **AVOCET**.—Two at the Midrips on May 24th (R.E.) and 9 there in the evening of 29th (L.P.). One at Thorney on June 6th (D.D.H.).
Three flying W. over Aldwick Bay on August 10th (W.W.A.P.) and 1 at Newhaven on September 5th (M.H.P.).

187. **GREY PHALAROPE**.—One on the sea off Winchelsea Beach on September 17th (C.M.J.). One under Palace Pier, Brighton, on October 13th (M.H.P.). One at Newhaven on 14th (D.D.H.). One at Pagham on 17th and 25th (D.I.). One off Selsey Bill on 17th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., R.R.). One near the mouth of the Cuckmere on 18th (G.J.B.), 2 there on 24th (R.P.C., D.D.H., W.D.P.), 3 there on 25th (D.D.H.), and 1 there on 27th and on November 1st (R.H.C. *et al.*). One (which was caught and ringed) at Lancing on October 24th (V.A.G., P.J.W.) and 26th (J.M.T.). One at Shoreham on November 6th (R.E.F.P.). One in Southwick Harbour on 13th (G.A.S.). One at East Head on 29th (M.H.P.).

189. **STONE CURLEW**.—A pair were present in the Midrips-Wicks area during the breeding season (several observers).

193. **ARCTIC SKUA**.—Four flew E. off Selsey Bill on April 12th, an early date, and 18 flew E. and 2 W. there up to May 19th (B.A.E.M., A.B.S.), most (8) on May 10th. One flying E. off Hove on April 14th (G.A.S.). One W. off Worthing on 28th (R.J.S.). One off Holywell, Eastbourne, on May 1st (D.D.H.). One off the Midrips on 31st (R.E., W.J.V.). Two W. off Langney Point on June 3rd and 1 W. there on July 15th (R.H.C.).

One off the Midrips on August 30th (R.H.C.), 12 off Selsey Bill between August 15th and October 24th (several observers) and 1 off Hove on October 4th (G.A.S.).

194. **GREAT SKUA**.—One flying E. off Selsey Bill on April 12th (B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). The fourth spring record for the county. One flying E. c. ½-mile off Hove on June 13th (G.A.S.). The first county record for this month. One flying W. off Langney Point on October 29th (D.D.H.).

198. **GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL**.—Winter inland records are 1 at Wiggonholt on January 21st (D.D.H.), 8 at Weir Wood on December 13th (M.H.P., G.A.S.) and 2 over Ashdown on 28th (R.H.C.).

199. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL**.—Winter records are 1 at Langney Point on January 27th (R.H.C.), 1 at Shoreham on January 8th and subsequently (J.M.T.) with 2 there on February 28th (M.H.P.), 2 at Camber on February 22nd (R.H.C.), 5 in the lower Cuckmere valley on December 12th (T.B.S.), 3 at Shoreham on 14th (J.M.T.), 1 at Langney Point on 27th (R.H.C.).

On June 4th R.H.C. saw 1 sitting on a nest at Beachy Head.

201. **COMMON GULL**.—On July 25th a pair had a juvenile just able to fly at the Midrips (D.D.H.).

202. **GLAUCOUS GULL**.—An immature at Shoreham and Southwick, February 23rd (J.M.T.) to March 22nd (C.F.B., S.G., B.A.E.M. *et al.*).

203. **ICELAND GULL**.—The immature bird which was first reported in January, 1958, was still present in the Southwick-Shoreham area at the end of the year when its left leg was still slightly lame (many observers). An immature flying W. off Cuckmere Haven with Herring Gulls on November 22nd. "Distinctly smaller and more slightly built than the latter with more buoyant flight. Mot-tled light brownish all over except for whitish wing tips." (D.D.H.). Apart from the Southwick-Shoreham bird this is the first that has been recorded in Sussex in November.

205. **MEDITERRANEAN BLACK-HEADED GULL**.—A surprising number of records though it is very possible that the same individuals have been recorded more than once. An adult flying E. close in off the Wicks on April 22nd (R.H.C.). An adult flying W. off Hove on June 30th and one, perhaps the same, at Portobello, Brighton, on July 12th (G.A.S.). An adult feeding off Langney Point on July 19th (R.H.C.). A second year bird at Selsey Bill on August 9th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M. *et al.*). An adult flying E. off Selsey Bill on July 18th, 1 flying E.

there on August 29th (A.B.S.) and 1 flying E. there on September 12th (J.R.). These last 3 records could relate to the same bird as could that of an adult at Manhood End on September 27th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). An adult at Portobello, Brighton, on September 5th and 6th (M.H.P., G.A.S.), and 1 there on October 4th (D.D.H.). An adult at Hove on September 3rd and 24th and on October 4th (G.A.S.), and 1 off Palace Pier, Brighton, on December 24th (L.P.A.). Once again only one individual may have been concerned in these last 7 records. Most of these records have been accepted by *Brit. B.* and the rest under consideration.

207. **LITTLE GULL**.—More records than ever before. An immature at Newhaven on January 19th (G.J.B.). One at Shoreham, January 24th-28th (M.H.P., J.M.T.) and another there on the last date (J.M.T.). An immature at Pagham on March 8th (R.H.C.). One on Southwick Beach on June 16th (C.M.J.).

In August 3 adults off Selsey Bill on 2nd (B.A.E.M., A.B.S. *et al.*), 1 E. off Shoreham on 15th (M.H.P.) and 1 at Brighton on 19th (R.G.H.C.). In September an adult flying W. off Hove on 2nd (G.A.S.) and an adult W. off Selsey Bill on 12th (J.R., A.B.S.). Five were recorded in October, 20 in November (12 of them at Langney Point) and 20 in December (up to 9th). Thirteen of the December birds flew W. off Selsey Bill, singly or in parties of up to 4, on December 9th during an S.S.W. gale (B.A.E.M., D.B.W.).

208. **BLACK-HEADED GULL**.—C. 35 young flew at Rye Harbour G.P. despite human disturbance (R.H.C.).

209. **SABINE'S GULL**.—An immature flying W. off Langney Point on October 10th (D.D.H.). This record has been accepted by *Brit. B.* An adult flying E. along the coast at Selsey Bill on November 2nd (N.M.). This record is under consideration by *Brit. B.*

211. **KITTIWAKE**.—A few in May and June including several at Selsey Bill.

212. **BLACK TERN**.—Two at Chichester G.P. on April 25th (D.L.). Then none till May 9th when 5 flew E. off Selsey Bill (M.A.J., B.A.E.M.). From then till May 24th 44 were recorded, all for the coast except for a few at Weir Wood Reservoir.

One flying E. off Langney Point on July 22nd (R.H.C., G.T.C., D.D.H.). Two at Rye Harbour G.P. on 27th (W.G.B.) and 9 there on 31st (R.H.C.). From then till September 14th c. 40 were recorded.

213. **WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN**.—One flying E. c. 300 yards off Selsey Bill on April 18th (M.A.J., A.B.S.). The first April record for the county. One at Sidlesham Ferry, May 13th-16th (N.P.-H., M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S., M.S., J.V.S.). One, apparently a different bird, there on 30th (D.L., A.B.S.). All these records have been accepted by *Brit. B.*

215. **GULL-BILLED TERN**.—One close in off Langney Point on June 15th (L.P.A.). This record has been accepted by *Brit. B.*

217. **COMMON TERN**.—Numbers at Rye Harbour G.P. were again below normal and under 50 young flew, largely owing to human interference (R.H.C., D.D.H.). Four pairs attempted to breed at the Midrips (R.H.C.).

218. **ARCTIC TERN**.—One at Rye Harbour G.P. on June 8th (R.H.C.).

219. **ROSEATE TERN**.—One at Rye Harbour ternery on June 28th (M.H.P., G.A.S.) and 2 there on July 23rd (R.H.C.). Two flying E. c. 50 yards off Selsey Bill on July 11th (B.A.E.M., J. Reaney).

222. **LITTLE TERN**.—The breeding position in the Rye area continues to deteriorate (D.D.H.). C. 10 pairs attempted to nest at the Midrips (R.H.C.). C. 12 pairs attempted to breed at Pagham Harbour (W.W.A.P.). On June 21st there were 18 on Pilsea Island (B.A.E.M.).

274. **SWALLOW**.—One at Shoreham on March 22nd (S.G.). One at Goring (A.H.M.) and 1 at Craigwell (M.D.F.) on 28th.
An adult ringed at Shoreham on July 16th, 1958, by J.S. was recovered at Cape Town on January 22nd.
276. **HOUSE MARTIN**.—Five flew in from the S. at Langney Point on July 29th (R.H.C.). On September 20th, 3,150 flew S.E. from Selsey Bill in 1½ hours (D.J.C., B.A.E.M., R.R.).
279. **RAVEN**.—On August 1st A.B.S. saw and heard 1 flying E. along the downs at Mount Caburn.
281. **HOODED CROW**.—One flying W. along the Seven Sisters on November 1st (R.H.C.) and 1 at Pett Level on 4th (D.D.H.).
282. **ROOK**.—At Selsey Bill between March 28th and April 18th 41 flew out to sea till lost to sight, 65 flew out and returned and 21 flew in from the sea (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). At the same place between October 3rd and November 21st 49 flew out to sea between S.E. and S.W. Two flew in from the sea there on October 3rd and 4 on November 15th, but these may have been birds that had flown out returning (several observers).
283. **JACKDAW**.—At Selsey Bill 1 flew S. on September 27th (B.A.E.M., A.B.S.), 13 on November 1st (B.A.E.M., R.F.P.) and 3 S.E. on 2nd (N.M.).
289. **BLUE TIT**.—On April 5th 2 flew high out to sea until lost to sight at Selsey Bill (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). On October 3rd 6 flew S. out to sea there (B.A.E.M., R.J.O.). On September 20th 41 flew E. there and 16 E. on 27th (several observers).
On October 7th D.D.H. caught and ringed a first-winter bird of the Continental race on the Crumbles.
295. **BEARDED TIT**.—On October 31st there were 6 at the Pett Level pools, 3 of them being caught and ringed (H.A.R.C., D.B.M.). Six there on November 4th (D.D.H.), 2 on 15th (W.V.V.) and 1 on 21st (H.A.R.C.). Two on the Crumbles on November 4th (R.H.C.). These records are under consideration by Brit. B.
299. **WREN**.—One at the end of Langney Point on September 23rd (R.H.C.). On October 25th and November 1st the number at Selsey Bill increased from c. 4 to c. 30 (B.A.E.M., N.M., R.F.P.).
301. **MISTLE THRUSH**.—At Selsey Bill 2 flew S.W. out to sea on November 1st, 1 S. on 15th and 2 S.S.W. on 22nd (B.A.E.M. *et al.*).
302. **FIELDFARE**.—Four at Selsey Bill on September 26th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M. *et al.*). Four flew in S. to N. there on October 31st (A.B.S.) and 4 on November 1st (B.A.E.M., R.F.P.).
303. **SONG THRUSH**.—On November 1st 1 flew in S. to N. at Selsey Bill (B.A.E.M., R.F.P.).
A bird corresponding in plumage to the Continental race was caught and ringed on the Crumbles on October 2nd and 3 more on 7th (D.D.H.).
304. **REDWING**.—One, apparently quite uninjured, at Rye Harbour on May 24th (R.H.C.).
At Selsey Bill arrival S. to N. was seen on October 31st (11), November 1st (8), 7th (2) and 8th (2) (several observers).
307. **RING OUZEL**.—Six were recorded in spring between April 3rd and 24th. In autumn c. 55 were reported between September 11th and November 6th, the most seen together being c. 20 at Beachy Head on October 9th (R.H.C.).

223. **SANDWICH TERN**.—Two flying E. off Selsey Bill on March 29th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.).
226. **LITTLE AUK**.—At Langney Point 2 came in (separately) with flocks of immigrating Starlings on October 29th. On reaching the coast one flew W. and the other came down on the water. On 30th there was one on the sea there which eventually made off W. and 1 flew W. there on 31st and 1 on November 1st (D.D.H.). One at Pett Level pools on October 31st (D.B.M.). At Selsey Bill 2 flying W. came down on the sea on November 1st (B.A.E.M., N.M., R.F.P.), 1 flew W. there on 14th (B.A.E.M., C.J.M.) and 3 did so on December 6th (B.A.E.M., D.B.W.). One dead on the beach at Seaford on November 4th (M.A.M.). One at Southwick Canal, November 16th to 30th (W.R.P.B., J.M.T. *et al.*). One flying W. off Brighton on 18th (M.H.P.). One under Seaford Head on December 26th (L.P.A.).
230. **PUFFIN**.—One W. off Langney Point on October 29th (D.D.H.). One W. off Selsey Bill on November 8th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.), and 1 W. there on 14th (B.A.E.M., C.J.M.).
235. **TURTLE DOVE**.—One on the Crumbles on October 3rd (D.D.H.).
248. **LONG-EARED OWL**.—One at Lancing Clump on April 3rd may have been on migration (R.R., R.J.W.).
249. **SHORT-EARED OWL**.—C. 25 were reported January-April, but only 6 between September 24th and December 13th, 4 of these being in October.
261. **HOOPOE**.—One in a Worthing garden in late March (C.E.J.). In April: 1 in a garden at Hampden Park, 4th-8th (M.A.A., M.A.E.); one in a Lewes garden, 6th, and a few days subsequently (H.M.J., G.L.R.); 1 in a garden at Willington, 6th-8th (H.C.B.J.); 1 in a Bognor garden on 8th (H.M.W.); 1 in a garden near Alfriston on 13th and 15th (*per* L.A.C.); 1 on the downs N. of Brighton on 19th (A.A.B.); 1 at Guestling on 23rd (E.F.); and 1 in a garden at Horsham on the 23rd or 24th (*per* L.H.T.). One in a garden at Fairlight in the week ending May 2nd (E.M.). One at Shoreham on May 4th (C.W.). One at Lavant on 13th (E.G.S.). One at Coleman's Hatch, Ashdown Forest, on 14th (H.C.J.).
263. **GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER**.—One on the Crumbles on October 7th (D.D.H.). One coasted E. round Selsey Bill on September 26th (B.A.E.M., R.J.O., R.R.) and 1 coasted W. there on November 1st (B.A.E.M., N.M.).
265. **WRYNECK**.—One at Sidlesham on April 19th and 1 there on 24th (M.D.F.). On 23rd 1 at Paghham (V.A.G., P.J.W.) and 1 between Aldwick and Paghham (M.D.F.). On May 12th D.D.H. caught and ringed one at Holywell, Eastbourne.
Two at Holywell, Eastbourne, on September 23rd (D.D.H.) and 1 at Manhood End on 26th (D.L.).
272. **SKYLARK**.—Single birds were seen flying in from the sea at Selsey Bill on March 30th, April 17th and May 16th, and flying out to sea there on March 28th, April 5th, May 30th and June 13th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.).
Between October 3rd and November 22nd 163 left Selsey Bill on 11 days, flying out between S.S.E. and S.S.W., and between October 11th and December 5th c. 760 flew in from the S. or S.W. there, while coastal movements on a small scale were also recorded (many observers). Between October 5th and November 5th arrival from the sea and flight inland was recorded between Hove and Pett Level, including over 500 at Langney Point, October 29th-November 1st (D.D.H.).
273. **SHORELARK**.—Two at the Midrips on November 6th (D.M.B.).

308. **BLACKBIRD**.—On April 7th W.G.B. saw c. 8 in bushes at Rye Harbour and over 12 at the Midrips.

At Selsey Bill 1 flew in S. to N. on October 31st and 11 on November 1st (B.A.E.M., R.F.P., A.B.S.).

311. **WHEATEAR**.—No spring records until March 20th and a big arrival all along the coast on 21st. November records are 1 at Cuckmere Haven on 1st (R.H.C.), 1 at Goring on 2nd (R.E.F.P.) and 2 at Langney Point on 4th (R.H.C.).

Of 12 trapped and ringed by D.D.H. at Langney Point between September 24th and October 11th 9 had wing measurements of between 101 and 108 m.m. and were, therefore, presumably of the Greenland race.

320. **REDSTART**.—One in Eridge Park on October 17th (G.P.).

321. **BLACK REDSTART**.—One at Shoreham, January 11th-15th (J.M.T.). Otherwise none until March 23rd. From then until April 24th only 6 were recorded. One on downs N. of Brighton on May 16th (A.A.B.).

Breeding again took place at the site in Eastbourne mentioned in the 1958 Report (R.H.C.). One singing all the summer at the Brassey Institute, Hastings (C.W.).

Autumn passage seems to have been confined to October when only 4 were recorded between 10th and 18th, including one at Weir Wood Reservoir on 18th (M.H.P., G.A.S.). No November records. One at Seaford Head on December 12th (T.B.S.).

322. **NIGHTINGALE**.—One was seen and heard at Selsey Bill on April 5th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). The earliest spring date in recent years.

324. **BLUETHROAT**.—On September 12th a first winter male was trapped and ringed on Shoreham rubbish dump (V.A.G., P.J.W., et al.). This bird stayed until 23rd. On 18th J.M.T. found that another first winter male was also present. This was last seen on 20th. Many observers saw these birds. On September 20th R.H.C. saw 1 at Rye Harbour G.P. and on October 14th W.W.A.P. saw 1 in scrub N. of Pagham Harbour. These last 2 birds were identified by the characteristic tail pattern, well-known to the observers. The Pagham date is the latest for the county.

325. **ROBIN**.—One flew in from the sea at Aldwick on April 23rd (M.D.F.). On August 23rd 1 flew in from the sea at Selsey Bill (B.A.E.M., M.H.P.). A marked increase in numbers on the Crumbles had taken place on October 6th. Four which were caught and ringed appeared to be of the Continental race as did 2 caught at Holywell, Eastbourne, on 9th. Two caught and ringed on the Crumbles on November 12th also appeared to be Continentals (D.D.H.). On October 11th R.J.W. saw 1 with plumage corresponding to that of this race at Selsey Bill.

333. **REED WARBLER**.—One was caught and ringed on the Crumbles on October 6th (D.D.H.) and there was 1 there on 14th (R.H.C.).

334. **MARSH WARBLER**.—On June 19th C.F.B. saw and heard one singing in a lilac tree in a garden at Portlade at a range of 18-20 feet for nearly an hour. "Eye-stripe practically negligible . . . throat and under-parts were a satiny white and although seen in brilliant setting sunlight the mantle and back never showed any signs of rufousness. Legs were pale-pinkish." A churring call was frequently given and the song is described as "continuously switching into canary-like notes." The observer had had experience of this species abroad.

338. **AQUATIC WARBLER**.—One N. of Pagham Harbour on August 29th (M.K.). One on the Crumbles on September 9th (D.D.H.). Both these records have been accepted by *Brit. B.*

343. **BLACKCAP**.—One in a Southwick garden, January 9th-25th (B.A.E.M., J.M.T.). One singing at Bognor on March 23rd (S.J.T.).

A female in a garden at Alfriston on November 22nd and 27th (L.A.C.). Five in a Ditchling garden on 24th (N.C.). A male was trapped and ringed in an Eastbourne garden on December 12th (D.D.H.). A female in a Bognor garden on 17th (A.A.).

344. **BARRED WARBLER**.—On August 31st J.S. trapped and ringed 1 at Shoreham. Photographs were taken of this bird. On September 10th D.D.H. saw one at close range on the Crumbles. "A large, heavy, long-tailed warbler, upper-parts greyish with brownish markings on wings. Under-parts whitish suffused with buffish. Barring on under tail-coverts seen when perched facing observer. Generally greyish appearance in flight which was heavy and undulating. White in outer tail feathers." The observer had seen several of these birds at Spurn Bird Observatory a few days before. These are the first authenticated records for Sussex.

352. **DARTFORD WARBLER**.—On February 8th R.H.C. saw one at the same place as that reported in the 1958 Report for November 16th. No doubt the same bird.

355. **GREENISH WARBLER**.—On September 10th D.D.H. watched 1 on the Crumbles at close range and in good light for about 5 minutes. This record has been accepted by *Brit. B.* but since it is the first for the county a description is given here. "Very like a Willow Warbler/Chiffchaff (a bird of the latter species was seen close to it and size was obviously the same) but generally greyer above, particularly on the head, and with quite pale, largely whitish, under-parts, suffused with brownish at sides of breast and on flanks. Pale eye-stripe noticeable but not extending to nape. On the closed wing a narrow, but quite distinct, whitish bar. Legs dark."

356. **CHIFFCHAFF**.—One at Iford on January 19th (G.J.B.). One in a small garden in central Eastbourne on February 16th (R.H.C.). Two at Chichester G.P. on February 21st, 1 there on 22nd, 24th and 27th (D.L.).

One on the Crumbles on December 13th and 30th (R.H.C.). One at Burgess Hill on 21st (J.A.W.). On 24th W.W.A.P. and F.U. saw 2 birds, most probably of this species but just possibly Willow Warblers (they had light legs), at Pagham.

364. **GOLDCREST**.—A few were seen along the coast between March 12th and 23rd.

One at Langney Point on September 23rd and several on the Crumbles on 30th (R.H.C.). These stayed for a few days, numbers gradually decreasing. Then on October 6th a big arrival had taken place and during the following week many were seen there and in Eastbourne (R.H.C., D.D.H.). During this same period smaller numbers (e.g. 12 at Sidlesham (J.V.S.) and c. 20 at Selsey Bill (M.A.J., R.J.W.) on 11th) were recorded elsewhere along the coast. Two on the beach under the cliffs near Cuckmere Haven on November 7th (M.H.P.) and c. 60 at Selsey Bill on 21st (B.A.E.M.).

365. **FIRECREST**.—One at the end of Langney Point on March 10th (L.A.C.). One at the Midrips and 1 at Rye Harbour on 15th. One at Beachy Head on 18th (R.H.C.). On 21st 2 at Cooden (F.J.W.) and 1 in the lower Cuckmere valley (M.H.P.). One at West Barham on April 26th (E.M.V.). A late date.

(F.P.P.) and 16 there on February 14th (M.D.F.). One in Charlton Forest on March 16th (D.L.). Four or 5 over Ashdown Forest on May 18th (M.H.P.).

Between July 17th and August 18th one's and two's were seen on many occasions over Charlton and Slindon Forests. Four there on August 4th (D.L.). At Selsey Bill between August 9th and September 20th up to 4 seen together on numerous occasions, most apparently moving along the coast but some flying out to sea between E. and S.E. (many observers). Two on Duncton Hill on September 6th (R.B.). Eight in Ashdown Forest on August 9th (P.J.W.). From early September till at least October 17th there were 6 or 7 at Storrington (P.F.). In October 1 at Lions Green near Horam on 19th and 20th (K.V.), 6 to 8 in Heathfield Park, 19th-26th (*per* C.L.B.-C.), 6 in Ashdown Forest on 25th (V.A.G.), 2 in Charlton Forest on 31st (D.L.) and 2 at Burgess Hill on 29th and on November 20th (J.A.W.).

407. **CHAFFINCH**.—Between October 4th and November 22nd 27 flew out to sea between S.E. and S.S.W. at Selsey Bill. One flew in there on October 31st, 90 on November 1st and c. 100 on 7th (many observers). On October 29th c. 20 flew in S.E.-N.W. at Langney Point and 9 did so on 31st (D.D.H.). Eight flew in there on November 5th (R.H.C., D.D.H.).

410. **CORN BUNTING**.—At Selsey Bill one flew S. out to sea on May 9th and 3 flew S.W. on 10th. One flew in from the sea there on 16th (M.A.J., B.A.E.M., A.B.S.). On November 21st 5 flew out S. there and on 22nd 2 S.E. (B.A.E.M.).

421. **REED BUNTING**.—Numbers on the Crumbles increased in late September and early October, particularly on October 7th (D.D.H.). On October 3rd 17 arrived at Selsey Bill from N.W., 9 of them flying S.E. and 8 S. out to sea (B.A.E.M., R.J.O.). Between September 19th and November 22nd 96 flew E. there and 18 W. there, 58 of these flying E. October 3rd-4th (B.A.E.M., R.J.O., A.B.S.).

422. **LAPLAND BUNTING**.—One at the Wicks on September 20th (R.H.C.). One at Langney Point, September 23rd-October 1st (R.H.C., D.D.H.). One at Seaford Head on November 1st (L.P.A.). One at Pett Level pools and 1 at Camber on 25th (R.H.C.). Two at Camber on December 13th (D.D.H.).

423. **SNOW BUNTING**.—Up to c. 40 at the Midrips in January (several observers) and 12 there on February 26th (L.A.C.). Three at Camber on March 8th (M.H.P., G.A.S.).

On October 29th 7 flew in from the S.E. at Langney Point (D.D.H.) and there was 1 at Cuckmere Haven (M.D.M.). In November 1 on the Seven Sisters on 1st (R.H.C.), 1 at Selsey Bill on 15th (M.A.J.), 2 at East Head on 28th (B.A.E.M.), 2 at Pagham on 20th and 21st (W.W.A.P.), up to c. 60 in the Rye Harbour-Midrips area (several observers). In December R.H.C. reckoned that there were c. 90 in this latter area on 6th and over 100 on 31st, the largest flock in each case being of c. 60 birds. Otherwise, December records were 1 on the Crumbles on 1st (R.H.C.), 4 at Sidlesham on 11th (M.S.), 3 on Littlehampton sand dunes on 12th and 15th (R.J.O.). On December 28th R.H.C. saw 1 in Ashdown Forest. The third inland record for the county.

424. **HOUSE SPARROW**.—On October 4th 2 single birds flew S. out to sea at Selsey Bill (B.A.E.M., A.B.S.).

425. **TREE SPARROW**.—One near Southease on May 18th (R.H.C.). On July 25th R.L.R. saw 1 apparently carrying food to young half way up Beachy Head. A pair feeding young at Sidlesham on July 17th and 23rd (J.V.S.).

At Selsey Bill 438 flew E. and 225 W. between October 3rd and November 21st. On November 1st 64 flew W. over Seaford Head and 40 flew W. there on 2nd (L.P.A.).