

BRISTOL ORNITHOLOGY



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CONTENTS

- 162 Preface
- 163 A review of 1976 *Brian Rabbitts*
- 171 Feeding behaviour and mortality of Mute Swans on the River Avon, Bath,
in the severe winter 1962/63 *Bernard King*
- 175 Further studies on Great Crested Grebes.
2. Maintenance activities and routine *K.E.L. Simmons*

NOTES

- 197 A Manx Shearwater surviving a winter in captivity *Bernard King*
- 197 Little Auk attacked by Pike *Bernard King*
- 198 Spring movements of Scandinavian Lesser Black-backed Gulls *Robin Khan*
- 199 Spring migration of Garganey in Majorca, Spain *Bernard King*
- 199 Feral Pigeons drinking and bathing in hot mineral water *Bernard King*

REPORTS

- 200 *Club Activities, 1976*

PREFACE

Publication of the tenth issue of *Bristol Ornithology* seems an opportune moment to look back briefly over the journal's progress so far. Seabirds, waders and passerine migration in the Bristol Channel; the Atlas for Somerset; bunting and Great Crested Grebe studies; wildfowl and Sedge Warblers at Chew Valley Lake; White Wagtail moult and distribution; albinism and melanism; various studies of local and foreign areas by Club members; plus many short notes and papers, add up to a very impressive array of work. The annual reviews provide a continuous thread giving a highly readable historical record of the bird-life of our area and together with the many illustrations and photographs make it a journal almost unique among those produced by local societies.

In this issue we see the continuation of Ken Simmons' 'Further Studies on Great Crested Grebes'; the first part of this detailed and fascinating study of a species that ought to be familiar to us all in the Bristol area appeared in *Bristol Ornithology* 8. Bernard King also contributes a short paper on the feeding behaviour and mortality of Mute Swans in the Bath area during the severe winter of 1962/63. Both papers show what results can be gained from close study of relatively common birds.

Once again we owe thanks to Brian Rabbitts for undertaking the arduous task of compiling the review of 1976. Progress towards publishing *Bristol Ornithology* as soon as possible after the year under review continues to be slow, but the Editorial Committee has high hopes for the future.

Ken Hall

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