

# BRISTOL ORNITHOLOGY



11

---

# BRISTOL ORNITHOLOGY

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRISTOL ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

No.11 | DECEMBER 1978

## CONTENTS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 2      | Preface   |
| 3      | A review of 1977 <i>Brian Rabbitts</i>  |
| 13     | A breeding bird survey of Ashton Court Wood, Avon <i>Graham M. Sims</i>                                 |
| 17     | Wallcreeper wintering in Somerset <i>Brian Rabbitts and K.E. Vinicombe</i>                              |
| 21     | Hoopoes breeding in Somerset <i>B.E. Slade</i>  |
| 23     | The birds of the San Benito Islands, Lower California, Mexico <i>Jeffery Boswall</i>                    |
| 31     | Observations on Wilson's Storm-petrels in European waters <i>Bernard King</i>                           |
| NOTES  |   |
| 33     | Feeding behaviour of gulls in association with seal and Sun Fish <i>Bernard King</i>                    |
| 33     | Winter feeding association between immature Black-headed Gulls <i>Bernard King</i>                      |
| 34     | Spoonbill, Black-headed Gulls and Little Tern in feeding and aggressive association <i>Bernard King</i> |
| 34     | An aberrant North American Ruddy Duck <i>Bernard King</i>   |
| 35     | Movements of Collared Doves <i>B.E. Slade</i>   |
| 35     | Hoopoes breeding in Avon <i>J.T. Eley</i>   |
| REPORT |   |
| 36     | <i>Club Activities, 1977</i>  |

## PREFACE

As a glance at the previous page will show, the contents of this issue of *Bristol Ornithology* are more varied than usual. Reflecting what can be done locally, Graham Sims has contributed a summary of results gathered from his study of breeding birds in Ashton Court Wood, undertaken as part of the BTO's countrywide Common Birds Census. Despite a high degree of disturbance the area maintains a good and varied bird population. It would be interesting to receive similar accounts from other BTO surveys, so that the local as opposed to national interest could be expanded, thus increasing the value of the observations.

By way of contrast, we include two papers and a note concerning local rarities. Despite the unsettled weather, 1977 was a year remarkable for the breeding of two pairs of Hoopoes in our area, the history of one being given by Brian Slade while John Eley provides details of the second. Equally unexpected was the discovery of a Wallcreeper spending at least two winters in the Cheddar area. This species is normally very difficult even to locate in its mountainous breeding haunts, and the detailed observations made by Keith Vinicombe and Brian Rabbitts are therefore of especial interest.

It has always been *Bristol Ornithology* policy to include photographic plates whenever possible, not only to illustrate the text, as for Jeffrey Boswall's paper on the little known San Benito Islands, but also as a medium for local bird photographers to publish their work. The two studies of Black Terns taken by Brian Thomas, in addition to being outstanding portraits in themselves, are ideal for outlining the plumage characteristics of what can often be a rather difficult species.

Finally, this seems a good opportunity to thank Robin Prytherch, Brian Slade and Phillip Baber for the illustrations they have provided for the annual Review. The Editors would be pleased to receive similar line drawings from Club members for future reports — with around 220 species occurring annually there are certainly plenty to choose from.

Ken Hall.

CHAIRMAN  
HON. SECRETARY  
HON. TREASURER  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
Mrs J.F. Copeland  
K.J. Hall  
Miss W. Dickson  
D.G. Haddy

Other members of the General Committee:—

D. Buttery  
S.A. Crick  
A.D. Lucas  
D.H. Payne  
R.J. Prytherch  
M. Sainsbury  
R.B.H. Smith  
B. Rabbitts

*Bristol Ornithology* Editorial Committee:—

K.J. Hall  
R.J. Prytherch  
B. Rabbitts

