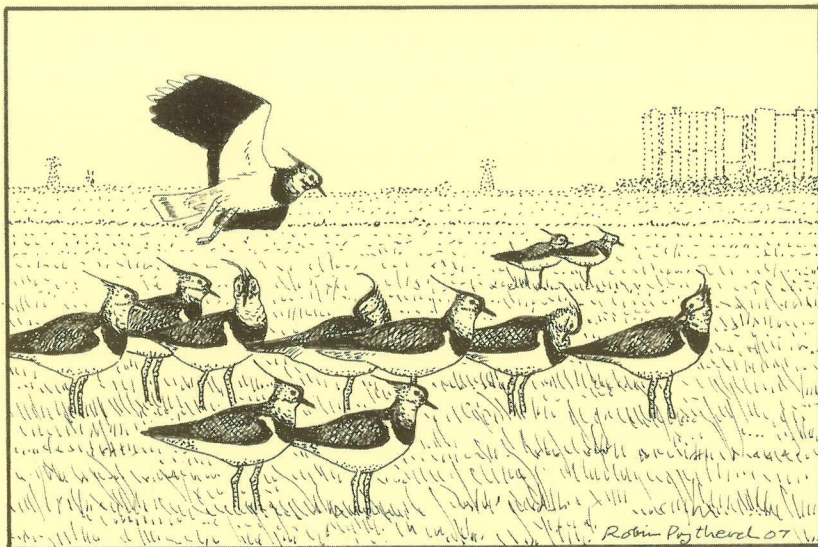
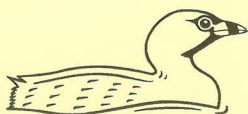


# BRISTOL ORNITHOLOGY

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NUMBER 28, 2006

The Birds of Oldbury Power Station Silt Lagoons

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## Preface

This issue is given over entirely to a paper by Andy Middleton, David Payne and the late Rae Vernon, all long term members of the Club. When Rae was ill he became largely restricted to home, so he set himself three tasks to complete: (1) a book on the birds of Morocco (see below), (2) a study of the Rook population of Avon (*Avon Bird Report* (2004) 147-156) and (3) the study of birds at Oldbury Power Station. Rae set about writing the first draft of the paper, but too ill to continue he passed the file to his co-authors Andy and David to polish up for publication. The appearance of this paper is timely as Oldbury Power Station is due to be decommissioned in the near future. Discussions are already taking place regarding the future of the site and this study should be helpful to those who are keen to see the development of a reserve there.

Rae was a widely experienced ornithologist who approached his projects in a thoroughly scientific way. He was involved in early gull and wader counts on the Severn Estuary, was an organiser of the 1975 B.T.O. Rook Survey and an author (with Michel Thévenot and Patrick Bergier) of *The Birds of Morocco: an annotated checklist* (B.O.U., 2004) which was voted by *British Birds* as one of the best bird books of 2005.

We were delighted to accept this paper - his last contribution to ornithology - and hope that Rae would have been happy with it in its final form.

Jane Cumming, Robin Prytherch and Lyndon Roberts  
*Bristol Ornithology* Editorial Committee

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