

ORNITHOLOGICAL REPORT FOR THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE, 1942.

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METEOROLOGY.

A GREAT rush of wild fowl distinguished the severe winter of 1941-42. (CP) says of the first quarter of 1942 that January was generally very cold, with hard frosts and slight falls of snow : quick thaws being followed by renewed cold winds and much intermittent rain. From 1st to 5th of February there were varying but very cold winds. On the night of the 4th-5th a hard frost was followed by slight snow, the wind being N.E. and bitterly cold. The weather between the 6th and the 20th was usually very cold with few sunny days and more hard frosts. It continued very cold till the end of the month. The first few days of March varied from hard frosts and N.E. winds to two or three days of nearly spring-like weather. March 19th was very spring-like ; a sunny morning was succeeded by thunder and rain later.

A cold April was sunny and rather dry, and May, sunny at first became unsettled later, with gales and rain. After initial cold winds, June became hot, sunny and very dry, with a few chilly days. An undistinguished July and early August led to a spell of ideal summer conditions succeeded by a rather sombre September, October and November. October and December were wet, but the latter occasionally sunny.

(CP), writing on 7th February, 1943, points out that the mild winter of 1942-43 "made a great difference to bird life. There is no sign down here of Fieldfares or Redwings. Geese are very few, only one big (over 200) flight being seen of Brent Geese, and very few ducks were noticed in Christchurch Harbour, but occasionally small flights were seen out at sea. I expect there will be early nesting."

Systematic List.

- Raven** (*Corvus c. corax*). 5th Feb., Hengistbury, two (RB). 8th Nov., Stanpit Marshes, one pair (CP). 28th Jan., Appleslade, one prospecting low down, going away S.W. (FH).
- Crow** (*Corvus c. corone*). 4th Dec., Hengistbury, two (RB). 26th Feb., Appleslade, one flew over ; 31st March, a pair perhaps nesting ; 22nd May, nest in Appleslade Enclosure ; the species is much persecuted (FH).
- Rook** (*Corvus f. frugilegus*). 6th Feb. and 14th March, Ringwood, busy at their nests (FH) ; 9th March, Ampfield, repairing nests (HW) ; the end May and early June invasion, once so noticeable at Appleslade, has largely ceased for the last year or two ; 9th Nov., a flock at Blashford (FH).

- Jackdaw** (*Corvus m. spermologus*). Two on telephone wire at Blashford, not common in the Forest area ; 9th Nov., a flock at Blashford (FH).
- Magpie** (*Pica p. pica*). 17th Jan., Petersfield, one seen ; Oct. 19th, two chasing hawk ; Nov., one often seen in tree near house, as last year (WW) ; 17th June, Burghclere, saw the first of several this year ; it had become nearly extinct here (AB).
- Jay** (*Garrulus g. rufitergum*). 6th April, about a dozen together in the tops of oaks in the Forest, evidently pairing off, although at first I thought they were mobbing something, as they were very noisy and excited (CB) ; 2nd March, Appleslade, two, apparently paired (FH).
- Starling** (*Sturnus v. vulgaris*). First flock of young birds noted at Hern, 10th June ; several flocks flew down Avon 19th June, 20 to 30 in each, presumably to roost (KR) ; 16th Aug., Appleslade, a curious paucity here this season ; 18th Oct., a flock of about 15 seen ; 18th Dec., a large flock at Blashford (FH).
- Hawfinch** (*Coccothraustes c. coccothraustes*). 27th April, Ringwood, male (AP) ; 14th Sept., East Cliff, Bournemouth, one (PB) ; 13th Aug., Appleslade, a hen and one or two young seen by house, being fed on seeds of dock, perhaps a second brood (FH).
- Greenfinch** (*Chloris c. chloris*). 18th March, Petersfield, singing ; several about in April (WW) ; 19th April, Boscombe, several feeding on falling seeds of Scotch Pine ; about 10 in mixed flock with Chaffinches and Goldfinches, feeding on ripe seeds, 22nd April, Hern (KR).
- Goldfinch** (*Carduelis c. britannica*). 12th and 18th April, Petersfield, seen and heard (WW) ; Ringwood, one pair hatched off four young in the garden, and several pairs had broods in the adjoining gardens (CB) ; Boscombe, seen in garden during the summer, and probably bred ; feeding on ripe seeds of Scots Pine on 19th and 26th April, two pairs taking seeds from open cones on trees and also from many fallen on ground ; common in young pine woods all summer and in mixed wood and shrubberies (KR) ; 17th Jan., Bournemouth area, three in garden (BP) ; 26th July, Lymington, a flock of over 25 feeding on lawn at 8 a.m., soon went (PB) ; a great flock, young and old, 6th Sept., Appleslade, after Black Knapweed seeds ; 27th Nov. and 23rd Dec., many here (FH).
- Siskin** (*Carduelis spinus*). 27th Jan., seen up Avon Valley, feeding in rushes by river (CP).
- Lesser Redpole** (*Carduelis f. cabaret*). 2nd April, flock of 10, north of Andover for a week, no red breasts, so probably all first summer birds (WP) ; two feeding in pines, 12th April (KR).
- Linnet** (*Carduelis c. cannabina*). Four seen flying straight in over sea and across cliff top from direction of Cherbourg, 29th March, Boscombe (KB).
- Bullfinch** (*Pyrrhula p. nesa*). 15th Jan., Petersfield, cock seen in snow ; 23rd seen on fence ; 19th Oct., heard (WW) ; Aug., Boscombe, pair in garden several times (KR) ; 20th March, pair in garden working apple-tree buds ; 27th April, Appleslade, pair apparently nesting (FH).
- Chaffinch** (*Fringilla c. gentleri*). 16th Feb., Petersfield, singing ; 17th Feb., full song (WW) ; several feeding on falling seeds of Scots Pine, Boscombe, 19th April, and Hern, 22nd April ; several making sallies from pine tops during sexual flight of two species of ant, *Acanthomyops* ; frequently feeding on lawn where there were many wingless females of both species, 27th August (KR) ; 12th June, Appleslade, a hen watched feeding a fully-fledged young bird as big as herself, which adopted a curious swaying side to side motion while waiting for further food from a saucer on which it sat (FH).
- Brambling** (*Fringilla montifringilla*). 27th Feb., Mudeford, two reported by Capt. and Mrs. Ray, with a mixed lot of finches (PB).
- Corn Bunting** (*Emberiza calandra*). Mudeford, again none seen this year (CP).

- Yellow Bunting** (*Emberiza c. citrinella*). 3rd March, Petersfield; 4th and 6th, hen in garden; 13th, singing (WW). Petersfield, very few on heath this year (AH). 13th April, Hengistbury (RB). Heard on 11th May, but scarce at Appleslade, through forest fires on heathland (FH).
- Cirl Bunting** (*Emberiza c. cirius*). 24th Jan., north of Andover, several seen (WP). More numerous in Mudeford (CP).
- Reed Bunting** (*Emberiza s. schoeniclus*). 18th May, Hengistbury, nesting (RB). Only bunting seen in many visits to area N. and E. of Hern Station, including heath, wood, rhododendron, bog and water meadows; several pairs in ditches in tussocks, April to July; wing-trailing, injury-feigning by female, 10th June, and by male, perhaps of a different pair, 17th June; food brought included green caterpillars (KR). 26th April, Appleslade, hen seen; 1st June, male seen, nesting; 8th June, two pairs nesting, apparently, one at each end of field; 18th June, one singing (FH).
- House Sparrow** (*Passer d. domesticus*). Petersfield, one seen in summer, chasing a weasel (WW). Habitually nest in thickly-branched tops of Scots Fir in Boscombe garden, 30 to 40 feet up; in one tree a Blackbird was sitting on 19th April and a squabble ensued, and the Blackbird was seen to fly out with the Sparrow grasped in her bill by the nape feathers, dropping it some yards away. Subsequently mutual tolerance was established; several Sparrows were catching "flying ants," *Acanthomyops*, and unwinged females were taken from ground on 27th Aug. (KR).
- Tree Sparrow** (*Passer m. montanus*). 3rd Jan., two seen again on Stanpit Marshes, on same gorse bush as they were seen on Nov. 19th, no trees in immediate vicinity (CP).
- Skylark** (*Alauda a. arvensis*). 14th and 15th Jan., Petersfield, in garden in snow; 5th Feb., chirping (WW); 11th May, a bird was singing finely, for a long period, on a post near Ibsley, the bird was difficult to locate; on passing the spot, an hour later, the bird was still in the same position; 16th May, another was seen singing on another post at Ellingham (FH).
- Meadow Pipit** (*Anthus pratensis*). 23rd April, Chilbolton, nest with five fresh eggs (WP); 30th March, Hengistbury, flock (RB).
- Blue-headed Wagtail** (*Motacilla f. flava*). 15th May, in Valley of Test, Chilbolton, seen only one (WP); 14th April, Stanpit Marshes, one, good specimen, and had a good view, seemed rather tired, possibly just arrived (CP).
- Yellow Wagtail** (*Motacilla f. flavissima*). First seen 17th April, Chilbolton (WP); 10th April, Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Wagtail**. 27th Aug., two parties of six to ten each flew N.N.-W. over Boscombe, probably *alba*, but possibly *flava*; several small parties flew over garden 28th Aug., passing E. or E.N.-E.; one or both species evidently making detours on coastwise migration, as never noted before in summer. Yellow Wagtail, compared with 1939, considerably scarcer in water meadows, near Hern Station, and late in arriving (KR).
- Grey Wagtail** (*Motacilla c. cinerea*). 16th Sept., Burghclere, one seen over the County border, none seen here this year (AB). Seem to be much fewer than in previous years round Mudeford: only one seen so far, 12th Nov., on Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Pied Wagtail** (*Motacilla a. yarrellii*). 9th to 15th Jan., Petersfield, hen in garden (WW); 17th May, Linwood, a nest of young flew two or three days ago (FH).
- [White Wagtail** (*Motacilla a. alba*). Doubtfully reported, 24th and 28th June on watercress beds between Bighton and Alresford, two on each date (ID).]
- Tree-Creeper** (*Certhia f. britannica*). 15th Jan., Petersfield, one climbing up fir trees (WW); 14th Dec., Burghclere, saw the only one this year, so far, feared the last winter had killed all; on 24th saw another (AB).

- Nuthatch** (*Sitta e. affinis*). Leckford, one seen (EFC) ; 12th April, Burghclere, saw bird enter nest (AB) ; 18th and 27th Aug., Boscombe, one in garden, an unusual visitor (KR).
- Tits**. 27th Jan., Appleslade, many, especially Great Tits ; 1st July, Great, Marsh and Long-tailed Tits about, largely after *Aphrophora salicis*, which swarmed in their froth ; 6th July, Great and Blue still singing, and Coal occasionally ; 27th July, the small warblers appear to join at times the parties of tits and their companions ; 13th Nov., Great and Blue Tits plentiful here (FH).
- Great Tit** (*Parus m. newtoni*). Leckford, very plentiful (EFC).
- Blue Tit** (*Parus c. obscurus*). Leckford, have recovered their numbers (EFC) ; Petersfield, 8th March and onwards at bird table (AH).
- Coal Tit** (*Parus a. britannicus*). Leckford, none seen, the one bird which frequented the garden gone (EFC) ; Petersfield, very rarely at bird table now (AH) ; 16th Jan., one at bird-basket, plentiful, in Feb., at Appleslade ; 3rd July, returning to garden ; 23rd Nov., after absence, again returning (FH).
- Marsh Tit** (*Parus p. dresseri*). Petersfield, no longer comes to bird-table (AH) ; 10th Jan., Appleslade, one in garden, the first for weeks ; 22nd Jan., one seen ; 3rd Dec., appeared in garden with Coal Tits again (FH).
- Long-tailed Tit** (*Aegithalos c. roseaceus*). Leckford, quite plentiful (EFC) ; 20th Dec., Burghclere, a number about (AB) ; 25th March and later, Appleslade, quite plentiful round bird-basket ; 29th June, many about, including one or two young broods ; 10th Nov., flock here (FH).
- Red-backed Shrike** (*Lanius c. collurio*). Old Cot, Linwood, nested in hedge and brought up brood of five (DH) ; 17th June, one on waste plot near Iford Bridge (KR).
- Waxwing** (*Bonbycilla g. garrulus*). One was brought to Mr. B. Vesey-Fitz Gerald in Winchester ; it was picked up on a doorstep, in a very weak state ; after care, it quite recovered and was released (BB, Vol. XXXV, p. 231).
- Spotted Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa s. striata*). 9th Aug., at Burton, seen feeding young with a Silver-washed Fritillary (CP) ; 1st June, Linwood, sitting ; 24th June, second brood hatched in same nest-box on an outbuilding (HL) ; 22nd June, Appleslade, commoner than usual here, nesting near house, where birds have been for some weeks, very tame (FH).
- Goldcrest** (*Regulus r. anglorum*). None in garden since winter of 1940, Leckford (EFC) ; 1st, 14th, 15th Jan., seen in snow, Petersfield (WW). Excited display by male and female, both with crests expanded, male uttering prolonged twittering, 29th Aug., Boscombe ; song heard several times, 28th and 29th Aug. (KR) ; 12th April, Appleslade, at top of Douglas Fir in early morning ; 21st April, Appleslade, frequenting *Cupressus lawsoniana* and other Coniferae (FH) ; 1st June, Linwood, nest almost brought down by wind, tied up, and birds brought off brood (HL).
- Chiffchaff** (*Phylloscopus c. collybita*). 14th April, Appleslade, one picked up dead, probably from starvation and cold, very thin (FH).
- Willow Warbler** (*Phylloscopus t. trochilus*). Saw very few in Bournemouth district (GB).
- Wood Warbler** (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*). 5th June, Burghclere, seen in widely separated spots (AB) ; 1st June, heard in Ridley and Berry Woods ; 19th June, Appleslade, heard in wood (FH).
- Grasshopper Warbler** (*Locustella n. naevia*). 11th June, Appleslade, neither seen nor heard yet ; 20th June, heard between here and Newlands ; 21st and 22nd June, heard here (FH).
- Reed Warbler** (*Acrocephalus s. scirpaceus*). Appeared to be numerous in Bournemouth district (GB) ; 23rd Aug., Stanpit Marshes, one seen carrying food in its beak (CP).

Marsh-Warbler (*Acrocephalus palustris*). (?) 10th June, Appleslade, in willows on marsh here, no glasses, and song not well heard (FH).

Sedge-Warbler (*Acrocephalus schaeenobaenus*). Appeared to be numerous in Bournemouth district (GB); 1st May, many by Avon at Ringwood (FH).

Garden-Warbler (*Sylvia borin*). 17th April, Appleslade, seen in garden; 20th April, Webbs Copse, heard incompletely; 5th May, song heard at Appleslade; on 15th May singing fully and in numbers (FH).

Blackcap (*Sylvia a. atricapilla*). May, June, common in thick rhododendron in wood near Hern Station; a few pairs in riverside willow copses: Garden Warblers not noted in these habitats (KR); 22nd May, Roe Wood, heard; 1st June, Appleslade, singing finely (FH).

Whitethroat (*Sylvia c. communis*). Petersfield, singing constantly on electric cable during June; numerous again this year (AH). Never seem plentiful round Bournemouth (GB). 27th May, Ivy Lane, singing; 12th July, Appleslade, nest with four eggs found; another with young (FH).

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia c. curruca*). Several pairs noted in Bournemouth district (GB); 22nd May, Greenford Bottom, singing; 26th May, Appleslade, singing; several here (FH).

Dartford Warbler (*Sylvia u. dartfordiensis*). One or more in gorse, Parley Gibbet, 3rd June (KR).

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*). 29th March, Appleslade, a flock of 200 or more flying across at evening and settling in a large oak, and then moving on; 30th March, another flock (FH).

Mistle-Thrush (*Turdus v. viscivorus*). Nest in main fork of Scots Pine, 30 feet up, in Boscombe garden, contained three nearly fledged young, 24th May; left nest after 6 a.m. on 25th May and were apparently moved out of garden by parents within a short time; when young feathered, adults apparently roosted away from nest; no brooding even in heavy rain; usually visited nest separately to feed. This pair attacked and drove off a male Sparrow-Hawk, following him and diving on him. Loose roving parties of five to fifteen birds are frequently seen flying over Boscombe gardens in August, especially in late afternoon (KR).

Song Thrush (*Turdus e. ericetorum*). 16th Jan., Petersfield, seven on lawn, ten seen later (WW). Far less numerous in Bournemouth district this season (GB). Ringwood, one bird in the garden, singing the whole autumn, and continuously up to the end of December (CB); 13th Jan., Appleslade, Thrush at bird-basket, first for months; 13th June, one on a bird-basket fed a young blackbird when it opened its bill (FH).

Blackbird (*Turdus m. merula*). 23rd April, Andover, male, all white except under tail and lower breast; seen also in 1941; very tame, did not seem able to get a mate in the spring, not seen after July, (WP); 9th Jan., Petersfield, five on lawn; 13th, twelve; later, ten (WW). Larval *Tipulidae* and earth-worms appear to be main food obtained by "digging" in lawn (KR). Very common at Appleslade this season, and nesting freely; the old cock still here, and about after sunset (FH).

Stonechat (*Saxicola t. hibernans*). Petersfield, not seen or heard on Heath this year (AH); 15th July, a pair always about the cliffs at Boscombe (EWD). Appear to be increasing in numbers, locally, in Bournemouth district; the very open winter of 1942-43 should favour them (GB); 1st May, singing on Rockford Common, but too scarce in this district through fires (FH).

Black Redstart (*Phaenicurus o. gibraltariensis*). 28th Oct., Ossemsley Manor, near New Milton, hen; 9th Nov., on roof of Rising Sun, Wootton, hen (AP). One seen and heard singing on a ruined church in the main street of Southampton on 17th and 20th May and, again, on 1st June by the Editor of *The Field* (B.B., Vol. XXXVI, p. 134).

- Nightingale** (*Luscinia m. megarhyncha*). Burghclere, a reinstatement and recovery in numbers; birds had deserted us for years; the brushwood is now in the right stage (AB); 8th May, Highwood, bird heard (Mrs. Dane).
- Robin** (*Erithacus r. melophilus*). Leckford, fairly numerous (EFC); 20th Jan., Petersfield, four on lawn; 22nd Feb., five on lawn together (WW); 16th May, Appleslade, a complicated display between two Robins was seen from a window, perhaps a territorial display between two birds of the same sex, but it did not seem so (*cf. Handbook*, Vol. II, p. 202); the first bird moved from left to right through a quarter of a circle during the actions described, and appeared to feed the second one once; they stood facing each other for a few minutes, then the first (cock?), raising beak slightly in the air, began to move his head slowly from side to side, while the second (hen?) watched him. After a few times he stopped and stood motionless for a moment; then he repeated the movements several times; when he stopped again the second bird hopped off and the first hopped after it and they disappeared among the bushes. 18th Oct., singing in larger numbers than usual and with unusual vigour (FH).
- Hedge Sparrow** (*Prunella m. occidentalis*). 20th Jan., Petersfield, one singing in snow (WW). Commoner than usual at Appleslade and in fine song through the season (FH).
- Wren** (*Troglodytes t. troglodytes*). Leckford, fewer than in 1940 (EFC).
- Dipper** (*Cinclus c. gularis*). Mr. Baker states in *The Field* that a pair bred successfully on River Test at Compton Manor; Mr. Phelps records that before the war a pair nested for three years in succession at Brambridge, near Eastleigh; Mr. Pentland saw one at Testwood Mill in August; Sir F. O. Lindley states that one was present on the River Itchen, near Alresford, in August and October (*B.B.*, Vol. XXXVI, p. 183). 26th March, seen just over Hampshire border (CA).
- Swallow** (*Hirundo r. rustica*). 13th April, Over Wallop, first seen (WP). Leckford, built and reared young as usual (EFC).
- House-Martin** (*Delichon u. urbica*). 13th April, Over Wallop, first seen (WP). Leckford, not as numerous as they were some years ago (EFC). Locally, in Bournemouth district, far more numerous, again, this season (GB).
- Sand-Martin** (*Riparia r. riparia*). In Bournemouth district appear to be far less numerous this season and many of their nesting sites were deserted (GB). 1st May, in numbers at Rockford (FH).
- Swift** (*Apus a. apus*). Leckford, fewer than last year and left earlier; they did not nest on the premises (EFC). Petersfield, about the usual number flying round the church tower this summer (AH). Old Cot, Linwood, 18th May, nested under the thatch (DH).
- Nightjar** (*Caprimulgus e. europaeus*). July, Leckford, one heard (EFC). Petersfield, heard nightly from early June onwards at about 11 p.m. and sometimes in early morning; starts at the same time every night (WW). 1st July, Boscombe, four seen flying about and one heard churring at 10 p.m. in rough country about Queen's Park (EW-D). During the summer came across quite a number in the Hern Common locality (GB). Pair probably nested Mudeford, as heard it several times after June, probably nesting ground "inaccessible" (CP). Not heard at Appleslade by 11th May, but seen by (HHH), in Montgomeryshire, early in month. 28th May, Appleslade, one flushed; 20th June, heard and seen here at evening; 27th July, flushed on hill, as though from eggs (FH).
- Kingfisher** (*Alcedo a. ispida*). 13th June, Burghclere, one only seen this year (AB); 14th Aug., Hengistbury (RB).
- Green Woodpecker** (*Picus v. pluvius*). Very rarely seen or heard now at Leckford; six years ago the Yaffle was not infrequently heard calling (EFC). Petersfield, two frequently visited lawn for ants in August (AH). Once heard in garden in Boscombe in July (KR). 18th May, Appleslade,

- a brood of young just flown ; 31st May, bird apparently nesting ; it is very common here (FH).
- Great Spotted Woodpecker** (*Dryobates m. anglicus*). Very rarely heard or seen at Leckford (EFC). One flew through garden, Boscombe, 21st July, first record in ten years for the garden (KR).
- Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** (*Dryobates m. comminatus*). 22nd May, Andover (WP). Increasing at Leckford and have become quite common (EFC).
- Wryneck** (*Jynx t. torquilla*). Appleslade, 14th April, seen clinging on to window frames and woodwork ; 22nd and 23rd June, heard (FH).
- Cuckoo** (*Cuculus c. canorus*). Leckford, numerous, but all the nestlings that were hatched here died before they were fledged, from insufficient food, probably in consequence of the cold, dry weather which prevailed at the time (EFC). June, Petersfield, one seen attacked by two Blackbirds in bush near their nest (WW). Appleslade, less numerous than usual (FH).
- Little Owl** (*Athene n. vidalii*). 5th Nov., one, Waterditch Lane, Bransgore (CP).
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio o. otus*). 22nd April, Winterslow Down, nest with one addled egg and one young, ten days old, old Magpie's nest ; one Skylark and two Long-tailed Field Mice in nest (WP).
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio f. flammeus*). 3rd Oct., Linwood Bog, one flushed (CA).
- Tawny Owl** (*Strix a. sylvatica*). 2nd March, Burghclere, heard at night (AB) ; 19th Sept., Appleslade, one frequenting wood ; 13th Oct., heard ; 30th Oct., after dark, calling, not normally, from Linwood Bog, whence the Short-eared has been reported ; 26th Nov., seen and heard by house (FH).
- Barn Owl** (*Tyto a. alba*). 22nd March, seen hunting by daylight, close to Highcliffe Castle Golf Links (CP).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco p. peregrinus*). 26th Dec., large Hawk reported on Stanpit Marshes, possibly this species, as one was seen up the Avon Valley, near Winton, on 23rd Dec. (CP) ; 10th June, Appleslade, one went over ; 16th Sept., a pair over hill, toying with one another (FH) ; 16th Sept., Linwood, two, often seen (HL).
- Hobby** (*Falco s. subbuteo*). Seen once only near station, 19th June, during many visits May to July to Hern (KR).
- Merlin** (*Falco c. aesalon*). 21st Jan., small Hawk, probably this species, flying over Christchurch Harbour (CP and JD).
- Kestrel** (*Falco t. tinnunculus*). In Bournemouth district far more numerous this season (GB). At Hern, several breeding pairs of Lapwing fiercely mobbed one, 2nd May ; mobbed again, 30th June, but little evidence of interference with nesting Lapwing, Redshank or Snipe ; a Heron attacked by male squawked and swerved, attack probably only to drive Heron from nest area ; an Osprey was "mobbed" by male Kestrel, 31st May (KR). 19th May, Appleslade, one seen, but uncommon here ; 31st Oct., one at Blashford (FH).
- Common Buzzard** (*Buteo b. buteo*). 18th May, N. of Gorley, several circling, 12.30 p.m. (AP). Often seen in Bournemouth district (GB). One passed over Ringwood, flying very high towards Somerley (CB) ; 2nd Oct., one seen over Burton Common (CP) ; 22nd Jan., Appleslade, very feeble, circling low in brief flights and often settling ; 1st June, Redshoot, seen ; 16th June, three seen here and over Ibsley Common (FH) ; 28th Sept., Linwood, two seen (HL).
- Marsh Harrier** (*Circus ae. aeruginosus*). 29th June, Stanpit Marshes, probably a bird of the year (EW-D).
- Montagu's Harrier** (*Circus pygargus*). 27th Feb., near Wareham, extraordinarily early (PB) ; 10th May, Appleslade, seen ; 27th May, a pair seen (FH).

Sparrow-Hawk (*Accipiter n. nisus*). 5th Feb., Petersfield, one hovering over heath; 6th April, one in garden, flying backwards and forwards over hedge, trying to get two sparrows inside; 14th April, one settled in garden until startled; 18th, still frequenting near house; 16th Nov., still after birds in garden; one was seen chased by two magpies and later by a gull (WW). In Bournemouth district, far more numerous this season (GB). Pair either nested in, or foraged over, Boscombe; single adults, male and female, seen in or over garden several times, April—July; often seen in August and, on 28th Aug., high soaring flight by two birds watched for ten minutes; from size, both appeared to be females, apparently attaining 500 feet or more at times, hot cloudless morning (KR). 26th April, Appleslade, one seen (FH).

Osprey (*Pandion h. haliaetus*). 9th March, in the vicinity of Hengistbury for about a week, seen on five or six occasions, the gulls mobbed it for an hour at a time when it rested on an anti-seaplane tripod in the harbour, which was what first attracted my attention (RB). Reported on about three or four occasions as fishing in Christchurch Harbour (CP). One seen to fly up Avon Valley near Hern, 2nd May; gliding over river and meadows, disappearing S.E.; on 31st May one was watched for half-an-hour at the same place, drying itself and fishing from a dead tree on which was also a Cormorant, apparently unconcerned; a little way to the S. was mobbed by a pair of Shelduck, also frequently by Lapwings, Black-headed Gulls and once by a Kestrel (KR). Commander Hammond reports in *The Field* that, on Sept. 15th, he watched one in Portsmouth Harbour, the bird was perched on a notice-board and was eating what appeared to be a Lapwing (*B.B.*, Vol. XXXVI, p. 164).

Spoonbill (*Platalea l. leucorodia*). (HA) states that Warren Flat has been inhabited by one the entire summer; he enjoyed watching its special way of feeding, wading up to the thighs with bill submerged, and moved steadily from side to side, occasionally withdrawn to swallow the prey; it spent long periods preening, stopping often to shake its beak rapidly (HA). 21st Jan., Hengistbury, two (RB). One seen flying over Mudeford in an easterly direction, 27th March; one on Stanpit Marshes, 15th and 16th Aug. (CP). 4th Aug., two in Christchurch Harbour (PB).

Common Heron (*Ardea c. cinerea*). 3rd Sept., Petersfield, seen fishing in Heath Pond at 7.45 p.m., usually its visits are in the early morning, but there have been very few this year (AH). A few seen in Avon Valley near Hern on practically every visit, April—June (KR). 22nd Nov., seen twice, but rarer than it was along Dockens (FH).

Bittern (*Botaurus s. stellaris*). Leckford, heard and seen (EFC). 8th Dec., one flushed by Miss Dacombe from reeds by River Avon, Winkton, near Sopley (PB).

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*). 25th Jan., three on lake, Petersfield; Sept., four (WW). Petersfield, one visitor Swan on 2nd April, three on 11th July, four on 8th Jan. and 16th Sept., three on Oct. 21st, two on 28th Nov. All were chased away by one of the two resident Swans on the lake.

Grey Geese spp. 11th Jan., flying over Christchurch Harbour E.S.-E., weather very cold, hard frost, wind N.E., ice in harbour (CP); 23 Feb., 40 seen flying down the Avon Valley towards the sea, about 7 p.m.; a countryman said he had seen hundreds flying in perfect formation on a brilliant moonlight night, about 23rd Feb. (BP).

White-fronted Goose (*Anser a. albifrons*). 1st March, one flying round and over Christchurch Harbour (CP). Semi-decayed remains of shot adult male found near Hern Station, 1st April (KR).

Dark-breasted Brent Goose (*Branta b. bernicla*). One has inhabited the west end of Warren Flat ever since last winter; it never seems to go more than a few hundred yards, but is always found either swimming off shore

or paddling about on the ooze ; perhaps a pricked bird, but seems in good condition ; never seen to use its wings (HA). 29th Jan., one flying over Christchurch Harbour, four very wild, possibly Brent ; 5th March, Stanpit Marshes, one (CP).

Canada Goose (*Branta c. canadensis*). 2nd April, Petersfield, five on lake (WW). Petersfield, one on lake, 26th March, six on 2nd April, chased by resident Goose, twenty-two on 17th Dec., a few on morning of 18th (AH).

Duck spp. Seen flying over Christchurch Harbour, in waves, 22nd Jan., mostly Wigeon, but Shelduck, Mallard, Shoveler, Pintail and Teal noticed ; 27th Jan., went up Avon meadows, strong cold S.E. wind, snow, sleet and rain, saw about twelve Scaup, several Tufted Duck, Wigeon, Mallard and two Smew, duck and drake (CP). Enormous flight of duck, numbering several hundred, on sea, off Avon Beach, light too bad for identification, Feb. 4th ; several smaller groups seen in roughly same area, of which the majority were Tufted Duck, 5th Feb. (CP). In Jan., Wigeon, Golden Eye and Teal on Dockens at Linwood (TS).

Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*). 18th March, Andover, one found dead, much emaciated, had been seen about for some days before (WP) ; 22nd Jan., Christchurch Harbour, several ; 5th March, Christchurch Harbour, 30 ; 8th March, Christchurch Harbour, numbers ; 15th March, Christchurch Harbour : Shelduck, Mallard, Teal, Shoveler and Pintail were mostly seen again, as on 8th March ; Christchurch Harbour, a large number, 28th March ; nested Stanpit Marshes, two families seen, seven and eight in each (CP) ; 12th Jan., four on Dockens Water (TS).

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). 16th Aug., Sea Pie Point, observed with a flock of Mallard, one slightly superior in size, black or dark chocolate all over, with exception of completely white neck, lighter brown on wing coverts ; doubtless a hybrid Mallard and tame duck (HA). Petersfield, a white duck on Heath Pond had nest with 13 eggs, in hedge, on 17th April ; on 15th May, took 12 dark Mallard ducklings to pond, only two survived (AH) ; 14th Jan., Mudeford, swimming in sea, two, duck and drake, weather very cold, hard frost, ice, wind E. ; 15th March, Christchurch Harbour, few ; 8th March, Christchurch Harbour, numbers (CP). Fifty or more on mile stretch of Avon near Hern on 19th Feb. ; adults present in moderate numbers on ponds N. of Hern Station ; on White Mere, East Parley Common, and on Week Common, April and May (KR).

Teal (*Anas c. crecca*). 3rd Jan., Hengistbury, 11 (RB) ; 22nd Jan., Christchurch Harbour, several ; 8th March, Christchurch Harbour, numbers (CP). Two to four pairs seen on Week Common, 25th March to 14th June ; six adults on ponds in the area between Week Common and Hern Station, 15th April ; injury-feigning from half-grown ducklings, 14th June ; pairs on White Mere and E. Parley Common, 13th May and 3rd June (KR).

Wigeon (*Anas penelope*). 10th Oct., party of 12 flying N. over Ringwood (AP). 16th Jan., Hengistbury, 200 (RB). Large flight, over 100, seen coming over to Christchurch Harbour from S.W., 2nd Jan., probably Wigeon ; 11th, large number in Christchurch Harbour ; 29th, Christchurch Harbour, again plentiful ; 17th Feb., Christchurch Harbour, many ; 20th, still plentiful ; 5th March, Christchurch Harbour, many ; 8th, Christchurch Harbour, many ; 28th, Christchurch Harbour, still a few about ; 22nd Sept., Christchurch Harbour, four, all males in first eclipse ; 1st to 11th Oct., Christchurch Harbour, 12 ; 8th Nov., Christchurch Harbour, small flights ; 14th Dec., Christchurch Harbour, large flock of Wigeon, among them two Pintail (CP) ; 19th Feb., 200—300 in flock, River Avon, N.E. of Hern Station (KR).

Pintail (*Anas a. acuta*). 22nd Jan., Christchurch Harbour, several ; 8th March, Christchurch Harbour, two ; 14th Dec., Christchurch Harbour, two among large flock of Wigeon (CP).

- Shoveler** (*Spatula clypeata*). 2nd Jan., Hengistbury Head, six (RB); 11th Jan., Christchurch Harbour, two; 22nd Jan., Christchurch Harbour, several; 26th Feb., Christchurch Harbour, one male; 8th March, Christchurch Harbour, numbers; 28th March, Christchurch Harbour, two females (CP). Ten ducks and drakes on Week Common, 25th March; two pairs, 22nd April; two pairs, White Mere, E. Parley Common, 13th May (KR).
- Common Pochard** (*Aythya ferina*). 10th Jan., Hengistbury, seven (RB); 17th Jan., group of four or five in Christchurch Harbour; 31st Jan., Christchurch Harbour, 12; 17th Feb., Christchurch Harbour, three (CP).
- Tufted Duck** (*Aythya fuligula*). 13th Feb., Ringwood, immature male (AP); 15th Jan., Christchurch Harbour, one male; 27th Jan., Avon Meadows, several; 31st Jan., Christchurch Harbour, one; several groups of duck on sea, off Avon Beach, 5th Feb., majority of this species; 26th Feb., Christchurch Harbour, one male (CP).
- Scaup Duck** (*Aythya m. marila*). 27th Jan., Avon Meadows, about 12; 27th March, Stanpit Marshes, one dead male found (CP); 10th Jan., Christchurch Harbour, two (BP).
- Common Scoter** (*Melanitta n. nigra*). 31st Jan., Mudeford, large flock seen out at sea (CP). During Jan. and Feb., large flocks reported in Bournemouth Bay (BP).
- Velvet Scoter** (*Melanitta f. fusca*). A flock of about 12 observed in flight, 26th Sept., Sea Pie Point (HA).
- Goosander** (*Mergus m. merganser*). 31st Jan., Ringwood, immature male (AP); 1st Feb., Christchurch Harbour, about nine seen, in about three small groups, one alone, one group of five and one of three; 5th March, one seen in river off Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*). 14th Feb., near Wareham, Dorset (BP).
- Smew** (*Mergus albellus*). 27th Jan., Avon Meadows, two, duck and drake (C.P).
- Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax c. carbo*). 15th Jan., one with white thigh patch seen off Mudeford (CP). At least 15 perched in dead tree, N.E. of Hern Station, adults and immature (KR).
- Gannet** (*Sula bassana*). 3rd Jan., Mudeford, about 25 to 30 off-shore, all fishing, evidently still large shoals of sprats about; seen again 5th; 29th May, Mudeford, adult bird found in garden, beautiful specimen, nothing visibly wrong, no wound, no broken bones, it seemed weak on its legs, also in a very bad temper, and bit very hard. Head a lovely golden colour and the blue round eye very striking, ate nothing, seemed anxious to sleep; 30th May, found dead. On skinning, seen to have had bruise on side of head and on wing. 6th Aug., Christchurch Harbour, two immature birds flying over S.W.; all have disappeared off Mudeford Beach, following appearance of sprats coming up Channel; two on 9th Dec., one on 10th, one on 11th, all adults (CP).
- Great Crested Grebe** (*Podiceps c. cristatus*). 28th to 30th March, Petersfield, one; 3rd April, one on lake (WW); 2nd April, Petersfield, pair on Heath Pond (AH); 3rd Oct., Christchurch Harbour, one; 7th Dec., Mudeford, about 20 off-shore (CP); 22nd March, two in almost full summer plumage, diving within thirty yards of shore near Boscombe Pier; 29th March, one there (KR).
- Black-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps n. nigricollis*). About six in backwater of Christchurch Harbour, 24th Dec.; could not certainly identify, but think it was this species (CP).
- Great Northern Diver** (*Colymbus immer*). 6th April, one in summer plumage off Boscombe (KR).
- Black-throated Diver** (*Colymbus a. arcticus*). 6th Feb., Bournemouth Bay, reported (BP).

- Red-throated Diver** (*Colymbus stellatus*). 3rd Jan., Mudeford, one on bank in river, probably oiled (CP).
- Wood-Pigeon** (*Columba p. palumbus*). Flock of 400-500 feeding in recently thawed water meadows, near Throop, 4th March; in April, many pairs scattered through pine woods, N. of Hern Station (KR); 25th Oct., Appleslade, still cooing much (FH).
- Stock Dove** (*Columba oenas*). Several pairs frequented woods and pine-heath areas N. and E. of Hern Station, April-June, seen near rabbit burrows, where they probably breed (KR). 1st June, many cooing in Ridley and Berry Woods, number of nesting holes in the old trees (FH).
- Turtle-Dove** (*Streptopelia t. turtur*). Not noted until 24th May, afterwards always several in woods and riverside willows near Hern Station, until last visit, 5th July (KR). Appleslade, very common, as usual, throughout season; 28th May, nest found; 7th July, cooing much (FH).
- Bar-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa l. lapponica*). 26th Sept., Christchurch Harbour, two; 2nd, 3rd and 11th Oct., one; 21st Dec., Christchurch Harbour, one (CP).
- Black-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa l. limosa*). 16th Aug., Christchurch Harbour, one (CP).
- Common Curlew** (*Numenius a. arquata*). 28th Feb., south of Andover, three seen and heard calling in water meadows (WP); 8th March, 25 to 30, Stanpit Marshes (CP). Migrating eastward from sound, 10.30 to 11.0 p.m., 14th and 17th March, and 9.30 p.m., 18th March; nest on Parley Common, 13th May; another, 3rd June (KR). 25th March, back on Ibsley Common to breed (HL). Many heard on Ibsley Common, 14th April (DB).
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius p. phaeopus*). Heard migrating over Boscombe on windy, moonlit night, 25th April (KR).
- Woodcock** (*Scolopax rusticola*). 24th April, nest found at Goose Green, between Petersfield and S. Harting (AH); 25th Jan., two flying over Mudeford; 20th Feb., one flying over Stanpit Marshes (CP). Had been seen, at least up to March, in pine woods, by keeper, who thinks they may nest not infrequently in Hern Station area (KR). Two nests in New Forest (HL). 9th Nov., flying by our house, in morning dusk, from S.W. to N.E. (FH).
- Common Snipe** (*Capella g. gallinago*). 29th May, Burghclere, three seen, doubtless bred here (AB); Feb. 20th, very plentiful, Stanpit Marshes, very cold, much ice in Harbour (CP). Rough estimate of density of population, some five pairs in fifty acres in water meadows of Avon Valley near Hern; injury-feigning from young twice seen (KR). 11th Jan., one here; 30th April, Ibsley Common, "drumming" (FH).
- Jack Snipe** (*Lympocryptes minimus*). 3rd Oct., Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Knot** (*Calidris c. canutus*). Aug. 15th-16th, Christchurch Harbour, showing first traces of summer plumage, one; 22nd Sept., Christchurch Harbour, six (CP).
- Dunlin** (*Calidris a. schinzii*). Towards end of Dec., in company with great numbers of Lapwing, Black-headed Gulls and Starlings, feeding on flooded meadows at Avon, at least 100 to 150 seen (GB).
- Sanderling** (*Crocethia alba*). 18th Jan., Mudeford, probably arrived several weeks earlier, only access to Hengistbury Head, where they are usually seen, is impossible (CP).
- Common Sandpiper** (*Aetitis hypoleucos*). 25th July, Linford (AP).
- Wood Sandpiper** (*Tringa glareola*). 9th Sept., Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Green Sandpiper** (*Tringa ochropus*). 30th July, one on ooze, Warren Point; 12th Sept., three (HA); 23rd Sept. and 11th Oct., Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Redshank** (*Tringa t. britannica*). 20th Dec., N. of Andover, flock of six, the first time a flock seen so far inland (WP). Population in water meadows in Avon Valley near Hern perhaps two or three times that of Snipe;

- arrived on breeding ground about 15th March, later than usual, according to keeper, and nests were much later; breeding pairs also on marshy areas of Week and E. Parley Commons (KR).
- Greenshank** (*Tringa nebularia*). 7th Feb., Hengistbury, one dead (RB); 2nd June, Stanpit Marshes, one (CP).
- Ringed Plover** (*Charadrius h. hiaticula*). Leg picked up on Hengistbury Head by Mr. H. Brewer, in 1941, with ring on, was marked as a young bird in July, 1932, at Slettestrand on the N.E. coast of Jutland, N.W. from Aalborg; identified by Miss Leach, Bird-ringing Committee, British Museum (BP).
- Southern Golden Plover** (*Pluvialis a. apricaria*). 30th March, Hengistbury (RB); Dec. 4th, a large flock curving and circling over Ringwood (HC).
- Grey Plover** (*Squatarola squatarola*). 22nd Jan., Mudeford, one seen; 8th March, Stanpit Marshes, one; 11th Oct., Christchurch Harbour, one (CP).
- Lapwing** (*Vanellus vanellus*). Petersfield, flock over pond, 22nd Oct.; flocks seen fairly often during Nov. and Dec.; specially large flock 2nd to 4th (AH). 22nd Nov., Burghclere, many flocks about: not so numerous of late years (AB); 23rd Oct., large flocks in Ringwood district, one of more than 1,000 birds (CB); 2nd Jan., flocks of many hundreds flying over Christchurch district; 20th-21st Dec., immense flocks on the wing, Christchurch, mostly flying S. (CP); 10th March, Appleslade, returned for breeding; 27th Sept., large flocks at Fordingbridge and Breamore; 2nd Nov., a flock of about 20 at Linwood; 2nd Dec., large flocks at Ringwood (FH).
- Oyster-catcher** (*Haematopus o. occidentalis*). Numerous all summer at Sea Pie Point (HA). 10th May, Hengistbury, five (RB). Three seen at low tide on sand-spit in Christchurch Harbour on 3rd May; one on beach at low tide, 4th; five seen on sand-spit at low tide, 20th; four on mud-bank in Christchurch Harbour, 31st; four or six seen regularly on mud-flats, June and July; one seen on Southbourne Beach, 4th Nov. (CP).
- Sandwich Tern** (*Sterna s. sandvicensis*). 20th Sept., Christchurch Harbour, 12; noticed here in numbers for the first time, one Common Tern with them (CP).
- Common Tern** (*Sterna h. hirundo*). 9th May, Hengistbury (RB); 20th July, about 12 resting on mud at low tide off Mudeford Beach (CP).
- Little Tern** (*Sterna a. albifrons*). (HA) reports that the developing shingle-bed, at Sea Pie Point, forms an ideal breeding ground for Terns, and there is a considerable colony of this species on it. It is little disturbed. The opposing Warren Flat is being eroded by the advancing shingle (HA). 12th May, Hengistbury (RB); 23rd April, Christchurch Harbour, several fishing, probably breeding again on Mudeford Beach, as several seen flying in that direction with fish in beaks in July (CP).
- Black-headed Gull** (*Larus r. ridibundus*). Petersfield, large numbers of gulls in potato field, 6th Feb.; frequented Heath Pond from 10th Oct.; specially large flocks on 7th and 8th and 14th Nov. (AH); 18th Jan., Mudeford, first seen with full hood (CP). In the E. Parley Common gully, about 60 to 70 birds estimated in the air, 13th May; on 3rd June, a maximum of 40 in the air. After apparent interference, about 15 pairs moved, probably, to Week Common between 13th and 27th May (KR). 31st Oct., Blashford, a solitary one (FH).
- Common Gull** (*Larus c. canis*). An adult found dead, Worthy Down, Winchester, with head still striped grey, as in winter (WP).
- Herring Gull** (*Larus a. argentatus*). 26th May, Appleslade, one passed over; 10th Oct., Blashford, flock; 18th Nov., one at Blashford; in large flocks, with others, at Ringwood on 2nd Dec. (FH).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus f. graellsii*). 30th April, two at Chilbolton, in valley of Test (WP).

- Water-Rail** (*Rallus a. aquaticus*). 8th Jan., Hengistbury (RB); 13th Feb., Linwood, pair (IJ).
- Moorhen** (*Gallinula c. chloropus*). 3rd Nov., Petersfield, three young seen on small stream (AH).
- Coot** (*Fulica a. atra*). 6th Jan., Christchurch Harbour, 200 (RB); 4th Nov., big flocks in Christchurch Harbour; a few seen for sale in a poulterer's shop (CP). About 100 in loose flock on frosty meadows by Avon N.E. of Hern Station, 19th Feb. (KR).
- Partridge** (*Perdix p. perdix*). June, Petersfield, pair seen (WW); 14th March, Burghclere, saw first pair; 26th Oct., a covey of 13 on our lawn; a symptom of the change over to arable in this pasture country (AB).

Arrival of Spring Migrants in Hampshire, 1942.

- Tree Pipit**. 22nd April, Hern, several singing in May in open woodland and on heath with scattered pines, N. of Hern (KR).
- Blue-headed Wagtail**. 14th April, Stanpit Marshes, one (CP). 15th May, in valley of Test, Chilbolton, seen only one (WP).
- Yellow Wagtail**. 10th April, Stanpit Marshes (CP). 11th, Ringwood (CB). 16th, Ringwood (AP). 17th, Chilbolton (WP). 20th, Hengistbury (RB). 22nd, near Hern, scarce until 29th (KR).
- Red-backed Shrike**. 19th May, Linwood, pair seen at Old Cot (DH).
- Spotted Flycatcher**. 5th May, Hengistbury (RB). 13th May, Burghclere (AB). 13th May, Mudeford, first pair seen in farm (CP). 29th, Boscombe (KR).
- Pied Flycatcher**. 27th April, Hengistbury (RB).
- Chiffchaff**. 19th March, Appleslade, apparently a party of three or four just arrived in garden, seen (FH). 20th, Goathorn, Dorset (BP). 21st, Hengistbury (RB). 25th, Mudeford; first seen, not heard, Avon valley water meadows, 25th, 15 days later than in 1941 (CP). 25th, Linwood, heard (HL). 31st, Farnborough, singing (HK). 1st April, common by 12th, Hern (KR). 5th, Bournemouth Area, heard (BP). 10th, Ringwood (CB). 12th, Burghclere, saw and heard (AB). 15th, Farley Chamberlayne (HW).
- Willow Warbler**. 3rd April, Hengistbury (RB). Seen, 3rd, Mudeford, singing 11th, eight days after arrival (CP). 8th, Burghclere, several singing (AB). 8th, Ringwood (CB). 8th, Hern, common by 12th (KR). 8th, Appleslade, seen and heard; 10th, singing much (FH). 10th and 18th, Petersfield, singing (WW). 11th, Ampfield (HW). 18th, Farnborough (HK). 7th May, Petersfield, heard (AH).
- Wood Warbler**. 8th May, Burghclere, heard and saw among beeches and birches (AB). 11th, Bickton, heard (FH). 22nd, Mudeford (CP). 1st June, heard in Ridley and Berry Woods (FH).
- Grasshopper Warbler**. Not heard until 20th June, between Appleslade and Newlands; 21st and 22nd June, heard here (FH).
- Reed Warbler**. Common by 6th May, near Hern (KR). 11th, Mudeford (CP).
- Sedge Warbler**. 19th April, Winkton (BP). 22nd April and fairly common by 26th (KR). 1st May, Mudeford (CP).
- Garden Warbler**. 30th April, saw and heard at top of Alum Chine; 7th May, in garden, Bournemouth area (BP). 11th May, Mudeford (CP).
- Blackcap**. 18th April, Farnborough, singing (HK). 22nd, Mudeford (CP). 13th May, Bournemouth area, heard (BP).
- Whitethroat**. 11th April, Ringwood (CB). 25th, Hern (KR). 27th, Mudeford (CP). 4th May, Hengistbury (RB). 17th, Petersfield, heard and seen (AH). 18th May, Ampfield (HW).
- Lesser Whitethroat**. 6th May, Appleslade, heard (FH).
- Wheatear**. 22nd March, Parkstone Golf Links (BP). 27th, first one seen on Stanpit Marshes, twelve days later than last year (CP). 5th April, Hern, pair (GB). 19th, Linwood (DH). 19th, Hengistbury (RB).

- Redstart.** 1st May, Hengistbury (RB). 7th, Mudeford (CP).
- Nightingale.** 18th April, Ampfield (HW). 1st May, Burghclere, first heard and singing strongly; 2nd, singing loudly at midnight; 4th, five different birds singing at once near house (AB). 4th May, went in search of the species at Walkford, heard several and saw one in full song at 11.30 a.m.; Mudeford, 4th May, probably arrived several days earlier (CP). 8th May, Highwood, heard, Mrs. Dane.
- Swallow.** 8th April, Longham, several (GB). 8th, several males noted over Avon near Hern; two parties of males, about 10 in all, flying W. along cliff top at Boscombe 11th, just before and just after lifting of heavy sea mist; first female seen near Hern 22nd, but males and females scarce until 25th, not very common at Hern till 2nd May (KR). 10th April, Linwood, pair (TS). 11th, Ringwood (AP). 11th, Ringwood (CB). 11th, Mudeford (CP). 13th, Ampfield (HW). 13th, Over Wallop (WR). 13th, Hengistbury (RB). 13th, Linwood, two seen (FH). 20th, Burghclere AB).
- House Martin.** 12th April, Mudeford (CP). 13th, Over Wallop (WP). 26th, Hern (KR). 8th May, Burghclere, some flying over my meadow land (AB). 14th May to 29th June, Petersfield, a few seen (AH).
- Sand Martin.** 23rd March, Stanpit Marshes, one seen, first migrant of the season, actually beating Chiffchaff and Wheatear (CP). 27th, Ringwood, about 50 (AP). 10th April, Hengistbury (RB). 12th, several near Hern, and seen at nest holes, 25th (KR). 8th May, Burghclere, some flying over my meadowland (AB).
- Swift.** 26th and 29th April, single birds at Hern, several 6th May, very many over E. Parley Common, 13th; less numerous there by 3rd June (KR). 27th April, Mudeford (CP). 27th, Ringwood (AP). 29th, Bournemouth, one (GB). 4th May, two seen 8.50 p.m. Bournemouth area (BP). 8th, Burghclere, some flying over my meadowland (AB). 8th, Hengistbury (RB). 9th, Ampfield, flying N.; 11th, local birds came (HW). 10th, seen, Appleslade (FH). 18th, Old Cot, Linwood (DH).
- Nightjar.** 10th May, Hern Common, a pair flushed (GB). 14th, Burghclere, in daytime, not heard yet; 20th, nearly trod on one, heard them at night (AB). 15th, Hengistbury (RB). 4th June, Mudeford, one heard singing (!) during "alert" (CP). July, Leckford (EFC).
- Wryneck.** 14th April, Linwood, seen clinging on to window-frames and woodwork (FH). 15th, Ringwood (CB). Near St. Catherine's Hill, 22nd (KR).
- Cuckoo.** 11th April, Burghclere, heard; 20th, heard clearly early and late (AB). 13th, Ringwood (CB). 13th, Ampfield (HW). 16th, Ringwood (AP). 19th, Linwood, heard (DH). 19th, Bournemouth, saw and heard (GB). 19th, Mudeford; 26th, female heard calling (CP). 21st, Appleslade, heard (FH). 26th, Hengistbury (RB). 29th, Hern (KR). 3rd May, Branksoné, heard (BP).
- Montagu's Harrier.** 10th May, Appleslade, seen (FH).
- Turtle Dove.** 6th May, Fordingbridge, heard (CA). 9th, Appleslade, heard (FH). 11th, Ampfield, cooing (HW). 13th, Mudeford (CP). 13th, Hengistbury (RB). 14th, Bournemouth area (BP). Not until 24th, Hern (KR). 31st, Petersfield, heard (AH).
- Whimbrel.** 25th April, heard migrating over Boscombe on windy, moonlit night (KR). 26th, Mudeford (CP).
- Sandpiper.** 6th May, R. Avon, N. of Hern (KR). 10th, Mudeford (CP).
- Greenshank.** 2nd June, Mudeford (CP).
- Sandwich Tern.** 2nd June, Mudeford (CP).
- Common Tern.** 1st May, Mudeford (CP). 9th Hengistbury (RB).
- Little Tern.** 23rd April, Christchurch Harbour, several fishing (CP). 12th May, Hengistbury (RB).

Lesser Black-backed Gull. Three adults flew up river near Hern, 15th April; an immature bird, there on 13th June, was the only other seen; it has always seemed scarcer and later in arrival in the Bournemouth area, compared with my experience in Bristol, where they seem to arrive regularly in Feb. (KR). 30th April, two at Chilbolton in valley of Test (WP).

Departure of Summer Migrants and latest Dates of Song.

Tree Pipit. A party of at least five arrived at Boscombe garden, 27th Aug., remaining some 48 hours, perching in pines and feeding on lawn; presumably a last halt before emigration (KR).

Yellow Wagtail. 27th Sept., Mudeford (CP).

Spotted Flycatcher. 9th Aug., near Burton; 14th Sept., Mudeford (CP). 16th Sept., Appleslade, one still in garden (FH).

Warblers spp. 22nd Sept., Appleslade, several in garden (FH).

Chiffchaff. 7th Sept., Appleslade, heard; 21st, still about (FH). 28th, Linwood, heard (HL). 4th Oct., Mudeford (CP).

Willow Warbler. 29th July, Appleslade, singing; 1st Aug., 21st Sept., 6th Oct., still about (FH). 30th Aug., Petersfield, singing (WW). 28th Sept., Linwood, heard (HL). 16th Oct., Mudeford (CP).

Grasshopper Warbler. 27th Sept., heard in Newlands, near Moyles Court (FH).

Reed Warbler. 6th Sept., Mudeford (CP).

Sedge Warbler. 15th Aug., Mudeford (CP).

Whitethroat. 26th Sept., Mudeford (CP).

Wheatear. 27th Sept., Mudeford (CP).

Whinchat. 28th Sept., Hengistbury (RB).

Redstart. 25th Sept., Mudeford (CP). 3rd Oct., Hengistbury (RB).

Black Redstart. 7th Nov., one hen seen Friar's Cliff, Mudeford (CP).

Swallow. 21st Oct., Ampfield (HW). 7th Nov., Mudeford (CP).

House Martin. 17th Aug. and 9th Sept., Petersfield, about a hundred on house and electric cables; saw a flock join others and fly away, 28th Aug. (AH). 25th Sept., Appleslade, several seen; 27th, many at Breamore (FH). 28th, Linwood, several (HL). 22nd Oct., Ampfield (H.W). 7th Nov., Mudeford (CP).

Sand Martin. 31st Aug., Appleslade, one seen; 7th Oct. (FH). 9th Sept., Mudeford (CP). 24th Sept., Burghclere (AB).

Swift. Many over Boscombe 21st July and during the next 10 days; several, especially in evenings, with definite S. trend of flight; still a few 2nd Aug., but scarce after 18th Aug., and single birds 24th Aug. and 26th Aug. were last seen (KR). Mudeford, beginning to congregate for departure last week of July; last seen 12th Sept. (CP). 7th Aug., Ampfield, last seen (HW). 10th Aug., Bournemouth area, two seen; 16th, two, one at 8 p.m. and another flying N. at 8.45 p.m.; 17th, three seen at 6 p.m.; 18th, saw a large number flying round very high at 4 p.m.; 23rd, saw one at 8.20 p.m., flying S. (BP).

Nightjar. 20th Oct., Mudeford, in same vicinity as noted earlier, very late (CP).

Cuckoo. 28th July, Mudeford (CP).

Turtle Dove. 23rd Aug., Mudeford (CP).

Common Sandpiper. 3rd Oct., Mudeford (CP). 5th Oct., Hengistbury (RB).

Greenshank. 30th July, Sea Pie Point, one; 12th Sept., three (HA).

Sandwich Tern. 20th Sept., Christchurch Harbour, about 12 (CP).

Common Tern. 20th Sept., Christchurch Harbour, one in company with about 12 Sandwich Terns (CP).

Little Tern. 11th Oct., Christchurch Harbour, two (CP).

Winter Migrants.

- Brambling.** 27th Feb., Mudeford, two, with mixed lot of finches, reported by Capt. and Mrs. Ray (BP).
- Fieldfare.** 15th Nov., Ringwood, a flock of nine passed over the house calling (CB). 24th Nov., Burghclere, flock seen among some birches (AB). Enormous flocks flying over Bournemouth, Christchurch and district during cold spell of third week in January, all holly trees stripped of berries by them (CP). 17th Jan., Bournemouth area, one in garden; 20th Jan., Bournemouth area, huge flocks flying round, 5 p.m.; 3rd March, reported still about in Bournemouth area (BP).
- Redwing.** 6th Jan., Burghclere, in oak trees in meadow (AB). 20th Jan., many arriving Mudeford, weather very cold, snow and ice, wind E. (CP). 6th and 11th March, in garden, Bournemouth area (BP).
- Black Redstart.** 7th Nov., Mudeford (CP).
- Geese spp.** 4th Jan., Hengistbury, forty (RB).
- White-fronted Goose.** 5th Dec., six flying N. over Ringwood; 26th Dec., 20 flying S. (AP).
- Dark-breasted Brent Goose.** 23rd March, Brands Bay, Dorset; 20th to 27th, Christchurch Harbour, several; 25th March, coast, Dorset, 21 (BP).
- Velvet Scoter.** 26th Sept., Sea Pie Point, a flock of about 12 in flight (HA).
- Goosander.** About 7th Aug., one in Christchurch Harbour (BP).
- Red-throated Diver.** Reported at junction of Piddle and Frome rivers, at Wareham, Dorset, immature (BP).
- Wood Pigeon.** 3rd Nov., Wootton, three large flocks, flying W. to E (AP). No great invasion at Appleslade, either at beginning or end of the year (FH).
- Bar-tailed Godwit.** 9th Sept., Mudeford (CP).
- Jack Snipe.** 3rd Oct., Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Sanderling.** 18th Jan., Mudeford, probably arrived several weeks earlier; 27th March, Christchurch Harbour, about six seen (CP).
- Wood Sandpiper.** 9th Sept., Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Green Sandpiper.** 23rd Sept. and 11th Oct., Stanpit Marshes (CP).
- Golden Plover.** 30th March, Hengistbury (RB); 4th Dec., Ringwood (HC).
- Grey Plover.** 11th Oct., Mudeford (CP).
- Common Gull.** 16th Nov., Mudeford (CP).

Earliest dates of Spring Song and latest dates of Autumn Song of Residents.

- Greenfinch.** 18th March, Petersfield (WW). 20th March, Mudeford (CP). 4th April, heard in several localities in and near Ringwood (FH).
- Goldfinch.** 12th April, Petersfield (WW).
- Bullfinch.** 19th Oct., Petersfield, heard, not song (WW).
- Chaffinch.** 9th Feb., Parkstone (BP). 11th, Mudeford (CP). 15th, Ampfield (HW). 15th, Bournemouth area (BP). 16th, Petersfield, singing; full song 17th (WW).
- Yellow Bunting.** 7th March, Mudeford (CP). 13th, Petersfield (WW). 1st July, Petersfield, half song (AH).
- Girl Bunting.** 21st March, Mudeford (CP).
- Skylark.** 29th Jan., Mudeford, very cold N.W. wind (CP). 15th and 16th March, Petersfield; 17th, Ampfield (HW). 19th and 20th Oct. and 10th Nov. (WW).
- Tree Creeper.** 31st March, Mudeford, birds calling (CP).
- Nuthatch.** 7th Jan., Mudeford, calling (CP).
- Great Tit.** 2nd Jan., Petersfield (AH). 25th, Petersfield (WW). 3rd Feb., Appleslade (FH).
- Blue Tit.** 20th Jan., Mudeford (CP).

- Coal Tit.** 2nd Jan., Mudeford (CP). 25th Jan., Petersfield, calling (WW).
Goldcrest. 12th Feb., Canford Cliffs (BP). 28th and 29th Aug., Boscombe, song heard several times (KR).
Dartford Warbler. 11th Feb., Parkstone (BP).
Mistle-Thrush. 2nd March, Mudeford (CP). 27th Nov., Ampfield (HW). 21st Dec., heard at Ringwood (HC).
Song Thrush. 1st Jan., Mudeford (CP). 1st Feb., singing, Bournemouth neighbourhood, first time this year (BP). 15th Feb., Petersfield, heard from 16th Nov. throughout most of Dec., more numerous and vocal than usual (AH). 11th Nov., Petersfield (WW); 15th and 27th, Ampfield (HW). 9th Dec., many singing at Blashford and Ringwood; 19th, Appleslade, singing wonderfully as they have done lately; appear to be in larger numbers again over the countryside than in the last few seasons (FH).
Blackbird. 1st Jan., Bournemouth area, sub-song; 3rd Feb., sub-song; 21st Feb., full song, 4th Feb., Parkstone (BP). 3rd March, Mudeford (CP). 9th March, Ampfield (HW). 9th Nov., Petersfield (WW).
Robin. 1st Jan., Mudeford (CP). Petersfield, singing, 6th Sept. and onward (AH).
Hedge Sparrow. 1st Jan., Bournemouth (BP). 20th Jan., Petersfield, in snow (WW). 5th March, Petersfield (AH). 5th Aug., Appleslade, singing (FH).
Wren. 14th April, Petersfield; 4th Dec. (WW). Petersfield, sang very continuously through March and April; heard again early in December (AH).
Green Woodpecker. 25th Feb., Appleslade (FH).
Great Spotted Woodpecker. 20th March, Ampfield, "drumming" (HW).
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. 8th Feb., "drumming" (H.W.).
Stock Dove. 15th Feb., Ampfield, 26th Nov., cooing (HW). 4th Aug., Appleslade, cooing (FH).

General Notes.

(HW) tells me that Chiffchaffs and Flycatchers have been very scarce all the summer at Ampfield. Neither Fieldfares nor Redwings arrived before the end of the year.

(AB) writes: "Just at the beginning of the New Year I saw a Goldcrest, having seen none all through 1942. I also saw a Woodcock, to which the same remark applies, and quite a number of Snipe which had obviously flighted in, and were gone in a few days. They have deserted my own grounds which have apparently become too wet, to which they used to come in sixes and tens."

(AB) also says that seeing in the local paper that five Short-eared Owls had been flushed out of gorse in Berks and that a local observer had identified seven Short-eared Owls at Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hampshire, I wrote to the latter. He said in answer: "A Combine Harvester was used at Ibthorpe Farm, Hurstbourne Tarrant . . . One day, in a large field, I flushed what I thought were seven Barn Owls; they appeared to be resting or sleeping under the straw, and it was interesting to note that when they took to the air they were instantly mobbed by hundreds of rooks which came from all sides. This incident was repeated for several weeks afterwards, every time I walked across the field, . . . afterwards, I was walking across the same field which had then been ploughed, when the seven Owls flew out of a single holly bush when I was six or seven yards distant, and I then saw that they were Short-eared Owls and not Barn Owls."

Rev. H. Purefoy FitzGerald writes (28th Jan., 1942): "There are no Tits about here (Shawford) this year. Is this a common feature? Thrushes again are very scarce."

(CA) says : "A Green Woodpecker has haunted my lawn every morning lately, coming within a few yards of the house. It drives its bill deep into the turf and seems to get small worms or grubs, not ants. The bill is driven right down as a rule, but sometimes it is just put in a little way, then the bird withdraws it, and runs back a length or so, and it is then driven in to the full length."

(CP) reports that the following birds were shot on the Stanpit Marshes in January 1942 : Seagulls : Black-headed and Herring Gulls, also one Common Gull ; Snipe, Green Plover, Great Crested Grebe, Kingfisher, Fieldfare, Linnets, Dunlin (29th Jan.), Coots, and Moorhens. These two latter were offered for sale in poulterers' shops. A few Redwings were also reported in shops. February 1st : one Wigeon picked up dead. Feb. 20th, one Herring Gull and one Black-headed Gull found dead. March 5th, one Herring Gull and one Common Gull.

She states that Stanpit Marshes were later declared a Bird Sanctuary by the Christchurch Corporation and no shooting or taking of eggs is to be allowed.

Mr. F. L. Lowther, of Parkstone, narrates of the Green Plover : A bird-lover in charge of a tractor kept a sharp look-out for nesting Plovers which he had observed before starting work. Looking back at the end of the furrow, he saw a Plover busily pecking at the earth, and found that the plough had gone right over the nest which was completely buried. The bird then returned, dug up the eggs and replaced them in the scrape (BP).

(GP) sends the following notes : Jackdaws increasing and harming the kitchen garden ; uprooting germinating broad beans. 27 Magpies were in a market gardener's plot at one time. Jays numerous. Starlings are not so numerous, but there were a greater number of packs than in the previous year in the autumn, though not in such vast quantities as some years ago. No Goldfinches all the summer, and no flock seen during the winter ; only a single bird noticed. Several Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers in the garden and adjoining woods ; drumming in the spring on dead bough of chestnut and dead willow during the day and in early morning. I watched a pair of Great Spotted Woodpeckers one morning about the middle of May for an hour and twenty minutes. One bird was preparing the hole under a dead bough of a Scots Fir. It was working the whole of the time. On two occasions it thrust its head and shoulders in and out of the hole, throwing out the detached wood, which was not rotten, but *very hard*, one piece an inch long. The foot of the tree was covered with the pieces ejected. The bird came out once during the time I watched and was joined by its mate, when they had a fly round together.

(EMcE) says : Blackbirds and Thrushes had a bad season with their nests at Droxford, and reared hardly any young ; eggs were broken. The numerous Grey Squirrels, now scarcer, were suspected. In mid-August many Goldcrests were feeding in the conifers. Goldfinches, as usual, were plentiful. A Stone Curlew nested in a field on the hill above Droxford. This was ploughed up in May. The ploughman saw the nest and its two eggs. Having ploughed the spot, he replaced the eggs. The bird went back, and ultimately brought off her chicks.

(EMcE) forwards the following records, kindly sent by Major Portal : A flock of Meadow Pipits, about 120 to 150, on Stephen's Castle Down, 2nd November, busy feeding, and tame, an obvious migration. A flock of 17 Siskins, Holywell, Swanmore, 10th November, feeding on birch seeds and, as usual, tame. A flock of 21, Laverstoke Park, 5th December, feeding on alder seeds. Hen Harrier, female, at East Meon, and later for three weeks round Basing Park, 14th December to 28th December. Common Buzzards, four over Fresham Down, 14th December, one over Fresham Park, 10th December, high up and circling round. One female, adult and very fat, unfortunately shot, Whitechurch area, December. A nest hatched off in County

and young ringed; one young, with ring on, shot in County and sent to British Museum (Curator Birds, B.M., notified me) shot end November. Buzzards come regularly over Fresham Estate every winter, usually four, and remain about for a long time.

(BG) reports off coast at Boscombe, 9th and 10th December, with a strong S.W. wind, 150 to 200 Great Crested Grebes, about 20 Gannets, perhaps 200 to 300 Great Black-backed Gulls, probably over 200 Kittiwakes, 60 to 100 Common Scoters. 12th December was calm, and no Grebes were present. During the autumn and winter 2 or 3 Velvet Scoters were seen. The above a most striking gathering. In the spring a Sedge Warbler sang for an hour from a may tree in a tiny garden, and a Wood Warbler, for longer, from a fine poplar, the only large tree in the same road.

I owe thanks for much kind help to many contributors, including the Bournemouth Natural Science Society.

The following abbreviations have been used:—

C. W. Andrews	(CA).	Mrs. H. M. Rait Kerr,	(HK).
H. Andrews	(HA).	M.B.O.U.	
Capt. A. F. L. Bacon	(AB).	H. Lea, Mr. and Mrs.	(HL).
C. J. Bellamy	(CB).	E. S. McEuen, J.P., F.S.A.	(EMcE).
G. Brasnett	(GB).	G. K. Page, J.P.	(GP).
R. A. Brewer	(RB).	Col. W. A. Payn	(WP).
Miss E. F. Chawner, F.R.E.S.	(EFC).	A. J. Ponchaud	(AP).
Miss H. Christy	(HC).	Miss C. Popham, M.B.O.U.	(CP).
B. Gooch	(BG).	Dr. K. B. Rooke, M.B.O.U.	(KR).
F. H. Haines, Mr. and Mrs.	(FH).	H. T. White	(HW).
Mrs. A. E. Harrington	(AH).	Miss W. P. White	(WW).
D. Homfray, Mr. and Mrs.	(DH).	Mrs. E. Wolley-Dod, M.B.O.U.	(EW-D).

Extracts have been used from *British Birds* (Mag., B.B.) and Records and Notes from the members of the *Bournemouth Natural Science Society* (BP).

The order adopted is that of Witherby's *Handbook of British Birds*.