

Editors' Report

The issues of the Bulletin published in the last year have comprised 48, 52 and 48 pages. There has been no difficulty in finding material for these and, indeed, we shall look forward to exploring members' suggestions for space saving. There has not yet been time to analyse in detail the results of the questionnaire circulated with the last issue, but we will report on this - and the results of our enquiries based on suggestions made - in a future issue. Anyone who has not returned the questionnaire but would like their views included should return it immediately. There appear to be no parts of the Bulletin which are not wanted by at least part of the membership. The items which, it seems at first glance, members want to see least are the Officers' reports - and it will be noted that these are much shorter this year!

One major problem which has developed this year concerns circulation, particularly in America. We have taken interim measures which we hope will improve matters for the remainder of this year, and a major change in the system of record-keeping for members in N.America is planned before the next renewal date. All members have probably suffered late delivery of some issues. In part this resulted from overwork of Editors which should be reduced by the changes to be put to the AGM. The late despatch of the April issue was, in fact, due more to attempted economies in shipment than to editorial inefficiency!

I would like to end this report on a personal note. I have now been involved in the editing of the WSG Bulletin for 9 years - which is far too long for the health of either myself or the Bulletin. My previous attempt to escape was foiled when my co-opted potential replacement was promptly co-opted as Acting Chairman as well. However, this time I seem to have made it. I do not think I will miss the self-inflicted torture of flexible deadlines; evenings stretching almost till dawn battling with scissors and paste to finish page assembly (with the risk to my marriage arising from persuading my wife to do the last minute typing corrections); or even the attempts to anglicize the style of some articles when all too often I found my wording falling into broken English instead. I do, however, know how lucky I have been. Throughout all, I have had the support of the other officers of the group; I know now that not all editors are as fortunate. I wish the same blessing upon my successor. Good luck, Nick: you will need it!

M.W.Pienkowski

## WADER STUDY GROUP ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE: DURHAM, U.K., 22-24 OCTOBER 1982

There is still time to book for this year's meeting which will be held at Durham School from the evening of Friday 22 October until Sunday 24 October. We are grateful to Peter Evans of Durham University for help in organisation. Accommodation has been arranged in newly refurbished dormitories in this boys' boarding school (during the boys' half-term holiday), so as to keep costs reasonably low but provide comfortable facilities. (If anyone who would like to attend feels unable to use such accommodation, please let us know on the enclosed booking form as soon as possible; it may prove possible to arrange accommodation for them with WSG members living locally or, if preferred but at more expense, in local hotels.)

The school is set in pleasant surroundings in the small, but historic, city of Durham. Those for whom wader discussions become too trying can walk the wooded banks of the River Wear or explore the Cathedral, the largest Norman building in Europe (or anywhere, for that matter). Those dedicated persons staying at the meeting will have the use of a well equipped lecture theatre and, for the important discussions, a room set aside as a bar.

The school has readily made arrangements to suit the varying needs of WSG members. A cold buffet will be provided, probably from about 19.30 onwards, on Friday evening to allow for various times of arrival, and almost any combination of periods of stay will be possible. Costs are as follows (Value Added Tax is included where appropriate).

Friday supper	£1-40	Saturday supper	£1-40
Friday-Saturday bed & breakfast	£4-60	Saturday-Sunday bed & breakfast	£4-60
Saturday lunch	£1-75	Sunday lunch	£1-75
Conference fee (to cover communal facilities and administration)			£2-00
		TOTAL	£17-50

The Annual General Meeting of the Wader Study Group will take place during the Conference but most of the programme will, as usual, be devoted to lectures and discussion. The programme is now in preparation. We hope to include talks and discussions on:

- Breeding Common Sandpipers and their food supply (Phil Holland);
- Breeding waders of the Yarrow Valley, South Scotland, and the effects of the cold winter (Bob Furness);
- The new WSG project on the effects of severe winter weather (Nick Davidson & Nigel Clark);
- The feeding of Oystercatchers under marginal circumstances (Meinte Engelmoer);
- Weight regulation of Oystercatchers and Turnstones in captivity and/or Energetic costs of locomotion of Turnstones on a treadmill (Marcel Kersten & Theunis Piersma);
- Wader research and the role of the IWRB research groups and the WSG (Cor Smit);
- Experiments on accuracy of shorebird counts in the Dutch Waddenzee (Kees Rappoldt);
- Changes in use of the Clyde Estuary by wader populations (Neil Metcalfe, Bob Furness, Hector Galbraith & Ian Gibson);
- Shorebird studies at Teesmouth (Peter Evans);
- Biometrics and migration system of Turnstones and/or Knot in the Dutch Waddenzee (Meinte Engelmoer);
- Survey of waders breeding on Scottish agricultural land (Hector Galbraith);
- Netherlands Wader Expedition to Morocco, spring 1982 (Marcel Kersten & Theunis Piersma);
- The Sanderling in southern Africa (Ron Summers).

A booking form for the meeting is enclosed with this issue and should be returned, as soon as possible and with payment (cheque to 'Wader Study Group') to M.W.Pienkowski, Dept. of Zoology, University of Durham, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE, UK. (Members from overseas may pay on arrival, but definite bookings are required in advance.)