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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### THE HAWK TRUST

Readers of *Raptor Research* may know relatively little about the work and aims of the Hawk Trust. It is hoped, in this and subsequent issues, to report some of the trust's activities.

The Hawk Trust is a British charitable organization which is concerned at the downward trend of many of our raptor populations. The aims of the trust are to carry out research into bird of prey breeding, ecology, and treatment of disease, as well as providing wardens at vulnerable breeding sites of rare species in conjunction with other conservation bodies.

A particularly successful event organized by the trust in 1977 was its Open Day on October 8. Despite very wet weather, nearly 100 people attended, amongst them several overseas visitors who had earlier been at the Oxford Conference. In addition to seeing the aviaries and learning something about the trust's work, the visitors were

able to hear lectures by Dr. Patrick Redig on work with sick raptors and Dr. Joseph Platt on his falcon-breeding project in Bahrain.

A full time research fellow, James Kirkwood, B.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S., has recently started work at the trust and will be studying the nutrition of birds of prey using captive birds from the Hawk Trust's aviaries. The study will concentrate upon the food requirements of the European Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), including the food intake of the young from hatching and the food increment required for egg-laying.

Other projects currently in progress by part-time workers include research into the behavioral and physical ontogeny of raptors and investigations into the hematology and blood parasites of birds in the trust's collection.

Further information on these projects and other aspects of the trust's work may be obtained from The Hawk Trust, P.O. Box 1, Hungerford, Berkshire, England.

J. E. COOPER

#### HAWK MOUNTAIN RESEARCH AWARD

The winner of the first annual Hawk Mountain Research Award was James C. Bednarz of Iowa State University for his studies of the "Status and habitat utilization of the Red-shouldered hawk in Iowa."

The Board of Directors of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association announces its second annual award of \$250 for support of raptor research. The Hawk Mountain Research Award is granted annually to a student engaged in research on raptors (Falconiformes).

To apply, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation by October 31, 1978 to:

Mr. Alex Nagy  
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association  
Route 2, Kempton, Pennsylvania  
19529

A final decision will be made by the Board of Directors in February 1979.

Only students enrolled in a degree granting institution are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply. Projects will be judged competitively on the basis of their potential contribution to improved understanding of raptor biology and their ultimate relevance to conservation of North American hawk populations.