

## WADER STUDY GROUP

BULLETIN 54

DECEMBER 1988

### SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1989

Subscriptions for 1989 are now due and remain at the same basic rate as in 1988. Hence please complete and return the enclosed renewal form together with your payment at your earliest convenience. Such prompt payment of subscriptions makes the membership secretary's task somewhat easier and reduces the Group's administrative costs. It also means that you won't be pestered with reminders!

For members with a British bank account, we encourage payment by Banker's Order. A Banker's order form appears on the enclosed renewal form.

### MINUTES OF THE WSG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, IPSWICH, U.K., 3 SEPTEMBER 1988

#### Apologies

Apologies were received from Dr. M.E.Moser.

#### Minutes

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 26 September 1987 at The Baltic Youth Centre, Gdansk, Poland (Bulletin 52:2) were accepted as a correct record.

#### Officer's Reports

Reports on the group's activities during 1987 by the Chairman, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and Co-ordinator had been published previously (Bulletin 52: 2-6). Each of these officers outlined the salient features of their reports.

The Chairman, Dr. M.W.Pienkowski, drew attention to the publication during 1987 of the important volume on The Conservation of International Flyway Populations of Waders (Supplement to Bulletin 49) which had resulted from the symposium at the 1986 conference. Work on this supplement contributed to delays in the normal schedule of Bulletin publication, for which he apologised. Another important event was the very successful annual conference held in Gdansk, Poland. There is always a need for more members to help with the running of the group, either through membership of the Executive Committee or in other ways. The Chairman encouraged members to make nominations for the Executive Committee and to offer to help with other aspects of the work of the group.

The Membership Secretary, J.S.Kirby, reported a welcome net increase of 48 members during 1987. A few members had reported postal delays in the delivery of their Bulletins relative to other members whose Bulletins were posted at the same time. Jeff Kirby explained that all Bulletins were posted at the same time, and asked any other members who had experienced such delays to let him know so that the matter could be investigated.

The Treasurer, S.J.Sutcliffe, stated that the surplus in the accounts for 1987 would have been a slight deficit if publication costs of

### ERROR IN MAILING BULLETIN 53

It is conceivable that some members received a second copy of *Bulletin 52* (April 1988) instead of *Bulletin 53* (August 1988) during the mailing of the latter in early October 1988. If this happened to you, and you have not already returned the surplus *Bulletin 52* and received your issue of *Bulletin 53*, then please return your surplus copy of *Bulletin 52* to the Membership Secretary, WSG, PO Box 247, Tring, Herts., HP23 5SN, UK.

We must apologise profusely for this mistake, which happened whilst enthusiastically trying to get the *Bulletin* to you as rapidly as possible. We will endeavour to do better in the future!

the delayed December 1987 *Bulletin* had been paid during the financial year. He anticipated that over the next three years income would be just sufficient to balance expenditure. Steve Sutcliffe reminded European members that the best way to pay their subscriptions was by Post Office Giro or Eurocheque. If other methods were used WSG received only about half the full amount due to bank charges.

The Editor, Dr. N.C.Davidson, apologised for delays in the publication of recent Bulletins, and was pleased to report that publication was almost back on schedule. He had with him the final proofs of the August 1988 *Bulletin*, which was now at the printers. Nick Davidson encouraged members to submit more material for the *Bulletin*, and asked for more volunteers to assist the hard-pressed editorial team.

The outgoing Co-ordinator, Drs. Th. Piersma, reported that good progress had been made with a number of WSG projects during the year. He drew particular attention to the project on "International wader migration studies along the East Atlantic Flyway", which involved the integration of results from a number of groups and individuals that were working on this topic. A successful workshop to review the data on Siberian Knots had been held during the year, and it was hoped the collaborative efforts to analyse the data for other species would follow.

There were no questions on the officer's reports which were accepted by the meeting.

#### Election of officers

The Chairman thanked outgoing committee members Dr.H. Galbraith and W.J.A. Dick for their service to the group. Hector Galbraith had organised the colour marking register for several years, and had recently developed proposals for its future operation which the Executive Committee hoped to implement shortly. William Dick had played a particularly important role in the reorganisation of the Group and in the establishment of the Advisory Panel a few years ago. The Chairman also thanked the outgoing General Secretary, Dr. S.R.Baillie, for his contribution to the

organisation and smooth running of the group over the last four years.

There had been no further nominations following those of the Executive Committee published in Bulletin 52, and the following were therefore declared to have been elected:

General Secretary	P.L.Ireland
Editor	Dr. N.C.Davidson
Co-ordinator	H.Hotker
Treasurer	S.J.Sutcliffe

The Executive Committee had made no proposals for the election of further ordinary members of the Executive Committee this year. Election of a number of ordinary members next year would provide a better spread of elections than at present.

## NOTES AND NEWS 5

Compiled by Nick Davidson & David Stroud

### Telephone number changes for WSG Officers

Please note that the telephone numbers for two WSG officers have recently been changed. The new numbers are as follows:

Membership Secretary (Jeff Kirby): home number is now UK 0442-874446.

Vice-Chairman (Theunis Piersma): home number is now The Netherlands 02220-12384; work numbers are now The Netherlands 02220-19541 or 050-632028.

These and other officers' numbers are given also on the inside front cover of the *Bulletin*.



### Asian Wetland Bureau

The Asian Wetland Bureau - Indonesia has a new mailing address, as of October 1988:

Asian Wetland Bureau, P.O. Box 254/800, Bogor 16001, Indonesia.

Their office address remains the same:

Asian Wetland Bureau, Jl. Arzimar III No. 17, Bogor, Indonesia (tel. 0251-25755).



### IWRB News

The International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau (IWRB), is publishing a new newsletter, *IWRB News*. The first issue will be published at the end of January 1989. *IWRB News* is a 12 page, A4 format bulletin which will be published twice yearly, in January and July.

The first issue contains feature articles on wetland management and the contribution that feeding ecology studies have made to wetland conservation. There are also articles on the history of IWRB, the current state of wetlands in the Sahel, the International Waterfowl Census, a recovery plan for the White-headed Duck and much more. There is also news from IWRB's research groups, and diary dates for forthcoming symposia.

### Date and Venue of the next Annual General Meeting

It was planned to hold the next conference and Annual General Meeting in September or October 1989 in Denmark. The meeting would be held in conjunction with the Waterfowl Feeding Ecology Workshop. It was hoped that the 1990 conference would be held in north Italy in the autumn.

No members wished to raise items under Any Other Business, and the Chairman therefore closed the meeting.

Stephen Baillie - General Secretary



IWRB have been compiling an extensive mailing list that will certainly include many WSG members. If you do not receive a copy in the initial mailing and would like a complimentary copy, please write to "*IWRB News*", IWRB, Slimbridge, Gloucester GL2 7BX, UK. Subscription will begin in 1990, and will be US\$ 20.00 or UK £10.00 per annum.



### WHSRN Network News

The Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), a voluntary system of recognising sites important to migratory shorebirds, began in the early 1980s (see *WSG Bulletin* 49, Suppl.: 122-124). It is now a thriving network, with the number of reserves in the network increasing rapidly. We report on the dedication of one of these (Minas Basin in the Bay of Fundy in Canada) elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

WHSRN now publishes *Network News*, and we have just received the November 1988 issue (Vol. 1 No. 2). This is 6 pages packed with reports about about WHSRN reserves, news of counting, catching and marking activities, and exciting sightings of marked birds. For example, *Network News* reports that Brian Harrington and the Manomet Bird Observatory staff sighted approximately 50 (!) blue-flagged Red Knots in Delaware Bay this spring. All these birds had been marked at Lagoa do Peixe in Brasil. To cap this success they saw also a flagged Knot from Punta Rasa, Argentina, and a Ruddy Turnstone and three Sanderlings from Brasil.

There is even an offer of a WHSRN T-shirt, for only \$10 (plus postage and handling)!

Further information about WHSRN and its *Network News* from: WHSRN, 550 South Bay Avenue, Islip, NY 11751, USA.