

is not complete in itself and is not intended to be. For species adequately covered by a standard field guide, for example the one mentioned above or *A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe* by Peterson, Mountford and Hollom (Collins 1954) - the preferred choice of the authors of this new book, only brief habitat and status details are given. This somewhat daring approach works well for the intended readership who do not need to be told what a Dunlin *Calidris alpina* looks like. The only snag is that many eastern subspecies, for instance *sakhalina* Dunlin, are not mentioned.

The precise area covered consists of the north African part of the Western Palearctic except Rio de Oro and Mauritania and the Middle East including Turkey, the whole of the Arabian Peninsula and Iran, so in the east this guide extends further than *The Birds of the Western Palearctic*. All recorded species are listed. The great strength of this book lies in the detailed identification sections written mainly, I assume, by Philip Hollom. The sections on raptors, wheatears and warblers are

particularly good. Breeding distribution (with maps), voice, habitat and status are also briefly described. There are over 100 line drawings in the text, some very helpful, for example Christensen's eagles, and 40 colour plates placed centrally in the book and again concentrating on the southern species. The quality of the colour plates are more variable: the colours often look rather washed out and a remarkable number of birds apparently have the same pale grey-beige mantles! The raptor paintings are probably the best but the waders are certainly the worst. From a strictly wader point of view this book has some good plover identification descriptions but otherwise it would be better to look elsewhere.

In general I am sure that the publication of this book is to be welcomed. The basic idea is a good one and the identification sections are excellent. With two or three others it should be included in the luggage of every serious birder visiting the area.

H. E. Rose

## LIST OF MEMBERS - CHANGES SINCE BULLETIN 53

### NEW MEMBERS

- Lilleleht & R Mand, V, Institute of Zoology and Botany, Vanemuise St 21, SU 202400 Tartu, Estonian SSR, USSR.  
 Reay, P J, Department of Biological Sciences, Plymouth Polytechnic, Plymouth, Devon PL4 8AA, UK.  
 Strache, R R, H Eisler Str 32, 2400 Wismar, DDR Germany.  
 Van den Berk, V, Noordereind 3A, 4012 BT Kerk Avezaath, The Netherlands.  
 Zockler, C, WWF Projekt, Wummewiesen, Schmidtstr 9, 2800 Bremen 1, West Germany.

### CHANGES

- Briggs, K B, 2 Osborne Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 6PT, UK.  
 Bunschoeke, E J, Saffierstraat 40, 9743 LJ Groningen, The Netherlands.  
 Coker, D G, Wingates, Trench Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire WR9 7NB, UK.  
 Davies, J C, 10 Campbells Close, Canongate, Edinburgh, EH8 8JJ, UK.  
 Hobbs, A M, 8 Queensway, Trumpington Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB2 2AX, UK.  
 Flamion, B, 92 Rue Les Croissant, 1050 Brussels, Belgium.  
 Jackson, S J, 2 Orion Drive, Little Stoke, Bristol, BS12 6JB, UK.  
 Kiis, A, Rundhoj Alle 46, DK-8270 Hojbjerg, Denmark.  
 Ruiz, G M, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon, Charleston, Oregon 97420, USA.  
 Thevenot, M, Laboratoire de Biogeographie Ecologie, University De Montpellier, Place Eugene Bataillon, F 34060 Montpellier Cedex, France.  
 Trevis, B E, 11 Lemsford Village, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 7TN, UK.

