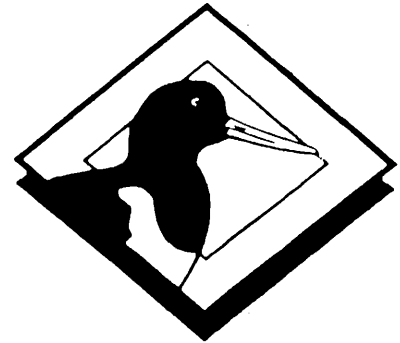


WADER STUDY GROUP



BULLETIN 82 April 1997

Change of editor

As announced at last year's Annual General Meeting, with this issue of the *Bulletin* I am stepping down from the post of Editor, having assisted in some editorial capacity or other since the production of *Bulletin* 49 in 1987. Ten years is enough!

Julianne Evans, currently Assistant Editor, will take responsibility for the production of the August *Bulletin*, and will be proposed by the Executive Committee at the 1997 AGM in Denmark to take over as *Bulletin* Editor.

All notes or information items for the August *Bulletin*, or submissions of papers should henceforth be sent to Julianne Evans, *Wader Study Group Bulletin*, c/o RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL, UK.

David Stroud

Notice of the 1997 WSG Annual General Meeting, Denmark

The 1997 WSG Annual General Meeting will be held at 09.00 hrs on Saturday 9 August 1997 during the annual meeting in Vester Vedsted, Denmark.

As the meeting is being held earlier than is normal, the August *Bulletin* (which would normally contain the full agenda and other matters) may not reach all members before the AGM. Therefore there will be a separate mailing in June to all members containing the AGM agenda and other papers relevant to the annual meeting.

As indicated in *Bulletin* 81, a major item of business at the 1997 AGM will be the adoption of a new Constitution for the Group. Comments on the draft Constitution, published in *Bulletin* 81, were invited from members in December 1996. Any comments received will be considered by the Executive Committee at their meeting in late April. A revised version of the new Constitution will be prepared and included in the June mailing for formal consideration at the August AGM.

1997 WSG Annual Conference, V. Vedsted, Denmark (by the Wadden Sea near Ribe)

The 1997 Wader Study Group Annual Conference will take place from Friday 8 August to Sunday 10 August, with an additional day, Monday 11 August, for a workshop on the project "Breeding Waders in Europe 2000" and maybe a further workshop on action plans for selected wader species.

The meeting will be held at "Ungdomshøjskolen ved Ribe" in the small village V. Vedsted by the Wadden Sea, 8 km south-west of Ribe. The place is a folk high school, and both the conference and the lodging will be held within the same buildings.

Delegates are recommended to arrive on Friday afternoon or early evening. Dinner is served from about 17.30 on a serve-your-self basis.

As in previous years, the formal part of the meeting will begin with the AGM on Saturday morning followed by talks for the remainder of the morning session and the rest of the day. Further talks will take place on Sunday morning.

A field trip to the Wadden Sea island Mandø is scheduled for Sunday afternoon. The trip will include a Wadden Sea crossing on the local "tractor bus" to Mandø, and a good barefoot walk on the mudflats among waders and seals.

After the conference a workshop on the project "Breeding Waders in Europe 2000" will be held on Monday 11 August (see later this *Bulletin* for background details). The first phase of this project is a compilation of the best available estimates of population sizes of breeding waders in the enlarged Europe, covering all land between the Yenisey River in Central Siberia to Ellesmere Island in Canada and Svalbard and Turkey. The workshop is intended to conclude this first phase and to develop ways to progress the project.

Additional workshops will probably be held as part of a process to develop European action plans for Redshank *Tinga totanus*, Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*, Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* and Curlew *Numenius arquata*. For further information contact Ole Thorup or Tony Fox (@ NERI, Kalø, Grenåvej 12, DK-8410 Rønde, Denmark. e-mail: tfo@dmu.dk). More information on the form and content of these workshops will be given in the June mailing of conference details.

HOW TO GET THERE

By public transport

From Esbjerg and Bramming there are regular trains (direction Tønder) to Ribe and Hviding (first station south of Ribe, 3 km from V. Vedsted).

Buses run between Ribe and V. Vedsted Friday, Saturday morning (early), Sunday night, and Monday.

- *From Southern Scandinavia, the Baltic, and Copenhagen.* Direct train from Copenhagen to Bramming (direction Esbjerg), connection to train to Ribe and Hviding.

- *From Norway and Sweden.* Train from Frederikshavn to Fredericia,



train from Fredericia to Bramming (direction Esbjerg), and train from Bramming to Ribe and Hviding.

- *From U.K.* Ferry from Harwich to Esbjerg, train from Esbjerg to Ribe and Hviding. The ferry timetable is not very well suited for the conference: Departure Harwich Wednesday 6 August and Friday 8 August at 17:00; arrival Esbjerg Thursday 7 August and Saturday 9 August at 13:45. Departure Esbjerg Monday 11 August at 18:00; arrival Harwich next day 12:30. Or you have to cross the Canal further south !

- *From the south.* Train from Hamburg to Lunderskov (west of Kolding; direction Fredericia/ Århus), train from Lunderskov to Bramming (direction Esbjerg) and Bramming to Ribe and Hviding.

The nearest airport is Esbjerg; the only international destinations are

Aberdeen and Stavanger, other destinations via Copenhagen. Poor bus connections. Transport may be arranged Friday night, Sunday night and Monday night.

By car

By motorway from Hamburg in the direction of Flensburg and Kolding.

Some 15 km north of the Danish border turn off at "Kliplev" and follow signs to Ribe. In Ribe go for Tønder, and after a few km, just entering the village "Egebæk-Hviding", turn right at the sign "V. Vedsted". The "Ungdomshøjskole" is easily found in the middle of the small village V. Vedsted (Vester Vedsted).

Full conference details including programme and detailed time tables for ferry and major trains will be sent early summer to delegates who have filled in the enclosed booking form. Further information can be obtained from Ole Thorup, V. Vedsted

Byvej 32, V. Vedsted, DK-6760 Ribe, Denmark; Phone: +45 75 44 52 06.

During the conference (Friday 8 to Monday 11 August), reception can be reached by: phone: (+45) 75 44 50 04 and fax: (+45) 75 44 59 04.

In case you want to add a holiday to the conference, contact Ole Thorup for information about local "birding hot spots", other nice places in the neighbourhood, and local places of interest. Hotels, fairly economical holiday apartments, a youth hostel, and a campsite are found in Ribe.

PLEASE, SEND BOOKING FORM AND OFFERS OF TALKS AND POSTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND IN CASE YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION, WELL BEFORE 1 JULY 1997

Ole Thorup