

L E N S BULLETIN - No. 7.

Issued for Members of the  
Long Eaton Natural History Society  
and Friends.

Oct/Nov. 1983.

- CHAIRMAN : George Smith
- SECRETARY : Mrs. Marion Smith
- " MEETINGS : Val Nourish
- TREASURER : Mrs. Margaret Beresford
- COMMITTEE : Geoff Battershall  
Alan Heath  
Brian Phillips  
David Sherwin  
Mrs. Sandra Slade
- AUDITOR : Mrs. Joyce Smith
- LIAISON WITH WEA Miss Hilary Forber
- RECORDER : Mrs. Judy Langford

GOING TO PRESS DATE FOR No. 8 WILL BE  
Monday 23rd January 1984.

CHAIRMAN'S FORWARD to Bulletin No. 7.

Once again it is my pleasure to introduce another of our bulletins - bulletin no. 7. I commend it to you and thank all those who have contributed.

What do you do with your bulletin after you have read it? Why not do as I do and lend it to a friend.

I have just received my copy of Bulletin No. 6 back from a former colleague of mine at Shipley Park who sadly has had to give up his Ranger's duties due to ill-health and can do no better than quote from his note to me -  
"These reports are magnificent. I enjoy very much reading them and can almost feel myself with you all."

Keep the reports coming in; there are many worthwhile sightings to be reported. Only this September a "waggle" ( ? ) of eleven yellow wagtails were observed in Shipley Park feeding together, and I am sure members will see other interesting items, possibly when least expected.

GEORGE SMITH.

LONG EATON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY - Winter Meetings Programme 1983/4.

- Nov. 28th (Monday) Mr. George Challenger 'Quarries and Wildlife'.  
Dec. 5th (Monday) Members own evening. Slides - Talks - Films.  
Jan. 16th ( " ) Peter Kirby 'The Year of the Dragonfly'  
Jan. 30th ( " ) Stuart Losco-Bradley 'Landscape Archaeology in  
the Trent Valley'  
Feb. 13th ( " ) Mr. G.R. Hickton 'Attenborough Nature Reserve'  
Feb. 27th ( " ) Mr. David Amedro "Owls".  
Mar. 12th ( " ) Geoff Battershall 'Flowers of the Seashore'

Meetings are held at the Long Eaton Upper School (the old Grammar Sch)  
and start at 7.15 p.m.

Winter Outing - Sunday 15th January 1984.

Church Wilne Reservoir, Sawley. Leader - Mr. John Langford.

Meet : 1st session - 10.00 am Following the early autumn visit  
for the morning session of LENS to this reservoir.  
3.00 pm for afternoon last year a winter visit  
session - arrival of was requested to see the  
gulls to roost. winter duck and grebes and  
the early evening huge gull  
Meet in car park inside gates roosts, when thousands arrive  
of the Wilne Road south entrance. each night.

ORCHIDS: Rare is an Orchid,  
Graceful as it grows,  
Prettv is its colour  
More beautiful than a Rose.

Such beauty has an Orchid  
So gallant as it stands,  
And in the windy weather,  
They wave their leafy hands.

Each flower has a meaning,  
Daffodils mean Spring,  
Roses mean a kind of love,  
But Orchids,  
Everything!

From : POETRY TO  
TREASURE

pubd. by Poetry  
Press Ltd. 1974.

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would like to read it too.

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Each year I am fortunate to be invited to spend a week with friends who have a cottage on the Herefordshire border with Wales. It is in a delightful position, 1100 feet up on Clyro Hill, 3 miles from Hay-on-Wye and looking towards the Black Mountains. It is named 'Tybella' which is a corruption of Ty Pellaf, meaning the "furthest dwelling", and it is mentioned in Kilvert's Diary.

My friends have truly created a sanctuary of their garden. The cottage stands on about 1 acre of land. On one side is a small kitchen garden and the remaining land is a paddock which is mown, leaving a wide verge of natural vegetation. The whole area is surrounded by an old hedge which, with the undergrowth and a few taller trees, provide nesting sites for innumerable birds. The paddock narrows towards the far end and here bracken, which would quickly encroach if not controlled, has not been cleared, this Spring a pair of pheasants nested in the dead bracken and successfully reared a family.

My annual visit to Tybella took place in July this year and I expected that the most interesting time for bird watching would be over. But I was quite wrong; I have never seen so much bird activity there. Bluetits, great-tits, chaffinches, greenfinches and robins, all with their young, had no fear of us and made continuous visits to the bird tables. A juvenile blackbird, with lovely rufous plumage, monopolized one small bird table and drove away any intruder. Marsh tits were particularly partial to a chicken carcass hung from the branch of a willow tree. Wood pigeons and collared doves inhabited surrounding tall trees, which were also popular with yellow hammers. I was awakened each morning before 5 a.m. by the song of the wren, which continued to sing throughout the day perched on the topmost branch of a sycamore tree or on the television aerial, and one evening I was privileged to see it with four young wrens in a more secluded area of the garden. Magpies and crows were less welcome visitors. But it was a thrill to hear and see curlews and buzzards high in the sky overhead. And if one were looking at the right time each evening one would see a solitary heron making his accustomed flight. I had been warned not to be alarmed by a sudden bump in the middle of the night, it would be a tawny owl landing, somewhat heavily, on the roof, but this never happened; apparently the tawny owl was not in residence; perhaps, like me, he was on holiday.

To have the company of all these birds is a sheer joy, but I have still not mentioned the 'piece de resistance'. This was a pair of spotted flycatchers, which had nested in a piece of spouting only a few feet above the place where we were in the habit of eating outdoor meals. From my first sight of these birds I was completely fascinated and enchanted. We always think of the tits as being the acrobats of the bird world, but the aerial acrobatics of the flycatchers, twisting and wheeling while in pursuit of flying insects, is equally amazing. I marvelled at their ability to hold a beakful of insects while continuing to catch more. Their routine was to perch, with a very upright stance, usually on an electric wire from which they made sudden sallies after their prey. My friends had not discovered the nest before my arrival. We did notice the birds making frequent visits to the

spouting and even depositing butterflies there and we thought at first that this was their hoarding place. However, when squeaking sounds could be heard coming from the "larder" all was revealed. In order to minimise disturbance we watched from a more distant position and if occasionally we did sit near to the nest the parents scolded so vociferously that we were forced to retreat. From early morning to quite late in the evening the constant feeding of the young was never relaxed. We frequently saw the parents remove a faecal sac from the nest. As the babies grew the parents became more aggressive to other birds who trespassed on their territory. The day before I came away the first two left the nest. Their speckled appearance is probably the reason for their name; the adults are not at all spotted but the top of the head and the light chest are streaked with darker brown markings.

The paddock has never been fertilised or tampered with in any way. No pesticides are used in the kitchen garden, nevertheless it seemed free of aphids, etc., which are apparently controlled by natural predators. Along one side of the ancient hedge I counted nine species - alder, holly, sycamore, wild rose, field maple, willow, hawthorn, blackthorn and hazel. The garden is also historically interesting as along one side is the remains of a Drovers' Road. I feel that my friends have not only created a bird sanctuary, but also a conservation area.

August 1983.

LENS evening walk round The Fox Covert, Long Eaton - 4th July 83.

A party of about 20 LENS members and friends met at the Fox Covert in West Park, Long Eaton on a hot, sunny evening. The tour of the area was led by Dr. Alan Wilmott.

The 'wet' area was only slightly muddy so we walked through it, disturbing many biting mosquitoes on the way. Among the more interesting plants found were Tubular Water Dropwort, Ragged-Robin, Yellow Flag and Brown Sedge. However, we hunted in vain for the Pepper Saxifrage - the area had become somewhat more overgrown where it had once been.

#### PLANTS NOTED

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Aegopodium podagraria - Ground-elder  | A. -capillaris - Common Bent Foxtail |
| Agrostis stolonifera - Creeping Bent  | Alopecurus geniculatus - Marsh       |
| Alliaria petiolata - Garlic Mustard   | Angelica sylvestris - Wild Angelica  |
| A. pratensis - Meadow Foxtail         | Armoracia rusticana - Horse-radish   |
| Anthriscus sylvestris - Cow Parsley   | Artemisia absinthium - Wormwood      |
| Arrhenatherum elatius False Oatgrass  | Barbarea vulgaris - Winter-cress     |
| A. vulgaris - Mugwort                 | Callitriche sp - Water-starwort      |
| Bromus sterilis - Barren Brome        | Capsella bursa-pastoris              |
| Calystegia sepium - Hedge Bindweed    | Shepherd's purse                     |
| Carex acutiformis - Lesser Pond-sedge | C. hirta - Hairy Sedge               |
| C. disticha - Brown Sedge             | C. otrubae - False Fox-Sedge         |
| C. nigra - Common Sedge               | Centaurea nigra - Common Knapweed    |
| C. remota - Remote Sedge              | Cirsium arvense - Creeping Thistle   |
| Cerastium holosteoides -              | C. palustre - Marsh Thistle          |
| Common Mouse-ear                      | Conium maculatum - Hemlock           |
| C. vulgare - Spear Thistle            | Dactylis glomerata - Cock's-foot     |
| Crataegus monogyna - Hawthorn         |                                      |

- Deschampsia cespitosa - Tufted Hairgrass  
 Eleocharis palustris - Common Spike-rush  
 Elymus Repens - Common Couch-grass  
 E. hirsutum - Great Willowherb  
 E. montanum - Broad-leaved Willowherb  
 E. fluviatile - Water Horsetail  
 Festuca pratensis - Meadow Fescue  
 Filipendula ulmaria - Meadowsweet  
 G. palustre - Marsh Bedstraw  
 Glechoma hederacea - Ground Ivy  
 G. maxima - Reed Sweet Grass  
 Heracleum sphondylium - Hogweed  
 Iris pseudacorus - Yellow Iris  
 J. effusus - Soft Rush  
 J. inflexus - Hard Rush  
 Lathyrus pratensis - Meadow Vetchling  
 L. minor - Common Duckweed  
 Lonicera periclymenum - Honeysuckle  
 Lychnis flos-cuculi - Ragged Robin  
 Lycopodium europaeus - Gipsywort  
 Matricaria matricarioides - Pineappleweed  
 Myosotis caespitosa - Tufted Forgetmenot  
 Nuphar lutea - Yellow Water-lily  
 Phalaris arundinacea - Reed Canary-grass  
 Phleum pratense - Timothy  
 P. major - Greater Plantain  
 Poa annua - Annual Meadow-grass  
 Polygonum amphibium - Amphibious Bistort  
 Potentilla anserina - Silverweed  
 Ranunculus acris - Meadow Buttercup  
 R. sceleratus - Celery-leaved Buttercup  
 Ribes rubrum - Red Currant  
 Rosa canina - Dog Rose  
 R. idaeus - Raspberry  
 R. acetosella - Sheep's Sorrel  
 R. crispus - Curled Dock  
 R. obtusifolius - Broad-leaved Dock  
 S. cinerea - Grey Willow  
 S. viminalis - Osier  
 Sanguisorba officinalis - Great Burnett  
 Senecio squalidus - Oxford Ragwort  
 Solanum dulcamara - Bittersweet  
 Stachys palustris - Marsh Woundwort  
 Stellaria graminea - Lesser Stitchwort  
 Tanacetum vulgare - Tansy  
 Trisetum flavescens - Yellow Oat-grass  
 Typha latifolia - Bulrush  
 Vicia cracca - Tufted Vetch  
 Dryopteris filix-mas - Male Fern  
 Elodea canadensis - Canadian Waterweed  
 Epilobium angustifolium - Rosebay Willowherb  
 Equisetum arvense - Field Horsetail  
 E. palustre - Marsh Horsetail  
 F. rubra - Red Fescue  
 Galium aparine - Cleavers  
 G. verum - Lady's Bedstraw  
 Glyceria fluitans - Floating Sweet-grass  
 Holcus lanatus - Yorkshire Fog  
 Juncus acutiflorus - Sharp-flowered Rush  
 Lamium album - White Dead-nettle  
 Lemna gibba - Fat Duckweed  
 Lolium perenne - Perennial Ryegrass  
 Lotus uliginosus - Greater Bird's-foot-Trefoil  
 Malus sylvestris - Crab Apple  
 Mentha aquatica - Water Mint  
 M. scorpioides - Water Forgetmenot  
 Oenanthe fistulosa - Tubular Water-dropwort  
 Plantago lanceolata - Ribwort Plantain  
 P. trivialis - Rough Meadow-grass  
 P. aviculare - Knotgrass  
 P. reptans - Creeping Cinquefoil  
 R. repens - Creeping Buttercup  
 Rhododendron ponticum - Rhododendron  
 Rorippa palustris - Marsh Yellowcress  
 Rubus fruticosus - Bramble  
 Rumex acetosa - Common Sorrel  
 R. conglomeratus - Clustered Dock  
 R. hydrolapathum - Water Dock  
 Salix Caprea - Goat Willow  
 S. fragilis - Crack Willow  
 Sambucus nigra - Elder  
 Scutellaria galericulata - Skullcap  
 Sisymbrium officinale - Hedge Mustard  
 S. sylvestris - Hedge Woundwort  
 S. media - Common Chickweed  
 Trifolium repens - White Clover  
 Tussilago farfara - Coltsfoot  
 Urtica dioica - Common Nettle

GEOFF BATTERSHALL

#### YUCCA FLOWERS

This hot summer that exotic plant - the Yucca - thrived and flowered 'par excellence' in Long Eaton, and some appeared in the "L.E. Advertiser". The prize for the tallest - at the end of July - seemed to go to the one in the railway station garden. It topped out at nine feet high.

BIRDS SEEN ON THE WEST PARK (FOX COVERT) LENS TRIP - 4th July 1983

Carrion Crow	Blue Tit (in families)	Wren	Duncock
House Martin	Swift	Great Tit (family party)	
Redpoll	Wood Pigeon	Turtle Dove (Heard trilling)	
Willow Warbler	Chaffinch	Magpie	Song Thrush
Starling	Greenfinch	Blackcap	Willow-chiff seen
Bullfinch (3)	Black-headed gull (over - evening flights)		
Tawny Owl (disturbed from dense treed area - silently flew off)			
Moorhen (on floating nest in mid-canal, with at least 2 young).			JML

The RATCLIFFE-on-TRENT Power Station Nature Reserve - PLANT SPECIES

Some LENS members have regularly visited the recently created Reserve and Nature Trail area at our nearby Power Station to record the plants found there. Dates were 3rd May, 7th June, 5th July & 6th Sept.

Acer campestre - Field Maple	Geranium dissectum - Cut-leaved Cranesbill
A. pseudoplatanus - Sycamore	Geum urbanum - Wood Avens
Achillea millefolium - Yarrow	Glechoma hederacea - Ground Ivy
Agrostis capillaris - Common Bent	Heraclium sphondylium - Hogweed
Alisma plantago aquatica - Water Plantain	Holcus lanatus - Yorkshire fog
Alliaria petiolata - Garlic Mustard	Hyacinthoides non-scriptus - Bluebell
Alopecurus geniculatus - Marsh Foxtail	Hypericum perforatum - Perforate St. John's wort
A. pratensis - Meadow Foxtail	Juncus acutiflorus - Sharp flowered Rush
Anthoxanthemum odoratum - Sweet Vernalgrass	J. inflexus - Hard Rush
Arrhenatherum elatius - False Oat-grass	Lamium album - White Dead-nettle
Arum maculatum - Lords and Ladies	Lapsana communis - Nipplewort
Bellis perennis - Daisy	Lathyrus pratensis - Meadow Vetchling
Bromus mollis - Soft-brome	Lotus corniculatus - Bird's-foot Trefoil
B. ramosus - Hairy-brome	Malus sylvestris - Crab Apple
B. sterilis - Barren Brome	Matricaria matricoides - Pineappleweed
Bryonia dioica - White Bryony	Medicago lupulina - Black Medick
Cardamine hirsuta - Hairy Bitter-cress	Moehringia trinerva - Three-nerved Sandwort
Centaurea nigra - Common Knapweed	Myosotis arvensis - Field Forgetmenot
Cerastium holosteoides - Common Mouse-ear	Phleum pratense - Timothy
Chaerophyllum temulentum - Rough Chervil	Pinus contorta - Beach Pine
Cirsium arvense - Creeping Thistle	Pinus sylvestris - Scots Pine
C. vulgare - Spear Thistle	Plantago lanceolata - Ribwort Plantain
Conium maculatum - Hemlock	P. major - Greater Plantain
Convolvulus arvensis - Field Bindweed	Poa annua - Annual Meadow-grass
Crataegus monogyna - Hawthorn	P. trivialis - Rough Meadow-grass
Dactylis glomerata - Cock's-foot	Potentilla anserina - Silverweed
Dipsacus fullonum - Teasel	P. reptans - Creeping Cinquefoil
Dryopteris felix-mas - Male-fern	Primula veris - Cowslip
Eleocharis palustris - Common Spikerush	Prunella vulgaris - Selfheal
Elymus repens - Common Couch	Prunus spinosa - Blackthorn
Epilobium angustifolium - Rosebay Willowherb	Pyrus communis - Pear
E. hirsutum - Great Willowherb	Ranunculus lingua - Greater Spearwort
E. montanum - Broad-leaved Willowherb	Reseda luteola - Weld
Fagus sylvaticus - Beech	Rumex conglomeratus - Clustered Dock
Festuca ovina - Sheep's fescue	
Fraxinus excelsior - Ash	
Galium aparine - Cleavers	



R. crispus - Curled Dock	Stellaria media - Chickweed
Sagina procumbens - Procumbent Pearlwort	Symphytum officinale - Common Comfrey
Salix cinerea - Grey Willow	Taraxacum officinale - Dandelion
Sambucus nigra - Elder	Trifolium dubium - Lesser Trefoil
Senecio jacobea - Common Ragwort	T. pratense - Red Clover
S. vulgaris - Groundsel	T. repens - White Clover
Sherardia arvensis - Field Madder	Tussilago farfara - Coltsfoot
Silene alba - White Campion	Ulmus procera - English Elm
S. dioica - Red Campion	Urtica dioica - Common Nettle
Sinapsis arvensis - Charlock	Veronica arvensis - Wall Speedwell
Solanum dulcamara - Bittersweet	V. catenata - Pink Water-Speedwell
Sonchus arvensis - Perennial Sow-thistle	V. chamaedrys - Germander-Speedwell
S. asper - Prickly Sow-Thistle	V. persica - Common Field-Speedwell
S. oleraceus - Smooth Sow-Thistle	V. serpyllifolia - Thyme-leaved "
Sorbus aucuparia - Rowan	Vicia hirsuta - Hairy Tare
Stachys sylvatica - Hedge Woundwort	V. sativa - Common Vetch
Stellaria graminea - Lesser Stitchwort	V. tetrasperma - Smooth Tare
	Viola palustris - Marsh Violet
	Vulpia bromoides - Squirreltail Fescue

GEOFF BATTERSHALL.

RATCLIFFE POWER STATION - Visit on 2nd August 1983.

Hare Rabbit and Stoat

House Sparrow	Tree Sparrow	Mistle Thrush	Woodpigeon
Yellowhammer	Goldfinch	Wren	Collared Dove
Dunnock	Willow Tit (H)	Magpie	Feral Pigeon
Blue Tit	Willow Warbler	Greenfinch	Swift (over)
Chaffinch			

Party members were Max Bryce, Marion Smith and Vincent, Margaret Beresford, Judy and John Langford.

JRL.

GIBRALTAR POINT, LINGS / THE WASH COASTLINE

Sun. 4th Sept. 1983.

JML and JRL visited Gibraltar Point on Sunday, 4th September, taking advantage of the last through train of the summer season from Long Eaton to Skegness. Long Eaton station, usually good for birds, gave a sighting of a lone Swift over, a good while after most had already started for Africa.

Despite fairly high winds a varied bird list was made up for the day, including a small number of Whinchats, Wheatears and Goldcrests on passage. Nine species of wader began with Lapwings seen from the train and a flock of Curlews on fields inland near Pirsby. From the hide at the Mere on the Reserve we had very close views of Green Sandpiper, Spotted Redshank and Bar-tailed Godwit (singles). Then on leaving by returning through train at 18.00 hours a Short-eared Owl was seen quartering the field boundaries near Seacroft. Altogether a worthwhile - and very bracing - day.

J.R. LANGFORD.

A C I D R A I N

During the thunderstorm of July 18th, a total of 0.52 inches of rain fell, which was the first real quantity of rain for a month. Alan Heath collected and tested this rain-water for pH with Bromo-thymol Blue and found it to be pH 6.2. A.H.

OBSERVATIONS ON CERTAIN PONDS - Season 1983 - Alan Heath

Ponds visited, other than the regular monthly visits to Forbe's Hole-in L.E.

Stanton-by-Dale	NGR 457/383	13 Mar. 83.
Attenborough Nat.Res.		15 Apr. 83.
Stenson's Pond	NGR 505/332	15 Apr. 83. Also 30 July 83.
Ticknall Ponds		5 May 83. Also 13 Aug. 83.
Pond near Donington Park	NGR 411/255	5 May 83.
Kirk Hallam	NGR 460/396	9 Jun. 83.
Cavendish Bridge, Shardlow		14 Jun. 83
Stanton-by-Bridge	NGR 466/394	1 July 83
Shipleigh Park Reservoir		5 July 83

Notes : At the visit to Stenson's Pond on 15th April, I met a gentleman who has bought the site and intends filling it in. He suggested work would begin in the autumn. The return visit on 30th July showed nothing had happened so far.

PLANT SPECIES found at GOLDEN BROOK STORAGE LAGOON, BREASTON

Reserve visited on 14th May, 9th June, 6th July and 18th August 1983.

Agrostis stolonifera - Creeping Bent	Cytisus scoparius - Broom
A. capillaris - Common Bent	Dactylis glomerata - Cocksfoot
Alisma plantago-aquatica - Water Plantain	Dactylorhiza praetermissa - Southern Marsh Orchid
Alliaria petiolata - Garlic Mustard	Deschampsia caespitosa - Tufted Hair Grass
Alopecurus geniculatus - Marsh Foxtail	Eleocharis palustris - Common Spike-rush
A. pratensis - Meadow Foxtail	Elodea canadensis - Canadian Waterweed
Angelica sylvestris - Wild Angelica	Epilobium adenocaulon - American Willowherb
Anthriscus sylvestris - Cow Parsley	E. augustifolium - Rosebay Willowherb
Arrhenatherum elatius - False Oatgrass	E. hirsutum - Great Willowherb
Artemisia absinthium - Wormwood	E. parviflorum - Hoary Willowherb
A. vulgaris - Mugwort	Equisetum arvense - Field Horsetail
Asparagus officinalis - Wild Asparagus	E. palustris - Marsh Willowherb
Barbarea vulgaris - Winter Cress	Filipendula ulmaria - Meadowsweet
Bellis perennis - Daisy	Fraxinus excelsior - Ash
Betula pendula - Silver Birch	Galium aparine - Cleavers
Bromus sterilis - Barren Brome	G. palustre - Marsh Bedstraw
Cardamine flexuosa - Wavy Bittercress	Geranium dissectum - Cut-leaved Cranesbill
C. hirsuta - Hairy Bittercress	Glechoma hederacea - Ground Ivy
Cardamine pratensis - Cuckooflower	Glyceria declinata - Small Sweetgrass
Carduus acanthoides - Warty Thistle	Hedera helix - Ivy
Carex flacca - Glaucous Sedge	Heracleum sphondylium - Hogweed
Carex hirta - Hairy Sedge	Hippuris vulgaris - Mare's tail
Carex otrubae - False Fox-sedge	
Gerastium holosteoides - Common Mouse-ear	
Cirsium arvense - Creeping Thistle	
C. vulgare - Spear Thistle	
Crataegus monogyna - Hawthorn	

Hyacinthoides hispanicus - Spanish Bluebell  
 Hypochaeris radicata - Catsear  
 Juncus acutiflorus - Sharp-flowered Rush  
 J. effusus - Soft Rush  
 J. inflexus - Hard Rush  
 J. subuliflorus - Compact Rush  
 Lamium album - White Deadnettle  
 Lathyrus pratensis - Meadow Vetchling  
 Lemna minor - Common Duckweed  
 L. trisulca - Ivy-leaved Duckweed  
 Leontodon autumnalis - Autumn Hawkbit  
 Lolium perenne - Perennial Rye-grass  
 Lychis flos-cuculi - Ragged Robin  
 Lycopodium europaeus - Gipsywort  
 Lythrum salicaria - Purple Loosestrife  
 Matricaria matricarioides -  
     Pineappleweed  
 Medicago lupulina - Black Medick  
 Mentha aquatica - Water Mint  
 Muscari armeniacum - Garden Grape  
     Hyacinth  
 Myosotis caespitosa - Tufted Forgetme-not  
 M. scorpioides - Water Forget-me-not  
 Phalaris arundinacea - Reed Canarygrass  
 Phleum bertolonii - Smaller Catstail  
 P. pratense - Timothy  
 Plantago lanceolata - Ripwort Plantain  
 P. major - Greater Plantain  
 Poa annua - Annual Meadowgrass  
 P. pratensis - Smooth Meadowgrass  
 P. trivialis - Rough Meadowgrass  
 P. aviculare - Knotgrass  
 Polygonum persicaria - Redshank  
 Populus x canadensis - Italian Poplar  
 P. nigra 'Italica' - Lombardy Poplar  
 Prunella vulgaris - Selfheal  
 Prunus spinosa - Blackthorn  
 Quercus robur - Pedunculate Oak  
 Ranunculus acris - Meadow Buttercup  
 R. repens - Creeping Buttercup  
 R. sceleratus - Celery-leaved Buttercup  
 Rosa Canina - Dog Rose  
 Rubus fruticosus - Bramble  
 Rumex acetosa - Common Sorrel  
 R. conglomeratus - Clustered Dock  
 R. crispus - Curled Dock  
 R. obtusifolius - Broad-leaved Dock  
 R. sanguineus - Wood Dock  
 Salix alba - White Willow  
 S. caprea - Goat Willow  
 S. cinerea - Grey Willow  
 S. fragilis - Crack Willow  
 S. viminalis - Osier  
 Scirpus tabernaemontani - Grey Clubrush  
 Scrophularia aquatica - Water Figwort  
 S. nodosa - Common Figwort  
 Scutellaria galericulata - Skullcap  
 Senecio jacobaea - Common Ragwort  
 Solanum dulcamara - Bittersweet  
 Sonchus arvensis - Perennial Sowthistle  
 S. asper - Prickly Sowthistle  
 S. oleraceus - Smooth Sowthistle  
 Sorbus aucuparia - Rowan  
 Sparganium erectum - Branched Bur-reed  
 Stachys sylvatica - Hedge Woundwort  
 Stellaria graminea - Lesser Stitchwort  
 S. media - Chickweed  
 Taraxacum officinale - Dandelion  
 Torilis japonica - Upright Hedgeparsley  
 Trifolium dubium - Lesser Trefoil  
 T. medium - Zigzag Clover  
 T. pratense - Red Clover  
 T. repens - White Clover  
 Tussilago farfara - Coltsfoot  
 Typha latifolia - Bulrush  
 Ulmus procera - English Elm  
 Urtica dioica - Common Nettle  
 Veronica beccabunga - Brooklime  
 Vicia cracca - Tufted Vetch  
 V. sativa - Common Vetch

GEOFF BATTERSHALL.

And now we come to George Smith's recordings for the last 3 months from  
SHIPLEY COUNTRY PARK

July 8th 1983   Oxford Ragwort  
                   Bugle  
                   Gt. Willowherb  
                   Gtr. Burnet  
                   Hedge Woundwort  
                   Wormwood  
                   Nipplewort

Football Field adjacent to  
 Woodside Bridleway

...cont'd...

Shipley Park

July 15th	Goatsbeard Soft Rush Fleabane Figwort Water Dropwort Valerian		Erewash Canal between Langley Basin and Cotmanhay
July 16th	Branched Burr Reed Sweet Flag Reed Mace Weld		Osborne's Pond Coppice Side
23rd July	Spotted Burnet Moths (6) Herb Robert Toad Flax Birdsfoot Trefoil Weld Knapweed Nipplewort Persicaria		Shipley Common Lane
July 24th	Canada Geese 40 Mute Swan 2 Mallard 10 Gr. Crested Grebe 4 Coot 13		All on Shipley Lake
July 30th	Nettle-leaved Bell Flower Meadow Brown Butterfly (in profusion) Small Skipper 6 Gatekeeper 3 Sparrow Hawk 1 Gt. Spotted Woodpecker 1 Water Rail 2 Spotted Flycatcher 6		John Wood Along the footpath Heanor Gate to Smalley John Wood " " In D.N.T. Reserve, Mapperley Bell Lane
Aug. 21st	Small Copper Butterfly 7 Canada Geese 43 Coot 54 Mute Swan 6 Tufted Duck 4 Black-headed Gull 35 Heron 1 Lapwing 150 + Wall Brown B'fly 35 Common Blue 3 Ruddy Duck 3 Water Rail 1 Mallard 27 Gr. Crested Grebe 3 Coot 10 Wigeon 7		Slack Lane Shipley Lake Nutbrook Bridleway D.N.T. Reserve Mapperley Mapperley Reservoir
August 27th	Tansy Fat Hen Valerian Toad Flax Goatsbeard Reed Mace Sweet Rush Weld		Old Railway Track Shipley to Manners

....cont'd....

Shipley Park

Aug. 27th	Clouded Yellow B'fly	2	Manners Screens
(cont)		1	Slack Lane
	Teal	4	)
	Shoveller	8	) D.N.T. Reserve,
	Mallard	6	)
	Moorhen	3	) Mapperley
Aug. 30th	House Martin	56	Osborne's Pond
	Fringed Waterlily (Nymphoides Peltata)		Adams Pond
	Sparrow Hawk	1	Adams Pond
Sept. 4th	Canada Geese	43	)
	Coot	37	)
	Pied Wagtail	1	) Shipley Lake
	Mute Swan	6	)
	Spotted Flycatcher	4	John Wood
	Gr. Crested Grebe	4	)
	Mallard	66	) Mapperley Reservoir
	Mute Swan	2	)
Sept. 10th	Lapwing	250 +	)
	Black-head Gull	60	) Nutbrook Bridleway
	Linnet	1	)
	House Martin	300 +	)
	Mute Swan	5	) Shipley Lake
	Coot	43	)
	Gr. Crested Grebe	2	)
	Mallard	68	) Osborne's Pond
	Coot	8	)
Sept. 24th	Kestrel	2	Flat Meadow Farm
	Common Partridge	25	Manners Floods
	Weld		)
	Toad flax		) Manners Screens
	Yarrow		)
	Melliott		)
	Canada Geese	140	) Shipley
	Coot	80	) Lake

George made all the above sightings on his rounds as a Warden in the Country Park.

ASH TIP REPORT

This winter work will be starting on the Ash Tip site in Lock Lane, Sawley to begin reclamation work for the proposed Golf Course. Topsoil (about 20,000 tons) will be brought in and fencing and drainage work would be included, and later the top-soiled areas would be grass-seeded and trees would be planted. A raised footway is planned along the Lock Lane southern boundary, so walkers can reach Trent Lock dryshod in times of flooding, even if cars cannot get through. This will probably conflict with the interesting plant species recorded in summer 1983 along the roadside banking. We shall have to see. On the plus side, the Derbyshire Co. Council have made a management agreement between the Derbyshire Naturalists' Trust and the Borough Council to manage and develop the northern edge area (against the railway line) and partly in the NE corner as a nature reserve, or area for conservation/educational work. This is the scrubland area also good for wildflowers and birds. This leaves an area on the E - a thin

strip of land to be left undeveloped initially, in case of any future expansion of canal boat moorings was envisaged. The work would be carried out in 2 stages, starting this autumn and some finished by the early part of 1984.

Recorder.

LOCKINGTON GROUNDS GRAVEL PLAN - N.W. Leics.

All seems to have 'gone quite quiet' on this one, so the Recorder isn't able to give any further news on progress. If any LENS members have access to the N.W. Leicestershire local press it may be that things are happening that are not reaching ears in Sawley and Long Eaton. Can everyone keep their ears to the ground on this one, please?

The plan was for a large minerals firm to extract sands and gravels and for use in cement industries from a large area of farmland and including some now rare wetland rivermeadows, where water lies in times of winter flooding. The area concerns Lockington Grounds, Trent Floods (opp. to Trent Lock's beauty spot), the fields and carr woodland to the west of R. Soar and Redhill Lock, the lands of Lockington Grounds Farm and Warren Farm, stretching right down to the M.1 and A.6 interchange roundabout at Junction 24. A terrific area and over 50 years span. Some LENS members are particularly worried over the loss of, or damage to, the wetland area, part of which is designated as an S.S.S.I. (Site of Special Scientific Interest).

Recorder.

- BUTTERFLIES      April      1 Peacock, garden at Borrowash (Bains Drive) on 28 Apr.
- May      1 Orange Tip in Borrowash garden May 26th
- June      Painted Lady on 15th & 17th June at Borrowash (Collyers Nursery Gdns)  
1 Comma ditto.  
1 Orange Tip on Hedge Mustard, Small Tortoiseshell and Large White in gdn 39 Breedon Str, LE. Last 2 also all July & August.
- July      1 Large Tortoiseshell same place; 1 Meadow Brown in College Street on road; 1 small heath in Sawley gdn on 15 July on buddlaeia; on 24 July at Long Eaton's Lock Lane Ash Tip 50+ gatekeepers on valerian on banks by roadside; 1 meadow brown on wild parsnip on tip area, 2 small white; 1 large white; 3 small skipper; and near Trent Lock 1 small copper.
- August      1 Common Blue early August & 1 Small Copper, gden Trowell Grove; Common Blue 3 to 4 days in August on lawn clover Quorndon Cres gdn at Sawley; 5th & 11th August Forbe's Hole - Common Blue on Rosebay Willowherb & Birdsfoot Trefoil; Wall, Peacock, Meadow Brown, Small Copper, Large White and Small Heath too. Shipley Park on 7th & 21st August 6 Clouded Yellows & 1; 1 Peacock on 7th. Peacock, and on a sunny wall 1 Wall B'fly Breedon Street gdn in Aug. Further up same road on 3 Aug - Peacock, Cabbage White, Small Tort all on buddlaeia, with Wall on 26th August.  
1 Clouded Yellow at Ticknall 13 Aug. 1 Brimstone (now could this have been another Cl. Yel.?) at Trent Lock by canal 16th Aug.  
1 Clouded Yellow at Ratcliffe Lock, R. Soar 27 Aug.
- Sept.      3 Red Admiral, 1 Comma Breedon Str gdn. Small Tortoiseshell 2nd Breedon Str gdn on 7 Sept. & on 25th in Derby Rd gdn (opp Trent College). 2 Comma, 2 Red Admiral, 3 Small Tortoiseshell, on buddlaeia & fallen apples garden of 21 Carrfield Ave, L.E. 25th Sept.

12.

DRAGONFLIES A very good summer for them.

July - 3 sep. records in 39 Breedon Str gdn - on teasels & feverfew, & on new compost heap.

24 July - Trent Lock - 5 common ishura (blue spot damsel fly), & 5. banded agrion on branched burr reed ( $\frac{1}{2}$  black,  $\frac{1}{2}$  clear wings. Large).

5 & 11 Aug. - Forbe's Hole. Blue Damsel fly. Brown Aeschna.

16 Aug. Trent Lock about 6 Common Aeshna, also all July & August.

14 Sept. R. Derwent area off Wilne Lane/S of Draycott - many large dragonflies - wings 4, and blue on dark. Also several large brown and 1 small red one.

25 Sept. Garden of 21 Carrfield Ave, L.E. - 1 dragonfly Aeshna Grandis.

\* 4 Sept. Shipley Park Lake - Damsel flies mating & laying eggs on lake edges.

FUNNY PECULIAR..... The Recorder had a funny insect, and would welcome some enlightenment from the experts... It was as follows:

Date : Thurs. 22 Sept. Fine day. 1.20 p.m.

General appearance spectacular and alarming (to any of weaker disposition.) On wall bricks by window, seen thro' glass. In sun. Body 1 to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  ins. long and black, with extra  $\frac{1}{4}$  ins. long tail. Tail fearsomely pointed/spear-shaped, or dart-like. Clear wings like a crane fly - sorry couldn't see if 2 or 4, as insect kept quivering them in either agitation or delight. The startling thing (other than viscious-looking tail) was the legs. Legs in 3 segments totalling 1 inch long and a vivid reddy-orange colour - all 6 of them. Like dayglo markers. Flew off after a while. Is it English or Exotic? I was 3 ft. away (thro glass) so measurements exact as poss.

LADYBIRD One record only.

Sept. 26th 1 yellow ladybird, with 18 spots (black) on body and more on a yellow head, only it flew off before count was made. Nice day. Breedon Str. gdn.

MOTHS

June/July. Several Drinker Moth Caterpillars seen Shardlow on grass verge of A.6. Alan Heath collected some and allowed them to pupate and finally emerge. Photographs taken at each stage.

24 July 1 6-spot burnet moth on Lock Lane Ash Tip.

CONTRIBUTORS : Margaret Beresford - Mr & Mrs. Blackburn - Fred Ellis - Alan Heath - J & J Langford - Brian Phillips - Sandra Slade - David Sherwin - Marion Smith.

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AVIAN BOTULLISM : A particularly nasty outbreak was caused by this unexpectedly long-lasting hot weather at Attenborough. In hot weather the oxygen levels drop in the water and botullism then spreads rapidly. Not only were water birds affected, but also poisoned were the carrion crows that had eaten the dead fish and other dead bird carcasses. Those affected were mainly the crow family, but also Gt. Crested Grebes, Little Grebes, ducks, Canada Geese and Black-headed gulls. The numbers involved ran into hundreds.

- - - - -  
David Hall.

13.

BIRD RECORDS received from : Period late July - Nov. 83 (mainly)

Mr & Mrs. Blackburn David Hall Judy & John Langford Roy Seamark  
David Sherwin Sandra Slade Marion Smith George Swann

- LIT. GREBE - 1 + 2 juvs on R. Derwent/Wilne, + 3 on pool Ambaston side of Elvaston Quarry 11 Aug. One taking small fish to nest below Ratcliffe Lock, R. Soar 13 Aug. Parent feeding large young above weir nr. Ratcliffe village 27 Aug. & 1 below Ratcliffe Lock 27 Aug.
- GT. CRESTED GREBE - 1 adult & 1 juv. E.Qy. 31 Aug.
- GREY HERON - 1 E. Qy. 22 Oct.
- CANADA GOOSE - No records recvd, save for a number being involved in the botulism deaths at Attenborough.
- MALLARD - 19 young (or in eclipse plumage) Ratcliffe Lock area 13 Aug.
- TEAL - 3 Elv. Qy on 11 August & 2 on 22 Oct.
- HONEY BUZZARD - 1 in early June spent a little time at Attenborough.
- HOBBY - This season Derbyshire had a possible breeding record.
- MOORHEN - 6+ Erewash Canal next to Fox Covert 17 July, 3 there on 9 Oct. 2 adults, 3 chicks Ratcliffe Lock, R. Soar & 1 more chick 13 Aug. Young moorhens on spit of R. Derwent/Draycott 24 Sept.
- LIT. RINGED PLOVER - 3 juv. at Elv. Qy. 31 August.
- LAPWING - 1 over Breaston, Poplar Rd 7 Aug.; Blue Circle Pits 13 Aug.; Large roost on fields nr. Ratcliffe Power Station 13 Aug.; 3 large flocks Ratcliffe Lock area 27 Aug; c.100 on 31 Aug. at Elv. Qy, c.250 on 22 Oct.
- DUNLIN - 3 at Elv. Qy 31 Aug.
- REDSHANK - 2 on 11 Aug. & 1 on 22 Oct. at Elvaston Quarry.
- GREENSHANK - 1 Blue Circle Pits 13 Aug.; 1 on Delta at Attenborough N.Res. on 30 Aug.; 1 Elv. Qu. on 31 Aug.
- GREEN SANDPIPER - 1 on spit with young moorhens R. Derwent/Draycott 24 Sep.
- COMMON SANDPIPER - ? 2 at Elv. Qu. 11 Aug.; 1 def. on 31 Aug.
- SNIFE - 1 Elv. Qu. 11 August, & 6 on 31st.
- BLACK-HEADED GULL - 3 West Park 17 July; Blue Circle Pits on 13 Aug.; c. 50 West Park fields on 9 Oct.
- HERRING GULL - 1 West Park fields 9 Oct.
- COMMON TERN - c.10 Elv. Qy. 11 Aug.; 5 on 28 Aug at Derwent Mouth; 6 Elv. Qy on 30 Aug., & 1 on 31st.
- WOOD PIGEON - 3 on 17 July Fox Covert, West Park; Ratcliffe Power Station Reserve 2 Aug.; 6 Fox Covert on 9 Oct.
- FERAL PIGEON - Ratcliffe P.St. reserve 2 Aug.
- COLLARED DOVE - Feed on lawn Borrowash gdn in May. - 2 & 17 July at Fox Cov, West Park; Ratcliffe P.Stn. Reserve 2 Aug.; 2 Fox Cov. 9 Oct.
- TURTLE DOVE - 2 separately at Elv. Qy. 31 Aug.; 1 very close on pulverised fly ash heap E.Qy. on 24 Sept. (off Wilne Lane).
- CUCKOO - 1 over back of house, Borrowash, heading towards Gipsy Lane 24 Apr. and calling.
- BARN OWL - 1 for some time this summer behind Stafford Str. gdns, L.E. This is nice, for they are becoming quite sparse hereabouts.
- TAWNY OWL - 1 H outside Room 1, Grammar Sch during Tues. evg class (not LENS) at 8.50 pm 27 Sept. 1 dead on railway line at former Stapleford & Sandiacre Station 28 Sept. (per Mr. R. Hammond).
- WIFT - 2 over Borrowash 4 May; many over Fox Cov/W Pk 17 July; at Ratcliffe P.Stn. Res 2 Aug.; still over Breedon Str in numbers on 9, 10 & 11th Aug. 1 over L.E. Rlway Stn. Sat. 4 Sept.
- KINGFISHER - 1 Derwent Mouth & later 2 on 28 Aug.; 1 on Risley Dumbles on 31 Aug.; 1 R.Erewash metal bridge at Dockholm 6 Sept.; 1 end of 1st week Sept at Trent Lock by Navigation Inn stream; 1 last week Sept on Triangle Pond, nr Kennedy Ave.; 1 R.Erewash metal bridge at 8.30 am of 11 Oct & 16.15 hrs same day.; 1 on Barkers Pond 21 Sept; 1 flying in Draycott end of Wilne Lane 25 Oct.



GREEN WOODPECKER - 1 H nr beech trees opp Power Box at Trent Junction on 30 Aug.

GT. SPOTTED WOODPECKER - 1 Ratcliffe Lock area 27 Aug.; Alarm call near lodge gates Draycott Grange 14 Sept.

SKYLARK - Song Elv. Qy 31 Aug. & 22 Oct.

SAND MARTIN - Over R. Derwent nr. Wilne & S of Draycott evening 11 Aug.

SWALLOW - 1 over Borrowwash gdn 26 Apr.; 3 over Poplar Rd Breaston 7 Aug., over R. Derwent S of Draycott 11 Aug.

HOUSE MARTIN - 1 over Bains Drive, Borrowwash 24 Apr., Many over Fox Covert on 17 July; over Risley Lane Farm, Breaston 14 Sept; all August till Sept. 12 or 13th Breedon Street, & newly fledged young going on 'test flights' from nests on 128 Breedon Str evening of 7 Sept.

Note on House Martins -

9 Aug. evg. c.150/200 excited house martins, young & adults (much calling). All flocking round 1 or 2 particular freshly built houses in a new part of the Wimpey estate nr the railway line & M.L. & Wensleydale Ave. Birds kept going to house wall - ? for grit ? - came off it, flew up to about 100 ft and back again. Spiralling effect oft repeated. J.M.L. had seen this in Breaston in Aug. 82, the gathering flights, this time of 50/100 birds (h.ms) on very new houses off Holmes Road, Breaston. Don't think insects were involved.

MEADOW PIPIT - Elv. Qy on 22 Oct.

YELLOW WAGTAIL - 3 juv. Elv Qy 11 Aug.; 1 Blue Circle Pits 13 Aug.;

2 Ratcliffe Lock 27 Aug.; 6 over Derwent Mouth Lock 28 Aug.; at E.Qy 31 Aug.

GREY WAGTAIL - 2 feeding in culvert between canal/R. Trent at Trent Lock on 7 Sept.

PIED WAGTAIL - 1 feeding on small insects on Bowling Green, West Park 17 July; 3 on sewage farm, Derwent Mouth Lock 28 Aug.; at E.Qy on 31 Aug.

WREN - 3 Fox Cov, West Pk on 17 July; at Ratcliffe P.Stn. res. on 2 Aug.; in gdn Breedon Str on 1 Sept & 20/21 Oct; 1 Fox Cov 9 Oct.

DUNNOCK - 2 made nest in privett hedge & laid, Borrowwash gdn 11 May; 1 Fox Cov 17 July; at Ratcliffe Power Stn. res. 2 Aug; 1 on 16 & 29 Aug in Breedon Str gdn, also Sept 9 & 14.

SEDGE WARBLER - 2 on 31 Aug. Elv. Quarry.

WILLOW WARBLER - Singing in Collyers' Nursery Gdns, Nottm Rd, Borrowwash on Apr. 29 daily till May 13; at Ratcliffe P.Stn. Res. 2 Aug.

ROBIN - 2 Fox Cov 17 July; Song & return to 114 Breedon Str gdn for the autumn on 7 Sept.

BLACKBIRD - Many West Park & Fox Cov 17 July; 20+ there on 9 Oct. Still nesting gdn 114 Breedon Str on 2 Aug.

REDWING - H over Breedon Str at 9.40 p.m. on 11 Oct.

SONG THRUSH - 2 in Apr/May laid 4 eggs in Borrowwash gdn; the young hatched but 3 bailed; taken by a magpie, 4th vanished after 5 more days. Nest rather obvious. In West Park (3) on 17 July & 2 on 9 Oct. 2-3 young fledged & still being fed 9-11 Aug Breedon Str gdn.

MISTLE THRUSH - 1 pr West Park 17 July; 1 Fox Cov. 9 Oct.; 1 or 2 at Ratcliffe Power Stn. Res. 2 Aug.

WILLOW TIT - 1 Fox Cov. 17 July; 1 H. Ratcliffe P.St. Res. 2 Aug;

1 in hedges off Long Lane 13 Aug; 1 family in Eipsy Lane hedge Draycott on 24 Sept., also in new trees on bank nr M.L. o'bridge Wilne Lane/Sawley on 24 Sept.

BLUE TIT - c.10 (some young) Fox Cov. 17 July; Ratcliffe P.St. Res. on 2 Aug; mid Aug. & all Sept. in gdns Breedon Str; 4 Fox Cov. 9 Oct.

GT. TIT - 1 on 29/30 Aug., 1 Sept 24, 2 on Sept 28 gdn Breedon Str.

YELLOWHAMMER - Ratcliffe P.Stn. Res. 2 Aug.; 2H E.Qy. 11 Aug.

CHAFFINCH - Ratcliffe " 2 Aug.; ret'd to Breedon Str gdn 6 Oct. 1 F.

GREENFINCH - 2 West Park 17 July; 1 Poplar Rd, Breaston 7 Aug.

GOLDFINCH - 2 on 6 & 8 May then frequent gdn visitors Bains Drive-in  
 Borrowwash; coming daily to garden teasels end Sept/Oct, Curzon Street;  
 2 Toton Railway Depot 21 Oct.

REDPOLL - 1 over Fox Cov. 17 July; 1 over Poplar Rd Breaston calling 7 Aug.

BULLFINCH - 6+ Fox Cov. West Park 9 Oct., & often seen near Breaston Cemetery  
 but Sept-Nov dates not remembered.

HOUSE SPARROW - many W.Pk/Fox Cov 17 July; at Ratcliffe P.St.Res. 2 Aug;  
 5+ Fox Cov. 9 Oct.

TREE SPARROW - Ratcliffe P.St. Res. 2 Aug.

STARLING - 5+ West Park 17 July; 10+ Fox Cov. 9 Oct. Aug/Sept/Oct, reg'ly  
 in apple trees Breedon St gdns. Large flocks in late afternoon reg.  
 head from Breaston way to S.E. all Sept/Oct.

MAGPIE - many West Park 17 July; at Ratcliffe P.St. Res. 2 Aug;  
 3 West Park 9 Oct.

JACKDAW - 1 on Sandra's roof, Bains Drive, Borrowwash 11 May.

ROOK - c. 70 at 5.45 pm on 6 Oct, & c.100 at 5.40 pm on 3rd over Breedon St  
 from WSW to Wollaton direction.

CARRION CROW - 2 Fox Cov 17 July.

Thank you everyone for all your records. Nice to have a few from other  
 folk as well for next time, please. But thanks again.

Recorder.

A few plant records received from Marion Smith,

At Risley Dumbles on 31 Aug. 83.

Fleawort Devil's bit scabious Betony.

Also there was 1 frog along with grey/pink small leeches  
 under stones in Risley Brook.

And I think that's all. Until next time - Judy Langford, Recorder.