



**SOUTH-EAST CHESHIRE
ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

1990 BIRD REPORT

Including BIRDS OF SANDBACH FLASHES

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SECOS Recorder

This is my report for 1990. Unfortunately due to pressure of other work, coupled to the need to get the report out fairly early in 1991, it has not been possible to do a full report. I have selected the highlights from the records submitted to me and also listed all other species recorded.

I would stress that all records submitted have been stored for future reference, and have also been copied and submitted to the CAWOS Records Committee for use in compiling the 1990 Cheshire Bird Report.

It has, in fact, been a poor year for having records submitted and I have received less than ever before. General records have been received from :-

M.J. Ball	J.W. Clowes	C.B. Perkins
J. Barker	C. Lythgoe	A. Pym
C. Clowes	A.J. Perkins	M. Stanyer

and, as usual, A.A. Ford has submitted an excellent report for Arclid S.Q.

Thanks to all these people and especially to D. Norbury for his comprehensive records for Sandbach Flashes.

Colin Lythgoe.

Abbreviations Used

EHF	Elton Hall Flash	Ad	Adult
PHF	Pump House Flash	juv	juvenile
RF	Railway Flash	pr	pair
WLF	Watch Lane Flash	m	male
SQ	Sand Quarry	f	female
CAWOS	Cheshire and Wirral Ornithological Society.		

Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)

Rode Pool 23 nests; Doddington Pool 1 nest.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)

Winterley Pool pr. bred with 4 young; Fields Farm
Flash pr. bred with 2 young; Alsager Mere pr. bred with
5 young.

Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*)

At PHF 17 March to 23 April.

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

Occasional singles.

Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*)

Ad. at EHF from 27 to 30 June and the same bird at
Doddington Pool on 16 December.

Mandarin (*Aix galericulata*)

Sightings throughout the year but no proved breeding
from the previously used sites.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*)

1 m. at PHF 20 October. 1 Ad. at Arclid SQ from
27 August to 2 September.

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*)

1 f. and 1 juv. at EHF from 17 to 29 July.

Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)

On 16 December 2 m. at PHF and 1 m. + 2 f. at Doddington
Pool during freezing weather, where also 1 m. on 27th January
and 2 f. on 24 December.

Goosander (*Mergus merganser*)

1 f. at EHF on 3 February.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)

Regular sightings but no proved breeding. Numbers
seemed to be down.

Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)

At last, confirmed sightings in the Crewe Hall and
surrounding areas. At least 1 bird probably resident.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*)

1 f. at WLF on 18 April.

Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)

1 ad. at EHF on 20 July.

Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*)

First returned to RF on 12 August and present throughout
the winter.

Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*)

3 single records in early June from Burleydam near
Audlem, South of Alsager, Smallwood.

Little ringed plover (Charadrius dubius)
Breeding pairs at EHF, Rookery Bridge, Sandbach,
Taylor Burgess Elworth, Arclid SQ (3 - 4 pairs) Bent Farm
Astbury.

Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola)
1 over EHF on 5 October.

Little stint (Calidris minuta)
1 or 2 at EHF September/October and 10 November.

Curlew sandpiper (Calidris ferruginea)
Singles at EHF from 25 August to 3 October.

Marsh sandpiper (Tringa stagnatilis)
1 at PHF on 20 May.

Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa)
2 records from PHF with 7 on 1 August and 1 on
10 August.

Whimbrel (Numenius phaeopus)
Singles at EHF, PHF, Arclid SQ, in early autumn.

Spotted redshank (Tringa erythropus)
Singles at PHF, RF in March and April.

Greenshank (Tringa nebularia)
Singles at PHF, EHF, WLF, Arclid SQ in August and
September.

Black tern (Chlidonias niger)
An exceptional nationwide passage on 2 May was
represented locally with 33 at WLF, 12 at Arclid SQ and
26 at Hurleston Reservoir. Also 1 at Arclid on 13 May.

Guillemot (Uria aalge)
1 at phf on 28 January.

Stock Dove (Columba oenas)
6 prs. in nest boxes at Quaker's Coppice.

Turtle dove (Streptopelia turtur)
1 ad. at Arclid SQ on 9 June.

Barn Owl (Tyto alba)
Prs. bred at Crewe Hall, Congleton Town Centre, near
Bunbury and together with other sightings represent an
encouraging increase.

Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus)
2 near PHF on 11 February.

Tree pipit (Anthus trivialis)
Singing m. in mid-June at Roe Park near Mow Cop and
west side of The Cloud, Congleton.

Grey wagtail (Motacilla cinera)

The winter roost formed again at Arclid SQ but reduced in numbers.

Redstart (Phoenicurus phoenicurus)

Singing m. in mid-June at Roe Park near Mow Cop and west side of The Cloud, Congleton. Also an ad. at Arclid SQ on 25 April and a juv. at Barthomley on 16 July.

Whinchat (Saxicola rubetra)

1 pr. at EHF from 14 July to 25 August. 1 at Arclid SQ on 17 August.

Stonechat (Saxicola torquata)

1 f. near Moston Flash on 22 October.

Wheatear (Oenanthe oenanthe)

Low numbers EHF/PHF on passage. Also singles at Arclid SQ and near Mow Cop.

Grasshopper warbler (Locustella naevia)

1 m. "reeling" in late May near Barthomley.

Wood warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix)

Singing m. in mid-June at Roe Park near Mow Cop and west side of The Cloud, Congleton. Also at Brereton Country Park on 7 May,

Pied Flycatcher (Ficedula hypoleuca)

1 m. at Roe Park and 2 m. at The Cloud.

Blue tit (Parus caeruleus)

6 prs. used nest boxes at Quaker's Coppice.

Great tit (Parus major)

1 pr. used a nest box at Quaker's Coppice.

Nuthatch (Sitta europaea)

1 pr. used a nest box at Quaker's Coppice for the first time and fledged 5 juvs.

Lapland bunting (Calcarius lapponicus)

1 reported from Sandbach Flashes but no details.

Addition.

Common Sandpiper (Actitis hypoleucos)

1 pr. bred at Arclid s.q., the first proved breeding there.

Reed warbler (Acrocephalus scirpaceus)

2 m. singing during the summer from the maturing marsh at EHF were the first recorded there.

The following additional species were recorded within the area in usual numbers:-

Little grebe	Great crested grebe	Cormorant
Greylag goose	Bar headed goose	Canada goose
Barnacle goose	Shelduck	Teal
Mallard	Pintail	Shoveler
Pochard	Tufted duck	Ruddy duck
Sparrowhawk	Red-legged partridge	Grey partridge
Pheasant	Water rail	Moorhen
Coot	Oystercatcher	Ringed plover
Golden plover	Lapwing	Dunlin
Ruff	Snipe	Woodcock
Curlew	Redshank	Green sandpiper
Common sandpiper	Blackheaded gull	Common gull
Lesser blackheaded gull	Herring gull	Great blackbacked gull
Common/Arctic tern	Common tern	Feral pigeon
Woodpigeon	Collared dove	Cuckoo
Little owl	Tawny owl	Swift
Kingfisher	Green woodpecker	Great spotted woodpecker
Lesser spotted woodpecker		Skylark
Sand martin	Swallow	House martin
Meadow pipit	Yellow wagtail	Pied wagtail
Wren	Duncock	Robin
Blackbird	Fieldfare	Song thrush
Redwing	Mistle thrush	Sedge warbler
Reed warbler	Lesser whitethroat	Whitethroat
Garden warbler	Blackcap	Chiffchaff
Willow warbler	Goldcrest	Spotted flycatcher
Long-tailed tit	Willow tit	Coal tit
Treecreeper	Jay	Magpie
Jackdaw	Rook	Carriion crow
Starling	House sparrow	Tree sparrow
Chaffinch	Brambling	Greenfinch
Goldfinch	Siskin	Linnet
Redpoll	Bullfinch	Yellowhammer
Reed bunting	Corn bunting	