

A Revised List
of the
Birds of the Haslemere District



Prepared for the Haslemere Natural History Society
by PHYLLIS BOND
1955

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Editor of "Country Fair"

A LIST OF THE BIRDS OF THE HASLEMERE DISTRICT

Revised up to 1954.

This Bird List is compiled from records reported by many observers to the Haslemere Educational Museum. The area covered is approximately within a radius of six miles round Haslemere.

The last list published was Science Paper No. 7, compiled by the Rev. W. A. Shaw, 1921. Where his notes show that the status of a bird has changed, or where they add to our present knowledge, they are given in inverted commas. Initials in brackets denote the observer.

The classification followed is the Check List of Birds of Great Britain and Ireland 1952.

Order COLYMBIFORMES

Family COLYMBIDAE

- 1 **Black-throated Diver.** *Colymbus arcticus*.
No recent records. "A very rare visitor to Frensham (Waring-Kidd)".
- 2 **Great Northern Diver.** *Colymbus immer*.
No recent records. "Several killed at Frensham in the past. A bird which struck the telegraph wires at Haslemere was turned out by Mr. Swanton on Inval pond where it recovered."
- 4 **Red-throated Diver.** *Colymbus stellatus*.
A rare winter visitor. The following have occurred at Frensham: One bird on 12.2.31 and 15.10.31 (PV), another stayed from 3-12.2.33 (RCB). One was seen 12.12.48 (GAH) and one on 24.10.52 (GLT). Oiled birds have been picked up near Linchmere 7.5.38 (GWT), near Chiddingfold 20.2.50 (GC) and at Enton 31.12.52 (FAR).

Order PODICIPIDIFORMES

Family PODICIPIDAE

- 5 **Great Crested Grebe.** *Podiceps cristatus*.
A summer resident and passage migrant. A few pairs nest regularly at such places as Cut Mill, Lurgashall Mill, Witley Park, Shillinglee and Frensham, though on the Great Pond, now, not many young are successfully reared, owing to disturbance. Birds usually begin to arrive in February, and courtship may often be seen before the end of the month. Residents leave about October

though in the mild winter of 1953-54 one remained at Frensham till 4.1.54. Many birds pass through that do not breed here, e.g. there were twenty birds on the two Frensham Ponds in March 1953.

6 Red-necked Grebe. *Podiceps grisegena*.

A very rare visitor. A pair were seen on Little Frensham 9.7.25 (PMB and NB).

7 Slavonian Grebe. *Podiceps auritus*.

A rare winter visitor. "Charterhouse has one from Cosford Pond 1839". The following are recorded from Frensham: One on 16.12.23 (NB), another 1-3.2.37 (VZW and NB), 18.3.37 (RCB). One in November and December 1948 (CJFB). Two were seen in full plumage 8.4.51 (GF), one was noted on 23-24.11.52 (MMH), a pair on 27.10.53 (ASJ) and one on 2.11.54 (DAW).

8 Black-necked Grebe. *Podiceps caspicus*.

A very rare visitor. "Three or four have been killed in the past. One was seen at Frensham 14.3.20 (HB)". Further records at Frensham: One on 22.11.22, and 1.12.22 (NB). One on 21.7.32 (RCB), three on 12.2.34 and one in breeding plumage from 16-18.5.34 (PV).

9 Little Grebe. *Podiceps ruficollis*.

Resident. Common on suitable ponds. Numbers rise in autumn, the following being recorded at Frensham Great Pond: 102 in October 1948 (CJFB), 60 in September 1951 (CJFB) and 83 in August 1952 (JB).

Order PROCELLARIIFORMES

Family PROCELLARIIDAE

12 Leach's Petrel. *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*.

A rare straggler. "Charterhouse has three specimens from this district. A bird was seen at Frensham on 30.12.11 by WAS". One was found in a hot-house at "Plant Protection", Fernhurst, on 8.12.48, presumably having entered through a top light at night. In spite of care it died soon after (BR and CEO).

14 Storm-Petrel. *Hydrobates pelagicus*.

A very occasional straggler. "Single specimens from Milford and Witley are at Charterhouse". One was seen at Great Frensham 5.10.32 (PV). A storm driven bird was found at Hambleton 26.8.51 but died (EP); another was found dead at Easebourne 29.10.52 (JC).

Order PELECANIFORMES

7 Gannet. *Sula bassana*. Family SULIDAE

A very rare straggler. "Charterhouse collection contains specimens from Frensham and Haslemere." One was found on a garden pond at Easebourne after a storm on 3.11.52 (JC).

Family PHALACROCORACIDAE

28 Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

An occasional straggler. "One was reported at Frensham in the autumn of 1899 (B. HOOK) and an immature bird 28.8.07 (L. B. MORITZ)". One was seen at Frensham October and November 1932 (RCB) and from September to December 1948 (CJFB) and in April and the autumn of 1954. One stayed about Headley Mill for two weeks in July 1946 (CMK), one was seen at Churt 18.7.50 and at Witley Park 1953 (PFLB).

29 Shag. *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*.

A very rare straggler. "One killed at Cut Mill in 1820." One was seen at Great Frensham 27.2.37 (DP and JCMN).

Order ARDEIFORMES

Family ARDEIDAE

30 Heron. *Ardea cinerea*.

A frequent visitor at all times of the year. "Young birds at Peper Harow were shot and the spot deserted. Before 1914 there was a nesting colony in Woolmer Forest." A heronry at Black Lake near Farnham was destroyed when trees were felled during the 1939-45 war. A few pairs nest in Alice Holt. Birds occur frequently in one's and two's at Frensham, Shillinglee, Lurgashall. In November and December 1949 one visited the Museum pond daily (JC).

***31 Purple Heron.** *Ardea purpurea*.

No recent records. "Stafford mentions one killed at Frensham. No other record of its occurrence."

38 Bittern. *Botaurus stellaris*.

A very rare straggler. "E. W. Swanton records one shot at Grayshott Jan. 1895, another at Forked Pond 12.1.07 (C. COURT-TREAT)". One that was caught at Stanley Farm, Liphook, was released on Inval Pond 15.3.41 (AHB), another was seen at Peper Harow Park Jan. 1947 (FJB).

Family CICONIIDAE

40 White Stork. *Ciconia ciconia*.

No recent records. "One mentioned in Stafford's Private Notes as killed at Frensham." In 1939 some breeding birds were brought from their nests in Poland by air and released, after marking, at Haslemere Museum. The object of the experiment was to see whether they would find their way back to their nests. They were traced as far as the East Coast, after which unfortunately no further reports of them were received.

*1955. A juvenile was at Little Frensham Sept 18-24 (RSPB, MMH, PMB, NB, LCT).

Order PHOENICOPTERIFORMES

Family PHOENICOPTERIDAE

44 Flamingo. *Phoenicopterus ruber.*

No recent records. "One seen at Frensham in 1909 by O. H. Latter, H. Bentham and others."

Order ANSERIFORMES

Family ANATIDAE

45 Mallard. *Anas platyrhynchos.*

A common resident and winter visitor.

46 Teal. *Anas crecca.*

Resident and winter visitor. Flocks of thirty and forty are seen in winter, on reedy waters.

47 Garganey. *Anas querquedula.*

A very rare visitor. "I have seen a drake in a case of duck shot in the district." A party of four was watched at Great Frensham on 27.4.47 (LCT and PMB).

49 Gadwall. *Anas strepera.*

A rare visitor. "A female at Charterhouse shot at Hammer Pond, and a drake near Elstead 1850. One adult Frensham 12.11.20." One remained at Little Frensham from 3-11.5.21 (NB and WAS). Two were at Great Frensham 9.12.45 (IHB) and a female on 24.1.54 (DAW and others).

50 Wigeon. *Anas penelope.*

A regular winter visitor. Earliest date of arrival 4.10.33 (HT). Latest date recorded 23.4.49, a pair at Frensham (IHB).

52 Pintail. *Anas acuta.*

An uncommon winter visitor. "Adult drake at Frensham 8.2.08 (HB)." Two drakes were seen at Lurgashall Mill 2.2.30 (RCB) and two immature at Little Frensham 1.11.32. Twenty-five birds were at Cut Mill in Jan. 1939 (HCJ). A drake was at Frensham 31.12.47 and three drakes on 2.11.52 (CJFB). Two pairs were reported at Woolmer Pond on 20.3.53 (GDW) and a pair at Churt February 1954 (JR).

- 53 Shoveler.** *Spatula clypeata*.
A regular winter visitor. "T. Lindsay picked up a dead young one in 1904. HB reports a drake on 6.3.15 and a pair on 13.3.20 at Frensham." It has been seen at Frensham in every month from September to March, though usually only a few birds are present at a time. The maximum recorded is thirteen birds including three drakes on 25.10.46 (PMB).
- 54 Red-crested Pochard.** *Netta rufina*.
A very rare straggler of which we have only one record: a bird seen at Great Frensham 19.11.31 and at intervals till 29.1.32 (PV).
- 55 Scaup.** *Aythya marila*.
An occasional winter visitor. One or two have been noted at Frensham most winters. Six were seen on the Great Pond 14.10.31 (PV) and five females at Wades Marsh 17.12.44 (MMH). Two males and a female were at Lowder Mill 13.3.54 (REE).
- 56 Tufted Duck.** *Aythya fuligula*.
A common resident on most large ponds. This bird seems to have established itself since the 1920 List which states "A regular winter visitor; it is said to have nested with us." The largest numbers at Frensham occur in the winter, e.g. a hundred and seventeen on 2.12.51 (NB and MMH). At least six broods were reared at Great Frensham in 1951.
- 57 Pochard.** *Aythya ferina*.
A regular winter visitor. "H.B. and I have noticed pairs in May several times." Birds begin to arrive in September and usually leave in March. Numbers vary from single birds to one hundred and thirty-four in January 1949 and seventy-four in January 1950. A drake remained at Frensham from May to August 1947 and two males and a female were seen on 11.6.49.
- 58 White-eyed Pochard.** *Aythya nyroca*.
No recent records. "I watched one on 8.10.20 at Frensham."
- 60 Golden-eye.** *Bucephala clangula*.
An occasional winter visitor. "A good many notes by L. B. Moritz and H.B. from 1906 to 1915. I saw one in the autumn of 1919". Most occurrences have been in small numbers between October and March. A male was seen at Great Frensham 8.9.52 (NB and LCT) and sixteen birds were there on 14.11.52 (NB) and two immature on 27.12.53 (CJFB). One immature was at Little Frensham 21.3.54 (NB)
- 64 Common Scoter.** *Melanitta nigra*.
A rare winter visitor. One was seen on the Flashes Pond, Churt Common, 16.4.24 (LVF), a male was seen on Great Frensham 24.10.31 and a pair were there on 28.9.33 (PV). Two were seen there 14.11.52 (NB).

69 Red-breasted Merganser. *Mergus serrator*.

A rare visitor. One was seen at Frensham 11.5.21 (WAS with Haslemere Nat. Hist. Soc.) Twenty-five including three males were at Little Frensham 13.1.39 (MMH) and one which was there on 2.3.4.49 was also seen sometimes on the river (CJFB and DC).

70 Goosander. *Mergus merganser*.

An occasional winter visitor. "H.B. gives two records for 1909 and one for 1911, and counted thirteen immature or female birds on 13.3.20 at Frensham." It was present at Frensham every winter from 1932-1938 in varying numbers, e.g. two red-headed birds seen on 9.12.34 remained through January till 27.1.35 (NB). Three red-headed birds were at Little Frensham 8.11.36 (NB), numbers varied up to seven, till the last record on 24.3.37 (HT). Since the refilling of Frensham Ponds one red-headed bird was seen on 2.12.51 (CJFB) and one on 25.1.53 and 22.3.53 (CF and PMB). One or two were present for several weeks at the end of 1954 (PMB).

71 Smew. *Mergus albellus*.

An uncommon winter visitor. "I have seen a fine male shot years ago; one was seen by C. Court-Treat at Frensham 30.4.07." Three red-headed birds were seen at Enton from 13.2.38-27.2.38 (PASH). Odd birds occur at Frensham, particularly at the Little Pond, most winters (HT).

73 Sheld-Duck. *Tadorna tadorna*.

An uncommon visitor, turning up in one's and two's quite irregularly. "One at Charterhouse from Frensham." All our records are from Frensham, as follows: One on 23.12.35 (RCB), on 26.10.47 (MMH) and on 19.12.48 (CJFB). Three on 14.2.49 (DC), two on 1.5.50 (CJFB), three on 27.1.53 (NB) and on 19.4.53 (JB) and four birds on 8.5.53 (MLW).

Goose sp. *Anser*.

Occasional on passage. We have several records of Grey Geese, of which the species, unfortunately, could not be determined. Three at Frensham on 31.12.37 mounted to a great height before identification was possible (JCMN). One was seen there on 8.12.45 (MMH) and a flock were observed in the air on 14.12.52 (PJF). About twenty were seen flying in V formation over Fernhurst 2.11.47 (RPA).

80 Brent Goose. *Branta bernicla*.

A very occasional straggler. A pair were seen on Great Frensham 23.4.23 (PS and LCF) and a single bird, which appeared very tame, stayed on Little Frensham from 22.3.53 till 2.4.53 (CF).

81 Barnacle-Goose. *Branta leucopsis*.

No recent records. "One at Charterhouse was shot near Elstead 1849 and two were seen in Witley Park Feb. 1919 (DMCL)."

82 Canada Goose. *Branta canadensis*.

An irregular visitor and occasional nester. This species, introduced into England about two hundred years ago, is now completely wild; it is often seen at Frensham, Shillinglee, Lurgashall Mill, and Wades Marsh. A pair nested on Elstead Common in May 1932 (ECL and PMB).

84 Mute Swan. *Cygnus olor*.

A common resident, sometimes gathering in considerable numbers in winter, e.g. thirty to forty at Frensham 1932.

85 Whooper-Swan. *Cygnus cygnus*.

A very rare winter visitor. Two were observed in company with Mute Swans at Frensham on 27.2.22 (LCT and NB) and two adults and two immature birds were on Great Frensham 8.3.53 (MMH and DAW).

86 Bewick's Swan. *Cygnus bewickii*.

A very rare winter visitor. A pair were on Little Frensham from 13-27.1.29 in very hard weather (PMB) and three adults and two immature birds were there on 18.3.39 (RCB).

Order FALCONIFORMES

Family FALCONIDAE

91 Buzzard. *Buteo buteo*.

Resident in small numbers. "A rare visitor recorded in 1913 and a year or two later." The local birds are presumably descendants of nine birds which were turned loose in Witley Park in 1939. The birds bred and increased in the neighbourhood, but since the extensive ploughing up of grassland in the Second World War they appear to have decreased in numbers. Since their introduction breeding pairs have appeared at Three Bridges and the South Downs which one may presume are of this stock. Recent observations are: At Grayswood 28.5.50 (GP), Bowlhead Green 17.4.52 (PFLB) and Chase 14.6.52 (JD). At least one pair nested at Witley Park in 1954 (PFLB).

93 Sparrow-Hawk. *Accipiter nisus*.

A fairly common resident.

94 Goshawk. *Accipiter gentilis*.

No recent records. "From its size as it passed over me, I believe I saw one in recent years."

98 Honey-Buzzard. *Pernis apivorus*.

No recent records. "There are specimens from Milford and Witley in the Charterhouse collection. Waring Kidd in a paper on the birds of Godalming states that two were shot at Shillinglee Park."

99 Marsh-Harrier. *Circus aeruginosus*.

A very rare visitor. "I watched a pair on the commons 16.5.14." A male was seen over Ockley Common 4.5.33 and recorded at Godalming three days later (RCB).

100 Hen-Harrier. *Circus cyaneus*.

An occasional winter visitor. "A pair near the Devil's Jumps 17.3.07 (L. B. MORITZ)." There are twelve records of this species since 1933 on various commons, including Thursley 26.2.33 (HT), Little Frensham 27.11.38 (RCB), Ludshott 4.3.39 (HTG) and Hankley (just beyond our area) 27.3.52 (PFLB). The latest records are of an adult male seen over Frensham Common and later the same day over Thursley Common 4.4.53, probably the same bird at Pudmore 6.4.53 (PFLB), also at Little Frensham on 28.6.53 (GF) and 14.12.53 (HT).

102 Montagu's Harrier. *Circus pygargus*.

Now a rare visitor, formerly a nesting species. "Two young were reared near Thursley in 1907. In 1908 the eggs failed to hatch (HB). J. Denyer nearly cycled over a young bird in 1917, the latest year in which we observed any." One was seen at Grayshott in July 1922 and subsequently a pair were seen there (LCT). A female or immature bird was observed at Frensham 15.3.35 (PV) and another at Ludshott 25.4.35 (HTG). Another was seen in the Punch Bowl, Hindhead, 9.11.46 (DND). A male was watched beating over the ridge between the two ponds at Frensham 14.5.54 (KDGM).

103 Osprey. *Pandion haliaetus*.

A very rare visitor. Gilbert White records the shooting of one at Frensham, while it was sitting on the handle of a plough devouring a fish in 1777. "O. H. Latter, J. Denyer and I have a few recent records of this species passing." One in Alton Museum was shot at Frensham in 1876. More recently, an Osprey was watched catching fish at Enton Ponds in 1949 (FAR). One was seen by Mr. Atherton taking fish from Little Frensham on 27.4.53 and was later watched preening itself on a dead birch. It eventually disappeared in a northerly direction (NB, DAW, PMB).

104 Hobby. *Falco subbuteo*.

A sparsely distributed and intermittent summer visitor. "Noted by L. B. Moritz, H. Bentham or myself in most seasons since 1906." Although the nests were often robbed by egg-collectors, this bird was a regular nesting species on two local commons until 1939. Since the war the old haunts have been deserted; there have been three records of passing birds. In 1951 a pair reared one young one, and in 1952 three were successfully reared (PFLB).

105 Peregrine Falcon. *Falco peregrinus.*

A rare winter visitor. "I have noticed several passing during the last ten years." There are several records from Woolmer: One was watched stooping at assemblies of crows on 30.1.38 (RCB), a pair were there 6.3.38 (EEHJ) and a pair on 10.10.53 (PFLB). Single birds have been seen at Little Frensham and Lurgashall Mill, and one was seen several times near Chiddingfold in March 1950 (GHK).

107 Merlin. *Falco columbarius.*

A rare winter visitor. "Two or three notes for my side of the district." Records of single birds are from Little Frensham 2.1.34 (PV), Churt 6.1.36, Frensham 31.2.36 (PV), Thursley district 1.11.36 (HT), Frensham 24.10.37. The only post-war records are one at Ockley Common 27 and 31.12.51, and a male at Woolmer on 2 and 4.1.53 (PFLB).

108 Red-footed Falcon. *Falco vespertinus.*

No recent records. "I have examined a specimen which was shot in Witley Park in spring some years back, not in adult plumage. A male gave me a short inspection 11.7.15."

110 Kestrel. *Falco tinnunculus.*

A common resident.

Order GALLIFORMES

Family TETRAONIDAE

113 Black Grouse. *Lyrurus tetrix.*

No recent records. "A Grey Hen shot on Blackdown 15.11.90 by Col. F. Glennie is now in Haslemere Museum. In 1899 a cock bird was shot near Hindhead. Two pairs near Thursley 1898 and 1899 and a pair in the same locality in 1905." Mrs. Dowling says her father John Aslett "went out regularly to get a pair for a gentleman, the next pair he kept for himself." A pair shot by him at Hankley about 1896 are in Haslemere Museum.

Family PHASIANIDAE

115 Red-legged Partridge. *Alectoris rufa.*

A fairly common resident.

116 Partridge. *Perdix perdix.*

A common resident which has increased since the Second World War, when more land was put under the plough.

117 Quail. *Coturnix coturnix.*

Very rare visitor. "It has been shot near Haslemere, I have noticed it twice in recent autumns. The last occasion was on the day of the Armistice 11.11.18." Our only recent record is a bird heard calling on 9 and 10.5.54 at Elstead (AFM).

118 Pheasant. *Phasianus colchicus.*

A very common resident.

Order RALLIFORMES

Family RALLIDAE

120 Water-Rail. *Rallus aquaticus*.

A scarce resident, or at least one that is not often observed. It has occurred at Lurgashall Mill, Waggoners' Wells (where one spent a night indoors) (JAW), Enton, near Henley and Critchmere. MMH found a nest with nine eggs at Little Frensham 30.5.39. While the pond was still empty in 1949 it was observed there several times (CJFB), and after re-filling it was heard there again on 24.3.52 and on subsequent visits till 31.10.53, when two were heard in the swamp at the southern corner (PFLB).

121 Spotted Crake. *Porzana porzana*.

One recent record. "A male was shot on Headley Heath by a keeper in 1884, one in Witley Park on 1.5.06." A pair remained in a marsh near Witley from April to July 1930 (HT).

124 Little Crake. *Porzana parva*.

No recent records. Watched by WAS near one of the ponds on the Commons 17.9.10."

125 Corncrake. *Crex crex*.

Now a very rare visitor, "formerly frequent". We have only two records since 1920: at Witley Park 28.8.46 (JCB) and a male seen and heard near the Devil's Jumps 9 and 10.7.51 (PV). It is interesting to note that it nested near Godalming in 1946 (TRG).

126 Moorhen. *Gallinula chloropus*.

A very common resident on streams and ponds of all sizes.

127 Coot. *Fulica atra*.

A very common resident on the larger ponds, and passage migrant. During the autumn there is a large passage movement at Frensham, numbers rising to several hundreds—six hundred in November-December 1950 and nine hundred in February 1951. In very cold weather the entire Coot population leaves the pond.

Order CHARADRIIFORMES

Family HAEMATOPODIDAE

131 Oystercatcher. *Haematopus ostralegus*.

A very rare straggler. "It has been shot at Frensham". The only recent records are of a single bird in company with a Redshank at Little Frensham 10.3.22 (NB) and one on the sandy shore of Great Frensham 21.3.54 (AFM).

Family CHARADRIIDAE.

- 133 Lapwing.** *Vanellus vanellus*.
A regular breeding species in small numbers, augmented by large flocks which come into the district in autumn and winter. A strong westward migration over Frensham Common was observed during the whole morning on 29.12.35, flocks of ten to fifty birds flying at 500 ft. (PV). Flocks of over two hundred were seen daily at Enton during November 1936 (GOA).
- 134 Ringed Plover.** *Charadrius hiaticula*.
An occasional visitor. Recorded at Frensham Ponds eight times since 1920, in April, May, August, September and October. "On May 30 1909 four eggs were found by HB."
- 139 Grey Plover.** *Charadrius squatarola*.
A very rare visitor. It was heard calling over Grayswood at 10.30 p.m. 29.10.37 (RCB) and four were seen flying due south over Thursley 1.10.38 (HT).
- 140 Golden Plover.** *Charadrius apricarius*.
A rare visitor. It was seen over Thursley on 8.10.33 and 14.11.36 (HT). A party of about twenty passed over Haslemere calling, on 12.8.41 (PMB). Fifty in winter dress were seen at Frensham 24.3.49 (PL) and one was seen at Liphook 14.12.52 (GAH).
- 142 Dotterel.** *Charadrius morinellus*.
No recent records. "Two in Charterhouse collection were probably killed at Hindhead in 1845."
- 143 Turnstone.** *Arenaria interpres*.
No recent records. "One shot at Hammer Pond is in the Charterhouse collection."

Family SCOLOPACIDAE

- 145 Snipe.** *Capella gallinago*.
Resident in small numbers, and autumn immigrant.
- 147 Jack Snipe.** *Lymnocyptes minimus*.
A rare winter visitor. "Much less plentiful than formerly." It has been seen at the Devil's Jumps 6.1.36 (PV) and Pudmore 11.11.36 (HT). Two were flushed at Little Frensham 15.1.39 (PMB and RCB).
- 148 Woodcock.** *Scolopax rusticola*.
Resident in suitable places all over the district. Roding usually begins in February.
- 150 Curlew.** *Numenius arquata*.
Resident. A few pairs breed in the Thursley-Elstead area, and occasional birds pass over the district, probably on migration, e.g. a few passed over the Devil's Jumps heading west at night 23.10.35 (PV), over Kingsley Green in February and March 1937 (MMH) and over Haslemere 18.6.54 (VKB).

- 151 Whimbrel.** *Numenius phaeopus*.
Occasional passage migrant. One was seen at Woolmer 21.5.34 (RCB) and birds are heard passing over Churt nearly every year (HT).
- 156 Green Sandpiper.** *Tringa ocropus*.
Occasional visitor. One was at Little Frensham 9.8.34, another in moult arrived there 19.7.35 and stayed till 7.8.35 (PV). One was noted at Enton 1.12.42 (MMH) and one at Little Frensham 12.12.54 (IHB and MLW). Odd birds are seen at the small ponds in the Churt-Frensham area most Septembers (HT).
- 159 Common Sandpiper.** *Tringa hypoleucos*.
A regular spring and autumn migrant at Frensham, usually single birds or small parties, though ten birds were seen there on 4.9.49 (MMH). It occurs occasionally at Shillinglee and Lurgashall Mill. "G. Streatfield found two young ones at Frensham 1896, and I watched a family party of six in Witley Park 19.7.11."
- 161 Redshank.** *Tringa totanus*.
A regular spring visitor to Frensham, usually arriving mid-March; It has bred there in the past and a chick was seen there in 1950 (GF). It has also occurred at Pudmore 10.5.48 (FJB) and Woolmer 20.4.52 (PFLB).
- 162 Spotted Redshank.** *Tringa erythropus*.
A very rare spring visitor. "A specimen in Charterhouse collection was obtained at Forked Pond 1855." We have only three records: at Frensham 5.5.24 (WAS) and 1.5.25 (EVW) and two near Elstead 27.5.25 (HB and RK).
- 165 Greenshank.** *Tringa nebularia*.
A very rare visitor. Since 1920 we have only one record of a bird flying over Thursley at 11 p.m. 29.8.37 (HT).
- 169 Knot.** *Calidris canutus*.
A very rare visitor. "One was shot near Pudmore Dec. 1844." One was seen at Little Frensham 16.5.22 (NB and HC) and at the same place another allowed approach to within a few yards on 7.10.22 (PMB). One was seen in partial summer plumage at Great Frensham 4.5.47 (PMB) and one there on 4.10.54 (AFM).
- 170 Purple Sandpiper.** *Calidris maritima*.
No recent record. "Charterhouse has a specimen shot at Milford."
- 171 Little Stint.** *Calidris minuta*.
A very rare visitor. "One at Little Frensham in company with a Dunlin 22.7.19 (HB)." A single record since 1920 of a bird on the sandy shore of Great Frensham which allowed a very close approach 10.10.46 (PMB).

178 Dunlin. *Calidris alpina.*

An occasional visitor. We have eleven records at Frensham since 1920, including a party of four on 18.12.38 (LCT), one in summer plumage 19.5.50 (MMH) and observations in July 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954.

179 Curlew-Sandpiper. *Calidris testacea.*

No recent record. "One showing a considerable amount of red plumage at Frensham 13.4.06 and an immature bird 16.8.20."

181 Sanderling. *Crocethia alba.*

No recent record. "It has been shot at Frensham (Waring-Kidd)."

Family RECURVIROSTRIDAE.

185 Avocet. *Recurvirostra avosetta.*

A very rare visitor. "Recorded from Frensham in Stafford's Private Notes." "Knox's 'Ornithological Rambles in Sussex' records a bird of the year shot at Lurgashall 1.9.1848." Our only recent record is of a pair observed at Great Frensham 16.3.29 (JB).

186 Black-winged Stilt. *Himantopus himantopus.*

No recent record. "Mentioned by Gilbert White as shot by Frensham Pond in 1779." Another was observed in 1832.

Family PHALAROPODIDAE.

187 Grey Phalarope. *Phalaropus fulicarius.*

A very rare straggler. Our only record is one observed at Frensham 25.1.53 (GF).

Family BURHINIDAE.

189 Stone-Curlew. *Burhinus oedicephalus.*

No recent record. "S. A. Davies saw one on Hankley Common April 1895."

Family LARIDAE.

198 Greater Black-backed Gull. *Larus marinus.*

A rare straggler. "An immature at Frensham 2.6.06." A pair were seen to alight at Frensham from the S.W. 25.3.51 (GF). One flew over 12.3.54 (AFM) and four flew over 26.12.54 (DAW). It has been seen passing over Waggoners' Wells (JAW).

199 Lesser Black-backed Gull. *Larus fuscus.*

Occasional visitor. It has been seen flying over Inval 3.7.35 (MMH), over Lodsworth 27.4.37 (HT), over Enton 29.4.37 (GOA). Birds were recorded from Frensham 13.4.34 (PV), 30.4.50 (PMB) and 3.9.54 (MW).

200 Herring-Gull. *Larus argentatus.*

An occasional visitor to Frensham.

- 201 Common Gull, *Larus canus*.**
Occasionally seen at Frensham, or flying over the district.
- 207 Little Gull, *Larus minutus*.**
A very rare straggler. "One shot near Frensham 1875." An immature bird was found dead at Cowdray 18.11.36 (MMH). Two were seen at Frensham in first winter plumage on several dates in November 1948 (MMH) and one, probably a first year bird, was there 26.8.51 (GF).
- 208 Black-headed Gull, *Larus ridibundus*.**
A common visitor to Frensham, not infrequently seen flying over this district.
- 211 Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla*.**
A rare straggler. At Frensham one was seen on 11.11.21 (WAS), an immature bird on 22.10.39 (MMH) and a bird that appeared storm-driven on 3.4.48 (PMB). After severe storms a bird was found in Fieldway, Haslemere, on 30.11.54, and afterwards released on the coast (HM).
- 212 Black Tern, *Chlidonias niger*.**
A regular spring passage migrant. It has been seen at Frensham each year since 1946, though sometimes in very small numbers. In 1948 a migration passed through, rising from two birds on 16.5.48 to over fifty on 21.5.48 (DC). Thirty were seen on 13.5.50 (DC). There are two autumn records of single birds on 5.9.48 (IHB) and 8.10.50 (PH). The species must have become commoner lately since W.A.S. wrote: "It has been shot in the past, and was observed on 31.7.10 and 2.8.14."
- 217 Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*.**
Occasional passage migrant at Frensham. Most years one or more birds are seen in April, and rather less frequently in September and October. Fourteen birds were seen together on 28.4.47 (PMB and NB).
- 218 Arctic Tern, *Sterna macrura*.**
A very rare visitor. The first record for the district was on 27.4.47 when two were seen at Frensham with three other Terns (LCT) and the following day two were with fourteen Common Terns (PMB and NB). Seven were seen there on 21.5.48 (DC).
- 219 Roseate Tern, *Sterna dougallii*.**
No recent record. "'A Son of the Marshes' states that it has been shot at Frensham."
- 222 Little Tern, *Sterna albifrons*.**
A rare visitor. "One on 5.8.08 and two on 13.7.09, one picked up 16.10.20." One was watched fishing at Great Frensham 27.4.30 (RCB) and another on 24 and 26.10.32 (NB and PMB).

223 Sandwich Tern. *Sterna sandvicensis*.

A very rare visitor. "One at Charterhouse was shot at Frensham 1837, one seen over some ponds on the Commons 11.7.14." One was watched resting on a post in Frensham Pond 17.9.47 (HEH), four were there on 29.4.48 (IHB) and one on 4.9.49 (MMH).

Family ALCIDAE

226 Little Auk. *Plautus alle*.

A very rare straggler. "One in the Charterhouse collection was picked up at Haslemere; it has been taken at Witley." One was found dead at Easebourne 12.2.50 (BG).

227 Guillemot. *Uria aalge*.

No recent record. "Charterhouse has one from Milford."

230 Puffin. *Fratercula arctica*.

A very rare straggler. "Has been picked up dead or injured on High Down Ball, Witley and the Hog's Back." A storm-driven bird was picked up exhausted near Milford and later liberated on Thursley Hammer Pond 16.2.38 (GOA).

Order COLUMBIFORMES

Family PTEROCLIDAE

231 Pallas's Sandgrouse. *Syrnhaptes paradoxus*.

No recent record. "My old Charterhouse master Rev. G. S. Davies observed seven near Thursley in 1888."

Family COLUMBIDAE

232 Stock-Dove. *Columba oenas*.

A fairly common resident, scattered about the district; sometimes seen in large numbers, as on 8.11.43 when hundreds were seen in flight over Weydown (CIB).

234 Woodpigeon. *Columba palumbus*.

A very common resident, in autumn augmented by immigrant flocks sometimes of immense size. A flock estimated at ten thousand birds settled in a wooded valley below Marley, taking fifteen minutes to pass, 12.11.34. A large migration, in parties of two hundred to five hundred each, passed over Haslemere from 7.15 to 7.45 a.m. on 24.10.38 (RJH).

235 Turtle-Dove. *Streptopelia turtur*.

A common summer resident, arriving usually the last week in April.

Order CUCULIFORMES

Family CUCULIDAE

- 237 Cuckoo.** *Cuculus canorus.*
A very common summer resident, which usually arrives about April 11th.

Order STRIGIFORMES

Family STRIGIDAE

- 241 Barn-Owl.** *Tyto alba.*
Not a very common resident but strongly attached to certain breeding places.
- 242 Scops Owl.** *Otus scops.*
No recent record. Waring Kidd in a paper on the Birds of Godalming says that a single specimen was shot at Shillinglee Park.
- 246 Little Owl.** *Athene noctua.*
A fairly common resident. "Had increased during the previous five or six years, but seemed scarce in 1920."
- 247 Tawny Owl.** *Strix aluco.*
A common resident.
- 248 Long-eared Owl.** *Asio otus.*
An uncommon resident. One was found shot on Marley 20.11.34 (MMH) and two were seen on Thursley Common 9.5.39 (RHBS). It has also been seen on Ludshott. Occasionally seen or heard at Churt, the last date being 11.4.54 (HT).
- 249 Short-eared Owl.** *Asio flammeus.*
A very rare visitor. One was seen at Churt flying due south, apparently migrating, 1.10.46 (HT).

Order CAPRIMULGIFORMES

Family CAPRIMULGIDAE

- 252 Nightjar.** *Caprimulgus europaeus.*
A regular summer resident on most of the heaths, though not so common as in the 1920's. It is usually heard in the first or second week of May; early records are: churring at Fernhurst 19.4.48 (PFLB) and seen and heard at Hydon Heath 12.4.49 (PFC).

Order APODIFORMES

Family APODIDAE

255 Swift. *Apus apus*.

A common summer resident and passage migrant, usually appearing the last week of April. It has nested for many years at Haslemere Parish Church and Grayswood Church. Large numbers pass through the district on migration. When a watch was kept from dawn to noon on 11.5.47 about 400 were observed passing over Frensham between 7.10 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.; the following year about 175 were seen passing over between almost identical hours, after which no more were seen that day (LCT, NB, PMB).

Order CORACIFORMES

Family ALCEDINIDAE

258 Kingfisher. *Alcedo atthis*.

Resident in small numbers. It is seen fairly frequently at Frensham and has occurred several times at the Museum Pond, and occasionally at most ponds and streams in the district.

Family UPUPIDAE

261 Hoopoe. *Upupa epops*.

A rare visitor. "One was seen at Haslemere in 1915 by E. W. Swanton." One was shot at Frensham in 1838, another near Liphook 22.4.1845. One spent three days in a garden at Thursley and was so tame it could have been touched with the foot as it picked in the grass September 1941 (AR). Another was watched on a lawn at Headley Down 24.5.45 by Col. Waight. One was at Elstead for several days 17.5.47 (Mrs. Hyne) and another at Headley 19.4.52 (KDW).

Order PICIFORMES

Family PICIDAE

262 Green Woodpecker. *Picus viridis*.

A common resident throughout the district, seen on commons as well as in woods.

263 Greater Spotted Woodpecker. *Dendrocopos major*.

A fairly common resident which seems to have a preference for birch trees for nesting.

264 Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. *Dendrocopos minor*.

Well, but sparsely, distributed resident, possibly not so often observed as the foregoing species, owing to its small size and habit of frequenting the higher branches. It nested in a garden in Haslemere High Street May 1951 (JC).

265 Wryneck. *Jynx torquilla*.

A rare summer resident. This species has decreased much since WAS wrote "Fairly common usually". Eight occurrences were reported between 1922 and 1939, in Haslemere, Marley and Thursley, including a pair that evicted Green Woodpeckers from their nest hole (RCB). Records since the War are: One seen at Truxton, Thursley Common, 30.5.40 (RHBS), present at Frensham Heights during the summer of 1953 (EEHJ) and one at Little Frensham 3.9.54 (ECR).

Order PASSERIFORMES

Family ALAUDIDAE

271 Woodlark. *Lullula arborea*.

A resident that is scattered in small numbers over commons and open fields in most parts of the district. The song is often heard in autumn and in January and February when few other birds are singing.

272 Skylark. *Alauda arvensis*.

A common resident. In the hard weather of 1938 there were several records of Skylarks coming to feed in gardens (GOA).

Family HIRUNDINIDAE

274 Swallow. *Hirundo rustica*.

A common summer resident, though not so numerous as the House-Martin. Average date of arrival April 8th; a pair have been seen feeding young as late as 11.10.50, and the latest bird recorded was seen at Haslemere 11.11.26 (PMB).

276 House-Martin. *Delichon urbica*.

A common summer resident. A number of pairs nest regularly in Haslemere High Street. Three broods were raised successively in one nest in 1946 (IMT). Late records are: Young in nest 3.10.35 (RCB). Young left nest 13.10.36 (AFB). Large numbers congregated on the roof of Town House from the 10 to 12.9.52 and left on 13.9.52 (JC).

277 Sand-Martin. *Riparia riparia*.

A summer resident in a few colonies. Several old colonies have recently disappeared; one between the two ponds at Frensham was destroyed by tank practice, and the large colony at Marchant's Farm appears at present to be deserted, owing to the sand workings. The earliest recorded arrivals are in the last week in March.

Family ORIOLIDAE

278 Golden Oriole. *Oriolus oriolus*.

No recent record. "Has been shot at Chiddingfold and Witley."

Family CORVIDAE

- 279 Raven.** *Corvus corax.*
No recent record. "One from Chiddingfold in Charterhouse collection. H.W. records it from Hindhead."
- 280 Carrion-Crow.** *Corvus corone.*
A fairly common resident. "It increased in numbers during the 1914-1918 war."
- 281 Hooded Crow.** *Corvus cornix.*
A rare visitor. One was seen in Chase Lane 10.1.49 (NS) and on Blackdown 13.5.49 (JD). Another was seen near Frensham Ponds in June 1949 (CJFB) and one was picked up dead in Cowdray Park 23.10.52 (TCW).
- 282 Rook.** *Corvus frugilegus.*
A very common resident. At least three thousand Rooks and Jackdaws used to roost in the pines overlooking Little Frensham Pond; these pines were felled during the Second World War. About seven thousand five hundred Rooks and Jackdaws were roosting at Birtley in December 1936 (EEHJ). There were seventy nests in the Grayswood rookery in 1945 (GOA). New rookeries were started in Longdene Road in 1940, near West Surrey Golf Club in 1947 (presumably an offshoot of the rookery at Milford Station), a new rookery of eleven nests formed in Beech Road 1949, and one in Holdfast Lane in 1948. In 1948 the Ministry of Agriculture ordered a general reduction in the number of rooks.
- 283 Jackdaw.** *Corvus monedula.*
A fairly common resident.
- 284 Magpie.** *Pica pica.*
A very common resident. "Common in one part of our district, and during the 1914-1918 war it increased in others where it used to be scarce." History repeats itself, and during the Second World War it again increased and now does much damage to eggs and nestlings of other birds.
- 286 Jay.** *Garrulus glandarius.*
A very common resident. "Fairly abundant." It has increased during two wars.

Family PARIDAE.

- 288 Great Titmouse.** *Parus major.*
A very common resident.
- 289 Blue Titmouse.** *Parus caeruleus.*
A very common resident.
- 290 Coal-Titmouse.** *Parus ater.*
A common resident. "Local."

292 Marsh-Titmouse. *Parus palustris*.

A common resident, in no way restricted to marshes.

293 Willow-Titmouse. *Parus atricapillus*.

A resident thinly distributed in most damp places with an abundance of rotten birch, sallow or alder stumps. In winter regularly in drier situations, particularly hazel hedges (HT).

294 Long-tailed Titmouse. *Aegithalos caudatus*.

A common resident. "Well distributed, but scarce in 1919 until autumn." This species suffers much in hard weather; it practically disappeared after the severe winters of 1946 and 1947 but has completely recovered.

295 Bearded Titmouse. *Panurus biarmicus*.

No records for over a century. "1825 Cut Mill."

Family SITTIDAE

296 Nuthatch. *Sitta europaea*.

A common resident of all our woods. "Fairly common in all suitable localities."

Family CETHIDAE

298 Treecreeper. *Certhia familiaris*.

A common resident. "Fairly common."

Family TROGLODYTIDAE.

299 Wren. *Troglodytes troglodytes*.

A very common resident on the heaths as well as in garden and woodland.

Family CINCLIDAE

300 Dipper. *Cinclus cinclus*.

No records for our district. "One was shot at Peper Harow some forty years ago. The specimen at Charterhouse came from Unstead."

Family TURDIDAE

301 Mistle-Thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*.

A common resident, often seen in large flocks in winter. About a hundred were observed roosting in Scots Pines at Frensham 6.10.36 (RCB) and a flock of thirty were seen eating yew berries on the Museum lawn 1.9.44 (EWS).

302 Fieldfare. *Turdus pilaris*.

A winter visitor which occurs in the greatest numbers on the clay round Shillinglee, Northchapel and Lurgashall, but is also seen occasionally in other parts of the district, e.g. forty on Marley 28.11.50 (MMH) and thirty to fifty flying south over the Punch Bowl 21.11.51 (CJFB).

- 303 Song-Thrush.** *Turdus ericetorum*.
A very common resident. About fifteen years ago it was rarely seen at Beacon Hill, Hindhead, but now is common, perhaps due to building and the increase of gardens (DAW).
- 304 Redwing.** *Turdus musicus*.
A common winter migrant, more generally distributed in the area than the Fieldfare. It usually arrives in October and stays till March. Late records are Kingsley Green 4.4.37 (MMH) and a bird found newly dead at Frensham 5.5.49 (DC).
- 307 Ring-Ouzel.** *Turdus torquatus*.
An occasional passage migrant. One was seen at Kingsley Green 1.4.46 (MMH) and a pair were watched at Weydown 6.4.51 (OPH and TH). A male was observed at close range at Woolmer on 19.4.52 and one on Hankley Common 2.10.52 (PFLB). They are fairly regular at Hindhead on autumn passage, small flocks sometimes feeding on rowan berries (HT).
- 308 Blackbird.** *Turdus merula*.
A very common resident. It has increased at Hindhead during the last fifteen years.
- 311 Wheatear.** *Oenanthe oenanthe*.
A regular passage migrant in spring and autumn. It has nested on Hankley Common and possibly does so still. It has been seen several times at Weydown on autumn passage (VKB). The Greenland race, *Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa*, is a very occasional passage migrant. One was noted at Frensham 16.5.27 (WAS).
- 317 Stonechat.** *Saxicola torquata*.
A rather scarce resident whose numbers have decreased considerably since the 1920's, when it was common on all the heaths. It practically disappeared during the War years, but appears to be recovering since 1950, there being now at least one pair on most of the heaths.
- 318 Whinchat.** *Saxicola rubetra*.
A summer resident that has become very scarce. "Local, but several pairs often nest in a small area." It was seen on Hankley Common 26.4.33 (PV), at Kingsley Green on 21.5.34 and 16.8.34 (MMH). It still nests at Thursley (HT).
- 320 Redstart.** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.
A rather scarce summer resident. The species appeared to become very scarce before the 1939 War; however, it seems to have made a good recovery and in 1951 seven or eight pairs were known to be nesting in the area, and no doubt there were others not observed. The sites most often chosen seem to be among thinly scattered old trees adjacent to heath land.

321 Black Redstart. *Phoenicurus ochruros*.

An occasional passage migrant in both spring and autumn, so may be increasing, as WAS wrote "occurs rarely in autumn." A female was watched at Linchmere moving north on 25.3.33 (RCB) and another female near Little Frensham 28.3.36 (PMB). A male was watched feeding at a bird-table at Marley 16.3.41, but unfortunately died next day (ARD) and one was at Frensham 19.4.53 (JB). Autumn records are: Devil's Jumps 19.11.36 (PV) and Shottermill 25.10.52 (DCN).

322 Nightingale. *Luscinia megarhynchos*.

A well distributed summer resident. Records for the last twenty years show the average date on which it was first heard was April 16th.

325 Robin. *Erithacus rubecula*.

A very common resident.

Family SYLVIIDAE.

327 Grasshopper-Warbler. *Locustella naevia*.

Now a very uncommon summer visitor. Before 1939 it nested regularly on several local heaths. Possibly the use of the commons by the military and the damage done to them disturbed the birds. The following few occurrences give one hope that it is returning: Heard at Ludshott (LCT) and at Verdley (PFLB) in 1949, and at Hindhead in May 1953 and 1954 (CJFB).

333 Reed-Warbler. *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*.

An occasional summer visitor. It was heard singing at Lurgashall Mill 21.4.37 (PMB) and at Thursley 4.5.37 (HT). Until 1939 a small colony nested every year in a little patch of Phragmites at Great Frensham Pond; when the pond was drained this died and the Reed-Warblers left. In 1954 Phragmites again appeared and a Reed-Warbler was heard singing on 20.6.54 (CJFB). Its scarcity in the district is probably due to the lack of this reed, its favourite haunt.

334 Marsh-Warbler. *Acrocephalus palustris*.

No recent record. "L. B. Moritz mentions two nests in 1907, but they were afterwards robbed. A rat (?) had the young from a nest I found since then. I have only one other note of one passing in autumn."

337 Sedge-Warbler. *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*.

A summer resident that nests at Frensham, Lurgashall Mill and other suitable places.

- 343 Blackcap.** *Sylvia atricapilla*.
A common summer resident which usually arrives in the first half of April. Early records are: 23.3.43 at Haslemere (ROB), 22.3.48 at Kingsley Green (MMH). An unusual occurrence was a wintering female that fed at a bird-table in Haslemere from 12-19.2.37, but disappeared when cold became more intense (PMB).
- 346 Garden-Warbler.** *Sylvia borin*.
A common summer resident: average date of arrival in twelve years, April 19th.
- 347 Whitethroat.** *Sylvia communis*.
A very common summer resident, usually recorded in the second week of April. The earliest record we have is a bird singing at Lodsworth Common 1.4.46 (NB).
- 348 Lesser Whitethroat.** *Sylvia curruca*.
A fairly common summer resident.
- 352 Dartford Warbler.** *Sylvia undata*.
Very rare at the present time. "Clutch-hunters, camps and commons fires have caused it to be much rarer than it used to be." Before 1939 there were pairs on all the local commons; in 1932 R.C.B. estimated that there were fifty pairs, and in 1933 at least ninety pairs on local commons, but its status always seems to be precarious, the most serious calamity being the devastation of its breeding haunts by military operations in the Second World War. At the present time (1954) several independent observations give definite hope of its return.
- 354 Willow-Warbler.** *Phylloscopus trochilus*.
Our commonest summer resident. Average date of arrival recorded in twenty-five years, April 2nd.
- 356 Chiffchaff.** *Phylloscopus collybita*.
A very common summer resident. Average date of arrival over twenty years is March 23rd.
- 357 Wood-Warbler.** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*.
A fairly common summer resident. Its nesting sites seem often to be associated with beech trees; this is probably due to its preference for tall trees with little undergrowth.

Family REGULIDAE.

- 364 Goldcrest.** *Regulus regulus*.
A fairly common resident, but subject to considerable fluctuations in numbers. In the exceptionally cold weather of 1946-47 it was greatly reduced, but seems to have recovered.
- 365 Firecrest.** *Regulus ignicapillus*.
A very rare visitor of which we have only one record: One at Thursley on 6.2.34 (HT).

Family MUSCICAPIDAE.

- 366 **Spotted Flycatcher.** *Muscicapa striata*.
A common summer resident. Average date of arrival May 9th.
- 368 **Pied Flycatcher.** *Muscicapa hypoleuca*.
A rare passage migrant. One was seen at Thursley 19.9.34 (HT), at Valewood 25.4.41 (JLH), at Marley 12.4.50 (J. Barley), Frensham 11.5.52 (TE) and at Grayswood 25.5.52 (BN). A pair were watched investigating a hole at Waggoners' Wells 23.5.52 (JAW).

Family PRUNELLIDAE

- 371 **Hedge Sparrow.** *Prunella modularis*.
A very common resident.

Family MOTACILLIDAE

- 375 **Meadow-Pipit.** *Anthus pratensis*.
A common resident whose ranks are reinforced by winter migrants. R.C.B. reported flocks of twenty-five to forty birds on 12.9.36 and 22.9.38 where they were not resident.
- 376 **Tree-Pipit.** *Anthus trivialis*.
A common summer resident.
- 379 **Rock-Pipit.** *Anthus spinoletta*.
A very rare visitor. "Has been shot at Tilford." Our only records are one observed at very close quarters on the edge of Frensham Pond on 22.3.53 (EH) and two at the same place on 4.4.53 (PFLB).
- 380 **Pied Wagtail.** *Motacilla alba yarrelli*.
A common resident, present all the year, but many are migratory. About forty were seen collecting to roost in a hollow near Frensham on 2.3.22 (NB) and just beyond our area about two hundred to two hundred and twenty birds were regularly observed roosting in a reed-bed during October 1936 (EEHJ).

White Wagtail. *Motacilla alba alba*.

An occasional passage migrant. "One near Haslemere May 1904, one at Frensham 30.8.06, another on 22.9.19, one on Blackdown 10.10.20." Fairly regular on passage at Frensham (HT), also one at Haslemere 8.3.46 (JD) and one at Enton 22.3.53 (GAH).

- 381 **Grey Wagtail.** *Motacilla cinerea*.
A regular breeding species, which seems always to nest near falling water; in this area this implies a site on a bridge, sluice or other man-made structure. The breeding haunts are often vacated for the rest of the year, when birds occur in other parts of the area, e.g. sometimes at Shottermill Ponds where about twelve were seen on 7.10.48 (GRR).

382 Yellow Wagtail. *Motacilla flava*.

A passage migrant seen fairly regularly at Frensham. A migration of about fifteen birds was watched passing in two's and three's for about fifteen minutes on 21.4.38 (HT). "Local as a nesting species." We have no recent nesting record, though it nests just beyond our area at Unstead. On 12.12.53 a male was watched at close range at Chase, an unusual date (JD).

Blue-headed Wagtail. *Motacilla flava flava*.

No recent record. "A rare straggler. Adult at Frensham 5.8.06."

Family BOMBYCILLIDAE

383 Waxwing. *Bombycilla garrulus*.

A rare winter visitor. "Three examples in recent years." One was watched eating the fruits of a climbing rose near Pound Corner, Haslemere, on 10.2.42 (CIB). In 1947 there was an invasion in the southern counties and two were seen in Holdfast Lane on 17.1.47 (MMH and PMB) and four were in the hawthorns of the Fair Field, Wey Hill, on 31.1.47 and 1.2.47 (JF and CIB). A solitary bird was seen at Headley Down in February 1948 (HTG).

Family LANIIDAE

384 Great Grey Shrike. *Lanius excubitor*.

An uncommon winter visitor. "Charterhouse contains a specimen from Haslemere, another was seen in early April 1919." There are ten records since 1920, from around Frensham, Thursley and the Devil's Jumps. The most recent are of one (or possibly not the same bird) seen at Thursley Common 7.11.53 (PFLB) and 6.12.53 (EH) and at Little Frensham on 14.11.53 (EH) and 24.1.54 (Has. NHS). A bird was also seen at Witley Common on 10.1.54 (RMF) and Brook on 22.2.54 (EH).

386 Woodchat-Shrike. *Lanius senator*.

No recent record. "A specimen from Milford in Charterhouse collection."

388 Red-backed Shrike. *Lanius collurio*.

A summer resident that has become much less common in the last thirty years; in the 1920's pairs nested regularly at three sites within five minutes' walk of Haslemere Town Hall. There are now only a few pairs on the commons.

Family STURNIDAE

389 Starling. *Sturnus vulgaris*.

Very common resident and winter visitor.

Family FRINGILLIDAE

391 Hawfinch. *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.

A rather local resident, most often noticed in winter when small flocks are about. They visit the Museum grounds in varying numbers every winter to feed on holly berries. A party of twenty to thirty were there on 19.2.42 (HM) and fifty on 5.4.38 (RCB).

392 Greenfinch. *Chloris chloris*.

A common resident. Large flocks form in winter e.g. a flock of over two hundred were feeding on a stubble field at Grayshott on 18.1.48 (LCT).

393 Goldfinch. *Carduelis carduelis*.

A fairly common resident. It forms flocks in autumn and often associates with Redpolls. A flock of a hundred and twenty were singing at Hollycombe 7.10.39 (RCB) and a charm of fifty were seen at Minepit Copse 3.9.52 (JC).

394 Siskin. *Carduelis spinus*.

A regular winter visitor, seen usually amongst birches and alders, and often in company with Redpolls, Tits and Goldfinches. A flock of about sixty Siskins was seen at Great Frensham on 13.12.53 (DAW and MMH). One or two pairs were at Thursley 7.4.54 (PFLB).

395 Linnet. *Carduelis cannabina*.

A common resident on the heaths.

396 Twite. *Carduelis flavirostris*.

A very rare visitor: we have only one record since 1920, a bird at Thursley in February 1933 (HT). "A rare winter visitor; several are preserved in Haslemere and Charterhouse collections from the past and I noticed some just before Christmas 1919."

397 Lesser Redpoll. *Carduelis flammea cabaret*.

A resident in small numbers and regular winter visitor. Nests recorded at Linchmere in 1926 (GPS), Headley 1947 (HTG), Hindhead 1947 (IHB). Several appear to nest in gardens at Haslemere most years judging by the song-flights of the males (HT).

Mealy Redpoll. *Carduelis flammea flammea*.

A rare winter visitor. Some were seen at Frensham with Siskins and Lesser Redpolls on 2.2.32 and 5.2.36; one was also seen on 10.11.36 (PV).

401 Bullfinch. *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*.

A common resident. Its attacks on fruit buds have made it extremely unpopular with gardeners, and at the present time it is often shot for this reason. This seems to be a permanent state of affairs as W.A.S. wrote "Seems to be getting scarce, owing to unjustifiable shooting by gardeners."

404 Crossbill. *Loxia curvirostra.*

An irregular visitor, sometimes in considerable numbers. Crossbills were reported in the district in twenty different years of the period 1925-1953. On several occasions after an immigration a pair of two have remained to nest. Adults with young were seen at Grayshott 8.5.33 (PMB), another bird was sitting on eggs on Marley 26.4.36 (RCB), a pair nested at Thursley 1939 (TRG) and a pair were seen with young 5.7.45 (JBD). The most recent invasion was first reported as a flock of thirty on Marley 5.7.53 (PH); this was followed by numerous occurrences all over the district. Some were still present in April 1954 and were believed to be nesting near Frensham and at Grayswood (HT).

407 Chaffinch. *Fringilla coelebs.*

A very common resident.

408 Brambling. *Fringilla montifringilla.*

An irregular winter visitor; a few are noted most winters, and sometimes they appear in considerable flocks, e.g. a flock of two hundred on Kettlebury Common 21.4.33 (RCB). Occasionally one will patronise a bird-table, as at Hindhead 23.1.26 (NB) and Longdene Dec. 1946 (ELT). An early arrival was a bird seen at Chase 7.9.53 (BD), and there are several records of birds staying till April, e.g. one at Weydown 7.4.39 (CIB), four on Thursley Common 17.4.44 (NCH), two at Grayshott 7.4.53 (NLT) and one May record of a male at Frensham 4.5.26 (GWV).

409 Corn-Bunting. *Emberiza calandra.*

No recent record. "Mentioned for the district in the lists of R. J. Hutchinson and H. Watkins."

410 Yellowhammer. *Emberiza citrinella.*

A common resident of heaths and fields.

415 Cirl Bunting. *Emberiza cirlus.*

A rare visitor. A regrettable incident is of a male singing at Fernhurst crossroads on 12 and 22.7.31 which was later shot (RCB). One was noted at Kingsley Green 4.1.33 (MMH) and another at Haslemere 4.6.45 (ROB). "Male at Frensham 28.7.09, at Tilford 8.4.12 (HB), at Headley in 1915 (CMA)".

421 Reed-Bunting. *Emberiza schoeniclus.*

A resident in small numbers in sedgey places such as Lurgashall Mill, the Punchbowl, Frensham. Its numbers increased markedly at the site of Little Frensham Pond when it was drained during the Second World War. "Not so common as formerly. Flocks arrive on the commons in March thirty to fifty strong."

423 Snow-Bunting. *Plectrophenax nivalis.*

No recent record. "Only recorded by H.W."

Family PASSERIDAE

424 **House-Sparrow.** *Passer domesticus.*

A very common resident.

425 **Tree-Sparrow.** *Passer montanus.*

A rare winter visitor, only reported at Thursley. On 6.10.34 at least six were seen with Yellowhammers and Redpolls, and a single bird was observed on 20.1.36 (HT). Twenty-three were seen together on 31.12.52 (PFLB). Possibly close observation would show it is not as rare as appears, since it is a regular winter visitor at Godalming Sewage Farm.

LIST OF OBSERVERS

C. M. Acland	G. Farr	C. E. Owen
R. P. Akehurst	J. Fergus	E. Parker
G. O. Allen	L. Vesey Fitzgerald	G. Pippit
J. Baggalley	R. M. Fry	D. Powell
F. J. Baker	T. R. Garnett	B. Rance
J. Barley	B. Gayford	F. A. Ransom
I. H. Barlow	H. T. Gosnell	E. C. Reeve
R. S. P. Bates	J. L. Hamilton	A. Richards
C. J. F. Bensley	H. E. Hardy	J. Robb
H. Bentham	E. Harley	G. R. Rolston
N. Bewley	G. A. Hebditch	W. A. Shaw
J. C. Bissett	N. C. Hicks	N. Shirley
C. I. Blackburne	P. A. S. Hirst	G. P. Smith
V. K. Blackburne	P. Hume	P. Smith
R. C. Blockey	M. M. Hutchinson	R. H. Butler Stoney
R. O. Blyth	O. P. Hutchinson	E. W. Swanton
P. M. Bond	R. J. Hutchinson	L. Chilton Thomas
A. F. Bristow	T. Hutchinson	G. Lanes Thomas
J. Broadwood (JBd)	A. St. Johnson	N. L. Thompson
P. F. le Brocq	E. E. H. Jones	E. L. Thornton
A. H. Bustead	H. C. Jones	I. M. Thorpe
H. Candler	R. Kearton	G. W. Tibbs
D. Caselton (DCn)	G. H. Kenyon	P. Venables
D. Charlwood	C. M. King	V. Z. Walmisley
J. Clegg	P. Langridge	H. Watkins
G. Crispin	E. C. Leach	M. Wearing
P. F. Crouchman	D. McLean	M. L. Whitelaw
D. N. Dalton	A. F. Mitchell	G. D. Williams
B. Dell	K. D. G. Mitchell	K. Downing Williams
J. Dell	H. Moore	D. A. Wilson
A. R. Duncan	J. C. M. Nicholls	J. A. Wood
R. E. Evans	B. Nightingale	T. G. Wyatt
T. Evans		

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