

**CLEY
BIRD
CLUB**



TEMPORARY ADDRESS
FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

Cobbles, Holt Road,
Cley-next-the-Sea,
Holt, Norfolk.
NR25 7TU.

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 8.

J.T. Corcoran,
18, Old Woman's Lane,
Cley.
JANUARY 1988.

Dear Members,

As you may already be aware, due to circumstances beyond his control, Eddie has not been in a position to devote much time to the C.B.C. lately and will be in India and Nepal for the next few months. So, rather than see the C.B.C. fade away and die we got together to try to keep things going until Eddie is able again to take over - "We" being Peter Gooden who will try to sort out Membership and Financial details; Joe Johnson, who will deal with any correspondence and typing of this Newsletter and Myself (see above) who will be putting the Newsletters together. I'm afraid I will not be able to match the purple (? blue) patches of E.T.M.'s immortal prose but will, nevertheless, try to keep it in a fairly light-hearted vein rather than attempt to make it "scientific" or "learned". I will also continue the policy of taking all records at face value, rather than trying to act as a self-appointed rarities committee. No records of rarities can, of course, be considered as "official" until accepted by the Norfolk Rarities Committee or the British Birds Rarities Committee (National Rarities). National rarity records can, of course, be sent to the Norfolk Rarities Committee who will forward them to the B.B.R.C.

Although the main emphasis of the Newsletter is focussed on the 10Km Cley square (or as a certain scouse gentleman might have put it "God's Little Acre") I hope you will find of interest a necessarily brief resume of ornithological events in Norfolk as a whole since it will help build up a clearer picture of Autumn 1987 in the County. I cannot claim to know about every single record of rare or uncommon birds but I think it is fairly comprehensive and if birds which you "found", or just saw, have been omitted it is because I am unaware of them.

J.T. Corcoran.

NORFOLK - AUTUMN 1987OCTOBER

It is well known that the quantity and quality of our migrants depend very much on wind and weather and a glance through the records reflects this very well.

For the first 4 or 5 days of October we were blessed with Easterly winds, resulting in a pleasing selection of small passerines along the coast - Yellow-browed Warblers put on a good show and I hope most people managed to see at least one. As usual, the main area for these super little birds was the Wells/Holkham woods where there was one on the 1st, peaking to 5 on the 3rd and 4th. Others were at Stiffkey (3rd & 4th) and Waxham (6th). Also at Wells on the 2nd was a Radde's Warbler which proved a rather unsociable individual. (It took me 2 hours to get decent views). Having seen this bird and realising there were probably more good birds to be found, Steve Gantlett "used his loaf" and made the pilgrimage to Blakeney Point where he was rewarded with an Olive-backed Pipit. This bird was also seen by Dave Abdullah but was not to be found the following morning. However, the number of people "doing" the Point resulted in the discovery of a Dusky Warbler and this bird did stay until the next day (4th). Also on the Point at about this time were an Ortolan and a Red-throated Pipit, both staying two days (4th & 5th) and a Richard's Pipit on the Long Hills on 2nd & 3rd. Others of the latter species scattered along the coast included Hunstanton (1st), Bacton (3rd), Holkham (1 on 4th, 2 on 5th), Holme (5th) and Snettisham (6th). Other Autumn regulars were Red-breasted Flycatcher at Wells (2nd) and Icterine Warblers at Granborough Hill and Holkham, both on 4th.

Non-passerines were represented during this period by an Osprey, seen flying South over Sheringham on the 1st, a Spoonbill at Cley late September to Oct. 4th), the elusive Falcated Duck at Welney (still present on the 4th) and a Crane at Snettisham (1st to at least the 9th).

The middle of the month was dominated bywinds from between South and West including the hurricane force blow which sadly caused so much damage to trees in the South East of England. However, "It's and ill wind etc" and, on the brighter side, it produced an avalanche of 250+ Sabine's Gulls and Grey Phalaropes plus, in smaller numbers, Red-necked Phalaropes and Leach's Petrels. Unfortunately Norfolk did not feature too well in this movement, the only record of Sabine's Gulls being two at Dickleborough (21st - 23rd) and a Grey Phalarope was near Titchwell on 16th. (There was another record of Sabine's Gull, before the "big blow", an immature at Titchwell on the 8th).

Other birds during the middle of the month included a Richard's Pipit still at Snettisham on the 9th, Shorelark at Cley on the 10th (probably the first of the Autumn), Yellow-browed Warbler on 11th and 17th at Holkham and Wells respectively, Wryneck at Holme (11th) and a Red-breasted Flycatcher (11th - 15th).

Finally, the "Star Bird" of the Autumn, a Black-browed "Albert" was seen off Cley at about 7.45 a.m. and, incidentally, off Filey (Yorks) around noon on the same day. Alas ! It was seen by only a very lucky few but, perhaps a little piqued by not receiving the proper reception its star status warranted, it returned to perform another fly-past a week later on the 18th. This time it was identified as an immature when first seen moving East off Holme, and was later seen sitting on the sea off Salthouse.

OCTOBER contd

The last third of the month brought a change to more variable winds which drifted over another scattering of Yellow-browed Warblers with one at Holme (20th), Holkham (21st to 31st), Kelling (25th), Waxham (25th - 30th) and Wells (28th - 31st).

Also at about this time two "little gems" - Pallas's Warblers - turned up. The first at Holkham on the 21st and the second at Cley (29th) giving great views by the Half-moon Pit and from Cley Beach Car Park, perching and insect catching from the barbed-wire fence etc.

Added to this were Red-throated Pipits at Salthouse and Holme, both on the 20th; Richard's Pipits (3)* on the 21st, Holkham (22nd), Winterton (24th) and on the Eye Field at Cley (30th). There were Great Grey Shrikes at Holme (21st) and Hickling (24th); Red-breasted Flycatcher on Blakeney Point (24th); Tawny Pipit at Waxham (28th); Wryneck at Holme (29th) and on the latter date two Red-rumped Swallows flying North at Waxham were part of the unprecedented numbers of this species seen in the U.K. this Autumn. Up to five Little Auks were seen off Cley in the period 24th - 28th.

NOVEMBER

The first two thirds of November were unseasonably mild giving rise to some late dates for Summer migrants whilst the final third, being dominated by strong winds with a Northerly bias brought good numbers of Little Auks. The latter were seen in varying numbers on many dates in November with peaks of 32 on the 3rd, 50+ on the 21st and 25 on the 22nd - all recorded at Cley. Quite a few were found ashore, usually dead or dying. One, on "Abraham's Bosom" at Wells was killed by a Heron which failed in the attempt to swallow it! Another was seen flying over the main street in Holt (5 miles inland) by S.J.M.G. whilst he was shopping.

Possibly the best bird of the month was an Isabelline Shrike at Wells which stayed and gave excellent views to many observers from 1st to the 5th. Incredibly, what was generally believed to be the same bird was re-found at Wembury (S.Devon) on the 7th where it stayed until the 17th.

Other birds during the early part of the month included Pallas's Warblers, in the lupins on Blakeney Point (4th & 5th), Waxham (5th-7th), Paston (6th) and the East Hills, Wells (8th). Yellow-browed Warblers, possibly October birds lingering, on were seen at Holkham (2) on the 1st and at Brancaster on the 5th. Another scarce warbler, this time a Dusky, was at Happisburgh from the 7th to the 11th.

In mid-month there was a Shorelark at Snettisham (8th), Richard's Pipit at Cley (9th & 10th) and Red-rumped Swallows turned up again - one flying South at Happisburgh on the 11th and a party of three, also flying South, at Winterton on the 12th. A Night Heron at East Rudham on at least the 14th and 15th was reported to be feeding in local gardens.

Towards the end of the month up to 3 Mediterranean Gulls were in the Gt. Yarmouth area and a first Winter Iceland Gull was at Cley on the 22nd. Yet another Pallas's Warbler, found at Holkham on 24th, stayed until 29th and two Chiffchaffs showing the characteristics of the Siberian race were nearby on the 25th. The Bean Geese at Buckenham numbered 32 by the 25th and there were 750+ Pink-footed Geese at Holkham on the 29th.

* at Snettisham.

DECEMBER

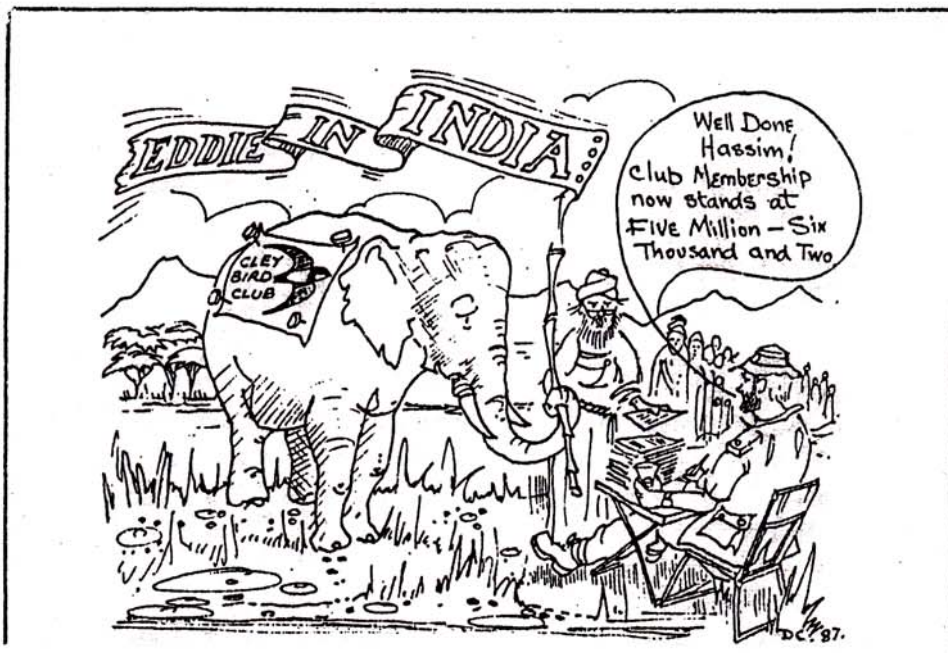
The month belonged mainly to the Wildfowl, the star attraction being an adult Red-breasted Goose associating with the Brent Goose flock on the marshes between Blakeney and Salthouse (with occasional sallies in-land towards Langham) and proving to be very elusive at times as it frequently changed its feeding area. Also among the Brents was a single Black Brant and a Barnacle, the latter being joined by four more from about the 20th.

In mid-month Tottenhill Gravel Pits held a Ruddy Duck and two Smew. There were four Shorelarks at Thornham Point.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Subscription to the Cley Bird Club for 1988 remains at £2.50 only. In order to save postage a renewal form will be included with the Newsletter immediately preceding your renewal date. Members receiving a Form with this Newsletter are asked to send their Subscription as soon as possible - and not later than 31st March - to the address on the Form. They will then be registered as Members for 1988 with effect from 1st April.

Peter Gooden.



It seems that Eddie has not been entirely idle !!

(Thanks for the drawing to Dudley Chambers)

CLEY 10 Km SQUARE .. 1987.**OCTOBER**

A nice bird to start the month was the Spoonbill, present from late September and staying with us until the 4th. Also on the 1st a Garganey was still present on the Reserve, staying until the 7th together with 6 each of Little Stints and Curlew Sandpipers on the Eye Pool.

The 2nd produced a Green Sandpiper on the Reserve whilst on the Point were Richard's Pipit (also on the 3rd) and an Olive-backed Pipit which, unfortunately only Steve Gantlett and Dave Abdullah saw. The 3rd saw a good number of birders on the Point in search of the Olive-backed Pipit but the bird had flown. Even so, a Dusky Warbler made the trip worthwhile (staying until the 4th) with Pied and Spotted Flycatchers, Grasshopper Warbler and Garden Warblers etc. playing a supporting role with claims of a Peregrine for good measure.

The bait of the Dusky Warbler lured more birders to the Point on the 4th, that day's reward being Red-throated Pipit and Ortolan, both remaining until the 5th. Icterine Warbler and Black Redstart at Granborough Hill and a ring-tail Hen Harrier over the Reserve were also welcome. On the 5th the Point still held similar birds plus the addition of Merlin and Ring Ousel.

From the 6th to the 9th attention had again returned to Cley and, although nothing new was found, there were interesting birds to be seen. Up to 3 Curlew Sandpipers, 5 Little Stints, Green Sandpiper, Mediterranean Gull, Garganey and three Bewick's Swans were recorded plus, more unusually, a Black-throated Diver on the sea - an uncommon bird along this stretch of the coastline.

New on the 10th was a Shorelark near the Coastguards (? the first of the Autumn) and also a male Blue-winged Teal on the North Scrape which was seen again on the 13th. The sea was also worth a look with a trickle of skuas passing off-shore including a Pom. and two Bonxies. A party of 13 Little Gulls was seen to head inland over Pat's Pool !

The 11th started out as just another day but quickly turned very grey - at least among the local birders - as the news began to circulate that a Black-browed Albatross had been seen off Cley Coastguards at about 7.30 a.m. and, just to add insult to injury, was sighted again off Filey (Yorks) at noon or therabouts.

A couple of Lapland Buntings were frequenting the Eye field at about this time and were still in the area at the month's end. From the 13th to the 15th birds of interest were a bit scattered with Med. Gull and Wood Sandpiper on the Glaven floods, Shorelarks at the beach end of the Iron Road and at the Watch-house on the Point. On the Reserve were a Little Stint and Jack Snipe (Bittern Hide), Black-throated Diver on the sea and Red-necked Grebe in Blakeney Pit.

There was a good passage of Little Gulls and a Mediterranean Gull off Coastguards on the 16th, a Short-eared Owl flew in off the sea and there were 15 Black-tailed Godwits on the North Scrape. On the 17th there were claims of "several" Poms and a Velvet Scoter off-shore and a Whimbrel in the Eye field.

OCTOBER contd

The 18th was a very dark day, as, on the way home from a "mega - dip - trip" to the Scillies, BTM, Richard the Hat, and I, heard the awful news - the Black-browed Albert, no doubt aware that we were safely out of the way, had returned! It even had the effrontery to rest on the sea off Salthouse for about half-an-hour. Again there was back-up evidence as it had also been seen earlier off Holme, heading East, when it was said to be an immature bird. As if this were not enough a Sabine's Gull had been sitting on a bouy, close inshore, off Cley Coastguards with a Slavonian Grebe nearby and a Ring Ousel near the Car park. Oh, the pain!!

The 19th was notable only for a Long-eared Owl, in off the sea, but on the 20th flocks and single birds were struggling in all day, the majority being Thrushes, Starlings and Skylarks but among them were quite a few Bramblings, seven Black Redstarts and at least two Robins were seen to just reach the shingle exhausted. Another Long-eared Owl came in and several Swallows were moving through. A Red-throated Pipit was claimed at Salthouse and, just before dusk, a Grasshopper Warbler caused a bit of a stir as it crept around in the horned-poppies on the shingle bank, with the names of various more exciting species being muttered by one or two optimists !

There was another little influx on 21st and 22nd with up to three Ring Ousels at the Coastguards and Morston Quay (also a Pied Flycatcher) while on the Point a Little Bunting and 10 Black Redstart were claimed, the former on the Yankee Ridge.

On the 23rd Green Sandpiper and Little Stint were on the marsh but things were livelier on 24th with Red-breasted Flycatcher on the Point, Black Redstart at Walsey Hills while 5 Little Gulls, several Little Auks, a Shag and a Velvet Scoter were all seen from the Coastguards. More Little Auks on the 25th & 26th and a Purple Sandpiper shared the Cley off-shore wreck with "Boy George", the local, long-stay, Glaucous Gull

The scene shifted to The Quags on the 27th with a Yellow-browed Warbler, 3 Ring Ousels and a Stonechat plus a Short-eared Owl all present. On the sea a Red-necked Grebe and yet another Black-throated Diver. Also off-shore on the following day (28th) were Red-breasted Merganser, Little Auk, 4 Red-necked Grebes and a Puffin (a local rarity).

The 29th was another good day with the icing on the cake being superb, close-up views of a Pallas's Warbler flitting around a minute bramble bush and perching in full view on the barbed wire fence near the Half-moon Pit (Cley Beach car park). There was a Lapland Bunting nearby on the Eye field while on the sea Black-throated Diver, 2 Slavonian Grebes and a Black-necked Grebe were claimed. A Red-necked Grebe was also claimed. (Possibly some confusion here ?)

The last two days of the month were eventful with Richard's Pipit on the Eye field and 6 Lapland Buntings and a Little Stint nearby. Two Little Gulls and a Great Northern Diver off the Coastguards, a flock of 1,000+ Thrushes (mainly Redwings and Fieldfares) near Cley Sluice, 3 young Swallows flitting around Cley Mill and a skein of about 70 Pink-footed Geese heading West over the Marsh brought an excellent month to a fitting end.

NOVEMBER

On the 1st a stroll around the Reserve produced only a single Green Sandpiper but good numbers of Little Gulls and a Scaup were reported passing off-shore at the Coastguards.

New on the 2nd were three Ring Ousels at Weybourne and a Chiffchaff (tristis) at Morston. It was also something of a "wood-pecker day" with a Green beside the coast road at Morston and Lesser Spotted at both Rectory Hill and Cley Park.

A trip to Blakeney Point proved worthwhile with both Long and Short-eared Owls, Merlin and a Little Gull. A total of at least 32 Little Auks were seen off the Coastguards.

A nice find on the 3rd was a Pallas's Warbler in the Lupins on the Point and other birds of interest were Ring Ousel at Morston and Little Auks (3) off Cley. The Pallas's Warbler was still present on the 5th and a Merlin was seen at Salthouse.

On the 6th another walk to the Point produced only a Woodcock at the Hood. On the following day two Green Sandpipers were on the Reserve and 7 Bewick Swans flew over Morston.

Little Auks were still passing on the 9th (10) and the 10th (15) and two Lapland Buntings were still finding the Eye field to their liking. A Richard's Pipit was also present on the Eye on both dates.

A further 8 Little Auks were reported on the 14th and at least one Lapland Bunting still in the Eye field.

The Hilltop area of Cley was host to two unseasonable birds - Swallows on the 17th with one still remaining next day. A Woodcock was seen at Rectory Hill on the 19th.

The 20th produced a Stonechat beside the Beach Road but sea-watching seemed to be the order of the day with 8 Great Skuas, 35 Little Gulls, 5 or 6 Slavonian Grebes and a single Little Auk seen passing through.

On the 21st another late Swallow was around the village and Stonechat had increased to three with one by the Beach Road and a pair along the East Bank. In the Eye field a Barnacle Goose was with the Brents, (a pale-bellied Brent was also seen, passing West off-shore), 4 Lapland Buntings were still skulking around and a male Goosander flew over. Nearby, along the shingle bank 40 Snow Buntings were feeding as 50 more flew West towards Blakeney Point. Anyone indulging in a sea-watch on the 21st should have been rewarded with a few entries in their notebook as during the day the following were seen :- 50+ Little Auks, 2 Red-necked Grebes, 1 Slavonian Grebe, 6 Little Gulls, a Mediterranean Gull and a Shag.

On the 22nd a first-Winter Iceland Gull was present, a rare bird for Cley. First recorded at the Coastguards it was seen later flying over the North Scrape to Simmond's Scrape where it landed but stayed for only a few minutes. Still later in the day it was seen again, this time in Blakeney Harbour. On the same day seven Bewick's Swans also dropped in on the North Scrape for a "wash and brush up" before flying on again, presumably headed for Welney. Meanwhile Little Auks were still zipping past like animated, pied cricket balls, the day's total being 25. A Bonxie and two adult Little Gulls flew West and the sea-watchers were also treated to a total of four Swallows all hurriedly trying to catch up their cousins who had left weeks ago. The pair of Stonechats were still enlivening a rather bleak East Bank.

NOVEMBER contd

Still another Swallow, in company with a House Martin made the 22nd a little less Wintry. No doubt these belated hirundines had felt reasonably secure up to the 19th with the weather remaining quite mild, albeit a bit wet and windy at times. However, they must have got the message by the 20th which saw the start of a period of strong winds with a Northerly bias accompanied by a sharp drop in temperature.

A very grey-looking sea on the 24th produced only 5 Eiders and 14 Common Scoters but was a little livelier next day with 10 Little Auks, 1 Gannet, 1 male Goldeneye and 15 Eiders.

On the 26th, Steve Gantlett, combining a little "sea-watching" with shopping in the main street of Holt (5 miles inland) saw a Little Auk flying overhead.

Little Auk was again "bird of the day" on 27th and 28th, with four being seen on each day. It was still claiming attention as the end of the month approached with 2 more seen on the 29th.

On the 28th two Shags and a Velvet Scoter were moving East off the Coastguards and the Stonechat was back again in the Beach Road.

On the 29th three Shorelarks were present on Blakeney Point and a Red-necked Grebe on the sea-pool.

DECEMBER

For me the month started very pleasantly with Chiffchaff and a female Blackcap at Walsey and an unexpected third species of Summer-migrant - a Common Sandpiper - by the Beach Road sluice. At Snipe's Marsh a couple of Water Rails were making the kind of noises only they can and brief views were obtained.

On the sea a Puffin flew by close in (a rare bird at Cley), a couple of Red-throated Divers were fishing and 5 Common Scoters moved West. Earlier, before I arrived, a Little Auk flew over the beach car-park and, after I left, a Rough-legged Buzzard had rabbit on the menu in the Eye Field.

There was a small influx of "sawbills", mainly Goosanders, with a male in the North drain, 2 males and a female over the Reserve, and, on the River Glaven, a female. Two female Red-breasted Mergansers were also present on the Glaven. 3 adult Bewick's Swans headed West and the large female Hen Harrier hunted over the reed beds.

On the 2nd the Blackcap was still at Walsey and had been joined by a male Stonechat and a Green Woodpecker which flew in over the marsh from the direction of the North Hide continued inland. On Snipe's marsh a female Pochard was seen (an uncommon bird at Cley for most of the year). Offshore a couple of Common Scoters flew East and two divers flew East, one of which was almost certainly a Great Northern but they were pretty far out and best recorded as Diver spp.

On the 5th the Black Brant was seen near Salthouse from the track to the Quags. Next day a female Goosander swam among about 2,000 Brent Geese as they bathed on the North Scrape. The Hen Harrier and a Lapland Bunting were in the area of the Eye field, female Stonechat along the East Bank again while, off-shore, Slavonian Grebe, Bonxie and 14 Common Scoter were seen.

DECEMBER contd

Zoe Owen caused the birders to dash around on the 7th. Whilst checking through a party of Brents for colour-ringed birds, from the window of her cottage at Salthouse, her 'scope alighted on a superb, adult Red-breasted Goose (not a bad window tick!). The Black Brant was also seen at Salthouse that day. Early next morning saw quite a few scope-toting goose-hunting figures scurrying about and they were not disappointed as the Red-breasted put on a fine show in the Eye field with Barnacle Goose and Black Brant as co-stars and flocks of 500+ Golden Plovers and some 300 Brents helping with the crowd scenes.

An unseasonable (for Gley) Black-tailed Godwit was nearby on the Eye Pool and the female Hen Harrier did a fly-past. Other sightings that day included 5 Common Scoters off-shore headed West, Woodcock and Sparrow^{at Hill Top}.

On the 9th a Slavonian Grebe was on the sea but a dead Little Auk on the beach was a sad sight. By this time the Red-breasted Goose had moved to Blakeney Freshes but on the 10th I had a nice "scope-full" with the Red-breasted Goose, Black Brant and Barnacle all close together, back again on the Eye field. The Golden Plovers numbered 530.

At the Coastguards on the 10th a party of about 80 Knots flew West followed by a male Scaup whilst 28 Snow Buntings were trying to look like pebbles on the shingle near the Watch-house. (Half-way House)

Despite a search neither the Red-breasted Goose nor the Black Brant could be found and only the Barnacle remained with the Brent flock on the Eye field. The following day, however, the R-B was refound feeding a little way inland on a stubble field near Langham and the Black Brant had rejoined the Barnacle on the Eye. During the next few days Langham remained the centre of interest for goose-watchers while the Black Brant moved to Salthouse. (probably sulking through lack of attention). A male Scaup was on the main drain.

Overnight frost caused most of the water in the North Scrape to freeze and about 2,000 Brent Geese trying, but totally failing, to alight in a dignified manner was an amusing sight. "Boy George", the Glaucous Gull surveyed a deserted beach and a solitary speck on the sea proved to be a Red-throated Diver.

On the 16th the Red-breasted Goose was still to be found at Langham and a Sparrow Hawk pounced upon a flock of House Sparrows in front of the Church on Newgate Green.

The Barnacle Goose was joined by four more (origin unknown) on the 17th and all five were still present on the 19th. The Black Brant was hiding on Pope's Marsh and the pair of Stonechats were back again on the East Bank.

A Purple Sandpiper was with Redshanks on the pool near Little Eye at Salthouse on the 21st and 4 Red-throated Divers were on the sea.

After successfully eluding, and thoroughly frustrating, the week-end goose-watchers, *Branta ruficollis* returned to the Eye field among at least 2,500 Brents and was still being seen at intervals over the Christmas period and up to the end of the year.

On the 23rd a Ruff was present with hundreds of Wigeon on the new grass wet-land area, newly constructed by the Norfolk Naturalists Trust in memory of the late Billy Bishop, Warden of the Reserve for many years. As ever, the Glaucous Gull was monarch of all he surveyed on the beach.

B.T.O BREEDING BIRDS ATLAS

This Spring work starts on the new B.T.O. Breeding Bird Atlas.

Detailed instructions have not yet been sent out from Tring, but should arrive shortly. However, my information is that the method of recording will be on the same lines as for the previous B.T.O. Breeding Atlas, except that some estimates of numbers will be required as for the recently published Norfolk Atlas.

The Cley 10 Km. square is my responsibility and I would very much appreciate offers of help from as many members of the Cley Bird Club as possible. The more of you who are willing to help, the easier the task for each of us, and also the more thorough the coverage of our 10 Km. square.

So, will everyone willing to help please contact me in person, or on 740693. As soon as I have a nucleus of helpers and receive more details of the method, we will be able to discuss what each person's commitment will be.

Derek Kelsey.

POSTSCRIPT

Well folks, that's it. The first Newsletter from the Caretaker Staff. Regular readers will already have noticed two changes from the usual content. First the absence of those gentle viewpoints, advice and even admonitions, advanced so shyly - one might almost say diffidently - by the usual compiler. The second, the sad short-fall in items sent to us by contributors.

The first, of course, will only be remedied when Eddie returns from sorting out the Indian sub-continent but you can help immediately in putting right the second.

If you have anything of interest to the Members - details of rare findings, special highlights arising perhaps from visits to the Cley square, serious or humorous - all would be a most welcome help in our efforts to reach our target of topicality with a Cley flavour.

We aim to send out the next Newsletter early in April covering the first three months of 1988 so anything you might have for inclusion should reach us not later than the third week of March. Good Birding - let us hope that 1988 will produce as many "Goodies" and excitements as did 1987.

Joe Johnson.