

The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

Scotland's Bird Club

Highland Bird News No 125

August 2015



NEWS

The first indoor meeting of the 2015-16 session will take place on Tuesday 8 September at 7:30pm in the usual place, Culloden Library, Keppoch Road, Inverness IV2 7LL.

Marcus Conway will give a talk entitled 'Birds of the Scottish Highlands & Islands'. Marcus is a skilled photographer, having received The Scottish Nature Photographer of the Year Award. His talk will be interesting, informative and superbly illustrated; do come along and enjoy it.

Full information on the remaining meetings is given on page 2 of this HBN.

Please also note that the first Field Trip of the session is on Saturday 12 September. Carol Miller will lead the trip, a sail across the Minch to Stornoway and back on Calmac's new ferry, the MV Loch Seaforth, which entered service on 16 February 2015. Petrels, Skuas, gulls etc., beckon. Full details are given on p3 of this HBN. Note the earlier than usual departure time.

The 2013 Highland Bird Report is now available. Copies will be on sale at the Branch Meeting on 8 September. Details of how to order a copy for postal delivery are given on p2.

Your attention is also drawn to the forthcoming Annual Conference, the 2016 Spring Conference, the compilation of the 2016 HBR and information about the Club's Library at Waterston House, all on p2.

As always, articles for inclusion in future issues of Highland Bird News are always welcome, even in long-hand. My thanks to all who have contributed material for this edition.

David Bain, Editor

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Editorial

Welcome to this edition of Highland Bird News. It gives information on the Indoor Meetings and Field Trips which have been arranged for the 2015-16 session. We hope you will find these attractive and of interest. The Committee is always interested to hear of possible speakers and places for field trips so suggestions will be most welcome. Please feel free to speak to any member of the Committee directly, or make contact by phone or email. Contact details for Committee Members may be found on p4.

David Bain

2015 Annual Conference

The next event in the Club's programme will be the Annual Conference which is being held at the Atholl Palace Hotel in Pitlochry from Friday 30 October to Sunday 1 November. This venue has also been booked for 2016 and 2017. The theme for the weekend - 'Scotland's upland birds – the impact of land management' – covers a wide range of topics, most if not all controversial. The lectures will be stimulating, thought provoking and no doubt lively discussion will follow.

Full details of the conference including booking details were issued with the June issue of *Scottish Birds*. Do consider attending. You will meet members from other branches and further afield, all sharing a common interest plus there are stalls and exhibitions to look at and on the Saturday morning, organised local outings. Pitlochry is only a couple of hours or so away from Inverness, accessible by rail or bus if you don't wish to use a car. A possible bonus could be the autumn colours in Perthshire; they are usually magnificent!

2016 Spring Conference

Further ahead, the Club's 2016 Spring Conference will be held in Peebles. Date to be confirmed.

2013 Highland Bird Report

The report is now available and copies will be on sale at the Branch Meeting on 8 September, price £8.00. Copies may be ordered for postal delivery, at a cost of £10.00. Please send a cheque made payable to 'The Scottish Ornithologists' Club HBR' to Lynda Graham, 9 Burn Brae Terrace, Inverness IV2 5HD

2014 Highland Bird Report

Work will shortly commence on the compilation of the next HBR so this is a last call for any 2014 records which you have not yet submitted. Please enter these on Birdtrack or submit them to the Local Recorder, Pete Gordon, 2 Craigmare Crescent, Nethy Bridge, Highland PH25 3RA Tel: 01479 821339 Email: gordon890@btinternet.com Alex Joss, HBR Editor and his team have achieved a great deal, catching up with the backlog of Reports. It is hoped to have the 2014 HBR available in Spring 2016.

The SOC Library at Waterston House

Accompanying this HBN is an illustrated article produced by Jane Cleaver, our development Officer, describing the Club's Library and service offered. This is commended to you with an invitation to make use of the facility.

INDOOR MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

Indoor Meetings

The meetings are held in Culloden Library, Keppoch Road, Culloden, Inverness IV2 7LL, at 19:30 hrs.
Contact: Kathy Bonniface Tel: 01808 511740

2015

08 September Marcus Conway – 'Birds of the Scottish Highlands & Islands'.

- 06 October Ian Thompson, SOC Vice President – ‘Shotguns and Short-toed Eagles: Birding on the island of Malta’.
- 03 November Edmund Fellowes – ‘Wildlife at a Weir: a look at birds and other wildlife on the River Nith in Dumfries’.
- 01 December Stuart Benn: ‘an update on the Golden Eagle Survey’ followed by Peter Gordon – ‘a short presentation on submitting records’.

2016

- 12 January Andy Howard – ‘Give me a High 5: a detailed look at 5 specialist species found in the Cairngorms’.
- 02 February Ray Murray – ‘Twenty years on: the South-East Scotland Atlas’.
- 01 March Ron Summers – ‘the migrations and status of Purple Sandpipers in Britain and Ireland’.
- 12 April Branch AGM followed by Martin Benson on the subject of ‘Broadford Bay/Skye Birds’.

Field Trips

The usual meeting place for Field Trips is Inverness Retail Park by Burger King. Full day trips depart at 9am unless stated otherwise below (e.g. the boat trip on 12 September where we will depart Inverness at 08:15 prompt.); Thursday morning trips depart at 9:15am. Please contact the trip leader for other meeting place options.

2015

- 12 September A boat trip only, on the Ullapool – Stornoway ferry. Leader Carol Miller (Tel: 01456 476232 or mobile: 07901 228737; email (carol.miller.09@aberdeen.ac.uk). **Depart Inverness 08:15 to catch 10:30 sailing from Ullapool.** Passengers have to be on board 30 minutes prior to sailing. Arrive Stornoway 13:00hrs. Depart Stornoway 14:30hrs. Arrive Ullapool 17:00hrs. Return fare is £18:40
Participants are required to give contact details (home & mobile numbers + email address) in case the trip has to be cancelled at short notice due to a bad forecast, etc.
- 24 September Local birding (Lead by Committee Member)
- 11 October Tarbat Ness. Leader David Bain
- 22 October Local birding (Lead by Committee Member)
- 07 November Speyside. Leader Peter Gordon.
- 19 November Local birding (Lead by Committee Member).
- 06 December Local to Inverness. (Leader to be confirmed).
- 17 December Local birding (Lead by Committee Member)

2016

- 16 January Black Isle and surrounding area. (Leader Dave Galloway).
- 28 January Local birding (Lead by Committee Member).

Field Trips cont'd:

- 07 February Conon and Cromarty Firth. (Leader Simon Cohen).
- 18 February Local birding (Lead by Committee Member).
- 05 March East into Moray. (Leader Al McNee).
- 17 March Local birding (Lead by Committee Member).
- 17 April Shieldaig and Kishorn. (Leader Alex Joss).
- 28 April Local birding (Lead by Committee Member).
- May Date to be confirmed.
A weekend trip (2 overnight stays) to the Durness area is proposed, to be led by Doug Mainland. Further details in due course.

Contact details for Branch Committee and Field Trip Leaders

Name	Position	Home phone	Mobile	Email
David Bain	Branch Chair	01463 772539	07742 101415	bainrock@btinternet.com
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Simon Cohen		01349 830365		saraandsimon@hotmail.com

SOC FIELD TRIP Thursday 18th December 2014

(With apologies to Hilary for my failure to include this item in HBN 124 – David Bain, Editor)

It was a cold but mainly dry day as we set off from the car park. There were 3 of us including the leader Alex Joss. We crossed the Kessock Bridge and had enough warning of a traffic accident and resulting queues for Alex to make a quick decision to divert to the Charleston/Redcastle road. At the layby not far from Charleston the rather strange antics of a buzzard caught our attention. It appeared injured as it was struggling to take off from the grass verge and was trailing what we initially thought was part of its feathers. We watched it anxiously and then it finally settled on a patch of grass near the sea and when it took off eventually, there was no sign of anything trailing from its talons and the bird appeared to be fit. A red kite flew low and also watched the buzzard with interest. We had a look at the place which the buzzard had left and there was a big pile of feathers so we concluded that there had been a kill and when the bird was feeding something had got stuck in its talons. The drama over, we then proceeded along the road scanning the Beaully Firth for duck and found mallard, wigeon, teal and pintail. We returned to the A9, having avoided the bottleneck and continued to Alness and Invergordon. Here we stopped to look across the Cromarty Firth and had good views of a long line of scoup and associated with them were small numbers of goldeneye, Slavonian grebe and long-tailed duck. A further stop beside the water had us scanning a group of greylag ever hopeful of spotting the bean goose that had been reported. During the course of the day many skeins of both pink-footed goose and greylag passed overhead. We passed through Barbaraville heading towards Pitcalnie and Nigg. On the way there were scrub and hedgerow habitats, providing shelter for fieldfare and redwing and, in addition, good views of mistle thrush

feeding in a field. We did more scanning of fields for the elusive bean goose which had been seen amongst a flock of geese in the Pitcalnie area. We had lunch at the Nigg Bay hide with the tide well out exposing a large expanse of mud. There were masses of shelduck as well as oystercatcher, dunlin, redshank, curlew and bar-tailed godwit.

A visit to Loch Eye did not produce much apart from a distant whooper swan. The trees near the boathouse were sheltering a number of the usual small woodland birds. We gradually added to our list as we passed fields of stubble, areas of gorse and houses with bird feeders. It was nice to see, for example, stonechat, yellowhammer, tree sparrow and linnet.

Our final stop was at Inver where there was nothing of great note but the quality of winter sunlight provided a suitable backdrop, a good end to the day and a total of 55 species. Alex provided a musical finale for our journey home in the shape of a Blues-rock (?) CD which was belted out at full volume!!

Hilary Rolton

SOC HIGHLAND BRANCH OUTING 17 January 2015

Despite a fresh overnight snowfall, 12 members met for this outing. First stop was Alturlie on a virtually full tide. A forty minute stop gave a fair start to the day's list including an immaculate - and close - pair of pintail, distant scaup and long-tailed duck. The adjacent stubble fields held small numbers of skylark and an overhead kestrel. A quick drive past Loch Flemington, with mute swans being fed on the well-flooded road, produced only moorhens and a quick retreat.

A more prolonged stop at the Ballaggan Cemetery gave distant views of peregrine mobbing a buzzard, pink feet geese and isolated fieldfare and redwing. Two groups of whooper swans, one group of 5 resting in a cereal field and one group of 20 in flight, were the outing's contribution to the International Whooper Swan census.

A further stop at the Milton of Gollanfield steading was the highlight of the day with very large flocks of passerines in almost constant motion in the stubble fields adjacent. Good numbers of tree sparrows were around the steading whilst on the stubble were, literally, hundreds of skylark and yellowhammer. Amongst the flocks were smaller numbers of reed bunting, a small group of snow bunting and a single Lapland bunting. We could well have spent the rest of the day there!

However, we moved on to the Raigmore Estate where we eventually located a group of well-plumaged bramblings amongst the beech and oak trees.

A late lunch was taken at South Kessock pier with red kite noted over the Black Isle and little grebe around the pier. A walk out, over the icy path, to Muirtown Basin failed to produce the hoped for kingfisher, but added tufted duck and pied wagtail to the bring the day's total to a creditable 66 species. A happy day out despite the weather.

Dave Galloway

Weekend Field Trip to the Solway 27 -30 March

Day 1 - Friday

With Jean and Tony Denison in Lunar Sky (1 of 5) with wheelchair and crutches.

We write these notes of our Solway Field Trip while sipping Champagne, celebrating the tick of our first Willow Tit. On two separate occasions in 'difficult' weather conditions we heard and saw a matching pair.....but they weren't matching.....only one bird showed its pale panel on its secondaries, the other being uniformly dark. They both however sported untidy black bibs and their characteristic dull black caps. Thank goodness for once we listened to David Bain's advice and mugged up on the relevant bird calls. What a start to a great weekend!

The next notable views were of Nuthatch. For us, a first British sighting. Undaunted by rain and high winds, we finished the day viewing approximately 1000 of the 30,000 Svalbard Barnies on the Solway Firth. We also watched a pair of distant Peregrines dining on a fresh plump Teal and decided it was time for our supper too. This was enjoyed in Bruno's restaurant, Dumfries and a convivial and yummy meal was eventually enjoyed by all.

Janet Brodie & Mike MacPherson

Day 2 – Saturday

The weather forecast was dire, and indeed the start of the day was windy and wet. However, fortified by an excellent breakfast we were led by David to Mersehead via the west shore of the River Nith, and as the day went on the weather became mild, mostly dry, and much brighter than forecast.

The detour allowed us to see and hear a nuthatch, to see large numbers of barnacle and pinkfoot geese, redshank and shelduck and to watch many hundreds of oyster catchers and four scaup. On the approach track to Mersehead we had good views of a ring-tailed hen harrier.

From the hides we had excellent views of pintail, gadwall and shovelers, but the highlights for many of us were the unusually close views of three quite common species. There were goldcrests on the low branches of a bush only 10 feet away, and it was a delight to look down on their beautiful head markings instead of craning to see them at the top of a pine tree. Then there were glimpses of several early migrant warblers, also close to the hide, with identification of chiffchaffs (dark coloured legs) and one willow warbler (flesh coloured legs).

As we walked back, the bird singing enthusiastically at the top of a tree was identified as a linnet, and there were many yellow hammers, tree sparrows and a few reed buntings in the hedging or scrub.

We went on to Rockcliffe, where the shore was empty of birds (but with several dog walkers). However we were greatly pleased to see a pair of bullfinches and goldfinches in trees at the west end of the village.

Then, nearing close of play, the rain drifted in, and after sheltering under the hulls of yachts and registering no birds, we headed back for dinner. All in all, it was a highly enjoyable day for all of us. Thanks, David!

Liz & Frank Johnstone

Day 3 - Sunday

Following a short night, caused by the clock change and a late and leisurely evening meal, the party (including all the “9 o’clock dissenters”) set off around 9:15 heading for Castle Douglas and the Threave Estate, by way of Lochrutton Loch. Here there were seen Canada geese, great crested grebes, goosander, mute swans, tufted duck and goldeneye, as well as rooks, jackdaw, starlings and kestrel.

Arriving at Carlingwark Loch in Castle Douglas we were greeted with a cold and blustery shower which seemed to confirm the rather gloomy weather forecast for the day. The loch gave, however, good views of tufted duck, mallard and golden eye, cormorants and many swans, all of which were mute. There were also pink-footed, greylag and Canada geese. There were two pairs of nesting coot and a moorhen. Great crested grebe performed a brief courtship display, and the first of many red kites circled overhead. En route to the Threave Estate red kite were the most common bird, due no doubt to proximity to the Red Kite Centre and feeding station.

Arriving at Threave Castle estate the weather improved dramatically and the party divided into two groups; one heading by car to the castle car park for easier access to two of the loch-side hides, the remainder electing to walk the circular estate trail encompassing a variety of habitats and additional hides. The walk in yielded robin, wren, long tailed tits, blue and great tits and one mixed hedgerow with a charm of many goldfinches. At the lochside hides we were extremely fortunate to witness the newly arrived osprey which was suffering from assault by a number of corvids, including ravens, and a red kite. A black tailed godwit did its best to avoid identification, whereas the many teal showed their colours brilliantly. A pair of gadwall on the loch was upstaged by the surprise appearance of willow warbler and chiffchaff (seen and heard) and a reed bunting which splashed along the shore very close to the hide.

Around 4:30 the party set off by road for a scenic swing through idyllic Dumfries-shire countryside, as the weather closed in to the forecast gloom, making observation of the expected raptors and moorland species difficult. Then we returned to the hotel for a quick change and evening meal.

An excellent day!

Kathy & David Bonniface

Day 4 – Monday

In temperatures only a little above freezing and snow on Criffel across the Nith estuary we made a brief return visit to Glencaple, where, apart from the previously noted distant flock of barnacles in the fields opposite, the only bird of interest was what appeared to be an albino redshank busily feeding away in the mud on the opposite bank.

Then it was on to Caerlaverock Wetland Centre where we first ascended the Farmhouse Tower which provided a good overview of the entire reserve and the Solway estuary. Swimming in the Folly pond nearby among its Eurasian cousins we spotted a North American interloper- a green-winged teal, its vertical stripe, as opposed to the horizontal stripe of the others, showing prominently. Also spotted against a distant hedge were three little egrets.

Along the track we came to the new Sir Peter Scott (heated!) observatory, from where we added whooper swans to the list. Such was the comfort of the place and her delight at being so close to the birds one of our senior members stayed here most of the day and witnessed the swan feeds, with live commentary by one of the wardens, at both 11am and 2pm!

Most of the rest of the party carried on along a tree-screened avenue, spotting the usual tits, finches and a tree-creeper along the way, to the Merse observatory, another tower near the east end of the reserve. Here we had great views of a flock of grazing barnacle geese, one or two with brightly coloured leg rings. Also noted were a couple of roe deer quietly reclining and chewing the cud. We looked in vain at the artificially constructed osprey eyrie but although that day was the expected arrival date we were not as lucky as we had been at Threave. As we were about to leave Frank spotted a large flock of golden plovers near a distant pond. All scopes were immediately realigned and we noted that they were coming into their summer plumage, some showing so much black that they must have been of the northern morph.

Back then to the visitor centre where David had booked us a light lunch. As we stood in the queue to order a warden appeared to tell us that a ruff had been spotted on Folly pond, so lunch was rushed and we proceeded back to the viewing point where we were lucky enough to get good views of it with a common snipe showing for good measure.

All in all this had been a very successful and memorable weekend expedition with a total of 87+ birds on the list. Many thanks to our intrepid leader, David Bain, whose careful planning and unobtrusive leadership really paid off.

David Reid

Footnote:

Yes it was a good trip, in good company with plenty of banter and good birds. The lack of summer migrants and indeed bird song was disappointing but hardly surprising, given the cold and inclement weather. The species total quoted above is mine; the 87th species added to my list being 2 Red Grouse which flew across the A9 at Drumochter on our way home! I know for sure that Alex Joss's list was into the 90s. Had the temperatures been a bit higher, I'm sure we could have achieved over 100 species.

David Bain

Recent and not so recent Sightings

May highlights included a singing Wood warbler at Contin on the 5th, a Kentish Plover at Dornoch on the 7th, a Great white Egret at Loch Modsary on the 10th and a Long-tailed Skua heading east out of the Inverness Firth on the 13th. A Black Redstart was near Dunvegan, Skye on the 22nd, the same day as John Carruthers was able to add to his garden bird list a singing Garden Warbler. On the 27th at Tarbat Ness, a Glaucous Gull, 3 Great Northern Divers along with the first Manx Shearwaters of the year and 2 Arctic Skuas. A Nuthatch was seen at Loch Lochy late in the month as were Common Rosefinches at 2 sites in Sutherland but no proof of breeding.

A Turtle Dove was at Arisaig on 2nd **June**, then a Great White Egret, possibly the bird seen in May was at the Kyle of Tongue on the 9th. On the Black isle, Quail were calling near Peddieston House

on the 17th and at the Rosemarkie end of the Eathie road 2 days later. Loch Caladail at Durness had a drake Ring-necked Duck with some Tufties on the 21st. A Rose coloured Starling was at Cromasaig on the 22nd and two days later, 10 Canada Geese were on Loch Croispol, Durness when 200 were present at Alness Bay. Tongue had a singing male Marsh Warbler on the 26th then on the 29th June, a Turtle Dove was found at Munloch. Reports were received of a couple of singing Icterine Warblers in early summer, also a singing Woodlark in Abernethy.

On 1 **July**, a Terek sandpiper was seen and photographed at the Kyle of Tongue. On the 2nd, a Turtle Dove was at Plockton airstrip, the same day as a good flock of Common Scoter was found in Broadford Bay, Skye. Still in Skye, a Hobby was at Eabost near Struan on the 20th, the same day as a 1st summer Sabine's Gull was seen off Staffin Island. A Hobby was seen over Craig Phadrig, Inverness also on the 20th. Next day, 2 adult and 2 juvenile Pochard were on Muirtown pools. Wader passage was in evidence at Udale Bay on the 25th with 1 Curlew sandpiper, 5 Greenshank, 30+ Knot and many Bar-tailed Godwits present. An inbound Whimbrel passed Chanonry Point that day. On the last day of the month, a Great White Egret was seen halfway between Fort George and Whiteness Point, also an adult King Eider in eclipse plumage off Whiteness Sands.

August 7th saw a flock of 350+ Canada Geese at Udale Bay; the flock included two Canada x Greylag hybrids. On the 8th, 2, maybe 5 waders on the summit of Cairngorm were not the expected Dotterel but Ring Plovers! Wader passage continued, with awful weather assisting, when Broadford Bay had 40 Whimbrel, 25-30 Black-tailed Godwits, c500 Dunlin and Knot, Redshank, Greenshank, Bar-tailed Godwit and Sanderling on the 9th. A small flock of Manxies passing Tarbet Ness on the 14th included a Balearic Shearwater. Five days later, 2 Storm Petrels flew SE past Tarbat Ness; a fall of migrant Willow Warblers and Song Thrushes was evident there too. A Ruff graced Fortrose Golf Course also on the 19th. On Skye next day, a Green Sandpiper was at Point of Sleat. A Black Redstart was reported from Dunvegan on the 22nd. Two species of Swift were seen on the island on the 24th; a 'common' at Staffin and a Chimney Swift 3 miles E of Staffin island. Meanwhile that same day, Tarbat Ness had 4 Pied Flycatchers, 1 Spotted Flycatcher, 1 Willow Warbler in the plantation along with 1 Whitethroat at the pool to SW of plantation and 25 Fieldfare were at Littleferry.. Next Day, the Durness area had 6 Pied Flycatchers, 1 Garden Warbler, 1 Goldcrest, 26 Black-tailed Godwits, 1 Ruff plus Willow Warbler, Chiffchaff and Spotted Flycatcher. An influx of Swifts occurred there – 6 at Durness, 5 at Kyle of Tongue with 7 there on the 24th. 15 Swifts were seen at Staffin on the 26th and still on Skye, next day a Hoopoe was at Ardvarsar, a Kingfisher at the head of Loch Harport and an adult Sabine's Gull was seen in the Minch from a whale cruise out of Gairloch. Skye's Broadford Bay had juvenile Ruff, juvenile Little Stint, Black-tailed & Bar-tailed Godwits and 65 Whimbrel on the 28th, the same day on which a Rose-coloured Starling was found at Gairloch and a Nuthatch at Glenfinnan.

Tailpiece

Did anyone go searching for Nightjars this 'summer'? I did, without success I may add. I am no expert, never having seen a Nightjar, but my gut feeling this year was that conditions were just not right for the birds. There were few moths and beetles on the wing. I searched in the second week of June, in Assynt, then in the latter half of the month and into July to the south of Inverness. A friend in the central belt searched west of Stirling, also without result. From what I have heard from my contact in Aberdeen, only one calling bird was heard in the North-east, on only one evening. Disappointing, but that's birding. Next year could be better? There is a move to collate dates and time spent looking (not including travelling time), also locations at least generally though 4 or 6 figure grid references would be preferred. I will forward any information passed to me to Alan Knox in Aberdeen.

One positive from my search south of Inverness – I got a brood of Long-eared Owls, at least 3 birds, possibly 4.

David Bain



The George Waterston Library at Waterston House, SOC Headquarters

The library is now in its tenth year at Waterston House.

George Waterston, co-founder of the SOC, was instrumental in forming the collection by begging books from various sources. Many books in the Club's collection were formally part of his and his wife's library, alongside donations made by others in the early 1930's.

With an outlook over Aberlady bay, the library offers a calm and tranquil environment to sit and read. It is open to all-researchers, birdwatchers of all levels, artists and historians, seven days a week during HQ's normal opening hours.

There is also an area specifically tailored to young visitors with comfy seating, activity sheets and children's books on offer.

As the largest ornithology library in Scotland and one of the top collections of its kind in Britain, the facility contains over 5,000 books, around 130 different journals and houses a unique and distinctive archive. The library aims, as far as possible, to be a complete repository of all material on Scottish ornithology. As such, it has a collection not just of books but of some fascinating diaries, photographs and letters from eminent Scottish ornithologists.

This wonderful resource also contains a range of non-Scottish ornithology titles including standard works on avifauna of all parts of the world, handbooks on identification, and works on bird behaviour and methodology.



KAREN BIDGOOD,
LIBRARIAN AT WATERSTON
HOUSE

Karen is a keen birdwatcher and walker with a particular interest in Iceland where she has spent many holidays with her family. Previously she worked in microbiology and taught Science to younger children.

To contact Karen, email:
library@the-soc.org.uk

The library has complete runs of the key British journals, all the main international periodicals and all the bird reports from Scotland, neighbouring English counties, Wales and Ireland.

The library receives many of the latest natural history books, sent by publishers in exchange for a review in the Club's journal. See opposite for the latest titles available to borrow.

A large number of books are also donated to the library from people who wish to tidy up their book shelves and attics, or collections have been received as part of a legacy. To find out more about donating books to the Club please email jane.cleaver@the-soc.org.uk . Any duplicates are offered for sale in our second-hand bookshop at Waterston House, to support the continuing charitable work of the Club.

SOC members can borrow books!

Club members can borrow up to two books at a time for a maximum of two months, subject to availability and borrowing terms and conditions (see <http://www.the-soc.org.uk/borrowing-books/>). Smaller books can be posted (p&p charges apply) or passed on to members via conferences/meetings/events, so distance from Waterston House should not be a hurdle to borrowing. There is also the facility for Headquarters to scan and email, or photocopy and post pages to you (p&p charges apply), subject to copyright conditions.

For more information and to view an up-to-date library catalogue, please visit the Club's website <http://www.the-soc.org.uk/our-headquarters/the-library> .

*Tales of Remarkable Birds by
Dominic Couzens

*A History of Birdwatching in
100 Objects by David
Callahan

*The Passenger Pigeon by
Errol Fuller

*The Birds of the Iberian
Peninsula by de Juana and
Garcia

*The Faroese Bird Migration
Atlas by Hammer et al.

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