

Vol. V

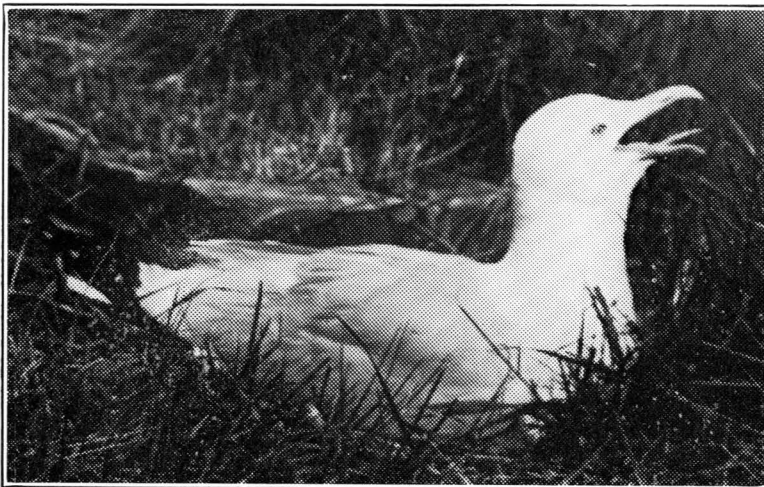
Part IV.

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ISLE OF WIGHT
NATURAL HISTORY
AND
ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FOR 1959.**

**Copies may be obtained from the Editor
price 10/- post free**

Issued December, 1960.

**Isle of Wight:
THE COUNTY PRESS, NEWPORT
1934/1960.**



Herring Gull on nest.

Photo : R. Lawrence.



Black-headed Gull on nest

Photo : M. King.

Two examples of photographs taken by members of the Newtown Survey team during Whitsun, 1959.

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CONTENTS.

	Page
NEWTOWN SURVEY, 1959, BIRD PHOTOGRAPHS	Frontispiece
LIST OF OFFICERS	CXXVII
NEW MEMBERS	CXXVIII
OBITUARY	129
BALANCE SHEET, 1959	130
GENERAL MEETINGS, EXHIBITIONS, AND EXCURSIONS	131
ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES FOR 1959, BY J. LOBB	136
NEWTOWN SURVEY, 1959, BY A. J. HENRY, M.B.O.U.	140
BIRD REPORT FOR 1959, BY J. STAFFORD, M.A., M.B.O.U.	148
A PENNY OF AETHELRAED II FROM THE ISLE OF WIGHT, BY J. D. JONES, M.A., AND R. H. M. DOLLEY, F.S.A.	157
METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1959, BY H. HOARE	160

LIST OF OFFICERS.

(Elected at the Annual General Meeting, 16th January, 1960).

President:

O. H. FRAZER.

Vice-Presidents:

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MISS I. ELEY	J. STAFFORD, M.A. (<i>ex-officio</i>)
MRS. E. M. HENRY	S. T. WAITE
R. J. MACHIN	S. G. WHITE
E. W. MARVIN	MISS T. WHITE (<i>ex-officio</i>)
J. RUSSELL	

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J. E. COOPER, Cliff Close, 99 Victoria Avenue, Shanklin, I.W.

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O. H. FRAZER, Mottistone Mill, Brighstone, I.W.

Bird Recorder:

(and Assistant Editor of Proceedings)

J. STAFFORD, M.A., Westering, Moor Lane, Brighstone, I.W.

Flower Recorder:

MISS T. WHITE, St. Catherine's Home, Ventnor, I.W.

(Publications sent in exchange should be addressed to the Editor, as above).

NEW MEMBERS.

The following list gives the names and addresses of all candidates elected to the Society during 1959 :—

- AITCHISON, J., Westmead, Marlborough Road, Ryde, I.W.
ARMSTRONG, MISS S. E., 2 Ocean View Terrace, Ocean View Road, Ventnor, I.W.
BRAMMER, MISS E., Top Flat, 62 Crocker Street, Newport, I.W.
CAWS, MISS M. J., Douglas House, Seaview, I.W.
CHAPE, D. G., Stonesteps, Baring Road, Cowes, I.W.
COOPER, MISS C. E., B.A., 99 Victoria Avenue, Shanklin, I.W.
COWDRAY, MISS R., St. Catherine's Home, Ventnor, I.W.
DAVEY, W. T. TELFER, Headmaster, Carisbrooke Primary School, Carisbrooke, I.W.
FEATHERSTONE, MRS. K. G., 16 Watergate Road, Newport, I.W.
GASKIN, MRS. I. W., 5 Church Road, Binstead, I.W.
HIGGINS, MRS. F., Sunbrae, Warden Road, Totland Bay, I.W.
HUNT, T. V., Sea Meadows, Lower Church Road, Gurnard, I.W.
HUNT, MRS. T. V., Sea Meadows, Lower Church Road, Gurnard, I.W.
MATTHEWS, MISS F. A., Rose Corner, Ryde Road, Seaview, I.W.
RADFORD, COMDR. J., Leaholme, Appley Road, Ryde, I.W.
SANDERS, MISS N. F., 132 Watergate Road, Newport, I.W.
SEABROKE, R., Marsh Farm, Newtown, I.W.
SHORTIS, R. ACHESON, The Cottage, Newtown, I.W.

SCHOOLS.

- COWES SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOL, Ward Avenue, Cowes, I.W.
PRIORY SECONDARY GIRLS' SCHOOL, Nodehill, Newport, I.W.

OBITUARY.

ERNEST HERBERT WHITE, M.B.O.U., F.R.H.S.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death on 6th August, 1959, of Mr. E. H. White, M.B.O.U., F.R.H.S., during his second term of office as President of the Society, at the age of 83.

Ernest Herbert White was a born naturalist. His interests and knowledge were very wide in both natural history and archaeological subjects, and he was always ready and eager to give others the benefit of his long experience. As a retired headmaster, he took a particular interest in the young members.

Although living at Southsea, Mr. White took a special interest in the Island, and paid frequent visits to his sister, who lives at Shanklin. After joining the Society in 1937, he was elected to the council in 1946, became vice-president and editor of *Proceedings* in 1949, and was elected President in 1951 for three years. He was again elected President, to the delight of members, in 1957.

A Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society, he was an acknowledged expert in the field of botany, and had an unrivalled knowledge of Island flowers, taking a special interest in the orchids. Many will recall with gratitude the botanical rambles that have been enjoyed in the Island under his energetic leadership. In spite of his advancing years he was remarkably active and took a pride in being able to out-walk the youngest and fittest, scrambling up banks and over fences with amazing agility. In bird life, too, he took a deep interest, and he was a member of the British Ornithological Union.

About a year previously he was unfortunately involved in a road accident, when he was thrown off his cycle and sustained serious head injuries. It was a tribute to his amazing constitution that he made such a remarkable recovery, taking an active part once again in all his many interests until his collapse in early July, following a strenuous field outing in very hot weather.

During his terms of Presidency he had the satisfaction of seeing the Society increase its membership and extend its activities in many directions. There could be no more fitting tribute to his memory than for us to see that these are continued in the future as he would have wished.

In accordance with his wishes, his valuable library of Island books has been presented to the Society, and arrangements are being made for these to be kept for the benefit of members at the County Seely Library, Newport.

Our sympathy goes to his sister in her tragic loss.

O.H.F.

BALANCE SHEET, 1959.

RECEIPTS.						£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	118	13	5
Subscriptions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	7	6
Donations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	0	0
Sale of <i>Proceedings</i> and Offprints	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4	0
Profit on Teas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
Interest on Investments	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	15	6
						£228	2	9

EXPENDITURE.						£	s.	d.
Printing <i>Proceedings</i> and Offprints	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79	12	6
Other Printing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	15	2
Stationery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	7	4
Prizes (book tokens)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	0
Hire of Rooms and Caretaker's Fees	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	17	6
Donations and Subscriptions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	5	0
Sundries	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		4	0
Petty Cash (including postages)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	7	10
Balance in Hand	116	12	5
						£228	2	9

Investment, $3\frac{1}{2}$ Per Cent. War Stock (par value)	£322 15 3
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Audited and found correct.

(Signed) S. G. WHITE, E. M. NEWNHAM, <i>Hon. Auditors.</i>	(Signed) A. J. HENRY, <i>Hon. Treasurer.</i>
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GENERAL MEETINGS, EXHIBITIONS AND EXCURSIONS.

General Meeting held on Saturday 7th February, 1959.

The President in the chair.

Mr. J. D. Jones, Curator of Carisbrooke Castle Museum, spoke on "Some Aspects of the Later Bronze Age in the Isle of Wight." The speaker said that in the period from the beginning of the 1st millenium B.C. up to the beginning of our Iron Age in about 500 B.C., there were various culture-movements across the Channel into southern England. The picture was still not clear, but it was certain that the native Bronze Age communities had imposed on them a new technology and eventually, a new immigrant population.

One native product of our Late Bronze Age was the palstave, a specialised derivative of the earlier flanged axe. A large number of palstaves had been found in the Isle of Wight, including four hoards. The latter groups included eight found at St. John's Park, Ryde, in about 1860; 31 found at Fairlee, Newport, during the building of a railway cutting on the line to Ryde, in 1874; six found at Werrar in 1884—these almost certainly the group now in the Museum of Archaeology at Cambridge; and five found at Mitchell's Road, Haylands, Ryde, during excavations for a gas supply in about 1907. Apart from this last group, there is no detailed information about the finding of these palstave hoards. The Newport hoard, and part of the two Ryde hoards, are now in the Carisbrooke Castle Museum, along with other isolated examples from the Island. These local finds had as their main characteristic the unlooped form, with the "shield" type of ornament below the stop-ridge. Many of them had certain features that indicated a date late in the Bronze Age, well into the 1st millenium. The only other native British metal work of this period, found in the Island, was the basal-looped, socketed spearhead and 11 penannular rings, all of bronze, found on the west side of Brading marsh during the 19th century.

It was against this background that the Celtic influence from the continent was felt, soon after 1000 B.C. This produced a heavy, slashing sword, instead of the native rapier; the plough, and the so-called Celtic fields, instead of the former hoe cultivation of irregularly-shaped plots; and low embankments, as cattle pounds. As yet only the material culture reached Britain, apart from isolated farmsteads like the site at Plumpton Plain, in Sussex. By the 8th century B.C., there was an actual movement of population with the immigration of the urnfield people (Deverel-Rimbury culture) into southern England. Their characteristic cemeteries of urns, with incinerations, buried in groups just below the surface, have been found in the Island at Barnes High and at Swanmore, with further possible examples at Afton Down,

Whitwell, and Stenbury. One of their hut sites was discovered at Gore Down, Chale, by Alderman G. F. Mew, B.E.M., C.C., a former President ; and intrusive Celtic metal work is represented by a hoard of some 30 socketed bronze axes from Brittany, found at Ventnor in 1909 during the building of the Central Railway from St. Lawrence to Ventnor. Four examples from this hoard, and the cast of a fifth, are in Carisbrooke Castle Museum. There is no trace in the Island of the special immigrant group characterised by "winged" axes and carp's-tongue swords, who settled extensively elsewhere in southern England towards the end of the Bronze Age.

The general picture of the Isle of Wight in the Late Bronze Age is of an unusual persistence of native bronze implements, even after the period of strong continental influence after 1000 B.C. Nevertheless, the Island was affected by the subsequent immigrations, which produced a settled, farming economy and an increased population.

There were several questions from members, after which the President thanked the speaker.

General Meeting held on Saturday 7th March, 1959.

The President in the chair.

A large audience saw a programme of films, which included "The Honey Bee," "Birds of the River," and "The Conquest of the Atom." The President thanked Mr. O. H. Frazer, who arranged the programme and acted as projectionist.

Informal Meeting held on Friday 20th March, 1959.

Subject for discussion—Ornithology.

Records were discussed and are embodied in the Bird Report.

Visit to Haslemere Museum on Saturday 18th April, 1959.

Leader, the President.

Forty members visited the educational Museum at Haslemere, where the curator, Mr. J. Clegg, F.M.A., A.L.S., gave a short talk on the history of the museum. Members were able to follow their special interests in the main exhibition galleries, and the curator gave a talk on pond life illustrated by means of the powerful microprojector. Tea was served by the Friends of the Museum. The President expressed thanks to the curator and his staff for a very instructive and enjoyable day.

Excursion to Newtown on Saturday 30th May, 1959.

Leader, Mrs. M. Seabroke.

Fifty-six members and friends met at the Town Hall, where Mr. F. W. Bright gave a talk on the history of the building and its contents. He appealed for any old Island prints, especially of the Newtown area, to give added interest to visitors. By kind permission of Messrs. Barton, of Harts Farm, members were able to walk through the fields bordering the marsh. Afterwards, tea was provided by Mrs. Seabroke in the old coach house, where there was a display of local plants. The President thanked the leader for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Excursion to St. Lawrence Bank on Saturday 13th June, 1959.

Leader, the President.

Twenty-six members met at the Buddle Inn and walked along the top of the cliff to St. Lawrence. In the regretted absence due to illness of Miss T. White, the President identified plant specimens. The purple cow-wheat was observed in its usual habitat.

Excursion to St. Helens' Duver on Saturday 11th July, 1959.

Leader, Mr. G. F. Mew, B.E.M., C.C.

Twenty-two members met on the Duver, and were joined by Mr. S. Wakely, the expert entomologist and botanist, who was on holiday in the area. He was able to show the party a number of plants which he had located. Mr. Wyatt was also very helpful in identifying specimens. Members were disturbed to hear that the President was gravely ill.

After a very interesting time spent on the Duver, an excellent tea was provided amidst very pleasant surroundings at Greylands School, through the kindness of Miss Eley.

General Meeting held on Friday 21st August, 1959.

Mr. G. F. Mew, B.E.M., C.C. (acting President) in the chair.

Sixteen members met for informal discussion on objects of natural history and archaeological interest brought by members. Tribute was paid to the Society's late President, Mr. E. H. White, M.B.O.U., F.R.H.S.

The chief objects of interest were brought by Mr. J. Jones, M.A., Curator of Carisbrooke Castle Museum. These consisted of a number of recent Roman finds from a new site at Bowcombe. Mr. Mew brought a celt from Niton, and a scraper from his own garden at Wootton. Mr. Machin showed a spine from a sting-ray and the egg-purse of a skate, while Mr. Henry brought a fine wasps' nest from Shanklin. Mrs. Seabroke displayed a selection of flowers from the Newtown march, all

of which had appeared since the flooding in 1954, and Mr. Marvin showed flowers from the Clamerkin area of Newtown.

In the absence of her husband, Mrs. O. H. Frazer showed coloured slides and fresh specimens of some interesting plants from the Freshwater marsh, and Mr. Elcox brought some flints and fossils from the Sandown area, including an interesting mesolithic arrowhead.

Visit to Mottistone Manor on Saturday 19th September, 1959.

Leader, Mr. G. F. Mew, B.E.M., C.C. (acting President).

By kind permission of Lord Mottistone, a large party of members spent a most rewarding afternoon at Mottistone Manor. The party divided into two groups, and Lady Mottistone, with the help of the Rector, Rev. Bowyer, and Mrs. Bowyer, showed the members round. Particular interest was shown in the new painted scenes from Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" hanging in the Great Hall.

Exhibition of Fungi on Saturday 24th October, 1959.

The acting President in the chair.

Members brought collections of fungi to the Priory Secondary Girls' School, Newport. Once again the Society was fortunate in having the services of Mr. E. H. Ellis, of Guildford, to identify the specimens. These were then arranged in families by Mr. O. H. Frazer, assisted by senior pupils of the school. Owing to the exceptionally dry autumn, the number of specimens were only half that of previous years, and the resulting display was disappointing. Mr. Ellis gave a talk on some of the specimens, pointing out the distinctive characters of certain families, with suggestions of possible lines of private research, which, if followed, might well lead to a greater knowledge of local fungi.

General Meeting held on Saturday 7th November, 1959.

The acting President in the chair.

Mr. G. C. Dunning, B.Sc., F.R.G.S., Inspector of Ancient Monuments for the Ministry of Works, gave an illustrated lecture on "Archaeological aspects of South Coast trade in the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Periods," with special reference to the Isle of Wight.

The speaker pointed out certain well-defined trade routes with Europe, which had always been dictated by the geological formation of the harbours. He also showed that many archaeological indications, supported in many cases by old documentary evidence, confirmed the existence of local trade in tin and roofing slates from Cornwall, and in the famous Purbeck marble so widely used in ancient churches. After answering many questions, Mr. Dunning was thanked by the acting President.

General Meeting and Exhibition held on Saturday 5th December, 1959.
The acting President in the chair.

Over seventy members and friends showed great interest in the Exhibition of work carried out during the Newtown Survey at Whitsun by a number of members, assisted by senior pupils of Cowes Secondary and Priory Secondary Girls' Schools.

The exhibition included a number of photographs, pressed specimens of flowers, grasses, and seaweeds, written reports on various subjects studied and a collection of sea-shells. A programme of films and illustrated talks followed. The first film, in black and white, with recorded commentary, including bird calls, gave a general account of the area and the work undertaken. This was followed by "Sea-shells of Newtown," illustrated by coloured slides, with a recorded commentary by Jennifer Harvey. Anna Coglan then spoke on her own experience as one of the party, with the aid of slides shown by Mr. G. F. Lawrence. This was followed by "Flowers of Newtown," also illustrated by coloured slides, with recorded commentary by Mrs. Dorothy Frazer, and finally a coloured film on "Birds of Newtown," with recorded commentary and appropriate bird calls. Except where otherwise stated, the commentaries were given by Mr. O. H. Frazer, who was also responsible for the coloured slides and edited the programme.

Mr. R. Machin, chairman of the Newtown sub-committee, said he hoped that all who were interested in the preservation of this favoured spot would give their support when it was needed.

The report of the survey appears elsewhere in these *Proceedings*.

Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 16th January, 1960.

Mr. G. F. Mew, B.E.M., C.C., acting President, in the chair.

The acting President referred to the great loss suffered by the Society in the death during the year of their much-respected President, Mr. E. H. White, M.B.O.U., F.R.H.S. Members stood in silent tribute.

The report of the treasurer, Mr. A. J. Henry, showed a balance in hand of over £16, representing a reduction of £2 from last year, but with the receipt of further sums owing to the Society there would be a slight increase.

Mr. O. H. Frazer was elected President and took the chair. In thanking the acting President, he said the Society was greatly indebted to him for all he had done. Looking to the future, the President hoped that more work of a practical nature would be undertaken by members on the lines indicated by the group who had carried out the survey at Newtown during Whitsun. It was great fun, as well as providing good material for a winter meeting, and also for publication in the *Proceedings*. There was still a lot of original work to be done to increase our knowledge of the natural history and archaeology of the Isle of Wight. Without wishing to make any drastic changes in the traditional

programme of outdoor meetings in the summer and indoor meetings in the winter, it might be well worth while to consider having an occasional evening lecture in the summer, when living exhibits could be displayed, and also an occasional outdoor meeting in the winter, on the lines of those at present being held at Newtown.

The officers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. V. Wadham, as vice-president; Mr. J. Stafford, M.A., as assistant Editor of *Proceedings*; and Messrs. R. J. Machin, E. W. Marvin, J. Russell, and S. T. Waite, as members of the Council to replace those who were retiring after having served three years. The thanks of the Society were expressed to the Education Committee and the headmistress of the Priory Secondary Girls' School for the use of rooms, and to the County Press for their help and co-operation.

It was proposed by Mrs. Gaskin that renewed efforts should be made to start a natural history museum for the Island, and the need for this was supported by many members. Tea and biscuits were served while members took part in a quiz. Book tokens for the highest marks were won by Miss F. M. Hopkins (first tying with Mrs. A. P. Taylor), Mr. E. W. Marvin, and David Norris (after first tying with Robert Lawrence).

In addition to the above meetings, fifty-two members took part in the Newtown winter walks held on alternate Sunday mornings from the 4th October, 1959, under the leadership of Mrs. M. Scabroke.

ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES FOR 1959

By JOHN LOBB.

Collecting and studying during the lovely summer of 1959 was confined mostly to the month of July. My friend, Mr. S. Wakely, and his wife and family had arranged to spend a holiday for a fortnight at St. Helens Duver, and we were able to make some interesting journeys of discovery to various parts of the Island.

Our first trip was to Blackgang and a little further along the coast to see if a clump of the Tree Mallow still remained in position where my friend had known it some years back. We were not successful in this mission, and our efforts to find that very active and rare beetle *Cicindela germanica* failed. In this area the larva of the Frosted Orange Moth, *Gortyna flavago*, Schiff., was found in the main stem of the

thistle, and at Blackgang larvae of *Bedellia somnulentella*, Zell., were found on Convolvulus. Although the Tree Mallow is not mentioned in "Morey's Guide," by the description supplied to me by Mr. Wakely, a number of these interesting plants were found at Ventnor.

On 13th July we set off for the long trip across the Island to Freshwater and Tennyson Down. A good start was made by the footpath that leads to the down from Alum Bay. Here the larvae of *Epermenia daucella*, Pey., were found on Wild Carrot, and a busy time followed until the needs of my two friends were met, and we then proceeded to climb the down to investigate the colony of the uncommon Plume Moth, *Alucita spilodactyla*, Curt., to be found on the White Horehound. The larva is very difficult to detect, and as the plants were very stunted due to the long hot weather, the larvae were not so numerous. Mr. Wakely produced a bee-smoker and the first few puffs at the base of the plants disturbed about a dozen moths. The smoker was also used to see if there was any possibility of the Isle of Wight Wave, *Sterrhia humiliata*, Hufn., being present. This proved to be very exciting work, and harrowing at times, for we were working about two feet from the edge of the vertical cliff, and trying to net insects as they emerged from the smoke and made for the edge of the cliff can well be imagined. It is some considerable time since *S. humiliata* has been taken, and it is very doubtful if it now survives in its only known habitat. Certainly no evidence of its presence was forthcoming on this occasion, but I hope to try again in 1960.

The undercliff ledge at Luccombe provided the next outing, and Mr. Wakely's friend, Dr. McNicholl, was looking forward to finding the larvae of *Ernarmonia (Laspeyresia) gemmiferana*, Treits., which feeds on the wild pea, *Lathyrus sylvestris*, between two leaves drawn together with silk threads. This fact was revealed by Mr. Wakely after some considerable investigations, as the seed pods are given as the source by most books. Many of the larvae were found, and also the larvae of *Leucoptera lathyrifoliella*, Stt., which mine the leaves of the wild pea.

During Mr. Wakely's stay, the opportunity occurred for him to meet a good number of members who assembled on the Duver in July. A most interesting and productive afternoon was spent studying the area. Two local moths found here are *Platyedra vitella*, Zell., the larva of which feeds on the seeds of the wild mallow, and *Nephopterix genistella*, Dup., the larvae of which feed in the shelter of a web at the tip of gorse stems. They are reduced in some seasons by the burning of the gorse, and this year they were completely lacking. The following is a full list of the moths taken from 4th to 18th July, kindly supplied by Mr. Wakely:—

ST. HELENS, I.W.

Laotioe populi L.
Sphinx ligustri L.
Deilephila porcellus L.
D. elpenor L.

Macroglossum hellatarum L.
Notodonta dromedarius L.
Phalera bucephala L.
Habrosyne derasa L.

- Thyatira batis* L.
Tethea ocularis L.
Euproctis chrysorrhoea Hb.
E. similis Fuessl.
Leucoma salicis L.
Malacosoma neustria L.
Philudoria potatoria L.
Gastropacha quercifolia L.
Nola albula Hb.
N. cucullatella L.
Spilosoma lutea Hufn.
Phragmatobia fuliginosa L.
Arctia caja L.
Eilema lurideola Zinck.
E. griseola Hb.
Apatele leporina L.
A. megacephala F.
A. psi L.
Craniophora ligustri F.
Cryphia perla F.
C. muralis Forst.
Agrotis segetum Schiff.
A. vestigialis Rott.
A. exclamatoris L.
A. ypsilon Rott.
A. ripae Hb.
Euxoa tritici L.
Lycophotia varia Vill.
Ochropleura plecta L.
Triphaena pronuba L.
Mamestra brassicae L.
Melanchra persicariae L.
Diataraxia oleracea L.
Hadena suasa Schiff.
H. trifolii Rott.
Procus strigilis Clerck.
P. literosa Haw.
Apamea monoglypha Hufn.
A. secalis L.
A. ypsilon Borkh.
Nonagria sparganii Esp.
N. dissoluta Treits.
Coenobia rufa Haw.
Leucania pallens L.
L. impura Hb.
L. lithargyria Esp.
L. littoralis Curt.
Caradrina morpheus Hufn.
- C. taraxaci* Hb.
C. alsines Brahm.
Plagodis dolabraria L.
Cucullia umbratica L.
Plusia chrysitis L.
P. gamma L.
Laspeyria flexula Schiff.
Zanclognatha tarsipennalis L.
Tholomiges turfosalis Wocke
Hemitea aestivaria Hb.
Sterra seriata Schrank.
 (*virgularia* Hb.)
S. dilutaria Hb.
S. biselata Hfn.
Scopula imitaria Hb.
Calothysanis amata L.
Epirrhoe galiata Hb.
Lyncometra ocellata L.
Hydriomena furcata Thunb.
Eupithecia centaureata Schiff.
E. subnotata Hb.
Abraxa grossulariata L.
Crocallis elinguaris L.
Opisthograptis luteolata L.
Ourapteryx sambucaria L.
Biston betularia L.
Cleora rhomboidaria Schiff.
Acentropus nivea Ol.
Dolichanthria punctalis Schiff.
Eurrhypara hortulata L.
Nomophila noctuella Schiff.
Rhodaria cespitalis Schiff.
Hapalia ferrugalis Hb.
Notarcha ruralis Schiff.
Pyralis costalis F.
P. glaucinalis L.
Synaphe angustalis Schiff.
Anerastia lotella Hb.
Phycita spissicella F.
Homoeosoma sinuella F.
Crambus culmellus L.
C. hortuellus Hb.
C. pinellus L.
C. tristellus F.
Platytes alpinellus Hb.
Chilo phragmitellus Hb.
Marasmarcha lunaedactyla Haw.
Alucita pentadactyla L.

- Adaina microdactyla* Hb.
(larvae on Hemp Agrimony)
Cacoecia podana Scop.
Pandemis heparana Schiff.
P. ribeana Hb.
Argyrotoxa conwayana F.
Tortrix loeflingiana L.
T. unifasciana Dup.
Cnephsia chrysanthemana Dup.
Peronea variegana Schiff.
P. hastiana L.
Spilonota ocellana Schiff.
Gypsonoma aceriana Dup.
Polychrosis fuligana Schiff.
Argyroploce purpurana Haw.
A. lacunana Dup.
A. profundana F.
Notocelia uddmanniana L.
Eucosma citrana Hb.
E. cana Haw.
E. expallidana Haw.
Heminene petiverella L.
Aristotelia pictella Zell.
Epithectis mouffetella Schiff.
Gelechia velocella Dup.
- Phthorimaea seminella* Pierce
P. costella Westw.
Platyedra vilella Zell.
(larvae on Mallow)
Anarsia spartiella Schrank.
Oegoconia quadripuncta Haw.
Borkhausenia fuscescens Haw.
B. pseudospretella Stt.
Depressaria costosa Haw.
D. umbellana Steph.
(larvae on gorse).
D. pupurea Haw.
(larvae on wild carrot)
Hyponomeuta cognatella Hb.
H. padella L.
Gracillaria semifascia Haw.
(larvae spinings on maple.)
Epermenia chaerophylllella Goeze
Ypsolophus xylostellus L.
Opostega salaciella Treits.
Leucoptera wailesella Stt.
(larvae on *Genista linctoria*)
Monopis ferruginella Hb.
M. imella Hb.

LUCCOMBE :

- Laspeyresia gemmiferana* Treits. (larvae on *Lathyrus sylvestris*)
Lithocolletis geniculella Rag. (larvae on Sycamore)
Leucoptera lathyrifoliella Stt. (also larvae on *Lathyrus sylvestris*)

FRESHWATER (Near) :

- Alucita spilodactyla* Curt. (also larvae and pupae on *Marrubium vulgare*)
Epermenia daucella Peg. (larvae on Wild Carrot)

BLACKGANG :

- Bedellia sommulentella* Zell. (larvae on Convolvulus)
Gortyna flavago Schiff. (larvae in Thistle stem)

ST. LAWRENCE :

- Mecyna asinalis* Hb.
Depressaria purpurea Haw. (larvae on Chervil)

During the first two weeks of November specimens of the Clouded Yellow, *Colias croceus*, Geof., had been noticed flying near the Winter Gardens at Ventnor. A moth new to our list came to light, this being *Mompha (Laverna) decorella*, Step., and several have been taken since. Thus ended a very fine summer, very similar to 1947.

NEWTOWN SURVEY, 1959.

Report on a Survey carried out under the auspices of the Isle of Wight Natural History and Archaeological Society of the Brickfield Farm area of Newtown, I.W.

By A. J. HENRY, M.B.O.U.

OBJECTS

1. To prepare detailed lists of the flora and fauna of the area, as a preliminary to substantiate proposals that this portion of the Isle of Wight is well worth preserving as a Nature Reserve.
2. To give instruction in field-work and photography to selected pupils from local Secondary Schools.
3. To obtain photographs for use in preparing a comprehensive report and for staging an exhibition.

PERIOD COVERED

From Friday evening, 15th May until Sunday 24th May, 1959, which included the Whitsun week-end. In addition some members of the team visited the area at various dates during the following months.

AREA DESCRIPTION

The area under survey lies on the E.-N.E. side of the entrance to Newtown Harbour, and consists of about 172 acres, mainly used for grazing or hay. Since the summer of 1958 nobody has been living at the farmhouse, which is situated in the middle of the area. It is bounded on the North by the Solent, and on the South by the Clamerkin arm of the estuary, where tidal movements expose large areas of mud and sand flats which attract great numbers of Waders and Duck at all times of the year.

The maximum height of the land above high tide level is around 50 feet, and in general slopes from the northern cliff to the river in the South. Brickfield farm forms a rough triangle with the apex to the West at the harbour entrance, and access is only normally possible by water when the tide is high.

Geologically the land consists of gault clay and silt, and there are meadows, ponds, a neglected orchard, small coppices, bushy undergrowth, and hedges. The tidal land to the South is split into small, spartina-covered "islands" of varying sizes, between which are quite deep runnels filled at high tide.

PROGRAMME

The first days were spent in making camp, locating nests and nesting territories, erecting hides for future use, and a preliminary survey of Clamerkin Creek and Marsh by boat. During the following days instruction and demonstrations were given on Ringing, Finding Nests, Erection and Use of Hides, Observation and Photography from Hides, and the Botanical Features of the area. Special emphasis was laid on correct methods, as opposed to the dangers of over-enthusiasm when investigating or studying wild life. The main daylight hours, however, were used for practical field-work, reports of which appear later.

Luckily, the weather was fairly fine, and the only real trouble encountered by the enthusiastic survey team concerned the carriage of equipment and particularly water supplies, since there is no water main to the farmhouse, and the well was used only for washing facilities in case it was contaminated.

THE SURVEY TEAM

Mr. R. J. Machin (Chairman)	Mrs. Seabroke
Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Lawrence	Miss Kennedy
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Henry	Mr. J. Stafford
Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Frazer	

From Cowes Secondary School—M. King, A. Wesson, D. Wyatt, C. Gange, D. Goodson, R. Taylor, M. Gammage, Sylvia Clack, Christine Price, Anna Cogan.

From Priory Secondary Girls' School—Jennifer Harvey, Diana Hopkins, Ann Anderson, Marion Dove, Mary Griffiths.

From Carisbrooke Grammar School—R. Lawrence.

From St. Mary's College, Southampton—K. Bickerstaff.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Newtown Sub-committee would like to express their thanks to all who took part in the survey, without whose help it could not have been carried out, and in particular to :—

Mr. Hayward	the tenant farmer of Brickfield Farm, without whose consent no survey would have been possible.
Mr. O. H. Frazer	for the loan of equipment for biological surveys, in addition to his excellent work with cine-camera and recording apparatus.
Mr. and Mrs. Seabroke	for car parking facilities, arranging for provisions, storage, assistance with ferrying service, and loan of equipment.
Miss Kennedy	for demonstrations of mist nets, catching and ringing of birds.
Mr. J. Stafford	for guidance on methods of recording.

- Mr. R. J. Machin for assistance in field-work, camping, and looking after many visitors, including the County Education Officer.
- Mr. J. B. Goodson, Headmaster of Cowes Secondary School, for allowing the use of school resources and equipment.
- Mrs. Andrews }
Mrs. Frazer } for arranging camping facilities, catering, etc., for
Mrs. Lawrence } the girls of Cowes and Priory Schools.
- Mr. Lawrence for his leadership and loan of his boat and apparatus.

REPORTS

BIRDS

Most of the time spent on the survey was devoted to the observation of the birds of the area. A total of 41 species were recorded, and of these 22 were known to have nested in the area, and it is almost certain that some of the others nested also. The following is the list of birds observed, and those that nested have (N) after them :—

28	Cormorant	237	Cuckoo
30	Heron	258	Kingfisher (N)
45	Mallard (N)	262	Green Woodpecker
73	Shelduck (N)	272	Skylark (N)
84	Mute Swan (N)	280	Carrion Crow
126	Moorhen (N)	282	Rook
131	Oystercatcher (N)	288	Great Tit
133	Lapwing (N)	299	Wren (N)
134	Ringed Plover (N)	301	Mistle Thrush
139	Grey Plover	303	Song Thrush (N)
143	Turnstone	308	Blackbird
150	Curlew	322	Nightingale
151	Whimbrel	325	Robin (N)
154	Blacktailed Godwit	354	Willow Warbler (N)
155	Bartailed Godwit	373	Meadow Pipit (N)
161	Redshank (N)	380	Pied Wagtail (N)
178	Dunlin	392	Greenfinch (N)
200	Herring Gull (N)	395	Linnet (N)
208	Black-headed Gull (N)	407	Chaffinch (N)
217	Common Tern	421	Reed Bunting (N)
222	Little Tern		

It must be stressed that the above list cannot be taken as truly representative of what this area has to offer. An extract of records shows that the List of Species seen and recorded in the Newtown Area during the last ten years includes 150 different species, of which 52 species are known or believed to have bred in the area.

FLOWERING PLANTS—Studied by Mrs. M. M. Seabroke and Mrs. D. A. Frazer.

Two line transects were completed to show the variation in plant life, with causes and effects, above high water mark in the Estuary. In addition a general survey of the flowering plants in the area was carried out and the following report submitted by Mrs. Seabroke :—

Landing on the South-West sandy point there are *Spartina* saltings to the East, and a steep stony beach to the North-West. This spit is the habitat of the Sea Beet and Golden Samphire, with patches of Silver Weed and Sea Purslane.

Continuing along the North-West shore there is a fine plant of Sea Kale and several good specimens of Yellow Horned Poppy. There is then a sea wall, which shelters a broad, flat sward, where Sea Lavender, Sea Spurge, Saltwort, Samphire, White Melilot, Birdsfoot Trefoil and Sea Holly are found. This sward gives way to shingle again, and there is Sea Bindweed and Rest-harrow. To the South, among the *Spartina*, are fine patches of Sea Wormwood.

The ground to the East rises to form a cliff behind the northern shore. The cliff is slipping away, taking large clumps of Gorse and Bramble. There is a rough field beyond a thicket of Dewberry and Hawthorn, where Hemlock Water Dropwort and Ragwort grow. The rough pasture is nearly over-run by Dyer's Greenweed, Horsetail, Bracken and Carnation Sedge, and, later, Sheepsbit Scabious, but here, too, are found the Green-winged, Common Early Purple, Bee, and Spotted Orchids. There are Yellow-wort, Centaury, Cowslip, and Oxeye Daisy. Teasels and Marsh Mallow form a boundary to the *Spartina* border of the Clamerkin.

The boundary hedge of Brickfield Farm is of Hawthorn, and the house itself is surrounded by an overgrown garden and orchard, where Pennycress, Hairy Buttercup, and Alsike Clover grow.

Passing through the deserted farmyard, there is more rough pasture, and to the North, near the cliff's edge, is an extensive scrub of Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Crab, and Willow. Here there is marshy ground, where some fine Spotted Orchids are found with Water Forget-me-not and Wild Comfrey.

The garden to the South of the house and derelict farm buildings gives way to an overgrown path, which leads to a landing quay, where there are fine patches of Sea Milkwort. Centaury, Flax, Eyebright, and Yellow-wort grow above the sea margin.

There are several small fresh-water ponds in the eastern meadows, one of which is mowing grass. The ponds are overgrown with Yellow Iris, Watercress, Brooklime, and Celery-leaved Buttercup, while they are surrounded by thickets of Briar, Dog-roses, Privet, and some Mallow.

The fields of rough grass are very poor with much Sedge. There is Ragged Robin with Pignut and Dyer's Greenweed. Wood Spurge, Red Campion, and Figwort are found by the rough and overgrown hedges.

The fields bordering the Clamerkin in the South have an extensive margin of *Spartina*, Seablite, Sea Lavender, and Glasswort, while to the North is the sea cliff of blue slipper clay above a shingle shore and the Solent.

The complete list of plants recorded in the area included 221 species.

GRASSES—Studied by Anna Coglan and Sylvia Clack.

The following species of Grasses were collected, pressed, and mounted, and their distribution recorded on a map of the area :—

Common Reed (*Phragmites communis*)
 Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*)
 Rye Grass (*Lolium perenne* x *multiflorum*)
 Italian Rye Grass (*Lolium multiflorum*)
 Salt Marsh Grass (*Puccinellia maritima*)
 Reflex Meadow Grass (*Puccinellia distans*)
 Rough Meadow Grass (*Poa trivialis*)
 Meadow Grass (*Poa pratensis*)
 Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*)
 Crested Dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*)
 Common Quaking Grass (*Briza media*)
 Barren Brome (*Bromus sterilis*)
 Soft Brome (*Bromus mollis*)
 Lyme Grass (*Elymus arenarius*)
 Meadow Barley (*Hordeum secalinum*)
 False Oat Grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*)
 Yorkshire Fog (*Holcus lanatus*)
 Creeping Soft Grass (*Holcus mollis*)
 White Bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*)
 Common Foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*)
 Sweet Vernal Grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*)

SEDGES AND RUSHES—Studied by Mrs. D. A. Frazer.

The following species were collected :—

Sea Club-rush (<i>Scripus maritimus</i>)	Heath Woodrush (<i>Luzula</i>
Divided Sedge (<i>Carex divisa</i>)	<i>multiflora</i>)
Fox Sedge (<i>Carex otrubae</i>)	Toad Rush (<i>Juncus bufonius</i>)
Carnation Sedge (<i>Carex panicea</i>)	Soft Rush (<i>Juncus effusus</i>)
Glaucus Sedge (<i>Carex flacca</i>)	

SEAWEEDS—Studied by Christine Price and Mary Griffiths.

The following seaweeds were collected and pressed :—

<i>Laminaria digitata</i>	<i>Enteromorpha compressa</i>
<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>	<i>Griffithsia flocculosa</i>
<i>Fucus canaliculatus</i>	<i>Chondrus crispus</i>
<i>Cladophora</i> sp.	<i>Rhodymenia palmata</i>
<i>Ulva lactuca</i>	<i>Calliblepharis ciliata</i>
<i>Porphyra laciniata</i>	<i>Corallina officinalis</i>
<i>Fucus serratus</i>	<i>Ectocarpus</i> sp.

POND LIFE—Studied by A. Wesson, D. Goodson, and R. Lawrence.

There are a number of ponds in the old clay diggings, and some of these were worked with a pond net to discover the distribution of newts and other pond life.

Specimens, both male and female, of all three species of Newts found in Britain were captured, but there were insufficient numbers to draw any definite conclusions as to the factors deciding their distribution. The Warty Newt (*Triturus cristatus*) was found in only one pond, while the Common Smooth Newt (*Triturus vulgaris*) was generally distributed, but not so common as the Palmate Newt (*Triturus helveticus*).

One pond only was found to contain a large number of tadpoles of the Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*), and the indications are that this was the communal breeding pond for the toads of the area. It would be interesting to know if they choose the same pond each year and, if so, the possible reasons for their choice.

Other pond life caught included the Lesser Waterboatman (*Corixa*), Mayfly larvae, Dragonfly larvae, and Water Beetles of various species.

There was nothing uncommon found, but it was clear that different plant and animal life was to be found in each pond. Carefully planned work designed to discover the reasons for these differences might be very profitable, and the area is particularly suitable for this kind of work owing to its remoteness and consequent lack of outside interference.

SPIDERS—Studied by R. Taylor and P. Lambie.

The following species were collected and identified by Dr. A. F. Millidge :—

<i>Theridion tinctum</i> ♀	<i>Pisaura mirabilis</i> ♂
<i>Tetragnatha montana</i> ♂	<i>Pholcus phalangoides</i> ♂
<i>Euophrys frontalis</i> ♂	<i>Zygiella</i> sp. (dried up and immature)

All these are quite common, but it is surprising to find *Pholcus phalangoides* out of doors, as it is normally a common house species in the I.W.

MARINE LIFE—Studied by K. Bickerstaff and D. Wyatt.

Opportunity was taken during the very low spring tides to examine and record the marine life on the lower Solent shore.

The basis of the shore is of clay, which has been brought down from the cliff by erosion. This is in the form of gently sloping flats stretching out to below the low spring tide level.

At the foot of the cliffs is a shingle beach, which cannot claim any visible inhabitants. Below this, however, near the river entrance, two shingle banks stretch out to sea, and on and between them may be found a variety of marine life, a list of which is given below :—

Common Acorn Barnacle (*Balanus balanoides*)
 Common or Edible Cockle (*Cardium edule*)
 Common Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*)

Razor Shell (*Ensis siliqua*)
 Gaper (*Mya arenaria*)
 Common Limpet (*Patella vulgata*)
 Flat Top-shell (*Gibbula umbilicalis*)
 Common Periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*)
 Rough Periwinkle (*Littorina rudis*)
 Flat Periwinkle (*Littorina littoralis*)
 Dog Whelk (*Nucella lapillus*) and eggs
 Slipper Limpet (*Crepidula fornicata*)
 Hermit Crab (*Eupagurus bernhardus*)
 Common Shore Crab (*Carcinus maenas*)
 Porcelain Crab (*Porcellana platycheles*)
 Spider Crab (*Hyas araneus*)
 Lug or Lob Worm (*Arenicola marina*)
 Ragworms (*Nereis* sp.)
 Common Sand-hopper (*Talitrus saltator*)
 Common Shrimp (*Crangon vulgaris*)
 Sea Lemon (*Archidoris britannica*) and spawn
 Cuttlefish (*Sepia officinalis*) and eggs
 Opelet or Snake-locks Anemone (*Anemonia sulcata*)
 Brown Beadlet Anemone (*Actinia equina*)
 Common Crumb-of-bread Sponge (*Halichondria panicea*)
 Sponge (*Hymeniacidon sanguinea*)
 Eel-Grass (*Zostera marina* and *nana*)

SEA SHELLS—Studied by Jennifer Harvey and Diana Hopkins.

At the western end of the area, close to the mouth of the Newtown River, the large shingle bank was found to consist largely of empty sea shells. As many different species as possible were collected and photographed in colour. The following is a list of the species collected :—

BIVALVES

Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*)
 Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)
 Cockle (*Cardium edule*)
 Carpet (*Tapes decussata*)
 Blunt Gaper (*Mya truncata*)
 Piddock (*Pholas dactylus*)
 Razor (*Ensis siliqua*)

UNIVALVES

Limpet (*Patella vulgata*)
 Slipper Limpet (*Crepidula fornicata*)
 Whelk (*Buccinum undatum*)
 Spindle Shell (*Neptunea antiqua*)
 Sting Winkle (*Ocenebra erinacea*)
 Netted Dog Whelk (*Nassarius reticulatus*)
 Winkle (*Littorina littorea*)
 Painted Top Shell (*Calliostoma zizyphinum*)
 Grey Top Shell (*Gibbula cineraria*)

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

By O. H. FRAZER.

As a result of the work undertaken, it would be quite fair to say that the area is ideal for carrying out many forms of field study. The wide variety of habitats in a comparatively small and compact area make it particularly suitable for this. In addition there is the minimum of outside interference due to its remoteness and comparative isolation, so that the study of life under truly natural conditions would be assured. It must be stressed, however, that in such a small area any field work undertaken must be under very strict control, and full use should be made of the camera as a means of recording, and there is a sound case for the inclusion of sketching as an incentive for close observation and a valuable method of recording also.

BIRD REPORT FOR 1959.

By J. STAFFORD.

This year only 167 species were recorded—10 fewer than in 1958. However, they included three new species for the Island—Canada Goose, Willow Tit, and Lapland Bunting. None of these can be considered rare, and the absence of previous records probably indicates a scarcity of bird-watchers rather than scarcity of the birds. Other unusual species seen during the year included Pomarine Skua (the first for well over a century), Sabine's Gull, Bluethroat, Aquatic Warbler, and a Melodious or Icterine Warbler.

As usual the Island had a small share in several occurrences which affected much wider areas. These included a Waxwing invasion at the beginning of the year, a good spring passage of Hoopoes, Grey Phalaropes in September and October, movements of Siskins and Crossbills in the autumn, and several Little Auks at the end of the year. Further details are given in the systematic list.

There were two interesting distant recoveries of ringed birds—a Blackcap in Spanish Morocco and a White Wagtail in Spain.

Two noteworthy events of the year, to which members' attention should be drawn, were the establishment of a Rarities Committee by *British Birds* journal, and the launching of the British Trust for Ornithology's bulletin *Bird Migration*. The Rarities Committee is now applying a uniformly rigorous standard for the acceptance of records of rare birds throughout the country, and some of the first records it passed are included in this report. *Bird Migration* includes regular reports from St. Catherine's Pt., set in the context of movements on a wider scale, in a manner which is quite beyond the scope of the present report.

It again gives me pleasure to thank all who supplied records of their observations.

Abbreviations, etc. Records with an element of doubt are enclosed in square brackets []. The order, numeration, and nomenclature follow the B.O.U. *Check-List* (1952), except that the English names are those used by *British Birds*. All records refer to 1959 unless otherwise stated. Observers are indicated by their initials in the systematic list. m.o. : Many observers (more than four); ♂ : Male; ♀ : Female.

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J. Stafford*, Mrs. L. Stafford, C. Suffern*, J. H. Taverner*, W. H. Truckle*, A. Walker*, J. M. N. Walton, G. A. H. Wells*, S. L. White*, Miss T. White, Mrs. A. Wilkinson (AWi), E. Williams*, Mrs. S. Williams, W. G. Willmott, R. J. Wilmshurst*, E. J. Wiseman*, D. B. Wooldridge*, Mrs. M. E. Wootton, A. Yorke-Norris*.

* Observers marked thus contributed notes referring to St. Catherine's Pt., most of which are not acknowledged individually in the systematic list.

SYSTEMATIC LIST.

- 1 **Black-throated Diver.** One on the sea at St. Catherine's Pt. on March 30th.
- 2 **Great Northern Diver.** Three on Jan. 1st, 1 on March 14th, and 2 on Nov. 1st all flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. Also 1 off Ryde Pier on Nov. 21st (JKB).
- 4 **Red-throated Diver.** One at Newtown on Jan. 18th and Nov. 7th (AJH, MMS).
- 5 **Great Crested Grebe.** In addition to the usual winter records in the Solent, 8 flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Oct. 24th.
- 8 **Black-necked Grebe.** Four at Newtown on Sept. 4th (MMS).
- 16 **Manx Shearwater.** One on Aug. 30th, and 3 on Oct. 24th, flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt. [Also there on Oct. 24th 15 unidentified shearwaters flew E.].
Balearic Shearwater. Only recorded flying past St. Catherine's Pt. : 13 to E. on May 19th (RB, AS, EW), 1 to E. on Aug. 28th, 3 to W. on Sept. 26th, 1 to W. on Oct. 17th, and 6 to E. on Oct. 24th.
- 26 **Fulmar.** Seen flying near the Needles cliffs as usual—1 on April 2nd and 2 on May 24th (JS)—but still no proof of nesting.
- 27 **Gannet.** Many records of birds flying past St. Catherine's Pt., the largest numbers being 28 to E. and 5 to W. on March 30th and 120 to E. and 7 to W. after a S.W. gale on Oct. 17th.
Twelve were fishing off the Needles on July 11th, as were 6 on the following day (RB, AS).
- 30 **Heron.** Twelve nests were occupied in the Wootton heronry, which has now split into three parts in different copses (DMF, RJM).
- 45 **Mallard.** Five nests were found at Newtown (GJL). More than usual there at the end of the year, with a maximum of c. 300 on Nov. 28th (MMS).
- 46 **Teal.** Peak numbers at Newtown were c. 200 on Jan. 18th and c. 250 on Oct. 18th, after which they dropped sharply to c. 70 in Nov. and c. 20 in Dec. (MMS).
- 50 **Wigeon.** Large numbers at the beginning of the year—c. 550 at Newtown on Jan. 18th (MMS) and over 300 on the sea off Yarmouth on Jan. 24th (MCA).

- 53 **Shoveler.** Recorded only at Newtown, Jan.-March and Dec. Maximum 22 on Jan. 31st (AJH, MMS).
- 56 **Tufted Duck.** One on Jan. 18th, and a pair on Feb. 22nd, at Bembridge (AJH), and 3 at Yarmouth on Feb. 15th (JS).
- 57 **Pochard.** A pair at Bembridge on Feb. 15th, Nov. 15th and Dec. 13th (AJH).
- 61 **Long-tailed Duck.** One flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt. on April 24th, and 2 flew W. there on Oct. 24th.
- 62 **Velvet Scoter.** At St. Catherine's Pt. 1 flew W. on Sept. 1st, and 3 E. and 1 W. on Nov. 8th.
- 64 **Common Scoter.** The movements past St. Catherine's Pt. were similar to those in previous years, but much smaller. The only day when more than 100 were seen was Nov. 8th—34 flying W. and 95 E.
- 67 **Eider.** Two flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt. on April 22nd.
- 69 **Red-breasted Merganser.** Eleven at Newtown on Dec. 20th (MMS) and 27th (RJM) were more than usual there.
- 73 **Shelduck.** 457 counted at Newtown on Jan. 25th (MMS)—the largest number ever recorded there.
- 80 **Brent Goose.** A flock of 60-70 spent much of Jan. and Feb. in Thorness Bay (DGM). At Newtown, 5 on Nov. 22nd (RJM), 2 on Nov. 27th, and 5 on Dec. 20th (MMS).
- 82 **Canada Goose.** Ten were seen flying to N.E. off Gurnard on Aug. 3rd (SLW). This apparently constitutes the first record for the Island. More occurrences may be expected, as the species nests in North Hampshire and is often seen along the N. shore of the Solent.
- 91 **Buzzard.** One near Brighstone on March 21st (RJM) and at Brook on Sept. 24th (RAL).
- 104 **Hobby.** At St. Catherine's Pt. a ♀ came in from the sea on April 19th, a ♂ did likewise on May 16th, and 1 was present on Aug. 30th.
- 107 **Merlin.** One [probably an immature ♂] at St. Catherine's Pt. on Nov. 8th.
- 120 **Water Rail.** One was seen in a ditch at Wellow on Dec. 26th (JR)—a new locality for the species.
- 131 **Oystercatcher.** Six or 7 pairs nested on the E. side of the river at Newtown (GJL).
- 135 **Grey Plover.** Seen only at Newtown (m.o.). Maximum of 24 on Jan. 28th (MMS).
- 145 **Snipe.** One flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Aug. 1st.
- 148 **Woodcock.** One at St. Catherine's Pt. on Oct. 31st and Nov. 8th.
- 151 **Whimbrel.** First 1 on April 1st, flying W. past St. Catherine's Pt.
- 154 **Black-tailed Godwit.** Fewer at Newtown this year—maximum 51 on Sept. 20th (MMS).
- 156 **Green Sandpiper.** One at Newtown on July 14th (MMS). One in a ditch at Wellow on Dec. 26th was shot in mistake for a Snipe (JR).
- 159 **Common Sandpiper.** A few present all summer at Newtown (MMS), apparently for the first time.

- 162 **Spotted Redshank.** The bird at Yarmouth at the end of 1958 (see 1958 *Report*) stayed until Jan. 18th (MCA). One at Newtown on Dec. 1st (MMS).
- 169 **Knot.** 100 at Newtown on March 8th (MMS).
- 179 **Curlew Sandpiper.** One at Newtown on May 1st and Oct. 5th (MMS).
- 181 **Sanderling.** Three seen daily at Culver Cliff, Sept. 2nd-4th (FB).
- 184 **Ruff.** One flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Aug. 24th. Three at Newtown on Sept. 7th (MMS). One at a pool of flood water by Brading Station on Nov. 21st (JKB).
- 187 **Grey Phalarope.** One on the shore at St. Catherine's Pt. on Sept. 10th (GAHW), and 2 on the sea 2 miles off the Pt. on Oct. 12th (AY-N). An immature ♂ was killed by flying into a car near Carisbrooke on Oct. 22nd (AWi).
- 193 **Arctic Skua.** Fifteen flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt., April 22nd-24th and May 16th and 17th, 1 flew W. on Aug. 28th, and 1 E. on Oct. 17th. [There were several similar records of unidentified skuas, probably this species].
- 194 **Great Skua.** Nine seen at St. Catherine's Pt.—1 on April 21st, 1 on Aug. 22nd, 2 on Aug. 27th, 1 on Aug. 30th, 1 on Sept. 19th, and 3 on Oct. 24th. The one on Aug. 30th was harrying gulls off the Pt., and all the others were flying E.
- 195 **Pomarine Skua.** One flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt. on April 23rd (JSi, AW). There has been no record for the Island since one was shot in 1844.
- 199 **Lesser Black-backed Gull.** The autumn movement past St. Catherine's Pt. was very similar to that in 1958; between Aug. 1st and Nov. 8th 642 flew to W. and 191 to E. This year, however, most were of the British race *graellsii*.
- 200 **Herring Gull.** Three pairs again nested on the sea wall at Newtown (m.o.) (see 1957 and 1958 *Reports*).
- 201 **Common Gull.** On April 19th 371 flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. in W. winds, as did smaller numbers in the next two days. By the 23rd the wind was from the E., and the movement changed accordingly; 45 flew E. on the 23rd and 11 on the 24th.
- 208 **Black-headed Gull.** The gullery established at Newtown in 1958 was very much larger this year. Over 200 pairs were estimated to be nesting, but on July 18th, when most nesting had finished, 352 nests were counted. On May 22nd some of the nests which were being kept under observation were flooded by a high tide and the eggs washed away. When the observers moved the nests to higher ground and replaced the eggs, all but one were claimed by the gulls (after much argument) and at least two of these clutches were hatched (OHF, GJL, RJM).
- 209 **Sabine's Gull.** A juvenile or first-year bird flew E. 3 miles off St. Catherine's Pt. on Oct. 16th (AY-N). This record was accepted by the *British Birds* Rarities Committee.

- 211 **Kittiwake.** The largest movements past St. Catherine's Pt. were to the E.—27 on Oct. 24th and 30 on Nov. 8th.
- 217-8 **Common Tern** and **Arctic Tern.** First on April 14th and last on Oct. 4th, both at Newtown (MMS).
 There was a marked passage in early Sept., with c. 50 at Newtown on the 4th (EAG, JHT), 54 flying W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on the 5th, and "a large flock" at Ryde on the 6th (FB).
- 222 **Little Tern.** First at Newtown on April 19th (RJM).
- 223 **Sandwich Tern.** First 1 flying E. past St. Catherine's Pt. on April 19th. Last 5 at Newtown on Sept. 20th (RJM).
- 226 **Little Auk.** At St. Catherine's Pt. 4 flew past to E. on May 17th, and there was 1 in Watershoot Bay on Nov. 21st.
 In the recurrent gales at the end of the year 4 were wrecked. The first, at Colwell Bay on Nov. 16th, was caught by a cat but rescued unharmed, and flew out to sea after being fed (LHB). The other 3 all died after being found; 1, oiled, at Bouldnor on Dec. 9th (CB); 1 at Shalfleet on Dec. 28th (MMS); 1 in Freshwater Bay on Dec. 30th (SW).
- 234 **Woodpigeon.** The First Wight Rabbit Clearance Society (!), operating in the N.E. of the Island, destroyed over 4000 Woodpigeons' nests and about 6000 eggs (*I.O.W. County Press*, Nov. 14th).
- 235 **Turtle Dove.** First on April 19th, at Newtown (MMS).
- 237 **Cuckoo.** First on April 14th, at Newtown (MMS).
- 255 **Swift.** First on May 1st, at Newtown (MMS). The last 1 flew E. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Sept. 6th.
- 261 **Hoopoe.** Six or 7 records of single birds, all in the spring: Ventnor, April 4th (JMH); Arretton, April 14th-28th (EP) and May 20th (CJM); Shalfleet, April 16th (MEW); Rowlands Copse, Havenstreet, April 19th (AJH); Newtown, April 26th (MMS); Bembridge School, May 2nd (RD).
- 263 **Great Spotted Woodpecker.** The British Trust for Ornithology is conducting a national inquiry into this species' habit of visiting bird tables. Several local occurrences have been reported, but as information is still being received publication is deferred. Any further reports will be welcome.
- 274 **Swallow.** First near Shanklin on March 22nd (AJH), and last 2 at Newtown on Nov. 12th (MMS).
 A completely white bird at Parsonage Farm, Newchurch, on Sept. 14th (GJRC).
- 276 **House Martin.** First near Shorwell on April 20th (JS), and last at Seaview on Dec. 2nd (RAL).
 On Sept. 19th flocks were seen arriving at Thorness Bay from the mainland (RJM), and the largest passage at St. Catherine's Pt. was on the same day—flying E. at c. 375 per hour from dawn to mid-day.

- 277 **Sand Martin.** First 2 at Headon Hill on April 4th (JMNW).
- 279 **Raven.** Several records of 1 or 2 near the Needles, March-Sept. (m.o.). Also 1 at Shanklin on Nov. 2nd (AJH).
- 281 **Hooded Crow.** One with Rooks at Thorley on Nov. 28th (JS).
- 283 **Jackdaw.** Partial albinos with white wing-bars were seen at Newport on April 15th (RJM) and Dec. 14th (LS), and at Yarmouth on Aug. 1st (MCA).
At St. Catherine's Pt. on March 29th 4 parties totalling 17 birds (probably including some counted more than once) were attempting to fly to the S. All except 2 were seen to return to the shore after flying some way out to sea.
- 289 **Blue Tit.** C. 100 on the Marsh bank at Newtown on Oct. 13th (MMS).
- 293 **Willow Tit.** One in a wood at Newtown on Nov. 15th (MMS). This appears to be the first record for the Island, but the species is probably overlooked by most observers.
- 296 **Nuthatch.** One on Sept. 14th and 24th at Northwood House, Cowes (where there was one in 1955 and 1956) (WGW).
- 302 **Fieldfare.** First of the winter on Oct. 7th, at Newtown (MMS).
- 304 **Redwing.** C. 25 at Newtown on Oct. 23rd (MMS)—the first of the winter.
- 307 **Ring Ouzel.** Both the spring records were near Alum Bay—a ♂ on March 21st (EJW) and a ♀ on April 4th (JMNW).
In autumn, was seen only at St. Catherine's Pt. : Oct. 11th, 6 ; Oct. 19th, 1 ; Oct. 20th, 2 ; Oct. 24th, 1.
- 308 **Blackbird.** Many at St. Catherine's Lighthouse during the night of Oct. 31st-Nov. 1st.
- 311 **Wheatear.** First arrivals numerous on March 21st in several places—c. 70 near the Needles (EJW), 24 on Compton Down (RJM), and "some dozens" on King's Quay and Woodside beaches (DGM). One N. of Shorwell on Nov. 25th—a late date (JS). None reported in the breeding season.
- 317 **Stonechat.** A pair at Compton Bay through the breeding season (JS).
- 318 **Whinchat.** A very early ♂ was seen on the shore at Brook on Jan. 2nd, making frequent brief flights which gradually took it S.E. along the coast. Details supplied. (GAHW). No more until 1 near the Needles on April 26th (AJH).
- 320 **Redstart.** The first was a ♀ at St. Catherine's Lighthouse early on March 15th, and many were at the light during the night of April 24th-25th. The last 1 was seen at the Pt. on Oct. 4th.
- 321 **Black Redstart.** One near the Needles on April 4th (RB, AS), 1 at St. Catherine's Pt. on April 21st, and 4 on Headon Hill on Nov. 14th (JS).
- 322 **Nightingale.** First heard on April 13th, at Fishbourne (CJM).
- 324 **Bluethroat.** A ♂ of the Red-spotted race *svecica* was seen at St. Catherine's Lighthouse during the night of April 24th-25th (JSi, AW).

- 325 **Robin.** Ringing recovery : The skeleton of a bird ringed (F29503) at Sandown on Feb. 19th, 1958 (LK), was found near Cardiff, 110 miles N.W., on April 22nd, 1959.
- 327 **Grasshopper Warbler.** Only 3 single birds seen : Newtown, April 22nd (MMS) ; St. Catherine's Pt., April 25th ; St. Boniface Down, May 16th (MCA).
- 333 **Reed Warbler.** A new breeding locality was found near St. Catherine's Pt.—by one of the pools in the Undercliff above Rocken End.
- 337 **Sedge Warbler.** First on April 18th, at St. Catherine's Pt.
Nested in the Priory reed bed, Carisbrooke, as usual (RJM, WS). This site is mentioned specially as it has since been partly destroyed by the making of a road to the new school site.
- 338 **Aquatic Warbler.** One at St. Catherine's Pt. on Aug. 31st (AS, JSi, AW, EJW). This record was accepted by the *British Birds* Rarities Committee.
- 339-40 **Melodious or Icterine Warbler.** One at St. Catherine's Pt. on Aug. 22nd (MB, JSi, AW, EJW). This warbler was accepted by the *British Birds* Rarities Committee as either Melodious or Icterine, but there was insufficient evidence for specific identification.
- 343 **Blackcap.** First on March 30th, at Ventnor (MCA). A wintering bird at Newtown on Dec. 11th (MMS).
Ringing recovery : An adult ♀ ringed (K52270) at St. Catherine's Pt. on Sept. 9th, 1958 (BAEM) was shot near Tetuan, Spanish Morocco (35°34'N., 5° 23'W.) on April 28th, 1959.
- 346 **Garden Warbler.** First on April 14th, at Newtown (MMS).
- 347 **Whitethroat.** First on April 16th, at Newtown (MMS).
- 348 **Lesser Whitethroat.** First on April 20th, at St. Catherine's Pt., where 5 were recorded in spring and 5 in autumn. The only others were 1 on St. Boniface Down on May 16th and 1 at St. Lawrence next day (MCA).
- 352 **Dartford Warbler.** Several records of up to 3 birds in the breeding season in Locality E, where breeding occurred in 1958.
- 354 **Willow Warbler.** First on March 21st, at Newtown (MMS) and on Brighstone Down (RJM), and last on Oct. 11th, at Newtown (MMS).
- 356 **Chiffchaff.** First on March 14th, on Westover Down (JS), and last on Oct. 11th, at Ventnor (MCA).
- 357 **Wood Warbler.** One at St. Catherine's Pt. on May 17th.
- 365 **Firecrest.** Two at St. Catherine's Pt. on March 14th and 15th (RHD).
- 366 **Spotted Flycatcher.** First on May 9th, near Shanklin (AJH).
- 368 **Pied Flycatcher.** Seen only in the autumn, all at St. Catherine's Pt. : Aug. 23rd, 1 ; Aug. 24th, 1 ; Aug. 26th, 5 ; Sept. 7th, 1.

- 371 **Hedge Sparrow.** On Nov. 1st there was "a large influx" to St. Catherine's Pt.
- 376 **Tree Pipit.** Recorded only at St. Catherine's Pt., April 20th-25th and Aug. 26th to Sept. 27th.
- 380 **Pied Wagtail.** On Sept. 5th c. 30 were found to be roosting on the end of Sandown Pier (FB).
White Wagtail. Ringing recovery: a first-winter bird ringed (K52091) at St. Catherine's Pt. on Sept. 13th, 1958 (BAEM) was killed at Ondárroa, Vizcaya, Spain (43°19'N., 2°25'W.) on March 22nd, 1959.
- 382 **Yellow Wagtail.** First on April 18th, at St. Catherine's Pt.; last on Oct. 18th, at Newtown (MMS).
 The main passages at St. Catherine's Pt. were on Aug. 23rd and 26th, when 124 and 159 respectively flew to W. Also on Aug. 23rd many arrived at Newtown Marsh, where they stayed for about a week (MMS).
- 383 **Waxwing.** Four were seen at Binstead on Jan. 28th (MER), during a widespread invasion which affected much of the country.
- 392 **Greenfinch.** C. 460 flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Nov. 1st.
- 393 **Goldfinch.** Numerous records of passage at St. Catherine's Pt. in both migration seasons. The heaviest passage was on Nov. 1st, when 1130 flew to W.
- 394 **Siskin.** Nine flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Nov. 1st, and 2 were there on Nov. 8th. 36 at Smallbrook Farm, Ryde, on Nov. 29th (EC).
- 397 **Redpoll.** At St. Catherine's Pt. 7 flew W. on Nov. 1st and 1 E. on Nov. 8th.
- 404 **Crossbill.** There were several occurrences in the Island during the widespread irruption.
 St. Catherine's Pt.: Aug. 3rd, 5 flew N.W.; Aug. 23rd, 6 flew W.; Aug. 26th, 4 flew W.; Aug. 29th, 3 flew W. just after 3 (presumably the same) had set out to E.: Sept. 3rd, 2 arrived from E. and landed.
 One on Nov. 2nd, and 8 on Nov. 18th, with Greenfinches in *Cupressus lawsoniana* in Ryde Cemetery (EC).
- 408 **Brambling.** Five on Oct. 23rd, and 2 on Dec. 15th, at Newtown (MMS). 3 flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Nov. 1st.
- 415 **Girl Bunting.** A pair at Newtown on Sept. 12th (MMS).
- 421 **Reed Bunting.** Nested at Thorness Bay and Bleak Down (RJM, WS)—both new localities.
 Also nested in the Priory reed bed, Carisbrooke, as usual (RJM, WS). (See comment under Sedge Warbler).
- 422 **Lapland Bunting.** Four at Newtown from Oct. 23rd to Nov. 2nd (H, MMS). This appears to be the first record for the Island.
- 423 **Snow Bunting.** One flew W. past St. Catherine's Pt. on Nov. 1st.
- 425 **Tree Sparrow.** St. Catherine's Pt.: 3 in the Lighthouse grounds early on Oct. 25th left to W.; 2 flew past to W. on Nov. 1st, when c. 10 others were present.

Further species. The following 53 species were recorded during 1959, in addition to those in the systematic list. The numbers refer to the B.O.U. *Check-List* (1952), and the species may be identified by reference to the *Reports* for 1953-7.

9	28	29	84	93	105	110	116	118
126	127	133	134	140	143	150	155	161
165	178	198	224	227	230	232	241	246
252	258	262	272	280	282	284	286	288
290	292	294	298	299	301	303	364	373
379	381	389	395	401	407	409	424	

A PENNY OF ÆTHELRÆD II FROM THE ISLE OF WIGHT

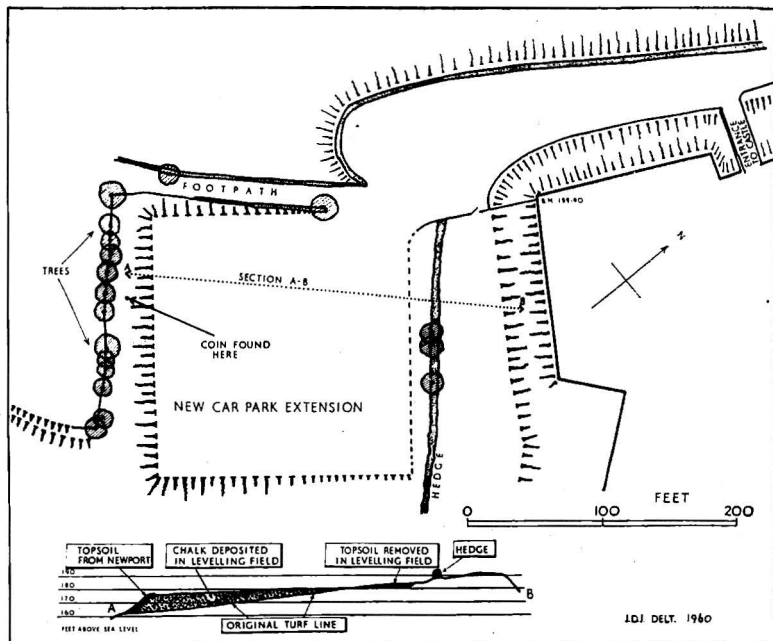
DISCOVERY OF THE COIN

By **J. D. JONES, M.A.**,
Curator of Carisbrooke Castle Museum

During 1959 the Ministry of Works undertook the construction of an extension to the existing car park at Carisbrooke Castle. This involved partially levelling the field to the south-west of the west bulwark of the castle. The topsoil was first cleared with a bulldozer down to the natural chalk, which was at a depth of only a few inches, except at the north-east or upper end of the field, where there was a foot or more of soil. The lower end of the field was then made up with chalk brought in from the quarry of the Downend Lime Company at Arreton, and this tipping formed a fairly steep bank down to the old turf level on the south-west side of the new car park area. This bank was then covered with a layer of topsoil between one and two feet in depth.

On Tuesday afternoon, 7th July, 1959, Mr. R. G. Hiscock, of 131 Medina Avenue, Newport, a Ministry of Works employee engaged on this work, noticed the Saxon silver penny lying in the grass, about four feet from the base of the earth bank (see plan, Fig. 1). The coin was at this time complete, but as Mr. Hiscock picked it up a small piece became detached and fell into the grass; a search then, and subsequently, failed to produce the missing fragment. The coin was passed to H.M. Coroner, Mr. J. V. Bullin, and by him subsequently to the Ministry of Works, as being Crown property. The finder has since been rewarded by the Ministry, and the coin presented to the Carisbrooke Castle Museum.

In view of the mixture of ballast on the site, it is difficult to determine the provenance of the coin, though it certainly belongs to the Isle of Wight. From the absence of oxidization on the penny at the time of its finding it can safely be assumed that it had not been lying for long among the grass, and that, consequently, it came from the tipped material. The topsoil covering the bank came from several sources, including the new car park site itself (this local soil was tipped on the bank at the southern corner); but Mr. R. Lawrence, who supervised this operation for the Ministry of Works, is reasonably sure that the black soil covering the bank at the point where the coin was found, was brought in by Messrs. W. West (haulage contractors, of Rex Side, Westminster Lane, Newport) from a recently cleared site to the east of, and adjoining the Borough Hall Garage, High Street, Newport.



DESCRIPTION OF THE COIN AND COMMENTARY

By R. H. M. DOLLEY, F.S.A.,

Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum

By the courtesy of the Ancient Monuments Division of the Ministry of Works and of Mr. J. D. Jones, the Curator of the Carisbrooke Museum, I am able to publish a stray-find of a penny of Æthelræd II. The coin came to light during the making of a car park near the Castle, and the probability is that it was brought to the site with a load of ballast, though it is not possible to determine the provenance more precisely. The penny (Fig. 2) is of Æthelræd's so-called *Second Hand* type (Brooke 2* = *B.M.C. iid* † = Hildebrand B.2‡ = Hawkins 206§), which is believed to have been put into circulation at Michaelmas 985 and to have been withdrawn in the months immediately following Michaelmas



* G. C. Brooke, *English Coins*, London 1932.

† *British Museum Catalogue*, Anglo-Saxon Series Vol. II, London 1893.

‡ B. E. Hildebrand, *Anglosachsiska Mynt*, Stockholm 1881.

§ E. Hawkins, *English Silver Coins*, London 1887.

991. From the reverse legend ([+LE] OFSTAN MO LVND) it can be assigned to the London moneyer Leofstan. There is an epigraphical quirk unusual at this period in fact that the second "N" is reversely barred, but in all other respects the coin is normal (cf. Hild. 2718). The die-axis is 90° and, despite a large chip, the coin weighs 15.82 grains. That the coin is a genuine ancient loss is further suggested by the complete absence of the "pecking" characteristic of the Scandinavian hoards which are the source of the great majority of *Second Hand* coins in private cabinets to-day.

There is as yet no register of single-finds of Anglo-Saxon coins from the British Isles, but generally speaking such discoveries do not seem to occur more than two or three times a year. The coin from Carisbrooke is, however, very well preserved, and we may perhaps wonder if it is not, in fact, a stray from a hoard. This is, as it happens, the first find of an Anglo-Saxon penny from the Isle of Wight to be brought to my notice, and it is disappointing that it does not seem to tie up with any of the mentions of the neighbourhood which occur in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle's* account of Æthelræd's reign. The coin cannot be as early as 980 when Southampton was burned, and should no longer have been current in 994 when the Hampshire seaport was occupied by the Danes, nor yet in 998 when the Isle of Wight itself was the Danish base. Certainly too late is the Danish descent of 1001, and it is the same with repeated use of the island as a base by the Danes in 1006 and 1009. In the same way the numismatic evidence absolutely precludes the obvious association with Æthelræd II in person that might have been supplied by the English King's brief sojourn in the Island at Christmas 1013.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Society is indebted to the Ministry of Works for a grant of £4 towards the cost of publication of this paper.

Editor.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1959.

This summary was compiled by Mr. H. Hoare, Meteorological Officer for Shanklin.

The Maximum, Minimum, Wet and Dry Bulb Thermometers, and the Rain Gauge are situated in Big Mede, Church Road, 180ft. above sea level.

The Sunshine Recorder and Weather Vane are on the roof of the Town Hall.

Readings are taken at 0900 hours and 1800 hours daily, G.M.T.

Twelve months ago the weather summary for 1958 was entitled, "Not a Sunny Picture." The summary for 1959 offers, on the whole, a very satisfactory contrast.

One has to go back to 1949, the sunniest year in the Shanklin records, to find a close comparison.

Up to the end of September, 1959 appeared likely to beat 1949 for sunshine, the aggregate being by then well ahead, but the prospect was spoiled by the very poor showing of November and December.

Although 1959 achieved only second place in the Shanklin yearly sunshine records, its summer, which continued well into October, was unsurpassed in several respects. It had the most sunshine, the lowest rainfall and complete freedom from excesses of temperature and from strong winds. It is most unusual to get through a summer without winds strong enough to cause damage to fruit and vegetables.

No summer can be remembered in which the weather here was so consistently superior to that reported from various parts of the continent, whence came accounts of gales and floods, whilst this Island was bathed in sunshine.

SUNSHINE.

The total of 2234 hours was somewhat below the highest recorded. There were seven months in which the figures were above average and five in which they were below. In February there was a period of thirteen consecutive days during which no sunshine was recorded, and throughout the year there were, all told, forty-seven such days.

May, June, July, August, September, and October were all sunnier, warmer and drier than the average, July being the sunniest for forty-eight years.

RAINFALL.

1959 was a year of contrasts. During the last three months the rainfall recorded totalled 18.07 inches, which was more than that recorded during the other nine months. The period was, moreover, the wettest last quarter for fourteen years.

December, with 8.97 inches, achieved the highest monthly rainfall since records in Shanklin began in 1936.

Nevertheless, the year's total rainfall was 1.84 inches below the average. The May-June period was the driest recorded, and there were 217 rainless days during the year. On three occasions only did the 24 hours' rainfall exceed one inch—viz., 5th January (1.11in.), 26th October (1.69in.), 5th December (1.53in.).

On four occasions snow or sleet was recorded. They were all during January and very mild displays. Hail was recorded ten times, and thunder twenty-two.

TEMPERATURE.

The year as a whole was exceptionally mild. Although January and February were both colder, all the other ten months of the year were warmer than the average.

WIND.

Once again Shanklin was fortunate in escaping most of the mainland storms, particularly in July, when the South-East of England suffered severe storms with heavy rainfall.

1959 WEATHER AT SHANKLIN.

Month	Max. (Mean)	Min. (Mean)	Temperatures Extremes		Dry (Mean)	Wet (Mean)	Rainfall (Inches)	Sunshine (Hours)
Jan.	44.0	33.5	52	24	38.2	36.6	4.24	111.2
Feb.	44.3	35.9	53	26	39.7	38.4	.33	79.0
Mar.	51.1	41.2	55	33	46.5	44.7	2.22	140.3
April	54.5	44.0	61	34	50.1	47.4	2.79	185.6
May	61.6	47.0	74	39	56.8	53.2	.68	276.0
June	65.1	52.3	75	42	59.9	56.7	.67	271.1
July	69.8	56.3	81	50	65.0	60.6	2.14	345.1
Aug.	69.6	56.7	79	46	64.3	61.2	2.23	268.9
Sept.	68.5	54.0	76	46	62.6	59.4	.21	266.2
Oct.	61.7	51.6	70	38	58.0	55.5	4.63	178.4
Nov.	52.4	42.8	59	30	48.7	46.7	4.47	68.5
Dec.	50.0	41.4	54	32	46.7	44.8	8.97	44.4
Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.58	2234.7

