

HUNTINGDONSHIRE  
FAUNA AND FLORA SOCIETY

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**13th**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**  
**1960**

PRICE (to non-members) 10/6

# HUNTINGDONSHIRE FAUNA AND FLORA SOCIETY

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## Chairman :

C. F. TEBBUTT, Esq., The Ferns, Eynesbury, St. Neots.  
(Tel. : St. Neots 110)

## Hon. Secretary :

PROFESSOR ALASTAIR N. WORDEN, Cromwell House, Huntingdon.  
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## Hon. Treasurer :

D. A. DAVIES, Esq., Darholm, 26 Perry Road, Buckden.  
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## Hon. Social Secretary :

W. O. COPLAND, Esq., Kimbolton School.

## Committee :

1960

G. E. D. ALCOCK  
MRS. D. K. ATKINSON  
A. B. BERMAN  
J. E. H. BLACKIE

MRS. M. HUDSON  
E. T. LEES  
E. V. ROGERS  
H. F. TEBBS

## Referees :

*Flora* - - - - J. L. Gilbert, c/o The Herbarium, The Royal  
Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey.  
*Mammals* - - - Alastair N. Worden, Cromwell House, Huntingdon.  
*Birds* - - - - C. F. Tebbutt, The Ferns, Eynesbury, St. Neots.  
*Macro-Lepidoptera* J. E. H. Blackie, The Bell House, Alconbury, Hunts.

# Annual Report for 1960

(No. 13)

## INTRODUCTION

In order to conserve space, the separate section on Mammals has been omitted since there were few records of interest during the year and these referred mainly to mortality among foxes and badgers in the early months.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 19th March, 1960, in the Library of Huntingdon Grammar School, by kind permission of the Headmaster. Mr. C. F. Tebbutt took the chair, and there were 42 members present. Following the usual business meeting, Mr. E. V. Rogers spoke on the work of the Forestry Commission in the County and this was followed by a sustained discussion.

The activities of the society have proceeded on the usual lines and the decision of the Nature Conservancy to site its scientific headquarters within the County has been received with enthusiasm. It is hoped to present plans for a County Natural History at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The Hon. Social Secretary has summarised the outside activities of the year as follows:—

Invitations were received from the Cambridge Natural History Society to attend their *Conversazione* on the 17th May, and from the Peterborough Museum Society to join their excursions to Sutton Heath and Southey Wood.

The autumn meeting at Kimbolton Castle on 17th November was well supported, and it is hoped that through the kindness of the Governors and Headmaster it may be possible to hold similar meetings in future years. Mr. Copland spoke on a visit he paid in 1958, to the Hebridean island of South Rona and illustrated it with colour slides. Mr. Rogers then showed some excellent slides he had taken of Huntingdonshire plants, and after refreshments, members saw the film *Woodland Drama*.

Field excursions were quite well supported. On 28th May, Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Rogers led a survey through the proposed Diddington Reservoir area starting from Perry. Plants recorded included Corn Buttercup, White Bryony and Shepherds Needle. On the 9th June, Mr. Rogers led an evening meeting through West Wood at Grafham. Mr. Lees was the leader on 19th June when members went to the Waterbeach Gravel Pit area.

Mr. Tebbutt led a party to St. Neots Common and Little Paxton Gravel Pits on 13th August. Canada Geese and Greenshank were seen.

The visit to the gardens and waterfowl collection at Basmead Manor again proved very popular and we are much indebted to Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Squire for their hospitality.

## BIRDS

1960 will be remembered as a summer and autumn of record rainfall but with dryer spring conditions favourable for nesting birds. In the gravel pits, instead of the usual falling water levels continually exposing bare mud banks, levels rose and nearly all shores were therefore vegetated. This made them less attractive to passing waders. The exceptions to this were the Greenshanks, who seemed to like these conditions and often lingered for many days.

The outstanding record is undoubtedly that of the Little Bitterns. The Canada Goose nested for the first time in the north of the County in 1959 and in the south in 1960. A spectacular addition to one of our few really large breeding species. After several years of absence it is as yet perhaps too soon to say that the several Nightjar records really mean a recovery. Other notable sightings were of Bearded Tit (1959), Goshawk and Gt. Grey Shrike.

Almost certainly due to the large numbers of poisoned vermin and pigeons many predators have suffered severely. The Sparrow Hawk is now almost extinct and Kestrels and Magpies are very scarce. Buzzards have suffered losses but one brood of young is thought to have been reared.

Contributors, who are designated by their initials, are:—  
G. Alcock (G.A.), L. Angel (L.A.), P. Banks (P.B.), Colin Drage (C.D.), G. Easy (G.E.), W. Garnett (W.G.), D. Garner (D.G.), Kimbolton School N.H.S. (K.S.N.H.S.), M. J. Palmer (M.P.), E. Rogers (E.R.), A. Vine (A.V.), Your Recorder (Rec.).

*Little Grebe*. Probably more widespread as a breeder than ever before. Nesting all along the Ouse valley and in large ponds at Kimbolton, Gt. Staughton and Buckden. (E.L., K.S.N.H.S., Rec.).

*Cormorant*. December 17th, Gt. Paxton 1 (L.A.). November 7th, Earith 1 (G.E.).

*Heron*. A decrease in nests to the level of 1957. Hemingford Park 12 (-1). St. Neots 5 (-2). Hinchingsbrooke 7 (-4). (Rec.).

*Little Bittern*. A pair of these rare birds was seen a number of times in an area suitable for breeding from June 21st—July 19th, and it would seem that if breeding was attempted it was unsuccessful. A description of male and female plumage and call has been supplied. A new county record.

*Bittern*. December 10th, Lt. Paxton 1 (Rec.).

*Teal*. A duck shot October 12th, at Lt. Paxton, had been ringed at Piam Friesland Holland, 16.9.59. (Rec.).

*Garganey*. June 28th, 1 Lt. Paxton G.P. (Rec.).

*Gadwall*. Rather more than usual. At Lt. Paxton G.P., pairs were seen on February 7th, 14th, 20th, March 13th, April 3rd, October 23rd, November 12th, December 11th, December 21st (2 pairs). (Rec.). Also a single bird near St. Ives November 8th. (C.D.).

*Scaup*. December 27th, Earith 8 (L. Lloyd Evans).

*Tufted Duck*. 2 Broods of 9 and 8 successfully reared in S. of county. (Rec.).

*Pochard*. No reports of successful breeding.

*Goldeneye*. February 7th, Fenstanton G.P., 1 juv. (Rec.).

*Eider Duck*. A drake in juv. plumage shot at Earith November 13th. 2nd county record. (C.D.).

*Goosander*. The flock (up to 15) recorded in 1959 Report remained at Lt. Paxton G.P. until January 17th. (Rec.).

*Shelduck*. A single duck remained at Lt. Paxton G.P. from February 20th to March 18th. (Rec.). 3 Hartford G.P., April 16th. (P.B.).

*Grey Geese*. Numbers from 6—30 seen during January, mainly flying W. March 17th, 30 flying N.E. December 11th, very large flock over Buckden. (L.A., Rec.).

*Canada Goose*. Appears to be attempting to colonize the county as a breeding species. In 1959 there were 5 nests on a G.P. at Stibington, and in 1960 6 nests on same site. In 1960 a pair arrived at Lt. Paxton G.P. on March 27th and were incubating eggs on an island by May 1st. 6 goslings seen June 4th. All were flying by August 8th and all had left the area by August 31st. They returned November 28th—December 7th and disappeared again. (Rec.).

*Whooper Swan*. Bury Fen, January 1st 3, February 28th 19, November 18th 5. The single juv. at Lt. Paxton G.P., (see 1959 Report) remained until January 17th. (Rec.). December 18th 12 in flooded stubble field near Woolpack, Fenstanton. (P.B.).

*Bewick Swan*. Nos. from 6—12 were on Bury Fen from January 1st to March 1st. (D.G., M.P.). Bury Fen, November 18th 2. Portholme, November 28th and 29th 33. (D.G., Rec.). On flooded stubble field near Woolpack, Fenstanton, December 11th 13, 28th 20. (P.B., Rec.).

*Common Buzzard*. At Kimbolton single birds were seen in January, March—April, November and December. The Gt. Staughton keeper is convinced that a brood of 3 was hatched and fledged in or near Ash Wood where he saw 3 juv. during the summer. Some undoubtedly died from eating poisoned Wood Pigeons. In February 1 found dead Diddington Wood, and another beside a half eaten pigeon at Gt. Staughton. (Rec.). 1 Bevills Wood, August. (E.R.).

*Sparrow Hawk*. Almost, if not quite extinct in county. (E.L., Rec.).

*Goshawk*. December 5th, 1 (probably M.) perching on electric wires Eaton Ford and flew over Hunts. side of river St. Neots. (Rec.).

*Kestrel*. Has become very scarce, possibly due to eating poisoned vermin. (E.R., Rec.).

*Peregrine Falcon*. May, 1 Kimbolton. (Rec.).

*Partridges*. Both English and French have further recovered in number, but less so where not kept. (Rec.).

*Quail*. Hamerton. Several seen in early Spring, and later a brood of 14. (Rec.).

*Pheasant*. June 23rd, a cock in full plumage was seen sitting on hens eggs in a shed at Gt. Staughton. It was 6 years old, semi tame and originally reared under a domestic hen, and had never strayed far. In the past had never taken any interest in its own kind, but had been seen to tread domestic hens. At this time it had adopted full brooding behaviour. (Rec.).

*Corncrake*. No reports.

*Oyster Catcher*. 1959. 1 June, Wansford G.P. (Rec.).

*Lt. Ringed Plover*. First arrived in one area April 2nd, and by April 10th there were 2 pairs. A number of nests were robbed by predators, but 3 flying young were seen on August 3rd. In another area 3 chicks were seen on June 16th and 1 on July 4th. (D.G., Rec.).

*Golden Plover*. More seen than usual. Flocks, some large, in January, February, March, seen at Coppingford, Woodwalton, Dudney's Wood, Salome Wood, Holme Fen, Grafham, Glatton; the last on March 27th contained birds in summer plumage of northern type. (G.A., E.R., Rec.). Return flocks Gt. Staughton, September 19th, Brampton, October 18th, St. Ives, November 18th. (D.G., Rec.).

*Common Snipe*. April 9th, nest at Buckden Station. (E.L.). October 30th—November 13th, large numbers Lt. Paxton G.P., on latter date flock of c. 30 settled and stood shoulder to shoulder on small bare island. (Rec.). See Woodwalton Fen Report.

*Jack Snipe*. First arrival Lt. Paxton G.P., October 22nd. (Rec.).

*Woodcock*. A further increase in breeding pairs at Gt. Staughton. May 10th, 12 seen roding Woodwalton Fen. (Rec.).

*Curlew*. Birds seen passing March 1st, July 4th, 11th, August 18th, 28th, September 7th, 8th. (M. Bevington, C.D., Rec.).

*Green Sandpiper*. Very few seen. Lt. Paxton G.P., 1 May 1st, 14th, August 5th. 2 August 13th, September 4th. (Rec.).

*Wood Sandpiper*. Lt. Paxton G.P., 1 June 2nd, 16th. (Rec.).

*Common Sandpiper*. Lt. Paxton G.P., first of spring and return passage, May 6th and July 25th. (Rec.).

*Common Redshank*. May 5th, nest found Buckden. (E.L.). Breeding pairs at Lt. Paxton G.P. and pond Gt. Staughton. (Rec.).

*Greenshank*. At Lt. Paxton G.P., one or two were present April 28th—May 17th, June 28th—July 30th, August 13th—17th, September 2nd—9th. (Rec.).

*Dunlin*. 1 Bury Fen, January 1st. (D.G.). 1—5 present Lt. Paxton G.P. most days April 14th—29th. 1 Fenstanton G.P., July 14th. (A.V.).

*Sanderling*. 1 Fenstanton G.P., September 7th. (A. Morris).

*Lesser B.B. Gull*. 1 Fenstanton G.P., January 21st. 3 Bury Fen, January 20th. (W.G., D.G.).

*Herring Gull*. 1 Juv. Lt. Paxton, June 12th. Up to 30 fighting up Ouse each morning, December 2nd—31st. (Rec.).

*Black Tern.* 3 Lt. Paxton, May 13th. (Rec.).  
*Arctic/Com. Tern.* Spring passage, May 11th—June 26th, return August 1st—21st. (D.G., Rec.).

*Little Tern.* 1 Meadow Lane G.P., St. Ives, May 25th. (D.G.).

*Wood Pigeon.* It was noticeable that the poisoning of large numbers in the winter 1959/60 was not repeated at the end of 1960, when owing to wet conditions, very little autumn sowing was done. (Rec.).

*Long-eared Owl.* January 1st, 1 Highfield, Eynesbury. (Rec.).

*Short-eared Owl.* March 11th, 1 Buckden Wood. (E.R.). October 17th—December 6th, up to 6 present Kimbolton aerodrome. (Rec.). November 5th, 2 in potato field Woodwalton. (G. Linton). Earith, November 7th, 2, 12th, 4. (G.E.).

*Nightjar.* More reports than for several years. May 26th, 1 Archer's Wood. (E.L.). July 5th, 1 Kimbolton Park. (K.S.N.H.S.). 2 Perry West Wood. (Rec.).

*Rook.* In the sample rookeries, the decline continues at St. Neots, with increases elsewhere. St. Neots, 172 (-138), Lt. Paxton, 88 (+23), Diddington, 198 (+46). (Rec.).

*Magpie.* A further sharp decline, possibly owing to eating poisoned pigeons and vermin. Now a rare bird in west and south Hunts., with a few left in the east. (Rec.).

*Bearded Tit.* October 31st, 1959, a party of 6 seen on the Nene at Stibbington, by P. Wilkinson, a Peterborough schoolboy. Record sent to, and accepted by P. Scott. Most eastern counties had similar reports after a record breeding season.

*Wheatear.* Spring passage, April 8th—15th. Return August 4th—October 5th. (G.A., E.R., E.L., Rec.).

*Stonechat.* A wintering bird was on Wyton aerodrome, November 15th, 1959—February 8th, 1960. (M.P.).

*Winchat.* 1 Between Abbott's Ripton and Sapley. April 29th, September 6th. (C.D.). 1 Lt. Paxton, October 23rd. (Rec.).

*Com. Redstart.* May 1st, pair Hemingford Park. May 5th, 1 Brampton racecourse. (E.L.).

*White Wagtail.* 1 Lt. Paxton G.P., April 10th, 11th. (Rec.).

*Grey Wagtail.* 1 Eynesbury, October 4th, December 21st. (Rec.).

*Gt. Grey Shrike.* A cock remained by riverside, Lt. Paxton, October 23rd—30th. (Rec.).

*Red-Backed Shrike.* Pair seen near Offord Mill, July 4th. (E.L.).

*Siskin.* Several on Alders Holme Fen, February 24th, 29th. (E.R.). See Woodwalton Fen report.

*Redpole.* April 27th, flock c. 5 Bevill's Wood. (E.R.).

*Crossbill.* Flock at Dudney's Wood, Kimbolton, in 1959, were still there January 21st, 1960, but had gone by end of March. (Rec.).

*Brambling.* More seen than usual. A flock of up to 24 remained on a farm rubbish dump at Offord Cluny, January 15th—March 16th. Others were at Kimbolton airfield, January 21st, Gt. Paxton, January 7th, Stilton Fen, March 13th, 20th. (G.A., L.A., Rec.).

## WOODWALTON FEN

I visited the Fen on May 10th and 16th and inspected the 44 nest boxes. It was found that their occupation by Tree Sparrows was even greater than last year. Occupation was by 23 Tree Sparrows, 4 Blue Tits, 3 Gt. Tits and 1 Tawney Owl. There was no sign of recent Woodpecker attacks on boxes.

At least one pair of Snipe nested in the Fen. This is probably due to the clearance of scrub, as they have not nested here since 1939. 12 Woodcock were seen roding on May 10th. During part of January and February Siskins were feeding on Alders.

## MIGRANT DATES, 1960

<i>Lt. Ringed Plover.</i>	April 2nd. (Rec.).
<i>Turtle Dove.</i>	April 27th, Lt. Paxton. (Rec.). September 24th, Covington. (Rec.).
<i>Cuckoo.</i>	April 9th, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.). September 19th. (C.D.).
<i>Swift.</i>	May 1st, Lt. Paxton. (Rec.). May 7th, St. Neots residents. (Rec.). August 10th, St. Neots residents left. (Rec.). August 19th, Huntingdon. (Rec.).
<i>Swallow.</i>	March 31st. (C.D.). April 25th, Gt. Paxton residents. (L.A.). September 15th, Gt. Paxton residents left. (L.A.).
<i>House Martin.</i>	November 4th, Grafham. (E.R.). April 9th, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.). April 30th, Kimbolton residents. (K.S.N.H.S.).
<i>Sand Martin.</i>	March 22nd, Fenstanton. (Rec.). May 1st, Lt. Paxton residents. (Rec.).
<i>Fieldfare.</i>	March 31st, Wyton. (D.G.). October 2nd, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.).
<i>Redwing.</i>	October 1st, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.).
<i>Wheatear.</i>	April 8th, Lt. Paxton. (Rec.). October 5th, Brampton. (E.R.).
<i>Nightingale.</i>	April 12th, Brampton Wood. (E.R.).
<i>Grasshopper Warbler.</i>	April 20th, Bevill's Wood. (E.R.).
<i>Reed Warbler.</i>	April 23rd, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.).

<i>Sedge Warbler.</i>	April 11th, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.). September 18th, Lt. Paxton. (Rec.)
<i>Whitethroat.</i>	April 25th, Brampton Wood. (E.R.)
<i>Blackcap.</i>	April 26th, Brampton Wood. (E.R.)
<i>Lesser Whitethroat.</i>	May 9th, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.)
<i>Willow Warbler.</i>	March 23rd, Gt. Paxton. (L.A.)
<i>Chiffchaff.</i>	March 18th, Bevill's Wood. (E.R.). October 6th, Brampton Wood. (E.R.)
<i>Spotted Flycatcher.</i>	May 10th, Alconbury. (P. Blackie)
<i>Yellow Wagtail.</i>	April 10th, Lt. Paxton. (Rec.). September 20th, Huntingdon. (P. Goodliff).

C. F. TEBBUTT.

## FLORA

Very few records have been received this year, doubtless due to the rain. Luckily, however, the weather was fine for our botanical outings (Exc.) and, as usual, a number of uncommon plants were recorded.

Five flowering plants are apparently new to the county: *Lunaria annua*, *Sambucus racemosa*, *Salix fragilis* var. *russelliana*, *S. fragilis* var. *latifolia* and *S. calodendron*.

All the unsigned records from the following places were made jointly with Mr. N. Y. Sandwith: Hammerton Grove, Brington, Molesworth, Old Weston, Kimbolton, Godmanchester and Hemingford Abbots. The rest of the unsigned were made by your recorder.

9/2	<i>Helleborus foetidus</i> L. Stinking Hellebore. Stow Longa churchyard, February, (Mrs. H. D. Atkinson, E. V. Rogers and W. O. Copland). Origin unknown. ONLY ONE OTHER RECORD FOR THE COUNTY.
21/4	<i>Papaver lecoquii</i> Lamotte Babington's Poppy. Border of Hammerton Grove, 6/8. Dike side, Hod Fen, Yaxley, 31/7/56.
40/2	<i>Lunaria annua</i> L. Honesty. Little Paxton gravel pits, 13/8 (Exc.). FIRST RECORD FOR THE COUNTY.
95/1	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i> L. Soapwort. Houghton, (Miss P. E. Goodliff).
104/1	<i>Spergula arvensis</i> L. Corn Spurrey. Little Paxton gravel pits, 13/8 (Exc.). Disused road, Molesworth, 6/8. FEW CURRENT RECORDS.
151/2	<i>Ononis repens</i> L. Rest-Harrow. Roadside, Perry, 28/5 (Exc.).
155/13	<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i> L. Strawberry Clover. By old osier beds, St. Neots, 13/8 (Exc.). Roadway to River, Godmanchester, 7/8.
154/2	<i>Melilotus alba</i> Desr. White Melilot. Little Paxton gravel pits and by flood gates bridge, St. Neots, 13/8 (Exc.). By Great North road between Norman Cross and Alwalton, July, (T. Patston).
160/6	<i>Lotus tenuis</i> Waldst. and Kit. ex Willd. Slender Birdsfoot Trefoil. Little Paxton gravel pits, 13/8 (Exc.). V.C.H. SAYS "RARE".
176/34	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i> (L.) S.F. Gray Hairy Tare. Little Paxton gravel pits, 13/8 (Exc.). Hammerton Grove and disused road, Molesworth, 6/8. Disused rly. track, Godmanchester, 7/8.
176/35	<i>V. tetrasperma</i> (L.) Moench Smooth Tare. Hedgerow, Brington, 6/8.

- 184/12 *Filipendula vulgaris* Moench Dropwort. Perry roadside, 28/5 (Exc.). Wood border, Brington, 6/8. V.C.H. SAYS "VERY LOCAL".
- 194/18h. *Rosa obtusifolia* Desv. var. *rothschildii* (Dr.) W.-Dod Wood border, Godmanchester, 7/8. Hb. Kew. ONLY ONE OTHER RECORD FOR THE COUNTY.
- 214/1 *Hippuris vulgaris* L. Maretail. Stream by old osier beds, St. Neots, 13/8 (Exc.). Also recorded from there by Miss M. J. Eldridge and Mr. Tebbutt during 1958.
- 287/1 *Sambucus racemosa* L. Red-berried Elder. Several bushes, Two Pond Coppice, 21/4 (H. F. Tebbs) Hb. Kew. FIRST RECORD FOR THE COUNTY.
- 306/2 *Dipsacus pilosus* L. Small Teasel. Hammerton Grove, 6/8.
- 365/11 *Achillea ptarmica* L. Sneezewort. By Ouse, St. Neots, 13/8 (Exc.). Also recorded by Miss Eldridge and Mr. Tebbutt during 1958.
- 396/1 *Cirsium eriophorum* (L.) Scop. ssp. *britannicum* Petrak Woolly Thistle. Hammerton Grove, 6/8.
- 435/4 *Campanula rapunculoides* L. Creeping Bellflower. Disused rly. track, Hemingford Abbots, 7/8. Hb. Kew.
- 501/1 *Lycopsis arvensis* L. Field Bugloss. Little Paxton gravel pits, 13/8 (Exc.). V.C.H. SAYS "RARE".
- 527/8 *Verbascum nigrum* L. Dark Mullein. By rly., Abbots Ripton, 21/8. ONLY THREE OTHER RECORDS.
- 532/7 *Chaernorrhinum minus* (L.) Lange Small Toadflax. Disused rly. track, Hemingford Abbots, 7/8.
- 532/24 *Kickxia spuria* (L.) Dum. Round-leaved Fluellin. Field, Brington, 6/8.
- 532/25 *K. elatine* (L.) Dum. Sharp-leaved Fluellin. Field, Brington, 6/8.
- 543/19 *Veronica agrestis* L. Green Field Speedwell. Field, Brington, 6/8.
- 558/9 *Mentha xverticillata* L. Whorled Mint. (conf. R. M. Harley). Border of Wood, Godmanchester, 7/8. Hb. Kew. OUR FIRST CURRENT RECORD.
- 581/4 *Lamium hybridum* Vill. Cut-leaved Deadnettle. Field, Brington, 6/8.
- 595/2 *Scleranthus annuus* L. Annual Knawel. Needingworth, July, 1958 (J. A. Vaughan). Disused road, Molesworth, 6/8. Hb. Kew.
- 600/15 *Chenopodium polyspermum* L. Many-seeded Goosefoot. Fields, Brington, 6/8.
- 650 *Salix* spp. named or confirmed by Mr. R. D. Meikle of Kew.
- 650/2 *S. fragilis* L. var. *russelliana* (Sm.) Koch old osier beds, St. Neots, 13/8 (Exc.). Hb. Kew. FIRST RECORD OF THIS VARIETY FOR THE COUNTY.

- 650/2d *S. fragilis* L. var. *latifolia* Anderss. Stream side, Hardwick spinney, 22/4. (E. V. Rogers). Hb. Kew. FIRST RECORD OF THIS VARIETY FOR THE COUNTY.
- 650/3 *S. alba* L. White Willow. Godmanchester meadows, 7/8. This appears to be less common than its var. *coerulea* (Cricket-bat Willow) in the county.
- 650/6a *S. calodendron* Wimmer By the Ouse, Godmanchester, 7/8. Hb. Kew. FIRST RECORD FOR THE COUNTY.
- 650/10x6 *S. atrocineria* Brot. x *S. viminalis* L. Stream side, Kimbolton, 7/8. Hb. Kew. V.C.H. SAYS "RARE HYBRID".
- 689/1 *Ruscus aculeatus* L. Butcher's Broom. Kimbolton Castle grounds (W. O. Copland).
- 702/4 *Allium vineale* L. Crow Garlic. Hardwick (E. V. Rogers) Rly. track, Godmanchester, 7/8
- 729/1b *Alisma lanceolatum* With. Narrow-leaved Water-plantain. By old osier beds, St. Neots, 13/8 (Exc.). With *A. plantago-aquatica*.
- 826/4x829/1 x*Festulolium loliaceum* (Huds.) P. Fourn. Roadway to river, Godmanchester meadows, 7/8. ONLY THE SECOND RECORD OF THIS HYBRID FOR THE COUNTY.
- 826/17 *Vulpia bromoides* (L.) Gray Barren Fescue. Disused road, Molesworth, 6/8.
- 826/18 *V. myuros* (L.) C.C. Gmel. Rat's-tail Fescue. Disused road, Molesworth, 6/8. Hb. Kew.
- 830/6 *Agropyron caninum* (L.) Beauv. Bearded Couch. Wood, Brington, 6/8.
- 866/1 *Ophioglossum vulgatum* L. Adder's Tongue. Monks' Wood, 1956 (S. M. Walters).

#### Fungi of Stibbington — Agaricales

- Agaricus arvensis* Schaeff. ex Secr.—Meadow, 12/9/51 (E. Kingston).
- Agroclybe semiorbicularis* (Bull. ex St. Amans) Fayod—Meadow, 21/7/57; gravel pit, 31/5/58.
- Bolbitius vitellinus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Fr.—On straw nr. Tollbar Spinney, 24/5/53; lawn, 28/7/58.
- Conocybe tenera* (Schaeff. ex Fr.) Kühn.—Meadow, 18/8/57.
- Coprinus disseminatus* (Pers. ex Fr.) S.F. Gray—On lawn (abundant each year).
- C. micaceus* (Bull. ex Fr.) Fr.—On garden earth, 29/7/54; on lawn, 7/6/58 and 24/12/60.
- Inocybe terrigena* (Fr.) Kühn.—Gravel pits, 31/5/58.
- Lepiota procera* (Scop. ex Fr.) S. F. Gray—Tollbar Spinney, 25/8/51.
- L. rhacodes* (Vitt.) Quéf.—Tollbar Spinney, 25/8/51.

*Marasmius rotula* (Scop. ex Fr.) Fr.—On rotten twigs, Tollbar Spinney, 24/8/57.

*Oudemansiella radicata* (Relhan ex Fr.) Sing.—Tollbar Spinney, 25/8/51.

*Panaeolina foenicisii* (Pers. ex Fr.) Maire—Meadow, 27/7/57; lawn, 28/7/58.

*Tubaria furfuracea* (Pers. ex Fr.) Gillet—Nene dredgings, 25/12/56.

I am indebted to Dr. R. W. G. Dennis, Mr. D. A. Reid and Mr. E. J. H. Corner for naming or confirming my identifications of most of the above species. Other fungi recorded for Stibbington have been published in Reports 3, 4, 6 and 12.  
(To be continued)

On 15/10/60 Dr. R. W. G. Dennis again visited Monks' Wood—exploring the S.W. portion in company with Mr. and Mrs. E. Milne-Redhead and myself.

Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Milne-Redhead for not only providing transport but, also, collecting a large proportion of the 80 species of fungi recorded.

Dr. Dennis has kindly prepared the following list of identification of the fungi collected. The majority are believed to be new records for the county.

JOHN L. GILBERT

## FUNGI OF MONKS' WOOD, SAWTRY, 15.10.60

### AGARICALES

*Armillaria mellea* (Vahl ex Fr.) Kummer—On *Ulmus*.

*Boletus scaber* Bull. ex Fr.—Under *Betula*.

*Clitocybe dealbata* (Sow. ex Fr.) Kummer

*C. geotropa* (Bull. ex St. Amans) Quéf.

*Conocybe togularis* (Bull. ex Fr.) Kühner sensu Lange

*Coprinus comatus* (Müll. ex Fr.) S.F. Gray

*C. lagopus* (Fr.) Fr.

*Cortinarius hemitrichus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Fr.

*C. scandens* Fr.

*Crepidotus autochthonus* J. Lange—On *Fraxinus*.

*Galerina unicolor* (Vahl ex Sommerf.) Sing.

*Hygrophorus dichrous* Kühn. and Romagn.—Under *Quercus*.

*H. niveus* [Scop.] Fr.

*H. psittacinus* (Schaeff. ex Fr.) Fr.

*Hypholoma fasciculare* (Huds. ex Fr.) Kummer

*Inocybe cookei* Bres.

*I. eutheles* (Berk. and Br.) Quéf.

*I. geophylla* (Sow. ex Fr.) Kummer var. *lilacina* Gillet

*I. obscura* (Pers. ex Pers.) Gillet

*Laccaria laccata* (Scop. ex Fr.) Cooke

*L. laccata* var. *amethystina* (Cooke) Rea

*Lactarius cimicarius* (Batsch ex Secr.) Gillet

*L. pyrogalus* (Bull. ex Fr.) Fr.

*L. quietus* (Fr.) Fr.

*L. subdulcis* (Pers. ex Fr.) S.F. Gray

*L. vellereus* (Fr.) Fr.

*Lepiota rachodes* var. *puellaris* (Fries) Sacc.

*Lepista nuda* (Bull. ex Fr.) Cooke

*Marasmius epiphyllus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Fr.

*M. ramealis* (Bull. ex Fr.) Fr.

*Melanoleuca melaleuca* (Pers. ex Fr.) Murr.

*Micromphale foetidum* ([Sow.] Fr.) Sing.

*Mycena galericulata* (Scop. ex Fr.) S.F. Gray

*M. olida* Bres.—On *Fraxinus*.

*Nolanea farinolens* P.D. Orton

*N. tenuipes* P.D. Orton

*Oudemansiella radicata* (Relhan ex Fr.) Sing.

*Pholiota gummosa* (Lasch) Sing.  
*Pleurotus dryinus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Kummer—On *Ulmus*.  
*Pluteus cervinus* (Schaeff. ex Fr.) Kummer  
*P. luteovirens* Rea  
*Psathyrella disseminata* (Pers. ex Fr.) Quél.  
*P. gracillis* (Fr.) Quél.  
*Russula foetens* (Pers. ex Fr.) Fr.  
*R. fragilis* (Pers. ex Fr.) Fr.  
*R. raoultii* Quél.  
*R. xerampelina* Schaeff. ex Fr. var. *elaeodes* Bres.  
*Stropharia aeruginosa* (Curt. ex Fr.) Quél.  
*Tricholoma ustale* (Fr. ex Fr.) Kummer

#### APHYLLOPHORALES

*Auricularia mesenterica* Pers.—On *Ulmus*.  
*Clavaria cristata* Fr.  
*C. pulchra* Peck  
*Coniophora puteana* (Schum. ex Fr.) Karst. (det. D. A. Reid).  
*Cyphella capula* (Holmsk. ex Fr.) Fr.  
*Exidia nucleata* (Schw.) Burt.—On *Fraxinus*.  
*Pistillaria setipes* Grev. (det. D. A. Reid).  
*Polyporus rutilans* Fr.—On *Fraxinus*.  
*P. semipileatus* Peck (det. D. A. Reid).  
*Sebacina incrustans* (Fr.) Tul.  
*Trametes confragosa* (Bolt. ex Fr.) Jorstad  
*Typhula erythropus* Fr.—On *Fraxinus*.

#### ASCOMYCETES

*Chlorociboria aeruginascens* (Nyl.) Kanouse  
*Ciliaria setosa* (Nees) Boud.  
*Coryne sarcoides* (Jacquin ex Fries) Tulasne  
*Cyathicula coronata* (Bulliard ex Merat) de Notaris—On *Fraxinus*.  
*Daldinia concentrica* (Bolton ex Fries) Cesati and de Notaris.  
*Dasyyscyphus niveus* (Hedwig ex Fries) Sacc.—On *Quercus*.  
*Encoelia furfuracea* (Roth, ex Persoon) Karsten—On *Corylus*.  
*Helotium scutula* (Pers.) Karsten—On *Rubus fruticosus* agg.  
*Hyaloscypha hyalina* (Pers.) Boudier—On *Quercus*.  
*Leotia lubrica* Pers.  
*Mollisia caespiticia* (Karst.) Karst.  
*Rutstroemia luteovirescens* (Roberge) White—On *Acer campestre*.

#### PHYCOMYCETES

*Spinellus fusiger* (Fr.) van Tiegh.—On *Mycena*.

#### HYPHOMYCETES

*Constantinella tilletii* (Desm.) Mason and Hughes—On rotting branch in contact with soil.  
*Cylindrium griseum* Bon—On fallen leaves of *Acer* and *Quercus*.  
*Diplocladium penicillioides* Sacc. (det. M. B. Ellis).

#### MYXOMYCETES

*Arcyria cinerea* Pers.  
*A. incarnata* Pers.  
*Trichia varia* Pers.

R. W. G. DENNIS.

### THE LEPIDOPTERA OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE

(Continued)

J. E. H. BLACKIE, C.B., F.R.E.S.

Information about the moths has not increased during the year, and I think it may be interesting to give this year some notes on the recent and present status of some of the butterflies in the county. These should be read in conjunction with the lists in the 5th, 6th and 7th Annual Reports. It will be seen that, for the great majority of species, the "50s" have been a disastrous decade. Dry springs, moist summers, the destruction of hedgerows and spraying are among the probable causes, and it remains to be seen whether many of the butterflies can ever regain their former abundance. The order is that used in the County Collection:

*Aphantopus hyperanthus* L. Common till 1955. Now much scarcer, but surviving.  
*Maniola tithonus* L. Much reduced.  
*Eumenis semele* L. No record. Must be presumed extinct.  
*Agapetes galathea* L. Greatly reduced in recent years. Fewer and much smaller colonies.  
*Pararge megera* L. Spasmodic, but holding its own.  
*P. aegeria egerides* L. Still in fair numbers.  
*Limenitis camilla* L. Has failed to establish itself in Monks' Wood. Several in the north of the county in mid "50's".

- Apatura iris* L. No record.
- Polygonia c-album* L. Less common than in the late "40's" but still met with here and there, and perhaps increasing latterly.
- Nymphalis polychloros* L. No record.
- Vanessa cardui* L. No big invasion since 1949. From 1954 to 1957 none was recorded.
- Argynnis paphia* L. Becoming very scarce. Not seen in Monks' Wood since 1954. A few in northern woods 1955 and 1956.
- Fabriciana cydippe* L. Still probably at Woodwalton and Holme Fen.
- Mesoacidalia charlotta* L. Still probably at Woodwalton and Holme Fen.
- Clossiana euphrosyne* L. Decreasing, perhaps even extinct. Last seen 1957. All subsequent searches unavailing.
- Hamearis lucina* L. No record since 1952.
- Aricia agestis agestis* Schiff. No record since 1952, when taken at Orton Longueville.
- Polyommatus icarus* Rott. Now very scarce. Small come-back in 1959.
- Celastrina argiolus* L. Very scarce throughout the "50's" but became quite abundant April—July 1960 in several parts.
- Callophrys rubi* L. Some seen in north of county 1953, 1954 and 1956. None in Monks' Wood since 1950.
- Strymonidia w-album* Knoch. Some appeared in a garden at Alconbury in 1954. No other record.
- Strymonidia pruni* L. Last seen commonly in Monks' Wood 1955. Few recent records from northern woods.
- Thecla quercus* L. Decreasing. Not common since 1953.
- Thecla betulae* L. A search in second week of September 1954 in Monks' Wood, revealed quite a number in many parts of the wood. No later records.
- Colias crocea* Fourc. No big invasion since 1947. None 1950—1954. Singles 1955, 1958, 1959.
- Euchloe cardamines* L. Has fluctuated much during decade. Commonest 1952, 1956. Scarcest 1950, 1959.
- Leptidea sinapis* L. Reported from Kimbolton June 1960—a new locality and a most interesting occurrence.
- Hesperia malvae* L. Much reduced, but some increase in the north in 1960.
- Erynnis tages* L. Much reduced.
- Carterocephalus palaemon* Pall. Mr. C. Haxby reported this (*in litt.*) in Monks' Wood in 1957. I have searched frequently in the precise place which he designated without success.
- Ochlodes venata faunus* Turate. Much scarcer since 1952.
- Thymelicus sylvestris* Poda. Very scarce. Has not been abundant since 1950.
- T. lineola* Ochs. Very scarce. Has not been abundant since 1950.