

G.C.S.Ingram Photographic Notebook. No.2	
8 th May 1909	Wild Park with H. Did not take up camera. Went over to Willow Wrens & found it had nearly completed its nest externally. Above it in a tall tree a pair of Mistle thrushes are building. H found a Moorhen nest with 5 eggs and later a Blackbirds with one while I found a pair of Golden Crested Wrens hard at work on their nest. In the afternoon Herb, Harry and I took our cycle tent and pitched on Cefn On having tea in the Brakesmans (?) box. Put up tent after tea, a picnic party having taken possession of our pitch. Started for Caerphilly at about 7.45pm. Views from top. Started back for camp at 9.30pm. Exciting walk back through the park. Lit cam fire and had supper round it. Turned in at 11.45pm.
9 th May 1909	Got up at 6.50am. After breakfast Harry and I went into the wood at the base of the tent – surprised 2 Hares. Found a Song Thrush nest and 4 eggs. Saw an adder, some Orange Tips, a Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Small and Green-veined Whites, Tortoiseshells, Brimstone and a Meadow Brown, also several Queen wasps hunting for nesting places. Herbert found a Blackbirds nest with young. After dinner I found an adders old skin & just before we left for home after having had our tea I observed a Magpie leave the wood & on looking around saw the nest at top of tall Holly tree. Shook the tree & the other bird left. Climbed tree close by and Hubert bent the Holly towards me until I could look into the nest which contained 3 eggs. While picking blue bells saw a rabbit. Watched a Field Vole for a long time. It had its burrow close to our tent with 3 passages & holes. It seemed to be a large animal & by standing quite still it became very bold.
12 th May 1909	Wild Park by myself. Found Moorhen nest and found the bird on. It slipped off into the water however after watching me for a few minutes. The nest is so badly placed for photography I did not attempt it by myself. [Bird observations]. Hid up in the tree trunk and took 2 photos of it as it fed them, then started a round of the other nests. Blackbirds near bye were nearly fully fledged. Took up one & the rest scattered directly they heard a squawk. The female came back in a fine state so I left them hiding among the nettles etc. Chaffinches in Rhododendron has 2 eggs. The one by Leaf Heap, one. Hedge Sparrow in Heather now has one young & 3 eggs. Long-taild Tits still sitting,
15 th May 1909	Harry and I found Whitethroat and Chaffinch nests up at camp this morning.
16 th May 1909	Camp. Got up at 7.30pm (am?) and after breakfast Harry and I went up into the woods at the back. Found a Blackbird sitting on her nest against an old stump – took 2 photos. In the little wood at the back of Herbert's old camp found Whitethroat building and Harry surprised 2 adders which escaped. However, he found another and caught it and we managed to get it into a bag alive. Directly afterwards I surprised 3 all together. Caught one but it was half way down a hole so Harry set off to fetch Herbert to bring Chloroform and kill it- He could not find him so came back Mr Prossa who he had met. Held the snake down head and tail while Harry tied some string around its middle. Fished it out and put it in a pillow case and went back to camp. Hubert and George were there so we quickly killed them and Harry took their photos. H&G had brought back small grass snake and also found a Wren and Song Thrush nests. After dinner Harry, Herb and I took camera t nests. Found a Brimstone on some young bramble leaves. Took photo. I also found a Whitethroat nest and 5n eggs which I photographed.
18 th May 1909	Wild Park with Herb. Willow Warbler nest contain 4 eggs. Photographed it in two positions. Longways F22, 3secs. Upright F32, 4secs. Went over to Mooren and found that by putting camera in the brook and cleating away some of the stems in front of nest I could get a good photo. Took off my boots and socks and for half an hour stood in brook and succeeded in getting two photos, F22, 3secs, F32 6secs. Herb found a Linnet's nest with 2 eggs and a wren's nest building and a chaffinch just finished. Young thrushes near gate fully fledged. Left nest when we came near. Bought [caught?] two & photographed them on back of seat, F16, ¼ sec. Herbert found & caught a young thrush that was totally blind in the right eye.
19 th May 1909	Wild Park with Herbert. As my photos of Willow Warbler nest failures, started on it. It now contains 5 eggs. Took two photos, F22, 3secs & F64, 35secs, CSR plates. Chaffinch near Rubbish has 4 eggs, Hedge Sparrow, two young ones nearly fledged. Took away tree trunk & put it u by wren's nest & went inside. The bird came back so quickly I did not get a chance of taking it before it was inside, so had to drive it off again. It w back and inside before I could look around. Took it as it was peeping out, F6.8, 1/15sec. Herbert found 2 thrushes, 2 blackbirds and another wren's nest. One of the blackbirds has a very peculiar egg which h is much smaller than the others and is shaped as below [drawing]

20 th My 1909	Wild Park by myself. Started with Linnet's nest which ow contains 4 eggs. Took one photo F32, 41/2 secs. Set u camera opposite Long Tailed Tit's nest tat now has young. Opened up bush & left with all rubber tubing attached. In a little while one of the bords came back & ventured to nest & fed young. Made an exposure F8, ¼ sec. Changed plates & waited again for bird which soon arrived, enabling me to take another photo, F11, ¼ sec, Changed plate & lens, also used F.P shutter & took another of the bird at nest F4.5, 1/15 sec. Again changed plate & stopped lens down to F5.6 taking another phot @1/15 sec after which I packed up camera. Took a look at thrushes nest near bridge & found one egg. Wren on other side nearly finished outside. Moorhen nest had one nearly hatched young & one chipped egg, the other 3 young having evidently left.
21 st May 1909	Wild Park by myself. Set up camera in front of Long Tailed Tit's nest. Took one photo with 10' lens, F16, ½ sec but the bird was on the move all the time so changed lens & shutter. Took 5 photos @F4.5, 1/15 sec, 3 of which came out fairly well.
22 nd May 1909	Camp with Herbert. Whitethroat by brook near camp has 4 eggs. The one n the wood behind the camp 5. While searching in this wood for adders found a Willow Warbler nest with 5 eggs. Took two of the Whitethroat, F32, 3 secs each & then took one of the Willow Warbler F32, 5 secs. Hid camera as best I could & putting lens to F8 took release into hiding & waited. The bird soon came back & after sometime went onto the nest. Snapped @1/15 sec & then removed camera. After tea took one of the Whitethroat by camp, F32, 5secs. Spent rest of the afternoon after taking Willow Warbler nest, up the tree by Magpie nest. Secured camera to the branches ^& after a great deal of trouble managed to get a view of interior of nest. Went up into wood at back & after climbing one pine tree & finding nest had been left, discovered one that looked pretty fresh. xxx the tree & a Jay flew off. Climbed up with some trouble & found nest contained 5 eggs. Herbert & George found a Whitethroat with young.
23 rd May 1909	Went up to camp after dinner. George & I first visited the whitethroat & took two photos of it on its nest after which we opened up whitethroat & setting up camera hid ourselves & waited. Although an hour passed the bird would not go on so had to leave. Took a May Tree in full bloom F16, 1 sec. After tea searched Railway bank & found a Long Tailed Tit's opposite the signal box. Herbert found a Pheasant lower down at the edge of the wood with 11 eggs one of which was already chipped. The female on & I had to poke her off with a stick.
24 th May 1909	Got up at 5.30 am & went down to Pheasant nest. The male was feeding near & flew off as I approached. The female was on & allowed me to fix up camera but as I stopped to get my dark slide she flew off. Took 2 of the nest, F16, 2 secs. Two of the eggs had hatched one of the chicks lying at edge of nest dead and the other seeming stronger & lying among the other eggs. Coming back thro the woods saw a dead shrew & surprised a squirrel.
5 th June 1909	Wild Park with H. Found Chaffinch near entrance at home & took of her sitting on nest. Found a Greenfinch nest with 5 eggs & H found a Blackbird with eggs covered with large blotches, also a couple more thrushes.
18 th June 1909	Wild Park by myself. Took up the stereo camera. Chaffinch nest near entrance still occupied the young being nearly fully fledged. Took two stereo views of it, F44, 3 secs and one with ½ late. Took out two do the young ones & after some trouble got them posed on a branch where I photod them, F8, ¼ sec. Took two ½ plate views of the Park & one stereo of shelter. Took one stereo of a group of purple iris, F16, 2 secs and another of some Dog Daiseys, F11, ½ sec. Wren's nest in wood visited and the young were so far fledged they flew out as I stood by. Blackbird with blotched eggs visited. One of the eggs found in nest with a great hole in shell & contents eaten. Magpie heard, whom perhaps is the culprit.
27 th June 1909	Examined Magpie's nest @ camp & found one young bird dead in the nest. It was only half fledged. The other had gone.
4 th July 1909	Found a Eren nest with eggs in wood on Cefn On. The bird was on and left only when I touched the nest. Nest made of dead leaves & placed among stems of clematis that hung low from a tree near the path.
8 th August 1909	In camp with Herbert. Woke up early by Magpie, which I could see as I lay in bed, feeding on the bread I had out down. Got up at 7.30 & while looing for some small stick s on Spion Kop came across a small grass snake. As it did not move went to tent & got my stick with which I caught it letting it go after I had a good look at it. After breakfast I caught a much larger one within a yard of the same place, letting it go after having taken a good look at it. Went up to small wood, where Harvey & I caught an adder, about 11pm & here I spotted & caught another very darkly marked

	one that fought very hard for its life bit was eventually strangled with a piece of string. Coming back to camp found a wasp's nest that someone had started to dig out in fact Herbert put his heel on it & had to beat a hurried retreat. Down on the tunnel flat we found another. Spent the afternoon on Cefn On lying in the sun on top watching the approached to camp for the Beynon boys. Saw several Woodpigeons, a Redstart, two Green Woodpeckers, a Jay a Magpie & hare & several small kinds of birds. After tea started for the cairn on top of Craig Jenkin. As I out my foot on the stones on top a nightjar jumped up out of the ferns a couple of yards down the mountain. It perched on a post close by & would not leave the spot so started to look for a nest. Found several likely spots but no nest so sat on top of cairn. Herbert continuing the search lower down & to the right. A shout from him told me he had found it & running down I saw the young ones about half fledged lying on some dead bracken ferns. The manner in which the plumage matched the stuff they were lying on was wonderful & they lay quite still as if dead with eyes shut. Anyone who was not looking for them would have stepped on them. The nest is quite 860 feet above sea level. During meals a female chaffinch & a young Robin who are very tame came down & ate crumbs we scattered around.
11 th August 1909	Got up at 4.50am & at 5.15 Herbert called for me & we cycled up to Craig Jenkin with ½ plate & stereo cameras to take photographs of young nightjars. Arrived at Cairn on top at 6.15 after tremendous pull up the hill. Found the old bird at home, she left when I was within 5 yards of her. The young had been moved a few feet away from the spot they were in on Sunday. As I set up camera I found half of one of the egg shells. Took 6 of the young ones with the ½ plate & 4 with the stereo camera. All at F32 the exposure varying between 1 ¾ & 2 ¼ seconds. CER plates. The young birds did not move an eighth of an inch during the hour I spent photographing them & the old bird was not seen again.
25 th & 26 th August 1909	Heard Chiffchaff at Newton, Mumbles.
28 th August 1909	Saw a swallow while walking on Mumbles Head
12 th September 1909	Heard a Chiffchaff in Priest's Garden, Cardiff.
15 th September 1909	Went up to camp with Herbert. On way down sawⁱ several little birds either Willow Warblers or Chiffchaffs. Behind sleeping tent watched a Long Tailed Field Mouse who evidently had his home there. xxx up wasps nest on Tunnel Slope. It was full of grubs. Magpie nest has been built in by some small animal, a dormouse I believe. Owls were very noisy at dusk in the woods behind. Saw a couple of Magpies in Camp Copse. Large flights of Swallows passed over the camp at dusk flying SSW.
16 th September 1909	While lighting fire heard a Chiffchaff.
20 th September 1909	Heard a Chiffchaff at Llandaff this morning.
21 st & 22 nd September 1909	Spent evening up at camp with Herbert & Geoge. Owls hooting after dark & in the morning a fox was howling in the woods behind that. Very cold night. Saw several martins at Llanishen when riding in.
8 th November 1909	Bird Table. Robin, Chaffinch, Mistle Thrush and Blue Tits.
6 th March 1910	H&I started on bikes for Cefn On at 9.00am. On the way up saw a large number of Hedge Sparrows and Chaffinches some of whom were singing. Went down to camping spot & started putting tins in likely places for Robins to build in. Found some primroses & Coltsfoot, also violets & strawberry blossom. I found an unlined last years wren nest against a tree among the ivy about 18 or 20 feet from the ground. It had been used for sleeping purposes in the winter. Took a stereo photo of a couple of roots of Primrose & then it came to rain. Built a shelter in ditch behind tents, made of branches, ivy and bracken fern with our capes on the roof. Had lunch inside boiling water & eggs on a fire made in front. Took some photos of the place then, it having cleared up, started for town at 3.15pm, with some primroses & a couple of nests. Birds xxx seen: Hedge Sparrow singing. Rabbit. Chaffinch, singing; Thrushes singing. Mistle Thrushes; Blackbirds singing, Long Tailed Tits, Blue Tits, Great Tits, Magpies, Wren, Skylark singing.
22 nd March 1910	Got up at 5.30am & Herbert called at 5.45. Set off for Wild Gardens taking the ½ plate & stereo camera. Called for key but found that it had not been left but keeper opened the Park when we got up there. Had a look around the first thing being seen were a pair of Moorhens near the shelter. In the wood saw a pair of Magpies. Herb found a nest half finished that looked very much like a Blackbird's (1). Then he found one in the laurels opposite the shelter, a thrushes (2) with four eggs all ripped open, the contents missing evidently the work of a Magpie. I noticed the Long Tailed Tit's

	(A) were hanging around the bush where they built last year & upon examining it found they had started building high up in it. H&I found several other nests building, Blackbirds & Thrushes the last I think, two of them being almost completed. H found a good sized grey, black & white speckled moth on a tree stump (Early Grey). Took two stereos of it, one F22, 5secs the other F22, 3secs. Also took the Thrushes with broken eggs F11, 9secs & F11, 6secs. Imperial S.R.Plates. Lovely sunny morning with white frost. Wren's singing everywhere also, Chaffinches, Thrushes, Hedge Sparrows & Greenfinches. A great number of Blackbirds seen also a pair of Blue Tits and a couple of the Robins who were singing. Three Magpies seen over field by line. The wood has been cleared of dead trees & bramble. <u>Skylarks singing</u> at 6am. Blackbird with white feathers in tail seen near shelter.
23 rd March 1910	Up at 5.30, Herb calling at 5.45am. Got the key & went up to Wild Gardens. Had another look around & Herb found a Robin's (8) in a small fir, finished and lines, also a thrushes building near bye and later another Thrushes (10) with 3 eggs at the northern end & in the laurels halfway down another one again, lines and ready for eggs (12). In the wood I found a Blackbird's nest building. Mostly all the nests are composed of a large number of skeletonised leaves which gives them a very pretty & light appearance. Saw a Magpie & heard it several times. Pair of Moorhens chasing each other near the stream. Saw a pair of Mistle Thrushes but could not locate their nest. Large number of Wrens & Hedge Sparrows seen also several pairs of Chaffinches and Blackbirds. Saw only one Robin, and one Great Tit. A small flock of Starlings settled in the trees of the wood as I was walking through.
24 th March 1910	Wild Park by myself at 3pm. Dull & rather cold. Stoat, the first I have seen at Park, passed about 14 feet away in front of me. Stopped & sat up looking intently at something and then turned & made off into the bushes. Did not notice me at all. <u>Hare</u> came up behind me but it caught sight of me at the same time as I saw it, and made off. Pair of Goldcrests passed several times. Moorhen feeding, also Blackbirds, Thrushes and a Robin. Large black & orange bumble bee flying around. A Wren visited a pool near me twice, picking up odds & ends around. Herbert met me & he showed me the Mistle Thrush's (13) nest which was pointed out to him by the Keeper. The female was on but was uneasy and left as we watched, but soon returned. Seems to be sitting hard.
25 th March 1910	Cefn On by myself arriving at 9.25am. Heard & watched the first <u>Chiff Chaff</u> seen this year in the dingle by the farm. Found in same place a nest well under way, made of moss, grass, leaves, twigs & a little wool. In Honeysuckle about 7 feet from ground. Saw a Coal Tit on the way up & near the camp a pair of Mistle Thrushes. Green Woodpecker heard. In wood at back found a Magpie nest up a slender tree. The bird left as I approached. Pair of Bullfinches seen in wood also a squirrel & another was seen near the camp. Several other nests seen in wood but could not get up to them.
26 th March 1910	Got up at 5.30am & went up to the Wild Park with Herb. Got the ladder & some wire & went to the Mistle Thrush's (13) nest. Passed the wire around a tree & sat the ladder on end (see illustration) & while H stood at the bottom I went up. The nest contained 5 eggs & coming down I slung the Tutflex (?) on my shoulder & went up again, this time nearly to the top of the ladder, right overlooking the nest. As I reached around for my camera the ladder commenced to turn & fall & to save myself I jumped & caught the branch, the ladder falling with a crash at the same time. Unfortunately I put my elbow into the nest as I fell & smashed all the eggs. After pulling myself up until I was astride the branch I was able to get down by the ladder that H had set against the tree. Robin's (*) nest contains 2 eggs. Took two stereo photos, one of Dryads Saddle fungi & one of the entrance to the wood.
1 st April 1910	Wild Park with Herbert. Fine morning but cold with N.E.wind. This wind, which has been blowing for nearly a week, seems to have put a stop to the birds that were building as none of the nests are finished. I found another Robin's (14) well under way & H found a Song Thrush's (15) with 4 eggs. The bird was on and sat there some time as I put my camera into position for taking a photo of the nest & eggs. She slipped off however before I could get everything ready. Took two stereos at F32, I.S.R. plates, 2secs exposure. Light good & H tells me that the Robin's nest No.8 contained four eggs on the 28 th xxxx .
2 nd April 1910	Wild Park with Herb. Went to Thrushes (No.15) & found the bird on. Took one photo of her with the ½ plate lens F32, 6secs, Cardiff S.R.Plate. Changed lens for stereo but as I moved the camera nearer the bird went off. Left camera & started to look around. Met Herbert who had found a Robin building by the stream (No.16). Walked back with him to camera & found the bird still away so removed to try a stereo of the

	Robins (No.8). Found there were 5 eggs. Took two stereos, the nearer having 10secs at F22 and the other 8 secs at F16, I.S.R. plates. As I walked back found a Wren (17) nest partly built. Picked up camera & while I was doing so H found that the Magpies (18) were building in the wood. Walked over to the Blackbird's nest in wood (No.1) & found one egg in it. In the afternoon H called for me at 1-45 & we went up to Cefn On. The squirrel's nest was empty but the Long Tailed Tits were still busy lining their home & came quite close to us as we opened up the nest that is made in a Holly bush. Took two stereos & 2 Half plates of it. Waited for some time to see if there was a chance of getting a picture of the birds but they did not return. Lit a fire at the camp & had our tea afterwards picking up some primroses & then home at 6.30pm.
5 th April 1910	Went up to Wild Park by myself. Did not take camera as it was raining. Made a round of most of the nests. Found the Wren's (17) was completed externally & the Robin's (No.14) was lined & ready. Blackbird (No.1) has 3 eggs & the Song Thrush (No.15) is sitting pretty tightly. Robin (No.8) has had one egg taken by someone as there are only four in the nest now. The other nests that are building seem to be in the same state as when found. Took all the cloth & stuff of the artificial tree trunk & rolled the frame up & put it aside, ready to be recovered.
8 th April 1910	H called for me at 6am & we went up to Wild Park taking up Hiding Tent I made on Wednesday. Dipped the canvas in xxxx & then rubbed earth on it to make it look less conspicuous, afterwards we set it up & tied gorse all over it taking it when finished and setting it up at the Song Thrush's nest (No.15), which now contains 4 young just hatched. Got inside with camera & waited some time but the bird only came as far as the bush & would not venture on so I left. The young looked as if they would soon die if the old bird did not return soon. Took a look around & found Robin nest (No.14) contains 4 eggs & Blackbird's (No.1) three. Herb says that Robin's (No.8) has deserted, the eggs being quite wet & cold. Beautifully fine but rather cold morning.
9 th April 1910	Wild Park with Herb. Went over to the Song Thrush nest (No.15) & found the female on. Got inside the tent with the ¼ plate reflex & focussed the nest & waited. After a few minutes the bird got up & flew off but in a little while the male turned up with a beakful of small worms. Made an exposure of him as he stood on the side of nest listening. The female was in the bushes near uttering notes of warning & the male seemed to be listening to her for he hopped away from the nest into the bush. After waiting & listening for some time he came back & fed the young afterwards cleaning up the nest & going off. As the other bird did not seem inclined to come back & I was afraid the young would suffer from exposure I took the camera & went off. Went back to shelter & set up the stereo camera which I took over to the Blackbird's nest (No.1). The bird left as I came near. Made two exposures in different positions, F23, 4secs I.S.R. Herbert then came up and took me to see a Thrushes he had found (No.19). The bird was on the nest, which was placed in a Rhododendron bush in a fine place for a photo. The sun was shining full on the nest & bush. Took two stereos of the bird sitting one F23, 1/2sec I.S.R. and the other very much nearer F16, 1sec I.S.R. Left the camera & H showed me a Wren's nest (21) made of moss, by the stream & three or four other Blackbirds'. Fine, sunny morning & much milder. 3 eggs in Robin No.14. After photographing the Thrush (No.19) put the bird off & found the nest contained 4 eggs, one of which is marked peculiarly, the blotches being purple & very large.
10 th April 1910	H called at 7am & we went up to Cefn On for the day. Searched the wood at back of farm & went up a couple of trees containing nests but they were old ones. Found one Woodpigeon's that may be this year's. Searched the xxxx, carefully but found nothing but a rabbit. After lunch I took a stereo of a nice lot of Ladys Smock & then Herbert came over with a Blind Worm he had caught. Took two stereos of it, and afterwards 2 of a large root of Primrose. George Stratton came up & we showed him the Long Tailed Tit's nest.
12 th April 1910	Wild Park by myself. Dull, with some rain. Wind S.S.W. Got into Hiding Tent with ¼ camera. Thrush was on but left soon after. I went inside & did not return neither did the male although I waited ¾ of an hour. H tells me Robin's nest (No.14) had 5 eggs last night. The bird was sitting as I passed this morning so was Thrush (No.19)
14 th April 1910	Wild Park with Herbert. Heavy shower as we left the house but cleared up before we reached the Park. Went into hiding tent after H had driven off the female thrush. The male returned with a fine beakful of worms very soon & proceeded to feed the four young who are large & healthy. In all the male fed them 6 times in the hour I waited & I managed to get 6 photos at F.11 varying from ½ to 3 secs, Barret S.S.

	ortho plates. The female would not come near but hung around uttering her alarm notes constantly, of which the male took no notice. H had a look around & found another Robins with one egg (No.23). He also says Thrushes (No.22) contains 4 eggs. We heard & saw the first <u>Willow Warbler</u> directly we entered the Park. Herb also saw a Water Vole in a spot where he has observed it once or twice before.
15 th April 1910	Wild Park with Herbert. Fine, sunny morning. Got into the Hiding Tent after Herb had driven off the female Thrush (15) managed to get 6 photos of the male the last two of which were snaps at 1/10 sec F8. The male only fed the young 5 times in the 1 1/4 hours I stayed watching. The young are growing very quickly and as I watched, frequently stretched their wings & preened themselves. They overflow the nest already. Food did not seem so plentiful as yesterday, the worms brought on each journey being few. Herb looked around and found the nest by the Wrens, No.21, is a Thrushes the bird being on (No.24). He also found that nest 12 is a Thrushes the bird being on there also. In the wood we found a Chaffinch's finished, 25, and two more Wrens, 26 & 27, one of which is built directly over the Blackbirds No.1 nest. Heard two or three Willow Warblers.
16 th April 1910	Wild Park with Herb. Fine but rather watery when we started. Hid up in tent and got five more photos of the male Thrush (15). As I waited for his return I saw a Wren hop up on to the edge of the nest and after taking a good look at the young thrushes hopped away again into the bush. Spent ¾ of an hour hiding, during which time the male fed the young 5 times. He seems to bring nothing but worms. Herb found a Hedge Sparrows nest (29) nearly completed and another Robins (30) well under way, also a thrushes with 2 eggs (28). He & I found a Wrens (31) close to Thrush No.19. We examined Thrush No.12 and found four eggs. Thrush 19 had just hatched out her eggs & Robin 23 has 3 eggs. As I was entering the hiding tent I saw a fine cock Pheasant feeding by the rails across the path.
21 st April 1910	Wild Park with Herb. On the way up H. told me he visited park last night & found Thrush 15 nest has been taken with the young. He moved the Tent over to Blackbird 1. When we got up there found 3 young in the nest. Set to work and tied Ivy & Bramble to the Tent & soon had it finished. Left it & had a look around. Took two stereos of Wren 17, F16, 4secs & 2 secs, I.S.R. A little farther down the path H found a Blackbird (32) sitting on her nest about 10feet from ground. I got on his shoulders & found that nest contained 4 eggs. He also found another Wrens (33) opposite the shelter and later on I found a Song Thrushes (34) with 4 young. The female bird was in a fine way & talked to me from a branch near bye with all her feathers on end. Robins 30 has two eggs. Robins 14 & 23 were sitting hard. Hedge Sparrow 29 has 4 eggs. Thrush 22 has been robbed, and No.19 was on as I passed but eft on seeing me. The four young are growing very large & getting their flight feathers.
22 nd April 1910	Wild Park by myself. Went over to tent and got inside with camera. In about 10 mins time the male Blackbird (1) came to the nest with a beakful of worms. He approached it on the ground, hopping until he got to the base of the tree. He then flew up on one side but afterwards went around at the back & fed the young from there. Took a photo of him. He heard the shutter close and flew off. The female then returned with food but came no further than the base of the tree & then flew back. The male returned again & fed young from same place. Made another exposure and he again heard the shutter close & flew off. Took camera away & shut up tent. Made an exposure on the tent in position, & as I did so a Wren sang loudly near me. Looked around & immediately saw its nest (35), which is made of leaves set against the trunk of a tree. Robin No.30 has 3 eggs. As I packed up camera a Cuckoo called in the wood. First time I have heard this year.
23 rd April 1910	Wild Park with Herb. Got into Tent and H. shut me in. As he did so he saw a Robin go into a hole at the base of a tree nearby. On going over found a nearly completed nest (36). The female Blackbird came back in a few minutes & fed the young. Opened the shutter but she heard it and dashed away. Waited half an hour but the birds did not return so shut up shop. As I left the Robin (36) went into its nest with a horse hair in its bill. Had a look around. H found another Wrens (37) partly built. Heard the Cuckoo. Hedge Sparrow 29 has five eggs. Thrush 28 still has only two. Robins 14, 23 & 30 were all sitting. Visited Thrush 19 where the young are growing fast. Both parent birds were there & resented the visit making as horrible row as did Wren 33 when we went near its nest. Started to wipe my boot against a grass mound opposite shelter and as I did so kicked a low heather bush out of which dashed a Hedge Sparrow.

	Found she had been sitting on a nest (38) containing 4 eggs. Keeper showed Herb two nests on Saturday afternoon, a Hedge Sparrow, No.39 with one egg & a Thrushes, No.40 with 3 eggs. Keeper also told him that he had removed Thrush 15 nest on the 19th with the young having gone.
25 th April 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5am. Moved the tent over to Hedge Sparrow 38 and got inside & waited but the bird would not come back so gave it up & removed the tent again. Took a walk around. Robin 23 has six eggs, and Nos 14 & 30 are still sitting. Thrush 12 has hatched out her eggs. Herbert found a Chaffinch (41) building & I a Robin (42) sitting on its nest in the bank around the ponds. Set up camera & took one photo of her on the nest. Found a Green Veined White butterfly on some daffodils & took a couple of photos of it. As I reached the shelter I saw a <u>Kestrel rise from the grass in front with a Thrush in its claws</u>. On reaching the spot found feathers scattered around wholesale.
27 th April 1910	Wild Park by myself arriving there at 5.30am. Took up stereo camera & after I had set it up, walked over to Hedge Sparrow 38 to get a stereo of nest & eggs. Found that 3 out of the 4 eggs had hatched the other egg remaining in the nest, so went to Robin 42. The female was on & so took a stereo of her sitting. Attached tubing & left camera & hid. The male was not long putting in his appearance with food for his mate, but would not go to the nest. The female at last flew off her eggs to him to be fed. The nest contains 5 eggs. Took two stereos of it the female anxiously waiting until I took camera a little way off when she immediately returned. Went to Thrush 19 and took a stereo of the young in nest after which I focussed a stump and taking a couple of the young sat them on it & took their photos. As I was putting them back into the nest, the whole four dashed off in opposite directions in response to the females excited crys & although I spent a long time looking for them only found three which I put in my cap. Placed them on the stump and took their photos & then replaced them in the nest where they stayed quietly. After packing up camera took a look around. Robin 36 has two eggs & the young Blackbirds in No.1 are growing apace. Wren 33 lining its nest.
29 th April 1910	Wild Park by myself, arriving at 5.30am with the reflex & Stereo cameras. Took tent & set up in front of Hedge Sparrow 38, and got inside with Reflex. After ½ an hour wait the female, who had been hopping around aimlessly, came back to the nest & covered the 3 chicks (The egg is still in nest unwashed) and I made an exposure on her. She sat very still & I took two more of her before I left the tent which I removed to the laurels again. Set up stereo camera & went over to Robin 42 of who I took two stereos the female sat very tightly all the time. I afterwards took two stereos of Wrens nest 35.
30 th April 1910	Wild Park with Herb arriving at 5.30am. Set up tent in front of Hedge Sparrow 38 again & got inside with camera. Female returned in about 20 mins and I took 4 photos of her on the nest. I then tried the effect of the F.P.shutter on her which she did not like & after listening to it two or three times she flew off. The male returned with food & fed the young, coming back again after a few minutes a second time. Tried an exposure but he moved in the middle of it. Removed tent & met Herb who had found several nests. Two Thrushes (44, 46), a Blackbird (47), Blackcaps (45) and Chaffinch (49, 50, 51). While inspecting one of the Thrushes to the north, saw a pair of Gold Crests in a small fir tree. They seemed very tame & excited so I looked around and soon saw their nest (480) hung on the underside of a fir branch just above the Thrushes nest. It was finished externally But not lined. Chaffinch 41 has two eggs and Robin 14 has been robbed.
3 rd May 1910	Wild Park with Herb who called for me at 5am. Took up xxxx & stereo cameras. Set up tent in front of Hedge Sparrow 38 and got inside. The female returned directly and after having fed young sat covering them. Took a photo of her. As she was in a bad position tried to get her off by making a row inside. She left after a little while & then the male returned and fed the young the female arriving back again with food afterwards. As she sat covering the young I whistled to her and she chirped in answer twitch. She left for more food & the male returned again and as he fed the young the female uttered her alarm note and he cleared promptly. Managed to get 3 snaps in all. Removed tent & took camera to Gold Crests 48 nest, meeting Herb on the way. He had found a Hedge Sparrow (52) with 3 eggs & a Thrushes (53) with the bird sitting. Got extension legs & fixed them to tripod. Set up camera in front of nest & started to focus from Herbs shoulders but he could not hold me up long enough so carried over one of the seats & stood on back of it. Took two photos, F64, 6secs & 10 secs, I.S.S.

	Jaked up camera & found a Thrush building (54). Herb had set some xxxx the previous evening for the Stoate that I had seen. This animal had robbed Robin No.14 and 30. We went to see if we could see anything in the traps and as nearing the one set where we had found the Ducks eggs hidden, saw there was something in it. It proved to be the Stoate & we quickly killed it with chloroform. Fine specimen. Went up again in the evening with Herb. Found a Chaffinch (57) building and H showed me a Robin (56) also building. Thrush 44 has 3 eggs, Chaffinch 25 3eggs while the Keeper told us Robin 23 ad hatched her eggs.
4 th May 1910	Closed at 3pm so Herb & I took our tea & went up to Wild Gardens. Saw a Grey Wagtail with food in its beak but could not locate nest which is somewhere near the Keeper's hut. Keeper told us that the other gin had caught a male Blackbird, so decided to set them no more now the stoate had been caught. We took a walk around and into the wood. Found 4 eggs in Chaffinch 25 and four in Thrush 44. Sat down & had tea after which I found that nest No.3 had at last resolved itself into a Blackbirds and has 3 eggs. Tried the laurels at SW end and found the remains of Thrush taken by the Hawk (Kestrel added later). Also found a Thrushes nest with 4 eggs and in firs at entrance gate a Blackbird (60) with 4. This nest is made very badly the eggs lying on a platform with hardly any edge. Herb found another Thrushes (61) with 4 eggs near gate on west side. In the bushes over the brook I came across a Blackbird caught in a gin. It had heard me coming ad in its hurry to get away had been caught. Both legs were broken so Herb chloroformed it. Before we left we visited the spot where the brook enters the park and I found that Wren 21 has 2 eggs. Herb found a Thrushes (62) with 3 fully fledged young and in laurel to the north I found another with 3 young just hatched and one egg without specks. Blackbird No.47 has 1 egg. Thrush No..53 has 4 eggs.
7 th May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5am. Took tent to Hedge Sparrow 38 nest and got inside but the young were so fully fledged they all left after I had opened the bush up, so had to give the nest up. Took a look around and H found a Thrushes (64) nest at top of Fir tree to North. As I climbed the tree the young birds left the nest and fluttered to the ground except one which I turned out. Caught three of them & tried to get their photos but only succeeded in getting one of them. Went to Rabbits breeding burrow that the Keeper had shown us and took out a couple of the young ones whose portraits I took. Herb found a Linnets (66) with five eggs and a Blackbirds with two. The eggs of last named were quite without any gloss & the xxxx were all at large end. Blackbird 47 has 4 eggs very long and pointed. Nest No.6 I find is a Blackbirds with 4 eggs. Wren 33 has 2 eggs. The eggs of Hedge Sparrow 29 have been broken and eaten.
10 th May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am. Took up stereo & ½ plate camera & started on the Linnets (66) nest, taking 2 stereos of it and then going to Blackcaps 45 & taking 1 stereo of it. Hedge Sparrow 52 was then visited and 1 stereo and 2 ½ plates of it were taken after which Herb showed me another Hedge Sparrow (69) he had found with 3 eggs near SW entrance. Took the camera across to Gold Crested Wren 48 and took 2 ½ plates and 2 stereos of it after which I packed camera up. Saw <u>2 Swifts for the first time this year</u> . Blackcap 45 has 2 eggs. Goldcrest 48, 2 eggs, Chaffinch 41, 3 eggs. Blackbird 65 has had her eggs eaten by a Magpie and so has Thrush 44. Robin 42 has five young and in Robin 23 the young are nearly fledged.
11 th May 1910	Wild Park with H at 5.15am taking up ½ plate and stereo camera. H had set up tent in front of Robin No.42 so went inside and stayed there all morning. Both birds visited the nest at frequent intervals bringing worms & caterpillars each time. Took 4 stereos, 4 ½ lates and 6 ¼ plates of the birds.
14 th May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am. Took up 5x4 camera. Took a good look around and watched the Chiff Chaff for some time but could not locate their nest. Found the Wild Ducks (68) that the stoate had robbed. There were eight eggs left in the nest mostly broken. Went into Tent at Robins 42 and took 4 of the old birds feeding their young. Herb found a nest that we think is a Redpoll (69). The birds are building. Robin 23 has come to grief, the young being dead in the nest. Wren 27 has 3 eggs and Chaffinch 25, 5. Herb also found a Blackbird with 2 eggs.
16 th May 1910	As I was away Herb visited the Park by himself and found Woodpigeon nest partly bult by the fish ponds.
19 th May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am. Saw a Willow Warbler close to shelter with moss in its bill and watched it to its nest (72) that it is building very near the shelter. Willow Warbler 71 has 2 eggs and Chaffinch 51 has four. The young Robins in No.42 have gone, all safe. Found the bird on Nest 69. Took a good look at her and am quite certain it is a Redpoll. The nest contains 4 eggs, pale blue with very small markings,

	and is lined with down from Willow catkins. I found a Blackcap (73) Warblers nest with 2 eggs and on the other nest 45 is deserted conclude it is the same birds starting again. Also found a Thrushes (74) with 3 and a Greenfinch (79) with 2 and another building (78). Wren 27 has 5 eggs. Thrush 46 has four young. There are 4 eggs in the Goldcrest nest 48. Herb found two Thrushes (75, 76) each with 4 eggs, a Greenfinch (77) with 4 eggs and a Chaffinch (80) with 2 eggs. Hedge Sparrow 52 has deserted & so has Blackbird 3. Hedge Sparrow 67 has four eggs. Robin No.36 has also come to grief one dead young being left in nest.
21 st May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am. Took cameras to Redpoll (69) nest but could not find a ladder so had to try and make shift with a plank but could not manage it. The nest contains 5 eggs. Found a Willow Warbler with 7 eggs (81) and a Robin building (82), a Tom Tits (89) has built in the roof of the shelter. Took two stereos & 2 ½ plates of the Blackcap (73) nest that now contains 4 eggs. Wren 33 has 6 eggs and Thrush 74 five. Herb found a young rat in the trap we set on the night of the 19 th . Saw the first Orange Tip butterfly.
24 th May 1910	Wild Park by myself. Made a round of some of the nests noting changes in my record. Saw a pair of Bullfinches (84). The female was picking up small roots but could not locate the place they were taking them too. Also saw a Blackcap with a long piece of grass but lost sight of it. A Willow Warbler near the shelter had nesting material in its bill but dropped it as I watched. Moved hiding tent nearer Blackcap 73 nest. The female was sitting and there are only 3 eggs now in the nest.
25 th May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am. Got into tent opposite Blackcap 73 nest with 5x4 camera. The female came back into the bush very soon after I had shut myself in and after fussing around for about 5 minutes went on to the nest. After waiting a little while I made an exposure. As I changed the plate she heard me and left the nest again but was soon back and on once more. Opened the shutter again but she left the nest again and flew around scolding. Took camera away and left her for the morning. Met Herb across the brook where I again observed the Bullfinches (84). Watched and found that the female was carrying small twigs for the nest into a bush near bye, while the male did nothing but accompany her and hang around. Found the nest well under way. Tried to get a photo of male but he did not turn up in time.
27 th May 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am. Went into tent in front of Blackcap 73 after moving it nearer. The female came back but was very shy and it was some time before she finally decided to stay on the nest. I dared hardly breathe and to take a photo was out of the question. She went off again suddenly for no particular reason and started scolding in the bush. After a while she returned and covered her eggs again but in 10 mins time she was off once more so I packed up and moved away. Set up camera where I could get a view of the gorse the Bullfinch (84) alights on generally. Left camera & went to look around. Herb had found a Willow Warbler (88) with 4 eggs and we found three more Greenfinch (85, 86, 87) each with 5 eggs. The Blue Tits in shelter have young. Came back to camera and as I got to where the bulb of release was hidden the male Bully perched on the gorse and I snapped him. Took away camera & set it up so as to get the Tit as he goes into the nest. Took one snap as he returned with food. The Willow Warbler was on nest by shelter & came within a foot of me as I looked into it.
28 th May 1910	Started for Cefn On at 2pm with Herbert taking up ½ plate & stereo camera. Made our headquarters in the Snakery (?). Found a Whitethroats nest in a low bush with 5 eggs & Herb found a Song Thrush with 4 and a Chaffinch sitting also a Blackcap in a state of construction. I located the position of a Willow Warblers but could not find it and as I was poking around a little bird flew out of a tuft of grass near bye. After a careful search I found a deep nest made of grass cup shaped & placed on the ground in the very centre of a tuft of long grass growing around a stunted bramble. It contained 4 eggs, having a pinkish white ground thickly speckled all over with xxxx red which I concluded was a Grasshopper Warblers, I verified this later with a sight of the bird itself as it ran among the grass like a mouse. Took ½ plate and 2 stereos of the Whitethroat, and 2 1/2 plates & 2 stereos of the Grasshopper Warbler. There seemed to be a number of Blackcaps around as they were singing all the time. Left for home at .10pm.
1 st June 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.15am taking up Reflex and Bio Telar lens. Went into hiding at Blackcap 73 nest and after about 1.2 an hour wait the female ventured onto the nest. Took a snap of her and changed the plate during which process the bird went off again. She soon came back however and I secured another snap and then left. Took a look around making notes in my special book. Herbert found a Thrush (90) with 3 eggs and I another Blackcaps (84a) building. Saw Bulfinches (84). They

	seem to have made good progress with the nest.
2 nd June 1910	Wild Park with Symes at 5.45am to try his new camera. Took 4 views with it. While looking around saw a Wren (91) with building material in its bill & watched it to its nest. Also saw a Wigeon being first attracted by its whistle. It was a lovely bird its plumage being exceptionally fine & bright. The Goldcrest was sitting & the young Blackbird below it is fully fledged & ready to leave the nest.
5 th June 1910	Cefn On with Herbert at 8.30am. Tried the Snakery (?) first and again opened up the Grasshopper Warbler nest. The bird flew off this time, flying very low until it reached a bush where it perched in sight for a moment. The nest still contains 4 eggs. Took 2 ½ plates & 2 stereo photos of it. Herb found a Blackbirds with 4 eggs and a Robin with 5. We also found a Great Tit nest in a gate post and as the wood was rotten cut a piece out & exposed the nest which contains 6 fully fledged young. Took one stereo & 1 half plate photo of them & then put the wood back securing it firmly with string etc. Rain started at 12 noon so we moved down to camping ground. Had dinner before which we were joined by George Stratton. Herb found a Lesser Whitethroats nest with 4 eggs but it was too wet & dark to take a photo. As the rain did not clear started home at 2.20pm. Wet through.
13 th June 1910	After a xxxx of Thunder storms was able to turn out with Herb at 5.15am to Wild Park. Found Blackcaps nest deserted the 2 eggs being left. Moved the tent to Wren No.27 who has young and was busy feeding them. Took a look around at the various nest & noted the changes. Saw the female Redpoll pulling off pieces of fluff from the cloth covering the fish ponds so conclude they are building again. Could not see in what direction she went. Found a Willow Warbler (93) with young just hatched the bird revealing the nest by taking food while I watched. Found another (94) in the wood with 5 young in the same way. Herb found a Blackbird (97) with 1 egg & Willow Warbler (95) with 1 egg & 4 young and another building (96). We pushed our way into the thicket where the Bullfinch have built. The female was on the nest and did not move until I nearly touched her. The nest contains 5 eggs. Spotted a pair of Greenfinches in some heather but am not certain if they are building a nest.
15 th June 1910	Wild Park with Herbert at 5.15. Went into birding tent with 5 x 4 camera. The female Wren (27) soon returned with a crowd of small insects that she soon dispersed off amongst her family. While she was away the young ones were continually poking out their heads & pulling at the nest with their bills. They are early ready to fly. Managed to get 6 photos & then cleared out. Saw a Blackcap go into a bush in wood and found the foundations of a nest there. Herb found a Greenfinch (99) with 4 eggs, a Hedge Sparrow (98) with 4 fully fledged young, a Song Thrush (100) with 4 eggs ripped open & contents eaten. As we examined the Hedge Sparrows they fluttered off. Caught two & returned them to the nest. Found a Song Thrush (102) hard by sitting on 3 eggs. The Greenfinches have hatched out & the Wren near the shelter has disposed of her family as also has the Blue Tit. Herb also found another Wren (101) nest over the brook.
17 th June 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 5.30am. Found that the young Wrens were all perched on the top of the nest and as I approached they scattered and flew in different directions. The old birds were there with food for them. Went over to the Thrushes No.[blank] and took one ½ plate & 2 stereos of it. Also took 2 stereos of a large clump of Ragged Robin and another of the wood. Walked around observing the nests & making notes. Found a Thrushes egg on the path that had been dropped. I notice that these eggs are very sparingly marked, if at all, and the spots are very irregular and light mauve in colour.
19 th June 1910	Started with Herb for Craig Llanishen at 7.00am. Beautiful morning with every promise of a red hot day. Found a Willow Warbler with 7 young nearly fully fledged, on the way up. Upon arrival we started to look around for the Night Jar that had its nest near there last year. Saw a large Kestrel pass along the hill and later on it came back. Had no luck although we searched carefully for two hours. The Kestrel was sighted again making circles on motionless wings at a great height. Saw a pair of Stonechats but could not find the nest. I put up a female Pheasant and 7 young & I surprised a cock and later on a Partridge. Saw an adder basking in the centre of a Furze bush & put my foot on it. Strung it up and then took its photo. It soon died and I took it home with me. Worked our way over to the Camp wheeling our bikes along the mountain. Saw a big grass snake, but did not catch it, at the camp. Had dinner and then visited the snakery. Robin has young nearly fledged & as has the Grasshopper Warbler. Whitethroat nest is empty. Picked a lot of Honeysuckle, Foxgloves etc and started for home at 3.10om.
22 nd June 1910	Wild Park with Herbert at 5.45am. Started on the Willow Warbler near the shelter

	and took 4 stereo of the nest that now has 4 eggs after which we walked around examining the various nests & noting any changes. The Bullfinches have hatched out & there are five young in the nest. All the Chaffinches have flown & the Willow Warbler under the fir tree aft as I was looking at them. Took a couple of stereo of the Park.
3 rd July 1910	Started for Craig Jenkins by the 9.am train with Her without cameras. The weather was very showery but we did not have any rain on the walk up. Set up a long pole on the cairn & then started to look around. After 5 mins beating & searching the Nightjar flew up close to me and I soon spotted its two eggs. Went and sat on the cairn & bye & bye the bird returned. When the bird came back to the eggs she approached flying low and in the shelter of the ferns. Searched some fields near but found nothing. Saw 3 Lapwings and the Kestrel again. Herb put up a cock Pheasant and a young hare (?). Walked over to the camp where I caught a fine grass snake. Had dinner & walked home.
4 th July 1910	Herb called for me at 5am and we set off on our bikes to Carig Jenkin taking the ½ plate & stereo camera and 12 plates. Lovely morning with a fresh wind from N.N.West. Arrived at the cairn at 6am. Set up camera & took it down to see if I could secure a picture of the sitting bird. She stopped a little while but flew off before I could get a photo. Took 6 ½ plates & 6 stereos of the eggs. The bird was flying around near all the time uttering a very funny note & sometimes snapping with her wings. She alighted within a couple of yards of me once. Set off for home at 7am. When sitting the bird had its eyes very nearly closed, but when she left the eggs she alighted again about 3 yards away on a mound. She then had her eyes wide open watching me, she sat on her eggs with her head well up & back facing west. The note she uttered as she flew near me was very like that of a goose.
7 th September 1910	Wild Park with Herb at 6am. Everything dying off and the place has a very forlorn appearance. Only Robins & Wrens singing although I heard Blue Tits and saw a Blackbird. Also heard a Bulfinch uttering its call note. Took two stereos f the Great Bindweed in flower and two of a fungus* [on edge of page *Maried Agaric] that Herb found. Took the Hiding Tent to pieces and bought the canvas & stool home leaving the framework in the Keeper's shed. The Wood Wasps nest in shelter had grown as large as a small football. Knocked it down & examined it. We killed 22 wasps that were in it and exposed up several of the grubs that had not hatched. Found them full of maggots and all eaten up. Herbert saw a rabbit and we noticed that the fish pond where the water enters is grown over with Watercress. Also found some Wild Raspberries. One of the Thrushes nest still contained an egg.
11 th September 1910	Heard the Chiffchaff in Priests Graden this morning.
14 th September 1910	Heard the Chiffchaff again in Priests Garden today.
17 th September 1910	Heard the Chiffchaff again in same place.
30 th September 1910	Two Blue & one Coal Tit in the garden this morning. Put out some suet.
6 th October 1910	Out with Herbert at 6.15am looking for spiders webs. Hunted the gorse outside the gate of Wild Park & found it covered with webs that were a mass of small drops from the mist that was over the land, but could not get a good photo because the background was so poor. Found one fairly well placed and took a photo of it. Also took a view. Went into Wild Park. Men were cleaning up the paths. Saw a large Jay also heard a Song Thrush singing. Robins also singing and Herbert heard a Wren, while on the way home a Hedge Sparrow started its song as we passed.
8 th October 1910	Wild Park with Herb @ 6.15am taking up Reflex camera. There was a slight mist but it was not wet enough to coat the cobwebs. Wrens, Robins and a Thrush heard singing. Saw the Jay again also Blackbirds, Chaffinches, Mistle Thrush, Blue Tits, Robins, Starlings, Gulls & crows seen. The Gulls were all making for the reservoir to wash themselves and over 160 were counted.
18 th December 1910	Herb & I caught the 9am train to Caerphilly. Walked to Cefn On via the Fire Clay quarry which we examined. Coal crops out in many places but it is very soft, and the seams are all thin. Took a stereo of the general aspect of the place and then struck up Cefn On. Arrived on top accompanied by a Rainbow, and a heavy shower from which we found shelter under the walls of the ruins on top. Rain soon passed & Herb took my focusing cloth which was wet, and tied it to the telegraph pole. A beautiful <u>male Merlin passed</u> as I stood under the brow watching. Lighted a fire & had dinner in one of the hollows. Explored the wood which has nearly all been cut down & then walked along the ridge of Cefn On to Craig Jenkins and so home via Lisvane & the reservoirs. Saw a <u>male Merlin</u> , <u>six partridges</u> , a pair of Goldcrests, 6 Magpies, some Jays, Robins, Hedge Sparrows, Blackbirds Thrushes, Wrens, Great Tits, Blue & Cole Tits, Starlings, Rocks.

1911	
15 th January 1911	Herb & I started off at 8.30am. Very cold with a thick fog & white frost. Struck on to the canal at Mainday, and walked up to the three locks above Taffs Well where we left the canal and climbed Craig-y-alt walking along the top to the other end where we had lunch. Descended to the valley under the Black Cock and then walked over Caerphilly Common to Thornhill where we turned over Craig Llanishen passing Castle Morgraig and down the camp road to Llanishen & then home thro the Heath Wood. On the way up the canal saw the following: Sparrows, Starlings, Robins, Blackbirds, Chaffinches, Gold Crested Wren, Bullfinches, Grey & Pied Wagtails, Woodpigeons, Great & Blue Tits, Hedge Sparrows, Wrens, Fieldfares & Jackdaws and around Carig-y-allt, 3 pairs of Magpies; on Craig Jenkin Pheasants, Long-tailed Tits and a squirrel & Yellow ammers [Yellow hammers] at Llanishen.
12 th February 1911	Herb & I caught the 8.40am train to Pontypridd. Walked thro the town and up the mountain above the common. Reached the highest point (1250ft) and then made a bee line for Eglwysilan Church which we passed and climbed Mynydd Mayo striking right across the top so as to come down at Groes Wen. Had lunch in sight of the latter place and then descended to the road on which we walked to Penyrheol. Cut across the fields to Caerphilly and then up Cefn On resting on the top for a little while. Struck the camp toad by walking across thro fields behind the Cwm farm, and made for home via Llanishen the Heath Woods & the Park, Birds seen & heard: Put up a Jack Snipe near Eglwysilan Church, Chaffinches, Thrushes, Robins, Hedge Sparrows singing, also heard a lark on Mynydd Mayo. Saw what we took to be a Crested Tit also gulls on the Taff. Heard a Green Woodpecker in Heath Woods. Rooks, Starlings, Blackbirds, Great & Blue Tits, Wrens, 4 pairs of Magpies, sparrows, Field fares. Jackdaws at the Castle Caerphilly, one with white feathers in wings.
18 th February 1911	Herb, Salmon & I caught the 2.10pm to Llanishen and walked up past the Old Mill to Craig Jenkin, and then on to Cefn On and along the ridge to the old obelisk. Raining hard & blowing half a gale all the time. Came down the Water Shute to the Tunnel flat to look for Primroses. Herb found 3 roots with flowers out and I found one. Home along the embankment to the Lisvane Rd which we followed to Lisvane, and then over the fields to the Reservoirs and home thro the Park. Saw a Pheasant feeding, also a couple of Magpies, and in the Wild Park a Jay. Found an old Bullfinch nest on embankment. Strawberry blossom out.
25 th February 1911	Herb & I caught the 2.27 train to Creigau. When we left town it was dull and it looked as if the rain would come on at any time. Walked to Miskin then onto Welsh St Donats the weather improving all the time, until when we got well out of Miskin the sun was shining. Photod some Primrose and one Wild Snowdrop. Blackbirds & Hedge Sparrows were singing and we saw several Mistle Thrushes and a pair of Magpies. When we arrived at the ponds at Welsh St Donats it was 4.30. on approaching the smaller pond carefully, we saw by the aid of the glasses that there were a large number of birds on it. Crept around by the hedge and then over a tump s that we were within 20 yards of the birds. As we did so we put up a Snipe from among the dead bracken. The sun was shining full on the pond and through the glasses we could see Lapwings, Wigeons, Pochards, about 6 Wild Ducks, 2 Teal and 3 or 4 Moorhens. The Wigeon & Pochard looked beautiful in their spring dress with the sun shining on them. Herb counted over 170 Lapwings and altogether there must have been well over 250 birds on the pond. Walked into Peterston for tea, and then home by the 7.34 train.
4 th March 1911	Herb, Salmon & I started for the Ponds at Welsh St Donats at 1pm. Went out via the Tumble, in a field at the foot of which we watched thro the glasses large flocks of Lapwings & Golden Plovers feeding & washing. Started to rain going up the Tumble and there was a head wind all the way. Arrived at the Ponds at about 2.30pm having seen a pair of Grey Herons as we approached. Made for a small pond carefully keeping under cover. Came across the remains of a Lapwing evidently, pulled to pieces by a Hawk. The first birds we saw on the pond was a pair of Teal and two Moorhens. The Teal took flight and flew off followed by a large number of other birds which had been hidden from us, Wild Duck & Wigeon. Got among the bracken and the others covered me up and left in the hope of the birds soon returning. Waited an hour in the rain but the only birds that came were 6 Lapwings and 3 or 4 Moorhens. The others returned bringing a leech and I took a photo of a toad that Salmon found. Started home at 4.35 went via Peterstone, Radyr, Llandaff North and Whitchurch. Rain fearful and wind had come around to NW. Soaked to skin & covered with mud.
11 th March 1911	Herb & Salmon called at 6am & we set out for Wild Gardens. Raining & dark when

	we started. The rain stopped soon after we got to the Park. Looked around the laurels at north end and disturbed a large number of Greenfinches. Salmon found a Song Thrush just started (No.1) and another nearly finished (No.2). A Jay was observed and a Green Woodpecker also a pair of Moorhens. Gulls passing over to reservoir. On the lake were Tufted Ducks, Wild Ducks and Wigeon. In the afternoon Salmon & I started at 2pm for Rhiwbina Rookery. The place swarmed with Rooks who were busy putting the finishing touches to their nests. Set up the telephoto camera but they all cleared off & did not return. Waited an hour & a half. Took two photos of Jews Ear Fungi that I found. We then cleared out & visited Radyr Quarry & Wood and hen made for home at 5.50pm. Took 2 photos of Rooks nests. One telephoto, one ordinary.
18 th March 1911	Wild Park at 6am with Herb & Slamon. The nests found ls week are still unfinished. Found four or five more, one being specially forward. During the week the wind has remained easterly and the cold is keeping things back.
19 th March 1911	Afternoon. Walked around the lake and Wild Park. Five Tufted Ducks, five Wigeon, 4 Moorhens and 2 Coots seen on lake beside Wild Duck. The Tufted Duck continually diving for food. Jay on one of the islands.
23 rd March 1911	Wild Park with Herb & Slamon at 6.am. Made a round of the nests but they are all in the same state as before. The weather seems to keep them back. Wind has been around in the East for nearly 2 weeks now. Kingfisher seen in the Wild Park. Got on our bikes again and set off for the reservoirs to see if the Lapwing were laying. Watched them from the road for some time. There were 3 pairs, one in the first and two in the second field. A pair of Carrion Crows passed over and one of them had a hot time from the Lapwing who drove it off. Left Salmon to keep watch until Herb & I went off. Explored the small wood that lies on the right of the road to Cefn Mabley. Put up a Woodpigeon, a cock Pheasant, and a Woodcock. Saw a Heron by the reservoir and he alighted as we watched but quickly flew up again. Went back to Salmon and then walked over the fields to see if there were any nests yet. I found one ready for eggs in 2nd field, & Slamon another in the first field.
25 th March 1911	Herb, Salmon & I started out at 6am for Wild Park. The nests are all in the same unfinished state except the Robins Herb found on 23rd in the small fir south of park. This nest has been added too. Saw the Heron again as we passed the lake. Went on to see how the Lapwing were looking. They are in the same condition as before. Left there and cycled to Morgan's Tea Gardens where we examined the Culvert under the road. Found the Dipper had built in one of the holes. Salmon put in his hand and caught the bird, which after examining we released. Found one egg in the nest. I climbed to a Magpies nest on the way back but it was not finished. Clear & sunny morning. Wind still easterly. In the afternoon Herb, Salmon, Evans & I went to Dippers nest with cameras. I took one stereo F11, 5mins exposure and Salmon & Evans also took one each. Very cold work standing in the water. Went on across the fields to Llan Rumney Hall and took a look a the larger trees there in search of Brown Owls. Found some castings and saw what looked like a nest of some sort but had t clear out because a man came out. Back in a snow storm via St Mellons & Rumney Road. Wind NE. bright with snow storms occasionally.
27 th March 1911	Salmon went out by himself to see the Dippers nest. Two eggs now in it and gthe bird was sitting. Wind NE. Dull & cold.
28 th March 1911	Out at 6am with Salmon to Dippers nest. Still 2 eggs in it. Pulled in a large lump of wood to stand on and made our exposure of 5 mons at F11, I.S.R. plates, running about 2 feet of magnesium ribbon at the same time. As I focused the camera the bird came back, and in its fright at seeing us struck Salmon's foot and then dived into the stream. Took a look at the Magpie's nest, but there was too much wind to get a photo of it. Started to rain at 7.20. Dull & cold with SE wind. Collected some specimens for Belle.
29 th March 1911	Salmon reports finding another Dippers nest under a bridge by Cefn Mabley, also having heard one of the Spotted Woodpeckers drumming and on his way home by Morgan's Tea Gardens surprised a Sparrowhawk attacking a Partridge in the middle of the road. Both cleared off as he approached.
30 th March 1911	Herb, Salmon & I started for Wild Park at 6am. Cold dull morning with the wind still East. Searched the place well but found nothing. Some of the nests are untouched others just added to a little. Saw the Heron passing over. Surprised a half grown Rabbit in the wood and also a Jay. Took a stereo of a clump of anemonies, I.S.R., 5secs, F22 act time 6 secs, and also one of a Marsh Mallow [Marigold?] same plates and details.

31 st March 1911	Wind has changed & is blowing from S & SW. Very warm & bright.
1 st April 1911	Salmon & I started for Lapwings at reservoirs at 6am. The nests are still empty and S. found another one. Watched the birds for some time & then cycled back to Wild Park. Saw a Robin with moss in bill & soon found its nest (No.3), later on a Song Thrush showed us its home in the same manner (No.5). Song Thrush No.2 was sitting but there is nothing in the nest yet. Found a nest in the Wood (No.4). [Arrowed in red from 31st March entry]. Heard & saw the first Chiffchaff in the Wild Park and another in the Botanica; Gardens. Wind gone East again. [Second 1st April entry]. Herb & I started at 2.20pm for Cefn Mabley Park. Dippers nest at M.T.G's [Morgans Tea Garden] has 3 eggs in it. Looked under bridge by Llanedarne and found another Dippers nest nearly completed. Arrived at the park & spent some time looking over a gate at Pheasants feeding. Saw 4 Cocks & 6 hens. Also saw a Kestrel sunning itself on a tall tree in a wood. Went on to large gate, and put our bikes inside. I then set off for the drive thro the big wood. Heard a Chiffchaff as I drew near and also the "drumming" of a Spotted Woodpecker. Approached the spot from where the sound came, very carefully, and after a deal of trouble spotted the bird with my glasses. Stalked it until I was nearly under it and the watched. It was a Great Spotted Woodpecker and the branch it was perched on had been snapped off by a gale. At regular intervals the bird would shuttle down from the top and rapidly tap the bark, near the broken end, with its bill four times in quick succession, then pause and repeat the call after which it climbed to the end and looked around. Watched it for nearly 20 minutes during which time it was continually "drumming". When it flew off I went back to find Herb. Saw a pair of Ring Doves. Home via Lisvane and Llanishen. Fine & warm afternoon.
2 nd April 1911	Started for Cefn On with Herb at 8.30am. Dull with a lot of warm mist. Stopped at Wild Park and looked at 2 or 3 of the nests but there were no eggs in any. Arrived at big wood and put our bikes inside by the snakery. Searched the wood and saw a large number of nests but could not climb into any. The weather was very hot & close. Searched the snakery and then tried the camping spot. On north bank of Tunnel Flat I caught a large Adder and 2 Blind Worms, & Herb caught 2 grass snakes & a Blind Worm. Gave Herb the Adder & brought home 2 Grass Snakes Blind Worms. Had dinner in the wood. Thunderstorm hanging around all morning. Heard thunder continually, some quite near. Saw a Hare near Tydraw Farm. Home at 3.30pm running into rain in Cardiff. Hail fell later in the afternoon. Saw 3 Brimstone Butterflies, bees & Hover Flies also.
3 rd April 1911	Wild Park with Herb & Salmon at 6am. Thrush No.2 has 2 eggs the first for the Park this year. Found 5 more nests nearly all finished and ready for eggs. Nice bright morning with wind in the East again.
4 th April 1911	Started at 6am for Dippers nest by M.T.G's [Morgans Tea Garden] with Salmon & Evans. Very cold but bright & sunny. Found that the nest had been destroyed, so went on to the one at Llanedarne. We all took photos of it, 5mins @F16 & 1 foot of wire, ISR plates and then made for home.
5 th April 1911	Wild Park with Samon at 6am taking up Grass Snakes and Blind Worms. Had a look around before starting to photograph them. All the nests are in the same state as on Monday except Thrush No.2 which now has 4 eggs. Photographed the largest grass snake taking 2 stereo & 2 ½ plates, F16, 5secs INF and F32, 15secs INF, also too one ½ plate of the Blind Worms, F22, 10secs, INF. Let the Blind Worms go in the Heather opposite the shelter.
6 th April 1911	Salmon found today in Radyr Quarry & Wood a Thrushes with 3 young and 2 more with eggs. A Blackbird with 1 egg and 2 Robins with 3 eggs each.
8 th April 1911	Herb & I started for Wild Park at 6am. Met Keeper outside who told us of a Thrushes & also a Blackbirds nest with eggs. Found the Thrushes which had 3 eggs (No.11) and the keeper sowed us the Blackbirds (12) with 2 eggs. Searched around and examined the other nests but all were in the same state as before. Thrush 2 has only 3 eggs now and seems to have deserted. <u>Saw & heard the first Willow Warbler.</u> As we left Park saw a pair of Long-tailed Tits one with a feather in its bill. The both flew out of the Park towards the lake so as I thought they might be building in the furze by the lake we went there and watched. <u>The islands were alive with WillowWarblers and we also heard Chiffchaff.</u> Watched the Long-tailed Tits and after their second visit discovered the nest, a beauty built among the furze. Finished except the lining. In the afternoon Herb & I took train to Taff's Well and walked thro Craig-y-allt valley to the Black Cock and home by Rhiwbina but saw nothing uncommon. [Underlinings in red]

10 th April 1911	Herb, Salmon & I started for the Park at 5.30am. Opened up the Long-tailed Tits nest & took two stereos, F16, 16secs & F22, 20secs ISR Plates, and 2 ½ plates, F16, 5secs & F22, 10secs INF plates. Evans joined us and Salmon, Herb & he all took photos of it. Heard two or three Chiffchaffs and several Willow Wrens. The Long-tailed tits turned up several times with feathers, so I thought I would try & photo them. Others went off to Wild Park & I set up camera & took release into hiding. The birds soon came back & one went in side the nest. Took a photo as it came out and then packed up camera. Saw a Little Grebe by the islands. Evans found a Thrushes with young (14) amongst the gorse. The Magpies are building on the island. Saw a Long Tailed Meadow Mouse in the Wild Park. Thrush (2) deserted & eggs taken. Blackbird (12) has 3 eggs.
11 th April 1911	Herb, Salmon & I started for the Park at 5.30am. Took a boat & rowed up to the islands. Started on No.1 where we found a swan sitting and an Aylesbury Duck & nest with 6 eggs. Also found what looked like a Moorhen nest. Island No.2 was a blank. No.3 had a Song Thrush nest with 4 eggs and we picked up the remains of a Swallow that had been eaten by rats. No.4 was also a blank. On No.5 we found a Wild Duck sitting on 7 eggs, a best with 4 eggs; two Aylesbury Ducks nests, one with 16 eggs, and the other we did not disturb. Took a stereo of the Wild Ducks with 7 eggs, F32, 1 min, INF plates. Magpies on No.1 have not yet finished lining the nest. Herb found a Thrushes with 3 eggs, all sucked, among Laurels at top end of lake. Thrush (11) has 4 eggs. Blackbird still 3. Heard 3 or four Chiffchaffs and 3 or four Willow Warblers.
12 th April 1911	Started with Salmon at 5.30am for the fields below the Cog Farm to right of Sully Road. Picked up Evans at Grangetown. Beautiful morning clear & bright with a heavy white frost. Saw a Partridge on the way down. On arriving at fields left bikes near the Brook Cottage & then examined the nearest field thro the glasses. There were several lapwings flying around. Spotted one that seemed to be sitting. Walked up to her and as I did so she went off followed by another bird we had not seen, more to the right. Found both nests, the first with 4 eggs & the second 3 eggs. Looked carefully around two or three more fields but found nothing else except several nests with nothing yet in them. Saw a pair of Snipe. Photographed both nests, F32, 4secs ISR also taking a stereo of the one with 4 eggs, F22, 3secs. On the way home saw some Redwings. Heard one Willow Warbler. Pair of Ring Doves seen feeding.
13 th April 1911	Started with Salmon at 5.30am and took a boat out to visit the islands again. Landed on No.5 and set up cameras. Evans arrived and Salmon fetched him over. Started on the Aylesbury Duck that now has 17 eggs. Took 1 stereo, F32, 18secs INF and 1 half plate F32, 15secs INF. Then Evans & Slamon took one or two & I photographed some anemonies F32, 8secs INF. Evans & I then tried the Wild Duck that was sitting. I moved the branches away while Evans took a photo and then I took a stereo F16, 10secs INF, and afterwards Salmon took a half plate of her. The other Wild Duck with 4 eggs has only 3 now. Took the eggs and landed on No.1 to put them under the Aylesbury Duck there. This nest has been robbed by rats (?) and only one egg remains. Put them in the nest, and left landing below Long-tailed Tits nest which we took a look at. No eggs yet but fully lined. In the afternoon Evans & I started for Cog Moors to see if we could find anymore Lapwing nests. Found 3 more, one with 4, one with 3, and one with 1 egg. Put up heaps of stuff by 3 of the nests to prepare the birds for the camera tomorrow.
	At the end of the diary it says " Entered 15/9/19"

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Subject	Negative No.	Price
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