

Ingram NOTES No 7 July 16<sup>th</sup> 1922 – April 5<sup>th</sup> 1925

1922

July 16

M. called for me in his car at 8.00 AM, & we set off for Kenfig & the Merlins. As we neared the nest the adults were soon in evidence uttering their alarm notes. Only the smallest youngster was to be seen near the nest hollow, the others were scattered around at the foot of the dune. Collected them & restored them to the nest. Shut up M. in the "hide" & left. Explored the dunes on the south used by the birds & found the fresh body of a young Linnet on one, partially plucked. Also among very numerous feathers identified with certainty, young Blackbird, male Wheatear, Meadow Pipit, & Song Thrush.

Went on to the dunes by the shore & watched the Merlins through my glasses. They spent a lot of time sitting on the top of various dunes & I did not see either visit the nest. At the end of 2 hours went to the "hide" to find that the birds had not been back. Left M. inside & went & had my lunch. On my return found the female had just returned & fed the young. I changed places with M. & waited. The young got restless & eventually all wandered over the edge of the dune. One or two of them returned at various intervals. They got very excited when the female uttered a long drawn call of one note that sounded like "eeep" evidently the food call & the first time I have heard it used.

Eventually she returned to the nest carrying a partially plucked bird. Only one youngster was there to welcome her, but the others speedily turned up & gathered around in a half circle chuckling horsly as she fed them & closing in on her until she had not room to move & had to change her position. After the meal the youngsters all wandered off again out of sight & nothing more was seen of them or the adults until M. turned up at 3.00 PM to take his second turn.

Shut him up & left, taking a walk across the dunes to the shore & then across to the old nesting site by the river. Returned to hide at 4.45 & released M. The female had been back once only & fed the young. We took some photos of the young & left.

Examined the remains of the gull I discovered last week. Undoubtedly it is a Kittiwake. Find primary outer web black all along. No white tips to first 5. Rudimentary hind toe. Bill yellowish green, with bright orange inside, legs & feet black.

July 22

M. & I started from the Docks in his car at 12.45 AM, & round & ran down to Kenfig to see if the Merlins were still about. As we neared the nest the adults greeted us as usual when we were a considerable distance away. Found the nest empty & looking unused for a considerable time. The summit of the "hide" seems to have been used as a perch down being plentifully scattered about, also the neighbouring dunes. A search ended in finding the youngsters, all four, at the western end of the ridge nearly 100 yards from the nest. Three could fly strongly & left as we approached, the youngest remaining until we were some few feet away. Then he also launched himself into mid air & flew well, right across the valley bringing up with a bump on the sand slope on the other side. They left behind a Juvenile Linnet intact & unplucked & a partially plucked Meadow Pipit with head, also various other "remains", including those of a Wheatear & Yellowhammer.

Decided to try & stalk one of the youngsters who was sitting on the extreme west tip of the ridge. We first of all caught after a short chase the youngest, & replaced him by the leader after which M. took the camera & stalked his brother securing 3 snaps without

	<p>disturbing him. I then took a turn &amp; secured two. Decided to try &amp; take him "taking off", so M. took the camera &amp; I made a detour coming up on the far side of the dune &amp; putting the bird off, M. getting in a snap as he rose.</p> <p>Nothing more being possible with this family, we regretfully left them &amp; set off to examine the "dunes" used by the adults as perches &amp; butchers blocks. Found on these the remains of Greenfinches.</p> <p>Decided to walk along the beach as far as Sker, &amp; this we did seeing as we walked along the edge of the water, that was nearly at high tide, a large flock of 50-60 Dunlins feeding &amp; two smaller flocks of 10-15, a small flock of 10-12 Ring Plover, &amp; 3 or 4 Kittiwakes.</p> <p>On the rocks of Sker Point of flock of some 20-30 Oystercatchers were sitting, &amp; further along a flock of about 30 Turnstones were resting accompanied by 3 or 4 Purple Sandpipers. Two Curlew, followed by 3 Whimbrel, rose, &amp; flew off. No signs of Terns.</p> <p>The prey identified at the Merlins are as follows:-</p> <p>Meadow Pipits.  Blackbirds.  Linnets.  Greenfinches.  Wheatears.  Sand Martin. (from a rump &amp; tail brought in by Miss Ackland).  Skylark  Ring Plover.  Yellow Bunting.</p>
July 24	M. reports having seen Bert Evans, yesterday, who was at Porthcawl during Whitsun & who visited Sker then & found 4 nests of of Lesser Terns & counted eleven birds.
July 26	Up at the Lake this afternoon with Louis & Noel, & saw the white "Swallow". It is really a Martin, a Sand Martin most probably, as it was flying with these birds & there were only one or two House Martins to be seen. In size it also agrees with the Sand Martins. It appears to be perfectly white & looks very queer in flight, & very conspicuous. Song Thrushes & Blackbirds heard singing.
July 30	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 7.00 AM &amp; went on to the Wild Gardens. Nothing on the lake &amp; no sign of the White Martin. Nothing of interest seen in the Wild Gardens so we went on to the Reservoirs. There were nine Gt. Crested Grebes on Llanishen 3 pairs, &amp; 3 odd birds. Saw some 10 to 12 Sandpipers &amp; identified two as Common &amp; one or two Green. The majority of the others appeared to be Common but we could not get near enough to them to make certain.</p> <p>Coming back we saw the White Martin flying backwards &amp; forwards by the bathing stage. Rain coming on it dived in among the foliage of the big ash tree growing North of the bathing stage &amp; we got a good &amp; steady view of it. The feet are feathered therefore it is a <u>House</u> Martin. The eye is dark &amp; the bill yellow. A feather in one of its wings is broken. It is perfectly white but not an albino as the eye is dark.</p>

August 6	Met M. at 7.00 AM & went on to the Reservoirs. The only birds noted there were 9 Great Crested Grebes, 1 Little Grebe, 3 male Pochard, 1 male Teal, 1 Lesser B.B. Gull, an immature ?Herring Gull, & several Common Sandpipers.
August 27	Met M. at 7.00 AM & went on to the Reservoirs. Birds noted there were 5 Gt. Crested Grebes, 1 female Mallard, 2 Lesser B.B. Gulls, 1 Kittiwake, 2 Black Headed & several immature Gulls, 3 Common Sandpipers, Grey, Pied & Yellow Wagtails, Linnets, Meadow Pipits, 1 Kingfisher, 1 Willow Warbler, large flocks of Sand Martins passing over.
September 1	Morrey reports 1 Swift, & several Turtle Doves at Sully on this date.
September 2	Went out on the lake this afternoon taking Louis, Noël & Geoffrey Long with me. Among the islands discovered a female Shoveler hard at work feeding & unusually tame. Got within 12 feet of it. It was using the up ending method of feeding. When I got too close it took to flight displaying a beautiful green & white speculum, & alighting again a few yards off. This is the first bird of this species I have seen on the Roath Park Lake.
September 3	Met M. at Fair Oak at 9.30 AM. We entered the Lake Park & cycled up to the top hoping to see the Shoveler but there was no sign of it. Came across 5 Teal however among the islands. 2 female & 3 male in eclipse. Also a pair of Little Grebes & one juvenile.  Went onto the Reservoirs & saw there 2 G.C. Grebes, 2 Herring Gulls, (1 ad). Several B. Headed Gulls, 12-15 Common Sandpapers, 3 Teal on Lisvane (1 female, 2 male). A large number of Sand & House Martins, & Swallows, 2 Wheatears, 2 Pied, & 4 Grey Wagtails, Linnets, Meadow Pipits, 2 Magpies, Green Woodpecker, Skylark.  In Lisvane water were two Sand Martins floating & drowned. We got one of these to shore.  Met Morgan who told us that he had seen a Cormorant of the 2nd on Llanishen.
September 10	Met M. at Fair Oak at 9.30 AM. Cycled up through the lake park but there was nothing of interest on the lake. Heard a Chiff Chaff, & among the firs at north end came across a mixed party of Tits, etc including several Gold Crests & 4 or 5 Long Tailed Tits.  Went onto the Reservoirs but only saw G.C. Grebes, 2 Common Sandpipers, Swallows, Sand & House Martins, Grey & Pied Wagtails, M Pipits, & Gulls.
September 17	M. being away I left the house at 10.00 AM & cycled up to the Reservoirs.  Only one G.C. Grebe there. Other birds seen were 6 to 8 Common Sandpipers, 1 Lesser B.B. gull (adult), 1 immature Gull, several B. headed gulls, 6 Grey Wagtails, 1 Swallow, 1 Sand Martin, 2 Willow Warbs, M. Pipits.
September 24	M. still being away, I left the house at 9.40 AM, & called in at the lake. Spotted a large bird that immediately dived, but when it came up I got my glasses on it & saw it was a Cormorant. It came right down the lake, mostly under water, & when it reached the boat stage it took to its wings & flew low down over the water, right up the lake again & alighted among the islands. I followed it on my bike & getting behind a tree watched it thro the telescope. The colour of the pouch was chrome yellow, throat & neck white also a large part of the underparts. This I could see when it stood up in the water & flapped its wings as it did, once or twice. The water being very shallow, its movements

	<p>when it dived could be followed by means of the ripple it caused. One of the Swans resented its appearance &amp; chased it about &amp; eventually it took wing again &amp; flew down the lake.</p> <p>Heard a Chiff Chaff, as I made for the gate.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs. The only birds on the water appeared to be two Common Gulls. As I walked to the Pump House, I spotted a Grebe swimming some 25 yards from the pitching &amp; saw at once that it was a Black Necked. Got the telescope on it &amp; confirmed that identification. The bill was <u>very</u> up tilted &amp; the eye well enclosed in the dark head cap, Iris red.</p> <p>The dark colouring was more of a brownish black than was the case in the others we saw here this year. The stripe down the back of neck was lighter than the cap. Cheeks white also front of throat &amp; flanks but much suffused with greyish. At nape &amp; upper side of neck appeared a buffish patch of colour.</p> <p>It struck me as a young bird &amp; on coming home I looked it up in "The Practical Handbook" &amp; found the above to correspond exactly with the juvenile plumage of this species. The only other birds seen were 1 female Teal, 12 Common Sandpipers, 1 Green Woodpecker, 2 Carrion Crows, 2 Lapwings, 2 Grey &amp; 1 young Pied Wagtails, Meadow Pipits, Herring Gulls, B. Headed Gulls, 6 Sand Martins.</p>
October 1	<p>Met M. at 9.30 AM &amp; called in at the Lake where we saw the first Tufted Duck of the season, a male with a fine crest &amp; yellow eye, but greatly obscured white flank. Also heard a Chiff Chaff &amp; saw two Swallows (juv).</p> <p>Went onto the reservoirs, but there was nothing much there. The B.N. Grebe had gone &amp; we only saw 10 immature Herring Gulls, 1 mature Lesser B.B., 3 B. Headed, 2 Common Sandpipers, 1 Magpie, 1 Jay, flock of 30-40 Lapwings, 4 Grey Wagtails, &amp; a few Meadow Pipits.</p>
October 8	<p>Met M. at 9.30 AM &amp; called in at the Lake. Saw 2 Swallows, but there was nothing else to be seen there. Went onto the Reservoirs where the following birds were noted (<i>ed nothing listed</i>).</p>
October 15	<p>Met M. at 9.30 AM. Made a call at the lake where 1 male Pochard &amp; 3 Tufted Ducks were seen. Went on to the Reservoirs where we saw the following species (<i>ed nothing listed</i>).</p>
October 22	<p>Met M. at 9.30 AM. Nothing on the lake but 2 Little Grebes. On the Reservoirs the following birds were noted (<i>ed nothing listed</i>).</p>
October 29 <sup>th</sup> 1922	<p>Met Morrey at 9.30.A.M. Very cold &amp; windy N.E. Called at the lake and saw thereon 3 Pochards ( 2 immature &amp; 1 mature males) a female Teal with them, and a mature female Goldeneye by herself near the islands.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs &amp; walked around seeing 2 Coot, a pair of Mallard &amp; a female Wigeon on Llanishen, &amp; an immature male Tufted Duck on Lisvane. Also saw a few Herring &amp; several B. Headed Gulls, 1 Meadow Pipit, 1 Grey Wagtail &amp; 1 House Martin. Saw a second House Martin as we passed the lake on our way home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oct</p>
November 5 <sup>th</sup> 1922	<p>Met M at 9.30 &amp; went on to the lake. Off the end of the bathing stage were 3 Tufted Ducks, 2 male (one in full plumage) &amp; 1 female. In shore near the large ash tree was a Goldeneye &amp; we got quite close to this bird &amp; were able to see that it was an adult</p>

female & evidently the same bird that we saw here last week. Further up below the islands six more ducks were seen, & these turned out to be 5 Tufted immature birds & 1 female Scaup. We very carefully examined this latter bird. The white ring at base of beak reached to eye-level & was very conspicuous. Two of the other birds had white on the face, but nothing in comparison with the amount carried by the Scaup. The head & upper body plumage all looked to be one shade of cinnamon brown & the flanks were very little lighter & much more finely pencilled than the T.D's flanks. The cheeks appeared to have a lighter patch of brown on each. The underbreast was the same shade as the head & neck, & the rest of the underparts white with brown splashes. The shape of this bird was also slightly different from the T.D's. The wing carried a white bar conspicuous when the bird raised itself & flapped its wings. At a distance it looked a lighter coloured bird than the T.D's.

Went on to the Reservoirs where we found a big crowd of Gulls on Llanishen, a couple of hundred at least. These were mainly B'.Headed with about 20-30 Herring among them, & also 4 Kittiwakes There were also a pair of Wigeon, the male in beautiful plumage, 4 Pochard, 3 male & 1 female, & 2 Coot. Nothing on Lisvane. Other birds seen were 2 Carrion Crows, 2 magpies, 1 Kestrel, 1 Kingfisher, 4 Grey Wagtails & 1 Meadow Pipit.

November 12<sup>th</sup> 1922

Morrey being in London I set out for the Lake by myself at 9.30. A.M. On the water were 1 adult male Pochard 1 adult female Goldeneye, 1 adult male Tufted Duck & 9 female immature female birds of the same species, also 1 Coot.  
Heard a Mistle Thrush in full song.

Went on to the Reservoirs where there was a big crowd of gulls 150-200 or more, the large majority being ad[ult] B.headed & the rest Herring with one or two immature birds. Among this crowd I spotted one that was darker than the rest & by carefully stalking got close enough to note the following. Size about that of the Black-headed. Beak flesh with dark tip, legs flesh, head & neck grey with marking as B,headed. Mantle & wings grey with a very pronounced mottled brown wing patch. Tail white & square at end



It kept to itself & was not as shy as the rest. I put it down as an immature Common Gull.

Other birds seen were 1 Kingfisher, 1 Magpie, 1 Pied & 5 Grey Wagtails, 4 Skylarks, 1 male Pochard, 3 Tufted Ducks, female or immature birds, & 12 Coot.

November 19<sup>th</sup> 1922

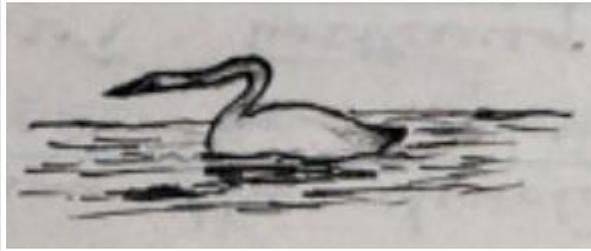
Morrey called for me at 8.45 A.M. & we started off for Kenfig. On Stormy Down we passed a female Kestrel perched on a gate post holding some prey in her claws. She did not deign to move as the car passed her.

Arrived at Kenfig about 10 o'clock, & we could see that there were a large number of birds on the Pool. Made a detour among the dunes & came up on the S.W. Ridge overlooking the pool.

On the way we picked up the remains of a Dunlin that had been killed & eaten by a hawk, most probably the Merlins.

Arrived on the summit of the ridge we soon spotted the Swans seen by Miss Ackland on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There were 2 adult & 3 youngsters & easily identified as Bewicks by the shape of the yellow patch on the adults beaks. Thro the telescope it was seen that the youngsters beaks bore a flesh coloured patch that reached the nostrils & was brightest near the base. In shape it was quite different from the adults, besides being longer. A man walking between the water & ourselves drove them out into the centre of the pool. When first alarmed the adults held their heads high with stiff & straight necks, but when they started to conduct their family away from the danger they adopted & kept a most

awkward looking pose all the while they were swimming



The young very much resembled young Mute in their plumage, only they looked a trifle lighter.

Other birds identified were 7 Goldeneye, either females or immature birds, 15/20 Shoveler, the majority females., Many Pochard., Many Tufted Duck but only a few of these were mature males., Many Teal., 15/20 Wigeon., Large numbers of Coot., Many Black-headed Gulls., Large flock of Lapwings, Flock of Golden Plover., 1 Heron. The only birds seen among the sandhills were Meadow Pipis, 1 Stonechat., 1 Skylark., 1 Magpie & a pair of Merlins. The latter & the Skylarks afforded us a few breathless moments as the female Merlin was bent upon its capture. They came across from the direction of the sea the Lark twittering in fear, & the Merlin silently intent upon killing it.

We saw more than 6 attempts but each time the victim eluded its pursuer by throwing itself up, down, or sideways just at the moment of impact. They rose higher & higher. Sometimes the lark gained a lead of several yards, & then the Merlin simply hurled itself after it, only to be defeated by a downward dive. The speed of the Merlin was amazing. Once or twice it "stooped" like a Peregrine when the lark was below it, but mostly it simply drove at it like an arrow. The male Merlin followed idely after, not making any attempt to assist his mate.

The lark escaped eventually by becoming mixed up with a flock of Starlings and the Merlin sheered off. Perhaps she was only playing, but it was a great performance.

November 26 <sup>th</sup> 1922	<p>Morrey being away for the weekend I set off at 9.20 A.M. for the Lake. The only birds there were a flock of 26 Tufted Duck, 2 Goldeneye both adult females I think, and 2 Coot.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs which I found covered with birds mostly gulls. There must have been at least 250/300 gulls the great majority Black Headed, with a few Common &amp; Herring Gulls among them. There was also a large group of birds near the S.W. Corner &amp; getting into the control box I had a good look at them. They were mostly Coot but Pochard, Tufted Duck &amp; 1 male Wigeon were also there. Further up was another large group that consisted of Coot, Pochard &amp; Tufted Duck. Altogether I counted 60 Coot, 40 Pochard &amp; 10 Tufted Duck.</p> <p>Had a good look at the gulls some of which puzzled me. Three or four could be picked out from the rest with ease owing to their black or dark faces [sketch here] and these birds also appeared greyer on their white parts. Beaks blackish red. They floated lower in the water than the crowd of B.Headed they were among &amp; looked smaller.</p>
November 30 <sup>th</sup> 1922	Little Owl heard early morning Amesbury Rd.
December 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1922	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 9.30 A.M. &amp; called in at the lake. On the water we counted 60 Tufted Ducks, 2 Coots, &amp; the 2 Goldeneye. Went on to the Reservoirs. On Llanishen were a big crowd of gulls again, mainly B.Headed with a fair number of Common &amp; a few Herring among them, and also 6 Coot.</p> <p>When we reached Lisvane we were surprised to find a big crowd of birds there for the first time since Sept. 1921. There were over 40 Coot &amp; the same number of Pochard</p>

	<p>and as we watched a Cormorant turned up and alighted. Other birds seen were Meadow Pipits, Magpies (3) Lapwings &amp; 2 Grey Wagtails.</p>
December 10 <sup>th</sup> 1922	<p>Met M. at 9.30 A.M. &amp; called at the Lake. There were a good number of birds on the water &amp; we identified altogether 67 Tufted Ducks, 23 Pochard, 2 female Goldeneye, 1 female Wigeon, 2 Little Grebes, 3 Coot &amp; 2 Moorhen.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs where we found 500/600 gulls on Llanishen &amp; 2 Tufted Ducks. On Lisvane some 50 Coot, 37 Pochard &amp; 1 Tufted Duck. Also saw Redwings.</p>
December 17 <sup>th</sup> 1922	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak 9.30.A.M. Mistle and Song Thrushes singing. On the lake 63 Tufted Ducks, 25 Pochards, 4 Coots, 2 Little Grebes, 1 Moorhen. Having my camera I tried a couple of snaps at the Pochard. The Goldeneyes appear to have gone as we saw no sign of them.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs. On Llanishen were 5 or 6 Herring, 3 or 4 Common, 20/25 B.Headed Gulls &amp; 1 female Tufted Duck. On Lisvane 60/65 Coot &amp; 6 Pochard. Other birds seen were a flock of some 20 Long Tailed &amp; six Blue Tits, 1 Grey &amp; 2 Pied Wagtails, 1 Green Woodpecker, 1 Carrion Crow, 3 Magpies.</p>
December 24 <sup>th</sup> 1922	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 9.30 A.M. Called at the lake &amp; found thereon 60 Tufted Duck, 40 Pochard, 2 Little Grebes &amp; 1 Coot.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs. On Llanishen were a few Black Headed &amp; Common Gulls, a pair of Wigeon &amp; 1 female Tufted Duck.</p> <p>On Lisvane 4 Pochards, some 50/60 Coot, &amp; 1 Cormorant. The latter took flight upon seeing us. It looked an immature bird &amp; had a white breast,</p>
December 31 <sup>st</sup> 1922	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 9.30.A.M. &amp; called at the lake. There were a flock of Pochard numbering 24 on the water and another of Tufted Duck numbering 50 also 2 Little Grebes.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs where we caught sight of a bird standing on the pitching?? on the far side. Thro the telescope a duck was revealed with a dark head, neck &amp; breast, a white patch appearing on the forehead. The rest of its upper parts appeared grey with white underparts. Set off to stalk it. We got nearer &amp; nearer finishing up within 10-15 yards of it. It was squatting on the pitching just out of the water &amp; preening itself. The head, neck &amp; breast was a uniform Vandyke Brown, a patch of pure white on the bill extending to the forehead &amp; narrowing as it reached the gape &amp; not appearing to pass under the bill. The bill was light bluish grey with a black nail. The eye, light &amp; bright yellow with a dark pupil. Mantle dark grey, Primaries black. Tail black. Rump black, flanks pale grey with a few brownish markings, on each side of rump was a white patch. When at last it rose &amp; entered the water the colour of its feet and legs was seen to be dark slate grey. It swam off uttering a couple of short harsh grunts like a Pochards. As it went it frequently rose on its tail &amp; stretched its head &amp; neck upwards shaking the former slightly but not opening its wings at all. We rose up &amp; it got up from the water heavily, scuttering over the surface before getting properly on the wing. It displayed a wing like a Tufted Ducks, narrow &amp; pointed with a long &amp; conspicuous white bar. It flew strongly &amp; swiftly. In size it appeared about an inch larger than a male Pochard &amp; of a slightly heavier build. We walked around &amp; put it up twice more. Each time as we neared it it swam off raising itself frequently as described, &amp; eventually taking to flight &amp; settling as far away as possible.</p> <p>We put it down as an "escape" but must investigate.</p> <p>Other birds seen on the reservoir were 4 Tufted Ducks (1 male), 4 Pochards, 50/60 coot &amp; a flock of some 15 Yellow Buntings.</p>
January 7 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>No sign of Morrey at Fair Oak at 9.30 A.M. So I went on by myself. A wretched morning, the first wet one we have had for our weekly visit. Called at the lake &amp; found a flock of some 50 Tufted Duck &amp; another of 24 Pochard on the water. Also 1 Little Grebe &amp;</p>

	<p>several moorhen. Went on to the Reservoirs &amp; had hardly arrived before Morrey turned up. Saw a bird over the far side of Llanishen so walked around to inspect. By stalking got close up &amp; saw it was a Black Necked Grebe. There was a considerable amount of dark colouring on the head &amp; neck &amp; the eye was well enclosed by this. The bill looked <u>very</u> up-tilted. It took to its wings when we showed up but did not fly far.</p> <p>Other birds seen were 2 Tufted Ducks, 3 Pochards, 50/60 Coots, Herring, Common &amp; Black-headed Gulls, 2 Fieldfares.</p>
January 14 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 9.30 A.M. Called at the lake &amp; found on the water some 40 Tufted Ducks, 6 Pochard &amp; 1 Coot.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs. There were 2 Great Crested Grebe on Llanishen, mature birds in winter plumage. A few Black Headed &amp; Common, &amp; 3/4 Herring Gulls. A Carrion Crow flew over and dived down at the gulls on the water, evidently in sport. They all got up &amp; one immature Black Headed started mobbing the crow chasing him around screaming at the top of its voice. The crow did not try to get away but every now &amp; then chased the gull in his turn. Eventually he gave up the sport and flew off.</p> <p>Other birds seen on Llanishen &amp; Lisvane were 6 Tufted Ducks (2 male), 2 Pochards (male), some 50/60 Coot, 2 Redwings, &amp; 1 Magpie.</p>
Jan. 21 <sup>st</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at 9.30 A.M. &amp; had a look at the Lake as we passed. There were some 30 Tufted Duck, 15 Pochard, &amp; 2 Coots on the water. In the Alders we saw a considerable flock of Lesser Redpolls &amp; on the islands 4 Magpies.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs, seeing a party of several Long Tailed Tits on the Llanedarne [sic, and corrected to Rhyd-y-penau] Rd.</p> <p>On Llanishen Reservoir there were a very large number of gulls, mostly Black Headed with a few Common &amp; Herring among them, also 1 female Tufted Duck, 5 or 6 Coot, 1 Great Crested Grebe, 3 male Pochard, &amp; as we watched a Cormorant came in &amp; alighted. He started to fish &amp; was soon successful for we saw him emerge with a fish as long &amp; thick as his head &amp; beak &amp; looking a good ½ lb. In weight. This gave him considerable trouble &amp; it was a fight to get it down. Managed eventually the fish appeared as a lump in the neck of the bird.</p> <p>On Lisvane were the usual collection of Coot, some 50 or so, 6 Tufted Duck (4 male), 4 Pochard, (all male), &amp; a new species of duck for the reservoirs viz 8 Shovelers, (2 male &amp; 6 female). These latter were asleep with their heads buried in their back feathers, but awoke as we watched &amp; swam up the reservoir to make up the leeway they had made, before burying their heads again &amp; going off into another nap.</p> <p>On the way home we saw a small party of Long Tailed Tits in the Recreation Grounds.</p>
February 25 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 10 AM. Walked through the lake park where we saw a few Tufted Duck &amp; a couple of coot, &amp; several moorhens.</p> <p>Went into the Wild Park. The magpies have been busy since the end of January demolishing their old nest &amp; rebuilding another nearer the path. They have about half completed the new nest.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs &amp; saw there a small flock of 10 Tufted Ducks all adult males, a flock of 21 Pochards, 5 female &amp; 16 male, about 30 Coot. A few B'headed Gulls, 1 Kestrel, several Yellowhammers. 1 Grey Wagtail &amp; a couple of Magpies.</p>
March 2	<p>Mr Grimes report a Chiff Chaff in his garden on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Miss Ackland reports 2 Pintail at Hensol, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> &amp; 10 Bewicks Swans on Kenfig, March 1<sup>st</sup> 7 ad. 3 immature.</p>
March 4 1923	<p>Morrey called for me in his car at 8.30 PM &amp; we set off for Kenfig to see if we could get some shots at the swans. Called at the Little Owl tree &amp; found one of the birds at</p>

	<p>home, but it flew off as we came near. Saw a large flock of Fieldfares, about 60 – 80, &amp; several Redwings, near Merthyr Mawr.</p> <p>Arriving at the pool, we spotted the Swans at the S.W. corner &amp; so set out to fetch around them. The pool is <u>very</u> full, fuller than we had ever seen it &amp; there was water everywhere among the sandhills. Quite the most extensive flooding we have known. Got around close to the Swans &amp; then proceeded to crawl up to some high &amp; isolated dunes near the waters edge. A damp &amp; difficult job but we managed it a length.</p> <p>There were ten birds three of them immature &amp; the rest adults. The family of five kept well together &amp; are evidently the same we saw here on November 19<sup>th</sup> 1921. They were all pretty suspicious, &amp; gradually drew off with stiff &amp; upright necks talking in notes that closely resembled the yelping of puppy dogs. We fixed up a screen of leaves on top of the dune nearest the shore &amp; Morrey put his camera behind it &amp; lay up while I made an ostentatious departure. The birds had withdrawn right up to the top end of the pool so I made my way up these to drive them down. I had just turned the top of the pool when they got up &amp; flew down towards the S.W. corner again. They alighted in the bay on the west side however out of range of M's camera so I turned &amp; walked back towards him keeping out of sight among the dunes.</p> <p>Halfway down I showed myself cautiously over the top of a dune &amp; they withdrew towards M. &amp; the camera &amp; were soon feeding right opposite him. I remained on the dune for over an hour watching them thro my glasses. The colour on the youngsters bills is turning yellow but is not so vivid or extensive as the adults. This means necks &amp; heads are still greyish. They fed quietly, up ending at times, at others simply putting their head &amp; neck under.</p> <p>With them were several Shelduck engaged in pairing &amp; continually chasing each other, taking to flight for a few yards at times, &amp; then dropping to the water again.</p> <p>Other birds in sight were a flock of some 10 Wigeon, 2 Shoveler male &amp; female, a number of Tufted Duck &amp; Mallard, Lapwings, Redshanks, a flock of Golden Plover. M. also saw a female Goldeneye.</p> <p>Changed places with M. at 1.15 PM &amp; waited for ¾ an hour securing 5 snaps when they came into range. It clouded over badly at 2 PM &amp; a little rain fell so we gave it up &amp; having had lunch among the sandhills set off for the car &amp; home.</p>
<p>March 11 1923</p>	<p>Met M. at 9 AM at Fair Oak, entered the lake park. The lake is filling up again but there was nothing of bird life on it with the exception of the semi tame Mallards. Explored two of the islands but found nil. Saw a single Long Tailed Tit on one but nothing else.</p> <p>Went into the Wild Park. The Magpies have removed their nest &amp; only the mud foundation remains at the old site. The new nest looks to be complete externally. The birds were hanging around but we did not see them at the nest. The Mistle Thrushes do not appear to have started building yet &amp; we found no nests of any description. Saw Tree Creepers &amp; a Carrion Crow alighted on one of the poplars in the wood. The Kingfishers were busy at their burrow by the bridge.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs. The only birds on the water were two male Pochard, 1 male Tufted Duck &amp; 20 Coot.</p> <p>Saw a romantic Long Tailed Tit on the Llanedarne Rd, &amp; coming back past the lake saw a Yellowhammer in the trees inside the park.</p>

<p>March 18 1923</p>	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak, 9 AM. Had a look at the lake &amp; found it nearly filled again. There was 1 male Pochard &amp; 6 Tufted Duck (1 male) on the water but nothing else. The Grey Wagtails were hanging about by the bridge at north end where they nested last year. Saw a Long Tailed Tit at same place.</p> <p>Went into the Wild Gardens &amp; had a look around. The Grey Wagtails were busy flying up to a hole under the bridge on the side opposite to last years nest. We found a couple of Songs Thrushes nests just started, but nothing else. Only the mud of the Magpies old nest now remains &amp; the new nest looks to be completed the entrance being on the western side.</p> <p>Saw a couple of Redpolls, also a pair of Bullfinches. The Kingfishers were busy about the brook.</p> <p>Watched a Tit thro my glasses at close quarters, that had every appearance of being a Willow Tit. The head cup was <u>dull</u>, even in the bright sunshine &amp; seemed <u>brown-black</u> rather than the bright blue-black of the Marsh Tit.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs. On Llanishen there were 2 Great Crested Grebes, 1 Cormorant, &amp; 1 male Pochard. On Lisvane about 20 Coot, only.</p> <p>The Carrion Crows have built a new nest in the wood nearest to Lisvane &amp; in a place where it seems possible to work them.</p> <p>Other birds seen were Yellowhammers (a small flock), Meadow Pipits 6 or 8, 2 Magpies, 2 Carrion Crows.</p>
<p>March 24 1923</p>	<p>Coming home up Bute Rd, dinner time a Lesser Black-backed Gull flew across from the dock, low down. The mantle looked intensely black in the sunlight.</p> <p>In the afternoon heard a Chiff Chaff in the park for the first time.</p>
<p>March 25 1923</p>	<p>A lovely morning with a soft south wind blowing. Met Morrey at 9 AM &amp; we entered the lake park. The only birds on the water beside the usual Mallard etc were 4 Tufted Ducks (1 male, 3 female) &amp; 1 Little Grebe in summer dress. Found a Mistle Thrush busy building a nest in one of the firs at the North end of the lake near the N.W. gate. Went on into the Wild Park &amp; immediately heard a Chiff Chaff. There were 3 at least in the Wood.</p> <p>Found a Mistle Thrush building near the Fish Ponds in centre.</p> <p>One of the nests found last week has been nearly completed</p> <p>Saw &amp; heard a number of Lesser Redpolls. Robins, Song Thrushes, &amp; Blackbirds appear to be busy selecting sites or building. Hedge Sparrows were singing from the topmost sprays of bushes.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs. 1 G.C. Grebe, 1 Black-headed Gull, &amp; 4 Coot were the only birds on the water. Chiff Chaffs were singing in the woods by Lisvane. Countless numbers of Toads were pairing in &amp; out of the water of both reservoirs.</p> <p>Birds seen were Magpies 2, Carrion Crows 2, Skylarks 2, Green Woodpecker 1, Mistle Thrushes 2, Meadow Pipits several, Pied Wagtails 2.</p>

<p>March 29 1923</p>	<p>Set off with Mr Jenkins, Mr. Williams, &amp; Mr Seward, at 12 o'clock noon, for mid Wales to spend Easter looking for rare birds.</p> <p>Raining most of the way but was fine when we reached Builth. Went on via Beulah &amp; Abergwesyn, for Llanwrtyd Wells. Reached the Grouse Inn, Abergwesyn at dusk. Saw a fine Kite there in a case a bird that had been drowned &amp; picked up dead. Down Cwm Irfon in the Moonlight to the Neauyd Arms, Llanwrtyd Wells, which we reached at 8 PM.</p>
<p>March 30 1923</p>	<p>Saw another fine Kite in the case at the Askemoel Hotel, Llanwrtyd Wells. Went in the car up Cwm Irfon to a farm a few hundred yards below the Grouse Inn called LLwynderw. Here we saw Mr Hope the farmer &amp; he showed us yet another Kite, a female that had eaten poison &amp; been picked up in a dying condition. It was set up very nicely.</p> <p>Went on in the car &amp; turned up to the left by the Grouse &amp; made for Llanerch-yfr. Found a Ravens nest half way up the valley but although I climbed to it I could not quite reach it either from below or above.</p> <p>It was raining hard all the time so we went to the top of the valley where we found a spot where the car could be turned &amp; then made for our hotel.</p> <p>Altogether we saw 1 Nuthatch near Llanwrtyd, 7 Buzzards (5 in Cwm Irfon) &amp; 10 or 12 Ravens. Saw a Raven driving off a pair of Buzzards in Cwm Irfon, literally hurling himself at them.</p> <p>The boy at the Neauyd Arms showed me a small collection of eggs he had made &amp; that included several Woodlarks.</p>
<p>March 31 1923</p>	<p>To Llandovery over the Sugar loaf, &amp; then up to Dovey Bridge &amp; up the valley of the <b>Tovey</b>. Here we saw 7 Buzzards in the air altogether sailing around over a rocky height. Altogether we saw more than 24 Buzzards that day &amp; several Ravens.</p> <p>Heard a Chiff Chaff at Rhandymoen &amp; were told of a Buzzards nest in a wood behind the school.</p> <p>Coming back we saw 3 birds flying together along the crest of the mountain. What struck me was their lazy looking flight &amp; the elbowed wing contour not unlike a gulls so</p>  <p>Could not get a glimpse of their tails but they were large birds &amp; I think undoubtedly Kites. We had been told by a post man at Dovey Bridge Inn that there were three &amp; he had seen them the previous day.</p> <p>Back to Llanwrtyd Wells in 1-15/60 hours.</p>
<p>April 1 1923</p>	<p>Into the Eppynt Mountains to visit Billy the shepherd otherwise Billy Boy. Found him living in a house on the top of the mountains. The place was called Taven-y-Mynydd &amp; had been an inn, where the drovers driving cattle from Pembrokeshire to London used to put up. The old road passed the door.</p> <p>He came &amp; showed us a Ravens nest in a narrow dingle. From the opposite side we could see the sitting bird. She went off &amp; then we saw the eggs had been hatched &amp; there were 4 young. I took some photos &amp; then climbed over to the other side &amp; eventually reached the nest. There were 4 young all blind &amp; naked. Their skins were</p>

	<p>black &amp; their bills whitish yellow. Curlew were everywhere on the moor &amp; their bubbling call resounded from all sides. Some were in pairs but we also saw a large flock.</p> <p>Saw a Male Ring Ousel in a dingle on our way back to the car.</p>
April 2 1923	<p>Up Cwm Irfon in the car seeing a Dipper on a stone in the stream as we went along.</p> <p>Left the car at Llywynderw Farm &amp; then climbed the mountain behind until we were over looking the Grouse Inn. Worked along the top to half way up the valley to Llanerch-yfr, seeing a number of Buzzards, Raven, Curlew, &amp; Meadow Pipits.</p> <p>Push up two Ravens from the carcass of a lamb a day or so old. It was quite fresh. The eyes had gone &amp; there was a hole in its back where the birds had been digging for its entrails.</p> <p>Found a Dippers nest near a waterfall, in a small cave like recess. Complete except for lining.</p>
April 3 1923	<p>Started back for home at 11.30 AM. Stopped at Builth &amp; I called on Arthur Brook &amp; had a talk with him. He showed us his camera &amp; some prints.</p> <p>On to Llangorse where we had lunch &amp; visited the lake. Numbers of G.C. Grebes, Coots, &amp; B'headed Gulls on the water. Some of the Grebes were in pairs. Heard a Sedge Warbler singing from the shelter of a thick hedge near the waters edge.</p> <p>Reached home at 8.00 PM.</p>
April 8 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 9 AM. Raining &amp; rather cold N.E. wind.</p> <p>Nothing to be seen on the lake but the semi-tame ducks etc.</p> <p>Heard a Willow Warbler at the north end.</p> <p>The Mistle Thrush (5) in the fir tree has completed her nest but there was nothing in it.</p> <p>Went into the Wild Gardens &amp; heard there several Willow Warblers &amp; a Chiff Chaff. Found a Robins nest with 4 eggs, (7) a Mallards with 4 in the wood. (9), a Blackbirds with 2, (8) very queer eggs, rough &amp; chalky, lumpy in shape &amp; pale green blue in colour without any spots.</p> <p>Mistle Thrush (6) has four eggs. As it had cleared up we went on to the reservoirs. 3 G.C Grebes, 10/12 Common, 3 or 4 B'headed, &amp; 2 Adult Lesser B.B. Gulls on Llanishen. Nothing on Lisvane, only a large flock of Sand Martins hawking over the water. Saw a male Sparrow Hawk dash from the hedge into the wood, also 4 Skylarks, 3 Carrion Crows &amp; 1 Magpie.</p>
April 15 1923	<p>Morrey called in his car at 9 AM &amp; we set off for Hensol via Rhiwbina &amp; Pentyrch.</p> <p>As we left the car in the Avenue by the farm we heard a Gt. Spotted Woodpecker drumming. We also saw a couple of Green Woodpeckers. Arrived at the lake we saw 2 male Wigeon, 1 male &amp; two female Teal, several Mallard &amp; 5 or 6 G.C. Grebes on the water. Flying over it were a number of Sand Martins &amp; 3 or 4 Swallows.</p> <p>The reed bed where we had the Grebes last year holds a Moorhens nest with 8 or 9 eggs &amp; what looks like the beginnings of a G.C. Grebes nest. Walked along the west side to the large reed bed there seeing a Mallard duckling as we did so. This reed bed</p>

	<p>contained 1 G.C. Grebes nest with eggs, &amp; the beginnings of what look like a couple more. We climbed a large oak tree growing over the water &amp; from near the top could look right down into the Grebes nest. It contains 3 eggs one looking very green in colour. A Little Grebe was also seen. Walked along to the end of the west side where we found another Moorhens nest with 9 eggs. We made a careful count of the G.C. Grebes &amp; found they numbered 6 pairs. On our way back to the car we saw &amp; heard a Curlew. A flock of some 20 or 30 Teal came down on the lake.</p> <p>Passing the Recreation Grounds of Roath Park we noticed a rook with a lot of greyish white feathers in its wings &amp; tail giving it a very striped appearance when in flight.</p>
April 19 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak, 6.30 AM, &amp; visited the Wild Gardens. Heard a Blackcap singing in the wood directly we entered, &amp; later on we saw two males. A pair of Mistle Thrushes have started a nest near the shelter in such an absurd place, we pulled it out in order to prevent the inevitable robbing &amp; in the hope the birds would now select a safer site. The Mistle Thrush 6, has been robbed &amp; the Blackbird 8, deserted.</p> <p>Saw a Brown Owl in the wood &amp; he flew off leaving behind a decapitated Song Thrush.</p> <p>Robin is sitting safely on 4 eggs. Found nothing else. Coming home looked at Mistle Thrush 5, but there was no sign of the birds. Saw a House Martin flying over Lake Road West.</p> <p>Half an eggshell was lying on the bank below the Kingfishers burrow, so presumably the young have hatched out.</p>

April 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 9.A.M. &amp; visited the Wild Gardens. Saw a Swift flying over the Lake. Took the ladder &amp; visited Mistle Thrush 6 to see what had happened. The four eggs were there but stone cold &amp; the nest deserted. Took the ladder to Mistle Thrush 10 found on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There is one egg in this nest &amp; the bird is sitting. Went on to the Magpies &amp; M putting on the irons climbed to the nest. Nothing in it but it seems to be complete &amp; lined.</p> <p>Found a couple of new nests, a Tree Creepers (11) in the old spot by the bridge, with 5 eggs, &amp; a Song Thrushes (13) near Mistle Thrush (6) containing young, also a Wrens (12) complete externally but unlined. The Mallard (9) in the wood now has 10 eggs &amp; was sitting tight.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs. On Llanishen there were 2 Lesser B.B. Gulls &amp; 4 Great Crested Grebes, also 1 B Headed Gull. Met Morgan who told us he had heard the Cuckoo on the 20<sup>th</sup>. On to Lisvane where we saw 4 Common Sandpipers &amp; a Sparrow Hawk.</p> <p>Went into the wood where the Crows have their nest &amp; M put on the irons. While he was doing so the old Crow went off from the nest. M climbed to it &amp; reported 3 young just out &amp; 1 unhatched egg. I climbed the oak tree near it &amp; reaching a spot that gave a fine view of the nest collected a lot of twigs which I made into a bundle &amp; secured to the tree. M. cleared the nest a little &amp; then went down &amp; climbed up to me bringing a little ivy which I laced into the twig bundle. We then left the wood finding at its edge, a Song Thrush on her nest containing young about a week old. Went back on to the reservoir &amp; walked to the end where it abuts on Llanishen. Here we halted as we saw the pair of Crows making their way back to the wood. Watching thro <i>[sic]</i> glasses we saw one of the birds enter the wood &amp; alight on a tree near the nest. The other circled around over the wood &amp; then flew off. The bird in the wood was evidently uneasy &amp; constantly flew from tree to tree, close to the nest but not venturing too near it. At last she left the wood &amp; flew down on to the pitching of Lisvane &amp; indulged in a bath, flapping about on the edge of the water. She then flew up &amp; was joined by her mate &amp; both entered the second wood, where we last saw them. We then walked around Llanishen seeing on our way the first Yellow Wagtail. Also saw a Grey Wagtail, Skylarks &amp; a Meadow Pipit.</p>
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	<p>Cycling down the hill from the house to the gate we heard a Tree Pipit singing in the trees near the gate.</p> <p>Visited Woods Covert which is greatly changed but we heard nothing of Grasshopper Warblers which we thought might have returned.</p> <p>Numbers of Swallows, Sand &amp; House Martins over the lake as we returned.</p>
April 24 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.15 A.M. &amp; made for the Crows nest at Lisvane. Passing Woods Covert heard Grasshopper Warblers reeling near the top of the Wood, also a Cuckoo. The Crow left the nest when we were about 20 yards from the tree &amp; we were glad to see that she had accepted our bunch of twigs &amp; ivy.</p> <p>Nailed a piece of wood to the tree to rest the camera upon &amp; added some more ivy to the bunch. The Crow kept an eye on us &amp; was constantly flying near calling as she passed. From the top of the tree we could see several gulls on Lisvane Reservoir &amp; identified 5 or 6 Lesser B.Backed &amp; several Herring.</p> <p>In the wood a Garden Warbler was singing &amp; we heard 2 or 3 more Cuckoos &amp; saw &amp; heard several Tree Pipits. Gt. Sp. Woodpecker "drumming" in the wood. Coming home past the lake saw 2 Common Sandpipers at its edge.</p> <p>Going to the office later on saw 4 or 5 Swifts over Oakfield St. Newport Rd.</p>
April 26 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.15 A.M. &amp; made for the Crows nest at Lisvane. Very showery. As we cycled along the road beyond Hilary Garden Village we saw &amp; heard half a dozen Whitethroats. Reached the wood &amp; got to the foot of the tree. No sign of the Crow, but I clapped my hands &amp; she sailed off the nest.</p> <p>Climbed up to our "bunch", taking the "dummy" camera &amp; some more ivy with us &amp; soon had this fixed up &amp; covered securely. We then selected a spot for the tent giving a good view of the nest, &amp; left the wood. Saw several Lesser B.B. Gulls on the Reservoir &amp; saw &amp; heard Willow Warblers, Blackcaps, Whitethroats, Cuckoo, Tree Pipits (one in Wild Garden) 1 Swift by lake, Swallows (2 over Amesbury Rd.), Sand Martins, &amp; Chiff Chaffs.</p>
April 27 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.15 A.M., &amp; went to Lisvane to the Crows nest. The Crow was sitting &amp; went off when we clapped. Fixed a hood to the "dummy" &amp; cleared some of the branches that stuck up between the camera &amp; the nest.</p> <p>I took 4 photographs of the trees showing the "dummy" &amp; the nest.</p> <p>A beautifully sunny morning but very cold with a heavy white frost. Whitethroats very numerous. On the Lisvane reservoir were 4 Shelduck &amp; there were several gulls on Llanishen.</p>
April 28 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M at Fair Oak at 6.15 A.M. &amp; made for the Crows nest at Lisvane. From the road we could see on Llanishen Reservoir 2 Shelduck, some half-a-dozen G.C.Grebes, and about a dozen Lesser B.B.Gulls.</p> <p>The Crow was on the nest, &amp; went off when we clapped.</p> <p>Tied down the remaining branch that sticks up in front of the nest, and put up my hiding tent at the selected spot carefully covering it up as much as possible.</p> <p>Cold &amp; bright with a heavy white frost. Tree Pipits &amp; Willow Warblers everywhere, also a Garden Warbler singing in the Crows wood. Whitethroats also numerous.</p> <p>Everything is now ready for a start tomorrow.</p>
April 29 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.30 A.M. Dull &amp; wet but with some indications of clearing up.</p> <p>Visited the Wild Park &amp; had a look around. Found a pair of Grey Birch moths on an alder &amp; took their photos. M.Thrush (10) safe &amp; sitting, also Creeper (11). Robin (7) has come to grief, one dead young in the nest. Found a pair of Chaffinches (15) busy building in the top fork of an Alder some 25 feet high. Also found a Song Thrush (14) in the wood with young about 10 days old, &amp; watched a pair of Gold Crests (16) very busy building among the ivy growing on an Alder.</p> <p>There were a large number of Swifts, Swallows &amp; Martins over the lake.</p> <p>At about 8.30 the weather improving all the time, we left &amp; made for the Crows nest via the Reservoirs. Found a Blackbirds nest with young about 9 days old, on a beam in the Hay shed below the reservoir, where we left our bikes. On Llanishen were 4 G.C.Grebes, in two pairs. Heard Grasshopper Warblers reeling in the open wood</p>

towards Llanishen.

Reached the Crows nest & were pleased to see the old bird sail off. M. went up the tree & fixed the camera while I sent the things up & then fixed the wire of the release & established communication with the "hide", also fixed up an indicator to run to the pitching of the reservoir to convey a signal from the hide when an exposure had been made. Had everything fixed up by 10 o'clock & M. having won the toss I shut him up in the "hide" and left at 10.15 A.M. I left the wood carrying my raincoat at arms length in the hope of deceiving the birds as to the number. Walked around Lisvane reservoir noticing that one pair of G.C.Grebes had come over from Llanishen & seeing some 5 or 6 Common Sandpipers. When I got to the pump house I dumped the stuff & as I did so heard a Sedge Warbler chattering in the hedge close by. Came around the end of the house just in time to see the signal disappearing from sight indicating that M. had made an exposure time 10.30, exactly 15 mins after I had left the wood. (F.11 1/100 sec. l'ford Iso Zenith. 700 H&D) This speaks well for our field craft. Took up a fresh envelope & returned to the wood, climbed the tree, changed the plate & reset the shutter, & then passed the "hide" & reset the indicator.

The Crows seem to have me spotted this time & I saw them several times flying around evidently watching my movements. Tried to get out of sight but there was nowhere to hide. Walked half around Llanishen until I was out of sight of the indicator. Heard what I took for warning calls coming from somewhere, exactly like a Ravens "pruck pruck pruck". Wandered around until 12.30 & still the signal was not made, so I decided to get out of sight on the road. Picked up the baggage & dumped it at the edge of the wood & then went to the "hide" & informed M. of my intention. Left the wood & walked across the fields to the road & was pleased to find I could see the signal from there perfectly while out of sight behind the hedge. While waiting I see a male & female Yellow ammer *[sic]* both carrying big beakfuls of nesting material.

At 1.25 the signal disappeared & I returned to the wood taking one of my envelopes with me. Climbed the tree & changed the envelopes, reset shutter & then M & I changed places in the "hide". M. shut me in & left at 1.45 P.M. At 2 o'clock one of the birds was seen in a tree near the nest, & reappeared 2 or 3 times. At 2.10 it came to the nest & had hardly settled when the other (presume male) alighted just over her head. The female fed the young & then appeared to be picking something out of the nest, evidently excrement which she swallowed. Both birds left together after a stay of some 3 mins. The male did nothing. Made the signal & M. arrived & changed the plate etc.

At 2.55 one bird returned to the nest and after feeding the young & removing & swallowing excrement, left after about a stay of 2 mins. 3 mins later the other returned & fed the young. I accidentally shook the small tree growing over the hide & in an instant the bird leaped around & lowering his head over the nest edge glared down towards the "hide" with the aspect of a fiend. Satisfied that all is well he turns again & feeds young & then hopping across the nest, leaves.

M. arrives & we decide to pack. Soon have everything down and leave at 4.20. While on the road M. finds a Linnets nest with 4 eggs, & a Mistle Thrush sitting on a nest in the Yew tree. Hear a Lesser Whitethroat singing by the little bridge over the stream.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1923

Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.30 A.M. & visited the Wild Park. Mistle Thrush (10) sitting. Song Thrush (13) has taken off her brood. Song Thrush (14) one fledged young one in the nest the other 3 gone on their travels. Tree Creeper (11) has hatched her eggs. Mallard (9) is still sitting. Robin (17) evidently has eggs & was sitting. Saw a Magpie near the nest, & found a couple more Wrens nests & a Song Thrush completed.

May 5<sup>th</sup> 1923

Met M. at Fair Oak @ 6.15 A.M. & proceeded to the Crows nest at Lisvane taking the hiding tent. Saw one of the adults before we entered the wood, & when we came within sight of the nest we could see the youngsters pushing up their heads hear them uttering all kinds of hoarse queer sounds. The adult was visible *[sic]* flying over the nest at some height. Put up the "hide" & afterwards looked thro the wood but found nothing.

	<p>Coming home across the rough field below the reservoir house we saw a male Whinchat &amp; heard him singing.          Heard a Corncrake at Lisvane &amp; Grasshopper Warblers in Woods Covert. The Garden Warbler was singing in Crows wood.</p>
<p>May 6<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.30 A.M. &amp; set off for the Crows wood via the reservoirs. A dull morning but likely to clear by the look of it.</p> <p>On Llanishen were 2 pairs of G.C.Grebes &amp; during the day we also saw 1 male Tufted Duck on Lisvane, and 1 Lesser B.B.Gull, as well as 1 Pied Wagtail &amp; a couple of Common Sandpipers.</p> <p>On arrival at Crows nest we were greeted by the young who are <u>very</u> noisy. The slightest row produces an instant uprising of three heads stretched up as far as their necks will extend, &amp; the gaping wide of scarlet coloured mouths, accompanied by a chorus of shaky, quavering cannons [? carrons ?] They also keep up a constant singing noise when at rest in the nest hollow. The cawing of the young can be heard a long way off, &amp; was clear from the pump house &amp; the road beyond.</p> <p>M. went up &amp; rigged up the camera while I set out the electric release &amp; rigged up the indicator.</p> <p>Having won the toss I entered the hide &amp; M. left me at 8.45. At 9.10 an adult returned to the left of the nest, without food. It simply looked at the young, walked across the nest where I snapped it en route ( f 6.8, 1/200 sec., Ilford Iso Zenith. H&amp;D [HoD?] 700.) &amp; flew off from the other side. A moment later the other bird appeared &amp; fed the young, leaving immediately.</p> <p>M turned up in answer to my signal, &amp; changed the slide, &amp; then took my place in the "hide" &amp; I left &amp; went on to the road. I only had to wait 10 mins, before the signal went, &amp; returning I found that both birds had been back again. I went up &amp; changed the slide etc stopping the lens to f8 this time as it was getting very bright. Changed places with M. &amp; he left me. He had hardly been gone 10 mins before an adult was back (left side nest) &amp; fed the young. I snapped, and after a look around she left, &amp; was immediately followed by the other bird.</p> <p>M. returned &amp; changed the slide &amp; I shut him up &amp; went off. The birds were so confident we decided to simply walk across to the pump house instead of going on to the road. I had hardly got to the pump house before I heard a great "Kawrrning" and beheld the pair of Crows flying high &amp; coming from the direction of Lisvane as hard as they could fly, Kawing as they came. Reaching the wood one of them dashed stright [<i>sic</i>] down at the nest tree, &amp; behold a robber Crow flew off from the top of the tree. The pair chased him all over the wood now low down among the trees &amp; now high up over them. He settled several times on various trees, three times on the nest tree right over the nest, but the pair literally hurled themselves at him &amp; he had to move or be dashed off. After about 5 or 6 minutes of this exciting buffeting he cleared off closely followed by the pair, who then turned their attention to a Kestrel which was hovering at a great height [<i>sic</i>] over the fields behind the wood. To escape he circled higher closely followed by one of the Crows the other flying around but not actually taking part in the fighting. The Crow dashed at the Kestrel time after time, but the latter easily avoided it by a quick turn &amp; mounted on outspread wings still higher. Eventually it sailed off &amp; the Crows giving up the chase returned toward the wood.</p> <p>M. soon after made the signal &amp; I changed places with him.</p> <p>Altogether we secured 9 exposures before 1 o'clock at which time we gave up owing to the lighting becoming so very spotty.</p> <p>During the last 1½ hours 11.30 to 1 only one of the adults had been returning to the right hand side of the nest. This bird picked up food from the fields just outside the wood, walking around finding worms &amp; grubs. It would then fly low over the ground &amp; enter the wood low down just rising enough to clear the hedge &amp; keeping low among the trees, gliding up to alight on the nest. There was no sign of the other bird during this period or up to the time we left, soon after 2 o'clock.</p>

	<p>At 1 o'clock we decided to finish photography, so left everything and walked over to the second wood to see if we could find the Sparrowhawk's nest. A male had been seen several times during the last few weeks &amp; M. had seen the female today.</p> <p>We soon found the nest, about 20 feet up the trunk of a large oak supported on a bunch of branchlets. It contained 2 eggs very finely &amp; boldly marked, one in the form of a central ring of blotches. Also found a Blackbird's nest with 4 eggs. On the root of a fallen Yew tree were the feathers of several small birds, Robin, Thrush &amp; Blackbird indistinguishable. This plucking stump was only some 10 or 12 yards from the nest of the hawk.</p> <p>Returned to the Crows wood &amp; packed up leaving about 2.20 P.M.</p>
May 9 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6 A.M. &amp; went to the field below the reservoir. Had a good look around but found nothing. Saw a male Whinchat &amp; put up a couple of Snipe from the bog at the bottom of the field.</p> <p>Returned to the Wild Park and looked around there finding a couple of nests of the Blue Tit &amp; noting the state of the various other nests we knew of.</p> <p>Saw a Spotted Flycatcher in a tree near the shelter.</p>
May 12 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.15 A.M. &amp; went on to Lisvane to put up the "hide" in the Crows Wood. There was no sound from the nest so M. climbed the tree &amp; was greeted by the 3 young with a chorus of caws. The old bird flew over the treetop Karr-ing with rage. I climbed to the "dummy" &amp; directed M. while he removed some of the leaf covered twigs that were screening the nest. Afterwards we put up the hide &amp; left.</p>
May 13 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6.30 A.M. &amp; made for the Crows nest via the reservoirs. On Llanishen we saw 4 G.C. Grebes, 3 Shelduck, 7 B. Headed Gulls, 1 Lesser B.B. Gull, 1 Common Sandpiper &amp; 1 Pied Wagtail.</p> <p>On reaching the Crows nest M. took up the camera while I set the electric connection &amp; the indicator. The Crow greeted M's appearance with angry Kars but soon flew off. The young are silent mostly only getting up with a chorus of caws if they think one of their parents are returning or if they hear a strange noise such as hammering on the tree or talking.</p> <p>M. taking first turn in the hide I shut him in and left at 8.30. He soon made the signal &amp; I returned changed the slide &amp; then took M's place in the "hide".</p> <p>Up to 1.30. we had made 8 exposures but the bird had actually returned about 16 to 20 times &amp; fed the young. I tried to take her nest cleaning. She pouches the droppings &amp; flies away with them. Arriving against the wind she walks across the nest &amp; departs against it.</p> <p>When there is anyone about close to the wood she keeps an eye on them from the top of one of the big oaks. Coming back from the west with the wind she circles the wood &amp; enters on its eastern side low down, gliding up to the nest as she reaches the tree. The youngsters crowd to the edge &amp; fairly mob her, giving her no chance to alight except at the extreme edge of the nest.</p> <p>As last week a lot of the food was obtained in the fields next to the wood.</p> <p>As far as we could see there was only one bird. The other seems to have disappeared or else keeps out of the way. Once I saw two, one having been watched into the wood, a second was seen flying along the edge of the next wood, but it may have been a strange bird.</p> <p>The wind was so high &amp; the light so spotty, we gave up at 2 o'clock. M. climbed to the camera while I put on the irons &amp; climbed to the nest. As I went up M. got 2 snaps of the young, rearing up &amp; calling as they heard me ascend.</p> <p>I was greeted at the nest by 3 wide open mouths &amp; a great commotion. A finger placed in the throat[?] induced violent efforts to swallow it to the accompaniment of many weird gurgling sounds.</p> <p>With difficulty I managed to get the two biggest into my pockets, &amp; descended very gingerly with them. They <u>are</u> plump &amp; pretty fully feathered, but cannot stand properly yet. Photographed the biggest &amp; then collected some worms &amp; a fat grub &amp; fed them both afterwards returning them to the nest.</p> <p>I took a couple of pictures of the wood, the adult watching me from the top of the tallest</p>

	oak.
May 19 <sup>th</sup> 1923	Left for a weeks holiday at Builth Wells, taking Belle & the children with me. Morrey came up on his car.
Brecks & Rads May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Up the Wye with Morrey & Arthur Brook. Found two nests of Common Sandpiper on an island, one with 4 & the other with 3 eggs. Found a third on the bank (mainland) with 4 eggs.  Tried for one of the birds on the island & got some photographs. Heard & saw Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Wood Warbler, Redstart, Buzzard, a <u>very</u> ragged specimen, Grey Wagtails with fledged young, Lesser B.B.Gulls. Found a Robins nest with eggs.  Rads. In the evening the three of us went looking for Curlews nest, & eventually found one at which we erected a pile of brushwood. Saw a Kestrel & several pairs of Curlews.
May 21 <sup>st</sup> 1923	Morrey & I worked the Curlew that proved to be a very easy catch. She came back quickly & I soon had a dozen pictures of her in all attitudes. She was constantly rearranging the grasses at the edge of the nest & adding others to it which she picked up from around without moving from her eggs. If a Carrion Crow passed over she crouched flat, while her mate would sometimes rise & mob the crow. Heard Turtle Doves & a number of Wood Warblers & M. found an empty but fresh Buzzards nest in a wood. Also another Curlews nest with 4 eggs.
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Brecks - To Buzzards nest at <i>[space left blank]</i> Found the nest with 2 eggs, poor specimens with faint markings. Bird was sitting & although we tried we could get no photographs of her. Rain falling heavily & a high wind. Got some photographs at the nest in the driving rain. Found a Carrion Crows nest, complete except a small portion of the lining, in a small mountain ash, also a Dippers with young. Heard & saw 2 Buzzards, Dippers, Crows, Curlews, Ring Ouzels, Whinchats, Herons & 4 Ravens.
May 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1923	Rads – Out to Black Yat Rads to try & find Ring Ouzels & Grey Wagtails. Found the nests but the young had flown from both. Found a Dippers with 5 fresh eggs, & hid up, but the birds would not return. Found an empty Ravens nest & two dead Ravens, adult, both shot. Found a Meadow Pipits nest with 1 egg. Saw Grouse, Ring Ouzel, Dippers & Grey Wags, & on a pond near the Forest Inn Llyn Hilyn where we had tea, B.headed Gulls, 5 Mallard, 2 Teal, 4 Coot & a Little Grebe. After tea visited Radnor Forest to look for Buzzards nests. Examined two empty but fresh nests, & from near one put up a bird. Found another empty Ravens nest & a Carrion Crow with eggs in an ash.
Brecks May 24 <sup>th</sup> 1923	Spent the morning tinkering on the car. Went to th B.H. Gulls, at Pwll Du, on the Brecon Rd. A good colony of some 200 or more pairs. Got a number of pictures. Found a Meadow Pipits nest with eggs. The gulls had eggs. Had tea with Brook & then the three of us started for Beulah to look for Pied F'catchers. Found one nest with 2 eggs & saw a couple of males. Also found a Jackdaws with young in a good place, & a Carrion Crows in a ash with 4 eggs. Saw Buzzards, & a Wood Lark.
Brecks May 25 <sup>th</sup> 1923	Morrey & I set off for Beulah to look around again & work the Jackdaws. Set up hide & M took first turn. I wandered around & found a couple more Daws nests with young & saw a couple of male Pied F'catchers. Had a turn in the hide & got some 6 snaps of the Daws. M & I had then had a look around, seeing a pair of Pied F'catchers & 2 more males. Found several more Daws nests with young & one with 1 fresh egg. Saw a Redstart, Buzzards, & Ravens, & M saw a Kite while I was in the "hide". Wood Warblers common. The Pied F'catchers do not appear to have really started nesting.
Brecks	Tried to locate Pied F'catchers in a wood near Builth but did not succeed, so went on to

May 26th	where the Irfon joins the Wye & photographed one of the Sandpipers nest on the Island. Found a pair of Spotted F'catchers building & saw a Buzzard.
June 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1923	<p>Went with the B&amp;G &amp; Photo Sections C.N.S.to Steep Holm in Tug "Beaver." Got there at 1 o'clock &amp; was soon landed. The first birds seen were Ravens, a pair with a couple of fledged youngsters. One of the latter was so violently mobbed by a gull that it was driven down into the sea and after it had made a gallant effort to reach land, was drowned. M recovered the body by swimming out a short way.</p> <p>We discovered one pair of Great Black Backed Gulls, one of the birds standing sentinel over the nest which was on a high rock at the foot of the cliff S.W. We got to this &amp; found 3 newly hatched chicks. Put up a hide at the only place available &amp; M took first turn. I wandered over to Rudder Rock &amp; got some shots at Herring &amp; Lesser B.B.Gulls. The latter have a large &amp; distinct colony just here while the Herring Gulls occupy the N.W. To N.E. Cliff.</p> <p>Took a turn in the hide &amp; soon had some records of the adult G.B.B.Gull. Took records of the young also the nest &amp; eggs &amp; young of the Lesser B.B. Gulls. The down of the young G.B.B. was <u>pale grey</u> with just a touch of yellow in one, while all the young we saw of the L.B.B. &amp; Herring were warm pinkish brown. The nest of the G.B.B.was also much larger &amp; the birds were absolutely identifiable at any distance. The notes of them were also quite different from the other gulls, a very deep &amp; gruff "how", "how", "how." Also saw Spotted Flycatchers (2), Blackbird, Wren, Robin, House Martin, Shelduck, Linnet, &amp; Hedge Sparrow.</p> <p>Found a casting by the G.B.B's nest that contained the leg bone &amp; <u>ring [?]</u> of a Pigeon.</p>
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1923	<p>Down to Kenfig with Morrey and Lawrence, the latter home from Canada for a visit. Tyre trouble kept M. at the car, and Lawrence and I set off for Kenfig river to look for the Merlins. Searched the usual clump of 'dunes' and soon disturbed the Male, while a moment or so later I flushed the female from the nest. There were five recently hatched young. Lawrence took some photos and we then went onto the shore and had lunch striking back to Maudlam and finding en route one nest with 3 eggs of B. Headed Gull. Saw many Redshank, also Shelduck, Oystercatchers, Ring Plover, a pair of Wheatears, 3 or 4 Snipe, 4 B. Headed Gulls, Lapwings, Meadow Pipits.</p> <p>Called at the Little Owls nest tree and found 3 newly hatched young on the ground at the foot of the tree dead. Also picked up the head of a Jackdaw which was lying by them. The young Owls were only recently dead, but the Jackdaw appeared to have been beheaded some days.</p> <p>The nest appeared to have been dug out and deepened considerably. No signs of adults.</p>
June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6 AM and we visited the Wild Park. Found two Willow Warblers nests both with young about fledged. In the wood a pair of Blackcaps were leading a family around and feeding them.</p> <p>M. climbed to the Magpies nest and found it unoccupied and only partially lined. We discovered another Mags. Nest in a tall Hawthorn on the west side of brook and this nest was in exactly the same state.</p>
June 10 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>M. called at 8.30 AM and we set off for Hensol. On the lake we saw five pairs of G.C. Grebes all with young (2 pairs with 2, 1 with 3, and 2 with 1) the ages of the young varied, some being well grown and others quite small.</p>

	<p>About a dozen Mallard were also in the water, one with a family of 6 tiny ducklings.</p> <p>Visited the Heronry where we found 5 nests all containing young, 3 nests containing 3 each the birds in these being fledged. The other 2 seemed to have smaller young in them.</p> <p>Found a G.S. Woodpeckers nest, with young ones. The constant chipping notes of the latter leading to its discovery. Near it a Blue Tit was feeding young in a bole in another tree. A Moorhens with 5 eggs was also found.</p>
<p>June 15<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6 AM and we visited the rough field below the Reservoir.</p> <p>Found nothing and saw there a male Red Backed Shrike, a Tree Pipit with fledged young, and a couple of Snipe that got up from the bog. In Woods Covert we could hear Turtle Doves and later on we saw a couple of these birds.</p>
<p>June 17th 1923</p>	<p>Morrey called for me at 7.30 AM and we set off for the Morfa ponds.</p> <p>Arrived there at 9.15. The only birds visible on the water were Mallard, 1 Teal, 1 male Shoveler, 3 Coot and Moorhens, as well as Herons, Black Headed Gulls, and Lapwings.</p> <p>Sedge Warblers were singing everywhere and we saw a couple of Reed Warblers as we walked across to the spot where we had found the Tufted Ducks breeding last year. No sign of this species either male or female.</p> <p>Putting on rubbers we were soon wading around and in five minutes a female of T.D. went up from a nest with 9 eggs. Near it, about 10 yards off was another nest containing 1 unhatched egg and the remains of others that had hatched. The reed bed this year is <u>very</u> wet and both nests had been built up from the ground considerably. Both were very slightly hidden.</p> <p>The bird with the eggs had covered them before leaving. Later on we found a third nest with 7 eggs about 18 to 20 yards away, and the bird that had hatched out was seen on the pond leading around 7 youngsters a few days old.</p> <p>Snipe were common everywhere but there was only one pair of Redshanks visible. A female Teal evidently with a family, played the lame duck dodge for our benefit, for some time and was vastly perturbed.</p> <p>Found a Sedge Warblers nest with 5 eggs. Reed Buntings and Sedge Warblers were feeding fledged young.</p> <p>Watched a Snipe drumming and it came so close to me I could distinctly see the outstanding feather on each side of its tail, with the naked eye.</p> 

	<p>Searched the reeds where we found the Reed Warblers nest last year and found a nest with 4 eggs, and near it a nest from which the young had flown. Both nests were built very similarly to each other with a mass of loose stuff from the bottom, and made of a great deal of green moss and lined with the dead stems of the dead flowers.</p> <p>Tried to get a photograph showing the eggs but it was built too high and the cup was so deep we could not get above it properly, so had to content ourselves with an exterior view.</p>  <p>The swans have a family of 7 youngsters.</p>
<p>June 20<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6 AM and we proceeded to Woods Covert to look for Turtle Doves.</p> <p>I found one nest partially constructed near the road. The bird was on and the other perched in the bush near. The nest is in a low birch tree some 4 feet from the ground.</p> <p>Hearing another bird near the centre of the wood we went and investigated and M. found the second nest neat the fallen Yew tree, built in a small oak also about 4 feet from the ground. This nest was in the same condition as the other, only partly built and the birds were in the tree one sitting on the nest in fact.</p> <p>Grasshopper Warblers 'reeling' in several places. Saw a Green Woodpecker and heard a Garden Warbler.</p>
<p>July 7<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 6 AM and went to Woods Covert to try for the Turtle Dove. The bird was sitting and we got the camera up and stalked her carefully, getting 3 exposures without disturbing her. (sitting on eggs).</p> <p>Heard a Grasshopper Warbler 'reeling'</p>
<p>July 8<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>M. called for me at 8 AM and we set off for Sker to see if there were any Lesser Terns there.</p> <p>Left the car among the dunes between Kenfig Common and the sea. Caught a couple of young Lapwings and after no end of trouble got some photographs of them.</p>

	<p>When they were finally allowed to escape, they ran off out of sight and it was interesting to note that even at their early age (5 or 6 days) they had acquired their parents trick of stopping every now and then a(nd) pretending to pick up something from the ground.</p> <p>Arrived at the pint of Sker we were greeted by the notes of Lesser Terns. We found there were 5 pairs there, and discovered 3 nests, one with 2 eggs and the others with 1 each. Saw a flock of Lapwings, a Redshank, 2 Cormorants, Ring Plover, and among the sandhills by Sker House, a Little Owl and a Stonechat.</p>
July 11 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at 6 AM and went to Woods Covert to try and experiment as the least exposure that would be necessary at Turtle Doves nest.</p> <p>The bird was on, and as we watched her, heads could be seen poking out from her breast feathers, so the young are out all right and look to be about 3 or 4 days old. (Hatched 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>)</p> <p>Exposed 3 plates. F 6.8 17" Telecentric. ½ sec., 1 sec., @6.8 and 4 secs F 16. Ilford Iso Zenith plates. Very Dull light.</p> <p>Put up some more bushes for a screen, and left.</p> <p>Heard a Lesser Whitethroat singing at entrance to wood.</p>
July 15 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 8AM and went on to Woods Covert to the Turtle Dove where M had put up a 'hide' on Saturday morning. Tossed for first turn, and M. won as usual. The bird was brooding and stuck it through all our preparations and was quite still there when I left at 9 AM. (Young a week old.)</p> <p>I wandered around for two hours during which time I came across nothing much of interest. The only birds singing were Yellow Ammers, Backcap, and Garden Warbler wile Turtle Doves were turring in several places.</p> <p>At 11 AM I returned. The male had changed places with the female and was on, but left as I neared the 'hide'. Changed places with M. and he left, but it was not until 2.10 PM that one of the adults returned. The young in the meantime slept and preened themselves. They are covered with yellowish down thro which the feather quills can be seen. At 2.10 one of the adults returned silently to the branch on which the nest rests, and then walked to the back of the nest where it stood looking around. The young craned against its breast trying to push their beaks into its throat. After a longish examination of the surroundings, the adult settled lower and taking the youngsters bills into its, one on each side, it crouched low and began to pump up food. Every few seconds it would pause and raise itself slightly, the young hanging down from each side of its bill in an odd looking way. It would then lower itself and pump afresh and so on, pause and feed, for some 6 or 7 mins.</p>

	<p>After the young were satisfied it shuffled over them and brooded with all its feathers puffed out and remained so until Morrey returned at 2.45 PM.</p> <p>He had found a Yellow <b>Ammers</b> nest with 3 young and it looks as though we could work it. The female was at home when we visited it, brooding the young.</p>
<p>July 18<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Left the Docks at 4.30 PM with M. in his car and after picking up the cameras went on to Woods Covert to try the Turtle Doves again. As we bashed thro the path to the Yew tree with discovered a Hedge Sparrows nest containing 1 egg.</p> <p>The Turtle Dove was not at home but the youngsters were safe. Their feathers are showing and the red brown of the wing is noticeable. (10 days old)</p> <p>Had the camera fixed and M. shut me in and left at 5.30</p> <p>The youngsters slept a lot but were constantly changing their position in the nest and often preened and scratched their heads with their feet and yawned. A young Robin turned up and perched on the branch in front of the nest and a Willow Warbler and a Blue Tit also came into sight.</p> <p>The most interesting event took place about 7 oclock. A big bird perched in the tree over the hide where I could hear it moving about. It eventually reached the tree over the nest where I caught a glimpse of it and saw it was an adult Jay.</p> <p>At last it flew down and alighted on the branch to the right of the nest where it eyed the youngsters, (who were sitting with their backs to it facing the hide) greedily.</p> <p>It hopped cautiously down the branch until it reached the nest and then hopped upon the back edge and I was just preparing to stop the murder of the innocent young Turtles, when they, feeling the weight of the bird on the nest and evidently thinking it was one of their parents, reared themselves up suddenly and so scared the Jay that it flew off. Later on I heard young Jays in the trees to the left and the adult must have hung around for when M. came along at 7.30 it flew off from somewhere near with a harsh alarm cry.</p> <p>I waited until 8 PM but there was no sight or sound of the adult Doves so gave it up owing to the failing light.</p> <p>When we prepared to depart we spotted one of the Doves sitting on a dead branch of the Yew tree.</p> <p>Feeding evidently only takes place every 3 or 4 hours, the parent collecting and digesting the food in the interval.</p>
<p>July 21<sup>st</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 2.15 PM and went on to Woods Covert where I was soon shut up in the 'hide' at the Turtle Doves nest and Morrey left me at 2.50.</p> <p>The two young are greatly grown and are well feathered (13 days old). Filaments of yellow down are still conspicuous on their breasts and heads. The black and white of</p>

	<p>the tail is conspicuous and the white underparts. The breast, head, back and wings were dull reddish brown with darker centres to the feathers.</p> <p>They lay still for interval of about ½ hour and then broke into a period of activity when they wandered around the nest, preened themselves, paying particular attention to the sprouting tail feathers, and stretched and flapped their wings vigorously.</p> <p>They also indulged in a game of nibbling at each others beaks, and always settled down side by side both facing the same direction.</p> <p>They are very active when they start moving about and the nest, which is in a filthy state, seems very much too small for them and had a bad tilt.</p> <p>Up to 5 oclock there was no sight of sound of the adults, but at that hour one began turring in the wood to the left and then, judging by the sound, it moved to the old yew tree. At 5.30 an adult flew down on to the branch beyond the nest and walked down to the nest where it was greeted by the two youngsters with wild flapping of wings and weak squeaks. The feeding business was much more <b>strenuous</b> that last time, the young standing well up on their legs and the adult also, and was accompanied by wild wing flapping. It looked more like a free fight than anything else.</p> <p>The visit only lasted 4 to 5 mins, and then the adult departed and the youngsters settled down to rest and preen again. Morrey came at 6 oclock and I came out. Photographic work was impossible owing to the rapid movements of the birds, the only chance being when the young were at rest.</p> <p>Morrey went to the nest to remove a leaf, and the young resented his intrusion with snapping beaks every now and then making a dart at his hand with their beaks. The smallest fell off the nest and when we captured him we took it outside and photographed it at close quarters sitting on twig. The eye is chocolate brown with a grey blue purple. Beak and legs light flesh colour.</p> <p>Replaced it in the nest but it fell off again and although we hunted for it for 20 mins, we could not find it and had to leave it.</p> <p>Grasshopper Warblers were reeling as we left and we also saw a pair of Nightjars.</p>
July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak. 8 AM and went to Woods Covert. Found the one youngster safe in the nest but no sign of the other (14 days old.), so shut M into the 'hide' and left him there at 8.45.</p> <p>Wandered around until 10.30. when I returned. M. called from the tent that he had seen the youngster on the ground and to keep a look-out for it. I had hardly gone (gone) on another 10 yards than I espied it in the middle of the path and just opposite the nest and promptly captured it.</p>

	<p>It was in a very bedraggled condition and had some skin wounds caused by thorns. We replaced it carefully in the nest and cleared off. M. to the 'hide' and I to the main drive.</p> <p>Half-an-hour later I heard M. hooting and returned to find that the youngster had fallen off the nest again. Put it back and left again but I had hardly got to the drive before I was recalled. The youngster had fallen out again, so we picked some birch twigs and stripping off the leaves, constructed a platform around the nest in the hope of keeping the youngster at home. Afterwards we replaced it and M once more hid up and I cleared off. The adults were near turring in the trees.</p> <p>I employed my time taking some flower studies, Rose Bay, Bramble, and St Johns Wort, and did not return to M. until 12.45 PM.</p> <p>The adults had not been back and the youngster had been safely kept by our defences.</p> <p>Decided to pack up and as we did so heard the adults near turring.</p> <p>They were both on the yew tree.</p> <p>Chiff Chaffs and Willow Warblers singing also Yellow Ammers but did not hear the Grasshopper Warblers.</p>
July 25 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Morrey called for me at 6 PM in his car, and taking Louis with us we went to Woods Covert to see how the Turtle Doves were.</p> <p>Went into the hide and saw that one of the youngsters was lying dead on the nest and the other was sitting on a branch above the nest. (17 days old.)</p> <p>Decided to do nothing so struck the 'hide' and cleared off.</p> <p>Wandered around and picked some flowers and then made for home.</p>
July 29 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 8 AM and went to Woods Covert.</p> <p>Found the surviving young Turtle Dove in the tree over the nest and by careful work got a camera into the bush near the nest and took some photos of him (21 days old.) Trying to remove a branch near him sent him off, so we went out on to the path and constructed a screen behind which we put the camera trained upon the old Yew tree the adults are so fond of using as a perch.</p> <p>Hid up in the bush and waited until 2.30 PM but got no luck. The Doves visited the youngster in the bushes to our left just before 11 o'clock and a young Sparrow Hawk perched on the Yew but was off before we could work the release. One of the Doves came into the low branches of the Yew, and stayed until we drove it off. About 12 o'clock the youngster was visited again and then it broke cover and perched among the lower branches of the Yew.</p>

	<p>The young Sparrowhawk returned and mewing fretfully hovered over the Yew as though it had its eye on the young dove. It cleared off however without alighting.</p> <p>No further sign of the adult doves and at 2.30 we gave it up and went to see if a picture of the youngster in the Yew was possible. Secured 6 altogether and then packed up.</p> <p>Heard Grasshopper Warblers, Willow Warblers and Chiff Chaffs, also Whitethroats scolding. Yellow Ammers, and a Robin attempting to sing.</p> <p>Hedge Sparrow is still sitting on 3 eggs</p>
August 5 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at Fair Oak at 8.30 PM and went to Woods Covert. Found the Hedge Sparrows nest deserted one dead young, just out of the shell, and 1 unhatched egg in the nest.</p> <p>Went across to the Reservoirs and had a look around. 1 GC Grebe on Llanishen and a few gulls. A number of Common Sandpipers around Lisvane and we fished out of the water 1 dead Coot.</p> <p>Went into the Crows wood and M. climbed the camera tree. He reported something dead in the nest, so I climbed to it after a struggle and found one of the youngsters. It was only bones and feathers so I fished it out and dropped it to the ground.</p> <p>We then went on to the S. Hawks nest in the next wood. Bones and down everywhere, and the nest was full of them and one egg nearly buried. Evidently the young had fledged and gone in safety.</p>
August 12 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met M. at 7 AM and went to the Reservoirs. A large flock of gulls on the pitching of Llanishen and we spotted 3. Lesser B.B. 5 or 6, Herring, and a large number of B. Headed.</p> <p>1 female Mallard on the water. B. Headed Gulls on Lisvane and some 15/20 Common Sandpipers on the pitching. Saw 8 Crows and 2 Jays, and heard a Ring Plover.</p> <p>On the fish ponds we found 1 female Teal and saw a juv. Turtle Dove in a tree over one of the ponds.</p>
August 19 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 7 AM and went to the Reservoirs.</p> <p>On Llanishen were 2 juv. G.C. Grebes., 1 Cormorant, 6 Lesser B.B. Gulls (adult)., Common, Herring and B. Headed Gulls.</p> <p>Went on to Lisvane where we saw 3 or 4 Common Sandpipers, 1 Green Sandpiper, 1 Turtle Dove, several Wood Pigeons, 1 Cole Tit, 2 Tree Pipits, a couple of families of Pied Wagtails, also very many Sand Martins in small flocks, Swallows, and a Kestrel. Willow Warblers singing.</p> <p>When flying the Green Sandpiper looks a very black bird with a very white tail with a black spot in centre.</p>

	Wings sharply angled in flight erratic almost like a snipes.
	Greenwich times follow.
September 16 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>7 AM met Morrey at Fair Oak and we visited the lake finding the following visitors. 1 male Pochard, 1 Coot (juv.), 5 Little Grebes (3 juv. 2 ad,) and 1 Common Sandpiper. Swallows and Sand Martins seen and a Chiff Chaff heard.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs where we saw 2 female Teal, Common, Herring, and B. Headed Gulls, 2 Common Sandpipers, Pied and Grey Wagtails, 3 or 4 Long Tailed Tits, many Linnets, Sand and House Martins, Chiff Chaff.</p> <p>Saw the Carrion Crows (pair) in the field by the wood, and several Magpies.</p>
September 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1923	<p>Out at 7 AM. <u>Very</u> wet and M. did not turn up. Visited the Lake but only saw 2 Little Grebes and heard a Chiff Chaff. On to the Reservoirs. A small party of gulls on Llanishen closer in than normal. Had a good look at them thro the telescope.</p> <p>There were 8 adult Lesser B.B's among them. The black of these birds mantles lacked any trace of grey and was rather rusty black on the lighter parts. Two had very heavily streaked heads and napes, and there were three others that showed hardly any trace of markings on head and neck at all. They struck me as all being specimens of L. f. fuscus, the mantles of all being dull <u>black</u> and not grey black. The black was quite as deep as that of the G.B.B.</p> <p>Walked around Lisvane but only saw 1 Common Sandpiper, 1 Pied and 2 Grey Wags.</p>
September 30 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 7 AM and visited the lake. Three Coot and 2 Little Grebe were the only visitors seen.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs. Nothing on the water and we only saw a couple of Grey Wagtails and one or two Black Headed Gulls.</p> <p>In the hedge near the gate Blackbirds, Thrushes, finches etc were making a fine row so we stopped and threw a small stone into the bush they were gathered around and out of it broke a Little Owl hotly pursued by the small birds.</p>
October 7 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 7 AM. As we pushed up the hill towards the lake a flock of birds flying high, due west, with laboured flight, appeared. We could see by their flight that they were Jays, and we got off our bikes and examined them thro our glasses. We counted 30 and there were others scattered in ones and twos, and altogether there must have been at least 40. Although there was no wind blowing their progress was slow for the amount of labour they put into the business of flying.</p> <p>Afterwards we saw and heard Jays all the way to the reservoirs, in two's, three's, four's. We must have seen well over <u>fifty</u> in the journey from the Fair Oak to the Reservoirs including the flock. Such numbers must surely mean a flock of migrants, of the Continental sub species. All appeared to be heading due west.</p>

	<p>Visited the lake and saw 1 male Pochard, 2 Coot, and 1 Little Grebe, also a Chiff Chaff and 2 Swallows. Went on to the Reservoirs but there was nothing there but 6 Jays (?Cont.) 1 Green Woodpecker, 4 Pied Wags, and a few B. Headed Gulls.</p> <p>Getting off my bike when I reached home I looked up and there were 2 more Jays heading west.</p>
<p>October 14<sup>th</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 7 AM. Called at the lake and saw there 5 Pochards (4 male ad. and 1 female), 1 Tufted Duck, (immature male) and 2 Coot.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs but only saw 1 Green Sandpiper, and a few Gulls and Wagtails, and some 4 or 5 Jays.</p>
<p>October 21<sup>st</sup> 1923</p>	<p>Visited the Lake with Morrey at 7 AM and found there 5 Pochards, (4 male ad. and 1 female immature) 2 Coot, and 2 Little Grebes. Saw a Stonechat on the rails about 4 yards from the Wild Park.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs and found there a large flock of Gulls, mostly B. Headed and Common, and among them 8 adult Lesser Black-backed. Some of the latter birds had very white heads and black backs.</p> <p>Walked around Lisvane and saw nothing but a few Wagtails, 1 Grey and the rest Pied. Walked around Llanishen and half way along the South Dam, was surprised to see a bird come up at edge of the pitching below us.</p> <p>It was a strange species and not at all shy but it dived again and we lay down and watched for its return to the surface. Some 45 to 50 secs. elapsed before it came up and it was then some 8 or 9 yards away.</p> <p>The shape of the head and bill and the all brown body and white marked face indicated a Long Tailed Duck. We watched it for some time and it dived repeatedly remaining under about 40 secs. each time.</p> <p>Thro glasses at close range the following features were very clear. Eye dark (?brown), bill short and bright blue-grey in colour, high forehead and flat top to head, tail shaped thus</p> <div> </div> <p>Top of head dark brown, white streak behind eye, brown patch on cheek, whiteish collar, body and wings uniform light brown. It opened its wings when diving, and these appeared very narrow and pointed. It brought up a large chunk of weed once and stayed on the surface some time disposing of it. From the colour of beak and eye white markings, we put it down as an immature male.</p>

October 28 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 7 AM and visited the lake seeing 7 Pochard, 2 Tufted Dk., 2 Coots, 2 Little Grebes, and a flock of Redwings.</p> <p>Went on the Reservoirs and there saw 1 Great Crested Grebe (immature), 1 Cormorant, and 9 Lesser Black-backed Gulls.</p> <p>Entered 12.12.23</p>
November 4 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Did not turn out early, but took Louis &amp; Noel for a walk later, after breakfast. We went around the lake &amp; saw thereon 14 Pochard, 4 Tufted Duck, 6 Little Grebes, 2 Coots, &amp; several Moorhens.</p>
November 11 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Morrey called for me in the car &amp; we went down to Kenfig Pool.</p> <p>There were a very large number of birds on the water &amp; under the east bank beyond the boat house we caught sight of 7 Swans, 4 adult &amp; 3 Juv. We startled these &amp; by getting behind a hedge were able to come within close range &amp; identify them without doubt as Bewicks. They were very suspicious &amp; catching a glimpse of us drew off &amp; headed across to the western shore.</p> <p>We lay down among the gorse &amp; bracken &amp; carefully examined the birds on the water. Pochard predominated, &amp; there were also large numbers of Teal &amp; Mallard &amp; Coots. Tufted Ducks &amp; Wigeon were comparatively few. We identified 6 or 8 Golden Eye all immature birds or females, &amp; also 4 or 5 Shoveler.</p> <p>A solitary black &amp; white duck caught our eye &amp; this turned out to be a mature male Long Tailed Duck in perfect plumage. His long tail was very conspicuous each time he dived &amp; the way he went under with partly opened wings was exactly the same as we noticed with the bird we saw on the reservoir on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>On the top of a sandhill on the opposite (SW.) side we spied a Peregrine Falcon sitting at rest. The telescope clearly revealed his black head &amp; moustache markings as well as the creamy throat &amp; speckled breast &amp; light yellow legs. A second hawk another Peregrine was perched on top of the bush growing on the high dune N.W. of pond. These birds were evidently a pair as we later saw the bird on the sandhill fly over &amp; playfully mob the bird on the bush &amp; eventually both left together.</p> <p>Also on &amp; around the pool were 2 Little Grebes, Black Headed, Herring &amp; Common Gulls, several Redshanks, 5 or 6 Carrion Crows, Lapwings, Meadow Pipits, a very large flock of Starlings, while in the fields below Kenfig we saw a flock of some 30 Golden Plover, 2 Magpies, 2 Jays &amp; many Rooks.</p> <p>We walked south around the pool finding on our way on the S.E. side a male Teal killed &amp; partially devoured by the Peregrines, a dead Black Headed Gull with its legs missing but otherwise perfect, &amp; on the West side only a few yards from the dune where the Peregrine had been sitting, a male Pochard plucked clean to the bones, evidently another of the falcons victims. Here we also found a very confiding Dunlin &amp; by stalking secured some snaps.</p> <p>We watched the Swans for some time &amp; noticed that just before they took to flight, which they did 3 times during the time we watched, they indulged in a conversation between themselves uttering peculiar grunting notes &amp; then suddenly taking wing.</p>

	<p>The two unattached adults did this first taking wing together &amp; flying around &amp; alighting again some distance from the family of 5.</p> <p>Then the family held a brief conversation &amp; took to flight, alighting again in the little bay on the east side where they had been when we arrived.</p> <p>Then the unattached pair, after a few remarks, rose &amp; joined the family again. At other times the birds were quite silent &amp; their notes clearly heralded a departure by wing.</p> <p>We returned to the car, had lunch, &amp; made off for Morfa Ponds. Found very few birds there. In the fields around saw Lapwings &amp; 6 or 8 Curlew, &amp; Pheasants, &amp; on the ponds and in the rushes 1 Water Rail, Snipe, 1 Jack Snipe. 12 Coot, 3 Pochard, 3 Tufted DK, 12 Mallard &amp; 3 female Shoveler, 8 Teal.</p> <p>At Laleston we saw a Little Owl, &amp; a covey of 11 Partridges 1 Kestrel &amp; a flock of Redwings.</p> <p><u>Note Long Tailed Duck</u></p> <p>This bird was only on the surface for some 3 or 4 seconds between dives, &amp; stayed under 30-40 seconds.</p>
November 12 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>On my way down Bute Rd this morning (8-45) A flock of 8 Swans passed over heading for the East Moors.</p> <p>By the way they flew &amp; their size they were clearly Bewicks. They were flying fairly low but no sound of wings could be heard.</p>
November 18 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at 7 A.M. &amp; called in at the Lake seeing there a flock of 100 Pochard, 5 Tufted DK, 2 Coot &amp; 1 Little Grebe.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs. Nothing but gulls on Llanishen. On Lisvane were 26 Pochard, 11 Tufted DK, 9 Wigeon 3(male) &amp; 11 Coot. We also saw a Heron flying across.</p>
November 25 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Morrey called in his car at 8 A.M. &amp; we set off for Kenfig Pool. Heavy frosts for last 4 days, wind N &amp; N.E. Very cold when we started &amp; heavy hoar frost.</p> <p>Blackbirds &amp; Thrushes very common on the Road side. Saw a couple of Kestrels Saintwell, &amp; a very large flock of King Doves at Cowbridge also flocks of Chaffinches &amp; Greenfinches.</p> <p>Reached Kenfig at 9-20 A.M. &amp; set out of reconnoitre. The shrill keck kecking of a Merlin from the dunes on the west side of pool attracted our attention. The Merlins shrill notes were mixed with the gruff kruck kruck, of a Raven &amp; we soon spotted the birds. The Merlin was putting the Raven through it, &amp; the latter had a job to dodge his nimble little assailant, who repeatedly dashed in or down at him.</p> <p>Eventually the Raven dived into a bush &amp; the Merlin sailed off, &amp; so did the Raven as soon as the coast was clear.</p> <p>The shallow parts of the Pool were frozen over &amp; on the ice below us were Lapwing &amp; Teal. We carefully scanned the water but found the Swans seen on the 11<sup>th</sup> had gone. Walked around the East side putting up 6 or 8 snipe &amp; 7 or 8 Redshank. On the water were many Mallard, Shoveler, Tufted DK, &amp; Wigeon, very many Pochard, Teal, Coot, &amp; B' headed Gulls, also Common Gulls. Eight or ten Goldeneye were identified &amp; they were very wild getting up &amp; flying off on sight of us. In the same place as on the 11<sup>th</sup> we</p>

	<p>spotted an adult Long Tailed Duck preening himself with tail elevated. After preening he tucked his head away in his back feathers &amp; went to sleep still with elevated tail.</p> <p>Walked around the pool but did not see any thing else. It came on foggy &amp; soon every thing was shut out, so we decided to strike across to Pyle brook which we did via the 1920 Merlin route. The only birds among the dunes were 2 Meadow Pipits &amp; Starlings. All the valleys containing water were frozen hard. The only birds seen on Pyle brook were 1 Redshank &amp; 1 Raven flying across. Went out on to the beach &amp; to the mouth of the brook. Low tide, dead out. Gulls were the only birds seen but it was so foggy it was impossible to see far. 1 Shelduck, Common Black Headed, 1 mature &amp; 1 immature G.B.B Gulls identified. Walked along the tides edge to within ¼ mile of Sker, seeing 8 or 10 Oyster catchers, 1 Ring Plover, 5 or 6 Curlew &amp; a small flock 20-25 mostly Sanderlings with one or two Dunlins with them. Struck across the dunes back to the Pool, &amp; then along its east side again. Here we saw 3 or 4 Goldfinches on the dead thistles, &amp; a flock of Golden Plover. Also 2 Pied Wagtails &amp; a covey of Partridges.</p> <p>Had lunch by the car &amp; set off home in a thick fog. Clear in several places, along the road, viz Cowbridge to Tumble, but Cardiff was wrapped in a regular blanket. Very cold &amp; raw.</p> <p>Entered 16. 12. 23.</p>
December 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1923	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 7 A.M. &amp; visited the Lake.</p> <p>3/350 Pochard, 20 Tufted, 20 Coot &amp; 2 Little Grebes seen.</p> <p>Went on to Reservoirs where we saw 40/50 Tufted DK, 30/40 Pochard, 3/400 Coot &amp; a Sparrow Hawk beside many gulls.</p>
Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Met Morrey at 9.45 A.M. &amp; visited the lake. 20 Pochard, 26 Tufted, &amp; 6 Coot seen.</p> <p>On the reservoirs were 40/50 Pochard, 20/25 Tufted, 50/60 Coot, Herring, Common, &amp; Black Headed Gulls.</p> <p>Miss Acland reports Red Throated Diver &amp; 2 Black Necked Grebes on Kenfig Pool Dec 9<sup>th</sup> &amp; Red T Diver &amp; 2 male Golden Eye, same place, Dec 16<sup>th</sup>.</p>
Dec 30 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Morrey went out by himself &amp; reports on lake a large number of Tufted DK, Coot &amp; 3 Smew.</p> <p>On the reservoirs, Tufted DK, Pochard, Coot, Gulls &amp; 2 immature Golden Eye</p>
January 6 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Morrey called for me in his car at 9.30 A.M. &amp; we made a round visiting the lake first. There were a large number of Tufted DK there &amp; some 6/8 Pochard &amp; 3./4 Coot, also the 3 Smew.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs &amp; found there Tufted DK, Pochard, Coot, &amp; Gulls.</p> <p>Made across to Hensol seeing as we entered the Park a Green Woodpecker &amp; a pair of Sparrow Hawks.</p> <p>Very large number of birds on the lake &amp; they were nearly all very wild. Identified hundreds of Teal, &amp; Mallard, the former being the most numerous. 30/40 Shovelers, well over 100 Wigeon, 3 or 4 Tufted DK, 5/6 Pochard &amp; 2 Coot.</p>

	<p>The Teal &amp; Mallard were the most wary &amp; constantly took wing to a more distant part of the lake. Also saw 1 Heron.</p>
Jan 13 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at 10 o'clock AM &amp; visited the lake. Large numbers of Tufted Duck, some 12 Pochard, &amp; the 3 Smew seen, also Coot, Moorhen, a flock of some 12/14 long Tailed Tits, &amp; 1 Gold Crest.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs &amp; found there Tufted DK, Pochard, 17 Teal, very many Coot, 1 Grey Wagtail, B Headed, Common, &amp; Herring Gulls, a flock of 20/30 Fieldfares, &amp; 1 Lapwing.</p>
Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Did not go out early, but took Louis &amp; Noel for a walk around the lake &amp; saw there 60/70 Tufted DK, 20/30 Pochard, 20/30 Coot, 3 Smew &amp; 2 Little Grebes. Miss Acland reports at Hensol on this date 1 Slavonian Grebe, &amp; 1 Gt Crested Grebe.</p>
Jan 27 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Met Morrey at 10 o'clock &amp; called at the lake &amp; found there 100/120 Tufted Dk, 10 Pochard, 3 Smew, 20/25 Coot &amp; 2 Little Grebes. The lake is being drained.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs &amp; found 20/25 Tufted DK, 5 Pochard, 100/120 Coot, Common &amp; B.H Gulls, 1 Grey &amp; 1 Pied Wagtail.</p>
Febryuary 10 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak &amp; called at lake which we found drained. Only Coot &amp; Moorhen to be seen on the mud. Chaffinches &amp; Hedge Sparrows singing.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs where we saw 45 Tufted DK, 12 Pochard, 3 Smew (immature or female), presumably the ones that were seen on the lake before it was drained, 60/80 Coot, 1 Grey Wagtail, Lapwings (a flock), Herring Common, &amp; B. Headed Gulls.</p>
Fen 17 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Met Morrey at 10. A.M. The lake is dry so did not call there.</p> <p>On the Reservoirs were the usual gulls, a very large flock Common, Black Headed, &amp; Herring, 70/80 Coot, 40/50 Tufted DK, 12 Pochard, 1 Great Crested Grebe, 1 Black Necked Grebe, 1 Grey &amp; 1 Pied Wagtails, &amp; Meadow Pipits in pairs.</p> <p>The Black Necked Grebe puzzled us a bit as the bill was not so pronouncably upturned as in the other birds we have seen, but the eye was well surrounded by black, &amp; the size was too small for the Slavonians.</p>
February 24 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at 10. A.M. The lake is out although there is now a small pool at South end. Only Coot &amp; one Black Headed Gull seen there.</p> <p>Went on to the reservoirs &amp; found there 40/50 Coot, 30/40 Tufted DK, 10/12 Pochard, 1 great Crested &amp; 2 Black Necked Grebes, 1 Lesser B. Backed Gull, Common, Herring, &amp; Black Headed Gulls, Pair of Grey Wagtails, 1 Pied Wagtail, Meadow Pipits. Skylark singing.</p> <p>One of the Black Necked Grebes had a well pronounced up tilted bill &amp; in both birds the black cap came well down over the eye.</p> <p>We watched them for a considerable time &amp; they kept close together. A number of fishes were caught by them &amp; brought to the surface to be disposed of. The successful fisherman was usually worried by the unsuccessful who swimming up to within a foot or two, would dive &amp; come up alongside the bird that was trying to gulp down its catch.</p>

<p>March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1924</p>	<p>Morrey called for me at 8.30 A.M. in his car &amp; we visited the reservoirs first of all. Passing the lake we noted a large flock of Gulls on the pool of water under the dam, the first time we had seen such numbers on the lake. They were nearly all Black Headed.</p> <p>There had been a slight fall of snow during the night, about ½ an inch. Redwings were common everywhere.</p> <p>Arrived at the reservoirs we noted a few Gulls, Blach Headed &amp; Common, the two Black Necked Grebes, 1 G C Grebe, 10 Pochard &amp; some 40 Tufted DK, 40/50 Coot &amp; a couple of Grey Wagtails.</p> <p>Made for Hensol seeing on the way Redwings everywhere, a flock of Golden plover near the Common, Whitchurch, two Green Woodpeckers, one at                      and one near Miskin Manor where we also saw 5 Fieldfares.</p> <p>Arrived at Hensol we approached the lake carefully &amp; soon had identified large numbers of Wigeon, Teal, &amp; Shoveler, the males of the latter being about 3 to 1 female. Mallard in numbers, a few Pochard, and a fine male Pintail the only one on the lake, also 3 Gt. Crested Grebes.</p> <p>Visited the Herons wood. There was no sign of any of the birds. On the pool there was one male Tufted DK, a couple of Mallard, &amp; a few Coot.</p> <p>On the way home we saw at Whitchurch again large flocks of Golden Plover &amp; Lapwing.</p>
<p>March 9<sup>th</sup> 1924</p>	<p>Morrey called in his car at 8.30 A.M. Passing lake noticed it was filling &amp; that a number of gulls were on the water &amp; on the bank.</p> <p>At the reservoirs we found the G.C Grebe still there, also the two B. Necked Grebes. Other birds were 3 / 4 Pochard, 30/40 Tufted DK, Herring, Common &amp; B.H. Gulls, 5 Grey Wags, &amp; 2 Pied.</p> <p>We were certain we heard a Sandpiper as we came out on the bank of Lisvane but an exhaustive search failed to detect it, although M walked all around.</p> <p>Went on to Hensol. The lake was partly frozen over &amp; standing on the ice at S.W. end were a very large number of ducks. We identified Teal, Wigeon &amp; Shovelers in large numbers, also Mallard many, &amp; 4 or 5 Pochard, &amp; 2 pairs of G.C. Grebes &amp; a few Coot. Nothing else seen on either the ice or the water.</p> <p>Built a hide on the N side at the W end of the big reed bed &amp; covered it with holly &amp; left it.</p>
<p>March 16<sup>th</sup> 1924</p>	<p>M. called in car at 8 A.M. &amp; we made for Hensol to try for the duck from the hide. Found everything O.K. &amp; as I won the toss I took first turn from 9.15. Waited until nearly 1 o'clock &amp; during that interval Teal in ones &amp; twos &amp; a couple of Wigeon passed by &amp; gave me a few chances. On the sound of the shutter they were up from the water like a flash.</p> <p>M took over at 12.30 &amp; I went off. He secured some half a dozen shots at Teal &amp; Wigeon.</p> <p>Birds on lake were Teal &amp; Wigeon, very many, Shoveler &amp; Mallard many, Pochard 7/8, G.C. Grebes 7, Moorhen and Coot.</p>

	Other birds seen were a flock of Redwings.
March 20 <sup>th</sup> 1924	M visited the lake & Wild Park this morning & reports on the lake 1 Lesser B.B. Gull also Common, Herring, & B. Headed Gulls. Mallards nests on the islands with 1 & 2 eggs. Magpies building in the Wild Park & a flock of Redwings.
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	M. reports very many Redwings & Fieldfares at Sully, also a Peregrine Falcon.
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	M. out on his own reports on lake, Few Gulls, & 8 Tufted DK, & in Wild Gardens a Song Thrush nest with 1 egg, & Mistle Thrushes building.  On the Reservoirs, 2 B.N. Grebes, 5 Tufted DK, 3 Pochard, & 30/40 Coot, 3 Lesser B.B. Gulls. Chiff Chaff in the wood by Lisvane.
March 30 <sup>th</sup> 1924	To Hensol with M. at 8.45 A.M. M. took first turn in hide while I wandered around & tried to drive the birds down to him. Saw 4 Chiff Chaffs, 2 long Tailed Tits, 2 Tree Creepers, Grey & Pied Wagtails.  Visited the Heronry & found 5 nests & put off birds from 3 of them.  Changed over at 1 o'clock & waited until 4 P.M. getting some good chances at Teal & Wigeon, & also a distant shot at Shoveler.  There were very many Wigeon & Teal on the lake & a number of Shoveler & Mallard, 11 G.G. Grebes, Coot, & Moorhen, also 3 Lesser B.B. Gulls.  Also saw a male Sparrow Hawk chased by a flock of Wagtails & Pipits, & there were a few Redwings in one of the fields.
April 6 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Visited the Wild Gardens at 7.30 A.M. On the way up saw 4 Lesser B.B. Gulls, Herring, Common, & B. Headed Gulls in Recreation Grounds, & on the lake 3 Tufted DKs, Common & B. Headed Gulls.  Put up a screen at Kingfishers nest site & M hid up while I wandered around. The Kingfishers are evidently sitting, also, Mistle & Song Thrushes while Wrens, Tree Creepers, & Magpies were noted building.  M got no luck so we gave up at 9.45 A.M.
April 13 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Met M at Fair Oak at 9.30 A.M. 3 Tufted DK on the lake. Chiff Chaffs heard in the Wild Park. Went on to the reservoirs & saw there 3 Coot, 1 B. Headed Gull, 1 Wheatear, Chiff Chaffs, Swallows, Sand Martins, Kestral, & one Curlew.  Crossed over to Woods Covert hoping to hear Willow Warblers but there were none there.
April 18 <sup>th</sup> 1924 (Good Friday)	Louis & I started at 9.45 A.M. & walked to Cefn On via the reservoirs & Lisvane. Heard Willow Warblers on the top of Penylan & saw a female Yellow Wagtail on an allotment. Just past Lisvane heard Tree Pipit singing.  On the reservoirs were 1 Coot, 1 Lesser B.B.Gull, & 2 B'Headed Gulls.
April 20 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Met M. at 9.30 A.M. & visited Wild Park. Heard & saw a male Blackcap, also heard a Cuckoo & saw a Swallow. Went on to the Reservoirs & found there 2 G.C. Grebes, 1

	<p>Coot, 5 ad. Lesser B.B. Gulls &amp; 1 immature, &amp; also 1 Common Sandpiper. Met Morgan who told us he had heard the Cuckoo on Sat. 19<sup>th</sup> inst.</p> <p>Crossed over to Wood Covert where we heard &amp; saw Grasshopper Warblers, Willow Warblers, Chiff Chaffs, 1 Tree Pippit &amp; 1 Cuckoo.</p>
April 21 <sup>st</sup> 1924	<p>Spent the day on Cefn On with Belle &amp; the children also Kathleene &amp; Geoff. Heard &amp; saw Willow Warb, Chiff Chaffs, Tree Pips, Swallows &amp; one Blackcap. No Cuckoo.</p> <p>M went to Hensol &amp; reports from there 20 Wigeon, 12 Teal, 6/8 Shoveler, many Mallard drakes, 1 Common Sandpiper, Grasshopper Warbler, 3 G.C. Grebes nests with eggs, 5 Herons nests, 2 Moorhens nests &amp; a Kestrels nest in an old Magpies empty nest.</p>
April 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1924	<p>M &amp; I started for Little Garth at 2.30 P.M. Searched for Jays nests but only found old ones. Saw a pair of Jays, 1 Brown Owl &amp; 1 Sparrow Hawk &amp; found the latters last seasons home.</p> <p>At 5 o'clock we headed for Llanwonno to look up the reputed Grouse moor. An awful place to get at. Went along to above Tylerstown &amp; Ferndale &amp; leaving the car on the road took a look around. Saw &amp; heard a couple of Curlew on a likely looking breeding ground. Also saw 3 Wheatears, 1 Kestrel, Lapwings, Carrion Crows &amp; Meadow Pips. Found droppings that looked like those of Grouse but found no birds.</p>
April 26 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Morrey went to Llanwonno today. Heard a Whitethroat &amp; saw it at Nantgarw. Met a farmer at Llanwonno &amp; was told by him that there are now only <u>one pair</u> of grouse on the hills around.</p> <p>The Curlew were still there, one pair, so they may stay &amp; breed.</p>
April 27 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Morrey called for me at 8 A.M. &amp; we set out for Hensol. Saw two <u>Swifts</u> as we passed the Wild Gardens. It began to rain heavily &amp; was coming down hard when we reached Hensol. On the way to the lake we passed a Keepers Gibbet &amp; hung up were 2 Jays, 3 Magpies, and 1 Rook. Went across to the G.C. Grebes nest where M. had put up the "hide" on the 20<sup>th</sup>. A Sedge Warbler was singing in the reeds there. The nest contains 4 eggs. Still raining hard so we decided to walk around &amp; see if it would clear meanwhile. There is a nest of G.C. Grebes in the reed clump at S.W. end where we photographed the birds in 1922. The bird was on &amp; when she slipped off we could see there were 3 eggs in the nest.</p> <p>Walked around to the big western reed-bed &amp; found there 2 more nests one containing 3 eggs &amp; the other covered. The little reed-bed further north on the same side held one nest with 4 eggs, so there are altogether 5 pairs breeding this season. Found a Moorhens nest with 9 eggs on the fallen willow.</p> <p>Walked back seeing on our way 2 House Martins among the numerous Sand Martins &amp; Swallows flying over the lake. At the gate to the path between the lake &amp; small pond, M spotted a small bird among the lower branches of the larch clump there &amp; pointed it out to me. It was a female Pied Flycatcher &amp; I had a very clear view of it a little later on.</p> <p>Still raining heavier than ever. Walked up to the Herons wood &amp; visited the firs where the Kestrels were hanging around on the 20<sup>th</sup>. No sign of them. At 11 o'clock we were both pretty wet so we returned to the bridge over the stream at S.W. end of lake &amp; took possession of one of the dry arches where we lit a fire &amp; tried to dry ourselves a little.</p>

	<p>Had lunch, &amp; as the rain had eased &amp; there were dry intervals I decided to try for the Grebes, so fetched my camera &amp; was soon hidden up. (1 P.M.)</p> <p>The birds were soon back but very shy of coming into the open water. The female kept hanging around &amp; then turning tail with loud <b>kurwns</b> &amp; making for the male who was swimming well out in the lake. She returned accompanied by him &amp; both swam right up to the nest. The male then swam off &amp; the female immediately did the same. Three times this happened &amp; they returned for the fourth. This time she jumped on to the nest &amp; started to uncover the eggs, &amp; seeing her apparently settled, the male swam off. Directly she saw him going she slid off the nest &amp; followed him. They were back in 5 mins, &amp; female swam right up &amp; jumped on the male remaining alongside the nest. This time she settled down &amp; the male swam off leaving her there. After giving her 15 mins to get back her confidence &amp; started photographic operations &amp; soon had made several exposures. M. returned about 4 o'clock &amp; as the wind had then sprung up &amp; was blowing half a gale, rocking the nest in an alarming manner we decided to pack up.</p> <p>Saw several more Swifts &amp; 2 Whitethroats. No Shoveler on the lake &amp; only 6 or 8 Wigeon, about 7 or 8 pairs of Teal, &amp; a few male Mallards.</p>
<p>May 4<sup>th</sup> 1924</p>	<p>Started with M. at 8 A.M. for Hensol. Found on arrival that the Moorhen eggs had been taken from the nest where we had erected the "hide".</p> <p>Went on to the G.C. Grebes nest only to find that it had completely disappeared apparently having been washed to pieces by the gale of the night of Apl 27/28. The hide had also been blown flat.</p> <p>Walked around the lake &amp; saw 1 male Wigeon, 2 Teal male &amp; female, 12 Mallard all males, &amp; 1 Coot. One of the G.C. Grebes had hatched &amp; the old birds had a couple of young on their back. There were 3 nests still with eggs. Found two more Moorhens nests with eggs.</p> <p>Went into the Rockery wood on top of the hill to look for Wood Pigeons. Found a Jackdaws nest with 4 eggs, &amp; discovered the body of a fine dog Fox only recently dead apparently poisoned. We carted it to the car wrapped up in one of the hides &amp; stowed it away.</p> <p>Heard a Wood Warbler &amp; also saw or heard the following migrants. Swifts, Swallows, House Martins collecting mud, Chiff Chaff, Willow Warbler, Blackcaps, Sedge Warbler, Whitethroat, Tree Pipit, Cuckoo, &amp; 1 Common Sandpiper.</p> <p>N.B. The fox turns out to be an interesting spec. No black on ears, tail, or paws, &amp; very light all over.</p>
<p>May 18<sup>th</sup> 1924</p>	<p>Set out with M at 8 P.M. &amp; called at Southerndown to look up Peregrine M. had seen there on 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>A nice colony of Herring Gulls nesting (eggs) &amp; also saw one Lesser B.B Gull. The Peregrine dashed out with a pigeon in her talons which she dropped when mobbed by the gulls. Her right wing is very ragged, &amp; later her mate turned up, a very small bird. Could not make out any trace of a nest although we searched carefully.</p> <p>Jackdaws &amp; Rock Pipits also nesting here.</p> <p>Went on to Kenfig seeing on Primrose Hill as we passed a pair of Red-backed Shrikes.</p>

	<p>On arriving at Kenfig we were greeted by a pair of Stonechats that had fledged young following them around. Cut across to the Merlins seeing one of these birds &amp; also near the river Oystercatchers, Shelduck, one Partridge &amp; a male Nightjar.</p> <p>No trace of the Merlins nest so we made back for the pool seeing a Wheatear, Redshank, &amp; Lapwings &amp; finding one nest of the latter bird with 2 eggs. Shelduck &amp; Mallard on the Pool also on the edge one Dunlin was feeding. Heavy rain came on, &amp; we soon got wet thro.</p>
May 24 <sup>th</sup> 1923	<p>Went out with the B&amp;G section to Merthyr Mawr In a small fir wood at Candleston found some specs. Of Birds nest orchis also plenty of Tway Blade</p>
June 1 <sup>st</sup> 1924	<p>Started at 9 A.M. with M &amp; made for Southerndown. Very dull &amp; showery</p> <p>Arrived at S'Down visited the Peregrines. M went down one side of the Cliff &amp; I the other &amp; I spotted one of the birds leaving the cliff. Eventually we located the ledge but could see nothing because of the overhang of the cliff. Both birds were in sight &amp; sometimes include to be noisy as through the eggs had been hatched &amp; they had young. The hung high up over the cliff edge &amp; once when some Pigeons flew past one of the Peregrines dashed after them &amp; dropped at one. The other immediately took up the chase &amp; stooped at a Pigeon that was lagging, but the latter avoided it. The falcons seemed to be not in earnest but simply "putting the wind up" the Pigeons as neither took up the chase but returned to their favoured spot.</p> <p>Had a try at some herring gulls with my camera and got a few exposures.</p> <p>Went on to Candleston in the rain &amp; made some exposures on the birds nest orchids which are now full out</p>
June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Started with M at 8 A.M. for Gower. Arrived Llanmadoc at 11 A.M. &amp; immediately started across to Whitford Burrows. On the shore was a very large flock of Oystercatchers &amp; we managed to get fairly close to them &amp; secured some records.</p> <p>Found a Merlins nest with 5 eggs on a dune on the edge of the shore.</p> <p>Waled all around the burrows from one end to the other &amp; both sides but saw no signs of Terns.</p> <p>Came across some 6 or 8 Dunlin in varying plumage &amp; on the salt marsh to west a Redshank that evidently had young somewhere among the rushes. A small flock of Curlew was also seen.</p> <p>After lunch we made across for _____ &amp; came across a mass of Bloody cranesbill growing below Llanmadoc Head. Nothing but gulls were seen most of them with young.</p>
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Started for Kenfig with M at 8-30 A.M. Made across for the Redshanks site &amp; found a bird that evidently had young hidden there. Hid up &amp; after a long wait during which the Redshank kept up an incessant calling &amp; pretended to feed in various places we watched her to a clump of Dwarf Willow where she stayed although uneasy &amp; still uttering her alarm at frequent intervals. She appeared to be brooding or sitting. M left his place of concealment while I kept my glasses on the spot. The bird got up directly he appeared, but I guided him to the exact place &amp; then went across &amp; we spotted one newly hatched youngster crouching among the willow &amp; then found two more a foot or so away. Put the three into a cap &amp; fetched the cameras &amp; took some records. They could only be a few hours old at the most. The legs are very dull yellow, brightest on the feet.</p> <p>Returned them to the spot we found them &amp; made across to the Merlin's site M went across the ridge where they nested in 1922 &amp; was greeted by one of the birds that rose</p>

	<p>from a high dune across the valley S.S.E. where the <b>fencing</b> stands were in 1922. We found on going over 5 young about 14 days old &amp; were very pleased to see such a fine family.</p> <p>Continued over towards the beach &amp; on the stony valley below the Merlins nest found an Oystercatchers nest with 3 eggs.</p> <p>Nothing on the beach but an Oystercatcher brooding young &amp; a Ringed Plovers nest with 3 eggs. Struck back to the pool seeing a flock of 7 Shelduck. At the pool were a flock of 8 Redshank &amp; a pair of these birds that evidently had young. Also 2 Mallard Ducks with families of about 10 or 12 each. A pair of Partridge on the dunes, a Cormorant and a couple of Lesser B. B. Gulls on the water</p> <p>Young fledged Wheatears were seen among the dunes Only one aduly Merlin was seen &amp; it was very agitated.</p>
June 29 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at 7. A.M. at Fair Oak &amp; we visited the Wild Park. Found a Greenfinches nest with young nearly fledged &amp; a Moorhens nest with 6 eggs build among the tops of a Bamboo clump. Saw the Kingfishers &amp; Magpies &amp; heard Chiff Chaff, Blackcap &amp; Lesser Redpolls also Thrushes singing.</p> <p>Went on to the Reservoirs but only found 2 Herring gulls on the water. Aw 2 male Bullfinches a Stock Dove &amp; a Turtle Dove. Crossed over to Woods Covert &amp; discovered a Turtle Dove sitting on two fairly fresh eggs. A nice position but awkward for a "hide". The nest is some 7 feet up a small Oak tree &amp; the bird was sitting very closely. She only went off when we were within 5 feet of her. Yellow <b>Hammers</b> very busy</p>
July 13 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey in the morning &amp; went to the Reservoirs. Some 20 immature gulls at Llanishen &amp; the only other birds seen were a family of Whinchats, Carrion Crows &amp; Magpies</p> <p>Crossed over to Woods Covert, the Turtle Dove's nest has been robbed. A heavy shower fell &amp; made the wood like a shower bath.</p> <p>Found a Whitethroats nest with 4 eggs &amp; saw &amp; heard a family of Garden Warblers and a Nightjar, Blackbirds, Song thrushes, Chiff Chaffs, Whitethroats, Willow Warblers &amp; Yellow <b>Hammers</b> were singing</p>
July 27 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at 7. A.M. &amp; went to the Reservoirs 2 <b>adult</b> Herring Gulls on Llanishen &amp; several immature birds. Saw the Kingfisher, 12 Magpies, Pied Wagtails &amp; young, 1 Sedge Warbler (singing), Willow Warbler (singing), Spotted Flycatchers, and 14 Common sandpipers. A pair of Swallows building in the <b>???</b> of the first hatching Went for a walk with Belle &amp; the children over Pen-y-fan &amp; found 6 specimens of <i>B. perla</i> on a wall</p>
August 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at 9 A.M. &amp; went to wild park where we photographed a spec of the Broad Leaved Helleborine growing in the wood.</p> <p>Started to rain heavily but we went on to the reservoirs where we saw Sand &amp; House Marting, Swallows, Swifts, 6 <b>adult</b> Lesser B. B. Gulls 12 common Sandpipers &amp; 1 Grey Wagtail.</p>
August 10 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at 9.30 A.M. &amp; went to the Reservoirs. A beautiful sunny morning.</p> <p>1 Pochard, 1 Lesser B.B. Gull(ad) &amp; several immature gulls on Llanishen. Saw Swallows, House &amp; Sand Martins, Willow Warb, Chiff Chaffs, 10 Common sandpipers, 4 Grey Wags, Linnets, Magpies, Meadow Pipits and one female Redstart.</p> <p>The Swallows have 3 eggs in their nest</p>
August 17 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Very Showery. Went up to the Reservoirs at 10. A.M. 1 Lesser B.B. Gull ad &amp; 1 herring Gull ad on Llanishen also saw 1 Common Sandpiper, 2 Swifts, Swallows, Sand &amp;</p>

	House Martins & 2 Grey Wagtails
September 13 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Chiff Chaff singing in Garden Albany Road
September 14 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Morrey went around the reservoirs and reports 1 Coot, 2 Common Sandpipers, 1 Blackcap & 1 Whitethroat
September 21 <sup>st</sup> 1924	<b>Greenwich time</b> Around the reservoirs with Morrey 2 Common Sandpipers, 2 Grey & 8 Pied Wagtails, 1 Meadow Pipit, 1 Carrion Crow, 1 immat B.H. Gull 1 Immat Herring Gull 5/6 Swallows, 1 Sand Martin
September 28 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Hensol with Morrey. 6 ad G.C.Grebes & 3 juv, 20 Mallard, 1 male Pochard, Coot, Moorhen, Swallows, Chiff Chaff, House Martins 2, Long Tailed Tits several  Miss Ackland reports from Hensol 27-9-24 2 Teal & 1 male Shoveler & from Kenfig 28-9-24 1 Whimbrel & 2 Knots the latter not identified with certainty
October 5 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Out with Morrey 6 Pochard on the R. P. lake On reservoirs 5 Pochard, 1 Common Sandpiper, 8 Magpies, Jay, Grey & Pied Wags B. Headed Gulls 3/4 Long Tailed Tits  Chiff Chaff at Llanishen
October 12 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Out with Morrey 7-30 A.M. 6 Pochards & 1 Little Grebe on lake R.Park On Reservoirs 8 Lesser B.B. Gulls, 3/4 Common, many B-Headed, 1 Comm Sandpiper, Kingfisher, Grey & Pied Wags, 2 Coot Saw 5/6 Long Tailed Tits in Ty Draw Rd.
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	Saw 4/5 Long Tailed Tits flying over Waterloo Road into Waterloo Gardens
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Ackland reports from Kenfig pool, two pintail on this date
November 9 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Went up to reservoirs by myself. On the lake as I passed were 11 Tufted Duck & 20 Pochard. Heard a Hedge Sparrow singing  On the Reservoirs were 12 Tufted Duck, 24 Pochard, 30 Coot, 2 Lesser B.B. Gulls & I also saw a Snipe flying over
November 16 <sup>th</sup>	Morrey reports 20 Tufted Duck on Lake. On Reservoirs 40 Pochard, 12 Tufted Duck 5 Wigeon, 1 Mallard female, 20 Coot, B. Headed, Common & Herring Gulls. 20 Fieldfares seen & also in Woods Covert 1 Woodcock.  Miss Ackland reports from Morfa Ponds Margam 3 ad & 2 juv Bewick's Swans
November 30 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Met Morrey at 9-30 P.M. 50-60 Tufted Duck on the lake. On the reservoirs were 20/30 Tufted Duck 70/80 Pochard 60/70 Coot, B. Headed, Common & Herring Gulls
December 7 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Morrey called at 9-45 AM. & we set off for Hensol. On the R.P. lake we saw 40/50 Tufted Duck as we passed.  On arrival at Hensol we found the lake well stocked with duck all very wild however & getting up with a rusk while we were still a long way off. Got under the Beech tree at the S.W. End & scanned the water. There were hundreds of teal & Mallard but not so many Wigeon. We counted well over 30 male Shovelers & there were a number of females. Some 15/20 Pochard were also seen, a few Coot and 2 Great Crested Grebes. Walked around to the west side & had a look at our "hide" which we found O.K> but with 6 inches of water at the bottom. All the Teall, Mallard, Wigeon & Shoveler had got up at our approach & were circling high in the air in flocks of all sizes from 2 or 3 birds up to 50. Al at once they began to rush down to the surface of the water diving down for all they were worth at high speed with a prodigious noise of wings 7 we soon spotted the cause, a Peregrine circling above the lake & making sharp rushes at the flocks as he moved them. He would circle around & intercept a small flock & then pulling on speed dash at them. They would immediately shoot down to the water not <b>plancing</b> quietly down as they usually do, but hurling themselves at the water swerving & zig-Zagging as the Peregrine rushed into them in their efforts to dodge him.

	<p>He would shoot up again, immediately they touched the water and make as though he were going to fly off altogether circling back however before he had gone very far &amp; then putting on speed rush at another of the few birds that were still in the air. He drove the whole lot down eventually then flew off to the top wood &amp; perched on a tree below the Rooks nests.</p> <p>As we watched up towards the top of the lake the Duck got up again &amp; before long they began to rush down to the water for the Peregrine was at them once more. He hurled himself into the middle of a flock of some 50 teal &amp; the noise of their wings as they rushed down to the water was tremendous. He flowed them to within a few inches of the water &amp; then shot up again &amp; was not satisfied until all the duck had once more settled down. He then returned to the top wood &amp; perched on the summit of one of the dead trees. We watched up towards him until we could get a near view thro the telescope. A very dark looking bird, the head being buff &amp; covered with dark bars &amp; spots evidently a young bird.</p> <p>Returning to the lake once more the duck got up &amp; once more the Peregrine left his perch &amp; drove them down flock by flock. It was a great sight &amp; the way he put on speed was amazing, but he did not seem to be really bent on killing, rather it looked as though he was rounding them up like a sheep dog rounds up sheep &amp; was not content until the duck were once more resting on the water.</p>
December 26 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Morrey called for me soon after 9. A.M. &amp; we set off for Hensol. On arrival we found the duck in a great state of agitation &amp; discovered 5 or 6 fishermen were trying their luck at the castle end so did not go round there. There were a very large number of Teal, Mallard &amp; Wigeon &amp; many Shoveler also a few Pochard &amp; 3 G. C. Grebes. We made our way up to the pond in the Herons wood &amp; found there 1 male Tufted Duck, several teal &amp; Mallard, Half a dozen Coot and one Little Grebe</p> <p>Decided to visit Welsh St Donats, but when we reached the ponds we saw the duck were up &amp; there was a line of guns beating over the ground so we passed on &amp; reached Cowbridge, returning home via St Athans, Fonmon &amp; Wenvoe</p>
December 28 <sup>th</sup> 1924	<p>Met Morrey at Fair Oak at 10.A.M. Very heavy hail showers. On the lake were Tufted Duck &amp; Pochard. Went to the Reservoirs &amp; found there 1 Black-headed Gull &amp; several Coot on Llanishen. On Lisvane were many Coot &amp; Tufted Ducks &amp; several Pochard also 1 Great Crested Grebe. 1 Black Necked Grebe &amp; an immature Golden Eye</p>
<b>1925</b>	
January 4 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Met Morrey at 10 A.M. Saw on the lake as we passes Tufted Duck, Pochard &amp; Coot Song &amp; Mistle Thrushes singing.</p> <p>On Llanishen reservoir were some half a dozen gulls, one of which appeared <u>very</u> white in the sunlight. On getting our glasses on the birds we found they were Common Gulls &amp; the white bird by it's size &amp; Blunt tailed appearance a Glaucous, the first we had seen. The Common Gulls were mobbing it half heartedly afraid of venturing too near, flying up from the water &amp; alighting near it only to fly off again when the big bird turned in their direction. We watched the Glaucous for some 15/20 mins. The bill appeared yellowish with a dark tip &amp; the eye dark. The wings had a tone of greyish brown upon them but it was vey slight &amp; the bird appeared almost completely white. The wings did not extend beyond the tail &amp; the bill appeared broad &amp; the bird in size was not far short of a Great B. B.</p> <p>The Common gulls flew off &amp; left it alone &amp; shortly afterwards it also rose from the water &amp; we got a sight of it's legs which were very light in colour. It flew around aimlessly &amp; when at some hight began to soar on motionless wings, rising higher and higher &amp; drifting with the wind over Lisvane where a Carrion Crow flew up after it &amp; began to mob it. After that is drifted off in the direction of St Mellons &amp; was soon out of sight. Also on Llanishen was the Great Crested Grebe a few Coot &amp; one male Pochard. On Lisvane there were a collection of Tufted Duck &amp; Pochard also the Golden Eye &amp; the Black Necked Grebe &amp; many Coot.</p>

	We put the Glaucous gull down as almost, but not quite mature, probably 4 <sup>th</sup> Year
Jan 11 <sup>th</sup> 1925	Out with M. to Lake & Reservoirs. Pochard, Tufted Duck & Coot on the lake. On the Reservoirs 1 G.C.Grebe, 1 Cormorant, 10 Pochard, 50/60 Tufted Duck, 3 Teal 1 male 2 female, 1 Goldeneye, 50/60 Coot
Jan 25 <sup>th</sup>	Out with M. to Lake & Reservoirs. The Lake has been drained, only a small pool remaining below the dam. 40/50 Tufted Duck, 6/8 pochard & 70/80 Black Headed Gulls were on the pool. On the reservoirs were 3 Tufted Duck only 14 Pochard 30/40 Coot & the Goldeneye
February 1 <sup>st</sup> 1925	Out with M. to Lake & Reservoirs. Saw two large flocks of Lapwings over the lake & on the water were 70/80 Tufted Duck, Coot, Common & Black-Headed gulls. On the reservoirs we saw 11 Tufted Duck, 12 Pochard, 1 Goldeneye, 1 G.C. Grebe & 30/40 Coot
February 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1925	Saw a Lesser Black-backed gull flying across Bute Road today
February 8 <sup>th</sup> 1925	<p>Out with M. at 10. AM Very windy &amp; fine rain. The lake is nearly empty &amp; held only a few Tufted Duck, Coot &amp; Black-headed Gulls</p> <p>Pushed on to the reservoirs. Across by the house we spotted 5 Grebes &amp; at first we thought they were G.Cs., but the telescope showed them to be wither Slavonian or Red-necked. They were very shy &amp; although we walked around below the dam, they had moved out into the middle by the time we reached the control.</p> <p>After some careful stalking we got a good sight of one, close in on the west side. The general colour was dark brown (not black) &amp; white. The eye showed very clearly below the cap, the beak was flesh colour at the base &amp; a light bluish grey in the centre. Tufts at back of head showed up very plainly when the bird turned its back to the wind. It was undoubtedly a Slavonian Grebe &amp; we afterwards confirmed that the others were all the same species.</p> <p>The other birds were 25 Tufted Duck, 10 Pochard, 1 Goldeneye &amp; 40/50 Coot</p>
Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> 1925	<p>Out with M. at 10. AM. Lesser B. B. Gull in Recreation Grounds, The lake was nearly full again &amp; on it were Tufted Duck, Coot, 1 Little Grebe, B Headed, Common &amp; Herring Gulls</p> <p>On the Reservoirs 1 G.C. Grebe, 1 Goldeneye, 20 Pochard, 30 Tufted, 40/50 Coot, B Headed, Common &amp; Herring Gulls. Also saw a Kestrel.</p>
February 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1925	<p>Out with M. at 9 AM. The lake had been completely drained. On the Mud were a large number of B-Headed gulls, Two with completely dark heads Saw a Green Woodpecker.</p> <p>On the Reservoirs 2 G. C. Grebes (one in full dress &amp; the other immature) 1 Goldeneye, 30/40 Tufted, 10 Pochard. 40 Coot, Herring, Common &amp; B-Headed Gulls. Also saw many Meadow Pipits, and a few Yellow Hammers 1 Jay, &amp; 3 or 4 Magpies.</p>
March 1 <sup>st</sup> 1925	<p>Out with M. at 9 AM. Lake full again &amp; on it 20/30 Tufted Duck.</p> <p>On reservoirs 1 Juv G.C. Grebe, 2 Goldeneye (1 ad female &amp; 1 Juv) 20/30 Tufted, 10/12 Pochard, 30 Coot. Herring, Common &amp; B-Headed Gulls, 1 kestrel, 1 Sparrowhawk 7 Pheasants (1 male &amp; 6 female)</p>
March 8 <sup>th</sup> 1925	<p>With M to Hensol at 9 AM. M took first turn in "hide" On the lake were many Wigeon, Teal, Mallard &amp; Shoveler, 6/8/ Tufted Duck 20/30 Coot, Moorhens 8 G.C.Grebes, ~+1 Little Grebe. Also saw a Sparrow Hawk, Tree Creepers, &amp; Green Woodpecker</p> <p>I took a turn in the "hide" &amp; almost directly a male Teal alighted in front &amp; I got a plate of him. That was all the luck I had. The Reed bed was full of Teal, &amp; by the quacking &amp; Splashing &amp; whistling that went on they were evidently engaged in mating.</p>
March 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1925	M called at 9. AM. & we set off for Flemingston with the intention of locating the Heronry

	<p>there. Made for Flemingston &amp; below the church stopped the car &amp; "glasses" the valley. Directly opposite was a long wood Coed Colwa (ed probably Coed-y-Colwn) &amp; at the lower end nearest the river we spotted three big nests that looked like the Herons. Drove up to the north end of the valley &amp; crosses &amp; came back on the Llanarf side to the top of the wood. Found our way in &amp; speedily located five nests some of which had young as we could hear then "chuffing". One of the nests offered good chances for photographic work so we fixed up a big bunch of ivy in a neighbouring tree. All the nests are in exceptionally easy places &amp; very low trees, not more than 20/30 feet from ground</p>
March 29 <sup>th</sup> 1925	<p>Flemingston Heronry with M. at 8 AM. Fixed up a frame for the hide &amp; draped it with ivy. Then climbed to a second nest which we thought had eggs &amp; found three therein. Hauled up camera &amp; took some photos of it &amp; then set off to Ty-a-mff (ed Treguff?) to interview one F Sougha? &amp; get his permission to work the Herons. Soon fixed this up &amp; left for home.</p>
April 4 <sup>th</sup> 1925	<p>Flemingston with M. leaving at 2.30 P.M. Added to "hide" &amp; put up canvas front &amp; sides &amp; draped all in ivy. Cut away some obstructing branches from in front. There are 4 young in the nest well grown</p>
April 5 <sup>th</sup> 1925	<p>Started with M. at 6-45 to visit H. A. Gilbert at Bishopstone Hereford. Saw a Chiff Chaff at St Mellons. Raining when we left, but it had stopped by the time we reached his house 9-10 AM. He gave no directions &amp; we started off for ravens nest calling at the keepers house en-route. Gilbert &amp; a friend of his caught us up as we stopped the car at the entrance to Moccas Deer Forest &amp; we all walked over to the nest which is in a huge Larch tree some 50 feet up, a unique sites. From the steep hill side it is possible to get level with the nest, there a heap of dead bracken had been placed.</p> <p>We got M. fixed up inside with the camera &amp; left him at 10-45 Gilbert &amp; his pal &amp; I then went chasing Wood Larks. I was shown a sitting bird which was evidently covering newly hatched young as she sat so tight. We searched many fields &amp; I found a nest building. Heard a Chiff Chaff &amp; at 1 o'clock we set out for the Ravens again.</p> <p>Gilbert &amp; pal made for home while I went on &amp; release M. He had had several chances &amp; the birds were not shy. I was soon inside &amp; at 1-30 P.M. Morrey left me</p> <p>The birds were somewhat close as I could hear their gruff voices till about 20 minutes one returned &amp; fed the young, &amp; the other joined it in a few minutes. The young talked in gruff squawks &amp; the old birds uttered a few grunts. The presumed male then left flying directly over the hide very low the sound of his wings seeming as loud as a Swans flying over. The female brooded the young, at times preening herself.</p> <p>She left after about 15 minutes &amp; returned ??? &amp; fed the young The male turned up &amp; his mate took some of the food from him &amp; both fed the young the male leaving.</p> <p>They were back constantly after this either together or singly, feeding &amp; nest cleaning, the excreta being seemingly pouched by the adult.</p> <p>Sometimes the male would sit in a tree somewhat to the right of the hide &amp; utter a whole collection of weird calls, one like the drumming of a pecker, first pitched high like stone rattling in a gourd, then low exactly like a person snoring loudly</p> <p>Ten minutes or so before Morrey turned up both birds were evidently engaged in battle trying to drive something away as their angry "Croak croakings" resounded thro the wood.</p> <p>M. arrived at 3-45 &amp; told me the pair had engaged driving a Buzzard away. Had tea with Gilbert &amp; his family &amp; left for Cardiff at 6-20. It had started to rain at 6 &amp; poured all the way back. I was dropped at my door at 9-15</p> <p><b>Entered Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> 1925</b></p>

