

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION

Chairman: MRS. A. D. HALLAM

Secretary: I. I. JEFFRIES

Committee: The Chairman with MRS. J. WOLSELEY, DR. E. G. NEAL, H. W. BOON, G. L. FREWIN,
L. A. HALDANE, DR. H. M. CHAPPEL, J. KEYLOCK, J. F. ROWE

Recorders:

Botany—(Vascular Plants) A. D. HALLAM, Pencross House, Hemyock, Cullompton, Devon
(Bryophytes) MRS. J. APPLEYARD, Sunnyside, West Horrington, Wells
(Fungi) I. I. JEFFRIES, Rosemary Cottage, Clayhidon, Cullompton, Devon.

Zoology—(Mammalia) DR. E. G. NEAL, Wills East, Taunton School, Taunton
(Lepidoptera) DR. H. M. CHAPPEL, The Old Rectory, Selworthy, Minehead
(Coleoptera) G. L. FREWIN, Wreath Green Cottage, Tatworth, Chard

INDOOR MEETINGS

Illustrated lectures were given by Dr. M. H. Martin of the Department of Botany at Bristol University on "Woodland Ecology"; by Mr. A. E. McR. Pearce on "Close Range Natural History Photography"; and by Mr. A. D. Hallam on "Some Flowers of the Western Mediterranean". The Annual Meeting was held on 1st March, 1969, and was followed by the showing of a film about the National Parks of England and Wales.

A Social Evening was held at Agriculture House, Trull Road, Taunton, on 29th October, 1968. Colour transparencies of wild flowers were shown by Mr. and Mrs. Cole (Yugoslavia and Austria), Mr. Keylock (The Avon Gorge), Mr. Carrington (The Belgian Congo) and Miss Hill (Arran). Other members who showed slides were Mr. Silcocks (Lepidoptera), Mr. Denton-Cox (Birds in the Shetland Islands), Mr. Cooke (Scenery and birds in Sutherland), Mr. Layzell (Camping in the Arctic Circle). Several members spoke briefly about the exhibits they had brought, which included a collection of butterflies of Western Europe, by Mr. Haldane; eight potato stones from the Dolomitic Conglomerate of the Mendips, by Mr. Silcocks; a collection of mosses, by Mrs. Wolseley; Photographs of birds taken in Sutherland, by Mr. Young; and moths from the Selworthy area, by Dr. Chappel.

FIELD MEETINGS, 1968

WILDWAY WOODS, 18 May (Leader: Mr. J. S. E. Duke)

These woods are on an escarpment of Upper Greensand in the parish of Wambrook, near Chard. The leader, who was also the owner, first showed members an area containing an exceptionally large badger population. The sets had been excavated in the soft sand, often where a layer of chert gave a good roof. Twenty-six entrances had been stopped up two months previously, but nearly all had been re-opened. Tracks and tunnels through the undergrowth, fresh footprints and dung pits were seen. The common association of elder bushes with badger sets was observed, together with the absence of elders elsewhere in the woods. Under a laurel thicket in another part of the woods the area near a set showed signs that cubs had recently been playing there. Other playgrounds were seen where last year's bracken had been trampled flat and a dead tree stump had been clawed to pieces by badgers in their search for beetles.

Roe deer are also common; evidence of their presence was shown by slot, by tracks and by the effects of their browsing. In spite of the deer there was plenty of natural regeneration of birch, rowan, laurel and holly. Oak, beech, spruce and larch also occur in the woods, but do not regenerate freely. Nettles were confined to the neighbourhood of former kennels. The presence of *Calluna vulgaris*, common heather, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, whortleberry, *Blechnum spicant*, hard-fern, and *Potentilla erecta*, tormentil,

were noted as indicators of an acid soil. The young fronds of *Dryopteris dilatata*, broad buckler-fern, were coming up in abundance under the birch trees, where the shallow soil precludes the growth of shrubs. There were few of the showier wild flowers, except for *Endymion non-scripta*, bluebell, which occupied patches of deeper soil. In a small area where trees were felled in 1966 the sites of bonfires could be detected by differences in vegetation. The moss, *Funaria hygrometrica*, *Cardamine hirsuta*, hairy bittercress, and *Digitalis purpurea*, foxglove, had colonised these sites.

Birds heard during the afternoon were willow warbler, wood warbler, chaffinch, robin, and green woodpecker whose nesting holes were seen.

SHAPWICK AND CATCOTT HEATHS, 15 June (Leader: Mr. J. V. Morley)

The study of the turf moors is particularly important because peat extraction is going on at an increasing rate. Members were fortunate to be led by the Nature Conservancy's Chief Warden for Somerset. In a meadow in the National Nature Reserve at Shapwick Heath the following plants were conspicuous: *Iris pseudacorus*, yellow flag, *Cirsium dissectum*, marsh plume-thistle, *Dactylorchis praetermissa*, fen orchid, *Rhinanthus minor*, yellow rattle, and *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, ragged robin. *Potentilla palustris*, marsh cinquefoil, was also flowering. *Thelypteris palustris*, marsh fern, was abundant, but no fruiting fronds could be found. *Hottonia palustris*, water violet, was in flower in a nearby rhyne and three species of dragonfly were flying above a water-filled peat cutting.

The next area visited was approached by a drove just north of Canada Farm, which is built on Burtle Sand. A grass snake was seen in the drove and a single plant of *Osmunda regalis*, Royal fern. *Oxalis acetosella*, sheep's sorrel, *Galium saxatile*, heath bedstraw, and *Stellaria graminea*, lesser stitchwort, were noted on dry ground on the edge of the burtle. To the north of the drove, in an extensive peat moor, the following bryophytes were identified: the hepatics, *Riccardia multifida* and *Cephalozia connivens* and the mosses, *Sphagnum subsecundum* s.l. and *Aulacomium palustre*. Vascular plants in this area were: *Potentilla palustris*, marsh cinquefoil, *Drosera rotundifolia*, round-leaved sundew, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, marsh pennywort, *Myrica gale*, bog myrtle, *Salix repens*, creeping willow, *Erica tetralix*, cross-leaved heath, *Galium palustre*, marsh bedstraw, *Luzula multiflora*, heath woodrush, *Platanthera bifolia*, lesser butterfly orchid, *Dactylorchis maculata* ssp. *ericetorum*, heath spotted orchid, *D. praetermissa*, fen orchid, *Eriophorum angustifolium*, common cotton-grass, and the sedges *Carex rostrata*, *C. panicea*, *C. nigra*, *C. echinata* and *C. pulicaris*.

Willow tit, nightingale, tree pipit and blackcap were heard and buzzard, redshank and lapwing seen. Among the butterflies noted were brimstone, speckled wood, wall brown, common blue, meadow brown and small heath.

At Catcott Heath, members saw *Thalictrum flavum*, meadow rue, and *Lathyrus palustris*, marsh pea, in flower. In a patch of *Cladium mariscus*, great saw-sedge, only two or three plants were flowering. This is one of a very few stations left in Somerset for *Cladium*, a plant which was formerly widespread and from which the lowest levels of the peat were formed in Neolithic times.

PRIDDY POOLS, 29 June (Leader: Mr. H. W. Boon)

The area explored consisted of the two pools and the intervening half-mile of rough ground. A variety of soil conditions arises from the presence of both Old Red Sandstone and Carboniferous Limestone and also of deposits of slag from the workings of old lead

mines. The upper pool was dominated by an extensive growth of *Equisetum fluviatile*, water horsetail. At the top end of this pool, more acid conditions were indicated by a patch of *Eriophorum angustifolium*, common cottongrass, with *Carex rostrata* and *Potamogeton polygonifolius*. On drier ground above, *Carex binervis*, ribbed sedge, and *Luzula multiflora* were growing. *Carex echinata*, star sedge, *Ranunculus flammula*, lesser spearwort, and *Eleocharis palustris*, spike-rush, fringed the pool in places.

Between the pools an interesting feature was the presence of *Silene maritima*, sea campion, among the old mine workings, 15 miles from its more usual coastal habitat. Here also were *Minuartia verna*, spring sandwort, and three more sedges, *Carex hirta*, *C. ovilis* and *C. caryophyllaea*. In boggy ground, dominated by *Carex paniculata*, tussock sedge, *Dactylorhiza praetermissa*, fen orchid, *Equisetum palustre*, marsh horsetail and *Dryopteris carthusiana*, narrow buckler-fern, were found. *Cystopteris fragilis*, brittle bladder-fern, was growing in crevices in stone walls and *Arabis hirsuta*, hairy rock-cress, occurred on dry banks. Pearl-bordered fritillary and common blue butterflies and the six-spot burnet moth were noted. The coleopterist of the party found a burying beetle, *Necrophorus vespilloides*.

QUANTOCKS, 25 July (Leader: Mr. H. W. Boon)

A great part of the afternoon was spent in the well-known bog in the small valley which joins Holford Combe a quarter of a mile above Combe House. The spongy areas of Sphagnum moss were gay with the trailing pink blooms of *Anagallis tenella*, bog pimpernel, and the yellow and orange spikes of *Narthecium ossifragum*, bog asphodel, while in the drier parts were the delicate blue bells of *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, ivy-leaved bell-flower. *Epilobium palustre*, marsh willow-herb, *Myosotis secunda*, forget-me-not, *Hypericum elodes*, bog St. John's-wort, and *Drosera rotundifolia*, round-leaved sundew, were plentiful. In one place there was a fine show of *Mimulus moschatus*, musk, probably an old escape from cultivation. Other plants noted were *Scutellaria minor*, lesser skullcap, *Peplis portula*, water purslane, *Ranunculus omiophyllus*, water-crowfoot, and *Montia fontana*, water blinks. No plants of *Radiola linoides*, all-seed, could be found, though a careful search was made in the locality where it used to grow.

Later the party walked over Hare Knap and down into Hodder's Combe, where, beside the stream, they found *Sibthorpia europaea*, Cornish moneywort, with its tiny pinkish flowers surviving rather precariously after the recent floods. Some of the members then explored another bog, similar to the first and containing most of the same plants, in a small valley joining Hodder's Combe just above the highest enclosed field.

ASHCULM TURBARY AND LICKHAM COMMON, 17 August (Leader: Mrs. A. D. Hallam)

Since the parishioners of Hemyock ceased to dig peat, Ashculm Turbary has been left to develop into an area of wet heath and scrub. In the open part *Molinia caerulea* is the dominant grass and *Ulex gallii*, western gorse, grows in dense patches. One old *Molinia* tussock, covered with *Sphagnum*, contained an ant's nest, an unexpected find in so wet a situation. Members found many bog plants, including *Drosera rotundifolia*, round-leaved sundew, *D. intermedia*, lesser long-leaved sundew, *Pinguicula lusitanica*, and *Scirpus caespitosa*, deer-grass. *Quercus robur*, common oak, willow, alder, birch, rowan and pine all seed themselves freely, but many of the seedlings are eaten by roe deer, whose paths form a network all over the area.

After tea, members went on to Lickham, another of the five small commons in the

parish of Hemyock, Devon. Here *Myrica gale*, bog myrtle, was one of the most conspicuous plants and *Frangula alnus*, alder buckthorn, was much commoner than at Ashculm. Considerable patches of *Mimulus moschatus*, musk, *Succisa pratensis*, devil's-bit scabious, and *Scutellaria minor*, lesser skullcap, were seen. Fungi noted were *Scutellinia scutellata*, *Laccaria laccata*, *Trametes versicolor*, a bracket fungus growing on rotten wood, *Amanita fulvens*, the tawny grisette, and *Lactarius tabidus* which grows on birch and exudes a milky juice that acts as a yellow dye. Roe deer tracks were as numerous as at Ashculm and provided the only paths through the dense undergrowth.

DOMMETT MOOR, 5 October (Leader: Mr. I. I. Jeffries)

About 40 species of fungi were collected and identified in and near the beechwoods. Perhaps the most interesting find was *Boletus parasiticus*, a small species which parasitises "earth balls", and whose host here was *Scleroderma aurantium*. Numbers of specimens of the large *Cortinarius elatior*, in all stages of development, were found growing a few yards from the main road. This is a handsome species with a dark brown slimy cap and a beautiful bluish stem. Round a stump was a fine group of *Tricholomopsis rutilans*, brightly coloured with red scales on a yellow background. Other finds included *Cortinarius cinnabarinus*, *Lepista nuda*, wood blewits, and *Boletus calopus*.

SOMERSET NATURAL HISTORY

RECORDERS' NOTES

BOTANY 1968

ANGIOSPERMS

The name of each species is preceded by its number in the *List of British Vascular Plants*, 1958, and the nomenclature used in this list has been adopted. Following the locality is the number of the ten-kilometre National Grid square. The bracketed numbers refer to the ten districts into which Somerset was divided by R. P. Murray, *Flora of Somerset* (1896). District and vice-county records are marked * and aliens †.

Contributors of records are identified by their initials:

J.G.K.	J. G. Keylock	R.G.B.R.	Capt. R. G. B. Roe
C.A.H.	C. A. Howe	J.V.M.	J. V. Morley
L.I.S.	Miss L. I. Scott	S.C.H.	Mrs. S. C. Holland

- 49/1 ***Aquilegia vulgaris* L.**
vc 5 (3) Near bank of Tone about 1 mile north of Huish Champflower, ST 03. C.A.H. and J.G.K.
- 65/3 ***Corydalis claviculata* (L.) DC.**
vc 5 (1) Upton, near the church, SS92; below Godhams Farm, ST02. C.A.H. and J.G.K.
- 79/4 ***Lepidium ruderae* L.**
vc 5 (4) Drove near Muchelney, ST42. C.A.H.
- 81/1 †***Cardiaria draba* (L.) Desv.**
vc 5 (2) Washford, ST04. C.A.H.; (4) Disused railway line, Preston Plucknett, ST51. J.G.K.
- 115/9 ***Hypericum humifusum* L.**
vc 5 (4*) south of railway line, Hardington Mandeville, ST50. J.G.K.

- 125/1 **Agrostemma githago** L.
vc 5 (4) Field near Plackett, East Coker, ST51. L.I.S.
- 212/8 †**Potentilla norvegica** L.
vc 5 (4) Disused railway line near Yeovil airfield, ST51. J.G.K.
- 254/4 **Epilobium lanceolatum** Seb. & Maur.
vc 5 (2*) Treborough Quarries, ST03 and West Quantoxhead, ST14; (3) Bathealton, near former railway viaduct, ST02. R.G.B.R.
- 261/1 **Hippuris vulgaris** L.
vc 5 (4*) Exposed mud, Sutton Bingham reservoir, ST51. J.G.K.
- 262/4 **Callitriche intermedia** Hoffm.
vc 5 (2*) Pond near Washford, ST04. R.G.B.R.
- 283/2 **Bupleurum rotundifolium** L.
vc 5 (4*) Sleights Lane, East Coker, ST51. J.G.K.
- 303/1 **Silaum silaus** (L.) Schinz & Thell.
vc 5 (4) Meadow, Hardington Marsh, ST50. J.G.K.
- 506/4 †**Senecio squalidus** L.
vc 5 (4) Buntfield Hollow, East Coker, ST51. J.G.K.
First recorded for (4) in 1957 on old rubbish tip, Yeovil.
- 528/ †**Achillea tanacetifolia** All.
vc 6* (8*) Old railway track west of Highbridge, ST34.
J.V.M. *det.* B.M.(N.H.). A south-European species.
- 533/1 **Chrysanthemum segetum** L.
vc 5 (4) Buntfield Hollow, East Coker, ST51. J.G.K.
- 577/1 **Potamogeton natans** L.
vc 5 (1) Ponds below Godhams Farm, Upton, ST02. C.A.H.; (2*) Pond near Washford, ST04. C.A.H. and R.G.B.R.
- 603/1 **Paris quadrifolia** L.
vc 5 (4) Copse north-east of Whitevine Farm, Hardington Mandeville, ST50. J.G.K.
- 605/12 †**Juncus tenuis** Willd.
vc 3 (Som.) (6*) Lane, south-east of Lears Farm, Churchstanton, ST11. C.A.H. and R.G.B.R.
- 629/1 **Neottia nidus-avis** (L.) Rich.
vc 5 (4) Copse north-east of Whitevine Farm, Hardington Mandeville, ST50. J.G.K.
- 635/1 **Coeloglossum viride** (L.) Hartm.
vc 5 (4) Meadow near Whitevine Farm, Hardington Mandeville, ST40. J.G.K.
- 653/1 **Typha latifolia** L.
vc 5 (1*) Pond below Godhams Farm, Upton, ST02. C.A.H.
- 663/65 **Carex divulsa** Huds.
vc 5 (1*) Upton, SS92. C.A.H. and R.G.B.R.
- 663/67 **Carex spicata** Huds.
vc 5 (2) A few plants, Porlock, SS84. S.C.H.; (4) Railway line near Alvington Bridge, Yeovil, ST51. J.G.K.

683/1 **Bromus erectus** Huds.

vc 5 (3) By disused railway, 1 mile east of Venn Cross Station, ST02. C.A.H. and R.G.B.R. Last recorded for (3), Halse churchyard, by E. S. Marshall, 1916, who considered it to be probably introduced.

A. D. HALLAM,

Recorder.

BROYPHYTES

The name of each species is preceded by its number in the *Census Catalogue of British Hepatics*, 4th Edition, 1965 or the *Census Catalogue of British Mosses*, 3rd Edition, 1963, as the case may be; the locality is followed by the ten-kilometre National Grid square; * signifies a vice-county record, except where it immediately follows a *Census Catalogue* number; new county records are marked ‡.

HEPATICS

12/2 **Riccardia multifida** (L.) Gray

vc 6 Wet field, Westhay Moor, ST44. This species is rather rare in vc 6, herbarium specimens so named frequently being *R. sinuata*.

46/4 **Solenostoma pamilum** (With.) K. Müll.

vc 6 On rock in ravine, Black Down, ST45. Second record.

56/3 **Plagiochila spinulosa** (Dicks.) Dum.

vc 6 Ravine, Black Down, ST45.

63/5 **Cephalozia connivens** (Dicks.) Lindb.

vc6 On stump, Highbury Hill, Clutton, ST65 and on rotten tree trunk in stream, Ebbor, ST54. Only recorded previously from the peat moors.

78/2 **Cololejeunea rossettiana** (Massal.) Schiffn.

vc 5* Shaded limestone rock, Cannington Park ST24.

MOSESSES

1/5 **Spagnum compactum** DC.

vc 6* Peaty moorland, Black Down, ST45.

1/18α **S. subsecundum** var. **subsecundum** Nees

vc 5‡ Britty Common, ST21.

17/5 **Seligeria paucifolia** (Dicks.) Carruth.

vc 6‡ On chalk block, Long Knoll, Maiden Bradley, ST73.

24/1 **Cynodontium bruntonii** (Sm.) B., S. & G.

vc 6* Among grit rocks, Highbury Hill, Clutton, ST65.

29/7 **Dicranum strictum** Scleich. ex Schwaegr.

vc 6 On stump, Whidcombe Brake, Chelwood, ST66. Second record for Somerset.

40/2 **Pottia caespitosa** (Bruch ex Brid.) C. Müll.

vc 6‡ On calcareous earth, Moorlinch, ST33.

40/11 **P. starkeana** (Hedw.) C. Müll.

vc 6 Old quarry, Wrington, ST46.

45/3 **Gymnostomum calcareum** Nees & Hornsch.

vc 5 On limestone, Cannington Park ST24.

- 50/1 **Pleurochaete squarrosa** (Brid.) Lindb.
vc 5 In thin turf near limestone quarry, Cannington Park, ST24.
- 74/1 **Epipterygium tozeri** (Grev.) Lindb.
vc 6* Bank of R. Carey, Somerton, ST42; damp bank of stream, Rodney Stoke, ST44.
- 77/36 **Bryum donianum** Grev.
vc 6 Brean Down, ST25.
- 79/11 **Mnium rugicum** Laur.
vc 6 Catcott, Heath, ST44.
- 90/3 **Philonotis caespitosa** Wils. ex Milde.
vc 6* Boggy field, Gasper, ST73.
- 98/1 **Orthotrichum rupestre** Schleich. ex Schwaegr.
vc 6‡ On stone embankment by R. Parrett near Huntspill, ST24.
- 98/14 **O. tenellum** Bruch ex Brid.
vc 5 On elm, Cannington Park, ST24.
- 136/1 **Scorpiurium circinatum** (Brid.) Fleisch. & Loeske.
vc 5* On limestone, Cannington Park, ST24.
- 141/12 **Eurhynchium megapolitanum** (Bland.) Milde.
vc 5* Stony ground, Cannington Park, ST24.
- 148/1 **Isopterygium seligeri** (Brid.) Dix. ex C. Jens.
vc 6 On rotten branch in small wood between Mells and Buckland Dinham, ST75.

J. APPLEYARD,
Recorder.

FUNGI

Vice-county records are marked *.

Sepultaria sumneri (Berk.) Boud.

vc 5* Taunton Castle, on Cedar of Lebanon. *Comm.* A. D. Hallam, *det.* Kew.

Boletus lignicola Kallenb.

vc 5* Cockercombe, Over Stowey, on trunk of conifer. *Det.* Kew. First record for England.

Ozonium auricomum Link.

vc 5 North Curry, on log. *Comm.* J. Barrington, *det.* Kew.

Peziza repanda Pers.

vc 5 Tatworth. *Comm.* G. L. Frewin.

I. I. JEFFRIES,
Recorder.

ZOOLOGY 1968

LEPIDOPTERA

The year was noteworthy for the number of migrant butterflies and moths seen. In October **Danaus plexippus** (Monarch) was reported in some numbers from the south-western counties, particularly, Devon and Cornwall, and one was reported from Brent Knoll in Somerset.

The sudden influx of several species of rare immigrant moths appears to have taken place over the country on the night of 30th June–1st July. The rare Plusiid, **Eublemma parva** (Small Marbled) was seen at Saltford on 30th June and at Selworthy on 1st July and again on 31st July. **Plusia ni** (Ni Moth), which had only previously been seen at Taunton and Minehead in 1958, was seen at Selworthy on 10th July. **Heliothis peltigera** (Bordered Straw) was seen at Selworthy on 15th July, at Weston-super-Mare on 9th July and at Sand Bay on 6th October. **Laphygma exigua** (Small Mottled Willow) was seen at Selworthy on 8th, 10th and 16th July with several more in September and early October at Selworthy and Shipham. **Herse convolvuli** (Convolvulus Hawk) was seen at Weston-super-Mare in August and at Shipham and Selworthy in October. **Acherontia atropos** (Death's Head Hawk) was seen at Shipham in September. **Nycterosea obstipata** (Gem) turned up at Selworthy in October as did the Pyraustid **Palpita unionalis**, at Shipham and Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. Alan Kennard reported two interesting species from the north of the county, both being new county records. **Thera juniperata** (Juniper Carpet) is probably an introduction on garden shrubs. The Phycitid moth **Nephopteryx albicilla** was first discovered in 1964 in the Wye Valley and is believed to feed on *Tilia cordata*, the Small-leaved Lime, which flourishes in the Wye Valley and in Leigh Woods where this moth was found in 1968. From Leigh Woods he, also, reported several **Cepphis advenaria** (Little Thorn).

Spaelotis ravidia (Stout Dart) occurred at Selworthy in August; there is only one very old record from Somerset and it may well have been a migrant. The Pyraustid **Loxostege sticticalis**, which was last reported from North Somerset in 1949, was seen twice in August at Selworthy. It is possible that this may also have been a migrant.

Cucullia absinthii (Wormwood Shark), which might be expected to occur along the Somerset coast, was seen at Selworthy in August. It has not been reported from the Minehead area in the past fourteen years, but it occurred at Weston-super-Mare ten years ago. A number of larvae of the Wormwood Shark were found in early September on *Artemisia absinthii* growing in an old orchard near Selworthy.

Eilema deplana (Buff Footman) was seen at Nettlecome.

Euphyia unangulata (Sharp-angled Carpet) was noted from Nettlecombe and Wellington.

Perconia strigillaria (Grass Wave) was seen at Street.

Oria musculosa (Brighton Wainscot) was reported from Shipham in August. This moth is very rare in Somerset but occasionally seems to wander here from its headquarters in Wiltshire.

Amongst the rarer moths which seem to turn up regularly in small numbers at light at Selworthy may be mentioned the following:

Lophopteryx cucullina (Maple Prominent).

Euxoa obelisca (Square-spot Dart).

Amathes agathina (Heath Rustic).

Amathes depuncta (Plain Clay).

Lithophane leautieri (Blair's Pinion).

H. M. CHAPPEL,
Recorder.

COLEOPTERA 1968-69

The following species have come to my notice. New records for the county are marked *.

**Bruchidius fasciatus* (Ol.) June 1969, Ashill.

**Silis ruficollis* (Fab.) July 1968, Ashcott.

**Euaesthetus ruficapillus* (Nac.) July 1969, Ashcott.

Apion stolidum (Germ.) June 1969, Ashill.

Ceuthorhynchus chrysanthemi (Germ.) June 1969, Ashill.

Phytonomus adpersus (Fab.) v. *alternans* (Steph.) June 1969, Ashcott.

Cryptophagus lucoperdi (Scop.) November 1968, Dommett.

Cis setiger (Mel.) July 1969, Tatworth.

G. L. FREWIN,
Recorder.

THE SOMERSET TRUST FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

President: THE RT. HON. THE EARL WALDEGRAVE
Chairman: ERNEST NEAL, PH.D., F.I.BIOL.

In 1968-69 the Trust acquired its first major Reserve at Long Wood, Charterhouse-on-Mendip, which was opened in May. Mr. Anthony and Lady Violet Powell kindly lent Chantry Lake and Woods as a Reserve for study purposes. Reserves at Catcott Heath and, it is hoped, at Priors Park Wood, Blagdon Hill, will be established during 1969-70. Several other sites are being investigated.

At Langford Budville work continued in accordance with the Management Plan. A temporary Nature Trail for schools was made, and more than six hundred children walked it during the first week.

The formal Inquiry into the application to quarry stone at Bangle Farm, Chantry, resulted in the objections, in which the Trust had joined, being upheld. The application was disallowed.

An intensive Membership Drive was launched. The membership has risen above 1500 and is still increasing.

With the aid of a grant from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust Fund a full-time post of Reserves Officer was created. Mr. W. B. Collins was appointed to it.

1970 will be European Conservation Year. The Trust has prepared a varied programme of events in association with the Nature Conservancy, Local Authorities and Natural History Societies throughout the County. A number of schools are helping with the programme.

A. C. M. HINGLEY,
Honorary Secretary.