

BIRDS OBSERVED DURING THE TRIP THROUGH WEST GERMANY, BELGIUM AND ENGLAND (JUNE 16th – 26th, 1987)

D.N. Nankinov

Abstract. Data were collected during the journey of group of Bulgarian ornithologists. Total 118 bird species were observed. Short information about each species is presented. Synanthropization of some species in Bulgaria and England is quite different. A very high degree of synanthropization of some birds was seen in towns. A checklist of birds and mammals killed by the cars on the roads of England is given.

Key words: fauna, birds, West Europe, synanthropization, birds and mammals killed by cars

Address: D.N. Nankinov, Institute of Zoology BAS, Boul. Tzar Osvoboditel 1, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria.

Птицы, наблюдавшиеся во время поездки через Западную Германию, Бельгию и Англию (16 - 26 июня 1987 года). - Д.Н. Нанкинов. - Беркут. 10 (1). 2001. - В связи с договоренностью между Британско – Болгарским обществом (Лондон) и Комитетом культуры Болгарии в 1987 г. был осуществлен обмен специалистами по изучению птиц и охране природы между Великобританией и Болгарией. С 20 по 30.05 британские коллеги были в Болгарии, а с 16 по 26.06 – болгарские орнитологи посетили Англию. Настоящие сведения о птицах являются результатом наблюдений и записей, которые вел руководитель болгарской группы (Д.Н. Нанкинов) при поездке через территорию Западной Германии, Бельгии и Англии. Всего отмечено 118 видов птиц. Интерес представляют наблюдения за гнездящимися морскими птицами на птичьем базаре Бемптон-Клиф, редкая встреча *Hipolais icterina* в заповеднике Минсмер и т. д. Существует большая разница в степени синантропизации ряда видов птиц, обитающих в Болгарии и Англии, как например: *Turdus merula*, *T. philomelos*, *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Columba palumbus*, *Fulica atra*, *Gallinula chloropus*, *Riparia riparia* и др. Очень много птиц и зверей погибают на дорогах Англии.

1. Introduction

Following the agreement between the British – Bulgarian Friendship Society (London) and the Committee for Culture (Sofia) a group of Bulgarian ornithologists (D. Nankinov – leader, S. Simeonov, Z. Boev, T. Petrov, L. Profirov, D. Peshev, S. Gavrilov, S. Nonev) visited Great Britain from the 16th to the 26th of June 1987. At the invitation of colleagues from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds returning their visit to Bulgaria from the 20th to the 30th of May 1987.

The following birds were observed or checked by the Leader of the Bulgarian group during the journey from the 17th of June in the region of Düsseldorf in West Germany, the 25 of June in the evening in Aachen, on the border between Belgium and West Germany according to R. Howard R. & A. Moore (1980).

Mr. Bob Scott, Senior Reserves Manager, RSBP and Mr. Jeremy Sorensen, Senior Warden, RSBP, Ministere as well as RSBP members and officers Ann Scott, Eileen and Brian

Righton, Dusty Becker and Mark Hollingworth, Maurice Waterhouse, Hilary and Geoff Welch and other members of the British – Bulgarian Friendship Society, Prof. Edward Sheldard, Ms. Ita Pertion, Ms. Galja Browning and Ms. Maria Tsaneva-Skipp. All helped in making the visit a success. We are extremely grateful to all of them.

2. Itinerary

June 16: Sofia – Burgas (by train, 6¹⁵ – 12¹⁵), Burgas – Berlin Schönefeld (by plane, 16⁰⁰ – 17³⁰), Berlin Friedrichstraße (22⁵²) – West Berlin – Potsdam Brandenburg.

June 17: Magdeburg – Helmstedt (1⁵⁹); Helmstedt – Braunschweig (2³¹) – Hannover (3¹¹) – Hamm (5¹⁵) – Dortmund (5³⁶) – Bochum (5⁵⁶) – Essen (6¹²) – Düsseldorf (6⁴⁸) – Köln (7¹⁷) – Aachen (8¹⁷); Aachen (9¹⁵) – Liege (5⁵⁹) – Bruxelles (11⁰⁹) – Oostende (12³², by train). The Maria Esmeralda ferry from Oostende (14⁰⁵) – Dover (17³⁰) – Dover (18¹⁰) – Folkestone – Ashford – Tonbridge – Sevenoaks – London Victoria Station (19²⁰). By coach from London, Victoria Station – Sandy. The group spent the night staying with RSBP members from Little Gransden, Cambridge, Witlesey.

June 18: the party assembled again at Sandy, King's College, the University Centre, University, Botanical Gardens were also visited. Back to Sandy (15³⁰). Various mem-



bers of the Bulgarian party visited different reserves on June 19th and 20th. Minsneere Nature Reserve (D. Nankinov, D. Peshev, L. Profirov); Coombes Valley et Peak District National Park (S. Simeonov, Z. Boev); Halvergate Marshes (Z. Petrov, S. Nonev). Sandy (15⁵⁰) – Minsmere Nature Reserve (17⁵⁰, by car).

June 19: Minsmere Nature Reserve.

June 20: Minsmere Nature Reserve. Visit by car. Minsmere (14⁰⁰) to Sandy (16²⁰). Group assembled at Sandy.

June 21: by coach to Sandy (8⁴⁵) – Grantham (10⁰⁰) – Bridlington (12²⁰) – Bampton Cliff Nature Reserve (12⁴⁰). Visit to the reserve. Back to Bampton (15⁴⁵) – Sandy (20¹⁰).

June 22: Sandy (9¹⁵) – Waresley – Brandon – Munford – Sioffham – South Creak – Burnham Market – Brankaster – Titchwell Marsh Reserve (12⁰⁰). Visit to the reserve. Back to Titchwell (15⁰⁰) – Hingsthorpe – Sthetey – Ely (16¹⁵ – 17³⁰) – visit to Ely Cathedral – Sthetey – Sandy (18³⁰).

June 23: Sandy (10¹⁵) – London King's Cross Station (11⁰⁰). Visit to the British Museum, sightseeing in London. Back to Sandy from King's Cross Station (18³⁰).

June 24: Visit to London Zoo Sandy (10¹⁵) – London King's Cross Station (11⁰⁰). Visit to London. Return King's Cross Station (18³⁰) – Sandy (19¹⁵).

June 25: By minibus from Sandy (5⁰⁵) to London Victoria Station (6¹⁵). Departure – Victoria Station (9¹⁵) – Dover (10⁴⁰) – Channel crossing to Oostende (15⁰⁰) – by train from Oostende (17¹⁵) – Bruxelles – Liege – Aachen (20⁴⁵).

June 26: Train voyage via Germany: Aachen (21³⁸) – Köln – Düsseldorf – Essen – Bochum – Dortmund – Hamm – Hannover – Braunschweig – Helmstedt; Helmstedt – Magdeburg – Brandenburg – Potsdam – West Berlin – Berlin Friedrichstraße (7³⁶). Flight Berlin Schönefeld (14⁰⁵) – Sofia (18⁰⁵).

3. Observations of birds

Little Grebe, *Tachybaptus ruficollis*: River Trent, 4 on 21st.

Great Crested Grebe, *Podiceps cristatus*: Minsmere Nature Reserve 1 on 19th, River Trent 20 on 21st.

Fulmar, *Fulmarus glacialis*: Bampton Cliffs Nature Reserve 21st. Breeding colony numbering c.800 pairs.

Gannet, *Morus bassanus*: Oostende – Dover 1 imm and 3 d on 17th. Bampton Cliffs Nature Reserve 21st Breeding colony at Bampton Cliffs numbering c. 600 pairs.

Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo*: London, River Thames to Chelsea bridge one on 17th. Minsmere Reserve 2 on 19th. Bampton Cliffs one on 21st.

Shag, *Ph. aristotelis*: Bampton Cliffs 5 on 21st. Breeding colony at Bampton Cliffs Reserve numbering c. 20 pairs.

Bittern, *Botaurus stellaris*: Titchwell Nature Reserve one on 22nd.

Grey Heron, *Ardea cinerea*: Belgium to Gant one on 17th. Sandy to RSPB one 20th. Titchwell one on 22nd.

Mute Swan, *Cygnus olor*: Minsmere Reserve one on 18th; 8ad and 3juv. on 19th. 22nd: Sandy-Titchwell – 3; Titchwell Reserve – 2; to Ely – 3.

Black Swan, *C. atratus*: Minsmere Reserve one on 18th.

Greylag Goose, *Anser anser*: Minsmere Reserve 18th: 11ad + 3 juv. 19th: 2ad + 5 juv; 2ad + 6juv and 10ad. Titchwell Reserve 10 on 22nd.

Bar-headed Goose, *A. indicus*: Titchwell Reserve 2 on 22nd.

Canada Goose, *Branta canadensis*: Minsmere Reserve 18th: 5ad + 5 juv; 19th: 16 + 60 + 15 ad; 2ad + 2 sad+ 5 juv; 22nd: Sandy – Titchwell – 6 ad; Titchwell Reserve – 82 ad.

Barnacle Goose, *B. leucopsis*: Minsmere Reserve 2 sad (19th; 20th)

Shelduck, *Tadorna tadorna*: Minsmere Reserve adult and young birds observed (18th; 19th). Nesting in a rabbit hole; rabbits are numerous in the region. 11 in a flight towards the sea. Titchwell Reserve 5 on 22nd

Wigeon, *Anas penelope*: Minsmere Reserve 3 on 19th.

Gadwall, *A. strepera*: Minsmere Reserve 40 on 19th and 20th. Titchwell Reserve 4 on 22nd.

Teal, *A. crecca*: Minsmere Reserve ad + 6 juv. and 2 ad. on 19th.

Mallard, *A. platyrhynchos*: Belgium to Bruxelles 11 and to Brue one on 17th. Cambridge (18th) nesting on the grass in the parks of the town. Level of synanthropization – exclusively high. Nesting bird in the cut grass in the court of the King's College. To Yorksford 3 on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) observed 20 ad and juv. Ad. moult. River Trent 30 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 2 on 22nd. Titchwell Reserve 100 on 22nd – moult.

Shoveler, *A. clypeata*: Minsmere Reserve observed 5 ad (19th, 20th) – moult. Titchwell Reserve 5 on 22nd.



Pochard, *Aythya ferina*: Minsmere Reserve one male on 19th.

Tufted Duck, *A. fuligula*: Sandy – Titchwell 3 and Titchwell Reserve 6 pairs on 22nd.

Scaup, *A. marila*: Titchwell Reserve 2 on 22nd.

Marsh Harrier, *Circus aeruginosus*: Minsmere Reserve one pair (19th, 20th) Titchwell Reserve one pair on 22nd.

Sparrowhawk, *Accipiter nisus*: Minsmere Reserve one on 20th.

Buzzard, *Buteo buteo*: To Ashford one on 17th.

Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus*: Sandy – Minsmere 2 on 18th. Minsmere Reserve one on 19th and 20th. Minsmere – Sandy 4 (20th). Sandy – Grantham 6, Grantham – Bridlington – 2, Bridlington – Bempton – one on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell – 6, to Ely one on 22nd. Over Sandy Station one on 24th.

Hobby, *F. subbuteo*: Grantham – Bridlington one on 21st.

Red-legged Partridge, *Alectoris rufa*: To Minsmere Reserve one pair on 18th. Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve in field one pair on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell one and to Ely one on 22nd.

Grey Partridge, *Perdix perdix*: Sandy – Cambridge 3 on 18th.

Pheasant, *Phasianus colchicus*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed about 5 families (ad. and juv.). Sandy – Grantham one female and Grantham – Bridlington one female on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell – 9 and Titchwell – Ely 2 on 22nd.

Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus*: Cambridge (18th). Nesting in ponds in the parks. Ad and juv walking among the people – exclusively high level of synanthropization. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed about 3 families (ad and juv.). Minsmere – Sandy 4 and Sandy to RSPB one on 20th. Titchwell Reserve one on 22nd.

Coot, *Fulica atra*: Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) observed 4 families (ad and juv). River Trent 60 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell one and Titchwell Reserve 2 families (ad and juv) on 22nd.

Oystercatcher, *Haematopus ostralegus*:

Minsmere Reserve 3+1 on 19th and one couple on 20th. Titchwell Reserve 5 pairs on 22nd.

Avocet, *Recurvirostra avosetta*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) about fifty pairs. Some juv were at the size of the ad. birds, 6 pairs were still nesting. Titchwell Reserve 2 pairs on 22nd.

Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus*: Belgium to Bruxelles 2 pairs and Brügge – Oostende 2 pairs on 17th. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) 3 pairs – the juv as the ad. birds. To River Trent 2 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell – flock of 29 individuals on 21st. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 5 pairs.

Ringed Plover, *Charadrius hiaticula*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) one pair and one pair to North Sea coast.

Black-tailed Godwit, *Limosa limosa*: Minsmere Reserve 3 on 19th.

Redshank, *Tringa totanus*: Minsmere Reserve one on 19th and 20th, Titchwell reserve one on 22nd.

Wood Sandpiper, *T. glareola*: Minsmere Reserve one on 19th.

Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*: Titchwell Reserve one on 22nd.

Woodcock, *Scolopax rusticola*: Sandy (RSPB) one on 17th.

Dunlin, *Calidris alpina*: Minsmere Reserve observed about 10 specimens on 19th.

Common Gull, *Larus canus*: Minsmere Reserve 3 on 19th and 20th.

Herring Gull, *L. argentatus*: Belgium, port Oostende 2 on 17th. England, port Dover 40 and Dover – Folkestone 10 on 17th. Minsmere Reserve observed about 20 individuals on 18th – 20th. 21st: Bridlington 10, Bempton 5, Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve in field 20 specimens. Breeding colony at Bempton Cliffs numbering c. 1000 pairs.

Lesser Black-backed Gull, *L. fuscus*: Belgium, port Oostende 3 on 17th. Oostende – Dover 4 on 17th. To Yoksford 1 on 18th. Minsmere Reserve 10 on 18th, 30 on 19th and 20th.

Great Black-backed Gull, *L. marinus*: Belgium, port Oostende, one on 17th. Oost-



ende – Dover 2 on 17th. Minsmere Reserve one on 19th.

Black-headed Gull, *L. ridibundus*: The West Germany (17th) to Dortmund breeding colony c. 100 individuals. Belgium, Bruxelles – Gent 3 and port Oostende 4 on 17th. Oostende – Dover 30 on 17th. Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) observed breeding colony from 5 pairs. Sandy – Grantham 20 and River Trent 7 on 21st. 22nd: Sandy – Titchwell 21 individuals; Titchwell Reserve observed breeding colony from 60 pairs having hatched chicks; To Ely 22 specimens. Belgium Oostende – Aachen, 9 on 25th.

Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla*: Oostende – Dover – 1+3 and port Dover – 60 on 17th. Breeding colony at Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve numbering c. 64 000 pairs – the most numerous bird on the cliffs. In the nests there were young birds (21st).

Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) breeding several pairs.

Little Tern, *S. albifrons*: Minsmere Reserve 2 on 20th. Titchwell Reserve observed breeding colony on 22nd.

Sandwich Tern, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*: Minsmere Reserve 10 on 19th.

Razorbill, *Alca torda*: Breeding colony at Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve numbering c. 4000 pairs. Razorbills pairs breeding largely on surround cliffs (21st).

Guillemot, *Uria aalge*: Breeding colony at Bempton Cliffs numbering c. 13 000 specimens. Observed about 20 specimens with a white ring round the eyes and a white part drawn back (21st).

Puffin, *Fratercula arctica*: Breeding colony at Bempton Cliffs numbering c. 2000 specimens. Most of them nesting in the foundation of the cliffs (21st).

Rock Dove and Feral Pigeon, *Columba livia*: The West Germany (17th): Dortmund – Essen 50, Düsseldorf – Köln 19, Köln – Aachen, 15. Belgium (17th): Liege – Bruxelles 12, to Alter – 3. England: Sandy 2, Cambridge observed about 10 pairs and Sandy – Minsmere 3 on 18th. Sandy – Grantham 7,

Grantham – Bridlington 18 and Bempton Cliffs Nature reserve breeding on Cliffs (21st). Swoffham 35 and Ely 84 on 22nd. Observed in London (23rd, 24th), Sandy – London 81 and London – Dover 50 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 223 individuals.

Woodpigeon, *Columba palumbus*: West Germany (17th): Düsseldorf Station – 3, Düsseldorf – Köln 13 and Köln – Aachen 4 individuals. Belgium (17th): Liege – Bruxelles 18, Gent – Ostkamp 4 and in Brüge – 2 specimens. Dover – London 70 on 17th. 18th: Little Gransden bred 3 pairs, Porton – 4 specimens, Sandy – 6 specimens, in Cambridge about 40 breeding pairs, Sandy – Minsmere observed 90 specimens. In Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) bred, observed about 30 individuals. Sandy – Grantham 53, Grantham – Bridlington – 54 and to Bempton – 8 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 57 (5 specimens, observed at Titchwell, and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 89 specimens on 22nd). Observed in London (23rd, 24th). Sandy – London 33 and London – Dover 10 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 24 specimens.

Turtle Dove, *Streptopelia turtur*: Dover – London on 17th. Sandy – Cambridge 1 and Sandy – Minsmere 1 on 18th. Minsmere – Sandy 6 on 20th. Sandy – Grantham 2 and Grantham – Bridlington 2 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 6 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 3 on 22nd. Sandy – London one and London – Dover 6 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 3 specimens.

Collared Dove, *S. decaocto*: Belgium (17th), Liege 2 and Varemme 5 specimens. Dover – London 2 on 17th. Cambridge one and Sandy – Minsmere 19 on 18th. Sandy – Grantham 3 and Grantham – Bridlington 24 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 7 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 22 on 22nd. Sandy – London one and London – Dover 2 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 4 individuals observed.

Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) 1-2 birds observed.

Swift, *Apus apus*: The West Germany (17th): Breeding colony in Essen about 50 in-



dividuals, in Düsseldorf Station 20 and Köln 75 specimens. Belgium (17th) in Brügge 2 specimens. Little Gransden – Sandy 10 specimens, about 100 breeding pairs at Cambridge and Sandy – Minsmere observed 242 specimens on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) about 10 specimens observed. Minsmere – Sandy 220 on 20th. Sandy – Grantham 8 and Grantham – Bridlington 16 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 72, Titchwell Reserve over the water and the buildings about 300 birds were feeding and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 125 specimens on 22nd. In Sandy breeding colony from 30 pairs and in London Gred (23rd, 24th), Sandy – London 11 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 85 specimens observed.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, *Picoides minor*: Minsmere Reserve observed one specimen on 18th.

Green Woodpecker, *Picus viridis*: Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) heard the mating call of 2-3 male birds.

Woodlark, *Lullula arborea*: Sandy – Cambridge heard the call of one bird on 18th.

Skylark, *Alauda arvensis*: observed several singing males Belgium (17th) to Bruxelles one and 3 specimens to Brugge Sandy – Cambridge one on 18th. Minsmere – Sandy one on 20th. Grantham – Bridlington 2, Bridlington – Bempton 2 and in Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve one on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 4 and in Titchwell Reserve 5 on 22nd.

Sand Martin, *Riparia riparia*: About 20 observed at Cambridge on 18th. Breeding colony at Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) numbering c. 50 pairs and second colony numbering 5 pairs. The young were on the edge of the nests and probably they would soon leave them.

Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*: 7 seen at Sandy, 30 breeding pairs at Cambridge, 15 Sandy – Minsmere on 18th. About 10 breeding pairs on a house at Minsmere 18-20th. Sandy – Grantham 5, Grantham – Bridlington 24 (one pair bred under bridge) and Bempton Cliffs observed several specimens on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 35 (one pair seen under bridge) and

Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 15 specimens on 22nd. In London (23rd, 24th) several individuals observed. Sandy – London 5 on 25th. Belgium (25th). Oostende – Aachen 27 specimens observed.

House Martin, *Delichon urbica*: Belgium (17th) in Landen observed about 30 pairs. Dover – London 4 on 17th. About 30 pairs seen at Cambridge and 17 at Sandy – Minsmere on 18th June. Grantham – Bridlington 36 and Bridlington – Bempton 20 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 63, Titchwell Reserve above the buildings and water were flying over 100 birds and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 45 on 22nd. In London (23rd, 24th) several specimens were observed. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 13 specimens.

Yellow Wagtail, *Motacilla flava*: Minsmere Reserve one on 20th. To Bridlington 2 on 21st.

Pied Wagtail, *M. alba*: To Cambridge, one on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th-20th) 4 specimens.

Meadow Pipit, *Anthus pratensis*: Seen singing males. Minsmere Reserve 2 on 20th. Bempton Cliffs Natural Reserve one on 21st.

Red-backed Shrike, *Lanius collurio*: To Ely, one on 22nd.

Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes*: Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) over 10 singing males. 2 nests found: one seen on the roof of a shelter (h. – 2,5 m) and the other in the hedge (h. – 1,5 m). Grantham – Bridlington 1 singing male on 21st Sandy – Titchwell 6 singing males on 22nd.

Dunnock, *Prunella modularis*: Cambridge University Botanical Garden, 2 singing males on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th). About 10 singing males at Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve. One seen on 21st. 3 Sandy – Titchwell on 22nd.

Robin, *Erithacus rubecula*: In Cambridge 5 observed and to Badingham one on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th-20th) the song of several specimens heard.

Nightingale, *Luscinia megarhynchos*: Minsmere Reserve 3 singing male birds on the 19th.



Black Redstart, *Phoenicurus ochruros*: Minsmere Reserve observed one pair on 20th.

Redstart, *Ph. phoenicurus*: Minsmere Reserve one specimen on 19th. Sandy – Grantham one on 21st.

Whinchat, *Saxicola rubetra*: To Grantham one specimen on 21st.

Stonechat, *S. torquata*: Minsmere Reserve one pair on 20th. Sandy – Titchwell one specimen on 22nd.

Blackbird, *Turdus merula*: The West Germany (17th) in Köln one and Aachen Station 2 pairs. Dover – London 6 specimens on 17th. 18th: in Little Gransden 3 males singing, one female observed bringing food in her beak; Little Gransden – Sandy 4; Sandy – Cambridge 11 in Cambridge nesting in the town, very high level of synanthropization, birds could be approached up to 1 m. There were many juv. left in nests with colour rings on the foot, Sandy – Minsmere 31 specimens. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) many male birds singing everywhere in the forest. One nest under the roof of a shelter near the management building of the reserve. Sandy – Grantham one female, Grantham – Bridlington 26 specimens, Bridlington – Bampton 6 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 30 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 31 (one bird with food in his beak on 22nd). In London (23rd, 24th) several specimens observed Sandy – London 22 and London – Dover 2 specimens on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen observed 7 specimens.

Song Thrush, *T. philomelos*: Little Gransden observed 2 pairs and Sandy – Cambridge 2 specimens on 18th. In Cambridge observed 20 specimens and young flying out of nests. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) about 10 singing males. Sandy – Grantham one and Bridlington: one specimen on 21st; Sandy – Titchwell one and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 17 specimens on 22 nd. In London (23rd, 24th) observed several specimens. Sandy – London 3 on 25th.

Mistle Thrush, *T. viscivorus*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) heard 3 singing males, some young birds who left their nests about a

week earlier. Titchwell – Ely – Sandy observed 3 specimens on 22nd.

Bearded Tit, *Panurus biarmicus*: Minsmere Reserve observed 1+1 specimen on 19th.

Sedge Warbler, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) the song of some birds heard.

Reed Warbler, *A. scirpaceus*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) songs of some birds heard.

Icterine Warbler, *Hippolais icterina*: Minsmere Reserve (19th) 4⁰⁰ – 5⁰⁰ one bird was singing. In his song – elements of the song of Blackcap, Robin, Wren and Dunnock.

Garden Warbler, *Sylvia borin*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) 2 singing birds.

Blackcap, *S. atricapilla*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed 5 specimens.

Whitethroat, *S. communis*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) the song of three birds was heard. Sandy – Titchwell one on 22nd.

Lesser Whitethroat, *S. curruca*: Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) the song of 2 birds was heard.

Chiffchaff, *Phylloscopus collybita*: Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) the song of several specimens was heard.

Willow Warbler, *Ph. trochilus*: Much more common than Chiffchaff in Minsmere Reserve on 19th and 20th.

Spotted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa striata*: Cambridge University Botanical Gardens, one bird was seen on 18th.

Marsh Tit, *Parus palustris*: Minsmere Reserve, one on 20th.

Coal Tit, *P. ater*: one at Minsmere Reserve (19th, 20th) and heard calls of several individuals.

Great Tit, *P. major*: Tonbridge one on 17t. Sandy – Cambridge 1 ad with a food in his beak. In the forest of Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed 10 ad and some young birds. Sandy – Grantham – one on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell one on 22nd.

Blue Tit, *P. caeruleus*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) several singing birds and some families left their nests. Sandy – Grantham one on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell one on 22nd.



Nuthatch, *Sitta europaea*: Minsmere Reserve observed one on 19th.

Corn Bunting, *Emberiza calandra*: Little Gransden – Sandy (18th, 23rd, 24th) observed 1-2 specimens. Sandy – Minsmere one on 18th. Sandy – Titchwell 3 on 22nd.

Yellowhammer, *E. citrinella*: To Poton (18th, 23rd, 24th) 1-3 specimens. Sandy – Cambridge 4 and Sandy – Minsmere 4 on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed several pairs. Bridlington – Bempton one and Bempton Cliffs reserve one on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell one and Titchwell Reserve 5 pairs.

Reed Bunting, *E. schoenobaenus*: Minsmere Reserve one pair observed on 19th.

Chaffinch, *Fringilla coelebs*: In Little Gransden observed 2 specimens and in Cambridge 30 on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th–20th) probably about 30-50 breeding pairs. Grantham – Bridlington 7 on 21st, Sandy – Titchwell 22, Titchwell Reserve about 10 pairs and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 5 specimens on 22nd.

Greenfinch, *Carduelis chloris*: In Sandy on female, in Cambridge observed 10 pairs and Sandy – Minsmere 7 specimens on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th–20th) regularly observed 1-2 specimens.

Goldfinch, *C. carduelis*: Minsmere Reserve one on 19th.

Redpoll, *Acanthis flammea*: Cambridge in University Botanical Garden observed 3 birds on 18th. Minsmere Reserve one on 20th.

Linnet, *A. cannabina*: Sandy one and to Cambridge, one on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th–20th) about 10 specimens. Bridlington one and Bempton one on 21st.

Crossbill, *Loxia curvirostra*: Cambridge in University Botanical Garden several specimens on 18th.

Bullfinch, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*: Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed 1-2 specimens. Grantham – Bridlington one on 21st Sandy – Titchwell one on 22nd.

House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*: The West Germany (17th) in Düsseldorf 10 birds observed. Belgium (17th) Ostkamp 2 and Brugge 10 specimens. Dover – London 11 on

17th, 18th: in Little Gransden about 10 pairs breeding under the roof and in the walls of the houses, now looking after their young in the nests; Little Gransden – Sandy 49 observed; Sandy – Cambridge 4; in Cambridge 20 and Sandy – Minsmere 118 specimens, Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed several pairs. Sandy – Grantham 17, Grantham – Bridlington 33 and Bridlington 34 specimens on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 168, Titchwell Reserve 30 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 117 specimens on 22nd. In London (23rd, 24th) several specimens observed. Sandy – London 14 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen observed 97 specimens.

Tree Sparrow, *P. montanus*: Sandy – Minsmere 3 on 18th. To Grantham 2 on 21st.

Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*: The West Germany (17th) in Düsseldorf observed 12, Köln 2 and Aachen 4 specimens. Belgium (17th) Liege – Bruxelles 6, Bruxelles – Gent 4, Alter 2 ad + 3 juv and Brügge 3 specimens. Dover – London 55 on 17th, 18th: in Little Gransden 5 juv. Little Gransden – Sandy in all 35, Sandy – Cambridge 32, in Cambridge observed about 25 pairs and Sandy – Minsmere 58 specimens. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) probably 20 breeding pairs Minsmere – Sandy 30 (ad + juv) on 20th. 21st: Sandy – Grantham 85 (ad + juv), Grantham – Bridlington 246, Bridlington – Bempton 26 specimens, Bempton Cliffs Nature Reserve nesting on the rocks and some ad and juv were in a flock (ad + juv). Sandy – Titchwell 140 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 388 specimens on 22nd. In London (23rd, 24th) observed several specimens. Sandy – London 66 on 25th. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen observed 195 specimens.

Jay, *Garrulus glandarius*: Cambridge one on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) 1-3 specimens observed.

Magpie, *Pica pica*: The West Germany (17th) to Köln one specimen. Belgium (17th) Bruxelles – Gent observed 3 specimens. Little Gransden one pair and 4 Sandy – Minsmere on 18th. Minsmere Reserve (18th – 20th) observed 1-2 specimens. Sandy – Grantham one,

Grantham – Bridlington 10 on 21st. To Ely one on 22nd. Sandy – London (23rd-25th) observed 1-3 specimens.

Jackdaw, *Corvus monedula*: Belgium (17th) Liege – Bruxelles 2, Laven one, Ostkamp 8 and Brugge one specimen. Dover – London 13 on 17th. In Cambridge observed about 20 specimens, Sandy – Minsmere 15 on 18th. Minsmere Reserve 2 on 19th. 21st: Sandy – Grantham 7, Grantham – Bridlington 32, Bridlington – Bempton 4 and nesting on the rocks around Bempton Cliffs Reserve. Sandy – London (23rd – 25th) 3-5 observed.

Rook, *C. frugilegus*: Belgium (17th) to Bruxelles 60 specimens. Dover – London 100 specimens on 17th. Sandy – Minsmere 34 on 18th. Minsmere – Sandy 30 on 20th. Sandy – Grantham 52, Grantham – Bridlington 449 (one breeding colony from 4 pairs) and Bridlington – Bempton 13 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 40 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 52 on 22nd. Sandy – London (23rd – 25th) about 10 specimens observed. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 27 specimens observed.

Carrin Crow, *C. corone*: The West Germany (17th) Essen - Düsseldorf 8 individuals observed. Belgium (17th) Liege one, Bruxelles 2, Gent 6 and Brugge 2 specimens. Dover – London 8 on 17th. 18th: Little Gransden – Sandy 3, Sandy – Cambridge 16, in Cambridge 30 and Sandy – Minsmere 42 specimens. Minsmere Reserve one on 19th. Sandy – Grantham 14 and Grantham – Bridlington 14 on 21st. Sandy – Titchwell 2 and Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 12 on 22nd. Sandy – London (23rd – 25th) 10-13 specimens observed. Belgium (25th) Oostende – Aachen 6 specimens observed.

4. Birds and animals killed along the roads

21.06.1987 Bempton – Sandy 186 miles (298 km):

<i>Aves</i>	<i>Mammalia</i>
<i>Turdus merula</i> – 22	Hare – 24
<i>Corvus frugilegus</i> – 14	Hedgehog – 23
<i>Columba palumbus</i> – 4	Dog – 1
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i> – 4	Total – 48

Passer domesticus – 2

Vanellus vanellus – 1

Aves sp. – 2

Total – 49

22.06.1987 Sandy – Titchwell 102,7 miles (165 km):

<i>Aves</i>	<i>Mammalia</i>
<i>Turdus merula</i> – 9	Hare – 26
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i> – 3	Hedgehog – 11
<i>Columba palumbus</i> – 2	Total – 37
<i>Turdus philomelos</i> – 1	
<i>Passer domesticus</i> – 1	
Total – 16	

22.06.1987 Titchwell – Ely – Sandy 83,4 miles (134 km):

<i>Aves</i>	<i>Mammalia</i>
<i>Turdus merula</i> – 8	Hedgehog – 18
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i> – 1	Hare – 9
<i>Apus apus</i> – 1	Total – 27
<i>Passer domesticus</i> – 1	
Total – 11	

25.06.1987 Sandy – London:

<i>Aves</i>	<i>Mammalia</i>
<i>Turdus merula</i> – 4	Hare – 7
<i>Columba palumbus</i> – 1	Hedgehog – 3
<i>Passer domesticus</i> – 1	Total – 10
Total – 6	

5. Some conclusions

During our journey through West Germany, Belgium and England 118 species were observed. The number of the species seen from the train when crossing West Germany and Belgium was comparatively small. Birds were seen above all in England, in Minsmere Reserve (57 on the 18th, 75 on the 19th and 68 on the 20th of June) and also during the visit to Bempton Cliffs Reserve (48 on 21st) and Titchwell Marsh Reserve (52 on 22nd). The birds' colonies on Bempton Cliffs and the nesting seabirds were very interesting: *Fulmarus glacialis*, *Morus bassanus*, *Rissa tridactyla*, *Alca torda*, *Uria aalge*, *Fratercula arctica*. New or interesting species were also *Branta canadensis*, *Branta leucopsis*, *Anser*



indicus, *Alectoris rufa*, *Larus marinus*, *Corvus corone*, as well as the distributed in England subspecies: *Motacilla flava flavissima* and *Motacilla alba yarrelli*. The rare for the England *Hippolais icterina* was recorded in Minsmere Reserve.

Synanthropization of some species in Bulgaria and England is quite different. A very high degree of synanthropization of some birds was seen in towns: *Turdus merula*, *T. philomelos*, *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Columba palumbus*, *Fulica atra*, *Gallinula chloropus*, *Riparia riparia* and many others.

We were impressed by the high number of animals killed by the cars on the roads of England. That is why on the 21st, 22nd and 25th the leader of the group decided to classify the killed birds and animals according to their number. A checklist with the results is given.

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Замітки	Беркут	10	Вип. 1	2001	51
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СЛУЧАЙ ЗАСЕЛЕНИЯ РЕМЕЗОМ ПРОШЛОГОДНЕГО ГНЕЗДА

A case of occupation of an old nest by the Penduline Tit. - N.P. Knysh. - Berkut. 10 (1). 2001. - A renovated last year's nest with 4 fresh eggs was found near Sumy city on 24.05.1987. Birds made new inlet tube in the opposite side from the old one. [Russian].

Общеизвестно, что ремезы (*Remiz pendulinus*) не ремонтируют и не используют свои старые гнезда (Третьяков, 1973; Когут, Бокотей, 1996). Как бы с целью пошатнуть, а то и опровергнуть эти представления, мне выпал редкий случай обнаружить гнездо ремеза весьма своеобразного вида. Это было подновленное птицами прошлогоднее гнездо; его новая входная трубка находилась с противоположной стороны от старой, сплюснутой временем и непогодой, трубки, а свежий строительный материал четко выделялся на грязном фоне старых деталей гнезда.

Гнездо найдено 24.05.1987 г. вблизи г. Сумы в заболоченной пойме р. Стрелка. Располагалось оно на 5-метровой иве на высоте 2,0 м от воды. В момент находки в

гнезде было 4 свежих яйца, к нему подлетел ремез с пучком растительного пуха в клюве.

Комментируя это сообщение, М.А. Воинственский в личном письме к автору (7.04.1988 г.) подчеркнул, что "...Такие наблюдения вообще очень ценны. Они показывают, что у птиц постоянно разрушаются стереотипы поведения, и это может привести в конце-концов к новым способам постройки гнезд".

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Н.П. Кныш

Педуниверситет,
кафедра зоології,
ул. Роменська, 87,
40002, г. Суми,
Україна (Ukraine).