



**West African Ornithological Society
Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
Africain**



**Join the WAOS and support
the future availability of free
pdfs on this website.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/member.htm>

If this link does not work, please copy it to your browser and try again.

If you want to print this pdf, we suggest you begin on the next page (2) to conserve paper.

**Devenez membre de la
SOOA et soutenez la
disponibilité future des pdfs
gratuits sur ce site.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/adhesion.htm>

Si ce lien ne fonctionne pas, veuillez le copier pour votre navigateur et réessayer.

Si vous souhaitez imprimer ce pdf, nous vous suggérons de commencer par la page suivante
(2) pour économiser du papier.

C O N T E N T S

Circulation List : Amendments	
Birds Seen on a Trans-Saharan Overland Crossing in Spring, 1966 V.W.Smith	50
African Migrants in Nigeria J.H.Elgood	62
A Nest of the Violet-backed Sunbird F.Walsh	70
The Violet-backed Sunbird Nesting in Nigeria D.Wells	72
Notes - Addition to Local Avifaunas : Zaria pp N.J.Skinner	74
Extension of Breeding Range into Nigeria of the Blue-cheeked Bee-eater pp F.Walsh	74
Correspondence : <u>Artomyias ussheri</u> S.Marchant	75
Request for Information : <u>Anaplectes melanotis</u> F.Walsh	75
Notices - Lake Chad Ornithological Expedition, 1967	76
Mid-Winter Census of Wildfowl	76

The Nigerian Ornithologists' Society. Secretary, Treasurer and
Editor : C.H.Fry, Department of Zoology, Ahmadu Bello University,
Zaria

CIRCULATION LIST - AMENDMENTS

Add :

Editor, 'Ibis', Woodbridge, Suffolk; Editor, 'The Ring', Laboratory of Ornithology, Wroclaw, Poland

Cowper, Prof. S.G. Dept of Bacteriology, University of Ibadan
Grimes, Dr L., Dept. of Physics, University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana
Monk, Dr J.F., The Globe Cottage, Goring, near Reading, Berks
Thiede, Dr W., 2 Hamburg 22, Lessingstrasse 30, Germany
Warr, Mrs F.E., c/o Seismograph Service Ltd., P.O.Box 338, Warri

New Addresses :

Payne, D., c/o Barclays Bank D.C.O., Benin City
Smith, P.A., Sherfield Cottage, Snape, Saxmundham, Suffolk
Smith, V.W., c/o Dept. of Agriculture, Jarrah Road, South Perth, Western Australia

30th October, 1966

Dear Member,

AFRICAN MIGRANT BIRDS IN NIGERIA

An Appeal for Information and Co-operative Study

Despite the impracticability of holding conventional meetings, our Society has exhibited every sign of flourishing since its inception 2½ years ago. Membership has increased steadily, finances are healthy, and the BULLETIN has appeared regularly. Recently it has been felt that the time is ripe for some co-operative investigation by members, ** and the study of African bird migration in Nigeria is a worthy and ideal subject.

In an article in the accompanying issue of the BULLETIN, J.H.Elgood has outlined the major problems to be resolved, and has given a family-by-family list to show the species which are thought to be migratory. If all members of the Society could assist in this national project by gathering further information within the next year, some real progress will be made, and Elgood's article is by way of appeal for such help. Regrettably, this appeal appears two or three weeks later than anticipated, at a time when much migration of African birds has just occurred, but systematic study over the forthcoming 12-month period could produce a great deal of invaluable information. The list of birds in the article is very probably incomplete, so that you, as a member living more or less continuously in, or retired from, a specific area of Nigeria, have reason to believe that such-and-such a bird is migratory, we would be very grateful if omissions were brought to our attention. What we want is dates, dates at specific areas of observation. If enough raw data can be collected in this way, spread over most of Nigeria, some pattern of movement may well emerge for species that have so far seemed no more than sporadic. We also need to know whether breeding of the species in question occurs in your area, if this can be ascertained.

Ideally, information on migration should be obtained by systematic watching at a locality. First and last dates should be recorded, and the duration, direction and volume of passage when apparent. Seasonal fluctuation in numbers of a species which is present throughout the year is important, since such a species might well in fact be migrant. Members who would be kind enough to undertake studies of migrants will find the Society's Field Cards a convenient way of recording and sending in their data. What is needed, then, is recording of birds at a locality as regularly and systematically as possible, and members who feel that they could participate in this work are invited to get in touch with any of the undersigned to give any data that they may already have, or to seek additional information or advice.

J.H.Elgood, University of London
Goldsmiths' College, New Cross, S.E.14

C.H.Fry, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria

R.E.Sharland, P.O.Box 791, Kano

** See also the Notice

'MIDWINTER CENSUS OF WILDFOWL' on p. 76 -Editor.