

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

## DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

Galliformes Specialist Group and Affiliated  
Societies: Newsletters

Galliformes Specialist Group and Affiliated  
Societies

---

8-1989

### WPA News 25 (1989)

World Pheasant Association

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/galliformes\\_newsletters](https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/galliformes_newsletters)



Part of the [Biodiversity Commons](#), [Environmental Policy Commons](#), and the [Ornithology Commons](#)

---

World Pheasant Association, "WPA News 25 (1989)" (1989). *Galliformes Specialist Group and Affiliated Societies: Newsletters*. 52.

[https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/galliformes\\_newsletters/52](https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/galliformes_newsletters/52)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Galliformes Specialist Group and Affiliated Societies at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Galliformes Specialist Group and Affiliated Societies: Newsletters by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

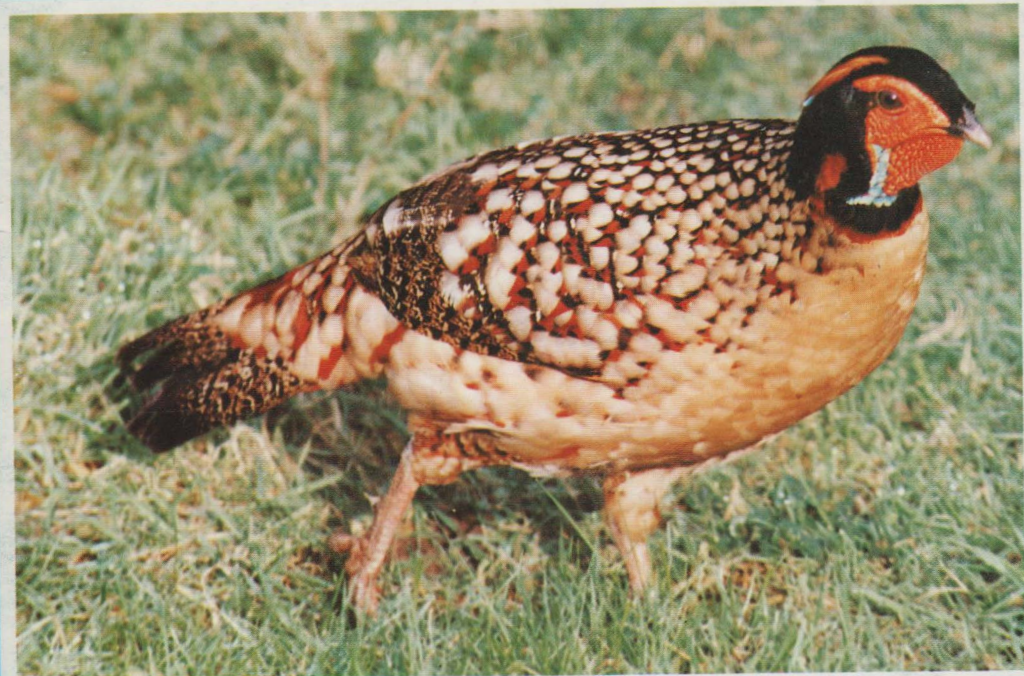
# WPA



# NEWS

No. 25

*August 1989*



*The International News of the World Pheasant Association*

# WPA NEWS NO. 25

Editor: Derek Bingham  
CONTENTS

From the chairman	1
China evening	2
Presidents award	4
Megapode working group	5
Malay peacock pheasant - <i>Philip McGowan</i>	6
Scientific advisory committee - <i>David Jenkins</i>	7
Avicultural notes	8
WPA Benelux - <i>Tim Lovel</i>	9
Indonesia	11
Chairman's annual report	13
Annual accounts	21
Annual general meeting - agenda	24
My year in the UK - <i>Zhang Zheng-wang</i>	25
News from all quarters	30
Chapter reports	36
Correspondence	38
Obituary	40

---

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1989

- 11 Sept WPA Annual General Meeting, WPA HQ, Reading, Berks.  
7-20 Oct Fourth International Pheasant Symposium, Beijing, China.  
18 Nov General meeting, WPA France.

1990

- 5 Oct Fifth International Grouse Symposium.  
Dec International Ornithological Conference, Christchurch,  
New Zealand.

1991

- Sept/Oct First International Partridge, Quail & Francolin Symposium.

---

Front Cover: *Cabots Tragopan*

Photo: *Jean Howman*

Back Cover: *Golden Pheasant* (see page 31)

Photo: *Jean Howman*

Published by the World Pheasant Association, P O Box 5, Lower Basildon, Reading RG8 9PF, England. Telephone Pangbourne (0734) 845140 (24-hour answering service). Executive Secretary: Jan Readman.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Members will, I hope, have noticed and approved the introduction of colour into the front and back covers of our Newsletter. What is not so apparent is that the typesetting of this issue has been largely carried out 'in house' at a considerable saving in cost. The savings more than compensate for the additional cost of colour so we are not being extravagant with your money.

The typesetting is carried out on a 'desk-top publisher' and has the added advantage to us of greatly reducing the lead time needed for final copy. This in turn will lead to more up-to-date material being carried in each issue and a further all round improvement in **WPA News**. I am very grateful to Derek Bingham, our editor, for all the work he has put in at minimal cost to help us present a more professional publication.

The mid-summer Newsletter traditionally is for the promotion of the **WPA Annual Convention and AGM**. This year however, as earlier reported, Council decided that our usual September meeting should not be held as so many members were involved with and were going to, the **4th International Pheasant Symposium** in Beijing, China, in early October.

We will still be holding our **AGM, on Monday 11 September**, but as WPA UK found this year, the mention of AGM seems to be a signal to stay away. It seems likely therefore that attendance will be low and I am therefore introducing my **Annual Report** for the year ended 30 April prior to the AGM and alongside our **Annual Accounts** in this issue of **WPA News** in order to provide the opportunity for comment. I would particularly draw attention to the comments and explanation in the Annual Report of how we use our very limited funds to best advantage.

Mention of funds makes an introduction into a topic of potential vital importance to WPA. Have you ever read one of those newspaper snippets which says ". . . shire lady leaves half a million to a cats home" and thought "I could have made better use of that"? I certainly have and keep thinking that WPA could do with it. All of which is leading up to saying that WPA would greatly appreciate members giving thought to making a **legacy** to us in your Will. In particular we would appreciate legacies stipulating that only the income be used and these would be put into our **Delacour Fund**. For details and advice please contact our Treasurer, John Brown through WPA HQ.



## CHINA EVENING

**M**usic, opera and a little bit of magic helped make our fund raising 'China Evening' an enormous success. It was held in the beautiful surroundings of the Child Beale Trust.

The evening started with drinks over-looking the lake, surrounded by weeping willows, to the accompaniment of traditional Chinese music. An extremely energetic dragon dance led us up to the Pavilion where Chinese Opera accompanied a Chinese dinner and set the scene for a very unusual evening and enthusiastically received auction conducted by John Mauger.

A small pot of 'Royal Jelly' (renowned for its aphrodisiac qualities!) was competitively bid for hitting an all time high street value of £100! - and a magnum of Cordon Negro Frexinet Vintage went for £80 - perhaps they went together!

People's generosity over the course of the evening not only made it a thoroughly enjoyable event, but also a spectacular fund raising night and principle thanks must go to Peter Trentham and his team of helpers and of course the participants.

As a result we now have the funds to cover the special scientists tour immediately following the China Symposium. A dozen or so western scientists will spend a week 'in the field' with Chinese counterparts.



*John Mauger conducting the auction with the help of Jane Skelton and Susan Howman.*



*Peter Trentham (right) directed operations.*



*Geoff and Betty Jacobs were delighted with the painting they won in the raffle.*



*Admiral Sir John Cox pausing on the walk up to dinner in the pavilion. Sir John is chief executive of Sound Alive who made a tape to conduct visitors around our 1989 Game Fair Stand.*

*Photos: Jean Howman.*





## AMERICAN NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION AWARD

**O**ur president, Professor Cheng Tso-hsin, has been awarded the ANWF's 1988 Special Conservation Achievement Award at a ceremony held in the Peking Shangri-la Hotel on 26 May.

The award was made by Dr Joy D Hair the chief executive officer of the National Wildlife Federation which is the United States largest conservation organisation with 5.1 million members and supporters and 51 affiliated organisations. Around 100 people attended the ceremony including Mr Song Jian, Minister without portfolio and the president and vice president of Academia Sinica.

In making the presentation Dr Hair said that it was the first time that ANWF had held the ceremony outside the United States and concluded by saying that the old adage held true again "that behind every great man who makes outstanding contributions, there is a great women". He then presented the beautiful Whooping Crane symbol to Professor and Mrs Cheng.



*Dr Hair (right) about to make the presentation to Professor and Mrs Cheng.*

In his speech of thanks for the award Professor Cheng said "There is still a great deal of work for us to do in furthering and promoting wildlife research and conservation. We have to strengthen international co-ordination and co-operation. China needs the world and the world needs China and we need to push forward in China the nature conservation movement".

## MEGAPODE WORKING GROUP

**D**r Rene Dekker, chairman of the Megapode Group, is planning to hold an informal meeting of interested parties probably during the ICBP/IOC Congress in New Zealand in December 1990. Anyone interested should write to Dr Dekker at Institute of Taxonomic Zoology, Department of Ornithology, University of Amsterdam, P O Box 4766, 1009 AT Amsterdam, Holland.

Dr Dekker also reports that he is hoping later in the year to visit the Nicobar Islands to assist in the re-establishment of viable numbers of the Nicobar Scrubfowl *Megapodius nicobarcensis* which is now seriously threatened. We hope to be able to report more news on this later.

The Megapode Newsletter No 3, May 1989 is now available from Dr Dekker at the above address. Even those without a special interest in Megapodes cannot but be captivated by a delightful little poem in it by Colin Harrison which describes the lifestyle of the Megapodes to a tee.

### THE MOUND-BUILDERS

by Colin Harrison

A sadder bird I have not met  
Than *Megapodius freycinet*  
Its simple habit is to lay  
Its eggs in holes and go away

It trusts some energetic mate  
Will dig them in before too late  
And tend each ovum where it lays  
And slowly cooks for days and days



*Megapodius l. sevox*



*Megapodius l. laperouse*

But this excited architect  
Obsessed with what it can erect  
Creating with assiduous care  
Its private castle in the air  
Ignores the little offspring's plight  
That struggles up towards the light  
Emerging with a final push  
To totter off towards the bush  
While Father, feeling naught bereft  
Merely fills in the hole it left.



## MALAYSIAN PEACOCK PHEASANT : BREEDING BIOLOGY

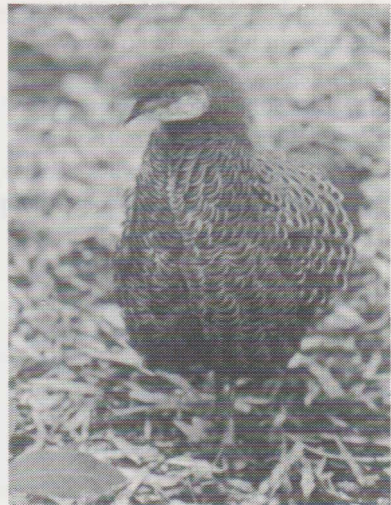
P.McGowan

Although there is little new field information to add to the notes in *WPA News* 24, I would like to ask WPA members for help in two areas. Firstly, voluntary field assistance during the first half of 1990 would be of immense benefit in allowing much new information to be collected on calling behaviour, movements (via radio tracking) and on activities at male display scrapes. All these aspects are crucial to a full understanding of the species' apparently very unusual breeding behaviour.

The second area in which I would greatly value help is in recording calls and watching captive peacock pheasants - of any species. Both types of information are very difficult, if not impossible to collect in the field on some species. Comparisons across the genus, however, may well throw some light on the evolution of calls and displays in these birds, as well as being important in trying to work out the full story of peacock pheasant breeding biology. Consequently, I would be very interested to hear from any aviculturists who have peacock pheasants - especially of known age and who would be prepared to allow me to record calls and/or watch individuals. Anecdotes from aviculturists on these species would be very welcome indeed.

A very pleasing start has been made with captive birds, thanks to Tunku Nazim, curator of exhibits at Zoo Negara in Kuala Lumpur. Calls have been recorded from eight young Malay Peacocks including six birds aged one day to two months that have hatched this year. Tunku Nazim and his staff at the zoo have been most helpful in providing access to and information on the captive stock held there.

Fieldwork during 1989 has been most generously supported by The Open University, WWF-Malaysia, International Trust for Nature Conservation, Child Beale Wildlife Trust, British Airways and John Brocklehurst.



*Grey Peacock Pheasant*  
Photo: Jean Howman

## SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

David Jenkins

This committee aims to advise WPA International Council on scientific matters with which the Association is involved. Its function is wholly advisory, with very few exceptions, and it can only act through WPA International Council. The main exception to this is that the chairman of the scientific advisory committee (SAC) has delegated authority to spend small sums of up to £150 on projects on his own authority though in close consultation with the chairman of council. The main activities of the SAC are therefore to assess project plans and to recommend expenditure to Council where appropriate.

In 1988/89, one of the main activities affected Green peafowl in Thailand for which Miss Belinda Stewart-Cox was awarded £400 for expenses involved in campaigns aimed at developments threatening the area in which she has been studying Green peafowl.

A lot of work by the SAC has gone into preparing the programme of the proposed conference in Peking and in editing about 40-50 papers which will be pre-circulated before the Symposium. Thirty of these papers are by Chinese authors.

Members of the SAC have produced drafts of a *Technical Guide*. This guide aims to explain in simple terms how relatively inexperienced workers in third world countries can get to grips with the field problems involved in studying pheasants in difficult terrain and should help to standardise census work procedures and therefore their results.

The most recent initiative by SAC is to stimulate interest in galliformes in Indonesia. It is hoped to finance an Indonesian student to study the status and distribution of some of the rarer species of pheasants in either central Kalimantan, where he might be attached to an on-going expedition from Cambridge University, or perhaps in the lowland forests of Sumatra which are gravely at risk due to logging.

In addition to the current projects on pheasants in the old world and Cracids in the new world, the SAC has also been involved in a symposium on woodland grouse in Bavaria, and continues to update the *Conservation Strategy*.

## AVICULTURAL NOTES

In our last issue we included an item on new techniques in egg incubation which dealt primarily with the use of egg weight graphs and egg weight density as an aid to artificial incubation. As a result of the increased amount of candling of eggs and observation of the development of the embryos, a perhaps very important observation has been made relating to the positioning of the egg whilst being incubated.

It has been noted that eggs held in the point down position adopted by almost all commercial incubators have a distinct disadvantage for certain species (Satyr Tragopan is an example). In smallish eggs the embryo seems to develop normally with the usual 90° turn but in large eggs the embryo does not develop well in the bottom of the egg. This can be overcome by positioning the egg on its side for a part at least of the first 14 days of incubation so long as this is possible in your incubator. Perhaps nature is resisting modern developments and reminding us of how she does it.



At the start of the breeding season the numbers of Common Koklass in the UK stood at 28 according to the WPA UK census carried out earlier in the year. Using primarily artificial incubation and the egg weight graph technique Robert Newcombe has had great success in hatching and rearing over 30. Hatching is not everything and diet is important as Peter Holsheimer found during his research into this difficult species.

However Peter's main conclusion was that it was incubation techniques and not diet which were the most important factor in the production of koklass chicks without deformities. He based this conclusion largely on success when using broody hens rather than an incubator. A copy of his excellent and well produced report is still available through WPA HQ.

Finally a reminder that hatching chicks is one thing and rearing good, well feathered poults is another. Don't spoil a good start by overcrowding and allowing feather-pecking to start. This seems to happen more in hot weather than cool and is easily prevented by allowing enough space or the use of plastic bits. The former is preferable. Plastic bits are easily obtainable from the Game Conservation, Fordingbride, Hampshire.



## TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF WPA BENELUX

Dr T W I Lovel

**W**PA Benelux always arranges splendid meetings for their many members, and for their Tenth Anniversary in April they excelled themselves. They managed to attract more than 160 participants to their celebration weekend at Antwerp Zoo. Wolfgang Grummt from East Berlin Zoo, and Dana Franek from Czechoslovakia (who had once again hitch-hiked to attend a WPA meeting), were just two of the many people who made the pilgrimage to this centre of aviculture in Belgium.

The contents of the papers were of a very high standard and started with a study of vitamins E and A and their concentration in the plasma of Congo peafowl and other pheasants. In the Congo peafowl particularly levels of vitamin E have been found to be low and an ongoing survey is aimed at correcting this and assessing the affects on breeding success. Another very interesting paper was on finger-printing of birds using DNA analysis.

Harry Weekers and Wolfgang Grummt described the pheasants in their own collections, Rene Dekker spoke about Megapodes, Roland van Bocxstaele spoke about the Cracid Working Group and I presented a paper on 'WPA and Aviculture' which will be reported in Newsletter 26.



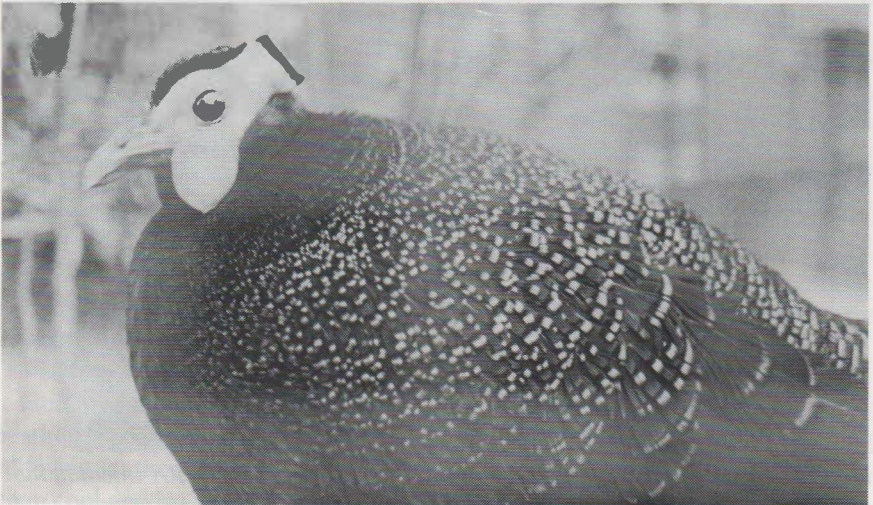
*Dr Grummt (left) talking with Han Assink, Chairman of the WPA International Avicultural Committee.*

*Photo: Diana Lovel*

It was also splendid for us to meet so many old friends again, some of whom are now of 17 years standing. Only those who have helped arrange such meetings really appreciate the vast amount of preparation which goes into making such a hugely successful weekend, and the committee of WPA Benelux are to be warmly congratulated.

We are all very grateful to FJ Daman, the director of Antwerp Zoo for making such splendid facilities available and for his great friendliness and warm welcome.

It was also well worth visiting the Zoo for the landscaped gardens alone, which were a riot of colour with tulips and other spring flowers. The birds all looked in fine condition both in the city zoo and at Planckendael near Mechelen, where the party ended on the Sunday afternoon. Outstanding in the Zoo's collection of pheasants was a fine pair of Bulwer's. When these birds first came into the country they were so wild that they skulked in their house constantly. If persuaded to emerge they did a wall of death dance round the aviary and dived back in to the house as soon as it was permitted! Now they are so tame that they are a photographer's nightmare. They come so close to the wire that it is almost impossible to get them in focus. Yet Dieter Arnolds managed to get a full display of the cock on his video camera, and several other members took still photographs of the pheasant.



*Bulwers Pheasant*

*Photo: Diana Lovel*

## INDONESIA

Many pheasant species come from Indonesia and include five species 'at risk' in the wild. These are Salvadori's pheasant *Lophura inornata*, the Bornean crested fireback *Lophura ignita*, Bulwer's pheasant *Lophura bulweri*, Malay peacock pheasant *Polyplectron malacense* and the Green peafowl *Pavoniticus*. Other gamebirds at risk in Indonesia are the Sula scrubfowl, Moluccan scrubfowl, Waigeo brush-turkey, the Maleo and the Chestnut-necklaced partridge. It is therefore a most important area for the World Pheasant Association.

Dr Derek Holmes lives in Jakarta, and is on the WPA Scientific Advisory Committee as a corresponding member and has been advising WPA on our future plans for the conservation of galliformes in Indonesia. He is also joint editor of *Kukila*, the magazine for the Green Indonesia Foundation and the Ornithological Society of Indonesia from which the two extracts below are taken.

The subscription rate for *Kukila* is \$14 airmailed to you and new subscribers are asked to contact: The Editor, *Kukila*, P O Box 287, SKSMG, Jakarta Selatan 12710A, Indonesia.

The first extract is a brief note from a paper on the Black breasted thrush in the Bukit Baka Nature Reserve in Kalimantan, Borneo, by Clifford G Rice.

"Considering the lack of accounts of bird species from this region, a list of species identified during the survey is included (Table 1). **Bulwer's** pheasant was not actually seen but a pair of preserved wings was shown to me by a man who trapped them near a timber camp on the western boundary of the Reserve". [*Hopefully no trapping (or logging) occurs in the Reserve.* Ed.]

The second extract is a full paper but with references omitted by FR Lambert and J R Howes on a recent sighting of Salvadori's pheasant.

"Salvadori's pheasant *Lophura inornata* has been listed as one of the 126 species of threatened birds that occur in Indonesia (Collar & Andrew 1988). The species is a Sumatran endemic, confined to the Barisan Mountain range and isolated mountain tops from the Ophir districts (00°04'N, 99°59'E) of Sumatra Barat, south to Mount Dempu (04°2'S, 103°09'E) in Sumatra Selatan. The bird has been reported to inhabit the floor of lower montane forest at 1000-



2200m (Van Marle & Voous 1988). Very little is known about Salvadori's Pheasant, and its taxonomic affinities with the closely related Hoogerwerf's pheasant *L. hoogerwerfi* are unclear. Nevertheless, although *L. hoogerwerfi* has been incorporated into *L. inomata* in the past, differences are thought to be sufficient to treat these two as separate species (Van Marle & Voous 1988).

Prior to the record documented below, Salvadori's pheasant had not been recorded in the wild since 1913-1917, when a series of 34 specimen was collected by Robinson & Kloss (1918) and E. Jacobson (Robinson & Kloss 1924) at various sites. Nevertheless, four live specimens were imported into France in 1939, and several pairs (perhaps a mixture including both Salvadori's and Hoogerwerf's pheasants) are reported to have reached Europe and North America in 1975 and 1976 (Delacour 1977).

On 26 December 1986, the authors observed a pair of Salvadori's pheasants at an altitude of c.2200m on the summit trail of Mount Kerinci, Sumatra Barat (01<sup>o</sup>42'S, 101<sup>o</sup>16'E), above the village of Kerisik Tua. The birds were observed at close range for about 20 seconds before they walked into dense understorey, giving a quiet alarm call. The vegetation in this area had been extensively altered, with scattered areas of planted bananas slightly lower on the mountain, and evidence that a significant proportion of the larger trees had been felled. Further down the mountain (perhaps 100m lower) the forest had been clear felled to plant crops. Just above the area where the pheasants were seen, the forest appeared to be untouched.

Although it is a heartening discovery that Salvadori's pheasant still survives on the slopes of Mount Kerinci, and presumably at other sites, much of the former forested range of the species, lying at lower altitudes, has been cleared. The birds observed on Mount Kerinci were at the upper known limit of the species' known altitudinal range, and it seems likely that further illegal agricultural encroachment and land clearance will occur. The Kerinci-Seblat National Park has been classified as one of the ten most threatened areas in the Indomalayan realm (Thorsell 1985).

Whilst the birds were observed in an area of forest modified by man, their existence here does not necessarily imply that the species can survive indefinitely in secondary forest. It is possible that these birds were occupying a marginal habitat because of altitudinal constraints which prevent them from moving to primary forest at slightly higher altitude."

## CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 1988/89

We live undoubtedly in a period of rapid change, so rapid in fact that it is hard to keep pace with all the new technology becoming available on the one hand and easy to forget about the roots from which it stems on the other. This was brought home to me when WPA was planning its exhibit for the ASDA Festival of Food and Farming held in Hyde Park earlier this year.

The theme we chose was 'Gamebirds and Man' and we highlighted in each of the groups of gamebirds the wild species source of man's domestic birds and contrasted it with the numbers of species within the same group that man has allowed to become 'at risk in the wild'. The figures are frightening with 50% or more at risk in the Turkey and Megapode families as well as in the Pheasant family (which produced all our domestic chickens). Even more frightening really is the way we seem to have forgotten that it is only in the last 30 years that man has succeeded in developing today's efficient 'egg laying machines' and fast growing broilers. Only 30 years ago the most efficient egg layer was the farmyard Rhode Island Red which almost all readers of this Newsletter will remember. Yet it is during these same 30 years that 'man' has allowed the other species to 'become at risk'.



*HRH Prince Philip took a keen interest in our ASDA stand.*

*Photo: Jean Howman*



There is a tendency for those in the affluent West to take the view that they are the ones doing the clever genetic engineering and therefore that it does not matter what is happening in the East and other less developed parts. But of course it does matter, because each day potentially valuable genetic material in the form of beautiful birds and the vital forests they live in are being destroyed.

It has been of great encouragement to me during the past year that WPA Chapters in the West have made such strides forward in supporting not just projects in their own countries but projects in the East as well. WPA Germany has contributed to the Pipar project in Nepal, WPA France to the work in Vietnam and WPA Benelux to the Cheer release project in Pakistan.

The continuity of our support for the Cheer project is starting to bear fruit as can be seen from the project updates later in this report. Further more the good will and support for WPA projects in Pakistan that has been built up over the last ten or more years has now resulted in outline financial approval of a major project led by Guy Duke for the long-term conservation of the Western Tragopan. The WPA Pakistan team led by Mr Minoo Bhandara as president, Brigadier Mukhtar Ahmed as chairman and the indefatigable Mr Al Lee as administrator are to be congratulated on the great progress made in 1988 and the wonderful goodwill and support they have built up.



*The Red Junglefowl has produced all our domestic chickens see also p31.  
Photo: Jean Howman*

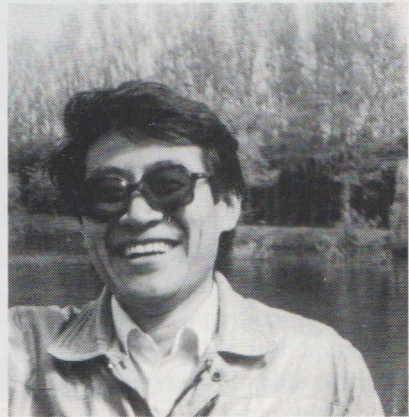


In adjoining India the year began with the sad news that our vice president HH Maharaja of Baroda was in poor health. His death in September, a week before the 10th Anniversary of WPA India, was a great sadness to all of us.

The 10th Anniversary meeting of WPA India was the best attended we have had, which bodes well for the future. The meeting confirmed the appointment of Dr M S Swaminathan as chairman and we are very grateful that such a busy person could find the time to take on this role. Dr Swaminathan is the current president of IUCN and has since agreed to become president of WWF India thus maintaining to our very great pleasure the close links between WPA India and WWF India forged by our late vice president. Our project work in India is summarised later in this report.

More work goes into the running of an international conference before the event than during it and the forthcoming 4th International Pheasant Symposium in October 1989 is no exception. I would like to record here my thanks to our helpers in the UK Dr Peter Garson, Dr David Hill, Professor David Jenkins and John Cooper for all their help and assistance towards ensuring that we have a highly successful symposium. I would like too to thank 'The Pheasant Committee' in Beijing who have been so helpful and efficient in producing everything on time. They are Professor Zheng Guangmei, Professor Tan Yao-kuang, Professor Qian Yan Wen, and Professor Xu Weishu encouraged and guided by our president, Professor Cheng Tso-hsin.

We have also had very great assistance from Zhang Zheng-wang the exchange student who spent a year with us doing an informal game management course. He has been a wonderful ambassador for China and endeared himself to the staff of all the many establishments who generously assisted us in providing him with a varied training programme. I would like in particular to record our thanks to Dr Bob Moss of the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Dr Peter Hudson of the Game Conservancy Grouse Research Unit, David Waugh of Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, Dr



*Zhang Zheng-wang  
Photo: Jean Howman*

Pete Robertson of the Game Conservancy, Fordingbridge, Professor George Dunnet of Aberdeen University, Peter Olney of London Zoological Society and John Cooper of the Royal College of Surgeons. Many other individuals and organisations gave up their time to help 'Jim' as he became known, and we and 'Jim' are most grateful to them. Before leaving the China theme I would like particularly to thank Midland and Scottish Group Ltd for their sponsorship of the 4th International Pheasant Symposium without which it would not be possible to bring together such a large international gathering of scientists.

A charity like the World Pheasant Association is very dependent on company sponsorship to help finance projects and promote our conservation message. Two other major companies have provided substantial support to us in the past year in totally different ways. Peat Marwick McLintock, who are leading accountants and management consultants have confirmed support for us for a third consecutive Game Fair, as well as their generous support given to the ASDA Festival of Food and Farming in Hyde Park in May. It is only their support that has made it possible for us to finance the cost of exhibits of increasingly high quality and we are most grateful to Jim Kerevan and his partners. I would also like to thank here our standbuilder in chief Geoff Jacobs.



*Rod Hall with a WPA shipment.*

The other major company from whom we have received major support, but this time in kind rather than in cash during the past year is British Airways through Rod Hall and BA's 'Assisting Nature Conservation' scheme. BA have flown scientists to Pakistan and Malaysia, books and audiovisuals to India, eggs and pheasants to Pakistan and will later this year be shipping pheasants to China. All this support along with its attendant publicity has been of immense benefit to WPA. It has made more projects possible and we have I hope, played our part in making it of benefit to them too.

**To All Of Them And Our Many Other Supporters A Large Thank You.**

## CURRENT PROJECTS

A review of our activities worldwide is best done by reviewing our current projects and although this has now become a regular and popular feature of *WPA News*, I make no apology for repeating it within my annual report.

### WESTERN TRAGOPAN SURVEYS PAKISTAN

This project, which has been steadily accumulating information over many years now, has moved into top gear and is one of several which WPA has initiated that epitomises, I believe, all that is best in the area of conservation bodies working together and the rightness of WPA policy in getting such projects initiated in the first place on a low budget basis.

The principle years of field work were carried out initially by Kamal Islam and have been followed up by Guy Duke. They have been combined and extended into a major project being launched this year entitled *Pakistan's Himalayan Jungle: Species-Rich Forest. A Conservation and Development Proposal*. This sets out, in terms agreed by Pakistan's National Council for Conservation of Wildlife, ICBP and WPA's proposal for a three-year project to be run with the full collaboration of the provincial wildlife wings. The project is an exciting, unprecedented initiative for the integration of conservation and development in Pakistan's temperate Himalayan forests (the habitat of the Western

Tragopan). It details four groups of objectives: protected area development, personnel training, education and publicity and ecological research.

At the time of writing it seems very hopeful that this multi thousand pound project will be funded by WPA Pakistan, WWF Pakistan and an environmental aid agency to make it by far the largest project with which WPA has been associated.

### CHEER REINTRODUCTION PAKISTAN

This long running project has continued and extended during the year. One male bird from the 1986 release still survives but we still have no evidence of 'wild' breeding success from released birds. Predation was heavy around the Jabri site but less so in the area around Guggara, the new release site about 2km further along the ridge in less disturbed habitat. An important side effect arising from the attention focused on the area has been the formation of a new 'Save the Margalla Hills Society'. A five year project has also been approved to study and improve the habitat for Cheer pheasants.



### Ph.D. STUDENTS - INDIA

As reported in the May Newsletter, Rahul Kaul has completed his thesis. A small project for him to carry out a study of certain aspects of Cheer pheasant behaviour in the wild has been approved. Musaid Iqbal and Virinder Sharma continue their Ph D projects.

### PIPAR - NEPAL

Our work to conserve the habitat and the five pheasant species in this area continues through a consistent policy of education and providing practical assistance to the local schools in the three nearby villages. Our treasurer John Brown has been a consistent and generous supporter of this project.

### CHINESE STUDENT EXCHANGE

This project ended in May 1989 when Mr Zhang Zheng-wang returned after a years informal game management course. A report on this by Mr Zheng-wang appears on page 25.

### CHINESE MONAL - CHINA

Mr He Fen-qi has continued work on this rare species during the period and will be reporting on this in detail at the 1989 China Symposium.

### BLACK GROUSE - UNITED KINGDOM

The Game Conservancy have now received funding for a project based on the findings of the WPA/ITE project by Nick Picozzi which will introduce management of habitat for Black grouse. This will be reported on during the next three years.

### PALAWAN PEACOCK PHEASANT - PHILIPPINES

Marcelo Caleda has been continuing his M Sc project on this species in Palawan. A short report from him appeared in the last issue.



*Palawan Peacock Pheasant*  
Photo: Keith Howman

## GREEN PEAFOWL - THAILAND

The remarkable battles fought by Belinda Stewart-Cox and friends to save the last remaining major area of good habitat of the Green Peafowl in Thailand were well recorded in **WPA News 24**. Hopefully Belinda will return to continue her work in the coming year.

## SURVEY OF PHEASANTS IN VIETNAM

Vietnam is an area of great importance with its wide variety of pheasant species. Following a successful reconnaissance visit in 1988, Craig Robson and Jonathan Eames plan to return in late 1989. We can expect to hear much more from Vietnam. This project owes much to major support from ICBP.

## HORNED CURASSOW - BOLIVIA

A preliminary report on the project has at last been received and extracts from it will appear shortly.

## WHITE BREASTED GUINEA - FOWL - AFRICA

A summary of work done so far by the three expeditions which went out during the period appeared in **WPA News 24**. A poster funded by WPA to promote conservation of this species has been produced by Wolf Gatter and is reproduced alongside.

## MALAY PEACOCK PHEASANT - MALAYSIA

The 1988 season (his first) was a difficult one for Philip McGowan. 1989 began well and four birds were quickly trapped and fitted with radios including one which was re-trapped from the 1988 season and had a new radio fitted. Unfortunately Philip McGowan then contracted Scrub Typhus followed by pneumonia and it was finally decided that he should return to the UK to recuperate. Hopefully he will recover quickly and be able to return later in the year.

## STUDENT EXPEDITIONS

Two student expeditions have been awarded small grants in 1989, one to Northern India and the other to Ecuador.

**YOU SAVE THE  
FUTURE OF YOUR CHILDREN**  
if you save Liberia's natural resources



White-breasted Guinea Fowl  
Conservation Project  
The World Pheasant Association  
The World Pheasant Association, WPA, Africa



**PROTECT LIBERIA'S FOREST  
AND WILDLIFE**

This poster has been sponsored by the World Pheasant Association, P.O. Box 5, Reading RG9 7TA.  
Revised 1989. WPA is a registered charity. Rainforest Foundation is a registered charity.

## FINANCE

**A** look at our 1988/89 accounts tells only a very small part of the financial story in terms of activity of your Association over the past year. Much of the funding that we find or provide for our projects never goes through our books for the very good reason that the funds are raised in other countries or that goods or services have been provided, rather than cash.

For example if we look back at the Project Reports and take just the first three:

- 1 **The Western Tragopan Surveys:** Funding of Guy Duke's work has been by air fares (British Airways) logistics in Pakistan (WPA Pakistan, WWF Pakistan and NWFP Wildlife Department). The remaining cash elements came from WPA and ICBP.
- 2 **The Cheer Project:** Eggs provided by WPA Benelux and Lincolnshire Pheasantries. Air freight by British Airways. Veterinary fees by WPA in cash. All rearing and release costs in Pakistan which are considerable are funded by CDA Islamabad in Pakistan.
- 3 **PhD students in India:** These have been entirely funded in India by the Indian Plywood Corporation through the good offices of Mr C J Vissanji, with air fares for Dr Peter Garson, their supervisor, provided by an anonymous Indian supporter and only Dr Garson's costs of living in India provided by WPA in cash.

These examples illustrate well the way in which your Association has been able to generate a high level of activity with minimal hard cash and administrative costs. To be absolutely honest we have not had the cash to either employ extra help (which we need) or provide cash for the myriad of projects we would like to get started and support, particularly in Indonesia and China.

In conclusion, I would like to thank once again Richard and Sheila Howard for providing our base at minimal cost and all those who have worked so hard for us during the year. In particular the chairmen of our sub-committees, my secretary Jane Skelton, Tom Gardiner who does so much for us in his spare time, and the remarkable Jan Readman who still alone handles all our membership, administration and sales.

K C R Howman  
CHAIRMAN



WORLD PHEASANT ASSOCIATION

Notes on and forming part of the Accounts  
for the year ended April 30, 1989

1. Accounting Policies

The accounting policies followed for dealing with items which are judged material or critical in determining income or expenditure for the year, and in stating the financial position are as follows:

(a) Stocks

The quantities of stock in hand have been valued at the lower of estimated cost or net realisable value on the basis that the Association is a going concern. Stocks are charged to Income and Expenditure Account in the accounting period in which the stocks are utilised.

(b) Foreign currencies

Foreign currency is converted on an actual basis, using the amount credited by the bank.

2. Taxation

The Association is a registered charity and accordingly is not subject to taxation on its activities.

3. Jean Delacour Fund

The Jean Delacour Fund has been credited with the following:

	1987	1988	1989
	£	£	£
Life Members	900	1,200	2,700
Appeal proceeds	8,685	-	-
South East Area Fund	214	-	-
Breeders Register	400	-	-
re. Blyth's Tragopan	-	-	2,587
Deposited covenant	-	-	184
Income arising on investments:			
Year ended April 30, 1986	-	212	-
" " " " 1987	-	1,306	-
" " " " 1988	-	1,577	-
" " " " 1989	-	-	1,635
Income tax recoverable thereon	-	1,207	504
	<u>£10,199</u>	<u>£5,502</u>	<u>7,610</u>
	*****	*****	
Less income for year transferred to income and expenditure account			2,139
			<u>£5,471</u>
			*****

**WORLD PHEASANT ASSOCIATION**  
**Balance Sheet as at April 30, 1989**

		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
1988	Income and Expenditure account		
25,799	At May 1, 1988	11,056	
	Less:		
14,743	Deficit for year	6,619	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
11,056			4,437
<hr/>			
	Jean Delacour Fund:		
20,551	At May 1, 1988	26,053	
5,502	Net additions (Note 3)	5,471	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
26,053			31,524
<hr/>			
£37,109			£35,961
*****			*****
	Represented by:		
	Investments at cost (market value		
24,807	at June 30, 1989 £30,109)		32,418
<hr/>			
6,888	Fixed assets at cost:	7,922	
1,034	Additions	100	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
7,922		8,022	
	Less:		
3,205	Depreciation	3,928	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
4,717			4,094
<hr/>			
	Current assets:		
9,089	Stock	11,004	
11,919	Debtors and prepayments	14,738	
(2,045)	Balance at bank	(786)	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
18,963		24,956	
<hr/>			
	Less:		
	Current liabilities		
8,500	Loans	13,360	
2,878	Creditors	12,147	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
11,378		25,507	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
7,585			(551)
<hr/>			<hr/>
£37,109			£35,961
*****			*****

Peter Baxter, FCA Accountant  
 John N Brown MA, FCA, ATTI, Hon Treasurer  
 June 30, 1989

**WORLD PREASANT ASSOCIATION**  
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended April 30, 1989

<u>1988</u>		<u>1988</u>		<u>1988</u>
		27,642	Brought forward	27,121
15,891	Subscriptions	15,748	Less:	
21,927	Donations	22,223		
5,006	Collecting boxes	3,526	<u>Other Expenses</u>	
9,892	WPA publications and merchandise	12,278	Game fair and exhibitions	4,518
6,446	Special functions	2,586	Subscriptions	1,489
1,000	Income tax refund	1,500		
141	Interest receivable	24	6,507	6,007
1,150	Press copy and advertising	1,103		
(217)	Symposium and convention	(388)		
-	Investment income transferred from Jean Delacour Fund	2,139		
61,236		60,739		
	Less:	21,135	Surplus	21,114
		650	Less:	
		20,485	<u>Provision for doubtful debt</u>	
	<u>Administration expenses</u>			21,114
21,190	Salaries and establishment costs	20,322	<u>Conservation and educational promotion</u>	
2,000	Accountancy	2,000	Journal and newsletter	12,200
2,750	Stationery	3,617	Projects	2,431
655	Telephone	715	Aviculture and international liaison	7,631
1,793	Postage and carriage	1,774		
2,536	Travel	2,279	34,028	22,262
217	Insurance	217		
452	Bank charges	366	Deficit	1,148
832	Depreciation	723	<u>Net transfer to Jean Delacour Fund</u>	5,471
		1,605		
1,169	Irrecoverable VAT	1,605		
33,594		33,618	14,743	6,619
27,642	Carried forward	27,121	Deficit after transfer	



---

# 14th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE WORLD PHEASANT ASSOCIATION

---

**TO BE HELD ON Monday 11th September 1989  
at the WPA OFFICES at Child Beale,  
Lower Basildon, commencing at 3 pm**

## AGENDA

- 1) Receive and consider the Report from the WPA Council on the past year.
- 2) Receive and consider accounts for year 1988/89.
- 3) Confirm election of Members to serve Council.

Vacancies occur due to retirement by rotation and resignation.

Nominations from members to fill these vacancies will be accepted in writing (accompanied by the written agreement of the person so nominated) at the head office of the World Pheasant Association by 1st September 1989.

- 4) Re-appoint Accountants for 1989.
- 5) Any other business.

Miss Jane Skelton  
*Acting Secretary*  
*World Pheasant Association*  
*28th June 1989.*

## MIGRATION, SURVIVAL AND STUDIES -

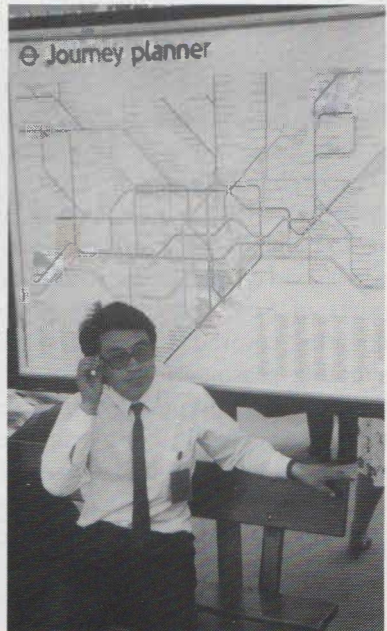
### MY ONE-YEAR TRAINING PROGRAMME IN THE UK

Zhang Zheng-wang

With the help of my department and Professor Zheng Guangmei, I was very lucky to obtain my passport in no more than six months and leave for UK on 20 June 1988 by Pakistan International Airlines.

Unfortunately, my flight was delayed for about 20 hours because of mechanical troubles. I had to write a message to Mr Howman who was ready to meet me at the airport and PIA agreed to help me send it out although so far Mr Howman has not received it yet! I eventually arrived at Heathrow at 7 pm on 22 June with two heavy suitcases and a handbag. It was cloudy outside the airport. Mr Howman had gone with disappointment and sent telexes to China enquiring about me.

It was really a difficult time for me stepping into a strange country with no food, not enough money and no friends at all. I tried to ring Mr Howman, Professor Jenkins, Mr Howard and the Chinese Embassy, but got no reply at all; only the machines were working at that moment. I didn't know what I could do other than stay in the airport for a long night. Just before I found a 'comfortable seat' on which to pass my first night in England I was fortunate to meet again a 'friend' whom I had chatted to on board for about five minutes. He was very kind and offered to take me to his house in North London and provided me with some food and a sleeping bag. The next morning, he contacted Mr Howman by telephone and then was very kind to help me to get on the train to Ashmere. I will never forget that first English friend and his great help.

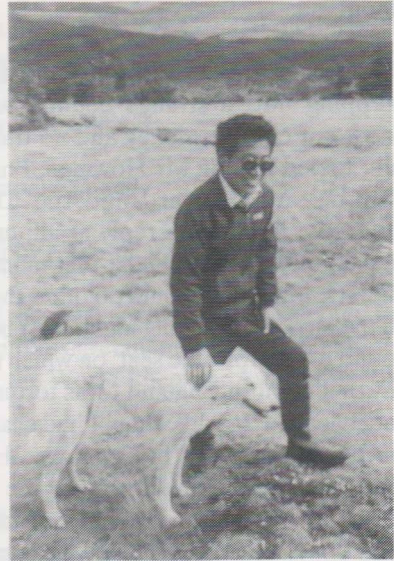


*Stepping into a strange country!*

After a warm welcome by the hosts of Ashmere and Child Beale Trust, I went up to Scotland and began the first part of my course at ITE Banchory. At the start I was put with an assistant of Dr Robert Moss as he had gone to attend a conference. It was so difficult for me to understand the assistant that I was very worried about my English until later when I met Professor David Jenkins, (who lent me some books) and he told me that the assistant I spoke with such a broad Scottish accent that nobody could understand him very well.

I began to work with Dr Moss from the second week. He is a very good scientist and soon became a very good friend as well. He is one of those people who never forgets their promise and I never needed to repeat a request. The main course with Dr Moss was keeping grouse in captivity and census of red grouse, black grouse and capercaillie in the wild. He also drove me to a turkey farm near Edinburgh to see artificial insemination despite it being a very long journey for him.

My second stop was Crubenmore Lodge where I worked with Dr Peter Hudson on red grouse for two months. I was very impressed by his excellent work on red grouse and enjoyed learning his data collecting system. I mainly worked with MJohn Renton (research assistant) on collecting samples, as well as counting and radiotracking grouse on the moors. It was a good chance for me to visit most parts of Scotland because grouse counting covered a large area. Last shooting season we collected more than 1000 samples from different moors. As a result, I lost weight very quickly so that I had to use Dr Hudson's hound to catch some rabbits to compensate my nutrition balance!



*Dr Hudson's hound caught some rabbits.*

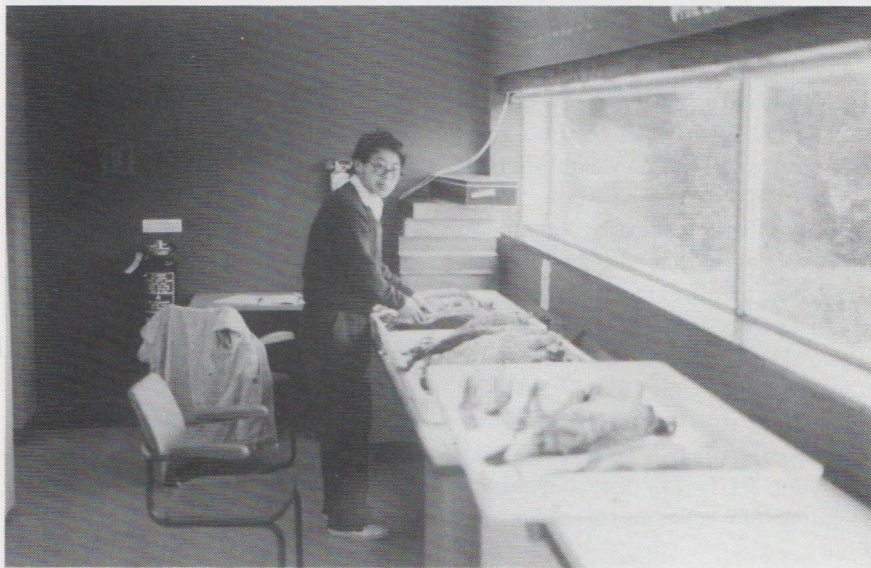
*Photo: Jean Howman*



Dr Hudson was very kind to return £30 of the money he received from WPA and suggested £20 for beer and £10 for women! I will never forget the wonderful Christmas Dr Hudson and his family gave me.

Aberdeen University was my third stop. With the help of Professor G Dunnet, I was once again settled into a caravan and began my study in Culterty Field Station. I attended many lectures and seminars, as well as reading many books and journals. In Aberdeen I began to learn how to use a microcomputer and finally could use the database and word processor. The scientists in the field station are really excellent and I benefited from talking to them. My caravan was quite warm although it was very cold in the winter.

In the five months in Scotland, I have seen most of the British gamebirds in the wild and met a lot of game scientists. I became familiar with the computer and computing techniques. In addition, I finished a "Report on the current status of ornithology in UK and Europe" for China, a "Report on studies in Scotland" for WPA and a scientific paper for the 4th International Pheasant Symposium. During this period, I also attended the WPA 1988 Oxford Convention and an international conference on re-introduction held by the Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge last December.



*Studying skins at Tring.  
Photo: Tom Gardiner*

I arrived at Fordingbridge and began my work at the Game Conservancy Trust with Dr Peter Robertson. I met for the first time all the many excellent game research scientists there. In particular Pete Robertson became a great friend of mine. He was very kind and helped me write a proposal for setting up a Ph.D. project and agreed to help supervise it if it went ahead. I learned pheasant trapping, tagging, radiotracking techniques and data analysis from him. I met too Dr G R Potts who is one of the best scientists I have met in the world. He loves his partridges and the insects they need. The sky above the Game Conservancy Trust was bright and the staff there were very wonderfully friendly. I enjoyed my stay in Fordingbridge and meeting all people in the Game Conservancy who became my friends.

From the end of January to late March, I moved to Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust for an eight-week training programme. I spent five weeks working in the bird section and three weeks on a study of white-eared pheasants in captivity. The first working day was unforgettable. When I fed the birds, a crowned crane gave me a terrible 'kiss'. The mark remained on my face for 2 weeks. Despite this, I liked Jersey Zoo and its lovely animals. I think it is one of the best zoos I have ever been to. Gerald Durrell and his wife were very friendly and invited me and other trainees to have a drink in their house. I will never forget Shep Mallet and his jokes as well as the excellent food in the Trust's hostel. Dr David Waugh and David Jeggo gave me so much help.

My last month in UK was based at Mr Howman's 'palace'. My hostess was determined to get me into good condition and I put on weight there at a rate of 500 grams per week. Apart from work with Robert Newcombe to learn pheasant keeping techniques, Mr Howman also arranged for me to go on a number of short visits. Within a month, I visited Marwell Zoo, London Zoo, Child Beale Wildlife Park, The Royal College of Surgeons, Bird World, British Natural History Museum, EGI of Oxford University, Reading University and Southampton University.



*Studying egg weight loss techniques for incubation with Robert Newcombe.*

*Photo: Jean Howman*



In England and Jersey, apart from the field work and aviculture I also cooperated with my Professor in writing a scientific paper for the Pheasant Symposium, conducted a study on the breeding success of white-eared pheasants in Jersey Zoo, helped Tom Gardiner to make an audio visual *The Pheasants of China* and wrote a final report on my study in UK for WPA.

My one-year visit in UK successfully ended on 10 May when I returned to China. During my stay in the UK, hundreds of people helped me survive and study. I would like to give the first thanks to WPA who gave me this opportunity, especially Mr and Mrs Howman, Professor Jenkins and Lew Young for their excellent arrangements and great help. Special thanks to Dr Robert Moss, Dr Peter Hudson, Professor Dunnet, Dr Pete Robertson and Dr David Waugh for my long periods of training with them and many thanks to all the other friends either in UK or China who have given me much help for my studies in the UK. And last, I would like to say to my friends, Good Bye! See you in Beijing this October!



*More nutrition!*

*Photo: Jean Howman*



---

# NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS

---

## GAME BIRDS & MAN

This was the theme of the WPA International Stand at the ASDA Festival of Food and Farming. We have the chairman's wife to thank for the fact that WPA was there at all as the WPA Council was far from convinced that it would be worth the effort.

In the event, and not for the first time, the chairman's wife not only won the argument but was proven to be correct in her judgement that this Festival, held in Hyde Park, a Royal park in the middle of our capital city, would be a unique opportunity to put WPA before the public.

Some three quarters of a million visitors came to the Festival, including many notable figures. The message we put across can be starkly summed up as follows: Man has derived all his chickens from a pheasant, the Red Junglefowl, yet allowed 53% of all the 49 pheasant species to become 'at risk' in the wild. He has developed all his domestic turkeys from the wild turkey of North America but allowed 50% of turkey species to

become at risk in the wild etc. The percentages of species at risk for each group of gamebirds are:

Quail	10%
Partridges	10%
Guineafowl	16%
Cracids	30%
Megapodes	66%
Francolin	10%

They are frightening figures and we hope we managed to get them across to at least a part of our vast audience at ASDA.



*HRH The Duke of Gloucester was another visitor to our ASDA stand.*

*Photo: Jean Howman*

## NEW POSTERS AND CARDS

The dramatic photograph of a cock Blyths Tragopan that was our first colour cover in the last WPA News has been requested as a Christmas card and post-card. We have gone one better and have had Christmas/Greetings cards made of both the last cover and the Cabots Tragopan on this one.

The message inside them simply says "with best wishes". Plain cards (not printed as post-cards) are also available and can be obtained from Jan Readman at WPA HQ. Prices inclusive of envelopes and postage are 25p and 15p respectively which includes postage for minimum orders of 25.

The Golden pheasant on the back cover of this WPA News has been made into an A4 size poster which is available on conventional poster quality paper and also laminated into a clear plastic film which makes it impervious to moisture and damage and indeed perfectly suitable as a table mat.

WPA now has three A4 size posters available from HQ in encapsulated form. These are the Golden pheasant (see back cover), The Pheasants of the World poster and a new Red Junglefowl poster which will appear on the back

cover of the next WPA News. The cost inclusive of postage is £1.25 each.

## PIMS UK MEDIA DIRECTORY

We wish to thank PIMS UK Media Directory for their assistance in targeting our publicity. The PIMS Directory can be recommended to anyone in the conservation field who needs to market themselves: It is a comprehensive press guide. For further information contact PIMS UK Media Directory, 4 St. Johns Place, St. Johns Square, London EC1M 4AH.

## AUTO AVIARY FEEDERS

On page 43 you will see an advertisement for the new Parkland auto aviary bird feeders. These have been under trial with a number of WPA members during the spring and summer. In addition to saving much time in feeding, members have also noted considerable savings in feed wastage.

## STOP PRESS

A telex just in from Pakistan reads "Survey completed - result: major discovery of Tragopans in Palas, Kohistan. Estimate 200 pairs. Almost certainly worlds best site. Superb contiguous habitat - am pressing for immediate action to stop commercial felling. returning 14 July. Guy Duke.

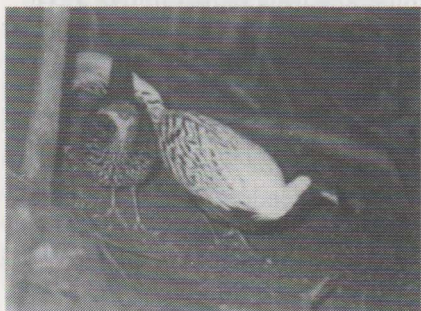
## CHINA SYMPOSIUM

Preparations for this very exciting Symposium are now pretty well finalised and will be going ahead despite recent events.

No fewer than 36 papers have been received from the Chinese and contain much new information not previously published - they are proof of what we had suspected, that our hosts in China have taken endless care to make the Symposium which

was first mooted six years ago a great success and have, despite financial restrictions, instigated more research into pheasant species during the past four or five years than has been carried out in China in all its history.

Some more unique photographs taken in the wild using baited areas by Gao Yuren have been sent to us and are reproduced here.



*Lophura n. whiteheadi* in Hainan.



*Arborophila ardens* in Hainan.



*Flock of Lophura n. nycthemera* in Ding Hu Shan Biosphere Reserve.



## ICBP EXPEDITION COMPETITION

The future of the world's tropical rainforests is clearly of as much concern to young people as it is to the professional conservationist. All four winners of this year's **ICBP/FFPS Conservation Expedition Competition** will be visiting forests to carry out work which will significantly contribute to their protection. The competition is designed to encourage young expedition teams to develop a conservation theme for their work - and to spark off an interest that might mean they become the conservationists of tomorrow.

The winners will be visiting forests in Ecuador, Indonesia, Ghana and Madagascar. The University of East Anglia's team will be studying Cracids in Ecuador and **this project also has WPA support.**

The **ICBP/FFPS Conservation Expedition Competition** is open to young people planning an expedition that will take place outside Europe and North America. There are separate categories for expeditions focusing on birds and for those with a more general proposal; first and second prizes in each category are £1,000 and £800 respectively. The closing date for the 1990 competition is 31 January 1990.

For further information contact:

Amanda Hillier  
**FFPS**  
79-83 North Street  
Brighton, BN1 1ZA  
Tel: 0273 820445

Richard Grimmett or  
Angela Dunn  
**ICBP**, 32 Cambridge Road  
Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PJ  
Tel: 0223 277318



## A PHEASANT TREK IN NEPAL

Following the outstanding successes of similar ventures in 1985 and 1987, WPA in association with Mountain Travel Nepal and ExplorAsia, are planning another expedition to the Pipar area in Central Nepal.

Pipar lies at 11,000 feet to the north of Pokhara and is the natural habitat for one of the world's great concentrations of pheasants and includes the Himalayan Monal, Satyr Tragopan, Koklass, Blood Pheasant and Kalij. One of the aims of the expedition will be to carry out an up-dated census of the pheasant population in the area.

However, this is not only a trek for pheasant specialists; Pipar is home to a wealth of other birds.

Rhododendrons and orchids will be in full flower, and the region is one of the wildest and most spectacular in the Himalaya with unspoiled views of the Annapurna Himal rising to the north.

The 17-day trip departs London on 13 April 1990, returning 29 April 1990, with 12 days on trek. The cost is £1,488 per person and includes international flights, local transport, accommodation in Kathmandu, and all arrangements on trek.

For full details please contact:  
EXPLORASIA Ltd,  
13 Chapter Street, London,  
SW1P 4NY. Tel: 01 630 7102  
Fax: 01 630 0355

---

*This Satyr Tragopan chick is a tribute to the avicultural skills of Al Lee, Administrator of WPA Pakistan. Hatched at his home in Karachi it is believed to be the first Satyr Tragopan to be bred in Pakistan from a pair imported from the UK two years ago. The heat and humidity of Karachi are not ideal conditions for this Himalayan species.*

*Photo: Al Lee*



## DISEASE AND MANAGEMENT OF THREATENED BIRD POPULATIONS

The Proceedings of a Symposium on this subject held at the XIX World Conference of ICBP in Kingston, Canada in June 1986 are now available from ICBP. They are edited by John Cooper and papers include, "The role of birds in long distance dispersal of disease", "Monitoring parasites in wild and captive Green Peafowl in Thailand", "Faecal bacteria in unhatched eggs" and "Legal considerations in the movement and submission of specimens".

Full details are available from: ICBP, 32 Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PJ, UK.



*Sonnerat's Junglefowl by Carl D'Silva an artist from India. This painting was auctioned for £220 at the China Evening.*

## THE FUTURE OF WILD GALLIFORMES IN THE NETHERLANDS

A symposium about wild galliforme birds in the Netherlands, such as the Black grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*, the partridge *Perdix perdix*, the quail *Coturnix coturnix* and the pheasant *Phasianus colchicus* will be held on **23 and 24 February 1990** in the International Agricultural Centre in Wageningen. It is being organised and supported by many institutes and organisations including the World Pheasant Association.

The official languages will be Dutch and English (with simultaneous translation).

The programme committee would like to invite contributions to the symposium. Interested persons are kindly requested to send a 150 word abstract, together with the title, author's names, affiliation, correspondence address and telephone number to the chairman of the programme committee: Dr J T Lumeij, The Bird and Exotic Animal Department of the Veterinary Faculty of Utrecht University, Yalelaan 8, 3584 CM Utrecht.

Requests for further information and registration forms should be directed to: Sekretariaat, 'Nederlandse Wilde hoenders', Postbus 1165, 3800 BD Amersfoort.



---

## CHAPTER REPORTS

---



### WPA AUSTRALIA

Philip Bloom writes: "Egg/bird importation is still top of our agenda. I wrote to the Parks and Wildlife seeking permission to import pheasants and waterfowl, upon the suggestion of the quarantine branch.

"The reply I received spoke about the problem of imported birds becoming feral and produced a list of the varieties and the Latin names of the birds able to be imported. They included among the duck the mallard, the turkey, and the pheasant *Phasianus colchicus* the common ring-neck. So for the moment we have permission to import *Coturnix coturnix*, the mallard, the turkey and the Common ring-neck. No more, no less.

"I will write further, after I have been to Canberra to see the Parks and Wildlife and seek permission to import the varieties we want. Then I will seek permission from quarantine to import live birds and hope the commercial poultry people will allow this.

"We attended a great Pheasant Conference in the Blue Mountains

and saw also some beautiful parrot-Gang Gang, Crimson Rosella, Yellow Tail, Black Cockatoos, Galah's and Sulphur crested. So now we know where to take people who come with cameras - only 60 minutes from Sydney.



### WPA BENELUX

A full report of our 10th Anniversary Meeting appears on page 17. Since then there has been a meeting of the WPA Benelux chapter committee and it is with great regret that we have to announce the suspension of Mr Francy Hermans as a member of our Council and as a member of WPA Benelux.



### WPA INDIA

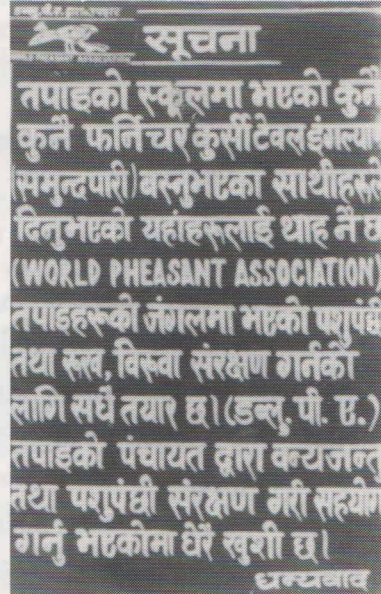
We are delighted to report that our chairman Dr M.S. Swaminathan, the current president of IUCN, has also been elected president of WWF India, thus reinforcing our past close links with them.



## WPA NEPAL

As many members know, WPA Nepal is trying to win the hearts and minds of the villagers living in the vicinity of the Pipar Reserve by helping with the rather scanty local educational facilities. As part of this campaign a sum of over £500 was raised by the efforts of John Brown and sent over to Nepal. Here we have bought a total of over 70 pieces of school furniture and distributed them among three schools. A notice, as illustrated here, has been hung in each school. The size of the board is 18"x12", and a small plate (4"x2") photographed here on the top left corner of the board (with a drawing of a Kalij pheasant) has also been given to the schools in sufficient numbers to attach to each piece of furniture, so the source of the gift will, it is hoped, not be too easily forgotten.

A loose translation of the Nepalese is: "Many items of furniture in this school have been provided by friends and well wishers overseas, mostly in the UK. The WPA exists to protect the pheasants in your hills, and also all wildlife and trees and plants. The WPA thanks you for the efforts you have been making to help its ideals".



## WPA UK

WPA UK took advantage of the Ashmere Open Day to hold a meeting in the adjacent Moat House Hotel. A wide range of talks was given covering CITES and associated legal matters, artificial insemination and genetic fingerprinting. These were followed by a tour around the Ashmere collection on a lovely afternoon. The Ashmere Open Day raised nearly £500 for WPA Funds.

---

## CORRESPONDENCE

---

Sir,

While enjoying the very interesting February '89 WPA News, I noticed the question of sexing pheasant chicks. In the very interesting book "Cock Fighting all over the World" - published by "Griband Steel" (1929) Geffrey, S.C., USA, Mr C.A. Finsterbuech of Saxtiago, Chile - gives the following method of sexing 'game' chicks. Pick the chick up by the feet, and let it dangle, upside down. A male chick will hang straight down, the female will 'curl-up'. I have used this method on my game chickens with a good deal of success, and it has proved true on the three times I have tried it on Silver pheasant chicks. I wouldn't bet on this method - but it is an interesting idea! Perhaps our fellow members will give it a try, and let me know the results.

D.J.Wenke,  
1811 E. Sunset Drive, Bellingham,  
Washington 98226, U.S.A.

*A copy of the letter which follows was sent to WPA by our member Philip Scholfield and merited, we felt, wider circulation. It was prompted by an article which appeared in the April 22 issue of Cage and Aviary Birds by David Alderton from which we print the main relevent extracts.*

"Do you keep and breed any of the many species listed on page 16 (Appendix 1 Birds on CITES list, ed.) and sell the offspring? If so you could be affected by a resolution being prepared for submission in October at the forthcoming Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) meeting. So restrictive is this proposed resolution that the following is a summary of the key points:

1. You will need to be able to show that the wild population of the species is over 4,000 birds, or that the captive stock being used is surplus to an approved IUCN breeding programme for the species concerned.
2. All such birds will have to be marked and inspected.



3. You will need to have at least five pairs of the species in question - all of which must be unrelated - of which four pairs must actually breed.
4. You cannot fulfil the registration criteria unless you have bred the species under appropriate supervision to at least two generations.

Dr Charles Dane  
Office of the Scientific Authority  
Fish & Wildlife Service  
U.S.A.

Dear Dr Dane

I note with grave concern proposals to limit the entitlement of aviculturists to work with species of birds listed on Appendix 1 of CITES or Annex C Part 1 of EC Regulation 3626/82. I keep and breed a few pheasants and waterfowl, purely as a hobby, and have no commercial trading interest. However, it is necessary occasionally to sell surplus stock, and any money received goes towards the costs of feeding and electricity for my small collection.

If it is made difficult or impossible for many people to keep species classified as 'endangered', this will have the effect of further reducing their captive populations and could thus contribute to eventual global extinction in some cases. Currently I keep and breed Grey peacock pheasants *Polyplectron bicalcaratum*, Germain's peacock pheasants *Polyplectron germaini* and Laysan Teal *Anas laysanensis*. All of these are on one or both of the above lists, and all have large self-sustaining captive populations which are important to their global survival. At present I am able to dispose of surplus stock under open licence and this relatively free trade in captive bred stock ensures that individual populations do not suffer from inbreeding. If fewer people were permitted to keep such species, the gene pool of each would inevitably be more restricted than at present, leading to inbreeding and eventual extinction.

Many of the species listed have large self-sustaining captive populations while their future in the wild is far from secure. This applies to nearly all the pheasants and waterfowl, the Red-fronted Parrakeet *Cyanoramphus novaezelandia* and Rothschild's starling *Leucopsar rothschildi*.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Schofield.

# OBITUARY

## PETER MATTHEWS & SUE CRAWLEY

It is with the greatest sadness that we report the deaths of two very special friends of WPA. Peter Matthews (1939-1989) and Sue Crawley (1945-1989), of Payn Essex Printers in Sudbury, Suffolk. Both died this summer from long illnesses bravely borne.

From its earliest inception to the present day, WPA has been renowned for good quality publications. Much of this has been due to the expert advice and skilled craftsmanship of Payn Essex that has always been readily available to successive editors. We all owe both Peter and Sue a great debt, and our deepest sympathy is extended to the families of both.

### HILLSIDE ORNAMENTAL FOWL



DAMSON LANE,  
MOBBERLEY, NEAR KNUTSFORD, CHESHIRE  
TEL: MOBBERLEY 3282  
(adjacent to the Roebuck Inn)  
MR. MARK RUBERY and MRS. D. HOLLOWAY

A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF OVER  
100 BREEDS OF ORNAMENTAL AND  
EXHIBITION DOMESTIC WATER FOWL  
ALSO PHEASANTS, BANTAMS  
AND FANCY PIGEONS

OPEN TO VISITORS 11.30am - 5pm  
each Sunday, Wednesday  
and Bank Holiday Mondays  
Easter until end of September

*Young birds available from June onwards*



• Green Peafowl • Tragopan •  
Peacock Pheasants • Firebacks •  
Koklas etc.

EXPORT ORDERS WELCOME  
CONTACT  
ROBERT NEWCOMBE

ASHMERE PHEASANTRY  
FELIX LANE  
SHEPPERTON  
MIDDLESEX

Telephone: (0932) 241619  
Between 1 & 2 or after 6pm.

# PARKLAND

**AUTO**

**AVIARY BIRD FEEDER.** *The ultimate in feeder*

*Design*

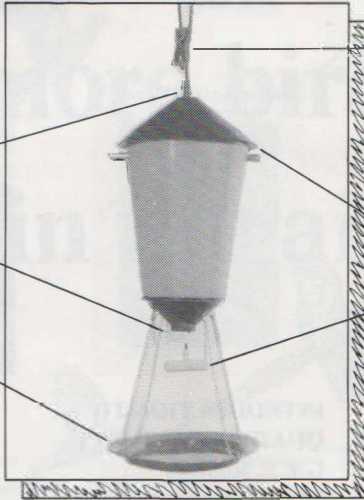


For easy filling, simply slide lid up the cord where it holds in position.

Hanging cord passes through easily replaceable waterproof grommet.

Notched feed regulator for easy control of food release. Suitable for any size of pellet or grain.

Suspended food tray (optional) for flighted birds.



Height clip adjuster.

Feeder constructed of heavyweight polythene. u/v stabilised for long life in hot climates.

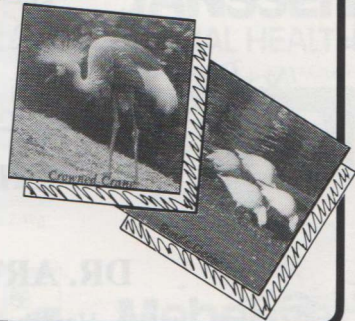
Translucent hopper for visual check on food level

Domed lid to prevent perching.

Birds quickly learn to peck coloured bar to release regulated amounts of pellets or any size of grain.

Free standing models or brackets for wall mounting, poultry arks etc.

- *Suitable for any species of aviary bird, water fowl or domestic poultry.*
- *Absolutely no wasted or rain damaged food. Greatly reduced feed and labour costs.*
- *Relieves boredom and fresh, dry food always available.*
- *Suspended well out of reach of rats and other vermin.*



**OBTAINABLE FROM:-**

**Parkland Products**

**Stone-in-Oxney**

**Tenterden, Kent TN30 7JT**

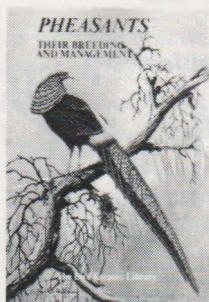
**Tel: (023 383) 650 (24 hrs)**

**Or local agent**

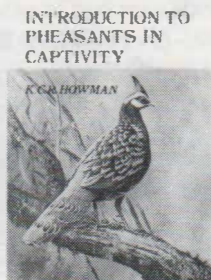


# W.P.A. PUBLICATIONS

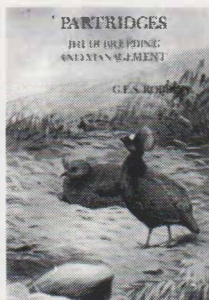
## *The Breeding & Management Series*



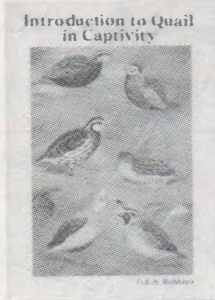
**PHEASANTS—**  
**K.C.R. Howman**  
£9.95 + 90p p&p  
(UK only)



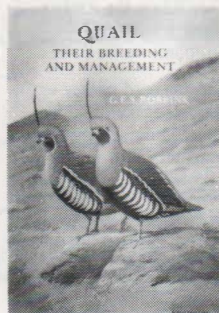
**INTRODUCTION TO  
PHEASANTS—**  
£1.25 + 25p p&p  
(UK only)



**PARTRIDGES —**  
**G.E.S. Robbins**  
£12.95 + 90p p&p  
(UK only)



**INTRODUCTION TO  
QUAIL IN CAPTIVITY—**  
**G.E.S. Robbins**  
£1.25 + 25p p&p  
(UK only)



**QUAIL —**  
**G.E.S. Robbins**  
£10.95 + 90p p&p  
(UK only)

### **THE INCUBATION BOOK**



## **THE INCUBATION BOOK**

**BY**

**DR. ARTHUR ANDERSON BROWN**

Hardback Edition - £10.95 + 90p P&P U.K ONLY



# Mebenvet

## A surefire way to get more birds in the air

Healthy gamebirds are far more likely to fly well for the guns than those infested with parasitic worms.

In breeding birds, worms can cause serious reductions in growth rate and egg production. Young birds will suffer from poor feed conversion, loss of condition and even death.

To make sure as many birds as possible are fit to fly, worm infestation must be effectively controlled.

Annual re-siting of rearing pens can help, but the use of a powerful, broad-spectrum wormer helps to ensure worms are not a problem.

Mebenvet\* is the only specially formulated gamebird wormer that is 95% - 100% effective against all major gamebird and wildfowl worms and their immature stages.

Effective against gapeworm, caecal worm, gizzard worm, roundworm, hair worm and tapeworm. Mebenvet is palatable and easy to use.

It can be mixed with any type of feed, or can be added to regular feed orders by compounders.

Healthy birds mean more sport, better breeding stock and higher profits.

And a good way to ensure more healthy birds is Mebenvet.

Mebenvet contains mebendazole. Available as a 1.2% w/w gamekeeper pack (6 x 250g) or a 5% w/w 2.4kg drum for compounder use.

To find out more about Mebenvet, contact Janssen Animal Health, Grove, Wantage, Oxon OX12 0DQ. Telephone: (0235) 772966




  
**JANSSEN**  
**ANIMAL HEALTH**  
TURNING RESEARCH INTO REALITY



**Mebenvet**

TRADE MARK  
© JANSSEN LA SALLE

## The Domestic Fowl Trust

Honeybourne, near Evesham,  
Worcestershire 



The outstanding Conservation Centre in  
the United Kingdom for all rare breeds  
of Domestic Fowl.

OPEN DAILY ALL YEAR ROUND (EXCEPT FRIDAYS)  
10.30am - 5.00pm

Hatching eggs and day olds from January of heavy and utility  
breeds large fowl. Ducks, geese, rare breeds and bantams in  
April. Telephone for availability.

**Michael and Victoria Roberts, The Domestic  
Fowl Trust, Honeybourne Pastures,  
Honeybourne, Evesham, Worcs WR11 5QJ.  
Tel: (0386) 833083.**

*Suppliers of poultry, housing, equipment, books and  
foodstuffs to Schools, Farm Parks, City Farms, Council and  
private individuals.*

## BRITAIN'S LEADING BREEDER AND EXPORTER OF ORNAMENTAL PHEASANTS

Home and export orders now being  
taken for 1989 home bred birds, 29  
varieties in my breeding aviaries. All  
stock is pure and pairs are guaranteed  
unrelated. I arrange all  
documentation for export orders.  
beginners given every assistance.

DOREEN SMYTHIES;  
1 PEETS COTTAGE,  
NEW CUT LANE; HALSALL,  
ORMSKIRK L39 8SW, ENGLAND  
Tel: 0704 - 65581



"This space costs £20.00  
For details of advertising rates  
please write to:

Jan Readman, W.P.A.,  
PO Box 5,  
Child Beale Wildlife Trust,  
Nr Reading,  
Berks RG8 9PF"

## BOOKS FOR SALE ?



We buy complete libraries or  
small collections and the price we  
pay is always fair.

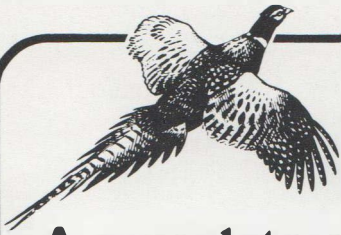
**Specialising in:**  
**Natural History, Field Sports,  
Travel and Exploration.**

BOOK COLLECTORS ARE ALWAYS  
WELCOME BY APPOINTMENT

## MAJOR IAIN GRAHAME

DAWS HALL, LAMARSH, BURES CO8 5EX  
Telephone: Twinstead 213





## Sportsman Game Feeds

### **A complete range of high quality pheasant and partridge feeds**

Formulated and manufactured to the highest quality standards these feeds contain a high plane of protein nutrition for the early stages of growth in order to produce sturdy, well-feathered birds resistant to disease and chilling. Sportsman Game Feeds are available nationwide and are fully supported by nutritional advice and after sales service.

### **Slimbridge Wildfowl Feeds**



A comprehensive range of feeds ... suitable for all types of waterfowl, and formulated to meet the requirements of The Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge.

Particular attention has been paid to the nutritional demands of waterfowl to ensure high fertility and hatchability during the breeding season, followed by strong growth and good feathering of young birds without excessive weight gain.

For further information contact  
Sporting Feeds, 3A West Market Place, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2NJ  
Telephone: (0285) 658884 Fax:(0285) 651038

A Department of J. Bibby Agriculture Limited.

Sportsman Game Feeds are pleased to be suppliers of game feeds to the World Pheasant Association and the Cheer Pheasant Project in Pakistan.

