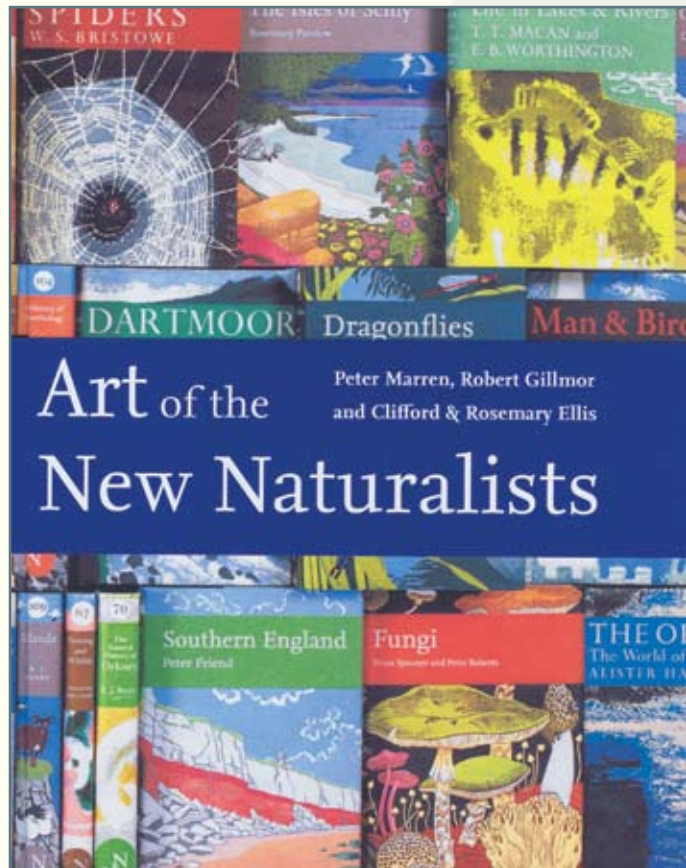


Sales and Wants



ART OF THE NEW NATURALISTS

We have a limited number of rare 'first state', first editions of Art of the New Naturalists which have been signed by both authors Peter Marren and Robert Gillmor. These are the books with the 'wrong' title band in which the accredited authors are Marren, Gillmor and Clifford and Rosemary Ellis, and with a different author blurb on the back. These books are rare and confined to just 250 copies of the first printing. £75 each (plus P & P). **Please contact the club for further details.**

Towards the end of last year the club was commissioned to offer for sale a full set of the New Naturalist Library. There are just a few of these books still available.

Please contact the club for further details.

- 53 **The Lake District** First edition, 1973 Fine £70
- 58 **Hedges** First edition, 1974 Fine, very slight fade to d/w spine £75
- 63 **British Thrushes** First edition, 1978 Fine, fade to d/w spine £45
- 68 **Mammals in the British Isles** First edition, 1982 Fine, slight fade to d/w spine £95
- 83 **Natural History of Pollination** First edition, 1996 Fine, slight fade to d/w spine £200
- 85 **Plant Disease** First edition, 1999 Fine £120
- 88 **Loch Lomondside** First edition, 2001 Fine £125
- 90 **Moths** First edition, 2002 Fine £100
- 94 **Seashore** First edition, 2004 Fine, signed £90
- 95 **Northumberland** First edition, 2004 Fine £85
- 97 **Mosses & Liverworts** First edition, 2005 Fine £65
- 98 **Bumblebees** First edition, 2006 Fine £60
- 99 **Gower** First edition, 2006 Fine £60
- 100 **Woodlands** First edition, 2006 Fine £60
- 101 **Galloway & the Borders** First edition, 2007 Fine £50
- 102 **Garden Natural History** First edition, 2007 Fine £50

- 103 **The Isles of Scilly** First edition, 2007 Fine £60
- 104 **A History of Ornithology** First edition, 2007 Fine £60
- 105 **Wye Valley** First edition, 2008 Mint £45
- 106 **Dragonflies** First edition, 2008 Fine, signed £60
- 107 **Grouse** First edition, 2008 Mint £45
- 110 **Wildfowl** First edition, 2009 Mint £45
- 111 **Dartmoor** First edition, 2009 Mint £45

The Club is delighted to be able to offer part of a major collection of first edition NN titles, most in mint and unread condition. They belonged to the late Cyril A. Walker, a well-known palaeontologist from the Natural History Museum in London, whose speciality was fossil birds and reptiles. He made the important discovery of a hitherto unknown subclass of fossil birds Enantiornithes, which were later recognised to be worldwide in distribution. He was also a passionate birder and bon viveur, and an avid collector of natural history books. The bulk of his collection has been donated to Dublin University Library as a permanent memorial to him.

He was immensely proud of his NN books which he kept lovingly in a darkened room, buying each new edition until his untimely death in May 2009.

If you are interested in any of the following books, please contact the Club for further details.

- 71 **British Warblers** First edition, first state 1985 Fine £1500.00
 - 72 **Heathlands** First edition, 1986 Fine £350
 - 73 **The New Forest** First edition, 1986 Near Fine £300
 - 76 **The Hebrides** First edition, 1990 Fine £900
 - 78 **Larks, Pipits and Wagtails** First edition, 1992 Fine £450
 - 82 **The New Naturalists** First edition, 1995 Fine £300
 - 84 **Ireland** First edition, 1999 Fine £110
 - 87 **Amphibians and Reptiles** First edition, 2000 Fine £110
 - 88 **Loch Lomondside** First edition, 2001 Fine £100
 - 89 **The Broads** First edition, 2001 Fine £100
 - 90 **Moths** First edition, 2002 Fine £100
 - 91 **Nature Conservation** First edition, 2002 Fine £80
 - 93 **British Bats** First edition, 2003 Fine £200
 - 94 **Seashore** First edition, 2004 Fine £80
 - 95 **Northumberland** First edition, 2004 Fine £90
 - 96 **Fungi** First edition, 2005 Fine £70
 - 97 **Mosses and Liverworts** First edition, 2005 Fine £70
 - 98 **Bumblebees** First edition, 2006 Fine £60
 - 99 **Gower** First edition, 2006 Fine £60
 - 100 **Woodlands** First edition, 2006 Fine (white endpapers) £60
 - 101 **Galloway and the Borders** First edition, 2007 Fine £50
 - 102 **Garden Natural History** First edition, 2007 Fine £40
 - 103 **The Isles of Scilly** First edition, 2007 Fine, signed £70
 - 104 **History of Ornithology** First edition, 2007 Fine £40
 - 105 **Wye Valley** First edition, 2008 Fine £40
 - 106 **Dragonflies** First edition, 2008 Fine £40
- Monographs**
- M3 **The Wren** First edition, 1955 VG + £200
 - M12 **Squirrels** First edition, 1954 VG + £100
 - M15 **The Hawfinch** First edition, 1957 VG + £300
 - M17 **Lords and Ladies** First edition, 1960 VG + £250
 - M18 **Oysters** First edition, 1960 VG + £180



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The New Naturalist Collectors Club

Newsletter N° 48

♦ Patrons: Peter Marren & Robert Gillmor ♦

Autumn 2010

Dear Member,

It has certainly been a very busy summer. Tim Loe and myself have been working hard on the New Naturalist guide and companion 'Collecting the New Naturalists' which we hope to launch at the 2nd symposium, set for Monday 6th June 2011.

This will be a companion volume to **Art of the New Naturalists** and will match it in format and design. I do hope many of you will be able to make this special event; it should be a very interesting day. Due to the demand for tickets last year, next year's event will be much larger with a marquee for the lectures. The event will once again be held at Nature in Art, near Gloucester. There will also be quite a few more second hand book sellers attending as well as a number of distinguished NN authors and special guests.

Tickets are now available and as these are likely to sell quite quickly, please contact the club as soon as possible if you would like to attend. Tickets are £50 each which will include lunch and wine, with tea and coffee throughout the day. There will be a special commemorative mug and brochure. Robert Gillmor will also have an exclusive New Naturalist limited edition linocut only available on the day.

Second Symposium

THE NEW NATURALIST COLLECTORS CLUB & HARPERCOLLINS

Second Symposium

Monday 6th June 2011

Nature in Art, Wallsworth Hall, Twigworth, Gloucester
Presented by STEPHEN MOSS

Morning Session

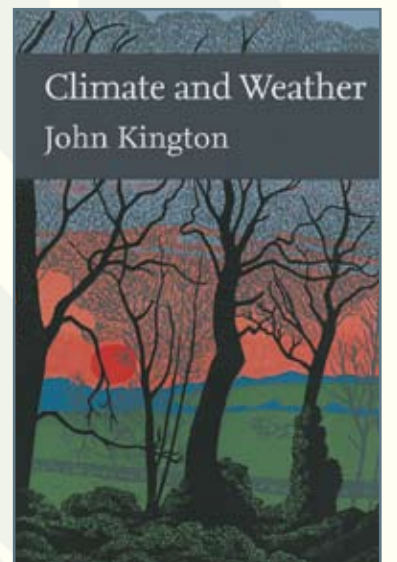
- 09.00 Registration and coffee
- 09.45 Welcome address **MYLES ARCHIBALD**
- 10.00 **CLEM FISHER & JOHN GITTINS** 'A. W. Boyd and A Country Parish'
- 10.30 **TREVOR BEEBEE** 'Amphibian Conservation'
- 11.00 Tea and coffee
- 11.30 **IAN NEWTON** 'Bird Migration'
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Official Launch of 'Collecting the New Naturalists'

Afternoon Session

- 14.30 **TED BENTON** 'Grasshoppers and Crickets'
- 15.00 **TIM ROPER** 'Badgers'
- 15.30 Tea and coffee

- 16.00 **DAVID GOODE** 'Nature in Towns and Cities'
- 16.30 **PETER FRIEND** 'Scotland'
- 17.00 Closing remarks, questions and discussion

The third and final New Naturalist title of the year has just been published as I write (28th August). This is **Climate and Weather** by John Kington and looks like a very interesting read with a striking jacket design by Robert Gillmor. Copies of all New Naturalist titles can be sent to members as they are published. This is part of the Club's standing order service whereby members receive a 20% discount. Please contact the Club if you would like any more details on this service. Interestingly Club Member Hugh Davidson recently informed me that his copy of **Dartmoor** has just arrived! This was sent by Royal Mail first class post on 8th October 2009.....goodness knows what happened to the parcel on its journey but it arrived in the end, taking nearly a year!



Perhaps the event of the summer was a sale of books which included the working library of E. A. (Ted) Ellis, author of **The Broads** (1965). Keys Auctioneers, based in Norfolk, produced a fine catalogue and the sale included a large number of NN titles, several of which were signed and inscribed. A full report on this sale will be in the next newsletter.

There are quite a few bargains to be found at the moment and Club member Sue Heap bought some scarce NN titles at her local auction in Cheshire. These included **Ferns** for £85, **Larks, Pipits and Wagtails** for £90 and **Heathlands** at £75. These are amazingly low prices for some rare and sought after books. Well done Sue!

As of 10th November you will be able to purchase facsimile NN dust jackets from the Collins website.



These will be priced at £12.50 each and similar in appearance to the Print on Demand jackets. Collins have also just launched their entire New Naturalist range on Ebay, including PODs, in print titles, facsimile and limited editions. As well as all this, a number of NN titles are now available as Kindle (electronic) editions on Amazon. A full report will look at all these recent developments in the Christmas newsletter.

Congratulations to Robert Walker who is the winner of the spring competition and wins a signed copy of **Bird Migration** by Ian Newton. We will have another great prize to be won in the special Christmas competition.

Please send in any articles or advertisements for the Christmas newsletter to arrive by the 19th November.

Best wishes and happy collecting

Tim Bernhard

A Long Tradition: Natural History Recording in War Zones



There is a long tradition of members of the armed forces keeping natural history records during times of conflict. Most recently, this can be seen in the records of the Army Ornithological Society from Helmand and Musa Qaieh in Afghanistan. Of particular interest to collectors of books in the New Naturalists series is NN Monograph No.2 **The Redstart** based on records kept by John Buxton when a prisoner of war for five years during WW2.

In this note, I wish to share the experience of A.

W. Boyd as a recorder of birds and insects during WW1. A. W. Boyd was the author of NN No 9 **A Country Parish** published in 1955. An eminent naturalist, he was a Manchester Guardian 'Country Diarist' for over 35 years and the uncle of James Fisher, a founder member of the NN Editorial Board.

I turn the clock back nearly ninety years focussing on records collected by Capt, later Major A. W. Boyd M.C., M.B.O.U. F.E.S during the WW1. These records, three of which list the birds seen on three fronts and entomological records collected during his time in Egypt. The records were published in 'The Zoologist', 'The Ibis' the journal of the British Ornithological Union and in the 'Bulletin de la Societe Entomologique d'Egypte'.

Boyd's first paper, published in 'The Zoologist' April 1916, entitled 'Birds seen during the Dardanelles Campaign' covered the period 5th May to 5th September and from 16th October to 27th December 1915 when he was present on the Gallipoli Peninsula. During this time he recorded over 100 different species. One of these sightings resulted in an interesting debate in the two subsequent issues of 'The

Zoologist'. The first being in a paper contributed by D.A.J. Buxton, entitled 'Notes on Birds seen during the Gallipoli Campaign' in which he states 'I find that Captain Boyd took them all as Storks (Ciconia alba) and definitely identified some as such, though many flew too high to be identified, or came over at dusk.' Buxton goes on to state that whilst both species might have been migrating about that time, however I saw huge flocks flying very high and identified them from their loud clanging note as Common Cranes (Grus communis) in today's nomenclature, Grus.gru? Finally in the last issue of 'The Zoologist' published in December 1916, that doyen of all matters ornithological, the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain states in a note entitled 'Storks or Cranes at Gallipoli' states 'In Mr. D. A. J. Buxton's paper on 'Birds seen during the Gallipoli Campaign' it is stated that large flocks of what were believed to be Cranes flew southward, uttering loud clanging notes. In his paper Captain Boyd these seemed to have identified the birds as Storks and the matter is left undecided. As Storks have no note, and the loud clanging note is characteristic of Cranes, there can be no doubt that the birds observed were Cranes. The 'clattering' noise made by the Stork is produced by mechanical means only.' In a footnote, the Editor of 'The Zoologist' Frank Finn B.A. F.Z.S writes thus: 'Most probably both species were present, as suggest by Mr. Buxton; the identification of Cranes by their note does not exclude the presence of Storks as well, which would be very difficult to distinguish from them when flying at a height or at the dusk.' So there we are, with the views of both observers being acknowledged.

Boyd's second paper, 'On Birds of the Suez Canal Zone, published in 'The Ibis' in 1917 failed to raise any questions such as those relating to Cranes or Storks. The paper covers sightings by Boyd between 1916 to February 1917. On observation in the paper I am sure would raise eyebrows with many 'birders' today is his statement that: 'It was quite impossible to 'collect' any specimens, and I was therefore unable to identify more than a tithe of the Warblers and Buntings in their autumn plumage.' Here I refer to the use of the word 'collect' recognising that the identification of different species of Warblers and Buntings in their autumn can still challenge many of us 'birders.'

In his third paper entitled 'Birds in the North of France 1917 - 1918, published in 'The Ibis' for January 1919, Boyd lists his observations between March 1917 to March 1918, noting that: 'It is naturally difficult for an infantry officer to stay in one spot for any considerable length of time, therefore the notes are somewhat disjointed and necessarily quite incomplete.' The records cover time spent in the Departments Pas de Calais, Somme, and Nord, noting how many species stayed in the areas even during the most severe periods of fighting, furthermore he noted that summer migrants returned to their old haunts in 'half-felled orchards and the ruined houses, with nightingales and other warblers were not uncommon in woods and copses in the firing line; corncrakes and quail were plentiful in the long hay-grass growing round the front-line trenches of this part of Somme.' Writing this note as I am during the particularly hard winter of 2010, it is interesting to note what Boyd wrote about the very severe winter of 1916-17: 'The very severe winter of 1916-17 no doubt reduced the numbers of many species in France as it did in England; I did not see a single Fieldfare in France, and Redwings were not at all abundant, and probably the absence or comparative scarcity of a number of species of resident birds is to be accounted for in the same way.'

Boyd's forth paper recording observations made during WW1 when he served with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. The paper was published in the 'Bulletin de la Societe Entomologique d'Egypte' in June 1917, with the title 'Six Months' Collecting between Ismailia and El Arish' and reflects his love and knowledge of matters entomological.

In his Introduction Boyd states that 'The Romani-Katia battle early in August interrupted collecting for a time and a short stay in the Katia Oasis after the battle produced nothing as I had been unable to carry any collecting apparatus with me.' One interesting record was of two specimens of a tick found on a tortoise which proved to be 'Hyalomma syriacum, Neum'. a species resembling very closely the abundant camel tick.

In conclusion I wonder how many of the records submitted by service men and women on active service in Afghanistan and Iraq today will be submitted for publication to journals such as 'The Ibis'. Without a doubt we have benefited from research such as John Buxton undertook as a prisoner-of-war in WW2. However, for me it is when I read papers such as those of A. W. Boyd that I hope the ornithologists who are currently on active service will follow in his footsteps and publish their records in journals such as 'The Ibis'.

John Gittins

An Errant Volume - Postscript

In Newsletter No 47 (Spring 2010) Sam Berry wrote an interesting article on Charles Raven and his proposed writing of 'A History of Natural History in Britain'. David Allen has followed this with a fascinating postscript.

Sam Berry has invited me to add a personal reminiscence that casts a little further light on the matter:

In the autumn of 1957 I received a telephone out of the blue from James Fisher, as a result of which I found myself shortly afterwards in the nearby offices of Rathbone Books, the firm of educational publishers that he and Wolfgang Foges had recently started and being interviewed by both of them. It speedily emerged that my name had been given to them by Richard Fitter through a misunderstanding, but before taking my leave I could not resist slipping in that I was writing a history of natural history in Britain. "Oh, we must have that for the New Naturalist Library" was Fisher's immediate response. "But surely", I countered, "Canon Raven is already writing a volume for it on that?" An innocent in these days in the ways of publishers, I had taken the word 'suggested' in Raven's preface to his 1947 book (which Sam Berry has quoted in his article) as implying art a contractual commitment, but probably matters had not proceeded that far. Consequently, I was taken aback when Fisher airily replied: "Oh, he'll never get round to that now" - and invited me to send him a sample of what I had yet written. Ten years had passed since that preface of Raven's had appeared and, though I had witnessed at first hand his undiminished forcefulness during his recent term as BSBI President, I was aware that he continued to have many competing calls on his time and energy. Fisher's confident verdict did carry some conviction, therefore.

Needless to say, I lost no time in posting off to Fisher the little of my prospective book that had so far managed to get written to my provisional satisfaction. But many months went by and I heard no more. Like so many others (as I have learned in the years since), those pages of typescript had been put on one side, mistaken for finished business and consigned in a file to indefinite limbo. In view of the kind of book that I subsequently found myself writing, that was no loss to the NN Library, however it was not after all appropriate for that and, when eventually finished, some twenty years later, it was to be Penguin who published it.

I have sometimes wondered in the years since quite what Raven would have come up with, had that 'suggested' been converted

into reality. John Ray and his predecessors had been his almost exclusive concern up till then as far as the history of natural history was concerned, so a daunting amount of additional reading faced him if he was to acquire an equally magnificent command of the subject's later developments. But did those hold for him anything like as much interest? While the reconciling of religious beliefs with the advances in scientific knowledge would have obviously appealed as an overarching theme, but that might well have led him to underplay or omit much else that the average NN read would have liked to be told about and have interpreted.

David Allen

Sales and Wants

FOR SALE

Monographs Fleas Flukes & Cuckoos 1st edn VG (light browning to endpapers) in VG dj (price unclipped) £120. **The Trout** 1st edn VG in VG bright dj (price unclipped) £50. **The Salmon** 1st edn VG (light foxing to endpapers) in bright near fine dj (price unclipped) £30. **Oysters** 1st edn VG+ in bright VG+ dj (price unclipped) £120.

NNs **Wild Orchids of Britain** 1st edn VG (light foxing to endpapers), VG dj (price unclipped, bright front and spine, browned edge of back inner flap) £40. Ellis, **The Broads** 1st edn VG in VG dj (price unclipped, neat repair to bottom right front corner of dj, small wrinkles at foot of dj spine) £70. **Fossils** 1st edn VG in VG dj (light foxing to back of dj, price unclipped) £45.

All of the above Monographs and NNs are from the collection of the late Swiss naturalist and wildlife author C.A.W. Guggisberg. His neat ownership stamp is at the foot of the front endpaper in each book.

peter.holt@bluewin.ch

FOR SALE

78 **British Larks, Pipits and Wagtails** Good, name stamp £175

82 **The New Naturalists** Good, Minor fade to spine £150

83 **The Natural History of Pollination** Excellent £120

86 **Lichens** Excellent £95

87 **Amphibians and Reptiles** Excellent £85

90 **Moths** Excellent £90

93 **British Bats** Excellent £120

96 **Fungi** Excellent £75

Monographs

M5 **The Greenshank** Very Good £75

M20 **The Wood Pigeon** Very Good £60

Also **British Charophyta**, Groves and Bullock-Webster, 1st edition, Ray Society (1917) in very good condition, £125.

Please contact Andy Cross on 02380 861253 or e-mail: cross_andym@yahoo.co.uk

FOR SALE

Two copies of New Naturalist No.83 **The Natural History of Pollination**.

Neither have been read, in excellent condition (only just taken the clear wrapper off one). Both are reprints. £200 each.

Please telephone Becky on 01306 731 886.

FOR SALE

NN55 **Finches** 1st edition 1972 hardback bound ex-library paperback, Good, £25

NN82 **The New Naturalists** 1st (revised and enlarged) edition 2005, Mint, £65

NN96 **Fungi** 1st edition 2005, Mint, £70

Postage at cost.

Michael Friend 01372 468098. Email: michaelfriend2005@yahoo.co.uk

WANTED

Entomologists's Record & Journal of Variation for the following years: 1930, 1931, 1936, 1937, 1944, 1945, 1947, 1948, 1949 & 1950. Urgently required to complete my run of this Journal. Please contact me at mikeosullivan2@gmail.com.

Willing to pay good price for all or any of the above.