

RHODESIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL BULLETIN. No. 6

APRIL - MAY 1952

PATRON TO THE ROS: The Governor, Major General Sir John Kennedy, KCMG, KCVO, has informed us that he is sorry that he cannot give patronage to the ROS except in his official capacity. This he is unable to do as the parent Society does not have a Royal Patron. His Excellency has, however, asked me to inform members that he wishes the ROS every success. He would also like to become a member of the ROS and we have much pleasure in making him one.

ROLL OF MEMBERS: The following former members of the SAOS have been added to the roll of members of the Rhodesian Branch (ROS).

L. Attwood (Melsetter); G. Clay (Broken Hill); C.B. Cottrell (Lusaka N.R.); Dr. W. Gilges (Fort Jameson N.R.); J.C. Graylin (Livingstone N.R.); Mrs. W. Pope (Chingola N.R.); Capt. R.H.R. Stevenson (Selukwe); T.E.L. Savory (Monse N.R.); Major L. Trollope (Katima Mulilo N.R.); W.J. Quinn (Gwelo)

Also the following new members: Miss M. Barlow (Bulawayo); Mrs J.E. [?] (Byo.); Miss R.L. Blair (Bulawayo); R.M. Bloomfield (Bulawayo); W.B. Cunningham (Selukwe); C.T.H. Fisher (Selukwe); R. Finlayson (Salisbury); H.J. Fotheringham (Selukwe); A. Goodwin (Selukwe); A. Gosling (Selukwe); J.M. Grimwood (Lusaka); C.W. Hall (Bulawayo); Mrs. E. Henderson (Bulawayo); Mrs. O. Hindle (Salisbury); J.C. Huntley (Salisbury); Dr. J. Leggate and Miss B.L. Leggate jnr. member (Byo.); W.J. Merry (Bulawayo); R.V. Lacy (Bulawayo); F.W. Porter (Bulawayo); J.E. Sharp (Selukwe); E.C. Smith (Selukwe); A. Stander (Salisbury); F. Talent (Bulawayo).

Bulawayo members should note that Mr. W.J. Merry, 70 Napier Avenue, Hillside, Byo, has kindly agreed to be their local Hon. Secretary.

ACTIVITIES: There has been a great deal of activity at our Bulawayo centre since the last *Bulletin*, and, at the same time Capt. R.L.R. Stevenson has been getting things going at Selukwe. More information will be given under this heading in the *Bokmakierie* in the space given for our Notes. But, briefly, on the 22nd February, there was a successful inauguration meeting in Bulawayo and films were shown by Mr. D.C.H. Plowes. This was followed up by an outing arranged by Dr. Ashton and in which 13 members took part. At Salisbury a General Meeting was called to draw up a proposed constitution and this should soon be finalised.

DAWN AND DUSK CHORUS: A world-wide enquiry is being conducted from England and the SAOS has asked us to co-operate in this enquiry into the times at which bird-song daily begins and ends. Records are required of the exact time of the first songs and calls of as many species as possible on April 13th (Easter Sunday). The exact time of the last songs in the evening of some or all of these species should be taken from sunset until dark on the 12th or 13th April. Observation should begin 1½ hours before sunrise on the 13th and mention should be made which times refer to calls and which to songs. The exact position of the observer and the correct time should be given. Please send your reports to Mrs. G. Attwell, Mornington, Gatooma, S.R. If it is not possible to make both dawn and dusk observations either will be useful. Watches should be corrected by wireless time signal and the details of time used given.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BOKMAKIERIE. Mrs. M.K. Rowan (formerly of West Nicholson) is the new editor of the *Bokmakierie*, and she has asked me to remind members that articles are wanted. These should be scientifically correct but avoid the use of technical jargon, and one of the aims of the magazine is to cater for the popular taste.

CHECK-UP ON RED-BILLED QUELEAS. Please advise Mr. D.C.H. Plowes, Matopos Research Station, P.B. [?], Bulawayo if you can help with data on breeding sites, extent of damage to crops, and any aspect on the lives of these birds which has come to your notice.

NEST RECORD CARDS. Please send these in so that they can be summarised in the next *Bulletin*.