



Bulletin 115(1)

News about the *Wader Study Group Bulletin*

As you can see, we have not only given the *Wader Study Group Bulletin* a face-lift, but also a subtitle. We hope you like what you see, but it is not just cosmetic. At a recent meeting of the IWSG's Executive Committee, it was decided to strengthen the journal by appointing an editorial board to oversee its development (see inside front cover).

The subtitle "*the journal of shorebird science*" is to clarify the role of the *WSGB* for the many people who are unfamiliar with its origins. The first issue, an eight-page, cyclostyled newsheet, appeared 38 years ago, in October 1970. It was produced for the benefit of a group of British wader enthusiasts and there were no plans to develop it into the quality, widely-cited international journal it has become. Now the title *Wader Study Group Bulletin* seems out of date and perhaps out of keeping, after all we have been the "International" Wader Study Group for some years, but it represents our pedigree and heritage. Therefore, rather than change it, we have simply decided to add a subtitle so that our journal's purpose is clear to all. This has also given us the opportunity to highlight the word "shorebird" which will clear up confusion in the Western Hemisphere where "waders" are herons and egrets.

Back issues of the *Wader Study Group Bulletin* on the web

The IWSG is pleased to announce that PDFs of all back issues of the *Wader Study Group Bulletin* from Volume 1 (1970) to Volume 105 (2004) are now available for free on the SORA website (<http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/IWSGB/index.php>). This will be a great help to the large majority of wader people who are not among the select few who have been members since the IWSG's inception.

Recent Publications has a new home and a new name

Right from the beginning, lists of recent publications about waders have been published in the *WSGB*; in fact the first appeared in Volume 2 (March 1971). Altogether 83 lists have appeared and for the past 17 years, these have been compiled by Henk Koffijberg. Now, with the help of René Navarro of the Animal Demography Unit at the University of Cape Town, the whole recent publications dataset has been consolidated into a single, online, searchable database that will soon be available via the IWSG website (www.waderstudygroup.org) where it will be known as "WSG References database".

Henk Koffijberg has now passed on responsibility for the task of keeping the publications data up to date to Margaret Sandwith the librarian of the Niven Library at the Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of Ornithology at the University of Cape Town. We are most grateful to Henk for all his efforts in producing no less than 31 lists over the past 17 years, to René for setting up the new arrangements and to Margaret for taking over the reins.

Maintaining the publications database is not just a task for the compiler but something in which we all need to take part if we want it to be really comprehensive and up to date. Therefore all members are urged to support Margaret Sandwith by sending her details of all publications about waders; especially ones that have a limited availability or circulation of which she might be unaware (contact her at margaret.sandwith@uct.ac.za).

Humphrey Sitters