

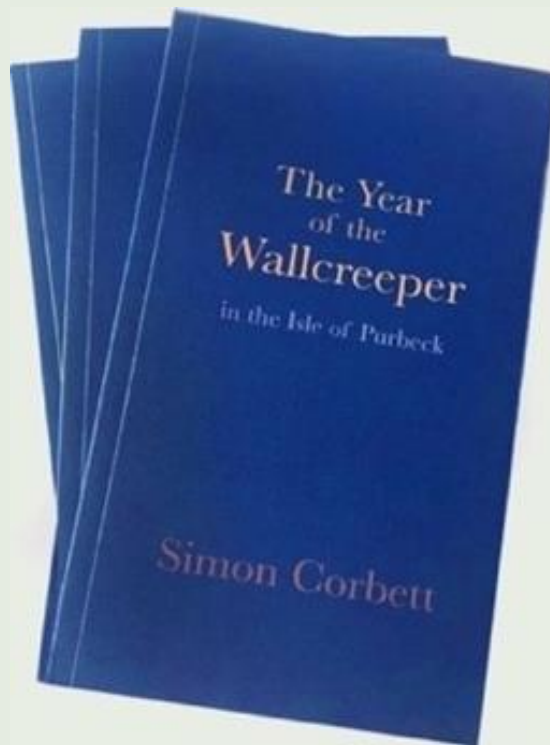


Simon Corbett was a keen birdwatcher and member of the Purbeck Ornithological Club which met at Leeson House in Langton Matravers throughout the 1970's. Fellow members included Bunny Teagle, Margaret Leach, Rees Cox, Trev Haysom and Helen Brotherton - founder of the Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Dad kept a bird watchers diary which the family published in 2006. Re-reading it during lockdown reminded me of winter days' parked-up on Portland sitting in the back of our steamed-up car with my brothers and seeing bearded tits at Radipole. Of family walks and picnics on the heath surrounded by heather. Seeing Marsh Gentians and Dartford Warblers flitting amongst the gorse and identifying the long-legged and long-billed waders prodding their curved beaks into the mud flats.

His diary includes descriptions of guillemots, razorbills and puffins soaring over the sea, flying too and from the ledges. The visit of a male Wallcreeper (19th November 1969 – 18th April 1970) and the Yellowhammers, Song Thrushes, Blackcaps and the variety of other songbirds he loved listening to in the valleys' of Winspit, Seacombe and Chapmans Pool, abundant with autumn berries.

Dad's observations and record are an evocative collection of his birdwatching experience in Purbeck.



Written in 1971 (printed 2006)

Foreword by Trev Haysom  
“Acute observations neatly put”

Illustrated with pencil sketches by Juliet Haysom.

**Simon** 1914-1978

*Born and raised in the Old Malthouse in Langton  
Matravers, founded by his father in 1906.*

**June** 1922-1988

*Born in St Andrews*