



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bird Photograph of the Year

Canon We are delighted to announce that this annual competition is sponsored in 1995 by Canon (UK) Ltd.

Entrants should read the rules carefully (see *Brit. Birds* 84: 36, or write for a copy).

The prizes in 1995 will be as follows: **FIRST PRIZE** Canon EOS 500 SLR camera with 35-80 zoom lens (RRP £400); **SECOND PRIZE** Canon Sureshot Z115 compact 35-mm camera (RRP £300); **THIRD PRIZE** Canon Sureshot Z85 compact 35-mm camera (RRP £200).

The three winners will also each receive £25-worth of bird books presented by *HarperCollins Publishers*.

An additional prize of a cheque for £100 is presented by *Windrush Photos* for the highest-placed photograph submitted by an entrant aged 21 years or under (please state date of birth if eligible).

The judging panel will consist of Dr R. J. Chandler, Robin Chittenden, Rob Hume and Dr J. T. R. Sharrock.

Past winners of this competition have been Michael C. Wilkes (1977), Peter Lowes (1978), Dr Edmund C. Fellowes (1979), Don Smith (1980), Richard T. Mills (1981), Dennis Coutts (1982), David M. Cottridge (1983), John Lawton Roberts (1984), C. R. Knights (1985), Alan Moffett (1986), Dr Kevin Carlson (1987), Bob Glover (1988 & 1992), Hanne Eriksen (1989 & 1990), Philip Perry (1991) and Alan Williams (1993 & 1994).

The closing date for entries is 31st January 1995. Transparencies should be clearly marked 'Bird Photograph of the Year' and sent to Fountains, Park Lane, Blunham, Bedford MK44 3NJ.

Bird Illustrator of the Year



This annual competition will again be sponsored by *Kowa* telescopes.

Amateur and professional artists are invited to submit four line-drawings for this competition. Entrants should read the rules very carefully (see *Brit. Birds* 84: 36-37, or write for a copy), but should especially note that the *exact* sizes required have been changed and

are now: 18.6 cm wide × 20.85 cm deep (or 24.8 cm wide × 27.8 cm deep), 17.1 cm wide × 6.9 cm deep, and 8.25 cm wide × 6.0 cm deep.

The judging panel will consist of Robert Gillmor, Alan Harris, Keith Shackleton and Dr J. T. R. Sharrock.

The winner will receive £100, a *Kowa* TSN-3 20-60 × zoom telescope and an inscribed salver; the second-placed artist £40 and a TSN-1 20 × W *Kowa* telescope; and the third-placed artist £25 and a TS-611 20 × W *Kowa* telescope (all three telescopes with cases). All three artists will also be invited to attend the award presentation at a Press Reception at The Mall Galleries in London, where a selection of the drawings will be on display. All artists whose work is displayed will also be welcome to attend the reception. The winners' entries will also be displayed in the annual exhibition of the Society of Wildlife Artists at The Mall Galleries and at the British Birdwatching Fair at Rutland Water during 18th-20th August 1995.

Previous winners have been Crispin Fisher (1979), Norman Arlott (1980 & 1981), Alan Harris (1982), Martin Woodcock (1983), Bruce Pearson (1984), Ian Lewington (1985), Chris Rose (1986), David Quinn (1987), Martin Hallam (1988), John Cox (1989), Gordon Trunkfield (1990), John Davis (1991), John Gale (1992), Richard Allen (1993) and Ren Hathway (1994). In addition, a handsome trophy, the PJC Award, is presented annually, in memory of the late Pauline Jean Cook, to the artist whose single drawing submitted for the 'Bird Illustrator of the Year' competition is selected by the judges for its individual merit. The holder of the PJC Award

also receives an inscribed book as a permanent symbol of the achievement. The current holder is James McCallum (*Brit. Birds* 87: 351 & 354).

The closing date will be 15th March 1995; entries should be sent to 'Bird Illustrator of the Year', Fountains, Park Lane, Blunham, Bedford MK44 3NJ.

The Richard Richardson Award



To encourage young, up-and-coming bird artists, a special award (a cheque and a book to the total value of £60) will be presented for the best work submitted for the 'Bird Illustrator of the Year' competition (see above) by an artist aged under 21 years on 15th March 1995. Previous winners have been Alan F. Johnston (1979), Andrew Stock (1980), Darren Rees (1981), Keith Colcombe (1982 & 1984), Gary Wright (1983), Ian Lewington (1985), Timothy Hinley (1986), Andrew Birch (1987 & 1991), John Cox (1988), Stephen Message (1989), Anthony Disley (1990 & 1992), Peter Leonard (1991 & 1993) and Max Andrews (1994). This award is in memory of the famous Norfolk ornithologist and bird artist, the late R. A. Richardson. The rules for entry are exactly the same as for 'Bird Illustrator of the Year' and entries by persons under 21 will automatically be considered for both awards.

Investment Fund

We have established an investment fund to help to support *British Birds* in the coming years. As a non-profit-making journal, *BB* relies on subscription income, donations and sponsorship. All income is devoted to publishing *BB*, for the benefit of ornithology.

May we suggest to any long-standing, loyal subscribers the possibility of remembering *British Birds* in your wills? We want to see *BB* continuing to thrive into the twenty-first century.

Free subscriptions for County/Regional Recorders

British Birds and Carl Zeiss (*Oberkochen*) Ltd, sponsors of the British Birds Rarities Committee, are jointly offering free annual subscriptions to *British Birds* to all the County/Regional Recorders, as our way of saying 'Thank you' to them for the hard work which they contribute to British ornithology in their 'free time'.

'The Carl Zeiss Award'



This award (see *Brit. Birds* 87: 629) aims to encourage the submission of potentially useful photographs to the Rarities Committee, to assist the process of individual record assessment, to increase the available reference material, and for possible publication. The sponsors, *Carl Zeiss (Oberkochen) Ltd*, are offering an annual prize of Carl Zeiss 10 × 40 B/GAT Dialyt, 7 × 42 B/GAT or 7 × 45B 'Night Owl' binoculars, with special woven badges for all runners-up.

Rarities Reports

A few copies of the annual reports of the British Birds Rarities Committee, which are always crammed with colour photos of rarities, are available for past years: 1993 £8, 1992 £8, 1991 £5, 1990 £5, 1989 £5 and 1988 £5.

As a special offer, newer subscribers wishing to extend their sets of reports can buy *any two* for £12 or *any three* for £15, or, while stocks last, complete sets of *all six* for £25. Write to BBRC Report offer, Fountains, Park Lane, Blunham, Bedford MK44 3NJ, or telephone Biggleswade (01767) 640467 with credit-card orders.