South Leicester Birdwatchers
News – June 2006

Hello and welcome to the latest newsletter. The first thing you will notice is that we've given ourselves a name! There's a lot of activity happening behind the scenes at the moment to bring you all more trips, organised meetings and activities.

There has been an overwhelming response to initial efforts to organise future events for everyone. A programme of six field visits has started with good numbers on each trip. Our first two outings have been extremely rewarding with good sightings. There is a brief report for each trip and, if you require one, a tick list is available.

May 4th saw the celebration of Barry's retirement from tutoring with a dinner held at The Manor in Glen Parva, with an excellent turn out of 42 people. During the evening, Barry was presented with a watercolour painting of White Fronted Geese at Holkham commissioned by us from local artist Kathy Heaton. Barbara Raine was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers. He has sent a card to us, thanking you all for your generosity and friendship.
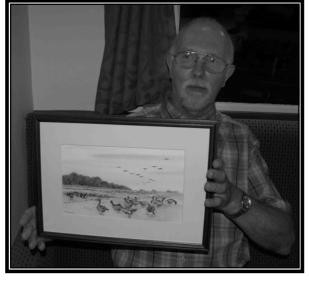
Although Barry stated in his speech that he is going to 'take it easy for the rest of the year', there will always be a welcome from all his friends and old students for him to join in with our future activities.

Barry has created a style of birdwatching that we all appreciate greatly and it is planned to try and continue in this vein. With this in mind, the 'team' is in the process of organising:

- Further field trips during September to November and one over the Christmas holiday
- An indoor evening meeting (possibly with a film show or speaker) once a month
- A Christmas meal
- A programme for 2007

Many of you have suggested ideas and the support and comments have been extremely encouraging. The initial planning stages are in motion and it is hoped that by the time of the next newsletter (early August), more formal plans and details will be in place.

Watch this space !!!   *DT 11/05/2006*