

26/12
1990

2 St. Georges Terrace
Blockley
Moreton-in-Marsh
Glos. GL56 9BN
England

December 12, 1990

Dear Mr. Pittie,

My apologies for the 5 month delay in replying to your letter, and in thanking you for the copy of your Checklist of Birds of Andhra Pradesh.

As regards your suggestion about exchanging subscriptions for journals, it is in essence a terrific idea, except that I am already a life member of BNHS and a subscriber to Newsletter for Birdwatchers. The few copies of Sanctuary that I have seen were interesting but not enough to make me want to subscribe. However, I am a keen collector of books, old drawings and other publications on Indian avifauna and perhaps Hyderabad has some dealers in such things? Again, I have been collecting for some time and have a substantial number of the more easily obtained items but there are others which are very hard to come by in Europe. For instance, the Natural History sections (Part II) of the old Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, dating from the last century. If you think that you could find such material in Hyderabad I would be happy to pay your annual subscription to BTO in return. It might require some financial adjustment and if this was significant - say you unearthed a real treasure - I usually come to India each year and we could arrange it. Alternatively, I could find the same material here for you. I have recently seen for sale here a run of the BTO magazine Bird Study, Vols. 1-30 (1954-83), the asking price being £130 sterling.

Let me know what you think.

All the best,

Andrew Robertson

Andrew Robertson

① Bio set - tempted - rather spend here on Indian region material.

② Are you interested in the information only - hence xerox or actual possession of book?

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26th January 1991

Mr Andrew Robertson
2 St. Georges Terrace
Blockley
Moreton-in-Marsh
Glos. GL56 9BN
ENGLAND

Dear Mr Robertson,

Thank you for yours of 28th December 1990, which I received on 26/12/90.

The offer of BIRD STUDY for £ 130/- is tempting, but I think it wiser to spend that money on literature on Indian ornithology. I liked this journal (having subscribed it for a year) as it was relatively simple to understand - not having too many mathematical calculations - and as it also carried articles on some common species.

It was a most pleasant surprise to learn from your letter that you too are a bibliomaniac! Though this tribe hunts for originals, I wonder whether xerox copies of some old literature will suit your requirements. Books, as you yourself point out, are quite difficult, if not impossible, to get. I do not have the patience to wait till a book comes up for sale. Till it does, I am getting most of the literature available and that which I want, xeroxed. The Osmania University library is quite obliging.

Perhaps if you could send me a list of books already in your library, I could keep a look-out for anything new! (Old actually!)

I am preparing a list of my library, and will send it no sooner it is ready. I shall also keep my eyes peeled for things which might interest you. Next time when you plan a trip to India, please write me your programme here. Maybe we can arrange to meet somewhere, either Bombay or Hyderabad.

Thanking You

Yours sincerely

