

Bishop's Stortford and District Natural History Society.

Secretary:
Clifford Craufurd,
"Denny," Galloway Road, Bishop's
Stortford.

February 14th. 1941.

Dear Mr. Lloyd,

Mr. Norman Monk-Jones passed on to me the contents of your letter to him and I have put the questions to our members at a meeting of the Society last Saturday. The following is about all the information I can gather.

1. Harvest Mouse. Yes - I saw a nest with young about four years ago.
 2. Dormouse. No records.
 3. Water Shrew. -do-
 4. Bats. Large Long Eared bat and Pipistrelle. Probably other species also, but very difficult to come across.
 5. Red Squirrel. Till very recently in Cricket Field Lane near the town. Also in Bloodhounds Wood. On the increase in Hatfield Chase - Essex.
 6. Grey Squirrel. At Hatfield Chase. More red than grey have been seen.
 7. Rabbit. Not so abundant as to be a pest, but as you are aware appears to be very scarce and dear in this food shortage. The same remarks apply to the Hare.
 8. Badger. Hunsdon - Herts. Bishop's Stortford - taken in the outskirts of the town. Berden Corner - Three years back. Not considered very uncommon by the local people.
 9. Otter. One was shot on the Stort almost in the town ten years ago.
- Xφ.
1. Grass Snake. Bishop's Stortford Golf Course - two years ago.
 2. Viper. Takeley, five years ago.
 3. Slow Worm. Plenty.
 4. Common Lizard. Stansted Mountfitchet.

5. Common Toad. Plentiful.
6. Common Frog. -do-
7. Crested Newt. Yes.
8. Smooth Newt. Yes.
9. Palmated Newt. No records.

With regard to the above information, Bishop's Stortford District, as you will see from the map, bulges into Essex and the boundary between the counties is mostly along the Stort. It, however, winds about and it is difficult when out walking to be sure whether one is in Herts. or Essex. All the places mentioned above are close to the boundary, and species found here in one county occur in the other with fair certainty.

Bishop's Stortford, Hunsdon, Cricket Field Lane, and part of Bloodhounds Wood are in Herts.

Takeley, Hatfield Chase, Stansted Mountfitchet, and Berden Corner are in Essex.

I hope this information, though scanty, may be of some use to you. I shall be pleased to put any further enquiries before the Society.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

