



**West African Ornithological Society**  
**Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest**  
**Africain**



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## THE WAOS MEETING IN NORMANDY 19-20 MAY 1990

Twenty members and their guests began the meeting with breakfast in the Hôtel de la Gare, La Haye-du-Puits in the Département de la Manche, Normandy on Saturday 19 May 1990. Old friendships were renewed and the common experience of West Africa ensured an immediate rapport.

Following breakfast there was a meeting of the Council, whilst the rest of the party made a field visit to the Marais de la Sensurière, a valley bog north of the town. After lunch the General Meeting was held in the Mairie, in a room kindly put at the disposal of the Society by the Mayor of La Haye-du-Puits. Proceedings of the meeting are published below. Later in the afternoon there was time to visit a variety of habitats, including a salt marsh and the coast. The long walk across the sands stimulated appetites for the excellent 'small chop' and dinner on the return to the hotel. For the final session of the day members of the Groupe Ornithologique Normand gave an illustrated talk on the Corncrake (Crex crex) and Gary Allport described a recent expedition to Sierra Leone. Despite the rain on Sunday morning members made another field visit to the Marais de la Madeleine and other marshlands but the four members who mislaid the main party were consoled by a sighting of two White Storks (Ciconia ciconia) in a hayfield beside the road. The meeting closed after lunch with the departure of members and guests.

Our thanks are due to members of the G.O.N who kindly led the field visits and we are particularly grateful to their President, M. Gérard Debout, who had suggested the place for the meeting and who had helped to make many of the arrangements for it.



WAOS members at the Normandy meeting

(Photo: M. Germain)