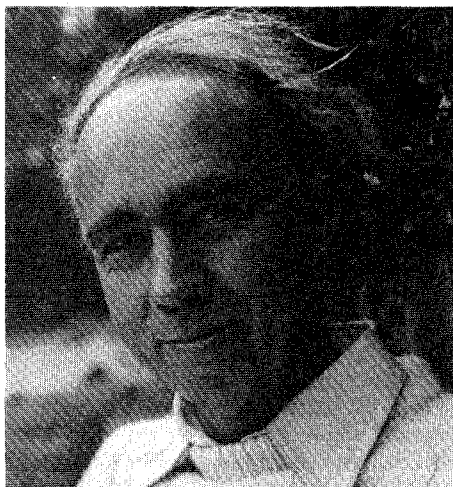


RAOU FELLOWS: CITATIONS

At the Annual General Meeting on 1 May 1980 the Council's recommendation that Dr S. J. J. F. Davies and Mr A. R. McEvey be elected Fellows was unanimously accepted.



STEPHEN JOHN JAMES FRANK DAVIES

Born in Sydney and educated at The King's School, Parramatta, and at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, Dr Davies joined the Wildlife Survey Section of the CSIRO in 1956. After three years in the Northern Territory studying Magpie Geese, he moved to Western Australia to study Emus and black-cockatoos, becoming Officer-in-Charge of the Helena Valley Laboratories of the Division of Wildlife Research in 1969, a position that he still holds. He returned to Cambridge for his doctorate in 1961-64. While in England, both as graduate and undergraduate, Dr Davies went on a Cambridge expedition to Lapland, attended conferences in Germany and Holland and helped with biological courses at field study centres.

Dr Davies's first ornithological article appeared in 1952 and since then he has published more than fifty papers on a variety of subjects, archaeological, botanical, ecological and behavioural but mostly ornithological. Probably his best known ornithological work has been on the Magpie Goose, Emu and doves of the genus *Streptopelia*. Among other appointments, Dr Davies was a member of the Australian delegation to the 3rd US/Australian Rangelands Workshop at Tucson in 1973 and he is a member of the WA Wildlife Authority, the Committee of the International Ornithological Congress and the Conservation Programme Committee of the World Wildlife Fund.

Perhaps it is yet too early to assess fully Dr Davies's influence on the affairs of the Union and thus on the development and organization of Australian ornithology in general. One can safely say that it has already been profound. Dr Davies, as President from 1975-78 and as Chairman of the Field Investigation Committee, has brought a vital scientific and professional authority to all he undertakes. This ensured that Australian ornithology, and particularly co-operative field work by amateurs, was taken seriously in important places.

When Dr Davies became President, the Union was approaching another period of stagnation. Though it was clear what was wanted, e.g. a paid staff at headquarters, a proper program of co-operative field investigations, observatories and so on, there seemed no way of making a start; approaches to many organizations for help financially had produced nothing. Dr Davies initiated a dashing policy, first of using our own assets to show that we meant business by establishing headquarters and then of developing all sorts of active field work. The important undertaking of the Atlas had already been started during the Presidency of Mrs Reilly and it gained new impetus with Dr Davies's drive. An Institute of Field Ornithology, successful observatories at Eyre and Rotamah Island, the initiation of sub-groups such as the Raptor group of the RAOU and a revitalization of many less spectacular aspects of ornithology can be attributed to Dr Davies. Though much is done, there is much to do and we are lucky that Dr Davies continues as Chairman of the Field Investigation Committee where his enthusiasm, energy and great abilities will be most useful and effective. Even if this was not so, his influence on ornithology in Australia has already been inestimable, will not be fully apparent for a long time and will undoubtedly have effects that will outlive us all.