

THE GREATER HORSESHOE BAT

On 9th October, 1954, M. Blackmore and J. Patch, while searching for bats in the loft above a cow-shed near Bryanston School, Dorset, found several greater horseshoe bats, including one bearing a ring marked DSS2223. This bat had been ringed in February, 1954, by members of the Devon Spelæological Society in some disused chalk workings at Beer, near Seaton, S. Devon. The straight-line distance from these tunnels to the Dorset cow-shed, which is about two miles N.W. of Blandford Forum, is at least 40 miles, but the actual distance covered by the bat is probably considerably greater.

Before this find, the longest cross-country movements recorded in Britain for greater horseshoe bats were the several flights of seventeen to eighteen miles made in Devon by bats travelling from a disused copper-mine in the Tavy valley to caves and tunnels in the Buckfastleigh area. The present journey more than doubles this and indicates that the range of activity of the greater horseshoe bat is much more extensive than has hitherto been realized.

J. H. D. HOOPER.

NOTICE**DEER GROUP**

The deer group referred to in *Oryx*, Vol. 2, No. 3, page 188, has now been incorporated in the Mammal Society of the British Isles. Will those interested in the study of deer please write to Mr. F. J. Taylor-Page, 77 Surrey Street, Norwich, Norfolk, Secretary of the Deer Group.