

ISLAND LECTURE SERIES OPENS ON HERITAGE DAY:

by Institute of
Island Studies

The 1995 Island Lecture Series, entitled "Surrounded by Water: The Marine Environs of P.E.I." opens on Heritage Day, February 20 in Charlottetown at the Coles Building, Richmond Street, at 7 p.m. This year's series focuses on the waters that surround Prince Edward Island and play such an important role in Island life. David Cairns, a marine biologist who specializes in fish and seabirds, begins the Charlottetown series with an overview of our marine environment. His lecture is entitled "The Waves We're Cradled In: The Science and History of the Gulf of St. Lawrence". More details about the Charlottetown series and the mini-series to be held in Summerside and Montague will be announced from the P.E.I. Museum and Heritage Foundation.

THE BONSHAW HILLS GOES INTO SECOND PRINTING:

Dr. Ian MacQuarrie's collection of anecdotes, observations, and stories about the Bonshaw area of Prince Edward Island, *The Bonshaw Hills*, published by the Institute of Island Studies, has just gone into its second printing.

Originally published in 1989, the book covers a range of interesting topics including the abandonment of farms, local lore and legend - and animals, their habits, and habitats. Each of the 25 essays is beautifully illustrated by Island artist, P. John Burden.

Ian has generously agreed to donate his royalty from the book to the Geoffrey G. Hogan Honours Biology Scholarship at U.P.E.I. You can obtain your copy by calling the Institute at 902-566-0386. The book retails for \$12.95.

PROJECT FEEDERWATCH UPDATE:

adapted from Project Feederwatch

The analysis of last winter's (1993 - 1994) bird records by Project FeederWatch volunteer observers showed the Maritimes having a record number of redpoll, 19 times higher than previous records! The steady increase in Mourning Dove numbers in the Maritimes countered a decline in Canada as a whole and Blue Jay numbers returned to normal levels. The table below represents feeder records for participants in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

Species	All feeders, over whole winter		Only at feeders visited by species	
	Percent feeders visited	Mean #/ feeder/ week	Mean #/ feeder when seen	Mean # seen
Black-capped Chickadee	98	3.4	4.2	10
Blue Jay	96	2.2 +	3.8	8
American Goldfinch	89	1.3 -	5.3	6
Dark-eyed Junco	89	1.3	4.5	7
Common Redpoll	85	1.2 + +	12.2	4
Evening Grosbeak	75	1.0 +	9.5	6
European Starling	73	0.6	5.3	4
American Crow	65	0.4	3.0	6
Mourning Dove	62	0.6	4.3	8
Downy Woodpecker	60	0.2	1.3	5
Pine Siskin	58	0.4 -	5.3	5
Red-breasted Nuthatch	53	0.2	1.7	8
Song Sparrow	44	0.1	1.2	3
Hairy Woodpecker	42	0.1	1.3	6
American Tree Sparrow	40	0.1	2.3	5
House Sparrow	36	0.2	5.4	6
Purple Finch	33	0.1	2.1	1
Rock Dove	27	0.1	3.4	6
Common Grackle	27*	<.01	2.8	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	27	<.01	1.0	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	24	0.1	1.0	4