30	Not found; probably located under fallen tree
31	Hazel nuts nibbled by woodmouse
32	Empty

GRID TWO CONTENTS

Box 33	Blue tit nesting - 5 eggs
34	Blue tit nest building
35	Bird's nest, species unknown
36	Old nesting material
37	Robin's nest
38	Empty
39	Fresh bird nesting material, species unknown
40	New nesting material species unknown
41	Woodmouse present with nesting material
42	Blue tit sitting on eggs
43	Empty
44	Blue tit nesting
45	Nesting material present, species unknown
46	Bird roost - full of bird droppings
47	Empty
48	Two woodmice in box with nesting material
49	Old nesting material
50	Blue tit sitting on nest
51	Woodmouse in box with nesting material

Michael J. A. Thompson

A MAMMALOGIST IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

During July of 1989, my wife Patricia, our son Daniel and myself visited Hong Kong and Thailand. We were joined by our daughter, Sally, who has been working in Hong Kong for two years. Our visit was split into three phases: five days in Hong Kong, followed by eight days in Bangkok and north-east Thailand and, finally, five more days in Hong Kong. Whilst in Hong Kong we stayed in the village of Ho Chung in the New Territories, which is part of the Chinese mainland. Besides sightseeing, tasting Asian fare and relaxing on beaches, there was plenty of opportunity to observe the wildlife in the areas we visited. South-East Asia is rich in mammalian fauna, but we saw only a mere fraction of this.

In a recent Hong Kong government publication entitled 'Hong Kong Animals', by Dennis Hill and beautifully illustrated by Karen Phillips, some 30 mammalian species are listed. Of these, the largest is the Chinese leopard cat *Felis bengalensis chinensis*, which apparently still breeds in the New Territories. We did not have the opportunity of seeing this mammal, nor any of the other large cat species which wander in from South China from time to time. However, we were very much aware of the brown rat *Rattus norvegicus* in parts of Hong Kong, as well as in the rubbish-filled back alleys of the European 'travellers' area of Bangkok. We spent four nights in the same guest house in this area, near to the main temples, and each morning we observed rats scurrying along the open drains. They present a very serious pest problem, causing human disease and considerable agricultural damage.

Sixteen species of bat have been recorded in Hong Kong, but of these only five are relatively common. From flight patterns, distribution descriptions and using a Q.M.C. detector, I identified the Japanese pipistrelle *Pipistrellus abramus*, described as the most commom bat species in Hong Kong. In amongst the small horticultural holdings around Ho Chung village it was everywhere, producing a typical pipistrelle echo-location sound, at 45 kilohertz on the echo-locator. The other species I identified was the free-tailed bat *Iadarida plicata*, which has only been recorded on Hong Kong island. One evening at dusk, we watched three of these large dark bats, almost the size of a noctule, *Nyctalus noctula*, feeding amongst the modern buildings on the sea front on Hong Kong Island.

I observed bats in Thailand, but was uncertain of their identification. There were several large bats flying around at dusk in the old temple complex at Ayutthaya, the one time capital of mediaeval Thailand. These bats, of which there are several species in Thailand, were flying around alongside the long-tailed nightjar and the spotted