

HUDDERSFIELD BIRDWATCHERS' CLUB

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

for the year

1967



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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1967

1967 has been a very successful year, as the membership has increased to 77. This makes the Club the second largest Birdwatchers' Club in Yorkshire. The interest in the Club has been strong as the average attendance at meetings has exceeded 40 and the average attendance on the outings has exceeded 30. The outstanding meeting was when Dr. C. D. T. Minton of the Midland Bird Club visited the Club and spoke on "Waders on the Wash" and the attendance was about 100. The Club was pleased to welcome visitors from the clubs in Barnsley, Doncaster, Halifax and Leeds at that meeting.

A virile club is dependent on the support and activities of the members in the field. As far as this is concerned it is very gratifying to find that so many members are making reports. Reports need not necessarily be only of rarities as, in order to get a full and comprehensive view of all species in the area, reports of common species help to give a correct view of their numbers and distribution.

Detailed studies of species in a particular area can be of considerable interest as can the study of a single bird. I, personally, have found this so in the small area in and around my garden. At the beginning of the year, there was a large and unusual roost of C.600 Bramblings. The Great Spotted Woodpecker is a regular visitor to the fat hopper and Redwings, Goldcrests, Tree Creepers and Collared Doves are amongst other interesting visitors which can be studied close at hand.

It is pleasing to see that there has been an increase in junior members. They are very enthusiastic and keen to learn. It is they who will carry the Club in later years so every encouragement should be given to them. Modern aids such as books, binoculars, etc., help considerably, but help and guidance given by older and more experienced members is always appreciated.

This will be my last report as I shall shortly be retiring to Broadstone in Dorset. With Arne, Brownsea Island, Studland, Portland, Abbotsbury and the New Forest near at hand I shall not lack for

opportunities for birdwatching. It has been most pleasing to me to see the growth of the Club and the support that I have had from the officials and members of the Club.

Mr. Andrew Riley is succeeding me and I am confident that with his help and guidance and also that of the other officials, the Club will go from strength to strength and will bring pleasure and happiness to a considerable number of people.

I thank the officials and members for their support and for their kindness shown to me on many occasions.

T. D. BISIKER.

President.

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REPORT ON DEAN WOOD 1967

Dean Wood is situated in a steep sided valley between Netherton and Crosland Hill. The wood consists of eight species of trees and has an undergrowth of bluebells and ferns. A small trout stream runs in the bottom of the valley and a small tip attracts many birds. The wood is visited regularly by four members and last year it was visited 83 times by two of the four and a total of 67 species were seen.

List of Species

\* denotes breeding species and numbers concerned.

MALLARD A male was seen to fly W. on June 26th

KESTREL Singles present throughout the year.

LAPWING Large numbers were seen moving throughout the year with a maximum of C.200 flying W. on 15th Aug.

GOLDEN PLOVER Occasionally seen outside the wood with a maximum of 68 on Feb.14th and 130 on Aug.15th

SNIBE Two records for the year with 3 flying E. on Aug.19th and 7 flying W. on Oct.24th

WOODCOCK Singles seen on March 4th and April 9th.

CURLEW One flew E. on April 14th.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL Seen occasionally flying towards Blackmoorfoot in the evening.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL Seen on most visits flying towards Blackmoorfoot with a maximum of 162 on Aug. 17th.

HERRING GULL One seen on June 27th.

BLACK-HEADED GULL Seen on every evening visit, flying towards Blackmoorfoot with treble figures on five occasions and 429 on Oct. 12th

STOCK DOVE Seen occasionally with 4 throughout Sept.

WOODPIGEON \* 1 pair - Present throughout the year with 32 on Nov. 11th.

CUCKOO One heard on June 2nd.

TAWNY OWL \* 1 pair - No sight records but a destroyed nest found in May.

SWIFT First on May 3rd with up to 50 until the last on Aug. 21st.

GREEN WOODPECKER \* 1 pair - Present throughout the year but no more than 2 birds were seen at one time.

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER Only seen on two occasions but it may have bred.

SKYLARK \* 2 pairs - Present in the fields with C.50 on Oct. 20th

HOUSE MARTIN Only seen in the Autumn in very small numbers.

SWALLOW \* 4 pairs - First on April 21st with up to 30 until the last on Aug. 22nd

CARRION CROW Seen throughout the year in singles or small parties.

ROOK Most of the birds were seen to come from the Berry Brow rookery and the wood is probably a local feeding area for them.

JACKDAW \* 1 pair - Seen throughout the year

MAGPIE \* 2 pairs - Present throughout the year but in no large numbers.

JAY Present throughout the year in good numbers.

GREAT TIT \* 1 pair - Present in good numbers.

BLUE TIT \* 1 pair - Present in good numbers.

COAL TIT Seen occasionally.

LONG-TAILED TIT Only two records of 2 on April 12th and 3 on Nov. 8th.

TREE CREEPER Seen in most months of the year.

WREN \* 5 pairs - Present in very good numbers.

DIPPER Seen on the stream in the first four months and again in early December, with one being ringed on Feb. 18th.

MISTLE THRUSH \* 1 pair - Seen throughout the year and flocking in August and September with 35 on August 30th.

SONG THRUSH \* 2 pairs - Present but only in small numbers.

FIELDFARE Last seen on April 26th with 41 birds and first on Oct. 10th with up to 350 in March and April.

REDWING Last on March 23rd and first on Oct. 23rd with 35 birds seen.

BLACKBIRD \* 3 pairs - Present but not in large numbers.

WHEATEAR Seen on the tip from July 5th to Aug. 17th with 5 birds on July 11th

REDSTART \* 2 pairs - First on May 10th and seen or heard throughout the season with the last on Sept. 18th. 4 birds seen regularly.

ROBIN \* 4 pairs - Present in good numbers.

BLACKCAP One on June 13th and 21st were the only records.

GARDEN WARBLER Only definite record of one on June 3rd.

WHITETHROAT \* 1 pair - Present in June with the last on Aug. 17th.

WILLOW WARBLER \* 2 pairs - First were 6 birds on April 26th and last on Sept. 18th with good numbers throughout the summer.

WOOD WARBLER First seen on May 20th and heard singing until July 6th. Breeding not proved.

GOLDCREST Seen only in the winter months.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER \* 2 pairs - First on May 20th and present in good numbers up to Aug. 15th

DUNNOCK \* 3 pairs - Present regularly.

MEADOW PIPIT Seen on tip in the last three months of the year in small numbers.

TREE PIPIT One heard singing on June 5th.

PIED WAGTAIL Seen throughout the year. May have bred.

GREY WAGTAIL Seen twice in January, once in March, twice in October and twice in December - all on the stream.

YELLOW WAGTAIL One on Aug. 8th and one flew E. on Sept. 7th.

STARLING \* 3 pairs - Seen throughout the year. Also seen flying over the wood in the direction of Huddersfield with a maximum of 366 on Sept. 12th.

GREENFINCH \* 1 pair - No large numbers but seen regularly.

GOLDFINCH Three on Nov. 4th and 4 on Nov. 11th.

LINNET \* 2 pairs - Seen occasionally in the Autumn but only in small numbers.

TWITE Two seen near the wood on May 23rd.

REDPOLL Seen in good numbers with 6 on Oct. 10th. May have bred.

BULLFINCH \* 1 pair - Present in good numbers.

BRAMBLING Seen in small numbers in the first two months

CHAFFINCH Not a common species but with 10 on Oct. 23rd.

YELLOW HAMMER Four seen throughout the year except in August and September.

CORN BUNTING Three were roosting in the wood on April 14th and other records of 1 on Oct. 23rd and 2 on Nov. 11th.

HOUSE SPARROW \* 6 pairs - Not a common species. One flock with C.50.

TREE SPARROW \* 2 pairs - Common throughout the year  
with 75 on Sept. 7th.

M. L. DENTON &  
S. N. ANSCOMBE  
(Members).

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BIRD RINGING

Birds have been ringed in Huddersfield by members of the Club since the 1st January, 1960. During this time 7667 birds have been ringed. These have been spread over 56 species as follows:-

Blackbird	Goldfinch	Redstart
Blackcap	Greenfinch	Redwing
Brambling	Jay	Robin
Bullfinch	Kingfisher	Sandpiper, Common
Bunting, Reed	Lapwing	Siskin
Chaffinch	Lark, Sky	Sparrow, House
Chiffchaff	Linnet	Sparrow, Tree
Creeper, Tree	Magpie	Swallow
Dipper	Mallard	Starling
Dove, Stock	Martin, House	Swift
Dunlin	Moorhen	Thrush, Song
Dunnock	Owl, Tawny	Thrush, Mistle
Flycatcher, Spotted	Pipit, Meadow	Tit, Blue
Goldcrest	Redpoll	Tit, Coal
Tit, Great	Tit, Long-tailed	
Tit, Willow	Twite	
Wagtail, Grey	Wagtail- Pied	
Warbler, Garden	Warbler, Sedge	
Warbler, Willow	Whinchat	
Whitethroat	Woodpecker, Great Spotted	
Wren	Yellow Hammer.	

The technique of ringing includes the finding of suitable sites. This is often difficult as it is necessary not to be open to the public, so as to avoid disturbance both to the birds and to the ringers. The sites that have proved most productive have been a roost in Edgerton, Blackmoorfoot, Kirkburton Sewage Farm and Toothill. Some of the less worked sites have produced some of the more interesting species

such as the Dipper at Dean Wood, Dunlins, Swifts and Common Sandpipers at Deerhill, Sky Larks at Birdsedge and the Tawny Owl at Bretton, though 37 Bramblings were caught at the roost in Edgerton in 1967, the Tree Creepers, Kingfishers and Siskins were at Kirkburton and the Stock Dove and Whinchat were at Blackmoorfoot. With some of the rarer species considerable time and patience is required as watching juvenile Dunlins and Common Sandpipers from a distance and then trying to find them is a tricky business as they are so adept at concealment. The catching of 11 Twite at Blackmoorfoot entailed a whole afternoon's work.

Interesting things have been learned. Blackbirds have come from, or gone to Norway, Sweden, France, Heligoland and Eire; Redwings to France; Pied Wag-tails bred at Kirkburton to Spain and Portugal; a Linnet to Spain; A Goldcrest to France; a Chaffinch from Finland; a Starling to Tamworth; a Chiffchaff was caught and released at the Dungeness ringing station and Greenfinches, generally very sedentary birds, to St. Helens & Catterick.

As regards longevity Robins have been retrapped 6 years later, Blue Tits 6 years, Blackbirds 7 years, one being over 8 years old, Starlings 6 years and Great Spotted Woodpecker 5 years. All these birds survived the severe winter of 1962/63.

The following is the list of birds ringed by T.D. Bisiker, J.G. Ireland and several helpers during 1967.

(see overleaf)

This, the first annual report of the Club, records 135 species for the area. Although this is two fewer species than last year it is based on a greater number of reports, and the thanks of a satiated recorder are extended to all the members - and an occasional non-member - who have contributed such a large volume of records.

The most notable species missing from the 1967 list are: Black Tern, Little Gull and Short-eared Owl, but the Lesser Whitethroat is a very interesting item. The recording of Slavonian Grebe and Black-necked Grebe completes the five species of Grebe on the British List during the first two years of the Club.

It is unusual to have all three species of swan - Mute, Bewick's and Whooper in the year. The 23 Bar-tailed Godwits on Nov. 11th is a very good record - very interestingly confirmed by the sighting of the same birds three quarters of an hour earlier flying W. at Fairburn lngs.

This year reports of Great Spotted Woodpecker are far more numerous than reports of Green Woodpecker, which, except for one location, are very few.

It is unfortunate that the Pied Wagtail roost has broken up, but it will be interesting to see if it re-forms on next year's growth of reed. The absence of reports of Yellow Wagtail from Cooper Bridge probably indicates that the area was not visited.

C. DISBREY.  
Recorder.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE Four pairs at Bretton. Three nests noted but only one juvenile seen. A pair were displaying at Ingbirchworth reservoir on March 29th. On Aug. 28th a bird was seen to leave a nest which had eggs, and on Aug. 29th two adults were seen with two very small chicks. On Oct. 5th the juveniles were well grown. Reports of occasional birds at Blackmoorfoot reservoir.

SLAVONIAN GREBE A single bird, in mainly summer plumage, was on Ingbirchworth reservoir on Aug. 27th and Aug. 28th.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE Several members of the Club had good views of a single bird in full summer plumage on Blackmoorfoot reservoir on April 26th.

LITTLE GREBE Regularly at Bretton, frequently at Ingbirchworth reservoir with 6 on Oct. 5th. Occasionally at Blackmoorfoot reservoir, with a report of 11 on Nov. 9th.

CORMORANT Two on Blackmoorfoot reservoir on Oct. 1st.

HERON Regularly reported from Bretton with a maximum of 4 on July 7th. Reports from Ingbirchworth, March Haigh, Digley and Blackmoorfoot reservoirs.

MALLARD A maximum of 187 at Bretton on Oct. 8th, 65 at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on Dec. 17th. Small numbers frequently at Ingbirchworth reservoir and reports in May and June from Swellands reservoir.

TEAL Reported from Bretton until April 23rd and from July 7th with a maximum of 27 on Nov. 11th. Occasionally at Blackmoorfoot reservoir with C. 30 on Nov. 9th, and at Deerhill and Wessenden reservoirs. Gamekeepers report more Teal than usual on the moors in the Dunford Bridge area.

GADWALL Two males and one female on Sept. 30th on Blackmoorfoot reservoir. One at Bretton on Sept. 24th.

WIGEON C. 20 on Blackmoorfoot reservoir Nov. 9th and reports from Bretton and Brownhill, Digley and Ingbirchworth reservoirs.

PINTAIL 6 on Blackmoorfoot reservoir Nov. 9th with single bird reports from Blackmoorfoot reservoir on April 5th and Ringstone reservoir on Jan. 2nd. A male and female at Bretton on Dec. 3rd.

SHOVELER One on Ingbirchworth reservoir on July 25th and 3 on Blackmoorfoot reservoir on Nov.9th.

TUFTED DUCK Reports from Bretton regularly and from Blackmoorfoot, Ringstone, Bilberry, Swellands and Black Moss reservoirs.

POCHARD Regularly at Bretton with 25 on Jan.1st. Occasionally at Blackmoorfoot and Ingbirchworth reservoirs.

GOLDEN EYE Last spring report April 14th at Deerhill and the first autumn report Oct.29th at Ringstone Edge reservoir. Regularly at Blackmoorfoot and Deerhill, with records from March Haigh and Ingbirchworth reservoirs and from Bretton.

COMMON SCOTER A male at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on Aug.10th.

GOOSANDER A female at Bretton for a period at the beginning of January.

SHELDUCK Two on Jan.30th, four on March 17th, one on August 31st at Blackmoorfoot reservoir. One on March Haigh reservoir April 9th and three on Ingbirchworth reservoir on Oct.28th.

GREY GEESE Several reports of skeins passing over the district.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE 27 flying W. on Oct.5th following the contour of the hills above Digley reservoir were close enough for identification.

CANADA GOOSE Regularly at Bretton with 133 on July 9th. 28 juveniles were raised from 6 broods.

MUTE SWAN Again bred successfully at Middlemost Mill Dam, Halifax Old Road, Huddersfield.

WHOOOPER SWAN 5 juveniles and 2 adults on Ingbirchworth reservoir on Nov.17th. This is the only record for the area in the last nine years. Although the species is a regular winter visitor to S.Yorkshire.

BEWICK'S SWAN Jan.8th, Blackmoorfoot reservoir, 20 adult and 7 juveniles on a small area of unfrozen water. One juvenile at Ingbirchworth reservoir on Jan.22nd and 3 adults on Ingbirchworth reservoir on Dec.13th.

SPARROW HAWK Two only reliable sight records of this dwindling specie, in the early part of the year, with a probable report, again in the early part of the year, from a traditional breeding area.

GOSHAWK A very large hawk, which was seen to perch for a very short time at close range, in woodland, giving a good view of the buff breast with dark striations was probably an immature Goshawk. The escape of a Goshawk was reported in the local press about the same time.

MERLIN One on June 1st near Meltham and two on June 17th at Ravenstones.

KESTREL Regularly reported throughout the area and over the town.

RED GROUSE Reported from Deerhill, Cupwith, Bilberry/Digley and Yateholm areas.

PARTRIDGE Reports from 9 localities would appear to indicate an improvement of the status of the specie in the area.

PHEASANT Mainly confined to a few woods where it is preserved.

WATER RAIL Regularly seen and probably breeding in the vicinity of Bretton.

WATER HEN Common in suitable habitat.

COOT Up to 17 at Bretton in the early part of the year and present throughout the year. Also regular at Gunthwaite and occasional birds at Blackmoorfoot reservoir.

OYSTERCATCHER Two on Aug.1st and 2 on Aug.19th at Blackmoorfoot reservoir.

LAPWING Well distributed with large winter flocks in the Ingbirchworth reservoir area with a flock of 1,200 on Aug.21st.

RINGED PLOVER One at Deerhill reservoir and two at Ringstone Edge reservoir on May 5th, with 7 records in the last two days of July and in early August during the autumn migration.

GOLDEN PLOVER Breeding on the moors in the western and southern parts of the area, with winter flocks on

the lower ground, particularly in the S.Crosland and Ingbirchworth areas. On April 12th near Will-o-Nats mating was observed between what appeared to be a northern race cock and a southern race hen.

TURNSTONE One at Deerhill reservoir and three at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on May 6th.

SNIPE Regularly at Blackmoorfoot reservoir and Out-lane/Wholestone Moor. Also at Ingbirchworth and Ringstone reservoirs, near Emley, S.Crosland and Deerhill.

WOODCOCK A bird with three young at Bretton on June 4th, and reports of single birds at Harrow Clough, Dean Wood and Grimescar. Roding at Holmebridge and Boothroyd Wood during the latter half of June.

CURLEW Regular on the moors. First heard calling March 4th at Ingbirchworth and the last sighting report was on Aug.9th at Deerhill.

WHIMBREL Two over March Haigh reservoir, Buckstones on May 21st, and one at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on July 31st.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT 23 flying W. over Blackmoorfoot reservoir at 12.35 hours on Nov.11th is a very unusual record for this area.

GREEN SANDPIPER A single bird at Bretton on Aug.20th.

COMMON SANDPIPER Reported from the larger reservoirs in the district. First report April 11th at Brownhill reservoir; last report Aug.25th at Blackmoorfoot reservoir.

REDSHANK Reports of occasional birds from the moorland reservoirs.

GREENSHANK Two at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on July 30th, and one at Ingbirchworth reservoir on Aug.28th.

DUNLIN Reports from the vicinities of moorland reservoirs, with one nest of four eggs being incubated on May 21st, near Swellands reservoir and 3 chicks reported from Deerhill on June 3rd.

SANDERLING One in summer plumage at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on Aug. 8th.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL Small numbers regularly at

Blackmoorfoot, Ingbirchworth and Ringstone Edge reservoirs during the winter months, with 10 at Deerhill reservoir on May 5th.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL Blackmoorfoot, Ingbirchworth reservoirs and Bretton Park.

HERRING GULL Throughout the early part of the year at Blackmoorfoot, with small numbers at Bretton Park.

COMMON GULL Regularly at Blackmoorfoot reservoir during the winter months. Also at Bretton.

[GLAUCOUS GULL] Nov. 26th at Ringstone Edge. "Light grey mantle - no black on primaries - grey markings on head - heavy bill. Flew off with two Great Black-backed Gulls - similar size and same steady wing beat."

BLACK-HEADED GULL Very numerous and common. On Sept. 21st at Berry Brow, birds of this specie were observed settling on the tops of Hawthorn trees and Elderberry bushes and eating the fruit.

COMMON TERN/ARCTIC TERN Reports of single birds at Bretton on July 7th, July 10th and Sept. 10th.

STOCK DOVE Regularly seen in the vicinity of Digley reservoir. Reports from Bretton, Deerhill, Dean Wood, Birds Edge and Ingbirchworth.

WOOD PIGEON C. 600 moving S. at 09.00 hrs. from Whitley Park on Jan. 29th and 300 at Ingbirchworth on April 28th.

TURTLE DOVE June 10th Ingbirchworth reservoir area. June 15th, Yateholme, July 17th, 23rd and 25th at Bretton Park.

COLLARED DOVE One at Bretton on April 30th. In the Edgerton area of Huddersfield 3 were reported on April 2nd, 2 on April 9th, one on April 23rd and 2 in early December.

CUCKOO Reports from more localities than last year, with a juvenile of red-brown form reported from Netherton and a rufous female in the Digley area. The first cuckoo was reported to have arrived in the Digley area on April 27th.

BARN OWL One bird was reported on Aug. 15th and 2 birds were seen by several members on Aug. 17th. A

local resident said they had been in a nearby barn for several weeks. One was still in the area on Oct.23rd.

LITTLE OWL Reports from Digley, Holmbridge, Blackmoorfoot, South Crosland, Grimescar and Castle Hill.

TAWNY OWL Reports from eight districts.

SWIFT First record May 2nd from Crosland Moor and the latest record from Lindley Moor on Aug.31st.

KINGFISHER Reports from Bretton in April and June, with regular reports from Bretton in November and December. Also a report via a fisherman of a sighting at Hilltop reservoir above Slaithwaite.

GREEN WOODPECKER Regular records from Dean Wood. The only other reports during the year are: 1 bird at Meltham Mills Woods on April 14th, and 4 at Bretton Park on April 22nd.

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER Reports from 14 localities are much more numerous than last year.

LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER Three reports from the Bretton area. Three moving through Bretton Park on April 16th.

SKYLARK Well distributed with a flock of C.50 in the Ingbirchworth area at the beginning of March, and 50+ at S.Crosland on Oct.22nd.

SWALLOW The first record of the year was at Bretton Park on March 27th, and the last on Oct.19th, covering a much longer period than last year.

HOUSE MARTIN April 22nd saw 4 at Bretton Park. The last sighting of the year was on Oct.20th at Digley.

SAND MARTIN Reports of between 20 and 40 at Bretton Park on April 22nd, the latest report being two at Bretton Park on Sept. 3rd.

CARRION CROW Well distributed.

ROOK Probably 30+ rookeries in the area, with a large one of approx. 150 nests at Shelley. A large flock frequented the High Flatts area at the beginning of the year with C.2,000 on Jan.22nd.

JACKDAW Widely distributed.

MAGPIE Very common and numerous with a roost of C.130 in woodland between Old Lindley and Jagger Green on Feb.5th.

JAY Well distributed in the woodlands.

GREAT TIT Common

BLUE TIT Very common.

COAL TIT Thinly distributed through the woodlands. Several reports of regular visits to bird tables.

MARSH TIT Two reports only. A party of 6 at Bretton Park on March 27th and one at Emley Woodhouse on Sept.24th.

WILLOW TIT Reports from 6 localities.

LONG-TAILED TIT A good number of records of mainly small parties and single birds, but regular reports from Bretton Park with at least one pair breeding there.

NUTHATCH Four records from Bretton Park of single birds.

TREECREEPER Breeding at Woodsome Lees and regularly seen during the breeding season at Bretton Park and Grimescar.

WREN Common.

DIPPER Recorded in 6 localities. One caught and ringed in Dean Wood was the first of this species to be ringed in the Huddersfield area.

MISTLE THRUSH Well distributed, with successful breeding within a few yards of the busy Bradford Road in a built-up area of Huddersfield. A large flock in the Grimescar area during Sept. and Oct. reached 130+ on Oct.4th.

FIELDFARE This specie was very numerous in the district in the early part of the year, with a flock of 400+ roosting in Digley Wood on April 6th, 300 at Stocksmoor, Thurstonland on April 1st. 300 at Wilshaw on Feb.26th, with a small party at Knowles Top, Meltham as late as May 3rd. The first arrivals in autumn were three seen flying N. on Sept.21st at Lindley Moor.

SONG THRUSH Well distributed.

REDWING C.5 in a flock with 20 Fieldfares were recorded at Bretton Park on April 16th, and the first autumn arrival was on Sept.25th when C.25 were seen in the

Beldon Valley. This specie appears to be more numerous in the area than last year. A flock of C.230 in Grimescar Valley on Nov.4th and a roost of C.600 in Edgerton on Nov.18th.

RING OUZEL Many more reports than were received in 1966, and from 5 areas. Four pairs reported from the Buckstones area - two with juveniles. Juveniles also reported from the Holme area.

BLACKBIRD Very common.

WHEATEAR C.30 at Deerhill on July 19th. First record March 27th near to Emley village - last report Oct.4th, Grimescar.

STONECHAT Two juveniles near Ingbirchworth reservoir on Nov.21st.

WHINCHAT The first record April 23rd at High Flatts - the last report Sept.13th at Grimescar. Probable breeding at Royd Edge, Meltham.

REDSTART First record April 23rd at Bretton Park, and the last record Sept.18th from Dean Wood.

ROBIN Very common. A report of singing at midnight in the centre of Holmfirth on April 15th.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER One singing at Woodsome on April 28th, and heard regularly at Bretton Park from April 22nd until July 9th.

SEDGE WARBLER Single birds at Bretton Park on May 7th and Black Moss on May 17th.

BLACKCAP More records than for 1966, with reports, including migration movements, from 13 localities. Heard at Bretton as early as April 2nd. Breeding near Lockwood Cemetery with the female still in the area on Oct.15th.

GARDEN WARBLER Two in song at Bretton Park on May 7th. A report of 2 in Dean Wood on June 11th. The latest record for the year from Bretton Park on July 7th.

WHITETHROAT Many more reports than in 1966. The first record on April 30th from Bretton Park, with the last record from Toothill on Sept.25th.

LESSER WHITETHROAT Male and female seen at the edge of Bridge Royd Wood, Bretton Park on July 23rd, and one near Holywell Green on Sept.3rd.

WILLOW WARBLER Common. First record April 16th at Holmebridge; the last record Sept.29th at Grimescar.

CHIFFCHAFF First record April 2nd at Bretton Park and the last report from Longley on Oct.3rd.

WOOD WARBLER Song heard in Mollicar Wood on April 29th, and in Grimescar Wood from April 29th until June 2nd. Also singing in Dean Wood from May 21st until June 6th.

GOLDCREST Reported regularly from Yateholme, Dean Wood, Grimescar and Bretton Park.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER The first report on May 9th from Bretton Park, and the last record from Thunderbridge on Sept.25th.

DUNNOCK Very common.

MEADOW PIPIT C.80 roosting in the heather on Lindley Moor on March 31st. A flock of C.100 was present in the Digley/Bilberry area on July 21st.

TREE PIPIT Records from 13 localities. The first report of the year from Bretton Park on April 23rd, and the last report, also from Bretton Park, about Aug.15th.

PIED WAGTAIL 100+ arrived at the Waterloo roost between 18.00 and 19.00 hours on Oct.1st, but the roost had broken up on Nov.18th, probably because the reeds had been battered by bad weather.

WHITE WAGTAIL Single birds at Kirkburton Sewage Farm on March 25th, and at Bretton Park at the River Dearne on April 30th, were considered by the observers to be of this sub-specie.

GREY WAGTAIL Well reported from 12 localities.

YELLOW WAGTAIL Regular reports from Bretton Park, 7 at Blackmoorfoot reservoir on Aug.22nd. Single birds at Longwood Edge and Dean Wood, and 3 at Elland Gravel Pits on May 19th.

WAXWING One reported on Nov.27th in the New Hey Road area by the Huddersfield Examiner.

STARLING Very common. A very large flock estimated at C.250,000 flew E. in the evening of Nov.11th at Bretton, and what was probably the same flock was seen to fly W. in the morning of Nov.15th at Bretton Park.

GREENFINCH Very common, with a flock of 300+ at South Crosland on Feb.5th.

GOLDFINCH Many more reports received than in 1966, mainly outside the breeding period. A 'charm' of 21 was reported in the Grimescar area on Sept. 29th, Oct. 6th and Oct. 13th.

SISKIN A single bird at Stainland (Black Brook) on Feb. 5th. 7 on Feb. 12th, 2 on March 12th, one on March 27th at Bretton Park. 6+ at Meltham tip on March 14th, and a single female on April 9th at Ingbirchworth.

LINNET Well distributed and occurring in mixed flocks with Greenfinch. A flock of C. 200 was in the Holmbridge area during Sept. and Oct.

TWITE Well reported from the habitat on Deerhill with 20+ on May 21st. At Royd Edge Clough, Meltham on Sept. 22nd a mixed flock of 150+ was comprised of approx. 75% Linnet and 25% Twite.

REDPOLL Numerous reports from a total of 19 localities, with regular reports from Grimescar and Bretton Park during the breeding season.

BULLFINCH Many reports from 14 localities.

CHAFFINCH Well distributed but not numerous. A flock of 60+ at Whitehead Lane, South Crosland on Jan. 29th and C. 60 roosting in Edgerton on March 5th.

BRAMBLING Many records in the early part of the year with a roost of C. 500 in Edgerton. A cock and a hen reported at Farnley Tyas as late as April 29th. The first autumn arrival was recorded at Digley Wood, Holmbridge - a single bird with Chaffinches and Redpolls on Oct. 20th but very few migrants were in the area during the last months of the year - the maximum report being 5+ at Grimescar on Nov. 19th.

YELLOW HAMMER Usually reported in small parties near woodland.

CORN BUNTING Reports from 8 localities.

REED BUNTING Well reported from 10 localities.

SNOW BUNTING A single record of 10 on Nov. 26th near March Haigh reservoir, Buckstones.

HOUSE SPARROW Very common.

TREE SPARROW Well distributed and occurring regularly outside the breeding season in mixed finch flocks.