



# Huddersfield Birdwatchers' Club

Registered charity no. 1098296

## Newsletter Summer 2010



### **President's Report 2010**

Whilst out seeking solace from vuvuzelas and underperforming footballers I was quietly counting ducks at Ingbirchworth. A walker passing by politely asked me what I was doing and, when I explained the mundane nature of WEBS counts he remarked "What a wonderful way to spend your time". It then dawned on me just how right he was, birdwatching must be one of the most enjoyable and rewarding ways to occupy your time, however much of it you have to spare. Unlike those futilely following their heroes in South Africa it is also possible to enjoy the hobby at whatever level you participate: whether Premier league equivalents as with a few of our members, or down in the lower leagues like me the enjoyment is still the same.

This has been a busy year in the club, and more so for some rather than others. We have been participating in the "Humber Gateway Project" under the auspices of Natural England which has involved providing our data from recent years to be used in a broader database of information. The confidentiality of, and controlled access to this information has been assured before we participated, of course. In order to effectively provide this information David Butterfield has worn his fingers to the bone in putting all of the club sightings from 2008 and 2009 into spreadsheets. In the course of this his love and understanding of computers has grown enormously, naturally. As a side benefit of this data manipulation he has been able to provide discrete species' spreadsheets individually to the nine report writers who produced the 2008 report, and will soon be setting to work on 2009. This is one of the changes that we have recently introduced to enable us to produce the annual bird reports more speedily.

We have had an interesting programme of meetings this year, although once again we did suffer from some disruption due to the weather. The switch to the Town Hall facilities were a real success and I'm sure that everyone is pleased with the improvements that this has brought about, for which we should thank Chris Abell as well as the Kirklees staff who have been very helpful. Coupled with this we invested in a digital projector and screen which expanded the means by which we can make presentations, and I hope we will see further benefits from this investment in the coming year. In particular this equipment helped us to provide a platform for our own members to exhibit their photographic and presentational skills and this is something upon which we intend to build in the coming years. If anyone is interested in making presentations in the future do let a member of the committee know and we will do whatever is possible to help.

Thanks to the hard work of Mike Wainman we have also launched a new club website this year, which has generated a significant increase in visitors when compared with the old one. The new site only works in a shaky way with the club forum due to a number of technical factors which none of us really understand. As we become more dependent upon computers and digital information then our limited skills in these areas become more exposed and we are constantly casting around for help. If you have reasonable IT skills and are willing to help the club in any way then we would be very pleased to hear from you.

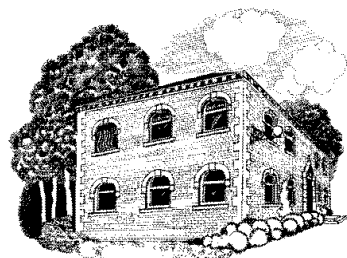
Club membership has grown once more this year, even faster than the club bird list, and this is most gratifying. In addition the attendances at club meetings have been very strong, and seeing the Old Courtroom at the Town Hall fill with eager anticipation means that we must be doing something right. For anyone who has yet to attend a meeting here please do come along – you may even enjoy yourself. Despite the growth in the size membership, however, we do need to increase the cost of membership this year to £15. This is simply due to a jump in costs largely associated with these club meetings, but in terms of value for money I would hope that you all feel it is very worthwhile. A close scrutiny of the club accounts would convince anybody that nothing is wasted, I can assure you.

This report would be incomplete without bestowing my, and our, heartfelt thanks to Brian Armitage who is finally being allowed to stand down from the post of recorder and as a committee member at this year's AGM. Brian stepped into the role temporarily, just to help out until a more permanent recorder could be found, in 1997. We never found that more permanent recorder (and in fact still haven't but more on that anon) so Brian has continued to "fill in" for all of these years. The job that he has done, as I hope that you all realise, is just a little bit more than fill-in. The post was always an onerous one with its attendant responsibility and, with the growth in participation, the number of records and the size of the annual report, became even more so. That Brian has loyally fulfilled all of these duties over all of those years means that we all owe him a debt of gratitude. I do know that he is going to indulge himself in his first overseas birding tour for some time in the autumn, and he should do that in the knowledge that the club remains in safe hands.

Finally, many thanks for the hard work and dedication of all of the committee members and others without whom the club would simply not exist and whose efforts may often go unnoticed through the year.

Enjoy the rest of this newsletter and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the first meeting of the year on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm in the Old Courtroom.

Alf King



## **in focus**

*The Binocular and Telescope Specialists*

Our Yorkshire branch is situated in the heart of Denby Dale - the famous 'pie village'. The showroom is situated on the first floor of Westleigh House and boasts extensive views across the dale. We stock a wide range of optical equipment ranging from hand lenses and magnifying glasses to binoculars and telescopes, including a full range of both compact and full sized binoculars from a variety of the best known optical manufacturers. Denby Dale lies on the A636 between Wakefield and Huddersfield with convenient access from the M1 at Junctions 38 and 39. There is plenty of free off-road parking. Trains run from Huddersfield and Sheffield (we're next door to the station) and there's an hourly bus link from Wakefield station.

**in focus DENBY DALE** is open 10.00 - 5.00 Monday to Friday  
and 9.00 - 5.00 on Saturday but **CLOSED ON SUNDAY**  
Telephone: 01484 864729

### **Other in focus shops**

- **Hertfordshire** London Colney 01727 827799 ● **Norfolk** Titchwell 01485 210101
- **Rutland** Anglian Water Birdwatching Centre 01572 770656 ● **Gloucestershire** WWT Slimbridge 01453 890978
- **Lancashire** WWT Martin Mere 01704 897020 ● **West London** The London Wetland Centre 020 8409 4433

*All the latest information at*

**[www.infocuseoptics.co.uk](http://www.infocuseoptics.co.uk)**

## **Patch Outings**

### **(i) Patch outing to Blackmoorfoot (2010)**

At 06.30hrs. on the day of the Blackmoorfoot local patch outing there wasn't a cloud in the sky and, in the sun, it felt warm. Some 12 hours later, however, when nine Club members assembled by the reservoir inflow it was cold and overcast with persistent rain.

Following a discussion on the advantages of local patch watching, from the perspective of the individual and also the Club's, the party visited Orange Wood in an effort to seek shelter from the weather. A pair of Nuthatches had built a nest in a hole which had previously not been used but, as the eggs were at the incubation stage, no activity from the adults was observed. Although it was raining birds were still singing: Chaffinch, Wren, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Great Tit and Blue Tit being heard.

On returning to the south bank of the reservoir it was noted that a male and female Goosander had put in an appearance, and a number of Swallows were hawking insects in the lee of the west bank willows. By now, although the rain had stopped, it was still threatening and, rather than risk the walk to Potato Lane we decided to travel by car. Although the 14 Golden Plover and two male and three female Wheatear were still present the female Whinchat seen earlier in the day had flown. The two Little Owls, which had recently only been seen sporadically, put in a welcome appearance.

Other wildlife observed included three Brown Hares and two family parties of Rabbits. All in all, despite the efforts of the weather, everyone present said they had had a very enjoyable evening. It then became more enjoyable, as three members visited the Will's O' Nat's public house for a pint.

Mike Denton

### **(ii) Patch outing to Digley Saturday 22nd May**

Five of us set out on a lovely sunny spring morning for a circuit from Digley Reservoir, west to 'Blackpool Bridge', then over the moor to Issues Road and back to Digley. In a most enjoyable morning's birding we bagged 43 species, highlights of which included:

Tufted Duck (4), a female Red Grouse with six young, two pairs of Grey Partridge, a Kestrel chasing a Grey Squirrel, one Oystercatcher, decent numbers of Lapwing including four chicks, one Snipe chipping, several Curlew, four Stock Dove, Cuckoo (one heard, one seen), two Green Woodpecker, three Wheatear, one singing Blackcap, nine singing Willow Warbler, two Chiffchaff singing, one Treecreeper, four Jay, one Linnet, a pair of Bullfinch and one Reed Bunting.



In addition to the other 'senior citizens' who joined me (Chris Abell, David Markham & Roger Mitchell) it was a particular pleasure to welcome some young blood in the form of Roger's son Nathaniel, whose keener eyes added significantly to our list.

Mike Wainman

### **(iii) Win some, lose some**

Drawing up the programme of Patch Outings, I chose the date most suitable for me for the outing to Langsett, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Consulting other volunteers it became clear that that date was the best one for Mike Wainman's visit to Digley, so I graciously gave way and selected 5<sup>th</sup> June instead. A week or so later my wife decided it was best to keep that day clear so I moved the Langsett outing to the following day. Some you lose.

Come the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, I remembered how cold and wet it had been last year so I came fully prepared with warm fleece, warm waterproof coat and trousers, gloves as well. A quarter of an hour after our 7.30 a.m. start (at Digley), I was sweating and soon discarded all warm clothing and ended up lugging them around in my rucksack for the next 5 hours. Some you lose again.

The birds were not quite what we expected, no Golden Plover, no Raptors (other than one kestrel), no Ring Ouzel, no House Martins at their usual breeding site. I also realised my hearing had deteriorated such that I was unable to hear singing Skylark. I blamed the wind but this is a definite loss.

However we found Wheatear, heard Snipe chipping, saw Reed Bunting and also had excellent views of Cuckoo. We were rewarded with sights of young Red Grouse and Lapwing. We had interesting observations, 4 Grey Partridge on rough pasture/ moorland edge. The dry weather had the effect of Rooks moving up from farmland to feed on the same rough pasture in large numbers, which I forgot to count but well over 50 birds. A definite win.

On 5<sup>th</sup> June, my original day for Langsett, the sun shone and it was pleasantly warm, so I prepared my clothing accordingly and was not too worried when 9 of us set off in a light drizzle. However half an hour into our walk the rain came down heavily and did not stop at all until we returned to the car park some 5 hours later. The conditions were poor and the birds were quiet in the wood and if I had been on my own I may very well have turned back after a couple of hours. Some you lose again.

However we persevered and crossing the boundary of our recording area into Sheffield/Barnsley, the clouds lifted, the rain eased a little and the birds started to emerge. First a male Redstart sitting obligingly on a wall and then Spotted Flycatcher. When we reached our furthestmost point, it was still raining and I thought we would turn back immediately, but then a large Raptor came down towards us and flew into our recording area, a very scruffy Red Kite. Suggestions were that it was a juvenile, and a little later we saw it over the moors. We did turn round, an hour later, having stood in the rain watching 4 Woodcock feeding in the open in the valley below. A passing group of

Swallows indicated further easing of the rain and more birds emerged, Lapwing, Grey Heron, Buzzard and Sparrowhawk. A win.

Walking back it became clear the birds were now active again and along the River we had 2 Grey Wagtails, Dipper and 2 Common Sandpipers. A Tree Pipit was heard distantly. Finally near to the car park we saw Spotted Flycatcher to conclude an excellent morning's birding, seeing a total of 46 species despite the poor weather.

My overall thoughts on Patch outings, yes you do lose sometimes but meeting fellow club members, talking about birds for a few hours is an excellent way to enjoy the day. I find I always learn something on each trip and I can definitely say, You Win.

Chris Abell

## **Records and Recording**

### **(i) Role of the Recorder**

Brian Armitage has indicated that he will stand down as Recorder at the AGM. This has prompted the committee to look afresh at the role of Recorder. A small group which includes Brian has been working on this and if anyone has any ideas on the best way forward, please send them to me, preferably by email, to [cdabell@gmail.com](mailto:cdabell@gmail.com). The group expects to report back to the committee in the autumn and members will be informed of any changes as soon as possible.

In the meantime all valid records are now entered on our computer system and everyone is urged to help with this by sending in their records promptly. See below.

Please make sure that you include your own details – anonymous records are not accepted but requests for secrecy will be honoured.

Chris Abell

### **(ii) Update to Recording**

Those of you who already regularly send in your records for publishing in the Club's *Birds of Huddersfield* report are familiar with the criteria that we like to have attached to each record. Those others amongst you that feel they would like to contribute records should open and read the **Bird Recording** tab on our website {[www.huddersfieldbirdwatchersclub.co.uk](http://www.huddersfieldbirdwatchersclub.co.uk)} where these criteria can be found. For the benefit of those amongst you who do not have access to our website I quote the following...

"Where possible, records should include date, time, location, weather conditions and notes of unusual behaviour, as well as species, race where relevant, numbers, where possible sex and an indication of breeding activity such as singing, territorial display, nests, food-carrying or presence of young. When birds fly off or are seen flying over a note of the direction of flight is valuable".

All valid records are now entered on our computer system and everyone is urged to help to help with this by sending in their records promptly. This could be done by whichever method the observer prefers but it would help enormously if records could be sent either immediately or monthly via email directly to me at [dbutt52@hotmail.com](mailto:dbutt52@hotmail.com) or [Butterfieldd60@gmail.com](mailto:Butterfieldd60@gmail.com). Mailed records should be sent to David Butterfield, 15 Dene Road, Skelmanthorpe, Hudds HD8 9BU. My 'phone number is 01484 862006.

Please make sure that you include your own details – anonymous records are not accepted. Records are entered onto spreadsheet datasets in date order and site locations for each species for which records are received. 2009 records entry is more or less complete and details 176 species / races that have been recorded within the bird club's recording area throughout the year. Over the past year or so a combination of very hard work by a dedicated team of report writers and the development of a system of computerising records has enabled the Club to achieve its aim of catching up with the publication of its annual reports. 2008 should be available shortly after the Club starts its new year in September and it is hoped that 2009 will be ready by the end of the year. It is our stated aim to have each subsequent years report ready for distribution to members by September of that year. To achieve this it will be necessary to have all your records, hopefully, by the end of February of each year! I / we would appreciate members' compliance with that target.

David Butterfield

## Birds in Huddersfield 2008

We are expecting to have the 2008 report printed by the beginning of the new lecture season and it is surely our best yet. It was an exceptional year, with much to report, including three new species and one new race for the area. For the first time the team worked from computerised records produced with a herculean effort by David Butterfield. Our writing syndicate have done a tremendous job – thanks go to Chris Abell, Brian Armitage, Russ Boland, Mike Denton, Alf King, Hugh Quarterman, Dave Pennington, Mike Pinder and Dave Pogson for their considerable hard work. There are colour photos again from David Tattersley, Dave Pennington and Nick Mallinson and illustrations from Russ Boland and Stuart Brocklehurst. Stuart has marked his twentieth year of providing illustrations for club reports with a stunning five colour reduction linocut cover of a Short-eared Owl.

If you were a member in 2009/10 you will receive a free copy, otherwise the price is £6.00 plus £1.50 p&p.

**Note:** Stuart has generously donated to the club the original artwork for the cover and this will be raffled in the first half of the meeting season – so turn up and get your tickets to have your chance of this lovely work adorning your wall. You can see more of Stuart's work on his web site [www.wildlifewithbrushandpen.blogspot.com](http://www.wildlifewithbrushandpen.blogspot.com)

The 2008 report will be the third we have published in little over twelve months as part of a concerted push to get up to date and I trust that members fully appreciate the mammoth effort put in by the team. In doing so we have determined not to let standards slip, indeed we have raised the bar, with colour photography, more field illustrations and now a colour cover.

As I write, the final 2009 records have been received from observers. We aim to finish computerising the records and make a start on writing the 2009 report, with a view to publishing around year-end. This is a little later than planned, but would still be a substantial step forward.

## 2010 RECORDS: AN APPEAL TO ALL MEMBERS.

For 2010, we want to get back to where a club of our standing should be – i.e. publishing our annual report within nine months of the year end. In order for this to happen, it is essential that we receive records from all contributors by the end of March 2011, at the very latest. Remember there is still considerable work to be done on records after they are submitted. We are therefore making this appeal to you all – please start work on your 2010 records early and ideally let us have them month by month as you go, rather than waiting until January to begin, to help us spread the load. **Either way, all records in by 31st March 2011 without fail please.**

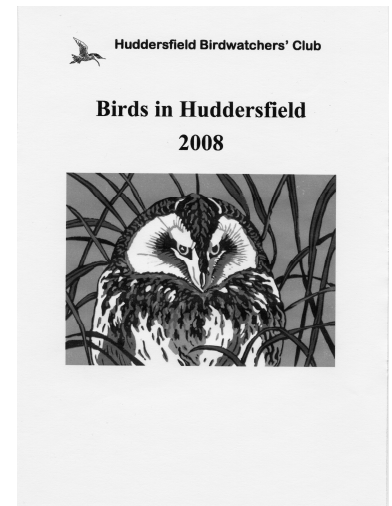
Mike Wainman

## The Birds of the Huddersfield Area – in hardback ?

One member has asked if it would be possible to have a copy of Paul and Betty Bray's milestone book in hardback. The answer is **YES** – the firm who would do the archiving project for us can do a limited edition run, provided we can put together an order of just 10 copies. This is a 'one off' opportunity and the cost would be £20.00, plus £3.00 p&p, if applicable.

If you would like a copy please let me know by **30<sup>th</sup> September** and we shall see whether there is sufficient interest. Note I will need a firm commitment and will then need money 'up front' to place the order.

Mike Wainman.



## Some aspects of the breeding season 2010

The year produced a mixed bag, some species doing well, others very badly after showing early promise.

At least three pairs of Mute Swans successfully raised nine cygnets in the Calder Valley and a further pair bred at Bretton Lakes. Similarly Goosander fulfilled its anticipated expansion with at least four broods totalling 40 individuals on the R. Calder and breeding suspected at an additional site in the valley.

Diurnal raptors had mixed fortunes, although it is encouraging to report that a pair of Goshawks was present at one site, but I have not heard the outcome. Common Buzzards have recently taken off, with at least ten breeding pairs, mainly in the eastern part of the club area, but also as near to the town centre as Almondbury/Farnley Tyas, as well as at Kirkheaton. A single pair of Merlins appears to have successfully raised young and more encouraging is the number of successful Peregrine nests, at least four, three of which were at traditional sites, but a fourth pair in the northeast of the area was totally unexpected and fledged one youngster. The family took up residence at least temporarily on the mast at Emley Moor.



Amongst wading birds, Oystercatchers continued to increase in both numbers and distribution, a minimum of two pairs of Little Ringed Plover have been successful, and good numbers of both Golden Plover and Dunlin were reported on the moorlands. Amongst several pairs of Common Sandpipers, one chose a remarkable nest site in a quarry location, ten metres up the cliff face underneath a rock.

At Kirkheaton there was excitement on 19th July when a cat presented its owner with a young Quail. This was soon dissipated however when it was discovered that a local resident rears Quails for their eggs!

After what initially appeared to be a bumper year for Short-eared Owl, several pairs disappeared "mysteriously" on kept moorlands, but at least two pairs were successful elsewhere raising broods of five and six; Long-eareds seem to have fared better, a minimum of ten sites holding birds but it is not known how many produced young. One interesting record is of a Little Owl nest with three young in a barn in SE21, but more interesting was the large number of Barn Owl pellets at the same location.

Many summer visitors seem to have continued to decline with few reports of several species. Swifts and House Martins were down or absent altogether at some traditional sites. Sand Martins fared rather better, with about 50 pairs at three sites in the Calder Valley, including 25-30 at the site of the old Ravensthorpe Gravel Pits, now a landfill site, and about ten pairs each at the new Reserve at Healey Mills and near Horbury Bridge. A welcome exception to the decline in summer migrants was Cuckoo, with the largest number reported for several years.

The new reserve at Healey Mills, Ossett is already showing its worth with one pair of Grasshopper Warbler and three pairs of Sedge Warbler confirmed breeding as well as Tawny Owl young and Water Rail present. Further upriver two pairs of Reed Warblers bred at Colnebridge S.P. and this species was also present at Elland G.Ps.



At least two pairs of Raven have raised young, including one which nested away from the moorlands on an electricity pylon.

Three Crossbill nests were discovered in the Langsett and fledged young well photographed. However our "special" bird the Twite appears to be in terminal decline. Three family parties were seen in the Deer Hill/Wessenden area but only very small numbers frequented the

feeding station. At traditional breeding sites at Cupwith and Buckstones none could be found early in the season. We can only hope that birds were late arriving. A similar situation is occurring at sites in Calderdale.

This summary has been compiled mainly from information provided by Mick Cunningham, Jim Hodson, Dave Pogson, Russell Smithson and Don Sykes, to all of whom I am most grateful.

I am stepping down as Club Recorder at the next AGM and wish to express my thanks to all who have supplied me with records since 1997 and hope that you will be equally supportive of my successor.

Brian Armitage

## **Club Finances 2009/2010**

It has been a busy year, actually and financially. As I write, the accounts are not quite finalised, but we expect to end the financial year to the end of June with a headline surplus of around £750. The accounts are more complicated than usual as we have bought the new projector and screen (out of capital) and received one-off special grants of £700 cash and a laptop PC worth some £300 from a government-funded body collating bird data at Yorkshire level – a major bonus from the considerable hard work by David Butterfield and Alf King in computerising our 2008 records. However, excluding these special items and the associated depreciation, the position is more marginal, with us slightly in the red on normal activities (before bank interest, which was much reduced in the current economic climate).

We have of course done more – computerising the records, building the new web site, working on two annual reports – in addition to the normal activities and seen a welcome increase in membership to 104, the highest for a considerable time. The average cost of speakers has however risen significantly and the Town Hall venue is more expensive.

It is against this background that it has been necessary to increase subscriptions for 2010/2011 to £15 single / £26 joint, the first increase since 2007 and still exceptionally good value for fifteen meetings and including the *'Birds in Huddersfield'* annual report.

Please help by paying your subs for the new season now, using the form at the end of this newsletter.

Mike Wainman

## **What shall we do with the Club archive?**

The archive of club publications comprises one copy each of annual reports going back to 1966 and of various 'one off' books produced over the years, including the Blackmoorfoot reports, Breeding Atlas and The Birds of the Huddersfield Area. It is the only complete collection of the club's work, but 'archive' may be too grand a description for it is no more than a cardboard box full of books and vulnerable to loss or damage, from which there may be no recovery. Only the most recent reports are in digital format and hence backed up on computer. The club's works are an uniquely important body of information about the recent history of birds in the area, which we have a duty to protect, and are not effectively accessible to members and the public, to whom we have a duty as a charity.

We have therefore been investigating ways both to protect the archive and make it more accessible. There is a firm, which happens to be based in Huddersfield, that specialises in this field, working for libraries, museums and universities. They have provided us with a quote for scanning and digitising the whole archive so that it could be accessed via our new web site, in a form that would be searchable, thereby also providing a complete back up. The current physical archive, each book of which would need to be broken apart for scanning, would then be professionally rebound in leather volumes to protect it.

There is a substantial amount of technical work in this and the cost would be around £1,000. We recently made an application for a grant for the work, but were not successful, and must therefore consider meeting the cost from our own resources. We are fortunate, however, in that our financial reserves are healthy and so in a position to afford such an investment. The Committee will be discussing the matter at our next meeting in October and we are keen to know what you as members think – so please let us have your views by email to me at [m.wainman@ntlworld.com](mailto:m.wainman@ntlworld.com) or to any Committee member.

Mike Wainman.

# Huddersfield Birdwatchers' Club

Chris Abell, Secretary, 57 Butterley Lane, New Mill, Holmfirth HD9 7EZ  
Tel 01484 681499; email [cdabell@gmail.com](mailto:cdabell@gmail.com)

## Notice of AGM

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting is to be held in The Old Court Room, Huddersfield Town Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2010. A full agenda will be issued at the meeting but the following posts are due for election;

- Conservation Liaison Officer
- Recorder
- Secretary
- 2 Committee Members to serve as Publicity Officer and Newsletter Editor

Nominations for these posts should be sent to the Secretary, in writing or by email, 14 days before the meeting (i.e. to be received no later than 2<sup>nd</sup> November).

## New club web site: [www.huddersfieldbirdwatchersclub.co.uk](http://www.huddersfieldbirdwatchersclub.co.uk)

I hope that most of you have now seen our new web site launched in February. If not, please, do have a look, begging or borrowing a session on someone's computer if needs be.

Our old web site ([huddersfieldbirdwatchersclub.org.uk](http://huddersfieldbirdwatchersclub.org.uk)), launched several years ago, was built for us by Michael Flaherty, a web developer, and initially served its purpose well. However, it was built in a technical code and since Michael left the area we have had nobody in the club with the knowledge to keep it up to date. As a result, it has become effectively defunct, apart from the forum, which continues to function well.

In this internet age it is important to have presence on the web and we therefore set to find a way of building a new web site that we could develop and maintain ourselves – but how, given our collective ignorance of these matters? It transpired that there is a new generation of companies that both host web sites and offer 'on-line', 'do it yourself' development software that is claimed to be easy to use. One of these was recommended to us, so I registered for a new site and gave it a try. It has proved fairly 'idiot proof' in use (I managed it!), with the results that you can see – so judge for yourself.

The site is aimed at promoting the club to the public, educating them about the birds of the area, attracting new members and at helping members keep abreast of club matters. There is a wealth of information already on the site, which is best explored by a visit, including such as the latest changes to meetings, speakers etc. So far it has received some 7,000 'hits'.

Over time, we aim to develop the web site further, including 'on-line' guides to the principal birding sites around Huddersfield. The old site is still in existence for the time being and we chose to keep the forum there, as it offers more than could be included in the new site, though the forum is now accessed via the new site. We shall probably need to employ expert help to 'kill off' the non-forum parts of the old site.

Meanwhile, I hope that you like the new site. However, it is important that you tell us what you think about it and let us have your ideas for how we might develop it – so let's have that feedback, via me please, [m.wainman@ntlworld.com](mailto:m.wainman@ntlworld.com).

**NOTE: VIRUS ALERT NOW CLEARED:** please note that the alert about a possible virus affecting the forum has now been cleared, following action by the web hosting company. Thank you to them for their help.

Mike Wainman



## Meetings Programme 2010/11

07/09/2010	John Mather	"The Highs & Lows of Ecuador"
21/09/2010	Tim Melling	"Wildlife Spectacles in Mexico"
05/10/2010	Ian Robinson	"Sea Birds of the Southern Oceans"
19/10/2010	Mike McKavett	"From Banjul to Basse in search of the Crocodile Bird"
02/11/2010	Jeff Clarke	"Biscay & Picos"
16/11/2010	AGM & Club Evening	
14/12/2010	Paul Rogers	"The Eyes have it" The John Reynolds Memorial Lecture (sponsored by A. King)
11/01/2011	Club Evening	
25/01/2011	Ian Newton	"Springtime in Churchill"
08/02/2011	Phil Palmer	"Birds & Wildlife of Namibia"
22/02/2011	Roger Barnes	"Oman"
08/03/2011	Paul Hobson	"The Wood"
22/03/2011	Stuart Meredith	"Aren't Birds Brilliant?"
12/04/2011	Gordon Yates	"A Taste of Islay"
03/05/2011	Club Evening	

## **2010/2011 subscriptions now due!**

Subscriptions for the new season are now due.

**Please send your subs now** directly to Mike Wainman using the slip below. This method of collection has worked well over recent years - it avoids queues at the meetings and makes a Treasurer's life a little easier !

In 2009/10 the Club received some £280 in **Gift Aid**. Most members have already signed a Gift Aid form and it will still be valid. However, if you are a taxpayer and have not provided a signed form, please help by asking Mike for one (Tel. 01484 469232 or email [m.wainman@ntlworld.com](mailto:m.wainman@ntlworld.com)). It costs you nothing and the Club can reclaim an extra 28% of your subscription or donation as a tax rebate from the government.

**Address and email update:** please also fill in your postal address, telephone number and your email address so that we can check that club records are fully up to date.

Thank you your support.

<b>Subscription return slip 2010/2011</b>
Name(s):
Address:
Telephone no.
Email address:
Subscription (tick): <b>Single £15</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Couple £26</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Cheques only please (no cash) made out to <b>Huddersfield Birdwatchers' Club</b>
Post to: The Treasurer, Mike Wainman, 2 Bankfield Park Avenue, Taylor Hill, Huddersfield, HD4 7QY