

B.W. Woodcock

HBWC



ANNUAL REPORT
1969

HUDDERSFIELD BIRDWATCHERS'
CLUB



The President's Report for 1969

At the conclusion of my 2 years term of office as President, it is pleasing to note that the Club has grown in numbers, but what is more important is that its status is gradually changing.

More members are beginning to appreciate that they in some small way, can contribute towards a more scientific approach to ornithology.

Some are engaged in long term studies of small areas and from their observations have contributed information when tipping has threatened local habitats of bird and animal life. In two cases, opposition to such proposals have resulted in success for the conservationists.

Efforts to produce a permanent ringing station have so far not been successful but this matter has been deferred not abandoned.

Visiting speakers have perhaps sparked off enthusiasm for certain projects which no doubt will be developed when the time is ripe.

Operation Atlas is still engaging the attention of members.

You will, I am sure, appreciate the gradual improvement in the annual report which is now produced by a Report Sub-Committee.

After protracted negotiations, the old and somewhat dilapidated hide at Blackmoorfoot Reservoir, has been replaced by a new one built entirely by members. I hope that its use will justify the efforts made.

Field meetings have been well attended and the summer club evenings have proved to be a useful medium for the interchange of information.

In wishing my successor, Mr. C. Disbrey every success in his term of office, I would also thank him for his past services as Recorder.

I also wish to thank the Committee for their support and in particular our Hon. Secretary Mr. B. Cocking for his untiring efforts on our behalf.

A. Riley,
Club President.

Recorder's Report

The volume of records sent in continues to increase as the Club becomes more soundly established and its members gain experience. The result of the years efforts brings a total of 138 species. The occurrence of 20 species of wader in the area is an increase on recent years, and is due mainly to the water level at Blackmoorfoot in the autumn being lower than at any time since the Club was formed.

Four new species have been recorded this year namely Shag, Grey Phalarope, Arctic Skua and Lapland Bunting. In addition Velvet Scoter, Hen Harrier, Red-legged Partridge, Grey Plover, Bar-tailed Godwit, Spotted Redshank, Knot and Curlew Sandpiper species which have rarely been recorded in the district, were observed. Doubtless with the Blackmoorfoot hide in daily use in 1970 there will be plenty of interesting records in the future, and as members are using the log sheets provided there some of the recorders work will be simplified.

More important than the recording of rarities is the question of the status of common birds, information on which does not always come out in a report of this nature. However the national decline of the Whitethroat in 1969 was reflected in the reports sent in, and it will be interesting to watch the progress of this species in 1970.

Observers noting changes in status of common species in areas with which they are thoroughly familiar, should keep detailed records over a period of years as such developments usually take place slowly in line with environmental changes.

The Recorder wishes to thank the records sub-committee of Messrs. J. G. Ireland, N. Leece and M. J. Palmer for their assistance in preparing this report, and to thank the other members who sent in records.

J. E. Dale
Recorder.

List of Contributors for the 1969 Report.

Apologies for any omissions.

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Ringling Report - 1969

With the departure of Mr. Bisiker from the Huddersfield area the number of birds ringed in the district during 1969 was considerably less than in previous years, as our members who hold ringing permits spent much of their time outside the area. However two new species have been ringed

Black-headed Gull and Jackdaw.

A total of 402 birds of 30 species were ringed by J. G. Ireland and M. J. Palmer.

A Black-headed Gull ringed at Gatakar, Karlskrona, Blekinge, SWEDEN 56,09N 15,36E on 21.6.63, as a nestling, was found dead at Blackmoorfoot Reservoir by D. W. Sill on 23.12.69.

Ringling Analysis - 1969

Black-headed Gull	1	Willow Warbler	6
Jackdaw	1	Spotted Flycatcher	3
Jay	1	Duncock	37
Great Tit	20	Meadow Pipit	1
Blue Tit	41	Pied Wagtail	1
Coal Tit	1	Grey Wagtail	3
Willow Tit	5	Starling	36
Long-tailed Tit	9	Greenfinch	19
Treecreeper	2	Redpoll	10
Wren	8	Bullfinch	12
Song Thrush	7	Chaffinch	9
Blackbird	42	Reed Bunting	2
Robin	33	House Sparrow	78
Blackcap	2	Tree Sparrow	8
Garden Warbler	3		
Whitethroat	1		
			402

177

Great Crested Grebe

Bretton. Bred successfully, 2 pairs reared 2 young each and a third pair also bred. Recorded from February 2nd to November 17th with 15 on May 12th.

Ingbirchworth. Recorded regularly April - September.

Blackmoorfoot. 1 on January 5th was an unusual date. Recorded regularly in April and late August - November 1 - 4 birds.

Little Grebe

Fewer reports than in the last 3 years. Records for autumn and winter from Blackmoorfoot, Bretton and Ingbirchworth with 5 at the latter place on September 5th.

Cormorant

Blackmoorfoot. 1 on September 19th and 2 on September 20th seen by several observers.

Also report of 1 on V.E.B. cooling towers March/April.

Shag

A ringed bird landed on a small mill dam off the Nonley-Brockholes road. Only dived when observer approached to within 6 feet. Present March 26th-27th. (C.D.) First record for the area.

Heron

Over 20 records mainly for the second half of the year when 1-2 were regular at Bretton. Many of the records were of birds passing over such as 4 flying S. over Meltham on September 4th.

Mallard

Bretton. At least 8 pairs breeding. Maximum present 160 on January 12th.

Blackmoorfoot. Regular with 100+ on November 1st. Breeds throughout the Huddersfield area.

Teal

Bretton. Regularly up to April 20th and from August 10th.

Blackmoorfoot. Regularly from late August - November.

Also from Dean Head, Digley and Deer Hill where there was a maximum of 34 on September 27th. The Bretton maximum being the same number on the same day.

Wigeon

Regular at Blackmoorfoot September/October with 36 on September 9th, and records into December. Two records from Bretton January/February.

Pintail

Blackmoorfoot. 2 on October 29th and 6 on November 22nd.

Bretton. 1 male on 4 dates in January, February and December.

Shoveler

Blackmoorfoot. 6 females on August 10th, and 1-2 on 3 dates in September.

Bretton. 2 males and 1 female on May 25th.

Scaup

Blackmoorfoot. Up to 3 females and 1 male variously reported between October 29th and November 6th.

Tufted Duck

Regularly at Blackmoorfoot and Bretton except for the summer months. Maximum of 53 at Blackmoorfoot on November 15th. Also at Deer Hill, Ingbirchworth (12 on July 13th) and Ringstone Edge.

Pochard

Blackmoorfoot. Regular September-November.

Bretton. Fairly frequent with 45 on January 19th.

Also at Ingbirchworth and Ringstone Edge.

Golden Eye

Blackmoorfoot. Recorded from January to May 8th and late October to the year end. Maxima (rather low) of 9 on April 22nd and December 26th. One immature on July 9th and a second summer male on May 8th were unusual probably both second year non-breeders. Also recorded from Bretton, Digley, Deer Hill and Ringstone Edge.

Velvet Scoter

One at Blackmoorfoot on October 29th is the first record in the area for 7 years (N.L. and K.A.W.)

Red-breasted Merganser

A pair at Blackmoorfoot on October 25th (D.W.S.)

Goosander

Blackmoorfoot. 1 male and 9 females on January 2nd and 1 and 3 respectively on February 9th.

Bretton. 1 female present January 26th and February 3rd and 8th

Digley. 1 female on January 24th and 27th.

The above comprise an unusual number of records of this species which has been infrequently recorded during the last 10 years there being only 6 individual records.

Shelduck

Blackmoorfoot. 2 on April 7th, 3 on August 31st (immatures) and 7 on December 21st.

Grey Goose Sp.

Skeins flying over as follows - c. 25 - S over Lindley Moor on January 3rd, c.15 S.E. over Lindley Moor on January 23rd (calls as Grey Lag), c.80 E over Tartown on March 25th and 3 skeins of 36, 43 and 74 birds flying E-W over Almondbury on October 9th.

Pink Footed Goose

Fifty flew S.E. over Lindley Moor on January 25th, all calls heard were of Pink-feet (J.E.D.)

Canada Goose

Bretton. 51 juveniles present on July 6th from 7 or 8 broods. Maximum of 170 adults and immatures on August 17th. Present throughout the year.

Mute Swan

Bred at Middlemost's dam again. Few records received. Single bird on the river by the I.C.I. June-October and one bird at Bretton on April 20th.

Whooper Swan

Brownhill Reservoir. 8 flew low but did not settle on December 2nd.

Ingbirchworth. December 2nd 2.

Longley. 10 flying west on December 14th.

Sparrow Hawk

Only 2 sight records in the area during the year.

Hen Harrier

A Harrier sp. over Deffer Wood on April 4th was considered to be a male of this species. The observer had seen females of this species and Montagu's Harrier previously. Head, back, wings and tail a uniform bluish grey with dark wing tips. Pale underparts without streaks, and no dark wingbars. Wings held in a shallow 'V'. Observed at 150 yards for 15 seconds in bright sunlight. (J.M.L.)

Merlin

One male and one female in the Farnley-Thurstonland area on December 25th and 29th. (J.G.I. & R.H.)

Kestrel

Reported from all districts with 5 confirmed records of breeding. On August 20th near Digley 5 were seen in the air at the same time.

Red Grouse

Breeding in, and reported regularly from, all moorland areas.

Red-legged Partridge

Reported for the second successive year from the Bradley area 1 being seen on May 18th (D.S.)

Partridge

Breeding in the area and reported in small numbers from 10 localities.

Quail

Birds heard in the Crosland Moor area first on June 12th-13th and later between July 12th and 17th. Two birds for certain on July 15th. (C.D., F.F., D.M., J.G.I. et al.)

Pheasant

Breeding in suitable areas.

Water Rail

Singles recorded on 5 dates at Brotton in January, February and November.

Moorhen

Breeding and common in suitable areas.

Coot

Blackmoorfoot. One on December 20th.

Bretton. 5 pairs present during the breeding season with some breeding success. Maximum of 34 on January 12th. This species has decreased here since 1965 when a considerable area of reed bed was destroyed. During the early 1960's the breeding population was in the region of 15 pairs, and a winter population of 100-200 birds.

Oystercatcher

Singles at Blackmoorfoot on May 14th and Ingbirchworth on July 13th.

Lapwing

Breeding in many areas on the fringe of the moors and on high pasture land. Flocks of 400+ at Blackmoorfoot in September.

Ringed Plover

Usually only isolated records but reported regularly from Blackmoorfoot between August 5th and September 19th with a maximum of 19 on August 18th, also seen at Deer Hill.

Little Ringed Plover

Singles at Colne Bridge April 6th (D.S.) and Blackmoorfoot September 29th (D.W.S.)

Grey Plover

One at Blackmoorfoot on December 21st observed at close range at waters edge for 20 minutes. Plumage details were noted, and the distinctive trisyllabic call was heard. (D.M. & A.G.) First record in the area for 29 years.

Golden Plover

Breeding in small numbers on most moorland areas. 100+ at Blackmoorfoot on September 4th. Flock of 45 near the Ford Inn on June 8th seems an early date for such a flock. 5 Northern birds were with 36 Southern birds near Ingbirchworth on May 3rd. (J.G.I. & R.H.)

Snipe

Breeding thinly in the moorland areas. Much disturbed by motorway workings, Dean Head - Outlane Moor etc. Regular at Blackmoorfoot from August 26th to the year end with a maximum of over 60 during October.

Jack Snipe

One at Bretton on February 16th (J.E.D.) and two in Dean Wood on February 18th (J.M.L. & S.N.A.)

Woodcock

Reported from 6 localities with 'roding' near Gawthorne in July.

Curlew

Breeding in moorland areas. Early record from Digley on March 9th.

Bar-tailed Godwit

One in breeding plumage with Golden Plovers near Ingbirchworth on May 3rd. (J.G.I. & R.H.) One at Blackmoorfoot on October 1st (D.W.S.)

Green Sandpiper

Bretton. One on August 17th.

Blackmoorfoot. One on September 21st, 2 on the 27th and one on October 9th.

Common Sandpiper

Reported from the larger reservoirs with evidence of breeding in 3 localities. First record from Deerhill on April 19th, last record Blackmoorfoot September 4th.

Redshank

Two June records from Black Moss. Present at Blackmoorfoot on 7 dates August/September from 1 - 4 birds. Records of 1 - 2 birds in 4 other localities. Displaying near Ingbirchworth in May.

Spotted Redshank

One at Blackmoorfoot on August 27th. (N. & J.M.L.) Only the third record in the last 10 years.

Greenshank

Recorded on 7 dates at Blackmoorfoot between July 13th and September 27th with 5 on August 14th. One flew over Lindley Moor on September 2nd.

Knot

One at Blackmoorfoot on August 27th is the first record in the district for 10 years. (N. & J.M.L.)

Dunlin

Recorded regularly from moorland areas from May 7th to October 4th. Probably breeding but no proof this year. Maximum seen 21 at Deer Hill on July 11th. An isolated record from Blackmoorfoot on November 15th.

Gullow Sandpiper

Two at Blackmoorfoot on September 4th, observed at distances down to 30 yards both feeding and flying. White rumps and decurved bills noted. Dunlin present for comparison. (D.S.) Only the second record in 10 years but reflects the general tendency in the North East this autumn as many more birds than usual were seen on the Humber.

Grey Phalarope

At Blackmoorfoot Reservoir on November 28th and 29th. White head, neck and underparts. Uniform pale grey back with dark crown and neck stripe. A dark stripe from in front of the eye to just short of the back of the head. Pale legs. Short, stout dark coloured bill. Dark primaries with white wing bar. Buoyant swimmer swift and active. Very tame. Viewed as close as 10 feet both flying and swimming (D.W.S.). First record for the district. Appeared after a period of easterly winds.

Arctic Skua

At Blackmoorfoot on September 13th. 3 were present (1 light and 2 dark phase) for a short while after 5.30 p.m. seen both at rest on the water and attacking Gulls before flying off northwards (J.G.I.). First record for the area.

Great Black-backed Gull

Present at the Blackmoorfoot roost throughout the autumn and winter months. Also recorded from Bretton and Ringstone Edge during winter.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Regularly at Blackmoorfoot and Bretton throughout the year.

Herring Gull

Present and common most of the year, but less evident in the breeding season.

Common Gull

Small numbers in the area in the winter months. One adult at Dalton on July 14th.

Little Gull

A first winter bird at Blackmoorfoot on October 1st. (J.G.I.), and another on December 20th (D.W.S.).

Black-headed Gull

Breeding at Black Moss. Very common throughout the year particularly outside the breeding season.

Kittiwake

Two at Digley reservoir on April 22nd and one at Brownhill reservoir on April 25th. One adult and one immature at Ingbirchworth on November 11th.

Common/Arctic Terns

One 'coonie' at Bretton on May 24th and one Arctic at Blackmoorfoot on August 22nd.

Stock Dove

Probable breeding in 3 areas with records from 5 other areas.

Woodpigeon

Common and breeding in woodlands throughout the district.

Turtle Dove

One at Bretton on July 6th.

Collared Dove

Breeding in the district confirmed at Edgerton and Kirkheaton. Also recorded in numbers of 1-3 from Brighthouse, Blackmoorfoot, Crosland Moor, Dalton, Gregory Spring Wood and Hopton.

Cuckoo

First record from Woodsome on April 23rd and the last (a juvenile), from Lindley Moor on September 5th. Reports from 12 localities.

Little Owl

Adults seen with juveniles in August at Crosland Moor, Digley, Grimescar and Lindley Moor. Singles seen in 6 other localities on dates throughout the year.

Tawny Owl

Birds present in suitable breeding areas in many localities. Evidence of 2 nesting attempts only.

Short-eared Owl

One at Blackmoorfoot on April 17th.

Swift

First records on May 3rd from the Town centre and Ingbirchworth, the last record being two birds over Lindley Moor on August 30th. Breeding on mills at Folly Hall, Lockwood and Milnsbridge.

Kingfisher

Records from Bretton (2 dates in February), by the canal near Slaithwaite (July 29th) and Ingbirchworth (September 19th) were all of single birds.

Green Woodpecker

Very few reported. Only from near Brighouse and New Mill, and also at Bretton where a pair bred.

Great Spotted Woodpecker

Recorded from 10 well distributed areas of woodland. Nest with young at Deighton on July 8th.

Skylark

Breeding commonly on open land and moorlands.

Swallow

First record April 10th from Edgerton, and the last on October 15th in Lockwood. Flocks of over 200 on May 4th at Bretton and September 20th at Grimescar. Breeding throughout the area.

House Martin

First record April 28th at Colne Bridge, last record October 18th at Lockwood. Notable increase in numbers of pairs breeding reported from Crosland Moor, Edgerton and Salendine Nook continuing an apparent tendency which has been evident for about 5 years.

Sand Martin

First and last records from Bretton on April 19th and September 14th.

Carrión Crow

Well distributed and breeding in small numbers throughout the area. Two birds of the sub species Hooded Crow were amongst a flock of about 20 in Bretton Park on April 6th.

Rook

Common resident. Information on winter flight lines of this species and the next would be of interest in future.

Jackdaw

Common resident.

Magpie

Common resident throughout the area. Numbers still maintained in the Lindley Moor/Holywell Green area where winter roosts hold over 100 birds.

Jay

Reported and breeding in woodland in 8 localities.

Great Tit

Common resident.

Blue Tit

Common resident.

Coal Tit

Well distributed resident in small numbers.

Willow Tit

Present throughout the year at Bretton. Reported from Lockwood in January and April. Other records from Kirkburton and Kirkstall.

Long-tailed Tit

Reported regularly from Bretton with 2 pairs making nest preparations. 9 birds were ringed at Bretton early in the year and a party of 14 seen on November 23rd. Evidence of nesting near Netherton and records from 3 other woodlands.

Troo Creeper

Reported throughout the year from the following suitable breeding localities Beaumont Park, Bretton, Edgerton, Deffer Wood, Holywell Green, Liley Wood and Kirkburton.

Wren

Common resident.

Dipper

Evidence of 3 pairs breeding near Outlane. Reports in the breeding season from 3 other areas with a general increase of reports during the winter months suggests a steady increase of this species in the district. It is known however that some birds have been disturbed from the Dean Head valley by motorway and reservoir workings and this may account for the apparent increase.

Mistle Thrush

Well distributed and breeding throughout the area.

Fieldfare

About 500 were in the Dean Wood/Nether Moor Road area on April 20th, and one was seen near Dean Wood as late as May 10th. Two were seen flying west over Grosland Moor on September 30th. Many records early in the year of flocks of up to 300, but autumn records rather sparse with very few birds at all until November.

Song Thrush

Common resident.

Redwing

Last spring record one in Dean Wood on April 23rd. Two were heard at night on October 8th over Crosland Moor, and on October 12th reports were received from 6 localities with 100+ passing S. over Bretton. Well distributed in winter months in flocks of up to 100.

Ring Ouzel

First record of a male near Blackmoorfoot on March 29th, and last record of two males on October 4th in the Digley/Bilberry area. Bred in the Buckstones and Digley/Bilberry areas.

Blackbird.

Common resident.

Wheatear

First records from Lindley Moor (5 males) and Grimescar (2 males, 1 female) on April 9th. Late birds at Salendine Nook October 14th and Bradley October 15th. Present with evidence of breeding in 6 localities.

Stonechat

Single males recorded from Digley January 8th, South Crosland March 16th, Blackmoorfoot November 29th and December 24th. There has been a noteworthy increase in records of this species over the last 3 years which is in keeping with county trends.

Whinchat

First recorded from Thurstonland on April 27th, last record from Grimescar on September 22nd. Evidence of breeding from Cawthorne, Dean Head, Emley Moor and Upper Heaton.

Redstart

First record of one female on April 10th at Lindley Moor, and the last record at Grimescar on September 22nd. Evidence of Breeding at Bretton, Butternab Wood, Digley, Hag Wood, Holywell Brook and Yatcholme. Only small numbers in all areas.

Robin

Common Resident.

Grasshopper Warbler

Singles at Thunderbridge on May 5th (J.G.I.) and Paddock on May 20th (B.C.)

Sedge Warbler

Singles at Bretton on May 4th and May 25th. Two in song near Brighthouse on May 4th and one near the I.C.I. at Dalton on May 5th.

Blackcap

First record from Bretton on April 19th, and the last one male in Grimescar Wood on October 21st. Reported from 11 localities which were all suitable for breeding.

Garden Warbler

Three males present at Bretton on May 18th where this species bred, but none actually observed after July 6th. One other record from a wood near Berry Brow on May 8th.

Whitethroat

First record of 2 birds at Bretton on April 27th and the last at Grimescar on September 20th. On the evidence of observations in two areas this species was much scarcer than usual this year. At Bretton in the area west of the upper lake where something like 10 pairs are usually present only 2 pairs were noted this year. In an area around Salandine Nook where 6 pairs were noted in 1968 only one singing male was seen during the breeding season.

Willow Warbler

As this species and Chiffchaff can be confused in the field the first and last records may not be certain, but one at Bretton on April 9th and one at Holmbridge on September 25th were probably of this species. Bred commonly throughout the district.

Chiffchaff

First record from Beaumont Park on April 4th (song) and last record from Blackmoorfoot on September 21st. Present (probably on migration) in 6 localities. Breeding evidence from Bretton only. One was present from May 11th to June 8th by Harrow Clough (nr. Lindley Moor) which sang mainly as Chiffchaff but occasionally gave subdued phrases of 'Willow Warbler' song.

Wood Warbler

Records from Thunderbridge of 2 in song and a third present on May 3rd, singles at Grimescar May 13th and 15th, Dean Wood May 25th and a male in song near Holywell Brook from May 20th to June 8th. Birds probably of this species at Lockwood on May 3rd and Armitage Bridge on May 8th.

Goldcrest

Small numbers reported from 6 localities mainly in the winter and autumn months.

Spotted Flycatcher

First on May 3rd at Kirkburton S.F., last on September 21st at Blackmoorfoot. Reported from many localities and bred in the district.

Pied Flycatcher

One male at Bretton on April 27th and a pair in Hag Wood on June 2nd.

Duncock

Common resident.

Meadow Pipit

Common resident. Scarce in the winter months though can usually be found in the low lying parts of the district along the river valleys.

Tree Pipit

First record from Bretton on April 20th and the last from Grimescar on September 7th. Well distributed and breeding in small numbers in suitable localities throughout the district.

Pied Wagtail

Common resident in suitable localities. A male of the continental subspecies White Wagtail (*Motacilla a. alba*) was at Blackmoorfoot on May 8th (M.L.D.)

Grey Wagtail

Reported from 8 localities, and bred in the area. 6 at Harrow Clough on March 2nd.

Yellow Wagtail

First record on April 13th at Colne Bridge S.F. and last record on September 23rd at Blackmoorfoot. Bred near Blackmoorfoot, Bretton and Colne Bridge with isolated records from 4 other localities.

Starling

Common resident and numerous winter visitor.

Greenfinch

Common Resident.

Goldfinch

Reported throughout the year the only flock of any size being 15 near Holywell Green on October 26th. Bred in the district.

Siskin

Two near Thunderbridge on February 2nd and 2 at Crosland Moor on December 4th.

Linnet

Common resident in suitable localities. Dates of return to breeding areas and any winter records would be of interest in future.

Twite

Few records sent in this year. Bred in several moorland areas and small winter flocks noted. A species well worth recording carefully as the moors in our area are one of its main strongholds in England.

Redpoll

Recording from 10 localities with proof of breeding in some areas including Bretton. No large winter flocks recorded. A party of 25 near Lindley Moor on October 19th being the largest, although about 30 were in a small area near Brownhill reservoir on June 9th.

Bullfinch

Reported from 14 localities with proof of breeding in several areas.

Chaffinch

Well distributed resident. Reports of this species during future breeding seasons would be useful as there is evidence from the Lindley Moor area that the status of this species has changed during the last 20 years. In a stretch of streamside woodland, the nature of which has hardly changed during this period, 8 pairs were present in 1949 and in 1969 only 1 pair could be found. The decline has been steady not sudden and follows the national trend.

Brambling

At Bretton the winter flock present at the end of 1968 was still in the area with 250+ on January 19th, but only small numbers were observed after mid February the last being 12 birds on April 20th. Autumn numbers in the district were very few the first being c.6 at Holywell Brook on October 26th and small numbers were reported later from Digley and Grimescar.

Yellow Hammer

Breeding in moderate numbers throughout the district.

Corn Bunting

Evidence of breeding in the Outlane/Stainland, Crosland Moor/Blackmoorfoot and Ingburchworth areas. Reported from 4 other localities.

Reed Bunting

Well distributed resident in small numbers in swampy areas from altitudes as various as Brotton Park to high moorland at 1200 feet above sea level.

Lapland Bunting

On January 26th on Slaithwaite Moor about 100 yards S. of Cupwith reservoir a single bird was flushed 4 times from the ground. Short tail when seen in flight with light outer tail feathers. Ran for cover on alighting. Calls 'tick' and 'ticky tick'. Uniform brown underparts. Plump build. Reavy streaks on upper breast, Dark moustachial stripe. Dark mark on ear coverts and dark stripe on the crown. Seen in good light at ranges varying from 10-25 yards. (J.E.D.) First record for the district.

House Sparrow

Common resident.

Tree Sparrow

Well distributed and breeding in several areas in old woodlands. Winter flocks not well reported, but about 50 at Dean Wood on April 20th.

---ooOoo---