



# SHEFFIELD BIRD STUDY GROUP **BULLETIN**

ISSUE 215

NOV 2012

[www.sbsg.org](http://www.sbsg.org)



## **AUTUMN RARITIES**

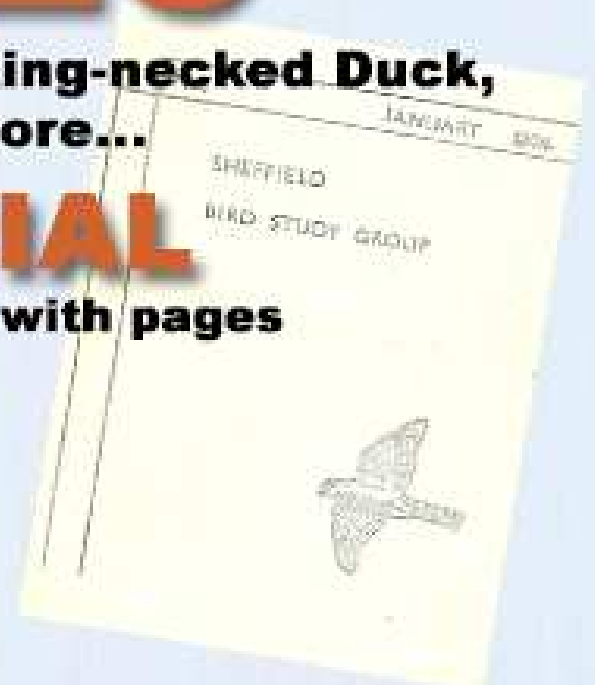
**Pallid Harrier, Little Bunting, Ring-necked Duck,  
Great White Egret and much more...**

## **40 YEAR SPECIAL**

**Celebrating 40 Years of the SBSG with pages  
from Bulletin #1**

## **PLUS!**

**Latest news  
Dates for your diary**



## Early members plea

December 2012 will mark 40 years since the founding of the SBSG. Membership Secretary Martin Hodgson is writing to those current members who he believes may have been members throughout the 40 years. But just in case he misses anyone, he would

welcome an email or letter from them, putting their modesty aside and identifying themselves as such. His email address is [martin@hodgson54.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:martin@hodgson54.orangehome.co.uk), and his postal address is 142 Hangingwater Road, Sheffield S11 7ET

## Report to the SBSG Committee Oct '12

### Sheffield Moors Draft Masterplan & Consultation

An e-mail was received on 19.9.12, notifying the existence of this document at [www.sheffieldmoors.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldmoors.co.uk).

'Moor views' awareness-raising road shows are being run until mid-November 2012; details are on the web site.

### The National Trust's High Peak Moors Vision and Plan Project

An e-mail was received on 16.10.12, informing of the availability of this document, which outlines a 25yr plan for Kinder, Bleaklow and the Upper Derwent Valley. Comments are welcomed, with a deadline of 30.11.12. The document is available at: <http://www.high-peak-moors.co.uk/> or by phoning 01433 670368 for a personal copy.

#### List of observers for this issue

MG Archer, S Ashton, J Atkin, A Bailey, B Bailey, S Bailey, IM Barnes, SJ Barnes, A Bateman, A Baverstock, AR Bell, RP Blagden, C Bonnington, K Bower, R Bradley, SJ Branch, PL Brown, V Browne, R Butterfield, DM Bye, M Capper, BM Carr, EO Chafer, I Chapman, J Clarke, B Cole, J Crank, J Crooks, R Dale, A Deighton, W Dudhill, H Egan, MG Fenner, P Garrity, D Gill, KR Gould, G Grant, S Green, S Guymer, D Hallam, R Harris, I Hedge, M Hibbert, A Hill, RD Hill, DJ Hitchen, M Hodgson, J Hornbuckle, C Hurst, G James, Anne Hohnson, A Jones, JE Kenward, J Kingsland, N Kipling, K Knowles, M Lacey, D Langston, P Lawson, P Leonard, P License, P Lockwood, P Mella, B Merryweather, T Middleton, M Miller, TH Minskip, D Mowbray, PH Pearsall, H Perkins, R Platts, MN Reeder, B Roberts, D Roddis, S Samworth, R Scally, E Shaw, J Sherwin, M Sherwin, S Sherwin, A Siddall, D Simmonite, MA Smethurst, SAH Stobart, MJ Sweeney, M&L Taylor, N Taylor, SG Tebbutt, P Thomas, A Thompson, R Twigg, C Tyler, SE Vickers, EC Vincent, RV Walker, D Warburton, RDR Williams, J Wilson, P&A Wilson, D Wood, D Woodriff, P Wragg, Thrybergh CP Bird Log

## News in brief

### New members

The group welcomes new members Stuart Coleman, Steven Guymer, Emma Hughes, Alan Cawthrow, Joshua Courtenay, Fred Simon and Luke Nelson. Good birding to you all!

### Derbyshire Biodiversity Newsletter

The Winter 2012 issue of Derbyshire Biodiversity news is now available to download; read about Elms for White-letter Hairstreaks, Conker Tree Science, the excellent iSpot website and much more. It can be found at [www.derbyshirebiodiversity.org.uk/news/index.php?category=NP](http://www.derbyshirebiodiversity.org.uk/news/index.php?category=NP)

### Cover photo

This month's cover photo is the Firsby Res Pallid Harrier, and is by Dave Simmonite.

### Thanks

Thanks to Rod Hinchliffe, Simon Bailey and John Kirkman for their contributions - the Anniversary Special pages means I haven't had room for them this issue, but they will be squeezed into the next (or put on the website if not). All contributions are highly appreciated as ever.

## Deadline for next Bulletin

The next Bulletin will be issued at the November indoor meeting. Please note that any items for inclusion in the Bulletin must be received by Pete Mella at [peterjmella@googlemail.com](mailto:peterjmella@googlemail.com) (for preference), or 21 Lump Lane, Grenoside, Sheffield, S35 8PL, by **Monday 31st October**.

## Bulletin by email

More and more members have agreed to receive their Bulletins by email, and now **well over half** of you are on our email list, meaning we have been able to cut our print run considerably, and make big savings on postage. Many thanks to all members who have agreed to this, and if you would like to switch over to receiving your Bulletin in pdf format then please email me at [peterjmella@googlemail.com](mailto:peterjmella@googlemail.com). **Stamps have just rocketed in price—there's never been a better time to switch!**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Indoor Meetings

#### **Kevin Gould - 40 Years of the SBSG: A Recorder's Perspective**

Wed December 13th 2012, Sheffield University Arts Tower, Lecture Theatre 5, 7.15pm

Kev will be well known to all members for his boundless local knowledge and his long service as SBSG Recorder.

In his talk he'll take a look at how and why we've amassed our huge database of records, no doubt musing on the changes he's seen over the years, exploring some of better birding years we've had, and giving credit to the dedicated birders who have played a vital role in bringing the group to where we are today.

This is bound to be a nostalgic trip for some, and a fascinating glimpse into SBSG history for others; either way it'll be a good one!

#### **Martin Garner and Tormod Amundsen - Birds & People, Pushing The Boundaries**

Wed 23rd January 2013, Sheffield University Arts Tower, Lecture Theatre 5, 7.15pm

Two pioneering birders team up to gives us what promises to be a fascinating talk.

Sheffield-based Martin Garner needs little introduction to the group, being an author and tour guide specialising in the cutting edge of bird identification. He has talked to the group on previous occasions, delivering incredibly popular lectures, on his excellent book 'Frontiers of Birding', and on gull identification, and we are very pleased to be able to welcome him back.

He is joined by Norway's Tormod Amundsen, a birder and architect who works on pro-nature projects in his native country. A great evening is guaranteed in what promises to be a memorable lecture of groundbreaking birding and infectious enthusiasm.

**NOTE** - This lecture will be on the third, not the usual second, Wed of the month

### Field Meetings

Please see the SBSG website and Twitter feed (@shefbirdstudy) for news of forthcoming Field Meetings.

### OTHER DATES TO NOTE

**Thu 22nd Nov** - Screening of Wildlife Trusts: 100 Years of Nature Conservation. Documentary showing by Sheffield Wildlife Trust. 6.30-7.30pm, SWT HQ, 37 Stafford Road. Free. To book tel 0114 2634335, or email mail@wildsheffield.com

**Sat 24th Nov** - Viking Optics Day. Equipment demo at RSPB Old Moor, Dearne Valley. Free, 10 a m - 4 p m .

**Fri 30th Nov** - DOS Indoor Meeting. The talk will be on 'Turkey', and will be given by Carol and Peter Leigh. 7.30pm, Evergreen Club, Allestree, Derby, £1 members, £1.50 non-members.

**Thu 6th Dec** - RSPB Sheffield Group Indoor Meeting. Geoff Trinder will be talking on Namibia. 7.30pm, Central United Reformed Church, Sheffield. £1.50 for Group Members, £3 non-members.

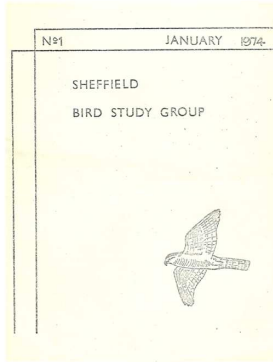
## Group contacts

#### **Bulletin**

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# Bulletin #1

This is the final Bulletin of 2012, and therefore the last of our 40th Anniversary Year. Printed on the next few pages are a selection from the first ever Bulletin, from January 1974. Enjoy!

## SHEFFIELD BIRD STUDY GROUP

The Group was formed just over twelve months ago as a result of many meetings between members of the B.T.O., the R.S.P.B., and Sorby Natural History Society. It had long been felt by many Sheffield Ornithologists that there was a need for an active single minded Society concerned with Birds. Concurrently, the R.S.P.B., launched the idea of Members' Groups throughout the country and it was decided that there was a need for a group in Sheffield. The Sheffield Bird Study Group was formed to meet all of these needs and the fact that we now have a membership of just over 100 fully justifies the decision taken.

It is essential that we know as much as possible about our local birds if we are to have a voice in their future conservation and I am sure that in the fullness of time, through our Annual Reports, we shall build up a permanent record of the bird life in the Sheffield area which will be of value to our successors.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Moore', with a stylized flourish at the end.

M. Moore.

RECORDER'S REPORT: October - December, 1973

Everyone who heard the three reports, presented at the October, November and December meetings will agree that it has been a most interesting period. We now have many very keen observers and a number of very significant reports have been received. The following are of particular importance:

SLAVONIAN GREBE

2 Ulley Reservoir on 14th October (JLS: CM).

BLACK NECKED GREBE

8 Agden Reservoir on 13th October (DH: DG). This report of an exceptional number of birds is the first of this species since 1965.

GANNET

1 Immature in an exhausted condition was picked up at Rivelin on the 3rd October and later released at Flamborough Head on the East Yorks coast (JF: DH: DG).

WIGEON

Reports of exceptionally high numbers seen on several reservoirs in particular Broomhead when 24 were present on 7th October (DH: DG) Redmires when 13 were present on 15th November (JLS) and Ladybower, when 24 were present on 26th November (JLS).

PINTAIL

Apart from an immature male present on Broomhead for much of this period, a single female was seen on Langsett Reservoir on 17th November, (DH: DG) a single female was also seen at Broomhead on 25th November, (DH: KC) 9 were seen on Strines Reservoir (included 2 males) on 2nd December, (DH: DG) and 5 on Broomhead (included 2 males) on 9th December, (KC).

SCAUP

5 on Rivelin Dams on 5th October, (NRF), 4 females on Broomhead on 14th November, with a single female remaining up to the present time (DH: DG: KC).

FERRUGINOUS DUCK

1 on Treeton Dyke on 20th October, where it remained for about a week (DH: DG: RF: DV: MS).

GOLDENEYE

After a rather slow start to the season, numbers had started to increase by the end of November with 11 on Broomhead on 1st December, (KC) and good numbers reported elsewhere. Few sightings were reported from Eastern Waters.

GREY GEESE

Several records throughout the period with some large skeins moving over the area, two were probably Pink Feet.

WHOOPEE SWAN

22 flew North of Strines Reservoir on 2nd December (DH: DG).

BEWICK'S SWAN

Occasional reports, usually of single birds or pairs. Interesting reports include 8 on Rivelin Reservoir on 3rd November (AD) which moved to Ladybower on the following day and had increased to 25 birds by nightfall (PS) also 18 reported seen on Elsecar Reservoir at the end of November.

RAPTORS

A record number of reports have been received.

BUZZARD

Three localities, a most notable record being 3 birds together at Midhope on 11th November, (DH: DG).

ROUGH LEGGED BUZZARD

First recorded in the Langsett Area on 28th October (M.O.) additional sightings throughout December. Last bird reported in our area was at Broomhead in 1958 (DH).

SPARROWHAWK

Many sightings but all reports are from localities on the west.

HEN HARRIER

A considerable number of reports received of sightings in nine localities stretching along the entire length of the Gritstone plateau. It is interesting to note that several males were reported from the South of the City, in the Baslow area, but the birds seen on the Western Moors were all Ring Tails.

MERLIN

Numbers have risen with several sightings from Baslow, Midhope and Langsett areas.

GOLDEN PLOVER

Very low numbers with no large flocks as in previous years.

JACK SNIFE

Apart from sightings in the usual localities at Treeton and Killamansh, an interesting report was received of a bird flushed from a roadside puddle at Stannington on 2nd December.

DUNLIN

A number of reports of wintering birds this year with sightings of small parties flying over Broomhead, Middlewood and Malin Bridge.

GULLS

A large roost of some 2,000 birds has built up on Broomhead Reservoir, largely composed of BLACK HEADED & HERRING GULLS but also an increasingly large number of GREAT BLACK BACKED GULLS, (c73 on 9th December). There has been a dramatic decrease in wintering LESSER BLACK BACKED GULLS. This roost held an immature ICELAND GULL on 2nd December.

It would be useful if we could determine the catchment area of this roost.

SHORT - EARED OWL

Very few sightings this year after the high populations of 1972 and the Winter of 1972/73. Reports received of sightings at Rivelin, Midhope and Baslow area.

RAVEN

A single bird seen at Midhope on 11th November, tumbling in the air with three BUZZARDS. This interesting report is the first for several years (DH: DG).

GOLDCREST

An increasing number of reports of birds seen in suburban gardens throughout the city.

GREAT GREY SHRIKE

Reports of birds seen at Staveley, Hathersage, Thrybergh, Strines and the Ewden Valley.

SISKIN

Fewer sightings than usual for this period.

TWITE

Many reports in the early part of the period but numbers began to fall off in November. The last sighting on record is c8-9 Big Moor, 2nd December, (DV: MS).

CROSSBILL

Apparently a small influx. Sightings on 8 and 9th December in the Ewden, Midhope and Langsett areas, largely of small parties or individual birds. (DH: DG: KC: IF).

SNOW BUNTING

An immature male was seen on Houndkirk Moor on 6th November, (PG). This is the first report of this species near the City for a number of years.

I have not, of course given a complete list of records or recorders, this will appear in the Annual Report due to be published in March, 1974. The following observers are thanked for the information which appears in the current report: Mrs.P.Gould, Mrs.B.A.Moore, Messrs. K.Clarkson, A.Deighton, N.R.Foster, I.Francis, R.A.Frost, D. Gosney, C.McKay, M.Oxlade, J.Lintin Smit M.J.Swift, and D. Vickers.

After analysing all the 1973 records, which number many hundreds of sightings it would appear that the areas to the North and West are very well covered but more observers are needed in the South, (particularly the limestone dales area) and the Eastern section of the Study Group area.

In January, 1974, we begin the accumulation of information on habitats in the Sheffield area and of course there are still the monthly Wildfowl Counts to be continued on 13th January, 17th February and 17th March.

David Herringshaw.

*(It's fascinating how the fortunes of some of the species here have changed - especially Buzzard, Raven and Twite. Thanks to Martin Hodgson for taking the time to scan this Bulletin, and a full version will be made available to members via the website - PM).*

# RECENT SIGHTINGS

**1st September - 31st October 2012**

**These records are largely unchecked. Records in bold require supporting details.**

**Gannet - One circled Howbrook Dam on 15th September.**

**Little Egret** - Two were at Redmires on 15th September, and one was seen with Great White Egrets (see below) at Leash Fen and Miller's Dale on 16th. Elsewhere there were singles at Orgreave Lakes on 20th and 25th, and Pebley Pond on 26th.

**Great White Egret - Two were seen over Miller's Dale and Leash Fen on 16th September, accompanied by a single Little Egret.**

**Whooper Swan** - First of the winter were three over Ewden Height, and three at Rother Valley CP, on 9th October. Eight were at Orgreave Lakes on 26th, and two were present at Redmires on 27th.

**Pink-footed Goose** - 50 S over Lady Canning's Plantation on 8th September were the first record of the winter, with more widespread sightings from the middle of the month onwards. Higher counts included 226 over Ramsley Moor on 23rd, 135 W-NW at Ewden Height on 23rd, 180 SE at Holmesfield on 27th, 175 SE at Grindleford on 27th, 345 SE at Fulwood on 27th, 270 W at Broomhead Moor on 7th Oct, 200 W at City Centre on 10th, 225 SE at Bar Brook Valley on 13th, 300 ove Agden on 14th, 270 SE over Ramsley Moor on 18th, 200 E at Firsby Res on 20th, 250 at High Green on 21st, 300 W at Ridgeway on 25th, 250 NW at Rivelin Valley on 25th, 700 at Bar Brook Valley on 27th, 448 and 370 at Redmires on 27th, and 1,000 E at Ewden Height on 30th.

**Shelduck** - Seven were at Redmires on 4th September. Singles were at Rother Valley on 5th and 14th September, and 15th October.

**Wigeon** - Peak counts at Orgreave Lakes of 109 on 23rd September, and 98 on 10th October.

**Pintail** - A pair were at Redmires on 6th September, and nine were at Middleton Moor on 9th, with three lingering until 17th. One was at Orgreave Lakes 20th, with two at the same site on 22nd. A

drake at Hillsborough Park on 7th October was a possible feral bird, and a drake was at Renishaw Park on 28th.

**Red-crested Pochard** - A drake was present on 22nd and 29th October at Thrybergh CP.

**Ring-necked Duck - A male was found at Orgreave Lakes on 10th September, and was present until 6th October (vanishing for a few days between 23rd-27th September).**

**Goldeneye** - Single redheads were at Orgreave Lakes and Linacre Res on 26th September. In October there were singles reported at Rother Valley and Orgreave Lakes on 15th and Thrybergh CP on 25th and 28th, with two fems at Silverwood Lagoon on 29th.

**Red-breasted Merganser** - A drake was at Redmires on 13th October, with six redheads, including an eclipse male, at the same site on 25th.

**Goosander** - Five were on the River Calver on 29th September, and nine flew NE at Rawmarsh on 9th October. There were a few records of small numbers throughout October, with the highest count being 13 at Orgreave Lakes on 27th.

**Red Kite** - Singles at Ewden Beck on 3rd September and Sitwell Park Golf

Club on 9th. Two circled Thrybergh CP on 7th October.

**Marsh Harrier** - One SW at Bradfield Dale on 8th September, and another S over Orgreave Lakes on 23rd.

**Pallid Harrier - An unusual ringtail harrier, sighted at Firsby Res in September, revealed itself to be the area's first Pallid Harrier, and was present until 6th October.**

**Rough-legged Buzzard - One at Langsett on 20th October.**

**Osprey** - Later records of singles at Rowsley (1st Sept), Broomhead Moor/ Ewden Beck (2nd), Ulley Res (3rd), Middleton Moor (11th) and Broomhead (15th).

**Water Rail** - There was one at Poolsbrook Marsh on 18th September, one at Firsby Res on 27th, two at Pit-house West on 6th October, one at Blackburn Meadows on 7th, and three calling at Poolsbrook Marsh on 28th. One swimming on Redmires Conduit on 30th October was a more unusual record.

**Oystercatcher** - Singles at Middleton Moor on 9th and 16th September.

**Ringed Plover** - Singles at Orgreave Lakes and Redmires on several dates in



Ring-necked Duck at Orgreave Lakes (P. Thomas)





Pallid Harrier at Firsby Res (A. Deighton)

September, and one at Middleton Moor on 23rd.

**Golden Plover** - Higher counts included 100 at Firsby Res on 23rd September, 50 at Onesmoor on 25th October, 34 at Rawmarsh on 26th, and 170 at Peat Pits on 28th.

**Dunlin** - Singles were at Middleton Moor on 7th and 9th September. Four flew N at Orgreave Lakes on 24th, with one at the same site on 26th, and two at Middleton Moor on 29th.

**Ruff** - One circled Orgreave Lakes on 23rd September.

**Jack Snipe** - One bird reported at Silverwood Lagoon on 10th and 23rd October.

**Woodcock** - One was at Sitwell Park Golf Club on 30th October.

**Greenshank** - Two were at Middleton Moor on 7th September, and one at Orgreave Lakes on 10th.

**Green Sandpiper** - Records of single birds at Rother Valley CP on 9th October, and Orgreave Lakes on 13th.

**Common Sandpiper** - Later records include two at Rother Valley CP on 5th September, and single birds at Orgreave Lakes up to 7th.

**Mediterranean Gull** - A winter adult was at Middleton Moor on 17th October.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** - Larger counts included 723 at Langsett Res on 1st September, 610 at Redmires on 6th, 850 at Orgreave Lakes on 17th, 1,050 at Middleton Moor on 17th, 1,100 at Orgreave Lakes on 21st, 890 at Redmires on 28th, and 250 at Owlerton on 4th October.

**Yellow-legged Gull** - Reports from early September onwards, from the usual sites. Peak counts were six at Orgreave Lakes on 17th September, two at Middleton Moor on 17th, and ten at Redmires Res on 7th October.

**Caspian Gull** - A good start to the winter for this species, with birds at Langsett Res (two on 1st September), Redmires Res, Poolsbrook CP (two on 20th October), and Orgreave Lakes (including two on 27th).

**Arctic Tern** - Five were at Orgreave Lakes on 20th September, with a juv present at the same site on 24th and 25th.

**Woodpigeon** - High counts on visible migration included 1,400 NE at Rawmarsh on 22nd September, 1,347 S/SW at Ewden Height on 9th October, 1,411 S/SW at Ewden Height on 14th, 900 S at Redmires on 14th, 1,518 S at Rod Moor on 14th, 870 SW at Rawmarsh on 20th, 3,000 at Leash Fen on 20th, 1,000 SW at Lodge Moor on 21st, 11,170 SW/S/SE at Ewden Height on 21st, 1,200 S at Redmires on 26th, 8,090 S/SW at Redmires on 27th, and 1,260 E/SE at Ewden Height on 30th.

**Short-eared Owl** - Single birds were at Leash Fen (8th September), Norton Lees (a "welcome if bizarre" garden tick for an observer on 26th), Langsett Moor (27th), Rawmarsh (20th) and Firsby Res (20th and 21st). One at Orgreave Lakes on 3rd October was the first of a series of sightings up to the month end, with up to five birds hunting over the grasslands.

**Swift** - September records were one at Rawmarsh on 11th, one at Orgreave Lakes on 13th, and two at Rawmarsh on 15th.

**Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** - One was seen flying from Cowel Flat to Rocher Craggs on both 7th and 21st October.

**Skylark** - Higher counts included 80 at Orgreave Lakes on 29th September, 34 at Rawmarsh on 3rd October, and 77 at Firsby Res on 20th. Five SW at Rawmarsh on 29th September was sign of movement, with other visible migration including 13 SW at the same site on 6th October, nine SW at Redmires on 6th, seven S at Ewden Height on 9th, another 13 SW at Rawmarsh on 13th, and five S at Rod Moor on 14th.

**Sand Martin** - The latest records were two E at Thrybergh Tip on 23rd September, one S at Ewden Height on 23rd, and one with other hirundines at Orgreave Lakes on 24th.

**Swallow** - Late records included singles at Thrybergh Tip (28th October), Thurcroft (29th) and Dore (31st).

**House Martin** - October records were 11 SW at Rawmarsh on 3rd, four S at Firsby Res on 4th, and three SW at Rawmarsh on 13th.

**Tree Pipit** - Late records at Redmires Res on 15th September, Orgreave

Lakes on 23rd, and Redmires Res on 28th.

**Meadow Pipit** - Higher counts on visible migration included 263 S at Ewden Height on 9th September, 508 SW at Ewden Height on 13th, 585 S at Redmires Res on 15th, 900 S at Ewden Height on 19th, 755 SW at Redmires on 28th, 2,045 S/SW at Redmires on 29th, and 410 S at Ewden Height on 2nd October.

**Rock Pipit** - Singles at Thrybergh CP on 8th and 11th October, and Redmires on 12th, 13th and 14th. Another called overhead at Redmires on 27th.

**Yellow Wagtail** - September records were two at Thrybergh CP on 20th, one S at Broomhead Res on 22nd, and one at Woodhouse Mill on 29th.

**Pied Wagtail** - High counts included 60 at Hillsborough Park on 14th September, steady SW movement of 100 at Orgreave Lakes on 29th, 62 (inc 19 SW) at Rawmarsh on 29th, 47 S/SW at Redmires on 29th, 111 S at Ewden Height on 2nd October, and 50+ on the dam wall at Langsett Res on 3rd.

**Redstart** - One was at Ramsley Moor on 22nd September. A juv/female flycatching from the top of the Information Commons at Sheffield University was an unusual record on 28th, presumably brought down by showers.

**Whinchat** - One was at Orgreave Lakes on 23rd September, and at Silverwood Lagoon on 26th and 27th.

**Stonechat** - Records from various locations, including threes at Ramsley Moor on 1st September, Broomhead Moor on 2nd and Ewden Beck on 2nd, and fours at Redmires on 23rd, Big Moor on 9th October, Agden on 13th, and Ewden Valley on 21st, with five at Ewden Beck on 13th the highest count of the period. Birds were sighted at Outo



Little Bunting at Agden (S. Samworth)

## **GIFT AID AND MEMBERSHIP**

In recent years there have been changes to Gift Aid legislation, making it easier for charitable organisations to reclaim income tax on the contributions, including subscriptions, made by members.

The group is constantly looking for sources of income to offset the increasing costs of running the group, such as printing the excellent Annual Report, (the better it gets, in terms of photos etc, the more it costs) and also room hire for our Indoor Meetings.

Gift Aid is a means by which every basic rate tax-paying member can contribute to the group's income, courtesy of the Inland Revenue (what an incentive!). If you are about to pay your 2013 subscription, please tick the relevant box overleaf so we can receive this.

At the end of the tax year I can then recover 22/78 of your subscription (£3.95). If you are a higher rate taxpayer, you can include the payment on your tax return, and get higher rate tax relief yourself.

Please take the time to do this, as we can potentially raise hundreds of pounds for the group.

*Ron Blagden*  
*Treasurer*

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2013 RENEWAL FORM**  
Individual membership £14      Family membership £16

To renew, please see Martin Hodgson at any meeting, or complete this form and send your cheque payable to Sheffield Bird Study Group, together with a stamped addressed envelope for return of your membership card, to Martin Hodgson, 142 Hangingwater Road, Sheffield, S11 7ET. For new members an application form is available at meetings, on the website or by email to [martin@hodgson54.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:martin@hodgson54.orangehome.co.uk)

Alternatively, you may pay by inter-bank transfer. ***If so, do not complete this form.*** Simply email Martin and ask for payment instructions.

**Please note that Under-21s need to complete this renewal form, even though no payment is involved, in order to receive their membership card and maintain member's access to the website. Email the completed form to Martin**

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To: Martin Hodgson, 142 Hangingwater Road, Sheffield, S11 7ET

(Please note a photocopy or scan of this document is acceptable)