

## Sorby-Breck Ringing Group

### July Newsletter 2006

*"To provide data from ringing activities to support the conservation and knowledge of bird species in Derbyshire and South Yorkshire."*

June has been a quality month for the Group with an excellent breeding season so far. Waders have featured more than expected with a new ringed species for the Group, Oystercatcher. The spread of the species may make this a regular feature rather than a one off.

Weather conditions have been favourable for ground nesting and nestbox species and already more tit species are turning up during (CES) ringing. Harry has been busy ringing Swallow pullus and John Atkin is edging closer to fifty Ring Ouzels ringed. With Ray, Alan, David and Brian ringing Tree Sparrows, Steve and Phil ringing Pied Flycatchers, and Roy, Jack and Anthony with others, ringing raptor species it looks like being a good year for local bird-species ringed. Phil had thirteen Great Tits in one box and I had eight Nuthatches in another.

It has been good to see Whitwell Woods in Spring. Stuart, Steve and Eleanor have worked hard to check the boxes and help ringing there.

George Gregory from Gibraltar Point came over to ring for two weekends and was over the moon ringing Dipper, Jay, Swift, House Martin and Carrion Crow. Tawny Owl, Nuthatch, Coal Tit and Pied Flycatcher were also new pullus species for him.

Its always invidious to reel off Group members' names and not mention everyone, so if I've missed anyone, my apologies. I do know that Stuart and Kevin have been very busy too and George is regular at his upland site. Its just good to have the birds around to ring in numbers.

### Oystercatchers ringed in NE Derbyshire: a new species for Sorby-Breck RG

Local birdwatchers have traditionally talked of the 'seaside quartet' of Ringed Plover, Oystercatcher, Shelduck and Common Tern: four formerly strictly coastal species which have moved inland as a result of the creation of gravel pits and other water bodies and perhaps as a result of

increased disturbance. The quartet has more recently become a quintet with the arrival of Cormorants.

All of these species breed in Derbyshire but colonisation of the NE of the county has been slow and rather piecemeal. In 2005 a pair of Oystercatchers reared young at Carr Vale NR. A pair returned there in the early spring of 2006 but then moved to a reinstated opencast site further west, where they nested in a field of spring-sown cereals. By early June it was clear that the birds had young but they were ultra-wary and my attempts to see the birds before they saw me ended in failure. On 10<sup>th</sup> June, I visited the site with Alan Heeley, who had been watching the area throughout the spring, and the local farmer, David Elliott. From the latter's Landrover it was an easy task to watch the adults call their two large chicks from their hideout in a small, rocky gully. On seeing us emerge from the vehicle the chicks ran and then crouched: their pied feathering does not make for good camouflage and it was a simple job to find and ring them. Alan tells me that both young fledged.

Roy Frost

Ed.comment. A closer look at the ringing totals will result in noticing six Ringed Plovers. The birds were chicks ringed inside the grounds of a Sheffield steelworks.

The September Newsletter is the next you will receive. I'm busy collecting material for the 2006 Group Report. Just a reminder to those who may have suitable photographs or would wish to put 'pen to paper'. Send any items to me. Geoff.

**June 2006 Totals**  
**Monthly Species Totals Report**

	Jan- Mar 2006	Apr 2006	May 2006	Jun 2006		Total 2006	Jan- Jun 2005
Mute Swan	5		9	5		19	38
Greylag Goose	1			1		2	1
Canada Goose	4		5	26		35	11
Wigeon	1					1	
Teal	1					1	2
Mallard	1	4	2			7	4
HEN HARRIER				8		8	

	Jan- Mar 2006	Apr 2006	May 2006	Jun 2006		Total 2006	Jan- Jun 2005
Goshawk			6	4		10	8
Sparrowhawk				1		1	3
Buzzard			2			2	28
Kestrel				13		13	14
Merlin				13		13	15
Peregrine				6		6	4
Grey Partridge							1
Moorhen	1					1	5
Coot	2					2	1
Oystercatcher				2		2	
Little Ringed Plover				3		3	2
Ringed Plover			6			6	1
Golden Plover							1
Lapwing			40	25		65	21
Jack Snipe	2					2	5
Snipe	5					5	22
Curlew				2		2	1
Common Sandpiper				1		1	
Black-headed Gull							17
Common Tern				4		4	4
Stock Dove				5		5	
Woodpigeon	4	4	3	2		13	1
Collared Dove	1	2				3	6
Barn Owl				6		6	3
Little Owl			2	8		10	3
Tawny Owl			8	1		9	6
Long-eared Owl			3	1		4	
Short-eared Owl							6
Swift			93	3		96	103
Kingfisher				3		3	3
Green Woodpecker				1		1	1
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1		1	4		6	13
Swallow		1	194	326		521	61
House Martin			215	5		220	167
Tree Pipit				8		8	4
Meadow Pipit	1		4	3		8	8
Yellow Wagtail			3			3	
Grey Wagtail	12		21	10		43	68
Pied Wagtail	22		6	33		61	57
Waxwing	39					39	204
Dipper	10	1	18	2		31	37
Wren	18	2	12	29		61	62
Dunnock	29	12	9	47		97	132
Robin	29	9	25	72		135	136

	Jan- Mar 2006	Apr 2006	May 2006	Jun 2006		Total 2006	Jan- Jun 2005
Redstart				14		14	4
Whinchat				3		3	
Stonechat		1	8			9	5
Ring Ouzel			31	20		51	10
Blackbird	47	18	41	47		153	202
Fieldfare							1
Song Thrush	11	2	2	12		27	41
Redwing	6					6	29
Mistle Thrush		4	1	2		7	10
Grasshopper Warbler			1	2		3	1
Sedge Warbler		5	14	13		32	15
Reed Warbler		1	10	39		50	12
Lesser Whitethroat			4			4	6
Whitethroat		3	24	12		39	18
Garden Warbler			9	24		33	22
Blackcap	1	5	13	27		46	46
Wood Warbler			2	7		9	7
Chiffchaff	1	3		11		15	25
Willow Warbler		13	16	72		101	73
Goldcrest	30	2	1	4		37	25
Spotted Flycatcher				6		6	2
Pied Flycatcher			9	109		118	107
Long-tailed Tit	41	27	171	36		275	249
Marsh Tit	2					2	2
Willow Tit	3		2	3		8	19
Coal Tit	33	10	21	13		77	33
Blue Tit	168	12	173	282		635	687
Great Tit	80	13	236	186		515	638
Nuthatch	5	1		12		18	23
Treecreeper	3			14		17	11
Jay				1		1	4
Magpie		1	1			2	3
Jackdaw							5
Carrion Crow				1		1	3
Raven		4				4	9
Starling	5	5	30	31		71	99
House Sparrow	6	10	15	42		73	131
Tree Sparrow	26	4	164	97		291	374
Chaffinch	156	56	15	65		292	241
Brambling	1	11				12	
Greenfinch	159	57	9	21		246	219
Goldfinch	120	29	7	13		169	78
Siskin	419	324	5	11		759	5
Linnet		1	1	1		3	11
Common Redpoll	2					2	

