

Sorby-Breck Ringing Group

May 2007 Newsletter

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

Constant Effort Sites

The CES scheme is celebrating its 25th birthday in 2007. BTO inform us that to date, CES ringers at 395 sites have ringed and processed 523,747 birds. Our area is a gap area for National coverage with Williamthorpe being the one site in 2006. I'm pleased to say that Tinsley has become our second site with still plenty to go at if ringers are interested. With payment for each bird ringed CES ringing has become an important source of revenue for the Group.

www.bto.org/ringing/ringinfo/ces

Group Funding

Sorby-Breck R.G. spends roughly £2000 pa on its ringing activities. Subscriptions in 2005 accounted for roughly half of this with donations/ringing refunds making up the rest. In 2006 subscriptions fell to £700 and at present in 2007 subscriptions stand at £600. We can keep our subs at present rates, but only if everyone pays.

If you have not paid your annual subs for 2007 then please contact Phil Lawson our treasurer. (tel: 01142307358)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Keith Clarkeson who has successfully renewed his 'C' licence after a gap in ringing. A welcome return.

Cyprus 2007

With nine Sorby-Breck Ringers having visited Cyprus on one or more of our ringing expeditions I thought it would be of interest to summarise the birds processed in 2007. It has been a good migration this year with plenty of birds and the usual surprises. 2007 looks like being a good breeding season if the Spring migrant numbers remain high.

Highlights from Sorby-Breck and Stamford R.G

Savis Warbler has had an excellent showing with over 20 ringed in April. Early dates for Flycatcher with Collared and Semi-collared ringed on the 5th April!!

4 Little Bitterns, a Serin, a Black-eared Wheatear, a Sub-alpine Warbler and Great Snipe. What can I say?

A total of nearly a 1000 birds in our spell with greater numbers reported by Stamford after we left as migration started to peak compares with an Annual total for Cyprus of 2034 in 2006.

	5.4.07	6.4.07	7.4.07	8.4.07	9.4.07	10.4.07	11.4.07	12.4.07	13.4.07	14.4.07	15.4.07
Species	Ayois Minos	Upper Polis	Everton	Polis	Upper Polis	Ayois Minas	A M Lower	Polis Upper	Everton	Upper Polis	Ayois Minas
Sardinian Warbler	2	20	11	8	14	8	5	4	4	3	
Blackcap	36	42	5	9	38	29	41	16	5	7	12
Scops Owl	1					1					
Cettis Warbler	2	10	6	16	11		3	5	6	3	
Lesser Whitethroat	61	4	2	1			1				
Common Whitethroat	5	3		4	1				2		
Cretzschmar's Bunting	2										
Cyprus Wheatear	3					2					
Chiffchaff	3	1	1								
Orphean Warbler	4			1						1	
Semi-collared Flycatcher	1										
Collared Flycatcher	1										1
Bonelli's Warbler	1					7					1
Sedge Warbler		20	5	20	11			8	9	8	
Reed Warbler		34	7	30	17			19	4	13	
Olivaceous Warbler		2		1			1		2		
Kingfisher		2	1					1			
Tree Pipit		4	1	2	16	2	4	2	1		3
Greenfinch		1			3			3		1	
Great Tit		5	1	3	4	1	3	4		1	1
Great Reed Warbler		2	2	4	6			2	3		
Savi's Warbler		1	2			1		1	1		
Spanish Sparrow		3			3			2	4		
Whinchat			1		1						
Common Snipe			1					2			
Common Redstart			1								
Corn Bunting			1								
Linnet			1						2		
Willow Warbler				2	1						
Nightingale				2	1	2	3	1	1		
Wryneck				1						1	1
Song Thrush				1							
Goldfinch				2	3	4	5				1
Little Bittern					1			1	1	1	
Wood Warbler					1	1	1				
Moorhen					1						
House Sparrow					1			1	1		

	5.4.07	6.4.07	7.4.07	8.4.07	9.4.07	10.4.07	11.4.07	12.4.07	13.4.07	14.4.07	15.4.07
Species	Ayois Minos	Upper Polis	Everton	Polis	Upper Polis	Ayois Minas	A M Lower	Polis Upper	Everton	Upper Polis	Ayois Minas
Swallow					2			1	1		
Flava Wagtail					9						
Black headed Flava W					2						
Pied Flycatcher					3		1				
Black eared Wheatear						1					
Hoopoe						1					
Blackbird							1				
Zitting Cesticola									1		
Great Snipe									1		
Green Sandpiper										2	
Great Spotted Cuckoo											1
Sub-alpine Warbler											1
Serin		1									
Totals	122	155	49	107	150	60	69	73	49	41	22

A good year for small mammals!

With Roy predicting a good vole year well in advance of proof it's with some admiration to see him proved right. Broods of 4 and 5 Tawny Owl chicks were a start with 15 ringed at Whitwell. The brood of 5 also had an unhatched egg too! With Long-eared Owls reported in greater numbers here's hoping for a Short-eared Owl year.

Moult Codes

I have been asked frequently of late to explain the use of Moulting Codes when ageing and sexing different species of passerines. Understanding moult is essential for the correct ageing of most species so that the guidance in the Ringer's Manual has been presented here to help trainee ringers to study moult further.

J P O M A T

<u>J</u>	wholly <u>J</u> venile plumage. Applies to all juvenile passerines prior to their Post juvenile body moult. e.g. A young Robin could be aged as a 3J with J in moult column.
<u>P</u>	A <u>P</u> ost-juvenile passerine in body moult.
<u>O</u>	Includes some juvenile e.g. Robins that have completed partial moult (Red breast), but has still old coverts, wing and tail.
<u>M</u>	Includes some species e.g. Long Tailed Tit and Tree Sparrow in active moult of wings and tail.

A	Use this code if the moult of the wing (primaries or secondaries) has been arrested.
T	If only Tail or Tertials are in partial post-juvenile moult

Familiarity with these codes will help ringers to age juvenile birds with increased confidence. The bird's well being too can be judged, with juvenile feathers retained after moult, suggesting that the bird was not fully fit during the time of moult.

Adult Moult - O B M S E N

O	Old plumage, no body or main moult
B	An adult undergoing active Body moult but not part of a full moult of wings and tail.
M	Main Moult of wings and tail. A moult score of one wing is a useful addition. 0 an old feather 1 feather missing, new one in pin 2 new feather up to one third grown 3 new feather from one to two thirds grown 4 new feather more than two thirds, but still signs of sheath
S	Starting Body Moult - old wings and tail
E	Ending Body Moult - new wings and tail
N	New plumage following main moult

Example

							Comments and notes
Robin	3J	J	72	18.2	10 hrs	GPM	(Juvenile plumage)
Robin	3J	P	71	20.3	10 hrs	GPM	(In body moult) 10% red
Robin	3	O	72	19.4	10 hrs	GPM	(Complete partial moult) 100% red
Robin	4F	O	70	19.6	10 hrs	GPM	Brood Patch (old plumage) BP3
Robin	5F	M	71	18.6	10 hrs	GPM	Still yellow inside mouth (In Full Moult) BP5. Moult Score 21

April 2007 Totals
Monthly Species Totals Report

	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007		Total 2007	Jan/Apr 2006
Mute Swan	80	71	87	17		255	5
Whooper Swan				1		1	
Greylag Goose	2	1				3	1
Greater Canada Goose	6	2		1		9	4
Wigeon							1
Teal							1
Mallard		2		1		3	5
Sparrowhawk	2					2	
Moorhen	1	1				2	1
Coot	1					1	2
Jack Snipe							2
Snipe		4	4	2		10	5
Stock Dove				4		4	
Woodpigeon				1		1	8
Collared Dove							3
Tawny Owl				11		11	
Kingfisher				1		1	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	3		1	2		6	1
Swallow				6		6	1
House Martin				1		1	
Meadow Pipit				1		1	1
Grey Wagtail			2	1		3	12
Pied Wagtail	171	8	4	1		184	22
Waxwing							39
Dipper				24		24	11
Wren	3	16	3	15		37	20
Dunnock	10	36	18	22		86	41
Robin	13	21	9	10		53	38
Stonechat							1
Blackbird	31	21	9	36		97	65
Song Thrush	1	6	2	7		16	13
Redwing	7					7	6

	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007		Total 2007	Jan/Apr 2006
Mistle Thrush				4		4	4
Sedge Warbler							5
Reed Warbler							1
Whitethroat				7		7	3
Garden Warbler				3		3	
Blackcap				28		28	6
Chiffchaff			6	16		22	4
Willow Warbler				22		22	13
Goldcrest	11	10	9	5		35	32
Long-tailed Tit	56	28	10	4		98	71
Marsh Tit	1					1	2
Willow Tit	5	1		4		10	3
Coal Tit	12	14	18	7		51	43
Blue Tit	145	99	104	24		372	180
Great Tit	85	35	38	29		187	94
Nuthatch	4		2			6	6
Treecreeper	4		2	1		7	3
Magpie							1
Raven							4
Jay	1	4		1		6	
Jackdaw		1		1		2	
Starling		8		8		16	14
House Sparrow	4	3	1	4		12	28
Tree Sparrow	7	3	5	12		27	30
Chaffinch	52	59	72	55		238	212
Brambling							12
Greenfinch	14	20	23	27		84	216
Goldfinch	28	15	6	6		55	149
Siskin	1		5			6	743
Linnet							1
Common Redpoll							2
Lesser Redpoll	31	4	4			39	6
Bullfinch	2	5	3	37		47	8
Yellowhammer		6	12	9		27	28
Reed Bunting	2	16	9	10		37	29
Grand Total	796	520	468	489		2273	2262
Total Species	33	30	28	45		54	58

RECENTLY REPORTED RINGING RECOVERIES AND NOTABLE RETRAPS

Sparrowhawk

EL13275 24/08/2006 3F Cowers Lane, Belper, Derbys (RW)

	26/11/2006	XF	South Normanton, Derbys	17km, 94days <i>Road casualty</i>
Wren				
ADW242	04/10/2003	3	Cowers Lane, Belper, Derbys (AP)	
	09/12/2006	R	Renishaw Park, Derbys (SPS)	35km, 3yrs 66days
Pied Flycatcher				
N006756	07/06/2000	1	Hathersage, Derbys (RAK)	
	29/05/2006	R	Kentmere, Cumbria	143km, 5yrs356dys
House Sparrow				
TH94016	18/08/2006	1	Lundy Island, Devon	
	27/09/2006	X	Lundy Island, Devon	0km, 40days
Tree Sparrow				
T689438	22/10/2005	3	Cowers Lane, Belper, Derbys (BS)	
	25/09/2006	XF	Windley, Derbys	2km, 338days <i>entered outbuilding</i>
Lesser Redpoll				
V186986	29/10/2006	4M	Westwick, N Yorks	
	18/11/2006	R	Williamthorpe, Derbys (GPM)	101km, 20days
Yellowhammer				
P658892	16/02/2002	5M	Uppertown, Derbys (GEB)	
	31/03/2007	R	Uppertown, Derbys (GEB)	retrap, 5yrs 43days

David Williams