

Little Stint

1988 – A single at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 16th August. A Stint seen briefly at Otley Gravel Pits on 19th October could not be specifically identified.

1989 – A juvenile fed on newly exposed mud at drought-ridden Lindley Wood Reservoir on 6th September.

1990 – An adult bird was seen at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 16th May and single juveniles on 5th and 19th August.

1991 – An adult was at Chelker Reservoir on 28th July.

1993 – A good year with records of at least five individuals, all in September. Three were at Thornton Moor Reservoir between 3rd and 5th when they were disturbed in the early evening by a Heron and left to the west. A juvenile was present at Chelker Reservoir between 5th and 7th and finally one adult and one juvenile were at the same site on 14th.

1994 – On 15th September three juveniles were observed at Thornton Moor Reservoir whilst a single was at nearby Fly Flatts Reservoir. One of the Thornton Moor birds remained for the following two days.

1996 – This was an unprecedented year. A total of 15 observers submitted records of this species, with all but one record concurrent with an influx nationally during September. Three adults were present and sleeping on the shore at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 7th August; these were disturbed by crows, and left high to the south-west during the early evening. Next came the start of what was probably one of the most exciting ornithological influxes for several years; the effective observation of how exactly this influx manifested itself at a local level was undoubtedly down to regular 'local patch' watching. On 18th September, three juvenile birds were present at Chelker Reservoir, and a single juvenile was at Thornton Moor Reservoir during the evening of the same day. By the following morning, four birds were at Thornton Moor Reservoir, one was feeding on the shore at Leeshaw Reservoir and the Chelker Reservoir group still numbered three. On 20th, seven birds were now at Thornton Moor Reservoir, while the coast at Chelker Reservoir had increased to four birds.

By 21st – the day of the peak influx – there were two birds at Leeshaw Reservoir, six at Chelker Reservoir, nine at Thornton Moor Reservoir, and a staggering 21 at Lindley Wood Reservoir, giving a minimum day total count of 38 for the Group's area. The following day's total was 26 birds, at the same sites as before, but by 26th the group at Lindley Wood Reservoir had reduced to 15 birds and only three remained at Chelker Reservoir. The following day saw fluctuating numbers at Chelker Reservoir as the birds passed through, and just a single bird was at Fewston Reservoir on 29th, when only four birds could be located in the whole of the Group's recording area. The final record of this incredible influx was of a single bird at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 5th October.

2000 – The only record was of two birds together on a wall at Chelker Reservoir on 24th September, possibly grounded by heavy rain.

2001 – A group of three birds was present at Lindley Wood Reservoir on 24th September.

2002 – The only record this year was a single bird at Chelker Reservoir on the typical date of 30th September. The bird was sleeping amongst Golden Plover and Lapwing on the spit at the west end of the reservoir, and observations were curtailed when it was flushed by a noisy vehicle on an adjacent road.

2004 - A single was found at Kex Gill Quarry on 2nd May.