

## Sanderling

**1989** – There was just two birds at Otley Gravel Pits on 18<sup>th</sup> May which were being harried by a Ringed Plover.

**1991** – Four records of single adults as follows: Thornton Moor Reservoir on 18<sup>th</sup> May, the same site on 24<sup>th</sup> May, Stockbridge on 25<sup>th</sup> July and Thornton Moor Reservoir again on 16<sup>th</sup> August.

**1992** - Three May records of birds at Otley Gravel Pits were received: an adult on 7<sup>th</sup>, two on 13<sup>th</sup> and one on 18<sup>th</sup>. Autumn passage was represented by a single adult flying in from the north-east at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 21<sup>st</sup> July. After a short stay it departed high to the south-west.

**1993** – There was two records, both in May. A single was at Thornton Moor Reservoir during the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> and two were at Fly Flatts Reservoir a week later.

**1994** – The Group's best year to date with at least 18 birds recorded. The first was a single at Leshaw Reservoir on 30<sup>th</sup> April. One at Thornton Moor Reservoir left to the north on 7<sup>th</sup> May. A single in adult summer plumage visited Otley Gravel Pits on 16<sup>th</sup> May. On 23<sup>rd</sup> May at Thornton Moor Reservoir ten including four in summer plumage present during the mid-afternoon were joined by two further birds mid-evening to give an unprecedented total of 12. Some of these left to the west before dusk but one remained and was present for the whole of the following day. There were three autumn records: two in adult summer plumage at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 21<sup>st</sup> July, a different bird at the same site two days later and finally two winter plumage adults at Fly Flatts Reservoir on 28<sup>th</sup> August.

**1996** – There was only three records of Sanderling this year. Otley Gravel Pits produced an unusually early bird on 11<sup>th</sup> February, then the second record was not until 24<sup>th</sup> August, when a moulting adult bird appeared at Lindley Wood Reservoir during the autumn influx of waders to the site, finally, five birds were feeding in company with a Ruff at Thornton Moor Reservoir four days later.

**1997** – An adult bird in summer plumage at Thornton Moor Reservoir on 27<sup>th</sup> July was seen by several observers. A single bird was reported from the same location on 2<sup>nd</sup> August. These constituted the only records of this species for 1997.

**1998** – In 1998, Thornton Moor Reservoir produced the sole record, this was of an adult bird on 29<sup>th</sup> July.

**1999** – As in the previous two years, the only record for 1999 came from Thornton Moor Reservoir, where six observers saw two moulting adult birds on 14<sup>th</sup> August.

**2001** – There was one record, of a bird on 20<sup>th</sup> August at Thornton Moor Reservoir, the only regular site for the species.

**2002** – Two records, both from Thornton Moor Reservoir, the first on 25<sup>th</sup> April, and the second on 4<sup>th</sup> June, a bird still in winter plumage, which landed briefly, only to be promptly seen off by a Redshank.

**2003** - Two were on the shoreline at Thornton Moor reservoir on 21<sup>st</sup> September.

**2006** - Sanderling is by no means annual, so five records are very welcome, and the minimum six birds seen in total represents the best year since 1996.

All the reports came from Thornton Moor Reservoir, by far the area's most reliable site for the species, and initially there were two birds on 20<sup>th</sup> May. The remaining sightings occurred in an excellent 12 day period from 27<sup>th</sup> July, when an adult bird was found, and was still present on the following day. Two birds, possibly including the original one, were there on the 29<sup>th</sup>, and a different juvenile/1st-winter bird two days later, to be followed by another adult on 7<sup>th</sup> August.

**2007** - Seen for the second successive year, there were three records, all in May, a typical month for the species. A bird was found at Thornton Moor on the 11<sup>th</sup>, two were at nearby Lower Laithe Reservoir on the 24<sup>th</sup>, and Thornton Moor had another the following day.