

4, SPRINGHILL WALK  
MORPETH  
NORTHUMBERLAND  
NE61 2JT.

DEAR Nic,

IT IS NEARLY MAY AGAIN AND I KNOW YOU WILL BE WAITING WITH EAGER ANTICIPATION THE ARRIVAL OF BOTH HOBBY'S AND HONEY BUZZARD'S TO YOUR STUDY AREA SOUTH OF THE RIVER TYNE.

OBVIOUSLY YOU HAVE PUT IN MANY HOURS OF OBSERVATION OVER THE YEARS TO FIND THESE RATHER SECRETIVE SPECIES AND I KNOW MANY BIRDERS ARE GRATEFUL THAT YOU ORGANISED A N.T.B.C. FIELD TRIP TO THE SOUTH TYNE VALLEY - A SPLENDID AREA - IN SEARCH OF THESE SPECIES.

I HAVE SPENT QUITE SOME TIME OVER THE LAST FOUR FIVE YEARS ESPECIALLY AROUND WYDON EALS, EALS, LAMBLEY BRIDGE AND VIADUCT WITH LITTLE SUCCESS. MY VISITS HAVE BEEN IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER BUT THIS YEAR I INTEND TO VISIT IN MAY AND EARLY JUNE.

I DID HEAR A HONEY BUZZARD ALARM CALLING IN THE WOOD WEST OF LAMBLEY BRIDGE IN LATE AUGUST LAST YEAR.

I RATHER HOPED YOU COULD SUPPLY ME WITH SOME GENERAL INFORMATION CONCERNING HONEY BUZZARDS. IF HOWEVER YOU FEEL YOU CANNOT ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS I WILL FULLY UNDERSTAND.

WHAT DATES DO HONEY BUZZARDS ARRIVE BACK IN SOUTH WEST NORTHUMBERLAND?

DO THEY DISPLAY IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL AND HOW LONG DOES THIS GO ON?

IS THERE ANY BEST TIME OF DAY FOR DISPLAY?

DOES THE WEATHER HAVE ANY INFLUENCE ON DISPLAY?

AS THE SOUTH TYNE VALLEY IS VERY UNDULATING, WHAT IS THE BEST VANTAGE POSITION?