

3. *Nesting Observed:*

- a) Blue Tits, Coal Tits and Robins were seen to be possibly nesting in the conifer hedge along the South perimeter.
- b) One pair of Blackbirds was possibly nesting in the conifer at the South East corner.
- c) One pair of Sparrows was seen revisiting the church eaves.
- d) A considerable number of nests were observed around the church and particularly mud built nests around the church tower eaves, also with one seen in the porch roof space. The mud built external nests of this nature is only built by House Martins (Martins together with Swallows and Swifts do not revisit us until May). Five to Six nests seen on each of the tower N. W & E walls were mud built, several of which had entrances on the underside, which is not normal for House Martins. Reference was made to the RSPB of this situation and they advised that Woodpeckers do take over this style of nest occasionally and make entrances in the downward position. However a large corner position nest like this looks more like a wasp or similar nest.

4. *Points of Interest.*

- a) As well as feeding in the trees the Nuthatches were observed feeding together on the church roof and on the roofs of surrounding buildings.
- b) In addition to the birds seen in the churchyard, a number of Rook, Jackdaw and Carrion Crow are seen nesting in the surrounding areas.

5. *Conclusion:*

It was pleasing to find a broad selection of birds for such a small area, feeding on insects, seeds in trees and on the ground.

If replacement or increase in number of deciduous trees is considered, thought should be given to improving feeding and nesting facilities for the birds.

Also nesting facilities in the form of bird boxes should be increased.

*Mrs S. B. Bottle*