



### **Buddon Wood and Swithland Reservoir (cont...)**

The reservoir is important as a roosting and feeding area for waterfowl during winter months. Amongst the species regularly found are goldeneye, wigeon, teal, shoveler and gadwall. Less frequent visitors include scaup and red breasted merganser.

### **Geology:**

The Mountsorrel granodiorite, now best seen on Buddon Hill in the active quarrying operations there, is the largest component of the Leicestershire pluton which developed in the middle Ordovician. An andesite dyke, a rarity in the Midlands, traverses the exposure. Much controversy has surrounded the geology of this pluton, and the nature of the host envelope, whether Cambrian or Charnian, is still disputed. Geochemically it is a typical calcalkaline igneous mass, and is said to be related to subduction, but the direction of subduction and the nature of the crust undergoing subduction is still largely unknown. It is evident that an understanding of the petrogenesis of the Mountsorrel granodiorite plus its diorite and aplitic facies would provide a key to unravelling the deep crustal structure of Southern Britain about which so little is known at the moment.