

SCOTTISH BIRDS



THE JOURNAL OF THE
SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Volume 5 No. 6

SUMMER 1969

Price 5s

SCOTTISH BIRD REPORT 1968

ZEISS

Carl Zeiss of W.Germany presents
the revolutionary 10x40B Dialyt



The first slim-line 10 x 40B binoculars, with the special Zeiss eyepieces giving the same field of view for spectacle wearers and the naked eye alike.

Keep the eyecups flat for spectacles or sun glasses. Snap them up for the naked eye. Brilliant Zeiss optics, no external moving parts—a veritable jewel of a binocular.

Just arrived from Germany

There is now also a new, much shorter 8 x 30B Dialyt, height only 4. 1/8th". See this miniature marvel at your dealer today.

Latest Zeiss binocular catalogue and the name of your nearest stockist from:
Degenhardt & Co. Ltd., Carl Zeiss House, 31/36 Foley Street,
London W1P 8AP. 01-636 8050 (15 lines)



SCOTTISH BIRDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB
21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 5BT

Contents of Volume 5, Number 6, Summer 1969

	<i>Page</i>
Editorial	301
Scottish Bird Report 1968. By A. T. Macmillan (plates 20-23) . . .	302
Review. History of the Birds of the Cape Verde Islands. By D. A. & W. M. Bannerman. Reviewed by A. D. Watson . . .	357
Request for Information	359
The Scottish Ornithologists' Club	360

Edited by A. T. Macmillan, 12 Abinger Gardens, Edinburgh, EH12 6DE
Assisted by D. G. Andrew and M. J. Everett
Business Editor Major A. D. Peirse-Duncombe, Scottish Ornithologists'
Club, 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 5BT (tel. 031-556 6042)

R.S.P.B. SCOTTISH OFFICE — VACANCY

ASSISTANT required for all fields of the Society's activities at the Scottish Office, Edinburgh. Age 24 or over. Good ornithological knowledge essential. Salary in the range £920 to £1240 p.a.

Further particulars and application forms from: The Administrator, R.S.P.B., The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

LOOK BIRDWATCHERS

SPECIAL BINOCULAR—
TELESCOPE OFFER!!

DISCOUNT OF UP TO 25%

Post /Insured Free

	<i>Retail Price</i>	<i>Our Price</i>
SWIFT AUDUBON 8.5 x 44	£42 10 0	£31 10 0
SWIFT SARATOGA 8 x 40	£22 10 0	£18 5 0
SWIFT TRILYTE 9 x 35	£59 10 0	£47 17 6
ROYAL 8 x 30 (Proof Prism)	£39 10 0	£33 0 0
ZEISS JENA JENOPTEM 8 x 30W	£29 10 0	£23 17 0
ZEISS JENA DEKAREM 10 x 50	£78 10 0	£63 1 0
CARL ZEISS 8 x 30B Dialyt	£62 16 6	£50 10 6
CARL ZEISS 8 x 50B	£116 9 0	£93 8 5
CARL ZEISS 10 x 40B	£89 0 0	£71 10 0
LEITZ 8 x 32B	£88 1 0	£70 14 0
LEITZ 10 x 40	£98 14 10	£79 0 0
ROSS STEPRUVA 9 x 35	£50 1 11	£40 5 0
Nickel Supra Telescope 15 x 60 x 60	£42 15 0	£34 10 0
Hertel & Reuss Televari 25 x 60 x 60	£45 10 0	£36 13 0

All complete with case. Fully guaranteed.

Available on 7 days approval—Remittance with order.

Send for Free price list.

NASCROFT TRADING CO. LTD.

15 SHORTCROFT, DODDINGHURST, BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

Telephone Navestock 3498 (via Brentwood)

SCOTTISH BIRDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB



Vol. 5 No. 6

Summer 1969

Edited by A. T. Macmillan, assisted by D. G. Andrew and M. J. Everett

Editorial

Scottish Bird Report 1968. This issue consists almost entirely of the first of a new line of annual reports on Scottish birds. Nearly everything else has been squeezed out (papers, short notes, recent news, reviews). We believe that this is a useful and valuable exercise in recording, though it inevitably makes rather heavy reading. Our regular features will be back in the autumn.

New SOC Secretary. Major Alastair D. Peirse-Duncombe took up his duties as Club Secretary on 25th March 1969, and we confidently wish him all success in his new job. He hails from Perth, and was in business in Glasgow until recently after his retirement from the Regular Army in 1961.

The work involved in running the Scottish Ornithologists' Club and its Library and Bookshop increases steadily as the Club grows, and a staff of three (one half-time) is now needed to cope adequately with the responsibilities involved. Mrs Irene Waterston, who has carried the full weight in recent years, asked to be relieved of the secretaryship, which had increasingly been spilling into her leisure time, but she has most happily agreed to continue as Deputy Secretary. It is good to know that we shall still have the benefit of her great experience of SOC affairs and that the appointment of Major Peirse-Duncombe will ease the pressure of work under which she and Mrs Smillie, Membership Secretary, have been living.

Business Editor. Major Peirse-Duncombe also takes over as Business Editor of *Scottish Birds*. For a while, on account of increasing demands on his time, Dr T. C. Smout, who has been Business Editor for nearly seven years, has been anxious to pass on this work. He originally joined *Scottish Birds* to help edit the text but later took on what was for him the much less congenial job of handling the advertising, thus solving the problem of a successor for Arthur Smith. We owe him a substantial debt for the volume of advertising he has obtained for the journal and for all the unseen work involved.

Scottish Bird Report 1968

Compiled by ANDREW T. MACMILLAN

(Plates 20 - 23)

Though this report may be the first of a new series, it follows a long and continuing line of reports on Scottish ornithology that began with J. A. Harvie-Brown's 1881 "Ornithological journal of the winter of 1878-79... including remarks on migration of birds in the autumn of 1878 and the spring of 1879" (*Proc. N. H. Soc. Glasgow* 4: 123-190). For many years these reports were wide-ranging and detailed, and only in more recent years (since 1928) have they been limited to the formal recording of first occurrences and breeding in the faunal areas and divisions of Scotland. No reports were published for the years 1939 to 1952.

When the demise of the *Scottish Naturalist* led to the birth of *Scottish Birds*, extra space became available to Scottish ornithologists. Publication of more material led more and more people to submit notes. But though the quarterly Current Notes grew and grew, and much time went in producing them, yet there were two major snags—they were not fully representative and were therefore misleading, and those who used the material found it increasingly hard to locate what they wanted.

We hope that this annual report meets these points, by gathering everyday and unusual records for the whole of one year in one place. We have concentrated on recording the varying patterns of distribution and migration. We have not attempted an explanation of the ordinary status of each species, since variations between different parts of the country mean that any summary is either long or imprecise, but we have tried to make it clear which species breed in Scotland. Fuller details are in Baxter & Rintoul's *Birds of Scotland* (1953).

Only brief details are given of rarities, but many will be recorded more fully elsewhere; those within the scope of the *British Birds* Rarities Committee have been accepted by it unless noted as still subject to a decision. A very few records have been held over for various reasons; those that prove acceptable will be listed at the end of later Scottish Bird Reports. Notes on behaviour and abnormal plumage have usually been omitted as inappropriate in a report concerned primarily with the distribution of birds in time and space.

Over 450 contributors are listed in the key to their initials but many more sent notes that have had to be summarised

(350 saw Waxwings). In thanking all contributors, of summaries and illustrations as well as notes, we hope that they may have satisfaction from knowing that they have helped to make the report possible, and that they will continue to send notes. The task of sifting and sorting the records fell upon the local recorders, specially appointed for the purpose, and their meticulous attention to the detailed requirements of the compiler greatly eased the mammoth job of collating the individual summaries into a single report. For much work in processing the material for this report our sincere thanks go to all local recorders. Our aim was to have the local summaries completed within a month of the end of the year—not an easy task when some contributors are inevitably slow in sending notes or answering letters. In the event, 9 recorders had their summaries in by the end of January and 8 more by mid February; 4 came in the second half of February and the last two on 10 March and 22 April. Thus it has been possible, just, to complete the report for the summer issue of the journal.

Through initial checking locally and further examination by the compiler we have tried to eliminate significant errors. Where evidence for unusual records seems inadequate, though the identifications may well be correct, they have been left out. With the number of copyings by observer, recorder, compiler and printer, however, it is too much to hope that no errors have slipped through. Dates are specially liable to error and we will be grateful for details of any that should be corrected in next year's report. We would apologise in advance to anyone who finds his records attributed to someone else, for while quite satisfied about particular records we have at times been in doubt as to who saw the birds and have named one observer (or the recorder) when several were involved.

We see the function of this report as primarily to record observations made during the year rather than to interpret them. Both migration and breeding are closely affected by weather but unfortunately we lack the capacity to develop this theme, especially as very different weather patterns occur in different parts of the country, and we must therefore leave it for others to consider later.

Nor are we inclined to rearrange the records in a month-by-month account of the year, thereby discouraging readers from working their way through the report to find the titbits. Though of some interest it would involve much extra work and space merely to repeat what is already recorded. True, reference material in the form of a systematic list does not make easy reading, but it may repay study; we were espec-

ially struck by the number of times things were noted at several widely separated places on the same date, more so than we ever were with the less representative selection of material received for Current Notes.

A few special features of the year may be mentioned. Two hundred and seventy-four full species are included in the systematic list. Little Ringed Plover and Bluethroat bred for the first time; Snowy Owl and Fieldfare for the second; 5 pairs of Ospreys had nests; and the known breeding pairs of Redwing (25 or so) and Wood Sandpiper reached record levels; there has been a striking number of breeding records of northern species in recent years. An attempt to reintroduce the White-tailed Eagle is recorded. Little Owl and Green Woodpecker are still spreading north, and the Collared Dove continues to increase. Unseasonable winter breeding of Crossbills, and the resilience of the Sparrowhawk population may also be noted, and the Black-browed Albatross which returned for a second summer on the Bass Rock. There were autumn invasions of Nutcrackers (but only one in Scotland), Northern Great Spotted Woodpeckers and Bullfinches, but few Waxwings or Crossbills. A big movement of Sooty Shearwaters was observed in Orkney in October, and a remarkable early autumn build-up of juvenile Fieldfares in the north. There were also some interesting rarities, of which details will be found in the species list.

When looking at patterns of records it should be remembered that cover in different areas varies from good to very thin. With a few exceptions the best covered areas are those with full-time ornithologists, and we may mention particularly Shetland, Fair Isle, Orkney, Aberdeen, East Fife, Isle of May, Dumfries and Kirkcudbright, with apologies to several just outside this selection. Fair Isle, being a small island with a resident observatory warden, usually provides the best index to migration patterns.

In order to condense the species list into the available pages we have used small type and readable abbreviations of months and counties; qualifications such as "near" a place or "about" a number are usually omitted. Observers are indicated by their initials (it would help greatly if everyone had at least three). References in the form 5: 302 are to *Scottish Birds*. Except that type species (e.g. Black-throated Diver) are not automatically placed first in the genera, scientific nomenclature follows the 1952 B.O.U. *Check-List of the Birds of Great Britain and Ireland* with the changes proposed in *Ibis* 98: 158-168; 99: 369. English names follow the *Handbook*, as modified in *British Birds* 46: 2-3; 49: 5. Every species known to have occurred in Scotland in 1968 is listed, and an asterisk indicates that all known records have been given.

Local recorders for 1969

- Shetland (except Fair Isle)** R. J. Tulloch, Reafirth, Mid Yell, Shetland.
Fair Isle R. H. Dennis, Bird Observatory, Fair Isle, Shetland.
Orkney E. Balfour, Isbister House, Rendall, Orkney.
Outer Hebrides (except St Kilda) W. A. J. Cunningham, Aros, 10 Barony Square, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.
St Kilda Dr I. D. Pennie, Bonhard Place, Bo'ness, West Lothian.
Caithness D. M. Stark, 2 Harland Road, Castletown, Thurso, Caithness.
Sutherland, Ross-shire (except Black Isle) D. Macdonald, Elmbank, Dornoch, Sutherland.
Inverness-shire (within 18 miles of Inverness), Ross-shire (Black Isle only), Nairnshire Dr Maeve Rusk, Arniston, 51 Old Edinburgh Road, Inverness.
Inverness-shire (mainland more than 18 miles from Inverness), Moray-shire Hon. D. N. Weir, English Charlie's, Rothiemurchus, Aviemore, Inverness-shire.
Banffshire, Aberdeenshire, North Kincardineshire N. Picozzi, Nature Conservancy, Blackhall, Banchory, Kincardineshire, and W. Murray, Culterty Field Station, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire, AB4 0AA.
South Kincardineshire, Angus G. M. Crighton, 23 Church Street, Brechin, Angus.
Perthshire Miss V. M. Thom, 19 Braeside Gardens, Perth.
Kinross-shire J. H. Swan, Vane Farm Reserve, Kinross.
Isle of May Miss N. J. Gordon, Nature Conservancy, 12 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 2AS.
Fife (east of A90) D. W. Oliver, 4 Lawview Cottages, Abercrombie, St Monance, Fife.
Fife (west of A90), Clackmannanshire, East Stirlingshire T. D. H. Merrie, West Faerwood, Stirling Road, Dollar, Clackmannanshire.
West Lothian Dr T. C. Smout, 19 South Gillisland Road, Edinburgh EH10 5DE.
Forth Islands (except May), Midlothian R. W. J. Smith, 33 Hunter Terrace, Loanhead, Midlothian.
East Lothian, Berwickshire K. S. Macgregor, 16 Merchiston Avenue, Edinburgh EH10 4NY.
Peeblesshire, Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire A. J. Smith, Glenview, Selkirk.
Clyde faunal area, North Argyllshire, Skye, Inner Hebrides Prof. M. F. M. Meiklejohn, 16 Athole Gardens, Glasgow W2.
Dumfriesshire J. G. Young, Benvannoch, Glencaple, Dumfriesshire.
Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtownshire A. D. Watson, Barone, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Boundaries are shown in 'The Birds of Scotland'. Note that Skye and the Hebrides are treated separately from the counties in which they lie.

For 1968 the list of recorders was the same, except that R. Hewson covered Nairn, Moray and Banff, Dr I. D. Pennie covered Sutherland and Ross-shire, and the editor had St Kilda. When he moved out of his territory Dr Pennie was succeeded by D. Macdonald (and took on St Kilda), and for the same reason R. Hewson's counties have been divided among the three neighbouring recorders.

Key to observers' initials

D. Abbey, E. K. Adam, Mrs J. Adam, D. G. Adams (DGAd), R. Adamson, A. Allison (AA), A. Anderson (AAn), D. R. Anderson, P. Anderson, D. G. Andrew (DGA), J. M. S. Arnott, W. Austin.

R. S. Bailey (RSBy), R. S. Baillie (RSB), W. Bain (WBA), N. Baker, E. Balfour (EB), D. Balharry (DBa), G. H. Ballantyne, J. Ballantyne (JBa), D. Barbour (DB), G. J. Barnes, M. T. Barnes, Mrs J. Basden (JB), Miss P. G. T. Baxter, M. Bayldon (MBA), E. Beaddie (EBd), A. Beat (ABe), E. Bell (EBe), G. Bell (GB), M. Bell (MB), G. Bennett (GBn), Mrs G. Berger (GBe), Dr R. H. Berry, F. C. Best, A. L. H. Binnie, G. Birnie (GBi), J. D. Bisset, A. Black (AB), H. Blakeney (HBy), H. Boase (HBo), Lt. Col. M. G. Borthwick, D. S. Bowser, D. Boyd (DBo), T. Boyd, W. Brackenridge (WB), Mrs E. J. Brett, D. M. Bremner, Miss J. Bristow (JBw), R. Broad, W. Brotherston (WBr), Miss B. Brownell, J. Bruce (JBr), K. Bruce, Mrs E. Brunton (EBr), H. O. Bunce, A. R. Burrows, R. T. Burrows, H. Burton (HB).

P. Cairney (PC), R. G. Caldow, T. M. Cameron, A. Campbell (AC), Col. & Mrs A. C. Campbell, Dr B. Campbell, C. A. B. Campbell, C. R. G. Campbell, Dr M. E. Castle, A. Chapman (ACH), R. A. Cheke, P. Chester (PCh), R. Clark, J. L. S. Cobb, Miss E. R. T. Conacher, Sir C. G. Connell, D. Coutts, J. M. Cowan, S. Craigie, G. M. Crichton, G. Critchley, J. Crompton, J. V. B. Cumming, Miss M. H. E. Cuninghame, W. A. J. Cunningham, ELOC (Eskdale & Liddesdale Ornithological Club per KB and RES).

R. C. Dalrymple (RCDA), J. Davis (JDA), A. Deadman (AD), R. H. Dennis, D. Dewar, E. Dicerbo, H. Dickinson, R. C. Dickson (RCD), C. Docherty, Miss J. Donnan (JDo), H. E. M. Dott, Miss M. Drake, J. Dunbar (JD), A. Duncan (ADu), W. Dunlop, Dr G. M. Dunnet, R. Duthie, J. N. Dymond.

G. M. S. Easy, J. Edelsten, Dr W. J. Eggeling, N. Elkins, Lt. Cdr. D. Ellin, R. Ellis, Sir R. Erskine-Hill, T. H. Evanson, M. J. Everett.

J. Faulkner (JFa), C. J. Feare, A. D. Fentham, I. M. Fergus, J. Findlay (JFi), Miss M. Finlayson (MFi), A. Fisher (AFi), J. Fisher (JF), Dr G. A. Fleming, R. Flumm (RF), Miss P. Forbes, J. Forrest (JFo), M. Forrester (MF), Miss E. Foster, A. Fraser (AF), R. Furness (RFu), Wing Cmdr. R. J. Fursman, A. M. M. Fyffe.

H. Galbraith, Mrs S. B. Gall, W. Gallacher (WGa), W. Gibb (WG), I. Gibson, J. A. Ginnever, D. C. Gladwin, D. Glass (DGs), D. Glue (DG), A. G. Gordon, Miss B. Gordon, Miss N. J. Gordon, S. Gordon, Miss S. M. Gordon-Roger, Miss E. Grace, J. Graham (JGr), R. Graham, R. J. Graham, D. R. Grant, Mrs J. A. R. Grant, M. E. Greenhalgh, J. J. D. Greenwood, M. J. P. Gregory, J. Gunn (JG), J. M. Gunn, HGP (Hauxley Group per BL), NSRG (N Solway Ringing Group per JFY), TGp (Tentsmuir Group: JD, DBMcG, RWS, D. Thomson).

Mrs H. S. C. Halliday, K. Halliday, Dr K. C. R. Halliday, T. Halliday (TH), Mrs E. Hamilton (EHa), M. K. Hamilton, J. Hardy (JH), M. I. Harvey, T. Hastie (THa), D. Haver, C. G. Headlam, I. Henderson (IH), R. Hewson (RH), I. Hills (IHl), R. Hirst (RHl), J. G. Holbourn (JGH), E. G. Holt, J. A. D. Hope, J. Howie (JHo), Dr & Mrs J. F. Hughes, R. B. Hughes, W. Hughes, J. Hughson (JHu), D. C. Hulme, R. A. Hume, E. N. Hunter, J. G. Hunter (JGHu), Miss R. S. Hunter, S. L. Hunter, M. Hutcheson, C. Hutchison, E. Hutchison (EH).

E. T. Idle.

A. F. Jacobs, Mrs E. James, P. F. James, W. C. Jamieson, R. A. Jeffrey, Dr D. Jenkins, P. Johnson, T. Johnson-Ferguson, C. Johnston, I. R. Johnston, J. Johnston, T. H. Jorgensen, G. D. Joy.

P. Kerr, H. King, P. K. Kinnear, D. B. Kirke.

Dr D. Lack, Mrs S. Laing (SL), R. Lambie, P. A. Lassey, D. J. Law, Dr D. H. Lawson, J. H. Lawton, S. Laybourne (SLa), A. F. Leitch, A. L. A. Leslie, B. Little, J. Lockerbie (JL), J. A. Love, J. Lowe (JLo), A. D. Lucas.

A. MacCook, J. McCubbin, A. Macdonald, D. Macdonald, M. A. Macdonald, J. McDowall, Mrs M. K. Macduff-Duncan, J. MacEwen, J. A. MacEwen, Miss J. McFarlane, R. McFarlane, Miss J. McGaw (JMcGa), J. MacGeoch (JMcG), N. G. MacGilp, D. B. McGinn, D. McGowan (DMcG), A. R. McGregor, D. McGregor (DMcGr), Mrs J. McGregor (JMcGr), K. S. Macgregor, R. Macgregor, Mrs M. McIntosh, R. Macintyre, K. A. McKenzie, Miss C. K. MacKinnon, I. McLachlan (IMcLa), Mr & Mrs J. McLaurin, I. Maclean (IMcL), J. McLennan, E. Macmillan, M. Macmillan, Miss M. P. Macmillan, Dr P. McMorran, L. MacNally, M. MacNally, S. MacNally.

A. R. Mainwood, A. Marks (AMa), M. Marquiss, F. Marr, H. Marshall (HM), I. K. Marshall, H. Martin (HMa), Mrs J. Martin (JMa), R. Martin (RMA), W. Matheson (WMa), J. Maxwell (JMx), E. R. Meek, Prof. M. F. M. Meiklejohn, K. Melhuish, Mrs D. Melrose, J. K. R. Melrose, T. D. H. Merrie, J. Miller (JMi), R. H. Miller, Mrs B. M. S. Milne, R. Milne (RM), J. Mitchell (JM), Rev. R. I. Mitchell, Dr N. C. Morgan, Mrs J. Morrison (JMo), W. M. Morrison, J. Moss (JMs), W. H. Moyes, A. Munro (AM), I. C. Munro, J. Murray (JMu), J. B. Murray, Mrs P. Murray, W. Murray (WM).

D. Nethersole-Thompson, Dr I. Newton, Dr M. Newton (MNe), Mrs J. Nicholson, A. Nicol, M. Nicoll (MN), A. A. Nimmo-Smith, H. D. R. le N. Noble, D. J. Norden.

Miss M. H. Oates, M. A. Ogilvie, C. Ogston, D. W. Oliver, J. S. Oliver, R. Osbourne, H. Ostroznik.

C. E. Palmar, C. Park, K. Parkes, J. L. F. Parslow, J. Parsons (JP), G. L. A. Patrick, I. J. Patterson, L. Payne, G. A. Pearson, Dr I. D. Pennie, S. R. Pepper, J. Phillips (JPh), B. Philp, Prof. R. W. Pickford, N. Picozzi, J. Porter (JPo), I. Prestt.

Mrs I. Rainier (IR), R. M. Ramage, A. D. K. Ramsay, C. P. Rawcliffe, C. Reynolds, G. A. Richards, J. Richmond, W. K. Richmond, Dr R. Richter, A. Robb (AR), Mrs E. L. Roberts, S. Roberts, M. J. H. Robson, A. Rogers (ARo), Dr M. Rusk, H. M. Russell, I. Russell (IRu).

J. G. Salvesen, J. D. Scobie, J. Scott (JSc), J. Selwyn (JSe), Mrs A. F. W. Sharp, D. Sharpe (DSh), R. J. W. Shaw, J. Sheldon (JSh), D. S. Shelly, D. C. Shenton, A. M. Sillitto, G. Simpson (GS), J. H. Simpson (JHSi), J. I. Simpson, M. Sinclair (MS), W. A. Sinclair, D. Skilling (DS), J. Skilling (JSk), R. Skinner, J. Sloan (JS), A. J. Smith (AJSt), A. J. M. Smith, Mrs E. M. Smith, H. D. Smith, Dr P. H. Smith, R. E. Smith, R. T. Smith, R. W. J. Smith, Dr T. C. Smout, A. J. Souter (AJSo), B. Staines, D. Stalker (DSt), D. M. Stark, T. Stark, Mrs M. I. Steel, A. G. Stewart, I. F. Stewart, Brig. I. M. Stewart, J. A. Stewart, R. A. Strachan, G. Summers (GSu), R. W. Summers, A. Sutherland, J. Sutherland (JSu), M. Sutherland (MSu), Dr R. A. L. Sutton, J. H. Swan (JHS), D. Swindells (DSw), RNAS (Royal Navy Air Station per Air Traffic Controller and DNW).

Dr A. M. Tait, C. S. Tait, I. Taylor, K. Taylor, A. Tewnton, Mrs A. W. Thom, Miss V. M. Thom, T. Thomason, E. Thomson, J. Thomson (JT), C. H. Thorpe, B. Thurston, Dr W. L. N. Tickell, D. A. Tindal, J. Todd (JTo), R. B. Tozer, G. Trafford, M. Traill-Clouston, F. R. Traynor, Miss O. Tregurtha, R. J. Tulloch, B. S. Turner, R. Tweddle.

B. Unwin, L. A. Urquhart.

J. Wagstaff (JWa), A. F. G. Walker, Mrs A. M. Walker, F. J. Walker, K. G. Walker, Mr & Mrs M. Walker (MWa), D. I. M. Wallace, J. H.

Wallace, Mrs D. E. Walters, I. Wares (IW), Dr W. E. Waters, G. Waterston, Dr A. Watson, A. D. Watson, R. O. Watson, J. Watt (JW), W. Watt (WWa), I. Wattret (IWa), Hon. D. N. Weir, J. R. Weir, Mrs P. A. Weir, G. W. Westerhoff, I. S. Wheatley, G. T. White, Mrs J. A. Whyte, J. Wightman (JWT), E. J. Williams (EJWi), M. Williams (MW), J. Williamson (JWi), W. Williamson (WW), R. G. Willis, D. Wilson, Miss D. M. Wilson, D. R. Wilson, M. G. Wilson, R. A. Wilson, W. Wilson (WWi), E. J. Wiseman (EJW), J. D. Wood, D. B. Wooldridge, J. Woolward (JWo), P. Wormell, Prof. V. C. Wynne-Edwards.

Dr E. I. Young, J. F. Young, J. G. Young.

B. Zonfrillo.

Species List

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. As usual a few remained in summer in Shet, Ork and O Heb (EB, WAJC, RHD, RJT); also 2 Rattray Head, Aber, 19 June and singles flying N on 16th and 20 July (MW). Inland: imm dead L Lochy, Inv, spring (per CEP); 1 Earlstoun L, Kirk, 18-26 Dec, same place as one Nov 1965 (GAF, JL, JR, ADW).

First autumn arrivals, family 2 ad and 2 juv (calling when separated) Hascosay, Shet, 26 Aug (RJT); passage noted Rattray Head from 7 Sept, peak 21 in 2 hrs 5 Oct (MW). Flocks: 6 Fife Ness 4 Feb (DWO); 12 Stornoway 27 Apr (NE); 5 Tentsmuir, Fife, 18 Dec (PGTB). Only singles Dunnet Bay, Caith, Jan/Apr and Nov/Dec compared with up to 12 in 1967 (DMS).

***White-billed Diver** *Gavia adamsii*. Oiled bird from Tay, probably Fife, 9th or 10 Mar, sent to Aberdeen zoo for care, died and body burnt (JJDG, SRP) (5: 194). Subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee. There are previous records for Angus but not for Fife.

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*. Noted Caith (N end of breeding range) in summer at several lochs more accessible than those where it breeds (JND, GMSE, PMcM, DMS); in Badenoch, E Inv, one young flew from new nest site (PC).

First of autumn: 2 Tentsmuir, Fife (TGp), and 1 Aberlady, E Loth, 21 Aug (DJ). Counts: 7 Stornoway 29 Apr (NE); 6-8 on 27 Oct, 5-6 on 8 Dec Tentsmuir, where commoner than usual (TGp). Though regular offshore Aber, 1 Girdle Ness 17 Nov seems to be first for N Kinc (ADKR).

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*. Shet breeding success reduced by drying up of some pools in exceptionally dry summer (RJT). On edge of range 5-6 breeding sites known Perth and eggs found at new one (VM1); possibly increased Suth (EGH).

Winter records have been unusual in Shet, but a number wintered 1967/68 and some were on breeding lochs from late Feb (RJT). Maximum counts: 23 Montrose, Angus, 24 Jan (GMC); 15-20 Gullane Bay, E Loth, 10 Mar (RWJS); 30 Largo Bay, Fife, next day (PGTB); exceptional 16 Southerness, Kirk, 29 Sept after W gale (WA, RTS).

Off E Loth 2-3 as early as 19 July (RWJS); peak passage 72/hr flying S at Buchan Ness, Aber, 5 Oct (NE), and 30/hr Fife Ness next day (DWO). Four off Whiteness Head 8 Dec, rarely recorded Nairn (MIH). Inland away from breeding areas: 1 oiled L Leven, Kinross, 21-24 Feb (JHS); 1 Duddingston, Midl, 17 May (DRA); 1 Cobbinshaw, Midl, 9 Nov (TB, EMS, RWJS); 1 Endrick mouth, Stir/Dunb, from same date for at least 16 days (JM).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*. Breeding success poor in E Fife: reduced numbers and no chicks for third year at Kilconquhar; hardly any young Lindores (once biggest Scottish colony) after pike poisoned (5: 52); no chicks Morton Lochs 28 July though 26 birds 14 Apr and 7 prs bred (DWO, CST); also none bred L Leven (pr in 1967) (AA, JHS). Late brood hatched at 900 ft Gladhouse, Midl, first wk Sept,

all 3 juvs fledged, leaving one by one in Dec (DGA, EMS, RWJS); 1 inland L Arthur, Kirk, 1 Dec (RBT).

Outstanding count 37 L Ryan, Wigt, 3 Mar (DS, RTS, JGY), and 7 back 24 Aug (TH). Other maxima: 14 L Leven 25 Oct (AA, JHS); 19 Castle L, Lochmaben, Dumf, 30 Mar (RTS) and 24 Aug (DSw); 500 off Leith, Midl, at year end (count 3.1.69) (RWJS). Others in unusual areas: prs on Selk lochs summer but no breeding reported (AJS); 1 Castlehill Bay, Caith, 27 Apr (DMS); 1 L Spynie, Moray, 28 Sept (DB); 1 Campbeltown L, Arg, 25 Oct (FRT); 4 Prestwick, Ayr, 4 Nov (AGS). Two L a'Mhachair, S Uist, 13 Aug, 2nd record O Heb (MSu).

***Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps griseigena*.** Unusual date: 1 L Sween, Arg, 22 June, photograph seen by MJE (SBG). Others 27 Jan-30 Apr and 27 Aug-19 Nov thus: Wigt, 1 L Ryan 7 Apr (JGY); E Loth, Gosford Bay 25 Oct (2) (MHO), Nov 10th (1), 12th (2), 17th (3), 19th (1) (DJ), Gullane Pt 27 Jan (2), 16 Mar (2), 31 Mar (1), 27 Apr (1) (DCS), 27 Aug (2), 21 Sept (4-5), 28 Sept (2), 5 Oct (2), 9 Nov (1) (MJE, MAMcD, DCS, EMS, RWJS); Midl, 1 Portobello 2 Apr (THJ); 1 Fife Ness 12-13 Oct (DWO, HDS); E Inv, 1 L Ashie 28 Aug (RAH); Caith, 1 Castlehill Bay 26 Apr, 2 on 27th (DMS); Skye, 1 between L Fada and L Leachan 30 Apr (JFH).

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*. Present main E Inv breeding area 19 Mar-26 Oct (10) (MIH); peak 21 Caith colony 22 Sept (DG). Outside breeding areas summer: 2 on sea N of Aberdeen 23 June (NE); ad Cameron reservoir, Fife, 15-18 June (AMMF, DWO). Other singles inland: Strathbeg, Aber, 29 Sept (NE); juv Cameron 28 July (DWO); Morton Lochs, Fife, 24 Nov and 1 Dec (PGTB, AMMF); Portmore, Peeb, 17-24 Nov (DGA, EMS, RWJS); Balgray reservoir, Renf, 2 Nov (KT). Presumed immigrants from 10 Oct Fair Isle (RHD), and 13th Shet (RJT). Biggest winter counts only 8 Gullane Bay 26 Jan (MGW), 8-12 Tentsmuir, Fife, 10 Nov (TGp).

***Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*.** No counts of two established colonies in central lowlands. In summer, 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 26 May (EMS, RWJS) and Portmore, Peeb, 1 June (DGA). Others to 7 Apr and from 3 Nov (1 on 22 Sept) thus: Wigt, regular L Ryan, 7 on 3 Mar and 7 Apr (JGY); Dunb, 2 L Lomond 27 Feb (WKR); S Arg, Strachur Bay 5 on 17 Feb, 2 on 19th, 1 on 2 Mar (WKR); Rox, 1 Hoselaw L 8 Dec (RSB); E Loth, 1 Gullane Pt 10 Nov, Gosford Bay 17th (DJ); W Loth, 1 Linlithgow L 22 Sept (MKH); Fife, 1 Tentsmuir 3 Nov (TGp) and 17th (AMMF); Angus, 1 Rescobie L 2 Dec (GMC, JIS).

Little Grebe *Podiceps ruficollis*. Coastal records: a few winter inner Moray Firth, 1 Fortrose 27 Jan (MKMcD-D), 2 there 30 Dec (MR); many overwinter W Ross, peak 21 Shildaig Bay, Gairloch, 15 Feb (ENH). Migrant Fair Isle 10 Apr (RHD).

***Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophrys*.** Bird which summered with Gannets at Bass Rock 1967 (5:20) filmed from fishing boat in Forth 10-14 mls NE of Eyemouth 7th or 8 Feb (per GW) (5:112); at Bass 13 Apr-20 July, but away from land, especially late June/July, more than in 1967 (FM).

***Leach's Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*.** No notes from remote colonies. Singles, presumably 'visiting', caught or seen at night when mist-netting Storm Petrels at Fair Isle 13th and 14 July, 4th and 5 Aug (RHD).

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Ashore at night 1 June-23 Sept at Fair Isle where more netted than ever before (also more than usual in summer/autumn on crossing) but only 2 nests found (RHD). In Caith, ad killed by cat Stroma about 15 July (per PMcM), and reported over Claredon, Dunnet and Duncansby headlands in bad weather (DMS).

Manx Shearwater *Procellaria puffinus*. Little comment on breeding

status, but 1000 Sound of Arisaig 22 July near main colonies (RAH). E coast summer records include 3 flying W up Forth at Inchkeith in NE wind 16 June (EMS, RWJS). At 59°N, 5°W 200 flew SW 18 June (ADKR) (5 : 278).

Rather scarce Fife Ness, peaks 76/hr 27 May and 36 in 30 mins 11 Sept (DWO). Indication of passage round N Scotland: Angus, small numbers well offshore July-Sept, mostly flying N (GMC); Aber, movement N at Rattray Head 16-27 July (peaks 14/hr 17th, 81 in 2 hrs 18th) (MW) and Buchan Ness 24 Aug-1 Sept (peak 14/hr 26th) (NE); Moray Firth, 20 Sept, 2 Alturlie Pt, 4 Fort George, both E Inv, 4 Rosemarkie, F. Ross (NE, JAL); Caith, 13 N at Sarclet 21 July (GMSE), 3 N at Clyth 14 Sept (NE).

***Great Shearwater** *Procellaria gravis*. One 35 mls NW of N Rona 18 June (ADKR) (5 : 278). On 18 Aug 1-2 flew N past Tarbat Ness and 2 past nearby Rockfield, first for E Ross (RAH).

***Sooty Shearwater** *Procellaria griseus*. One off NW Scotland 59°50'N, 9°30'W 18 June (ADKR) (5 : 279). Otherwise 16 July-5 Nov (including some big counts) thus: Shetland, 1-2 E of Fetlar 22 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle, 17 flying past 4 Aug-15 Oct (7 on 31 Aug), 75 on crossing 20 Aug-5 Nov (20 on 23 Aug, 10 on 13 Sept, 25 on 29 Sept, 8 on 1 Oct) (RHD); Ork, some 250 on 4 Oct and 316 on 5th passed NW off N Ronaldsay (winds mainly E or NE), about 80 in next 2 days (GWW, EJW, DBW); Caith, 2 N at Clyth 14 Sept (NE); Aber, first 16 July, passage noted 13-24 Sept (peak 33/hr 14th), last 2 on 11 Oct, all flying N at Rattray Head (MW); Angus, 1 Usan 16 Sept (JD), 1 N at Arbroath 25 Sept (MN); Fife, good passage N at Fife Ness Sept 14th (15/hr), 15th (29 in 5 hrs), 16th (4) (HGp, JD, DWO, RWS); Isle of May, 1 on 26 Sept (KAMcK, DWO).

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Census Hirta, St Kilda, 23,100 occupied sites July, 17% up on 1961 (AA, GBi) (5 : 277). Frequently nest inland Ork/Shet but one on ruined building N Uist evidently first such site in O Heb (DW). Blue-phase bird bred Fair Isle, 4 such there 24 Sept, singles on crossing 1 Oct and 9 Nov (RHD). Non-breeders inland included 1 'prospecting' Kilconquhar church tower, Fife, 25 Apr (DWO); singles L Leven 1st and 22 May and 1 June (JHS); singles (once 2) at 6 Edinburgh localities on 7 dates 21 Feb-17 May (DGA, MJE, AFL, MAMcD, MGW). One Caerlaverock 7 Apr; there are few records for Dumf (JGY).

Gannet *Sula bassana*. Only census was at smallest and newest of 8 colonies, Scar Rocks, Wigt, 437 nests (max. 300 in 1965) 8 June (JGY) (5 : 206). Juvs inland Sept; 2 Aigas, 6 mls SW of Beaully Firth, E Inv, 5th (per JMcG); 1 flew up Strath Carron, W Ross, 11th (CGC); 1 L Leven 12th, first for Kinross (RMA & TS per AA); 1 Dunkeld, Perth, 23rd (died 24th) (per THE); 5 flying E (4 turned SW, 1 S) Endrick mouth, L Lomond, 15th (AGS). Count 250 Almond estuary, Mid/W Loth, 13 Jan, was exceptional (TCS).

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Scottish breeding population about 3000 prs (RWJS in press); Ork increased to well over 600 prs (EB).

Ten on stump L Ken, Kirk, 25 Apr suggested spring passage (ADW). Autumn movements more marked: Fair Isle 30 Aug-8 Oct, mainly 15-22 Sept (120 on 16th, 57 on 19th) (RHD); Isle of May peak 27 on 26 Sept (NJG); Aber, passing S at Rattray Head 1-7 Sept (peak 170/hr 7th) (MW); related records of imms inland Speyside mid Sept-mid Oct (DNW), L Laggan, Inv, Oct (JPo), Moorfoot reservoirs 1-29 Sept (DGA, EMS, RWJS). Up to 150 fishing Skinflats, E Stir, 29 Dec where only small numbers usual (MH). Four of 30 at Fife Ness 9 Mar had pale heads (DWO).

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Isle of May colony (c. 800 prs) con-

tinues increase; first eggs 6 Apr (NJG); sitting on eggs St Kilda 10th (HK); some decline Caith, absent from E face Holbourn Head (KM). Increased winter numbers noted Auskerry and other places in Ork (EB). None reported Leith Docks (cf. 4: 520) (DGA); but 1 on R Ness near tidal limit 7 Dec, 1 Longman Pt 1 Jan 1956 (unpublished) is the only previous record for E Inv (MR).

Heron *Ardea cinerea*. Exceptionally good numbers fledged in established Dumf colonies (NSRG); at least 40 young from 20+ nests Dalskaith Wood, Kirk (BST); 19 nests Endrick mouth, Stir, against 6 in 1963 (JM), the reverse of the usual trend in S Scotland, exemplified by a report of large young jumping from nests Tentsmuir, Fife, when buzzed by helicopter, and found dead below the trees (DWO, RS).

Autumn passage Fair Isle (no Herons breed Shet) 2 Aug-5 Nov, peaks Aug 29th (8), Sept 5th (10), 13th (27), 14th (12), 26th (13) (RHD). Winter count 19 Strathbeg, Aber, 28 Jan (NE).

***Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*. One dead under wires Mochrum, Wigt, 23 Apr (CABC, JMcGa) (5: 209). Previous Scottish records 1954, 1955, 1961.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. Early clutch (5 eggs) Kergord, Shet, 28 Mar (per RJT); 12 hatched Shieldaig, Gairloch, W Ross, 29 Mar (ENH). Two prs were first to breed on Isle of May (NJG). Dumf numbers high after exceptional breeding season (JGY), in contrast to lower Oct-Dec counts (750 against up to 1500 in recent years) Almond estuary, Mid/W Loth (TCS). Ork breeding and winter numbers both apparently up (EB), and Caith late 1968 numbers considerably up on previous years (DGs, DMS, IW).

Spring and autumn passage not as marked as usual in Speyside, though radar suggested large movements of ducks around 15 Oct (RNAS, DNW). Autumn passage Fair Isle from 22 Aug (RHD). Peak counts: 2900 L Leven 18 Sept (over 500 prs breed) (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS); 2500 Methil Power Stn, Fife, 18 Jan (DWO); 2000 St Andrews Bay, Fife, 24 Nov (TCS).

June 1966 hand-reared chicks from Altnaharra, N Suth, were recovered in Denmark 18 Aug 1967 and Opland, Norway, 28 Aug 1967 (IDP).

Teal *Anas crecca*. No reported changes in breeding status. Small spring passage (max. 5) Fair Isle 15 Mar-29 May (RHD). Autumn passage: Fair Isle 23 Aug-20 Dec (9 on 16 Sept, 11 on 5 Oct) (RHD); Isle of May 29 Aug-2 Oct (NJG); peak 660 Beaully Firth, a winter haunt, 15 Sept (MR); marked passage Spey valley mid Sept-mid Oct (DNW). Sept build-up L Leven (few breed) to 780 on 8 Oct, declining to year end (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS). Large flocks, up to 2240, a feature of early Sept at Caerlaverock, Dumf, mainly dispersed by late Nov; influx of continental birds late Dec produced 2 Danish rings (JGY). Peak 180 Bay of Nigg, N Kinc, 19 Jan (NE, ADKR).

Drakes with characteristics of the N American Green-winged Teal *A. c. carolinensis*: 1 Gadloch, Lenzie, Lan, 14 Jan, where one seen a year before (4: 502) (BZ); 1 Quothquhan, Biggar, Lan, 12-19 Apr (RE-H, RSH) (5: 279); 2 Morton Lochs, first for Tay, 12 Oct (HSCH, KCRH, JMcF); bringing Scottish total to 12 drakes (11 records), all but one since 1952.

***Garganey** *Anas querquedula*. Not breeding. Spring passage 28 Mar-4 May, mainly 16-20 Apr, thus: Dumf ♂ Caerlaverock 17th, 19th and 20 Apr, with respectively 1, 3 and 4 ♀♀ (WA, JDO, JMx, DS, JGY); Kirk, pr Balmaghie 28 Mar (per ADW); Wigt, pr Stranraer 18 Apr (JGY); Aber, pr Strathbeg 16 Apr (NE); O Heb, pr Balranald, N Uist, 4 May (ARMcG).

***Blue-winged Teal** *Anas discors*. Drake L Feithean, Balranald, N Uist,

29 Apr-16 Aug, subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee (ARMcG); 3 of the 5 previous Scottish records are also for O Heb.

Gadwall *Anas strepera*. Possibly up to 40 prs bred L Leven, still the main centre after 50 yrs (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS); best summer count elsewhere 9 birds Cameron Reservoir, Fife, 16 June (AMMF). Female and 2 half-grown young Breakish, 5 mls SW of Kyleakin, 10 Sept are first for Skye, but breeding division unknown (AMcD).

Spring movements indicated by isolated reports: pr Gladhouse, Midl, 7 Apr (EMS, RWJS); ♂ Culzean, Ayr, 27 Apr (SLH); pr Ythan, Aber, 19 May (NE); ♂ Blairgowrie, Perth, 30 May (VMT). Several summered N Uist (ARMcG). Autumn peak 15 Kilconquhar, Fife, 5 Sept (DWO). After mid Oct: ♂ Skibo, SE Suth, 11 Nov (DMcD); ♂ Edinburgh lochs to 28 Nov (HEMD); 7 on sea Carsethorn, Kirk, 7-14 Oct (JGY); 1 Mochrum, Wigt, 9 Nov (RHM); 1 shot Lochar Moss, Dumf, 22 Nov (EBe, JGY); small numbers L Leven (JHS). These records surely exaggerate its scarcity in winter. Also 2 L Milton, Kirk, 11 Feb (JND); 2 Skibo 12 Jan and 17 Feb (DMcD); 7 L Eilean an Stadir, S Uist, 6 Feb, pr Balranald, N Uist, 7 Feb, pr L Ardvule, S Uist, and pr L Fada, Benbecula, 8 Feb (DGA, DJ, IN).

Wigeon *Anas penelope*. Up to 40 prs breed L Leven (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS), but probably none further S now.

Spring passage Fair Isle 6 Mar-28 May (17 birds) (RHD). Midl winter birds gone by end Apr, returned early Sept (DGA, EMS, RWJS), corresponding to Fair Isle dates 26 Aug-24 Oct (peak 14 on 27 Aug) (RHD) and Speyside passage mid Sept-mid Oct (DNW). Large movement of at least 3000 down Nith to Blackshaw Bank, Dumf, in gale 14 Jan (EBd JWA, JGY).

***American Wigeon (Baldpate)** *Anas americana*. Pr Unst 20 Jan-3 Feb, 4th in a series of recent Shet records (MS, RJT, FJW) (5: 210).

Pintail *Anas acuta*. In its 100th year as a Scottish breeding bird the only breeding prs mentioned were one (doubtless more) Ork (per EB), and 5 with well grown broods (probably 1-2 others) Kirk, a distinct increase (ADW, JGY), including very early pr hatching young about the end of Apr (DGA, JADH) (5: 179).

Singles and small parties irregularly at various dates and places. More coordinated records: 15 L Leven on 26 Sept after only 2 on 24th (JHS); return to Moorfoots 22 Sept (DGA, EMS, RWJS); ♂ Hoselaw L, Rox, 19 Sept (RSB). Peaks in winter areas include: 103 Inverness 13 Oct (JMcG); 30 Skinflats, E Stir, 20 Oct (MH); 500 Caerlaverock the same day (JGY). At Carsethorn, Kirk, the spectacular but now regular peak was 1720 in Feb (JGY), and L Ken held 70 or more on 18 Feb and at times in Nov-Dec (ADW).

A Pintail x Mallard hybrid was shot at Lochar Moss, Dumf, 22 Nov (EBe, JGY).

Showeler *Spatula clypeata*. No reported change in breeding status, but "a few nest in Selk" is evidently first record thereof (AJS).

Pr Shieldaig, Gairloch, 21 May, first for W Ross (ENH). Autumn passage becoming increasingly marked Blairgowrie, Perth, with 99 at Stormont and Monk's Myre 15 Sept, 236 on 13 Oct (VMT). Conversely the build-up of migrants from early Sept to 50 on 26th at L Leven was very poor compared with 400-500 in 1966 and 100 in 1967 (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS). Hoselaw L, Rox, had peak 61 on 14 Sept (RSB); Caerlaverock winter flock peaked at 40-60 on 8 Dec (JGY).

***Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*. The feral breeding flock on the Tay in Perth numbered 22 on 7 Jan (VMT).

Scaup *Aythya marila*. No breeding reports. July records: ♂ Caith 22nd (DMS); 1 Almond estuary, Midl/W Loth, 27th (TCS); 2 ♂♂ Dud-dingston, Midl, 9th (MJE).

Inland: Aber, 5 ♂♂ Strathbeg 19 May (NE); Fife, Kilconquhar 14

Jan (8), 18 Feb (2), 15 Mar (1) (DWO); Perth, ♀ Monk's Myre 15 Dec (VMT); Midl, a few Edinburgh autumn, 1 Gladhouse 29 Sept (DGA); E Loth, 5 Whiteadder Reservoir 9 Nov (AMcD); Glasgow, ♀ Possil L 11-19 Apr (RJWS); Renf, ♂ Barr L 30 Sept (RGC), ♀ R Cart, Barnsfoot, 16th and 23 Nov (HG, IG); much as usual.

Noted 7 Aug Clickimin, Shet (RJT), but 5 Isle of May 26 Sept indicate autumn arrival better (DWO). Seafield (Edinburgh) 1967/68 peak 15,000 (or even 20,000 in Jan); 18 back by 6 Oct, 600 on 20th; 14,000 on 8 Dec, at least 30,000 by 22nd, more than ever before (DGA). Peaks in subsidiary winter areas: 1000 Methil, Fife, 18 Jan (DWO); 450 Burntisland, Fife, 4 Jan, may be new area (ADKR); Dumf midwinter total rarely exceeds 340-400 (JKRM, RTS, JGY); Kirk, 100+ Carsethorn Oct (BST); Wigt, 160 L Ryan Jan and Mar (JGY). Over 200 Ardmore Pt, Dunb, 28 Jan, very large count for Clyde (AGG).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*. Breeding numbers above average L Ken, Kirk (ADW), and thought to have increased Shet (RJT); but decreased Wigt, at Mochrum (JGY), and 3 Rhinns of Galloway lochs, where 3 prs contrasted with 10 in 1966 (TH). Present in summer at two Banff lochs but still no breeding record for county (JE, RH).

Pr Shildaig Bay, Gairloch, W Ross (where rare), 30 Apr (ENH). Peak autumn numbers on Moorfoot reservoirs 450 on 22 Sept, a usual date for arrival of migrants (DGA, EMS, RWJS). Nine breeding ♀♀ and juvs ringed L Leven (500 prs breed) recovered from 9 Sept onwards SW in Ireland, but two 1968 autumn-ringed adults later shot SE in Northumberland (IKM).

Pochard *Aythya ferina*. Though not necessarily comprehensive, only reports of breeding (in small numbers) are from Ork (probably), Angus, Perth, Fife and Midl. First recent summer record for Caith, pr L Sarclet 20 July (GMSE).

Winter flock Duddingston, Midl, fell from 8000 on 20 Jan to 3000 on 10 Feb and 120 on 16 Mar; rose from 100 on 13 Oct to 5000 on 23 Nov; the birds feed on the sea at night (DRA). Peak L Leven 625 on 15 Feb; post-breeding assembly 95 on 5 June; autumn 685 on 18 Sept, 1840 on 8 Oct; winter 785 on 20 Dec (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS), which links with Kilconquhar, Fife, peak 1450 on 15 Dec (DWO). At Yetholm L, Rox, 129 on 26 Oct was record (RSB).

A presumed Tufted x Pochard cross (cf. 5: 42) Duddingston with Pochard 1 Jan and 16-29 Nov (DRA).

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*. Usual scatter of summering: Caith, 5 L Hielan (DGs); E Inv, ♂ Spey Dam, Laggan Bridge (DNW); Kinross, all months, with late-Aug increase (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS); Fife, all months, peak 6 Kilconquhar 15 June (DWO); Wigt, pr Mochrum (JGY). Also casual records of some 7 birds in June/Aug in E Inv (MIH, RAH), Moray (RAH), Aber (ADKR), Midl (DGA, EMS, RWJS), Wigt (JLFP).

Biggest winter concentration 2000 Seafield, Leith, Midl, both ends of year (DGA); still 300 on 13 Apr (DIMW). Peak Methil, Fife, 800 on 23 Mar, with main emigration 3rd wk Apr (DWO), as at L Leven, where up to 400 till mid month (JHS). At the Almond estuary, Midl/W Loth, 400 on 17 Feb was easily a record, though numbers have been increasing for years (TCS). Autumn arrival Speyside late (2nd wk Oct) and smaller than usual (DNW); first big influx L Leven in early Oct, 158 on 8th, peak 350 on 15th (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS).

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*. Summer: ♀ lingering Fair Isle to 12 June (RHD); ♀ Gladhouse, Midl, 29 June and 7 July (DGA, EMS, RWJS). Usual E coast winter flocks, but 50 Barassie, Ayr, 25 Feb interesting as scarce in W (especially in S) (AGG). First of autumn Fife Ness 15 Sept (JD, RWS). Singles inland: L Magillie, Stranraer, Wigt, 2 Jan (RCD); Duddingston, Midl, the same day (MAMcD); Kilconquhar, Fife, 14 Jan (DWO); Lindores, Fife, 30 Mar-18 Apr (AMMF).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. Little information from breeding areas, but young seen on a Caith loch in June (PMcM); bred at N Perth site used 1951-56 (and doubtless since) (NCM, VMT). Pr on loch W Suth 18 May (breeding has been recorded in N and SE but not W Suth) (HDS).

Affected by Tay oiling in early Mar, 167 picked up, mostly Fife (5: 194), and 50 oiled birds, mostly ♂♂, Fife Ness 4 Mar (DWO). Count 173 Whiteness Head, Inv/Nairn, 8 Dec provides first record for Nairn (MiH). Off Portmahomack, E Ross, 2000 on 18 July were rather early for such numbers (MTB, GMSE).

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*. No reported changes in status. Noted passing N at Rattray Head, Aber, 7-11 Sept, peak 50 in 2 hrs on 8th (MW).

***Surf Scoter** *Melanitta perspicillata*. Pr Gullane Pt 15 Sept, first for E Loth (RO, WKR) (5: 280).

Eider *Somateria mollissima*. The species worst hit by Tay oil in early Mar, 1127 collected, mainly Fife (5: 189), this being most important Scottish wintering area; many ringing recoveries, most from Aber (JJDG). Tentsmuir, Fife, produced many young, compared with disastrous 1967 breeding season (DWO). A rough E Loth count from Aberlady to Fidra 19 July suggested that numbers of moulting ♂♂ were up (RWJS). Counts of the Seafield, Leith, winter flock (built up since 1960) gave 1800 early in year, 1 on 13 Oct, increasing to 1500 on 8 Dec (DGA).

***King Eider** *Somateria spectabilis*. A ♂ 7 mls NE of Lerwick, Shet, 12 Jan-19 Apr (DC, JHSi) (5: 172).

Goosander *Mergus merganser*. Good breeding season Kirk indicated by 61, most 1st-W, L Ken 15 Sept, the largest post-breeding flock there for some years (ADW).

Count 40 Ythan, Aber, 18 May (NE). Still 40 N Esk mouth, Angus, 19 June (GMC). Beaully Firth winter counts 200 on 27 Jan, 125 on 18 Feb (RHD), 291 on 19 Oct, 432 on 27 Dec (MIH). More wintering Moorfoots, Midl, than usual, 8 arriving Rosebery 8 Sept, total 18 in area by late Nov (DGA, EMS, RWJS). Exceptional numbers, mostly ♂♂, arrived Shet in Dec, small parties being seen on fresh and salt water (RJT); same influx Fair Isle (where 14 previous records all of single birds), 13 on 10 Dec, 13 (3 new) on 11th, all ♂♂ but one, declining to 1 on 16th, some found dead suggesting poor condition (RHD).

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*. Little comment on breeding status, but continues increase Dumf (JGY), where up to 40 Water of Ae in July (HO), and still 18 eclipse ♂♂ on Nith at Kinghorn 18 Aug (JKRM). Scattered inland records outside breeding season. Usual early autumn flocks of 200-300 E Loth coast (KSMcG), 300 N Esk mouth, Angus, 12 Aug (GMC), 200 Cromarty Firth, E Ross, 10 Aug (NE, JAL), but no count of big winter flock in Beaully Firth.

***Smew** *Mergus albellus*. Summer: ♀ Cameron Res., Fife, 15-18 June (AM MF, DWO). Winter (redheads unless specified) to 24 Mar and from 24 Dec: Kirk, ♂ Carlingwark 14 Jan (GAF), 1 L Ken 14 Jan and 24 Mar (DS, ADW); Renf, 2 Barr L 2 Jan-3 Mar (RGC, AGG) and 28 Dec (DCS); Midl, 1 Glencorse/Threipmuir 5 Jan-3 Mar (TB, MJE, MAMcD), 1 Duddingston 19 Mar (DRA), ♂ Harperrig 26 Dec (JBa); Fife, 1 St Andrews 11 Jan (PGTB) and 30 Jan (DMW), 1 dead Tentsmuir late Feb or early Mar (DMW), 1 Methil 10 Mar (JW); Perth, ♂ Stormont, Blairgowrie, 11 Feb (ABe); Moray, pr L Na Bo and L Oire in Mar (RH); Ork, ♂ Westray 2-3 Mar (EB).

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. No comment on coastal breeders. Increased in last 2 yrs L Lomond to about 70 birds and 6 breeding prs 1968 (ETI); up to 8 prs bred at inland L Leven colony, where some

present any season and breeders returned Mar to give counts of 21 on 12 Apr and 7 May (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS). Others inland: 1 L Rhynd, Braco, Perth, 10-11 Feb (per JMi); 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 21 Apr (EMS, RWJS); 6 L of the Lowes, Ayr, 28 Apr (AB, JMcD, RMcF). Birds leaving Aberlady, E Loth, high to E on 13 July (17) and 15th (18) thought to be on moult migration to Heligoland Bight (DJ, RWJS). Dumf post-moult midwinter population censused at 700-800 (JGY).

Grey Lag Goose *Anser anser*. Bred 13 (possibly 25) sites Kirk/Wigt, 120 nests known, 230 goslings, 494 failed or non-breeders counted, all nests at one site deserted after disturbance (JGY). Expanding feral population makes it hard to tell which birds are native stock, so merely note: pr reared young L Leven (eggs hatched 1966, pr present 1967) (JHS); 5-6 broods (35 birds) on a N Perth loch (VMT); 9 goslings Tيرة, I Heb (CST); 60 prs Caith is twice population 10 yrs ago (DMS); but decreasing Lewis, O Heb (WAJC). Usual disabled birds all summer Lochmaben and Caerlaverock, Dumf (JGY), and Strathbeg, Aber (NE).

Spring departure: N over Dalry, Kirk, 13th, 14th, 15th and 22 Apr (ADW); N up Strathardle, Perth, 11 Apr (VMT); most gone from Kinross by 3rd wk Apr (JHS); 28 NW at Butt of Lewis 25 Apr (NE); 3 St Kilda 27-28 Apr and 4 May (IDP).

First of autumn arrived with Pinkfeet on 29 Sept, noted Fair Isle (RHD), Ork (EB), Speyside (DNW), and 30 Sept Kinross (JHS). Much passage noted throughout Oct (and later), with good movement Speyside (DNW) and S over Sma' Glen, Perth, on 28th (JHW). Firsts: Moray 2 Oct (THJ); Banff 5-6 Oct (JE); Aber (NE), Midl (EMS, RWJS), Rox (RSB), 6 Oct; 1200-1500 Meikleour, Perth, 8 Oct was early for such numbers (VMT). Though the 61,000 counted nationally 9-10 Nov (60,000 in Scotland, of which 31,000 in Perth) was 8000 up on 5 Nov 1967, it was thought there was no great change in population; 1968 was worst reported breeding season for these immigrants, with only 5.9% young birds and 1.3 average brood size, even lower than very poor 1967 figures (MAO).

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*. Reports of European race *A. a. albifrons*: 2 on 11 Feb L Eye, E Ross, evidently the only regular haunt of the race (RHD) (usually there are more, but there is some evidence that these are of the Greenland race); ad and 7 imm after snow Morton Lochs, Fife, 1 Apr (AMMF); 1 L Leven 13 Dec (JHS); but note that some of Greenland race *A. a. flavirostris* have predominantly pinkish-salmon bills (RE-H, ADW). All other records are of undetermined race unless marked G (Greenland).

Over 50 G still Lochinch, Wigt, 18 Apr (RCD, JGY); departure G birds from L Ken over Dalry, Kirk, 25 Apr (GAF); 4 NW Balranald, O Heb, 21 Apr (ARMcG); unusual spring numbers Fife, at Kilconquhar between 14 Feb and 18 Apr, peak 6 on 3 Mar (PGTB, DWO), Morton Lochs 3 G on 16 Apr (AMMF), 1 Cameron 13 Apr (PGTB); 3 Handa, W Suth, 10-14 May (per MJE).

Autumn birds Kirk about 24 Oct (DRW), 120 next day (DSw), main arrival by 10 Nov (ADW), as in Wigt (RHM); 9 Fair Isle 24 Oct and G shot 28 Oct (RHD); Tankerness, Ork, where small flock wintered, 20 back on 25 Oct (EB); 2 Cameron 27 Oct (PGTB); 25 G at L Lomond 26 Oct (AGG). About 100 G in Calder and Watten areas of Caith as usual in winter (DMS). Casual records away from winter areas: Aber, 2 Cotehill 20 Jan, 2 Strathbeg 24 Mar (NE), 1 there 1 May (MW); Perth, 4 G Madderty 2 Mar (VMT); Kinross, G on 20-22 Jan (JHS); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 1 Dec (DJ); Dumf, up to 11 Caerlaverock from 28 Dec (RES, JGY). Nov-Dec flocks Kirk held no more than 10%-12% young birds (ADW).

***Bean Goose** *Anser arvensis arvensis*. Regular but now small flock near Castle Douglas. Kirk, 8 Jan-24 Feb, peak 17 on 10 Jan; 14 returned

31 Dec (possibly 15 a week earlier) (ADW). R Fruin mouth, L Lomond, Dunb, 6 on 14 Jan (DJL). The small group that appears in the Slains district of Buchan, Aber, in the closing months of each year reached exceptional numbers in Nov; counts Oct 23rd (21), Nov 8th (107), 23rd (63), 30th (41), Dec 10th (9) (CJF, AR, WM).

Pink-footed Goose *Anser arvensis brachyrhynchus*. Spring: marked Speyside passage mid Apr to early May, last 6 on 12th (DNW); 150 N over Balmacaan, Inv, and 90 N up L Ness 4 May (MIH); 1 St Kilda 4th and 7 May (IDP); 150 NW 5 May and 200 NW 7 May Balranald, O Heb (ARMcG). Last 70 Solway (Caerlaverock) 22 May (JGY); 4 L Leven 17 May (JHS); 55 Methven Moss, Perth, 7 May (VMT); 350 Strathbeg, Aber, 1 May (NE). One Fair Isle 10 May-2 June (RHD). Pricked birds in summer L Leven (JHS) and Cameron (DWO). One near Brodick 11 Apr, first for Arran (ADKR).

Autumn: 4 L Leven 15 Sept built up to 200 by 28th (JHS); first 160 Annan, Dumf, 16 Sept (JGY); 100 Tentsmuir, Fife (DWO), and 75 Fair Isle (RHD) on 21st; 5 Gladhouse, Midl, 22nd (EMS, RWJS); first Strathbeg 23rd (NE). Great arrival 29 Sept: skeins up to 100 over Shet (RJT); 120 Fair Isle (RHD); many over Ork (EB, EJW); thousands all day Caith (DMS); passage S over E Ross (IDP); 500/hr most of day on 5-mile front Rothiemurchus, E Inv, radar showed large flocks drifted over Suth/Ross coast, swinging S in breaking cloud to Spey Bay, Moray, and heading up river (RNAS, DNW); movement continued 30th (DNW); main arrival 29th and 30th Perth (VMT), Kinross (JHS), and 30th Fife (DWO); counts reached 9000 L Leven 1 Oct (AA, CRGC, IKM, JHS), 2500 Strathbeg 6 Oct (NE), 6500 Caerlaverock 6 Oct (JGY); arrivals continued during Oct. National count 65,000 on 9-10 Nov (55,000 in Scotland, of which 25,000 in Perth and most of rest in E coast counties Aber to Peeb) same as 5 Nov 1967; only 11.7% young birds and average brood 1.4, lowest recorded, similar to 1967 (MAO).

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*. All presumed escapes, the Forth/Tay ones possibly from the Earl of Dundee at Birkhill, Fife (5: 44). In Ork 4 white and 4 blue Lessers arrived L of Stenness midday 18 May and flew W on 19th (EJWi); singles with Pinkfeet at Errol, Perth, and Greylags near Birkhill 10 Nov (VMT); Fife, 2 Tayport with Greylags 20 Mar (DWO), 2 Auchtermuchty with Greylags 26 Mar (WWa), 1 Morton Lochs with Greenland Whitefronts 16 Apr, 1 Cameron with Pinkfeet 19-20 Oct (AMMF); 4 L Leven 14th and 27 Feb, 2 on 5-6 Mar, 1 with Greylags 8th and 11 Dec (AA, CRGC, JHS); blue ad ♂ Lesser at Caerlaverock, Dumf, 12 Feb, and single white one, evidently Lesser, all Feb and 28-31 Dec (JGY); 'Lesser' between Southerness, Kirk, and Nith, first seen with Barnacles, 3 Feb-9 Mar (MEG, PAL, PHS).

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*. Small party reported Swona, Ork, 10 Nov (DG). Dark-breasted *B. b. bernicla*: Fife, 1 Eden estuary 31 Mar (CST); Angus, 5 Arbroath 27 Dec (RWS). All others Pale-breasted *B. b. hrota*: Ork, 11 E Mainland 11 Jan (MT-C); Caith, 9 Forss 2 Oct (AF); Kinross, singles 14-18 Jan, 6 Nov, first for Kinross (CRGC, JHS); Fife, 2 Tayport with Pinkfeet 30 Sept (AMMF), 1 Cameron with Pinkfeet 27 Oct (PGTB); Arran first record, 1 near Brodick 11 Apr (ADKR); Kirk, 1 with Greylags L Ken 10th and 16 Apr (PGTB, CJ).

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*. After leaving Caerlaverock, Dumf, on 23 Feb about 1000 returned 1 Apr, increasing to 2200 by 5th, falling to 1000 by 17th, last seen 550 on 23 Apr (JGY). On 29 Apr 110 passed N at St Kilda, where singles on Hirta 5th and 7 May and 27 on 11 May (IDP); at Butt of Lewis 10 passed 27 Apr (NE).

First in autumn Caerlaverock 75 on 18 Sept, 240 by 21st, 1880 on 23rd, 2200 midwinter; brood size and proportion of young good, and thought that not all Spitsbergen birds reach Britain every year, rather than that total stock has dropped (JGY). Other arrivals noted: Ork

from 29 Sept (EB); 39 Fair Isle 5 Oct (RHD); 2 L Leven 1 Oct (JHS); 12 Aberlady, E Loth, 5 Oct (MJE). Little data on W coast Greenland population. Usual scatter of singles and small parties Aber, Perth (maximum 18 Flanders Moss 28 Feb) (TMC), Kinross, Fife, Midl, E Loth, and doubtless elsewhere. Party 70 Lochinch, Wigt, 14 Feb (per JGY).

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*. No data from I Heb, but breeding mentioned Wigt, where freely hybridising with Greylags (JGY); Dumf, numbers still low (JGY); Renf; Dunb, unsuccessful nest in bog (JM); S Perth (VMT); N Perth (HB). Two L Leven mid June (JLo per AA). Odd birds other seasons Midl (DGA), E Inv (LP, WAS), and 1 with White-fronts at New Galloway, Kirk, from 25 Oct (EF, ADW); 10 with Pink-foot and Greylags Lake of Menteith, 28 Oct, first for S Perth, seemed smaller than 40 resident birds at Rowbank Reservoir the day before (IMF, KT); 36 Carsethorn, Kirk, 9 Oct (RBT); 30 regularly flying down Nith in Dec (EBD).

On southernmost of Murray's Isles, Fleet estuary, Kirk, 10-12 in flightless moult 19 June (RHM). Beaully Firth moulting birds passed low over Inverness towards firth 1 May (JMo); peak count 233 on 9 June (MR); 221 (of about 250) caught 10 July, with many Yorkshire ringing recoveries, also a Canada x Barnacle hybrid (DNW); possibly associated records, 27 Tynninghame, E Loth, 18 Aug and 4 on 1 Sept (TB, EMS, RWJS), and 50 'geese' flying S over Perth 23 Aug (PFJ).

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*. Imm ringed St Andrews, Fife, 1964 recovered Glasgow 13 Jan (JLSC). Some affected by Tay oil in Mar but survived cleaning relatively well (JJDG) (5 : 189).

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*. Spring counts of 5 1st-W birds in 162 Leslie, Fife, 10 Feb (KAMcK), 3 in 84 near Dumfries (JGY), 2-3 in record herd of 68 L Ken 17 Mar (ADW). Jan/Feb 250 L Leven decreased to last 3 on 3 Apr (AA, CRGC, JHS); 30 N at St Kilda 30 Mar (and odd ones landed about then) (HK); small flocks N over Dalry, Kirk, 11th and 12 Apr (ADW); 25 N over Gairloch, W Ross, 10 Apr (IDP); 5 NW 11 Apr, 15 N 15 Apr Fair Isle (RHD); Mar/Apr departures Ork and Shet (EB, RJT). Usual June/Aug records of summering birds : 3 Perth (WEW); 1 Aber (MW); 5 Inv (RAH, MR, DNW); 1 Moray (RAH); 2 Caith (JND, DMS); mostly like 3 on S side of Beaully Firth, present for many years, with old injuries (MR).

Apart from odd birds, autumn arrivals from 29 Sept : Shet, from 30 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle, 4 on 30 Sept, 4 on 1 Oct, passage till 7 on 4 Nov (RHD); Ork, from 1 Oct, 64 on a loch 5 Oct (EB); W Ross, 3 L Torridon 29 Sept (JAW); E Inv, pr + 3 juv L Mhor 2 Oct (WAS), Spey Dam 3 Oct (ACh, JC); Aber, 350 Strathbeg 6 Oct (NE); Kinross, 33 on 3 Oct (JHS); Fife, 5 Dairsie 4 Oct (VMT); Midl, 2 Gladhouse 6 Oct (DGA, EMS, RWJS); Kirk, 15 Bridge of Dee 16 Oct (JKRM). Few Insh marshes, E Inv, till after end of year, which is unusual (DNW). Fewer juv Shet than usual (RJT), 10 in 80 Spiggie in Jan 1969 (PKK); but 25 in L Leven peak of 346 on 22 Nov was best percentage in 3 winters (AA, CRGC, JHS).

Birds dying Blairgowrie area Feb/Mar (5 : 111) still under investigation but autumn peak only 21 against 100+ in 3 previous years (VMT).

***Bewick's Swan** *Cygnus columbianus*. Spring 8 Jan-10 Apr : Kinross, party 2 ad + 3 juv L Leven 22 Feb-7 Mar (CRGC, JHS); E Loth, 1 Gosford/Drem 11 Feb-10 Apr (DJ); Rox, 2 Rutherford 7-10 Mar grazing winter wheat with Whoopers (AJS); Dumf, 2 Kirkblane 6 Feb, 5 Caerlaverock 9 Feb (JGY); Kirk, 2 Islesteps 8 Jan-21 Mar, 3 on 9 Feb (WA, JGY). Autumn 10-24 Nov : Renf, 1 Barr L 10 Nov (RGC); N Arg, 5 Dun Add, Crinan, 10 Nov (AGG, TDHM); Kirk, 1 L Ken 23-24 Nov (RBT, LAU, ADW). Almost always seen with Whoopers.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*. Little comment on status in traditional areas. In SW Scotland 4 prs had territories but only one chick

fledged (ADW). Beyond breeding areas immes noted Ork, Hoy 17-21 June, Evie 18 Oct (EB), Stenness 27 Oct (per EB), Scorradaile 19 Dec (EJWi); a very large slow-flapping or soaring dark bird mobbed by gulls and Ravens in Unst, Shet, 6-19 June was clearly an eagle sp. (PA, JHu, ET, JT). A 2-yr-old ♀ was trapped at a nest (DNW) (5: 172). As egg collectors are still often mentioned in connection with this species it may be noted that two were fined £100 each, rather more than in the past (5: 124).

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. At N of range bred usual sites Caith (DMS), and 2 nests Ork (EB); increasing Speyside, E Inv (DNW); probably 3-4 pairs bred Clack (see 4: 292) (TDHM); Dumf increase continues though rabbits scarce (one brood fed on woodland birds, another on water chicks) and 7 nests in one wooded glen (JMx, JFY, JGY). Over a Kirk forest 11 in air at once late July (AAN-S).

Outside breeding areas, 16 scattered post-breeding and winter records of ones and twos from Shet, Fair Isle (2 Oct) and Aber to Ber and Rox in E and Lan and Renf in W, including 1 L Leven/Benarty Hill till Mar and from 18 Aug (JHS, WWi per AA) and 1 resident Edgelaw/Rosebery, Midl (DGA, WBr, DD, EMS, RWJS). At least 15 in Caith in Dec with mild weather up to Christmas but only odd birds after a cold snap then (DG, JARG, PMcM, KM, DMS).

***Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*. Singles: Unst, Shet, 12 May (MS); Black Isle, E Ross, 20 May (DWO, HDS); Glen Esk, Angus, 29 Aug, exceptionally early (described) (BB, GMC, RH); Poolwe, 23 Sept, first for W Ross (ENH); Lieuary, Caith, 11 Dec (PMcM).

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. Many sightings but for many areas rather little knowledge of present breeding strength, which is nowhere thought to be declining. Bred commonly (1 pr per 1000 acres woodland) Speyside, E Inv (DNW); 47 prs on territory Dumf, many shot, curious mixture of fledging success and chlorinated hydrocarbon poisoning, 48 young ringed by NSRG (KB, DMcG, HO, IP, JFY, JGY); widespread and increasing Kirk (ADW); quite common Wigt, 8 prs near Portpatrick (TH).

A ♀ Binscarth, Ork, 3 wks from 6 Nov (EB); up to 2 ♀♀ and a ♂ wintered as far N as Kergord, Shet, last seen 14 Apr (RJT); 5 spring passage birds Fair Isle 16 Apr-15 May; 4 in autumn 24 Oct-28 Nov (RHD), and 1-2 daily 20-24 Oct on Isle of May (IFS).

***Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis*. No evidence of breeding but 2-4 birds summered in one part of Scotland (records between 3 Apr and 23 Oct) and a number of sightings on various dates in another (anon). Some of these birds may have originated in captivity. One (probably imm ♂) Kergord, Shet, 12 Nov 1967-8 Apr (DC) (5: 280); ♀ hit wires Finstown 14 May and had to be destroyed, now in Stromness Museum, first for Ork (EB).

***Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*. One chased by ♂ Hen Harrier on Rousay, Ork, 15 May (EB), 2nd or 3rd modern Scottish record (see 4: 295), subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee.

***White-tailed Eagle** *Haliaeetus albicilla*. Reintroduction: four 1968 chicks, 2 ♂♂ and 2 ♀♀, successfully released Fair Isle during autumn (5: 121) and at least 3 still there at end of year (RHD).

***Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*. Singles: Ork Mainland, Evie Hills 29 May accompanied by screaming Common Gulls, and Lyde area of Harray 18 July mobbed by ♀ Hen Harrier (EB); Fair Isle 20 July (RHD).

***Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*. No suggestion of breeding. Stir, ♀ Lecket Hill, Campsie, 26 Apr (WKR); Aber, ♀ 26 June (MW), ♂ 15 Aug (RF), Rattray area, and apparently other unrecorded sightings; E Inv, ♀/imm Speyside mid May (DJ) and late July (DNW), first for E Inv; Fair Isle, ♀ 13-14 May, another ♀ 17 May (GJB).

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. Ork breeding numbers fractionally down on 1967 and success rather lower, mainly because of bad spring weather (EB); some increase in SW Scotland (RCD, ADW).

N of breeding range, ♀ Fair Isle 3 May and ♀ 27-28 Nov (RHD). Autumn passage on Spey, E Inv, scarce mid Sept to early Nov, some later (DNW). Usual sprinkling of autumn/winter reports Forth, including 'ringtail' hunting marshes 4th and 6 Nov and 13 Dec, and in hills 30 Dec in Kinross, first for Kinross (AA, JHS, WWi). Winter records widespread and numerous in SW Scotland (NSRG, ADW).

***Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*. L Garten, E Inv, pr reared 2 young (and had 37,500 visitors), but other Speyside pr failed for 6th year, breaking one egg and failing to hatch the other, which was fertile, in spite of new (ringed) ♀; at third Scottish site, first used 1967, 3 young reared (one being recovered in Spain about 22 Dec), and fourth pr built nest nearby but did not lay; elsewhere in Scotland a fifth eyrie was found but no eggs were laid. First Speyside sighting 29 Mar, 5 birds by 4 Apr, last one about 10 Sept; widespread sightings, especially May/June, Moray Basin (particularly Inv) (Great Glen, L Laggan, Glen Cannich etc) (per HB, MJE, RJF, DNW). Spring records not unusual in Suth, but juv NW Suth 7 Aug is (DMcD). One L Lomond, Stir/Dumb, Apr-21 Aug, 2 on 1-2 June (MF, AGG, JM). Casual records: N Kinc, 1 Strachan 18 June (NP); S Fife, 1 SW over Kilconquhar 13 July (DWO); Ber, 1 over Tweed, Birgham, 18 May (MBA, MB, JMS); I Heb, 1 Islay, 1st wk June (DMcGr); O Heb, "reliable report" 1 Garynahine, Lewis, Oct (per WAJC).

***Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*. Singles: Fair Isle 4 June and 21 Aug (RHD); Lerwick, Shet, 25 June (MJE); Newburgh, Aber, 23 Sept (CJF, WM).

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. Mixed reports about breeding success: no evidence of successful breeding Shet (RJT), but one chick Fair Isle for first time since 1965 from 2 prs (RHD); breeding very poor Ork (EB); 3 prs successful W central Scotland (JM, DJN); widespread failure Dumf, with pressure from egg collectors, shooting by game preservers and suspected poisoning from agricultural chemicals (WD, JMx, JGY), but more successful in Galloway than 1967, 4 prs probably rearing 8 young, though others failed (ADW).

***Gyr Falcon** *Falco rusticolus*. One Fair Isle 16-17 Jan (GJB).

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. Suggestion of decline in some parts of Shet (RJT); bred fairly successfully Ork (EB); scarce in Spey (as usual everywhere), with 5-6 prs in an area of 200 sq mls (DNW); slight increase to some 5 prs Dumf (JGY).

Passage Fair Isle 25 Aug-19 Nov (RHD), and Aber Aug-Oct (WM, NP). A ♂ hunting streets of Campbeltown, Arg, 9 Mar (MJE).

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. Good year Solway (ADW, JGY), but population evidently in good fettle everywhere; Speyside census 35 prs in 200 sq mls at Aviemore, E Inv, and nested at 2200 ft in Gaick (DNW).

Spring passage: Fair Isle to 20 June (RHD); Unst, Shet, singles 23 Mar, 18 Apr, 25 May (MS); 1 St Kilda 29 Apr (IDP). Autumn passage: Shet 19 Aug-24 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle to 28 Nov (RHD); 20 Fife Ness/Craill 6 Oct after E winds (DWO). Speyside winter birds are mostly ad ♂♂, and further autumn recoveries of local 1st-W birds came from England, France and Spain (DNW).

Red Grouse *Lagopus scoticus*. "Usual mixed reports" Dumf (usual elsewhere too) but generally slightly better season than 1967 (JGY); apparent slight increase Ork compared with recent years (EB); Kinross coveys smaller than in 1967 (JHS).

Ptarmigan *Lagopus mutus*. At least 2 prs Ben Griam Mor, N Suth, where thought extinct (IDP); no other changes noted.

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*. Continues slow increase Upper Niths-

dale and Forest of Ae but no detectable change elsewhere in Dumf (WD, JMx, HO); no other changes noted.

Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*. Little data on changes. Breeds up Spey to Newtonmore, introduced Cluny Castle, L Laggan, E Inv, 1968 (DSh); good breeding season Speyside, 50% of 80 shot Boat of Garten were 1st-W (cf. 21% of Zwickel in 1965—4: 209) (HBy, JPh, DNW). Single ♀♀ Tentsmuir, Fife, in spring, where occasional only (TGp, AMMF).

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*. Introduced but not established in wild. One Crieff, Perth, 10 Jan thought to be escape (per VMT); at least 2 Doune, Perth, 12 June near known source (2: 96) (ARB, RTB); attempted introduction reported Floors Castle, Rox (per AJS).

Partridge *Perdix perdix*. Numbers still low Kirk but dry summer produced some good coveys (ADW); continues scarce Dumf but slight improvement generally agreed (JMx); slow to recover former numbers on high ground Midl (RWJS); coveys 4-6 L Leven against 10-14 in 1967 (JHS).

***Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*. One (?sp) seen Portsoy, Banff, in May thought to be from observer's 1967 introduction (JMCL). One Gifford, E Loth, 27 May-20 Sept (IH, AMcD). Others 11 June-23 July: Dumf, 1 Village of Ae 18 June (HO), calling Applegarthtown 22-23 July (RTS); E Loth, 1 between Pencaitland and W Saltoun 21 July (KSMcG); O Heb, 1 Balranald 11 June (ARMcG); Fair Isle, 1 on 4 July, 1 calling 9th, 2 seen 10th (RHD); Shet, heard two places Unst 14th and 16 July (ET, FJW).

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*. Generally very good season for wild-bred birds Dumf (NSRG); no other comments.

***Golden Pheasant** *Chrysolophus pictus*. The feral population which has survived in Kirk for several decades, mainly in areas of conifer forest, appears to be increasing and spreading; birds may be found near Newton Stewart and Gatehouse (ADW).

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. Breeding data scanty: more than one calling late May near New Galloway, Kirk (LAU, ADW); 2 families seen Speyside, E Inv (DNW); in Ork bred near Kirkwall Airport (ROW), and freshly dead bird Westray 24 May (EB). Others after mid May: heard Lentrane, E Inv, 8 June (MIH); Seil Island, N Arg, July (HEMD); 1 Balranald, O Heb, 31 July (ARMcG).

One St Kilda 18-19 Apr (HK). Autumn migrants Shet from 29 Sept (RJT) and Fair Isle from 30th (RHD). Usual wide scatter of winter sightings, including one Etterick Bay, Bute, 18 Dec (MJE). Peak counts: 12 in 3-mile walk Lochar Moss, Dumf, 12 Jan (JGY); 7 on 28 Jan, 8 on 7 Dec Kilconquhar Loch, Fife (DWO).

***Spotted Crane** *Porzana porzana*. At W Suth site (4: 372, 512, 568) 2 ♂♂ called (third successive year) 23 Apr-28 May, restarting 5 July after a lull (DMcD). In Kirk heard calling (once 2) near New Galloway in May, and at another local marsh 30 June-1 July (LAU, ADW); 1 calling Fetlar, Shet, 13 June into July (RJT); 1 heard and seen N Uist, O Heb, 2 June (ARMcG). Imm trapped in Fair Isle byre 29 Oct (RHD).

Corncrake *Crex crex*. Arrival: 1 on beach St Kilda 10-11 Apr (HK); 1 dead under wires Sanquhar, Dumf, 13 Apr (WD); odd birds Fair Isle from 17 Apr (RHD); Caith 24 Apr (AC); first O Heb (where common) 8 May (WAJC) and 11 May (WMA); 1 Isle of May 5-6 May (JP). Autumn: Fair Isle 5 Aug-29 Sept (RHD).

Over 20 calling Dumf 16-30 May (JGY); in contrast to complete absence of reports (surely unreal) from E counties of E Loth, Ber, Rox, Selk, Peeb, W Loth, E Stir, Clack, Kinross; pr bred (ISW), 1 called (DBK) Midl; 1 on Inchkeith, Fife, throughout June (per DRG); 1 Fife (DWO); 2 places Perth (EJ); 2 Angus (WBa, GBe, GMC); 6 reports May/

June (1 nest) N Kinc/Aber, more than for many years, but none heard after hay cut (WBa, NP, RIM).

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*. No status changes reported. Migrants Fair Isle 19-25 Apr (2), 1-5 June, 15 June, 4 between 3 Oct and 8 Nov (RHD).

Coot *Fulica atra*. Singles Unst 26 Apr-6 May and may still breed Shet Mainland (RJT). Peak post-breeding counts: 350 Strathbeg, Aber, 22 Sept (NE); 250 Forfar L, Angus, 9 Sept (GMC); 278 L Leven 11 Sept, down to 50 by year end (AA, CRGC, JHS); 407 Kilconquhar, Fife, 16 Sept, mostly juvs after good breeding (DWO); 470 (local record) Yetholm L, Rox, 5 Oct, down to 60 on 16 Nov, repeating pattern of 1966 and 1967, but where the birds formerly tended to stay into midwinter (RSB). Winter flocks up to 400 on grass L Ken, Kirk, 18 Feb (ADW).

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*. Slow increase in inland breeding Midl continues (RWJS); extending breeding range inland Shet (RJT), a common habit Ork (EB); increasing NE Fife, at least 5 prs Tentsmuir where first proved to breed 1967 (JD, DWO, RWS), also extending in E Neuk of Fife (DWO); numbers slightly reduced at some Kirk haunts (ADW); nesting area on shore near Port William, Wigt, deserted (WHM). Back Speyside 3 Mar, piping from about 15th, but many deaths in early Apr snowfall, 10 fresh bodies on 5 miles of road (RJF, DNW). Dumf/Kirk peak reached by late Oct when 20,000 between Gretna and Southernness (per JGY).

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. Steady increase towards former numbers Ork (EB), O Heb (WAJC), Caith (DMS). First eggs Sanquhar, Dumf, 24 Mar in field where 50 later removed and replaced in farm operations (WW). Tendency to breed on higher pastures Kirk (ADW), and increased colonial nesting at higher altitudes Dumf (JMX, JFY).

Peak 5000 Paisley Moss, Renf, 26 Apr (RCDA, HG, IG). Flocks moving in from sea E Fife 8 Sept with E wind and rain; large numbers moving Fife Ness 19 Oct with E wind, mist and rain (DWO). Autumn flocks noticeably large in lowland Perth (VMT) and Oct/Dec numbers markedly increased Caith (DMS). Dumf/Kirk annual build-up 20-24 Nov, with Gretna to Southernness total 18,000 on 8 Dec (per JGY) and large numbers inland too (JSh). A 1967 Guardbridge, Fife, chick was shot Albufeira, Algarve, Portugal, 7 Jan, about the furthest limit for Scottish birds (DCG).

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. No reported status changes. Pr (perhaps 3 prs) bred Leith Docks, Midl (CPR); inland nest in Highlands, Glenshirra Lodge, Laggan Bridge, E Inv (DNW); attempted nesting in ploughed field $\frac{1}{4}$ ml from sea at Fife Ness (DWO). Autumn peaks Fair Isles 8 July (14), 24 Aug (35), 29 Aug (40), 1 Sept (30) (RHD); 40-50 Glencaple, Dumf, 24 Aug appeared to be migrants (JGY).

***Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*. Reared at least one chick in Clyde, first Scottish breeding (MF, DSt) (5 : 282). One Paisley Moss 7 May, first for Renf (HG, IG, GTW) (5 : 174).

Grey Plover *Charadrius squatarola*. As far N as Castlehill, Caith, 7 on 22 Feb (DMS). Peak 103 Eden estuary, Fife, 15 Apr (RWS). Single spring migrants: Dounreay, Caith, 12 May (PCh); Fair Isle 20 June (RHD). Very early autumn bird Fair Isle 5 Aug (RHD); 4 Glencaple, Dumf, 24 Aug, and 2 Carsethorn, Kirk, 31 Aug (JGY). Sept: 1 Whalsay, Shet, 15th (JHSI); 1 Fair Isle 26th (RHD); a few Ork, with 11 Sanday 22nd (EB); 6 Findhorn Bay, Moray, 5th (MM); peak 15 Montrose Basin, Angus, 22nd (MN).

Golden Plover *Charadrius apricarius*. No reported changes in breeding status. Two Mullach Mor, St Kilda, where breeding rare, 13 July (HEMD).

Spring passage: 300 *altifrons* (northern form) Gladhouse, Midl, 7 Apr

(EMS, RWJS); 34 *altifrons* St Kilda 28 Apr, 30 on 30 Apr, 15 on 7 May, 12 on 8 May (IDP). Autumn passage: Fair Isle 30 July-30 Oct, peaks 5 Aug (15), 24 Aug (40), 14 Sept (27), 2-7 Oct (30) (RHD); 350 Gladhouse 11 Aug (EMS, RWJS), 500 Howgate, Midl, 1 Sept (DGA); 150 Montrose, Angus, 16 Aug (GMC); peak 300 Skinflats, E Stir, 18 Aug (TDHM). From first 300 Glencaple, Dumf, 24 Aug, increased to 2000 by 20 Oct and 5800 by 8 Dec (per JGY); also very large numbers inland Kirk 30 Nov (JSh).

***Dotterel** *Charadrius morinellus*. Little information on breeding status; none in N Suth area where bred 1967 (4: 513, 569) (IDP). Two migrants Carnoustie Golf Course, Angus, 22 May (PGTB).

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*. Hard to separate migrants from non-breeding residents. Up to 30 St Kilda village and camp throughout Mar, but fewer later (HK, PW). Inland: 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 11 Aug (EMS, RWJS). Flocks 100 and 50 N Uist 7 Feb actively feeding in grass fields at least a mile from the sea, a habit noted also $\frac{1}{2}$ ml inland from Whinnyfold, Aber, 30 Dec 1967 (DGA).

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. Thought to be increasing about Alnaharra, N Suth (EGH). Autumn: passage Fair Isle from mid Aug, peaks 6 Sept (10), 8 Sept (20), 14 Sept (25), up to 15 in Oct, with 40 on 24th (RHD); heavy passage Spey, E Inv, first half Oct (DNW); 50 Forfar L 9 Sept (GMC); peaks Gladhouse, Midl, 25 Aug (30), 8 Sept (60) (EMS, RWJS); only notable Dumf concentration 40 Caerlaverock 17 Oct (JGY).

Jack Snipe *Limnocyptes minimus*. Peak 12 Paisley Moss, Renf, 19 Apr (HG, IG). Autumn passage Fair Isle 3 Sept-14 Nov, mainly Oct, with 4 on 5th (RHD).

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*. Now breeding in good numbers in several Dumf Forestry Commission plantations, habitat previously thought unsuitable (ED, HO, JGY).

Rather scarce Jan-Feb in E Fife, but usual winter numbers Nov-Dec (DWO). Singies Kincaig and Nethybridge, E Inv, Jan, rarely overwinters Speyside (DNW). One Kergord, Shet, 25-28 Feb at N end of winter range (RJT). Nine migrants flew N at SE end of Arran at dusk 11 Apr (ADKR). Fair Isle autumn passage 1 Oct-17 Nov, mainly 18-26 Oct, with 150 on 24th, 100 on 25th, 75 on 26th (RHD).

Curlew *Numenius arquata*. Increased numbers bred E Fife (DWO); pr hatched 4 young Fair Isle, first breeding there (RHD); driven from some areas of Kirk by afforestation (ADW).

Autumn passage: Fair Isle from 27 June, peak 156 bird-days 3-6 July (RHD); July build-up L Leven to 350 on 30th, 1000 there Sept, dropping to 300 Dec wintering inland (AA, JHS); passage Kingoodie, Perth, late July and Aug, peak 550 on 23 July (HBo); 1700 Scotstown Rocks, Aber, 15 Aug (RF); 1800 Montrose, Angus, 19 Aug (GMC); increase to 700 Glencaple, Dumf, 24 Aug, and 1200 Caerlaverock 20 Oct (JGY); over 300 inland L Ken, Kirk, Sept (ADW).

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. Has not nested Ork for many years (5: 98), but at least 2 prs Eday 27 June behaved as if they had young (EB); possibly increased in some parts of Shet (RJT); pr holding territory Cambir, St Kilda, where breeding rare, July, but no suggestion of nest (RB, JDA, HEMD).

Spring passage Fair Isle 20 Apr-23 June (RHD); return to Shet from 22 Apr (RJT). Autumn passage Fair Isle 8 July-9 Sept (RHD) covers most records elsewhere; Fife from 13 July, with 18 flying S at Fife Ness 26 Aug (DWO). One calling with 2 Curlews near Selkirk 3 July, an odd date (AJS). Late one Isle of May 22 Oct (IFS).

***Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*. No data from S Scotland colony. Pr arrived Shet 14 May, flying with 2 young 29 July (RJT).

A few winter, spring passage 7 Apr-11 May: Kirk, 1 near L Ken 17

Apr (JBw); Dumf, wintering bird Caerlaverock to 25 Mar, 4 there 17 Apr, 2 staying through summer (WA, JSk, JGY), 8 Cummertrees 24 Apr (ARB, RTB); Ayr, 1 Barassie 7th and 12 Apr (WB, RGC), 2 L of the Lowes 28 Apr (AB, JMCD, RMCF); Renf, 1 Paisley Moss 24 Apr, 17 on 26 Apr (RCDA, HG, IG); E Loth, 10 Seton Sands 25 Feb (HD), 1 Aberlady 27 Apr and 11 May (MJE, KSMcG); Midl, 1 Portobello 27 Jan (MFMM); Fife, good spring numbers with peak on Eden estuary 94 on 26 Apr (DWO); 1 St Kilda 2-7 May (IDP).

Autumn passage to 29 Sept: Shet, 1 Haaf Gruney 23 Aug, 1 Virkie 14 Sept (RJT); E Inv, 1 Whiteness Head 8 Sept (MIH); Aber, 1 Forvie 3 Sept (NE); Angus, 1 Forfar L 2-9 Sept (DGAd, RC, GMC, MD); Perth, 2 Kingoodie 29 Sept (HBo); E Stir, 1 Skinflats 7 Sept (RJWS); Fife, good numbers with peak 83 Eden estuary 8 Aug (DWO), 40 Tentsmuir Pt, where the flock seldom goes, 23 Sept (TGp), 4 Fife Ness 25 Aug (RJWS), 1 there 14 Sept (DWO); Dumb, 4 Cardross 14 Sept (JH); Ayr, 3 Barassie 3-4 Aug (RGC), 1 there 17 Aug, 23 Aug, 20 Sept (WB); Dumf, 25 Glencaple 17 Aug, increased to 50 on 24 Aug, 142 on 26 Aug, down to 47 on 17 Sept, 4 by 8 Oct (WA, JGY); Kirk, 47 Carsethorn 24 Aug (WA), and sightings of flock from Dumf; Wigt, 1 Stoneykirk 19 Aug (RCD).

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. No status changes noted. Flock 217 Kirkconnell Merse, Kirk, 13 June is notable for the area; date is at end of spring passage (JGY). One inland, where rare, Gladhouse, Midl, 25 Aug (EMS).

***Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*. Spring 15 Apr-4 June: Ayr, 1 L of the Lowes 20 May (AB, JMCD, RMCF); singles Isle of May 18-19 Apr (JHL, JP), 22-23 Apr (JADH); Fair Isle Apr 15th, May 10th, 11th, 13th, 27th (2), 29th, 30th (2), June 1st-4th (RHD); Shet, 1 Unst 12 May (MS).

Autumn 11 July-20 Oct: Fair Isle, singles 20th, 21st and 23 Aug (RHD); Ork, 1 Marwick 12 Aug (BC), 1-2 late July/Aug N Ronaldsay, 1 shot 21 Sept (per EB); Caith, 1 Bilbster 2 Sept (JARG); N Suth, 1 Durness 4 Oct, first record (CRMCK, RJWS); Banff, 1 Troup Head 17 July (NE); Aber, 5 Ythan 3-15 Aug (NE), 2 Strathbeg 24 Aug-7 Sept (NE, MW); E Stir, 1 Skinflats 21 July (MH), 15 Aug (TDHM); Fife, 1 Kilconquhar 18 July (JARG), 6 Aug (DWO); Midl, 1 Gladhouse 11th and 17 Aug (EMS, RWJS); E Loth, 4 Aberlady 19 Oct (ALAL, IRu), 3 Tynninghame 4 Aug (RWJS), 2 on 20 Oct (NJG); Rox, 4 dates 25 Aug-12 Sept Yetholm (RSB); Dumf, 1 Caerlaverock and Glencaple 6 Sept (JGY); Kirk, 2 Islesteps 28 Sept (RTS), 1 on 29th (JDo).

One Dreghorn, Ayr, Mar to 16 July, with 3 on 6-16 Mar, 2 in Apr (JL, AGS); 1 Parkgate, Dumf, 30 Mar (SLa, RTS). Midwinter: 1 near Kilconquhar, Fife, 3rd and 14 Feb (PGTB); 1 wintered 1967/68 and to end 1968 Tynninghame, E Loth (TB, MJE, EMS, RWJS); 2 Bothwellhaugh, Lan, 24 Jan (KCRH); 1 Bowmont R, Yetholm, Rox, 30 Nov and 11 Jan 1969 (RSB).

***Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*. Pr bred at original Suth site, pr present at quite new N Suth site 16-18 May but no evidence of breeding (IDP); E Inv, 4-6 prs at one site, probably at least 2 prs hatched, 3 small young seen 23 June, also singing ♂ at hill lochan June (anon); displaying bird at new Perth site June (VMT); at a N Arg site, where in 1967 three were singing 15 June and pr evidently had young 5-6 July, 3 present first half June, but again formal proof of breeding not obtained (IH1).

Spring migrants: Fair Isle 25 Apr (1), 25-28 May (1-2), 8 June (1) (RHD); Renf, 1 Paisley Moss 18-19 June (RGC, RCDA, IG). Autumn (only 4 records): 1 Ythan, Aber, 18 July (NE); 2 Kirk bank of Nith, first for county, 25 Aug (JGY) (5: 228); 1 N Uist 1 Sept (ARMcG); 1 Ardo, Aber, 2-13 Oct (NE).

Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*. A few prs breed Ork, but still decreasing (EB); no other changes reported.

First arrivals from 7 Apr but mainly from about 17th : 7 Apr, 1 Clattering-shaws, Kirk (Mrs ADW); 10 Apr, 1 Ballinluig, Perth (THE); 17 Apr, 1 Langholm (ELOC) and 1 Nith, Dumf (JKRM), 1 Yetholm, Rox (RSB); 18 Apr, 1 Stranraer, Wigt (JGY); 19 Apr, 1 Elliot, Angus (MN); 21 Apr, 1 Aberlady, E Loth (KAMcK), 7 Threipmuir, Midl (TB), 15 Moorfoot reservoirs (EMS, RWJS); 22 Apr, Banchory, N Kinc (DGA), Kinlochewe, W Ross (IDP); 23 Apr, 1 Eden estuary, Fife (DWO, RWS), 1 L Leven (AA, JHS); 24 Apr, start of migration Fair Isle, lasting to 24 June, but mainly 10-29 May (RHD).

Autumn passage Fair Isle 30 July-29 Sept, peak Sept 2nd (3), 3rd (5) (RHD). Other final dates : 21 Sept, 1 Montrose, Angus (AN, MN, GS); 28 Sept, L Leven (AA, JHS); 6 Oct, Gladhouse, Midl (EMS, RWJS); 28 Oct, Perth (DMcD).

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Increasing Shet (RJT); no other reported change in breeding status.

Movements confusing, but influx of several hundreds in E winds Fife Ness 15 Apr (DWO); marked immigration to Nith estuary, Dumf, 23-24 Aug (JGY). For first time known 1 wintered Yetholm, Rox, 1967/68 well inland (RSB). Seven shot Caerlaverock, Dumf, in Nov were all Iceland birds *T. t. robusta*; also 14 from Kirk (JGY).

Chick ringed Kinross 31 May killed N France (51°00'N, 2°07'E) 10 Aug (JHS).

***Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*. Winter : 1 Redcastle, E Ross, 27 Jan (RHD, MIH). Spring : 2 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 12 Apr (JGY); 1 Doonfoot, Ayr, 10th and 20 Apr (WB); 1 St Andrews, Fife, 11 May (RWS).

Many autumn 14 July-5 Nov (singles unless stated) : Shet, Whalsay 29-30 Aug (DC, JHSi); Ork, Oyce and L of Brockan 6th, 9th and 12 Aug, Gairsay 15 Aug, Harray 15 Sept, Sanday 22 Sept (EB), Orphir 5 Nov (EJWi); E Inv, 2 Beaully Firth 22 Sept-3 Oct (MIH); Moray, 9 Findhorn Bay 5 Sept (MM); Aber, Ythan 22 Aug, 8 Sept (4), Cruden Bay 6 Sept, Forvie 8 Sept, Collieston 22 Oct (NE); Angus, Kinnaber 2 Aug, 8 Sept, Montrose 5th and 8 Sept, Forfar L 28 Aug, 2 Sept (GMC); Kinross, 2 L Leven 28 Aug (AA); Stir, Skinflats 26 Aug (MH), 10 Sept (3) (WKR), 2 Milton of Campsie 13-14 Sept (WKR); Fife, Eden estuary 10 Aug (VMT), 7 Sept (RJWS), 9 Sept (6) (WKR), 18 Sept (4) (DWO); Isle of May 28 Aug (KP), 12 Sept (GLAP), 7 Oct (DJN, BU); Midl, Gladhouse 8 Sept (EMS, RWJS); E Loth, Aberlady 14 July (2) (DJ), 16 Sept (7) (WKR), 5 Oct (EMS, RWJS), 17 Oct (DJ); I Heb, Baugh, Tiree 28 Sept, 3 Oct (CST); Dunb, Ardmore Pt 31 Aug (RJWS); Lan, Hamilton 9th, 16 Sept (RJWS); Ayr, Barassie 7th, 14th, 15th, 20th (2), 28 Sept (WB, RGC, HG, IG), Doonfoot 19 Sept (WB); Kirk, Rough Firth 14-20 Oct (GT), Carsethorn 15 Oct (DSw); Dumf, 2 Glencaple 24 Aug (JGY), 8 Stanhope 26 Aug (WA, JGY).

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. Present June in new Perth locality (VMT); otherwise no reported changes in breeding status.

Spring return : 27 Mar, 1 Clachnaharry, E Inv (WMM); 29 Mar, 1 Kinlochewe, W Ross (IDP); 31 Mar, 1 Doonfoot, Ayr (possibly a wintering bird) (WB); 1-2 Apr, 1 Paisley Moss, Renf (HG, IG); 2 Apr, 1 Ardmore, Dunb (JH); fair scatter of later spring records. Back Spey-side, E Inv, about 10 Apr (JC); 10 L Torridon, W Ross, 9-10 Apr (ENH, JAW). Autumn passage N Fife from 19 June (TGp), peaks 27 on 13 July (DWO) and 23 on 24 Aug Eden estuary (RJWS). Other counts : 18 Findhorn Bay, Moray, 5 Sept (MM); 10 Glencaple (JGY) and 20 Stanhope, Dumf (HMR), 24 Aug; passage to end Oct.

Winter : Wigt, 3 to 21 Mar Sandmill (RCD); Kirk, 1 Rough Firth in Dec (GT); Dumf, up to 3 winter 1967/68 Caerlaverock (JGY), 4 Caerlaverock, 2 Annan, 2 Torduff counted 8 Dec (RTS, JGY); Ayr, 1 Doonfoot 24 Feb, 9 Mar, 31 Mar as above, many dates 7 Aug-31 Dec (WB, GAR), 1 Alloway 3 Feb (RBT); I Heb, 1 Bridgend, Islay, 18 Feb (MFMM);

Kinross, 1 L Leven 23 Nov (AA, JHS); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 20 Dec (DJ); Fife, 1 Boarhills 14 Jan (DBMcG); Aber, 1 Ythan 4 Feb, 7 Feb, 22 Mar (NE, ADKR); E Ross, 1 N Kessock, 1 Munloch Bay, 27 Jan (RHD); SE Suth, 1 L Fleet 19th and 26 Jan, 1 L Evelix 14 Dec (DMcD); Caith, 1 Sandside Jan-Mar (JFa, DMS); W Ross, a few wintered L Torridon (IDP); O Heb, 1 S Uist, 6 N Uist, seen from car 5-8 Feb (DGA, DJ).

Knot *Calidris canutus*. Large late-Apr flock Sanday, Ork, where spring passage irregular (EB). Several Balnakill, N Suth, 27 May-15 June, probably commoner N Coast than records suggest (DCH, GSu). Autumn flock 500 Eden estuary, Fife, by 13 July (DWO). Some movement noted about 23-24 Aug: Shet, odd birds from 8 Aug, party 14 on 23rd (RJT); Fair Isle peaks 7th (5), 8th (12), 24th (5) (RHD); Moray, 50 Burghead 23rd (RAH); E Ross, 50 Udale Bay 25th (MR, EIY); Dumf/Kirk, first 200 Nith 24th (JGY). No inland records.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. Little comment. Autumn arrivals Fair Isle from 6 July (2), increasing to 15 on 28th, 22 on 31st (RHD); first back Isle of May 23 July (NJG). Whiteness Head 11 on 6 Jan. 7 on 8 Dec, evidently first for E Inv and/or Nairn (MIH). Big flock 75 S Uist, O Heb, 8 Feb (DGA, DJ).

***Little Stint *Calidris minuta*.** Scarce 1968. Spring: 1 Handa, W Suth, 8-15 June (GSu). Only a few autumn, 26 Aug-11 Oct, most 7-18 Sept: Shet, 2 Whalsay 11 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, singles 26 Aug, 17 Sept (RHD); Angus, 1 Kinnaber 12 Sept (GMC), 1 Invergowrie 18 Sept (HPO); E Stir, 2 Skinflats 7 Sept (RJWS); E Loth, 1 Barns Ness 13 Sept (MJE); Ayr, 1 Doonfoot 9 Sept (GAR).

***Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*.** One Paisley Moss, Renf, 22 May (IG, GTW); 1 Aberlady, E Loth, 8 Sept (IG).

***Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*.** One Skinflats, E Stir, 31 July (AGG, TDHM).

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. Failed to breed at three well established Dumf sites, the only apparent common factor being slag spreading (JGY); but has also lately decreased Kirk, where absent from some former sites (ADW).

Little migration data. Birds wintering Fife Ness had been ringed in Finland, Sweden and Denmark (DWO).

***Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris testacea*.** One Barassie, Ayr, 19 May (WB). Scarce autumn 1968, 10 Aug-11 Oct: Shet, 1 Whalsay 11 Oct (JHSi); Aber, 1 Ythan 9 Oct (ADKR); N Fife, 1 Eden estuary 10 Aug (VMT), 2 on 18 Sept (DWO); Isle of May, 1 on 2 Oct (ADKR); E Stir, 1 Skinflats 7 Sept (RJWS); Ayr, 1 Barassie 14 Sept (RGC).

Sanderling *Crocethia alba*. Rather scarce E Fife 1968 though a few non-breeders summered as usual (DWO). Spring departure: 2 Fair Isle 27 May-3 June (RHD); 1 Unst, Shet, 26 May (RJT); 6 Balnakill, N Suth, 8-15 June (GSu), perhaps summering, as 2 on 21 July (DCH). Autumn return: Fair Isle July 15th (2), 20th-21st (2), and 1 Aug-14 Sept with 7 on 25 Aug, 5 on 3 Sept (RHD); Shet, from 7 Aug (RJT); Ork, 12 N Ronaldsay 5 Aug (EB); O Heb, 3 N Uist 26 July (HEMD, ARMcG); Banff, 12 Portgordon 24 Aug (JE). Big winter flock 500 S Uist 8 Feb (DGA, DJ).

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*. Wintered Aberlady/Luffness, E Loth, up to 26 birds 1967/68, last 21 Apr; 3 Aberlady 27 Aug and up to 9 again wintering (DJ). Two lingered Tynninghame, E Loth, 18 Aug-10 Nov (TB, EMS, RWJS). Male trapped Fife Ness 17 Feb (JD, DWO, RWS); 1 Unst, Shet, 30 Mar (MS); 2 Eden estuary, Fife, 27 Apr, 1 on 28th (DBMcG, RWS); only other spring record, pr displaying Fetlar, Shet, 23-27 May (RJT).

Autumn passage 26 July-9 Oct, especially 3 wks from 2 Sept: Shet,

14 Aug-22 Sept, 20 Virkie 8 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle, 1 on 26 July, 2 on 23 Aug, 15 on 2-3 Sept, 10 on 4th, 17 on 5th, 16 on 6th, down to 4 on 10th and last on 23 Sept (RHD); SE Suth, parties up to 12 on 4-25 Sept (DMcD); Aber, peak 9 Cruden Bay 6 Sept (NE), last 2 Forvie 9 Oct (ADKR); Angus, peak 27 Forfar L 2 Sept (DGAd, RC, GMC, MD); Kinross, 1 L Leven 2 Sept, 9 on 18th, 2-4 to 29th, 4 on 6 Oct (AA, JHS); E Stir, peak 21 Skinflats 15 Sept (WKR); E Fife, good numbers 27 July-6 Oct, peaks Eden 5 Aug (6), 18 Sept (10), Fife Ness 14 Sept (5) (PGTB, JMcF, DWO); Midl, 10 Gladhouse 8 Sept, 2 on 22nd (EMS, RWJS). More than usual in W: I Heb, 3-5 Baugh, Tiree, 28 Sept, 3-4 Oct (CST); Dunb, 1 Endrick mouth 24-25 Aug (DJL); Renf, 3 Paisley Moss 15-18 Aug (HG, IG), 8 Barr L 11th and 14 Aug (HG, RAJ, GTW); Lan, 4 Hamilton 17 Sept (MJE); Ayr, 2 Broomberry 9 Sept (GAR), 6 Barassie 27 Aug, 2 on 7th and 11 Sept (HG, IG, GAR, GTW); Dumf, 2 Glencaple 24 Aug, increased to 10 on 26th (JGY), 14 Caerlaverock 12-20 Sept (JGY), 1 Priestside and 1 Mid Locherwoods 28 Sept (RTS).

**Avocet Recurvirostra avosetta*. One landed briefly Aberlady, E Loth, 13 Jan (PJ, AFL, RMcG); noted 33 mls up Forth at Skinflats later that day, first for E Stir (WKR); probably same as one found dead Fife Ness 25 Jan after gale (JDB) (5 : 112).

**Red-necked Phalarope Phalaropus lobatus*. First year of 3-year census put Scottish population at 50-60 prs (MJE). Migrant near Lochmaben, Dumf, 19 Apr (RTS); first back Shet 20 May (RJT); pr Fair Isle 14-15 June arrived in fog (RHD); 1 St Kilda, first record, early July to 15th (HEMD, MM). Autumn : 1 Doonfoot, Ayr, 1 Aug (WB); 1 Skinflats 18 Aug, first for E Stir (RE, MH).

Great Skua Catharacta skua. Good numbers bred Ork, evidently increasing (EB); 2 prs with eggs St Kilda, 6 birds 12 May, probably 4 prs (IDP, MJHR); pr bred new O Heb site Sheshader (WAJC); at least 2 prs Handa, W Suth, and unconfirmed reports of breeding on mainland of NW Suth, where up to 7 recorded inland (IDP).

Three off N Carr Lightship, Fife, 16 Mar (ADKR); seen at sea Shet 12 Mar, back on land about 9 Apr (RJT); back at O Heb colony 10 Apr (IMcL); first Fair Isle 5 Apr, mainly from 12th, increases 17th, 19th (RHD). Autumn : Angus, 23 records 11 July-11 Oct (GMC); E Fife, from 12 July but rather fewer than usual (PGTB, DWO); E Loth from 14 July (EMS, RWJS); Aber counts, all flying N, 8/hr Rattray Head 18 July (MW), 12/hr Buchan Ness 25 Aug (NE), 4/hr Rattray Head 5 Oct (MW). Last singles : Skinflats, E Stir, 20 Oct (MH); Fair Isle 25 Oct (RHD); Forvie, Aber, 10 Nov (NP).

**Pomarine Skua Stercorarius pomarinus*. Spring passage in NW : 1 between Harris and St Kilda 10 May (IDP); light-phase ad between Skye and N Uist 13 May (ARB, RTB); also 1 near Fair Isle 17 May, 1 over island 13 June (RHD). Early ad Culbin Sands, Moray, 22 July (MNe, CR); 1 Fair Isle 4 Sept (RHD); dark-phase ad Isle of May 30 Aug, 5 Sept (GAP); evident ads Oct 5th (2), 6th (1), 7th (2) passing NW off N Ronaldsay, Ork (GWW, EJW, DBW).

Arctic Skua Stercorarius parasiticus. Bred Handa, first time in W Suth (IDP); no other changes in breeding status reported. Usual odd summer birds other areas : 1 Rattray Head, Aber, 16 June (MW); 1 Tentsmuir, Fife, 18 June (TGp); 2 Seil Island, N Arg, 4 July (HEMD); 2 Sound of Jura 16 June (AGG); 2 Horse Island, Ayr, 15 June (RGC, JMcL); 2 Barassie, Ayr, 4 July (DHL); 1 Troon, Ayr, 8 July (RGC). First back Shet 24 Apr (RJT); Fair Isle from 17 Apr, increases 22nd and 30th. Decreased there in Aug, last on 15th and 30 Sept (RHD); various records of passage elsewhere to end Sept; good passage E Fife, 15 Eden estuary 10 Aug (VMT); 10 N, 1 S in an hour Buchan Ness, Aber, 8 Sept (NE), but 10/hr moving S at Rattray Head on 11th (MW).

October: 3 N at Rattray 5th (MW); 3 Skinflats, E Stir, 6th (MH); 1 Fife Ness 8th (AMMF).

Imm skua, presumably Arctic, chasing gulls in Edinburgh Meadows for 5 minutes 13 Dec (JBM).

***Long-tailed Skua** *Stercorarius longicaudus*. Sub-adult in Arctic Skua colony Fair Isle 27 June-2 July, and one 20 July (RHD); 2 over ship between Islay and mainland 7 Aug (ADL); 1 Hascosay, Shet, 10 Aug (RJT); 1 Usan, Angus, 11 Aug (GMC); 1 NW off N Ronaldsay, Ork, 5 Oct (DBW). All or nearly all long-tailed birds.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. About 4000 prs bred Hoy, Ork, but no obvious change (EB); still increasing and nesting well inland Shet (RJT); pr hatched 3 young Redhythe Pt, Banff (JE). Inland roost L Leven 57 on 8 Oct, dropping later (AA, JHS). Fair Isle peaks of bad weather birds from fishing fleet 17 Jan (1000+), 16-17 Mar (600), 31 June (1000), 31 Oct-2 Nov (2000), 14-15 Nov (2000+) (RHD).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. Up a bit from 900 prs in 1966 Isle of May (JP); Flanders Moss, Perth, inland colony estimated at 500 prs, local 1963 chick recovered there 29 May (IN, VMT); chicks L Thom 11 July, Renf breeding is irregular (IG, RAJ); 7 nests with eggs Findlater, first Banff breeding (JE).

Up to 8 wintered Nith, Glencaple/Dumfries (JGY); 2 Langholm, Dumf, 29 Jan (ELOC); 1 all winter Stranraer, Wigt (JMu); small number all winter L Leven (AA, JHS). Five single Scandinavian birds *L. f. fuscus*: Arrochar, S Arg (with British race), 21 Jan (TMC); various parts of Edinburgh 4 Feb (MAMcD), 8 Feb (MJE), 16-17 Dec (HD), and, race unknown, 29 Dec (MAMcD); near Brechin, Angus, 24 Apr (GMC). Spring return: Dumf/Kirk, shore 18 Mar, 37 inland Sanquhar by 28th (JGY); E Fife, 15 Mar, mainly late Mar (DWO); Aber, Fraserburgh 9 Mar (NE); Fair Isle 23 Mar (RHD); Shet, 29 Mar (RJT).

Isle of May chicks were in Spain (3) and Morocco (2) in their first winter, Spain (1) on 25 Aug at a year, and France (1) and Spain (1) in their second winter (5: 263).

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Isle of May (1 pr 1907) increased further from 11,000 prs of 1967 (JP); inland colony Flanders Moss, Perth, estimated 50 nests, with Lesser Blackbacks (IN, VMT); 2 prs bred L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHS); for 5th year running, bred on roof of hotel Inverness (MR). One ringed Fair Isle as ad in 1952 still breeding there (RHD). The albino which perches on the Carrick in Glasgow (4: 493) returned 17 Sept (RCDA); another was at Girdle Ness, N Kinc, 29 Feb (NE).

Isle of May chicks were recovered in summer at a year old in Eire and France and in their second winter in France (5: 263).

Common Gull *Larus canus*. Continues Dumf increase at various sites (ED, JGY); in Kirk, numbers down L Skerrow, and breeding island now submerged at Lochinvar (ADW). For Perth man-made sites see 5: 218 (VMT); 2 nests in trees Crannoch Woods, Cullen, Banff (JE).

Peaks of spring passage Fair Isle (25-30 birds) on 14th and 21 Apr, 10th and 28 May; rather fewer than usual in autumn but peaks 17 Aug-30 Oct (RHD).

***Glaucous Gull** *Larus hyperboreus*. Regular winter months (Jan-May, Sept-Dec) Shet, Fair Isle, Ork, Aber and a few O Heb; mostly imm, but 3 ads in party 10 Mid Yell 29 Dec after N gale (RJT); Fair Isle maxima 7 on 20 Feb, 5 on 3 Mar (RHD); singles St Kilda 20 Mar (PW), 9 May (IDP). Outside these areas or periods: Shet, imm 13 July, 9th and 11 Aug (RJT); Fair Isle, 2 on 19 June, 1 on 15th, 21st-24th and 28 July (RHD); Caith, 2 imm Scrabster 19 June (BZ); W Ross, imm Badachro 7th and 12 Apr (RAW); Moray, ad Covesea 14th and 28 Feb, imm 7th, 9th and 20 Mar (THJ); Aber, imms Aberdeen 8-9 July, Peterhead 24 Aug (NE); Fife, 1st-W Methil Power Stn 23 Mar (DWO); Isle of May, 1

on 29 Sept (DWO); Midl, sub-ad inland Gladhouse 1 June (DGA); E Loth, imm Dunbar wintered to 25 July, 1 Tynninghame 3rd and 17 Mar (MFMM, RWJS), 1 Gullane Pt 28 Dec (JAS); Skye, imm Kyleakin 24th and 30 Apr (NE); Dunb, imm Ardmore Pt 21 Oct (JH), imm inland Endrick mouth 24 Nov (GTW), imm inland Craigmaddie L (on W Stir border) 21 Jan (DJN); imm Ayr harbour 1 Jan (RGC), 7 Jan, 2 Feb (RBT).

***Iceland Gull** *Larus glaucooides*. Spring records to 4 June, but thereafter only one Sept, one Nov: Shet, single imms Lerwick 28 Jan, 16 Mar, 16 Apr (DC), Out Skerries 30 Jan (RJT), Whalsay 2 Feb, 17 May (RJT), 2 imms Unst 24 Mar (MS, FJW), ad 25 May (MS); Fair Isle, 2nd-yr 20 Apr, ad 12 Nov (RHD); Ork, 1 Kirbister L 16 Sept (EJWi); Caith, imm L Calder 13 Apr (AF); O Heb, 3rd-yr Stornoway 4 June (WAJC); N Kinc, ad 12 Mar, imm 19 Apr, Girdle Ness (NE); Midl, ad St Margaret's L, Edinburgh, 4 Jan-28 Feb (DGA, AFL, MAMcD); Renf, imm Paisley Moss 6 Apr (HG, IG).

***Little Gull** *Larus minutus*. Fife records more dispersed, with Kilconquhar peaks less than recently (DWO): Tentsmuir/St Andrews 7 Jan-28 Apr (TGP, DWO), peak 25 Tayport 28 Apr (ARB, RTB), 1 Tentsmuir Pt 16 July (TGP); Cameron, 7 ad and 1 1st-S 17 June, 6 ad and 1 1st-S 28 July, 12 on 29th (DWO); Kilconquhar built up from early July to 106 ad 25th July, 5 1st-S in 28 on 27th, last one (juv) 24 Aug (HEMD, MJE, DWO, JHS); Fife Ness/Largo Bay 14 Sept-15 Dec (HGp, PGTB, JD, DWO, RWS); Methil 7 Jan-23 Mar, peak 3 on 2 Mar, also 1 Oct-8 Nov, peak 22 ad and 1 imm 1 Oct (PGTB, DWO). On Tay: regular autumn, mostly Angus (GMC); 45 Kingoodie, Perth, 15 Apr, 3 on 22nd (HBo). Outside these areas: 1 Duddingston, Midl, 2 Apr (DRA); 1 Kinnaber, Angus, 12 Aug (GMC); ad Girdle Ness, N Kinc, 22 Aug (NE), 1 on 5 Sept (RSBy), 2 on 12 Oct (RWS); 2 ad Strathbeg, Aber, 18-24 Aug, 1 to 5 Sept (MW); 1 Wick, Caith, 10 Feb (JARG, AS); imm Thurso 23 Feb (PMcM); 1 St Kilda 18 June (RMcI).

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. L Leven colony 7100 nests 21 May (AA, JHS); over 1000 prs unrecorded colony E Ravenscroft Island, off Newburgh, Fife (DWO); particularly good breeding season Dumf (JGY). Return to Speyside, E Inv, 2nd wk Mar, last seen 1st wk Nov, exceptionally late (DNW). Many juvs dead on central Fife roads mid Aug; juvs out of area by 1st wk Nov (DWO); 1967 Tentsmuir chicks recovered Figuera da Foz, Beira Litoral, Portugal, 20.12.67 and La Coruna, Spain, 26.12.67 (JLSC).

Migrants: St Kilda, 126 Village Bay 8 Apr, a few later (HK); Fair Isle, 8 Apr-25 June, 3 July-20 Oct (RHD).

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Increases Scar Rocks, Wigt (JGY) (5: 207), Inchkeith, Fidra, Lamb and Craigleith in Forth (EMS, RWJS), Whalsay, Shet (JHSi) (5: 171). Some 300 prs N of Duffus may have bred there for some time and been missed (*Bird Study* 10: 169), first breeding for Moray; one dead there had been ringed as a chick 10 yrs before on the Farne Islands (RR). Ashore Fair Isle 25 Feb, full numbers 10 Apr, building 26 Apr, most gone end Aug (RHD).

Movement 3500/hr S at Rattray Head, Aber, 5 Aug (MW); offshore numbers high Fair Isle autumn, peak 500 on 11 Oct, big E passage 14 Nov (RHD); 10 up Forth at Skinflats, E Stir, 6 Oct (TDHM). Inland: Fife, 1st-S Kilconquhar 27 July, 1 newly dead Peat Inn 13 Aug 8 mls from sea (DWO); Edinburgh, juv in poor condition Blackford Pond 4 Aug (HEMD), 1 dying Gayfield Sq end Aug/early Sept, when 3-7 in Meadows on several dates (JBM).

***Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*. Ad with Little Gulls at Kilconquhar L, Fife, 9-24 July, very unusual dates (PGTB, GBn, DWO). Spring singles (3): Yesnaby, Ork, last wk May (per EB); Bridge of Don, Aber, 2 June (ADKR); Kinnaber, Angus, 20 June (RM). Autumn (8) 11 Sept-12 Oct: 1 Tankerness L, Ork, 15 Sept (EJWi); 1 Girdle Ness, first for N Kinc,



PLATE 20. Male Osprey, summer 1967, perched near the third Scottish eyrie, used successfully in both 1967 and 1968 (see page 319).

Photograph by C. K. Mylne

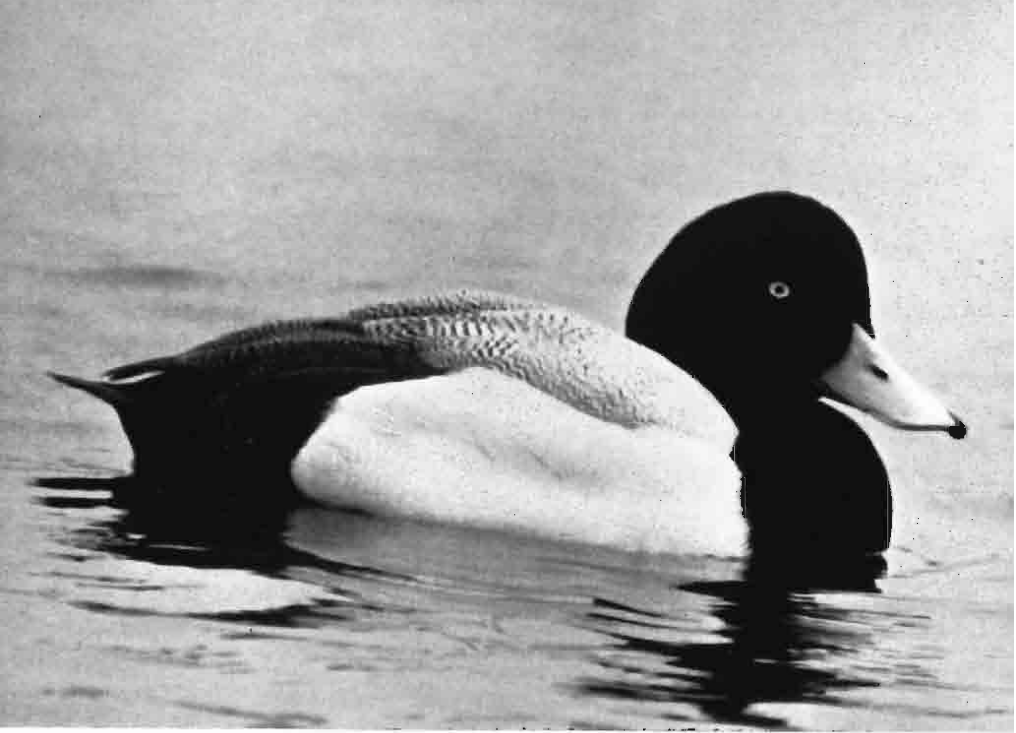


PLATE 21a. Drake Scaup, Duddingston Loch, Edinburgh, 11th February 1967. Numbers off Leith Docks at Seafield reached a record total of at least 30,000 in December 1968 (see page 313).

Photograph by W. Kenneth Richmond

21b. Red-throated Diver, Unst, 1966. Breeding success in Shetland in 1968 was reduced by some of the pools drying out in the exceptionally dry summer.

Photograph by William S. Paton





PLATE 22a. Redwing feeding young at nest, Stratherrick, East Inverness-shire, May 1968 (see page 342). The nest was about 3 feet from the ground in the upturned root of a fallen birch.

Photograph by Lea MacNally

22b. Song Thrush with young in open nest on ground in bracken, Isle of Mull, June 1965. This nest, in a site such as the Hebridean race uses, may be compared with the Redwing's above.

Photograph by William S. Paton





PLATE 25. First-winter female White-tailed Eagle, Fair Isle, October 1968, one of four introduced to the island (see page 318). Note the huge vulturine wings ("like a flying door"), heavy bill and wedge-shaped tail, which though here not fully spread shows the curious pale centres of the feathers.

Photograph by R. J. Tulloch

12 Oct (RWS); 1 Leven, Fife, 6 Oct (PGTB); 1 (?sp) Skinflats, E Stir, 6 Oct (TDHM); 1 Aberlady, E Loth, 5 Oct (EMS, RWJS); 3 Endrick mouth, W Stir/Dunf, 11 Sept (JM).

***Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica*. One Aberlady, E Loth, 22 Mar, 4th Scottish record (AMcD) (5 : 284).

***Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*. One L Lomond, W Stir/Dunb, 7 Aug, 1st Scottish record (MF).

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. Suffered badly in early-July gales in F Fife (DWO); 85 inland nests St Serf's Island, L Leven, 20 June, present 10 May-11 Sept (AA, JHS); Endrick mouth inland colony now down to 5 prs (JM).

Arrivals : 7 Apr (very early date), Eyebroughty, E Loth (MGW); 14 Apr, St Andrews, Fife (MHEC); 19 Apr, Kirkconnell Merse, Kirk (JGY); 21 Apr, Caith (DMS), 2 'Comic' Bay of Nigg, N Kinc (ADKR); 25 Apr, Guay, Dunkeld, Perth (THE). Passage of 'Comic' S at 800/hr Rattray Head, Aber, 8 Sept (MW); 1 Kelso, Rox, 13 Sept (RSB). Last dates ('Comic') : Fife Ness 12 Oct (DWO), Rattray Head 6 Nov (NE).

Arctic Tern *Sterna macrura*. At least 1 pr with chick Ardwell Bay 3 Aug, does not usually breed Wigt (ADW); disastrous breeding season E Fife (DWO).

First dates : 19 Apr, Kirkconnell Merse, Kirk (JGY); 20 Apr, N Uist (ARMcG); 21 Apr, Caith (DMS); 26 Apr, Stornoway, O Heb (NE). Fair Isle 'Comics', mostly Arctic, 16 May-6 Oct (RHD); Shet 'Comics' from 9 May (RJT).

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*. Several hundred bred Inchmickery, Midl, as usual but few chicks in early July owing to very bad weather (GW). First 1 passed N at Fife Ness 27 Apr, 50/hr N on 27 May (DWO); 25 N in 2½ hrs Carnoustie, Angus, 14 July (CH); small passage S at Fife Ness from 30 July (DWO). Other notes from E Loth, Fife, Angus, Aber.

Little Tern *Sterna altifrons*. On 30 June 7 prs breeding, chicks seen, mouth of Webster Burn, possibly first acceptable breeding record for Caith (PMcM, DMS); 2 prs with chicks Drimdsdale 12 July may be first breeding record for S Uist, O Heb (there are small colonies in N Uist and Lewis) (HEMD); largest Scottish colony 30 prs Kinnaber, Angus (GMC); Tentsmuir colony, N Fife, 15 birds 12 May, hit by July gales and last seen 14 July (TGp, DWO); see *Brit. Birds* 62 : 6 for 1967 Scottish status (172 prs in 28 colonies). First dates : 21 Apr, Gullane, E Loth (MGW), 1 Tentsmuir Pt (TGp); 24 Apr, 1 N Uist (ARMcG). Straggler Whalsay, Shet, 28 May (JHSi).

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*. Birds Tentsmuir, Fife, defending territories 13 July after gales, high tides and blown sand left not a chick from 500 prs, but did not relay (DWO); 405 nests Inchmickery, Midl, was up, but owing to bad weather few flew (GW); Sands of Forvie, Aber, very successful, over 1200 prs rearing about 1.3 young each, laying early (30 Apr) and dispersing rapidly by end July (AJMS) (5 : 227). Unusually many in summer Caith, but not proved to breed (DMS); 150 prs were first to breed successfully on Burray, Ork, though 10 prs tried and gave up in 1966; also 80 prs N Ronaldsay and others Sanday (EB). A pr Fetlar, Shet, for a few days from 2 June took territory but did not stay (RJT).

First dates : 3 Apr, Forvie (AJMS), 1 Fife Ness (JARG); 4 Apr, 1 Stairhaven, Wigt (PGTB); 8 Apr, Aberlady, E Loth (RSB); 17 Apr, Dunnet, Caith (PMcM); but slow to return and rather few in Apr in Fife (DWO). Whalsay, Shet, 1 on 4 May, 3 on 9th (JHSi). Inland : L Leven, 2 on 29 Apr, 1 on 4 May, 2 on 17 Aug (AA, IKM, JHS). Passing S at 72/hr Rattray Head, Aber, 3 Sept (MW). Last dates : 5 Oct, Fife Ness (DWO); 6 Oct, N Berwick, E Loth (DA); 13 Oct, 2 Bay of Nigg, N Kinc (ADKR); 31 Oct, 2 Covesea, Moray (THJ).

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Little data on status changes; probably increased Isle of May (JP). Ashore Dunnet Head, Caith, 14 Jan (SC); Craigleith, E Loth, 30 Jan (MJE); St Kilda from 20 Mar (PW). First ashore Fair Isle 11 Feb, mainly from 20 Feb, continuously from 5 Apr, decreased from 11 July, mainly 17th-24th, last ashore 31 July (RHD).

***Little Auk** *Plautus alle*. Records to 9 Mar, one Sept, and from 5 Nov: Shet, 1-2 near Whalsay 30 Jan (RJT), 15 Sumburgh 14 Nov, 3 Yell Sound next day (DC); Fair Isle, some at sea Jan, 2 ashore oiled 6 Feb, 1 at sea 25 Sept, mainly from 5 Nov, with over 1000 on 4 Dec (RHD); Caith, 1 Reiss 17 Jan, 1 Dunnet 9 Feb (JARG), 1 dead Dunnet 26 Dec (DMS); Moray, 1 on ground Gordonstoun School 28 Nov waddled down slope and flew off (THJ); Aber, 3 Rattray Head, 12th and 20 Nov (NE); N Kinc, 1 Girdle Ness 19 Jan (NE); Fife, 1 unoiled on beach Fife Ness 21 Jan (DWO, RWS), 2 oiled (1 alive) Largo Bay 31 Jan (RBH), 1 unoiled Tentsmuir 9 Mar (RWS), 1 oiled and long dead Elie Ness 16 Mar (DWO), 1 unoiled Tentsmuir 15 Dec (AMMF); Isle of May, 2 long dead 5 Apr (DCG); E Loth, 1 alive, 1 dead Dunbar 17 Nov (JHo); I Heb, 1 dying Machrie, Islay, 23 Dec (SG per MJE); Dumf, 1 dying Carrutherstown 15 Jan (per JS).

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Small colony Cellar Head may be first on O Heb mainland other than Barra Head (IMcL). Ashore Craigleith, E Loth, 30 Jan (MJE); many on ledges St Kilda from 20 Mar (PW). At Fair Isle first ashore 15 Jan, sporadically to 20 Feb, continuously from 5 Apr, decrease in mid July, only stragglers (to 2 Aug) ashore after 25 July, but return to ledges noted 23 Oct, 18th and 28 Nov, 1st and 31 Dec (RHD).

***Brünnich's Guillemot** *Uria lomvia*. One freshly dead Unst, Shet, 20 Mar, 2nd Scottish record, first for Shet faunal area (FJW) (5: 285).

Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*. Still breeding Kirk and Wigt (114 counted from boat L Ryan 5 Oct) (ADW, JGY); average breeding season Fair Isle study population, but autumn numbers rather low (RHD). S of breeding range on E coast: Aber, 1 dead Rattray Head 7 Feb, 3 Buchan Ness 24 Aug and 8 Sept, 5 Rattray Head 17 Nov, 3 on 6 Dec, 1 on 24th (NE, MW); Isle of May, 1 on 23 June (JP), 1-3 on 10 dates 26 Aug-4 Nov, when observatory closed (NJG).

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*. Definite spread of Isle of May colony of some 2000 prs (NJG). At Bullers of Buchan colony, Aber, 20 back by 31 Mar (NE, MW); came ashore St Kilda between 15th and 20 Apr (HK). First seen Fair Isle 28 Mar, small numbers ashore next day, exceptionally early, larger numbers from 10 Apr, departure from 9 Aug, few left 17 Aug, last ashore 27 Aug, a few offshore to 7 Sept, 1 on 18-19 Oct (RHD). Dead one in Peregrine's eyrie far inland near Laggan Bridge, E Inv, late June (DNW); one picked up alive near Alyth, N Perth, about 4 July (JGS).

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*. Little data on status changes. Dumf breeding numbers increasing; partial dispersion is indicated by the reduced numbers of records on higher ground in winter (NSRG). Flocks up to 40 in winter in Speyside (DNW). Fair Isle, one 23 Sept-4 Oct, unusual influx 11-23 Oct, with 3 on 13th, 4 on 17th, 3 on 18th and 23rd (RHD).

Rock Dove *Columba livia*. No changes reported in purer northern population. Up to 21 in Fair Isle winter flock; similarly spring and summer; autumn peaks 15 Sept (29), 24 Oct (38), 7 Nov (42), 14 Nov (50) (RHD).

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*. Increasing in Forestry Commission plantations as these grow older Nairn/Moray/Banff (RH); Dumf numbers increasing (JGY). Nests again found on ground in sand dunes Forvie, Aber (WM).

Passage Fair Isle mainly 15 Mar-1 Apr (max. 4), 17 Apr-16 June (7) and 6-30 Oct (8) (RHD); 1 St Kilda 13 May (RT). A shooter reported

flocks in poor condition and below average numbers Wigt early 1968 (per ADW).

***Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*. No data on breeding population in SE Scotland. Noted 21 Apr-25 Oct, mainly in N: Dumf, 1 Coatsgate, Beattock, 27 Apr (ARB, RTB), 1 Poldean, Moffat, 9 Oct (ED); Isle of May, 1-2 in May, June, Sept, Oct (NJG), to 8-10 Oct (BU); Fife, singles Fife Ness 30 Apr (DWO), Largo Bay 15 June (JD, DWO, RWS), Kilconquhar 24 Aug (DWO); Angus, 1 Edzell 4 June (BG, GMC, OT); Aber, 1 Rattray Head 3rd and 13 June, 1 Collieston 5 Oct (NE, NP, MW); E Inv, 1 Pityoulish mid May, 1 singing L Garten May (HB); Moray, 1 Covesea 26 June (THJ); Caith, 1 Forss 1 July (DGs); W Suth, 2 Assynt 19-27 May (HDRleNN); St Kilda, 1 on 21-22 Apr (HK); O Heb, 1 N Uist 22 Aug (ARMcG); Ork, 1 Costa 31 May (EB), 1 N Ronaldsay 29 May, 1 soon after, 1 on 26 Sept (per EB); Fair Isle, 1 on 27th and 30 Apr, passage 10 May-7 June, (4 on 26 May, 3 on 30th), one 19 June-8 July, another 7 July, singles 11 days 24 Aug-14 Sept (2 on 31 Aug, 2 Sept, 3 on 3 Sept), singles 2-23 Oct, 2 on 25 Oct (RHD); Shet, first 25 Apr, then 2 May, 27 May, 7 days 1-30 June, 4 days 1-23 July, 4 days 7-30 Aug, usually 1-2, scattered localities (RJT).

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. Further increases: Dumf, consolidating in Dumfries (JGY); Glasgow, many records from suburbs (MFMM); S Arg, bred near Lochgilphead 1967, 1968 (IR); Islay, spreading and now in Port Ellen and Bridgend (MFMM); Skye, bred Duntuilm, first record (SG), 4 Broadford 7-11 Nov (AMcD); W Ross, bred (first record) Aultbea (JGHu), noted Torridon, Shieldaig (IDP); W Suth, noted Scourie and Achfarry (IDP); N Suth, prs Borgie, Strathnaver and Altnaharra (EGH), noted Durness (IDP); Selk, pr reared two broods Selkirk, first occurrence (AJS); E Loth, still increasing (KSMcG); Fife, spread continues, though no great increase in total numbers (DWO); Kinross, good numbers bred Kinross/Milnathort, first record (JHS); Perth, range extended to Callander and Thornhill (first for S Perth) (ALHB), Alyth and Glen Falloch (VMT); Angus, increasing (GMC); N Kinc, at least 3 prs bred Banchory (NP); Aber, widespread, at least 20 prs now Newburgh (WM), present Huntly (RH); Banff, now in Portsoy (JE), Buckie (AJSo), Keith (RH); S Inv, bred Corpach, first record (per DNW); E Inv, first Speyside nests, 2 prs Nethybridge (AMcC, HM), 2 prs Kincaig (DNW); Caith, bred Castletown for first time, now widespread (DMS); Ork, further increase (EB). But no evidence of increase Galloway, and at Dalry, Kirk, where attempted to breed 1967, only one bird 26 Apr (ADW). Flocks up to 80 Girvan distillery, Ayr (AGS). Four Milnholm, Langholm, 25 Apr for 3 days were first in Eskdale, Dumf (ELOC).

Birds flew in from sea Fife Ness 28 Apr (1), 30 Apr (2), 4 May (1) (DWO); 2 St Kilda 17-28 Apr, 1 extra 21st (HK); Fair Isle migrants 25-29 Apr, 13 May, then 4 (later 3) 19 May-9 Nov (did not breed), but 17 on 5-6 May, 10 on 7 May, 6 on 14 May, and extra singles 13 Aug, 8th-9th and 20 Oct (RHD). Early pr had 2 eggs Moray 21 Mar (THJ). Pr tried to nest on crossbar of telegraph pole Garlieston, Wigt (WH).

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. Numbers well down on previous years Caith (DMS); apparently rather scarce Ork (EB).

Arrivals: 14 Apr, Keir, Dumf (JMx); 17 Apr, Barra, O Heb (WAJC); 20 Apr, Glen Lethnot, Angus (WG); 21 Apr, Moor of Genoch, Wigt (5 by 24th) (RCD), Portmore, Peeb (EMS, RWJS); 23 Apr, Bridge of Allan (MIS); 24 Apr, Glen Tilt, Perth (JWo); 25 Apr, Almondbank, Perth (CD), Tore, E Ross (MKMcD-D); 26 Apr, 1 L Leven (JHS); 27 Apr, Stornoway, O Heb (NE, IMcL); mainly last wk Apr, Perth (VMT). A month later in Northern Isles: Dale of Corrigal, Ork, 26 May (EB); Fair Isle 23 May-14 June (RHD); Shet, 25 May (RJT).

Autumn: singles Fair Isle 4th and 20 Aug (RHD); 1 Rattray Head,

Aber, 7 Aug (NE, MW). Last dates: juvs Shet to 5 Sept (RJT); juv L Leven to 21 Sept (JHS).

***Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*. Continues widespread and common Kirk (ADW); breeds widely and fairly successfully Dumf but a high proportion of ringing recoveries are of birds killed by road and rail traffic (NSRG). Scarcity elsewhere probably exaggerated by paucity of sightings: Dunb, 1 Dalreoch, Dumbarton, 14 May (DJL); W Stir, 1 Carbeth 11 Feb (MFMM), 1 resident Bardowie (RWP); E Loth, 1 found shot Tynninghame 17 Nov (RWJS); Midl, 1 injured Crichton Castle mid Jan (MJE), remains Auchencorth 27 Apr (AFL), but certainly commoner (RWJS); W Loth, 1 Whitburn 31 Mar (MJE); Fife, 1 dead (?shot) Eden 27 Oct (CST), gratifying noticeable increase E Neuk (3 in 2 mls 21 Dec (DWO)); Clack, 1 Forest Mill 26 Oct (TDHM); Perth, noted Almondbank (JRW), Murthly, Kilfauns, Stanley (IRJ); Angus, pr Brechin 11 Aug (GMC); Aber, 1 Port Elphinstone 17 June (CO); E Inv, 1 Kinraig most of year (DNW), 1 Lentran 5 Feb (MR).

***Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca*. Bred Fetlar for 2nd year, rearing 3 chicks; apart from breeding birds and offspring (1967 and 1968) 2 ad ♂♂ were in Shet later in year, giving total of 9 on Fetlar mid Dec (RJT) (5: 244). One St Kilda (first record) 30 Mar, 12th and 14 Apr (HK, DSS) (5: 178).

***Little Owl** *Athene noctua*. Bred successfully Midl, first record, possibly did so 1967, when same calls heard (ISW) (5: 287).

Two duetting Yetholm, Rox, various dates Apr, 1 calling 3 May (RSB); at least 1 roosting Caerlaverock Castle, Dumf, Jan-Feb (JGY); 1 killed on wires near Langholm, Dumf, 12 Apr (JS); 1 Broomlands (Dumfries outskirts), Kirk, 17 Feb (JGY); no report from Glenluce, Wigt, where noted 1967 (ADW).

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*. No status changes reported. Breeding often at high density, Dumf, 5 prs reared young in one Nithsdale glen (WD, JGY). Pr Elie, Fife, deserted infertile eggs for 3rd year running (DWO). Nesting on ground in Dumf noted Forest of Ae (HO) and near Moffat (RA, ED).

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*. Caith numbers seemed well down on 1967 (DMS); at least 3 prs, probably more, bred Ork (EB); one nest known (in heather on open hillside) Shet, up to 7 wintering Scalloway (RJT). Singles Fair Isle 8 dates 22 Mar-23 June, autumn dates 9th and 14 Oct, 10-21 Nov (3 on 18th, 2 on 19th-21st), 12th and 27 Dec (RHD); Aber, 4 Logie Buchan 12 Oct (ADKR), singles flew in from sea Boddam 6 Nov, Rattray Head 17 Nov (NE).

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. Locally rather above average numbers in young forest areas Kirk without being abundant (ADW); bred very good numbers Ork, more than recently (EB); appeared fairly numerous Perth (VMT). But scarce this year Suth/Ross (IDP), and fewer in Moorfoots than recently where thought not to have bred in one area, Midl, for first time in years (WBr). In areas for which there are few published records there were nests at Forvie, Aber (WM), and Glen Dye, N Kinc (NP), and 2 prs bred St Serf's Island, L Leven (AA).

Straggler Unst, Shet, 25 May (MS); noted Fair Isle 8th and 11 Jan, 13 Apr, 13 May-1 June (on 6 days), and 13th, 15th, 24-25 Oct (4 on 24th) (RHD); 1-3 St Kilda 3-12 May (IDP, RT); odd birds Fife Ness 28 Apr and 26 Aug-6 Oct (DWO). Winter counts of 5 St Serf's Island 12 Feb (AA), 5 Aberlady, E Loth, 21 Dec (DJ).

***Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*. Numbers down Kirk, 1-2 in one usual haunt May-June, but none at another where noted 1967, breeding not confirmed (LAU, ADW). Fair Isle, 1 on 26 May, exhausted single ♂♂ 30 May, 31 May (RHD); 1 Ork for at least first 2 wks Sept (per EB).

Swift *Apus apus*. Fewer this year Thurso, Caith (DMS).

April dates: 21 Apr (very early record), 1 Montrose, Angus (GMC); 23 Apr, 2 L Leven (and 1 on 27th) (AA, JHS); 26 Apr, 1 Dumfries (DS), Dalry, Kirk (ADW); 27 Apr, 2 Duddingston, Midl (DGA), Perth (VMT), 1 Butt of Lewis, O Heb (NE); 28 Apr, 6 Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO), Skinflats, E Stir (MH); 29 Apr, 1 Canonbie, Dumf (ELOC), Aberdeen (ADKR), Caith (PMcM), 1 Fair Isle (RHD); 30 Apr, Kingoodie, Perth (HBo). Widespread Dumf 1 May (JGY); 200 L Leven 1 May, 500 on 6-8 May (AA, JHS); early and rapid build-up Fife (DWO); main Perth arrival 1st wk May (VMT); first Shet (Unst) 14 May (MS); 300 feeding L Leven 17 May, 1000 on 29 June (AA, JHS); passage Fair Isle 26 May-21 June, peak 15 a day (RHD).

Autumn: Shet movement to 30 July, when peak 50 Fetlar, singles 2nd and 23 Aug (RJT); Fair Isle passage 1-31 July, peaks 1st (23), 5th (50), 9th (30), 10th (70), 31st (30), and 23 Aug-7 Sept (20 on 26-27 Aug) (RHD); peaks Strathbeg, Aber, 350 on 9 July, 150 on 17th (NE, MW); L Leven peak 13-16 July (700, 1000, 600, 400 respectively), smaller wave mid Aug (90 on 14th, last 16 next day) (AA, JHS); peak 500 on 6 Aug Kilconquhar, all gone 25th (DWO); usual concentration over Lowther Hills, Dumf, 1500 late July (JWi). Last dates: 7 Sept, Crutherrstown, Dumf (RTS), Gallan Head, O Heb (AFJ); 10 Sept, Bragar, O Heb (IMcL); 11 Sept, Holm, Ork (MT-C); 13 Sept, 2-3 L Earn, Perth (VMT); 21 Sept, 1 Lundin Links, Fife (PGTB).

***Alpine Swift** *Apus melba*. One Ardnamurchan 6 July, first for Argyll faunal area (FCB).

***Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*. Some evidence of increase Dumf from level of 5 yrs ago, bred Water of Dryfe, seen Water of Ae (HO), R Nith (AFi); lack of information from other known haunts. One Park Bridge, Aber, 10 May (RIM); 1 Stonehaven, N Kinc, 29 June (WBa). Autumn/winter: 1 R Cree, Newton Stewart, Wigt/Kirk, late Aug (WHM); Midl, 1 R Almond, Midcalder, 12 Oct (JSO), 1 Water of Leith, Colinton, 24 Nov into 1969 (MJE, RJG); Perth, 2 reports (once 2 birds) Crieff late July (BP); E Inv, first for a few years Lovat Bridge, R Beauly, 19 July (DE per MJE); Caith, 1 Thurso 22 Aug, first for N Coast (WGa).

***Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*. One Swindridge Muir near Dalry 14-18 May, first for Ayr (MGB, DJN) (2: 289).

***Roller** *Coracias garrulus*. Imm Portnahaven, Islay, 29 Sept, first for I Heb (AMT).

***Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*. Unusually many (singles unless stated) 17 Apr-17 June (especially Apr), 1 Sept-21 Oct. Spring: Dumf, Eliock, Sanquhar, 24 Apr, and Burnmouth, Sanquhar, 9 May (AB, JMCD, RMcF); Dunb, between Tarbet and Ardlui 17 June (MFi); S Arg, Taynuilt 9 May (EJB); N Arg, Lochaline 13 June (IMS); S Fife, Lower Largo 23 May (DWO), heard Largo Bay 1 June (JD, DWO); Kinross, Shanwell House 11-20 May, first record (JHS, MWa); Angus, Arbroath 18 Apr (JD); Caith, John o' Groats 20-21 Apr (DBo, PMcM, DMS); Ork, Lamb Holm 22 Apr, Copinsay and Start Pt a few days later (per EB, EJWi); Fair Isle 17-19 Apr, another 29 Apr (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 22 Apr (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, 3-5 Whalsay, with sightings 29 Sept and 7th, 8th, 9th, 15th, 19th and 21 Oct (DC, JHSi); N Kinc, Strachan 12 Sept (per NP); Fife, 2 flying as pr Fife Ness 1 Sept (per DWO), Cupar 9 Sept (EBr).

***Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis*. Widespread and no change Dumf and Kirk (ADW, JGY); fewer around Selkirk (AJS); inadequate data SE Scotland; a few prs Falkirk area of E Stir (MH); at least 6 prs between Dollar Glen and Wood Hill, Tillicoultry, Clack (TDHM); widely distributed Perth (as 5: 30) (VMT). One Clachaneasy 5 May is possibly first recent record Wigt (JGY); heard Burntisland, Fife, 7th and 15 Apr (JMC), the county has been bypassed in recent years (DWO); 1 L

Leven 9-18 Apr, first for Kinross (JHS); in Angus, heard Cantsmill, Airlie, 7 May (DAT), pr Woodside July (JDW), first records.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*. Kirk decrease accelerated and very marked now (ADW), though no change discernible Dumf (JGY); Fife breeding population seems to fluctuate from year to year (DWO); no evidence of breeding now W Loth (TCS); and species hardly mentioned by Midl observers (RWJS).

Strong invasion (last equivalent at Fair Isle 1962) of Northern birds, mainly from 7 Sept: Shet (no ads confirmed), 1 Yell 9 Aug, many reports next 10 days, increase from 9 Sept to over 100 to 30 Sept, dwindling to last on 30 Nov, some dead, some killed by cats (RJT); Fair Isle, 10, 9, 1, 5, 4, 3, 11, 8 on 7-14 Sept (3 handled), smaller numbers to 13 Oct (RHD); O Heb, singles Stornoway and Borge in Sept (WAJC); I Heb, arrived Gigha autumn and stayed (EMcM, MMcM); Ork, moderate influx from about 7 Sept, continuing into Oct, 2-6 in several parishes and islands, 1-2 still there early Dec (EB); Caith, first Thurso 8 Sept, throughout county by 15 Sept, all juvs, still a few at end of year (DMS); Aber, 1 Newburgh 8 Sept, 2 Cruden Bay 5 Oct, 1 Collieston 26 Oct (NP), 1 Rattray Head 25 Nov (NE); Fife, imm Fife Ness 12 Sept (PGTB); Isle of May, single measured Northern 27 Aug (KP), 8-14 Oct (BU), 21 Oct-1 Nov (NJG, IFS), all juvs.

***Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*. Though never proved to breed in Scotland, even when commoner in England, continues to appear sporadically in Inv in summer (see 3: 418): ♂ calling Boat of Garten 17 June, pr Rothiemurchus for at least 4 wks from mid June (DNW); also one in typical habitat Glen Quoich, Aber, 28 July, gone next day (DL, VCW-E).

Migrants 21 Apr-5 June, 17 Aug-21 Sept: Ber, 1 St Abbs 14-15 Sept (ADKR, EMS, RWJS); E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 5 May (CST), 1 Dirleton 12 May (MGW); Isle of May, 7 on 5 May, 14 on 6-7 May, 1-2 until 16 May, 2 on 24 Aug (JP); 1 Fife Ness 15 Sept (HGp); Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 20-21 Sept (EJW); Fair Isle, singles 10th, 11th, 13th-23rd, 26th and 27 May (2 on 25th) and 5 June, passage 17 Aug-21 Sept, mostly 2-10 Sept (3 on 2nd, 4 on 9th) (RHD); Shet, 1 Fetlar 21-22 Apr, 1 Sumburgh 2 May (DC), first of several Whalsay 3 Sept, 2 Out Skerries 6 Sept and 1 on 11th, 1 Mid Yell 9 Sept (RJT).

***Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella cinerea*. One Out Skerries, Shet, 2-3 May and 16 May (RJT); single Southern-type *brachydactyla* birds Fair Isle 20 May-1 June and 5-8 Sept, and Eastern-type *longipennis* birds 2 on 9 Oct, 1 on 12-15 Oct, 1 on 20 Oct (RHD).

***Woodlark** *Lullula arborea*. Ringed bird resident Fair Isle 11 Nov to end of year, another 22 Nov (RHD). One Easthaven 17 Nov, first for Angus (RAS).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. With afforestation quite large areas of Kirk are being lost to this species, one of the first to cease breeding (ADW). Main return Fair Isle from 21 Feb, especially late Feb/early Mar, passage Mar, peak 300 on 13th, 500 on 14th (RHD), corresponding with reports of flocks of up to 200 Shet from 10 Mar (RJT).

***Shore Lark** *Eremophila alpestris*. Four records 5 Mar-6 May, four 11-22 Oct: Shet, 1 Whalsay 11 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, singles 11th and 22 Oct (RHD); Angus, singles Arbroath 5-24 Mar and 14-16 Oct (AN, MN); Isle of May, singles 4-8 Apr (RAC, DCG) and 6 May (JP); E Loth, 7 Barns Ness 9 Mar (HD).

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. Reports indicated good breeding season Galloway (ADW); some 3 prs bred Stornoway, O Heb, where increasing (WAJC); but numbers thought to be down Caith (DMS).

Arrival: 11 Apr (a late first date), Killantringan, Wigt (TH); 12 Apr, 1 Arbroath, Angus (MN); 13 Apr, Kinghorn, Fife (JMcF), Almondbank, Perth (JRW); 14 Apr, 1 Roslin, Midl (ADKR), 1 Cramond Brig, Midl (GB);

16 Apr, Keir, Dumf (JFY), Dollar, Clack (TDHM); 17 Apr, Canonbie, Dumf (ELOC), Yetholm, Rox (RSB), Isle of May (JP), 2 L Leven, Kinross (JHS), Perth (Mrs DD), St Kilda (and 1 dead 21st) (HK); 18 Apr, 40 L Leven (JHS), Dyce, Aber (NE), 2 Foulis Pt, E Ross (CGH), over 200 Thurso, Caith (PMcM). Main arrival: Dumf, 1-10 May (RTS, JGY); S Fife, 25-28 Apr Kilconquhar (DWO); L Leven passage 30 Apr, 3-6 May (JHS); Perth, mainly from 20 Apr (VMT). Two Stornoway 24 Apr (NE); Fair Isle from 21 Apr (6), over 20 daily 22 May-4 June (60 on 24 May, 50 on 25-26 May) (RHD); first Shet 21 Apr, peaks 10-12 May, 11-12 June (RJT).

Autumn numbers noted: Shet 26-29 Aug (RJT); Fair Isle 25 Aug (8) (RHD); Ork 11th and 17 Sept (EB); Caith 30 Aug (DMS); Kingoodie, Perth, 11 Sept (HBo); Kinross, 40 on 28 Aug (JHS). Brood still in nest Dumf 10 Oct (JMcC). Cluster of last dates: 10 Oct, Caith (PMcM), Angus (MN); 12 Oct, Perth (SL); 13 Oct, Rox (EH); 14 Oct, Fair Isle (RHD); 16 Oct, Aber (NE); 17 Oct, E Stir (MH); 20 Oct, E Loth (DA); 22 Oct, Isle of May (IFS). Only one Nov record, 1 Caerlaverock 11th (JGY).

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. Bred well Vane Farm, Kinross, 3 prs fledging 2nd broods early Oct (AA, JHS); summer numbers down Caith (DMS).

Arrivals: 16 Apr (a shade earlier than usual), Keir, Dumf (JFY); 17 Apr, Ardeonaig, Perth (AWT); 18 Apr, Kelso, Rox (RSB), 4 St Andrews, Fife (MHEC), Abernethy, Perth (RGW); 19 Apr, N Berwick, E Loth (DA), L Leven, Kinross (JHS), 1 Airlie, Angus (DAT), Downreay, Caith (AAn), Unst, Shet (MS); 20 Apr, 1 Edinburgh (AFL); 21 Apr, Laurieston, Kirk (JD, ELR), now 20 Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO), Nigg Bay, N Kinc, and Culter, Aber (NE, ADKR). One reached Fair Isle 25 Apr (RHD) and one N Uist 28 Apr (ARMcG). Main arrival: Dumf, 1-10 May (JGY); Fife, built up to 100 Kilconquhar 25 Apr (DWO); Perth, mainly from 20 Apr (VMT). Passage Kinross 30 Apr, 3-6 May (AA, JHS); Fair Isle mainly 24 May-20 June (60 on 27-30 May, 1st and 3 June) (RHD); Shet, large influx 23-30 May, flocks over 100 (RJT).

Autumn movements L Leven 12th, 14th and 18 Aug and 25 on 5 Oct (AA, JHS). Last dates: 12 Oct, Fair Isle (RHD), Perth (SL); 9 Nov, ad Kilconquhar (JD, DWO, RWS).

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. Breeding numbers small Caith this year (DMS).

Arrivals: 28 Mar (an average first date), 6 places Scots Dyke/Langholm areas of Dumf (ELOC); 29 Mar, Dunskey L, Wigt (TH); 30 Mar, 100 Lochmaben, Dumf (RTS), 2 Threipmuir, Midl (JJ); 31 Mar, Barns Ness, E Loth (TB), 1 Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO), 2 Kingoodie, Perth (HBo), Strathbeg, Aber (NE); 1 Apr, 25 Lindores, Fife (JW). Widespread Dumf 14 Apr (JGY), but obvious gap after Mar records before first records for Selk 12 Apr (AJS); Rox 13 Apr (RSB); 12 Gladhouse, Midl, 13 Apr (numerous by 21st) (DGA); Isle of May 17 Apr (JP); Kinross 17 Apr (passage 30 Apr, 3-6 June) (JHS); Crieff, Perth, 11 Apr (mainly from 15 Apr in Perth) (BP, VMT); 2 Foulis Pt, E Ross, 18 Apr (CGH); St Kilda 16 Apr (HK); Fair Isle 19 Apr (and 13 on 21st, 10 on 26th) (RHD); 2 Shet 21 Apr (and 6 on 28th) (DC, RJT). Rapid build-up E Fife 25-28 Apr (DWO). Cold wet weather in early May caused big concentration at lochs: 5 May, 3000 Portmore, Peeb (DGA); 7 May, 1000 Butterstone and 500 Lowes, Dundeld, Perth (HBo).

Autumn passage: Rattray Head, Aber, 27 Aug (NE); 600 Invergowrie, Perth, the same day; peak L Leven 12-15 Aug, 250 on 12th (JFo, JHS); large numbers moving S at Blackshaw Bank, Dumf, 26 Sept (JGY). Last dates: 25-26 Oct Moffat, Dumf (ED).

***Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*. Records 14 May-17 June and 11 Oct: Kinross (first record), pr displaying near R Devon 11 June (ICM) (5: 289); Fair Isle, ♀ trapped 14 May, another ♀ 14-17 June (RHD); Shet, single

♀ ♀ (?or 1st-W ♂♂) Lunna 1 June, Vidlin 3 June, Ollaberry 6 June, Tingwall 8 June (RJT); O Heb, 1 Stornoway 11 Oct (IMcL).

Raven *Corvus corax*. Though reduced by afforestation in hill sheep areas it is not clear that there is an overall decrease in Galloway (ADW); despite persecution breeds successfully and possibly increasing slightly Dumf (JTo); nest with 2 young Clack, first breeding record (TDHM); Perth breeding records are more widespread than on map *Bird Study* 15: 192 (VMT); breeds sparsely Deeside, Aber, for which *Birds of Scotland* says there is no recent breeding record (NP). Seven tree nests Dumf (JTo), 2 Caith (DMS); nest with eggs on disused Galloway railway viaduct (CP).

Movement Fair Isle, 15 on 3 Apr, 29 flew N 9 Apr, 45 flew N very high 3 May (RHD); also 1 Barns Ness, E Loth, 14 Apr (DIMW). Roost 300+ near Lerwick, Shet, Aug (PKK); immense winter flock Stornoway, O Heb (WAJC).

Crow *Corvus corone*. Carrion Crows *C. c. corone* increasing Dumf (JGY). Small passage Fair Isle 5 May-5 June (RHD). Odd reports of Hooded Crows *C. c. cornix* S Scotland (Wigt, Renf, Midl, E Loth, Fife), maximum 3 Fife Ness 24 Feb (DWO), but some may be hybrids, which are reported as far S as Kirk (LAU) and Renf (MFMM) and N to Fair Isle (one resident) (RHD) and Shet (RJT).

Five Carrion Crows which vanished in the great gale on 15 Jan did not return to Gourcock until 29 Jan (per MFMM).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. For recent studies of Aber and Ayr populations see *The Problems of Birds as Pests* 1968, p. 119 (GMD, IJP) and 5: 196 (MEC).

A few on Shet outer isles early Feb (RJT), matched by 3 at Fair Isle on 6 Feb and 6 from 7th to 10th (RHD). At Yetholm, Rox, 8000-10,000 moving S in 2 hrs 22 Dec (RSB). Usual large feeding flocks on high moorland Kirk June-July (ADW), were also a feature of July in Dumf, where others on Caerlaverock salt marshes fed with waders in the estuarine mud (JGY).

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. Continues increase Dumf, where it is worst predator of Caerlaverock wader chicks; at least 98 prs in old colony in disused rabbit burrows Dalpeddar Hill (JGY). No other reported changes. Flock 300 feeding on hillside Balintore, Angus, 15 Apr (GMC). Fair Isle, 6 on 20 Oct, 9 to 25th, 8 to 27th (RHD).

Magpie *Pica pica*. Local but tending to increase Kirk as upland plantations grow (ADW); evidently increasing Aber (DGA, WM, NP); 1 Upper Cabrach, Banff, over 1300 ft in Oct suggests spread into high Forestry Commission plantations (RH); several resident Strachur area, S Arg (MJP) (see also 4: 449, 524; 5: 65); 1 Kinlochewe, W Ross, 22 Apr (DBa).

***Nutcracker** *Nuctifraga caryocatactes*. One Lerwick, Shet, 22-23 Aug, eating sparrows, sole Scottish reflection of widespread English irruption, 4th Scottish record (DC) (5: 290).

Jay *Garrulus glandarius*. Markedly increasing Dumf, especially in un-keepered forests (JGY), common Forest of Ae (HO). N of Perth/Angus population, 3 Banchory 29 Sept, 6 Strachan 5 Dec, both N Kinc (NP). Range extension suggested by 1 Fochabers, Moray, 19 May (THJ).

***Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*. No reports on status of any of the small breeding populations.

Great Tit *Parus major*. Few comments. A few prs bred Stornoway, O Heb, where first established 1966 (WAJC). Low numbers Jan-Mar, Nov-Dec Dalry, Kirk, may indicate local scarcity, but beechmast may have attracted them elsewhere in early months (ADW).

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. Bred commonly Stornoway, O Heb, where first established 1963 (WAJC). At Fife Ness 3 very pale birds appeared

in early Oct with Scandinavian migrants and stayed a week (DWO).

Coal Tit *Parus ater*. Increasing around Strathnaver, N Suth, in afforested areas (EGH). Pr or two bred Stornoway, O Heb, where established 1965 or 1966 (WAJC).

Crested Tit *Parus cristatus*. Breeding only Moray Basin, especially Spey, E Inv, as far up as Dun da Lamb above Laggan Bridge (DNW). One Clashmore Wood, Dornoch, SE Suth, 30 Mar-1 June (DMB). One on fence at head of pass over Glen Cia-aig heading from L Arkaig to L Garry is first in S Inv (DNW).

***Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris*. Two prs Yetholm, Rox, but breeding not proved 1968 (RSB). No report from Ber stronghold.

***Willow Tit** *Parus montanus*. Recorded only within Solway/Clyde range : Dumf, widespread, especially Nithsdale, with some evidence of partial winter dispersal to coastal areas where not breeding (JMCC, JMx, JKRM, JFY, JGY); Kirk, common but rather local (ADW); Wigt, certainly breeding (ADW); Clyde, no detailed account, but 1-2 in conifers Brown Carrick Hill near Ayr 7 Aug were a little W of usual range (WB).

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*. No reports of depressed numbers. Continues increase E Fife (DWO); numbers at high level Midl, bred for first time (in 5 yrs) at study area Loanhead, common several areas winter 1968/69, and at Gladhouse where only recorded in winter within past 3 yrs; regular Tynninghame, E Loth, where few until 1967 (RWJS). Between Erskine woods and Langbank, Renf, 100 on 14 Feb (RCDA). A party that regularly visited a bird table at Alloway, Ayr, was blown away in the great gale of 15 Jan (JA).

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. Little special comment. A few prs bred Stornoway, O Heb, where first established 1962 (WAJC). Pale Northern bird (described) caught E Yell 21 Apr (RJT). British bird Isle of May 7 Sept (GLAP).

Wren Troglodytes troglodytes. Very common and had good breeding season Kirk (ADW); completely recovered since 1953 in Dumf, with areas of very high density such as Forest of Ae (HO, JGY); good breeding season Kinross (JHS). Numbers probably slightly down Fair Isle (RHD). Movement 14 Rattray Head, Aber, 15 Oct (NE).

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*. No special comments on breeding status. A Black-bellied Dipper *C. c. cinclus*, the usual form at Fair Isle, there from 6 Oct, another 10th and 17 Nov, 1 stayed to year end (RHD).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. Probably increasing Dumf, especially in large afforested areas (JGY); increasing Altnaharra/Strathnaver, N Suth, in afforested areas (EGH); pr with young Stornoway woods 8 May, first post-war breeding O Heb (WAJC, IMcL, WMA). Autumn flocks: 30-40 Ardeonaig, Perth, 11 Sept (VMT); 35-40 Rosebery, Midl, 8 Sept, decreasing over next month (EMS, RWJS); 20 with Fieldfares at Mull of Galloway, Wigt, 18 Oct (ADW). A very few migrants Fair Isle 11 Feb-1 June, 24 Sept-24 Oct (RHD).

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. Bred successfully Shet, probably on more than one island, 2nd Scottish record and first for Shet (RJT) (5 : 218).

Spring : widespread movement Dumf 30 Mar, 1-16 Apr (AB, JMCD, RMcF, JFY, JGY); small passage E Fife 4-10 May (DWO); passage Isle of May, 17-18 Apr, 22 Apr, 4-6 May (JP); Fair Isle 14 Apr-31 May, especially 19-24 Apr, 5th and 15 May (RHD); Shet, small numbers 18 Apr-early May but very light passage (RJT). Last dates (and summer records) : Peeb, 1 Portmore 29 June (DGA); E Loth, 3 Yellowcraigs 2 June (RSB); Isle of May, 4 from 4 June, 2 to 10th (JP); E Stir, 2 Skinflats 12 May (MH); Aber, 1 Strathbeg 12 May, 1 Old Aberdeen 27 May, 1 all summer Collieston (NE, ADKR), 1 Mar Lodge 28 June (DN-T, AW); E Inv, pr with ♂ singing Newtonmore 20 May (DNW); Ork, pr at 1967 breeding

site for a few days at end of May (EB); Fair Isle, stragglers 9-22 June (RHD).

Unprecedented early autumn build-up in N: Fair Isle, July 20th (1), 22nd (4), 26th (12), 28th (25), 31st (41), Aug 3rd (60), 8th (75), 11th (100), 14th (300), then dropping, nearly all juvs which completed moult on island instead of before migrating (RHD); Shet, arrivals from about 20 July, 'family party' Unst 22 July, Fetlar build-up July 22nd (5), 23rd (20), Aug 6th (50), 10th (300) (RJT); Ork, 2 Auskerry 8 Aug, 2 Lyde 12 Aug (EB), 2 Marwick 13 Aug, 6 S Ronaldsay 15 Aug (BC); O Heb, 1 N Uist 8 Aug (ARMcG); E Inv, 'family party' Newtonmore 26 July (per RJF), 2 nearby 4 Aug (JMa), 1 Insh 8 Aug (RAH), parties up to 6 daily Speyside from 15 Aug for 2 wks (HB, RJF, DNW); Isle of May, 2 on 2 Aug increased to 4 on 4th, 7 on 5th, 10-16 on 8-17 Aug (DJL, JP, ADW); E Loth, 2 Aberlady 14 Aug (HEMD); Midl, 1 Gladhouse 28 July (EMS). Other Aug records: Nairn, Kildrummie 29th (PF); 1 Fife Ness 29th (DWO); Isle of May, 50 daily end Aug (NJG).

Main arrival from 2 Oct, with some from early Sept: Shet, influxes about 4-6 Sept and early Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, 120 on 9 Sept, 140 on 11th, 1000 on 2 Oct (first main fall), 800 on 24 Oct, 1200 on 25th, 600 on 26th (RHD); Ork, 2000 N Ronaldsay 2 Oct, 1000 on 11-12 Oct (EB); O Heb, many Butt of Lewis 13 Oct (WAJC); W Suth, 4 Scourie 16 Sept (DMcD); W Ross, 2 Achiltibuie 17 Sept (DMcD), 5 Coulin 18 Sept (JAW); SE Suth, 26 Bonar Bridge 14 Sept (DMcD); E Inv, heavy Spey passage 2nd wk Sept, mostly over by 3rd wk Oct (DNW); Angus, 1000 Arbroath 5 Oct (MN); Kinross, from 11 Sept, mainly 5-6 Oct (AA, JHS); W Fife, 200 Kilbagie 6 Oct (TDHM); E Fife, large movement 1st wk Oct, peak 1500 Fife Ness 19th (DWO); Midl, 2 Edinburgh 11 Sept (MAMcD), 50 Moorfoots 15 Sept (WBr); E Loth, 1 Barns Ness 12 Sept (EMS, RWJS); Rox, 1000 passed Yetholm 5 Oct (RSB); Dumf, first Dumfries 26 Sept (DM), large movement 8 Oct (NSRG); Kirk, first Dalry 29 Sept (ADW).

Possibly because of juniper berry crop, some wintered Speyside 1967/68, which is unusual (RHD, RJF, DNW).

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. No special comments on breeding status. Small spring passage Fair Isle 8 Mar-13 May, especially 17th and 19 Apr (RHD); a few Shet 18-28 Apr (RJT); 1 St Kilda 8th and 15 Mar (PW).

Main autumn passage Fair Isle from 10 Sept, unprecedented fall 2000 on 26 Sept, 300 on 27-30 Sept and 2 Oct, 150 on 24 Oct (RHD); Ork, 150 N Ronaldsay 26 Sept, 500 on 2 Oct, 400 on 11-12 Oct (RJW); E Inv, peak passage Speyside 1st wk Oct, still some 24th (DNW); Aber, passage Rattray Head 29 Sept, 5 Oct (NP, MW); Fife Ness, 500 passed on 19 Oct (DWO).

Redwing *Turdus musicus*. More breeding prs (about 25) known than ever before and probably well established in N Scotland; some 15 prs in one area and 4 in another not far away, of which breeding proved for 9 prs, positively identified as Scandinavian race *T. m. musicus* (anon); 3 prs nested NW Ross (RT), and 1 pr in previously used N Suth locality (HOB, EGH); in Strathspey, E Inv, 5 young in nest Badenoch district 28 May, fledged later (JMCE, DNW), one of pr disappeared from another nest (HB, RJF), and at least 2 other ♂♂ were singing late May/early June (DNW); 4 young flew from nest Stratherrick area of E Inv 2 June (LMcN, MMcN, SMcN); 2 singing some miles W of Dingwall, E Ross, 4 June (HOB).

Spring passage: Fair Isle 8 Mar-26 Apr, stragglers to 23 June (RHD); Isle of May, 17-20 Apr (JP). Late dates: 1 St Kilda 8 May (IDP); 1 Gordonstoun, Moray, 28 May, 8 June (THJ); 1 Forvie, Aber, 11 May (NP). Early return: 1 Fair Isle 14 Aug-3 Sept (RHD); 1 Insh 8 Aug (RAH), 4 Rothiemurchus 29 Aug (DNW), both E Inv. Odd birds from 5 Sept Fair

Isle (RHD), 7 Sept Isle of May (NJG), and on 11 Sept Edinburgh (MAMcD), 13 Sept Barns Ness, E Loth (MJE), 16 Sept Scourie, W Suth (DMcD). Main return from 21 Sept and especially 2 Oct thus: Shet, first about 21 Sept, many early Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, small peaks 21st and 26 Sept, mainly 2nd-3rd, 11th, 24-25 Oct (RHD); Ork, first 22 Sept (EB), N Ronaldsay peaks 2nd, 11th-12th, 24 Oct (EJW); O Heb, first Stornoway 22 Sept (WMA), many Butt of Lewis 13 Oct (WAJC); Aber, Forvie 21 Sept (NP); Angus, 1000 Arbroath 5 Oct (MN); E Stir, 2 Skinflats 5 Oct (MH); Kinross, 35 on 6 Oct (JHS); Fife Ness, 2 on 21 Sept, moving all day and into night 5 Oct, 1500 came in 19 Oct (DWO); Midl, a few Gladhouse 6 Oct (EMS, RWJS); Rox, main passage Yetholm 5 Oct (RSB); Dumf, large numbers arrived by 8 Oct (JGY).

One stayed from late Oct 1967 to early Apr 1968 in a Bearsden garden (WKR).

***Dusky Thrush** *Turdus eunomus*. One Whalsay, Shet, 24 Sept, 2nd Scottish record and first for Shet (JHSi).

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*. No reported change in breeding status. First dates: 24 Mar, 1 Garvald, Midl (WBr); 25 Mar, Scar Glen, Dumf (JMCC); 27 Mar, ♂ Rattray Head, Aber (MW); 28 Mar, in 7 Dumf localities (AB, JMCD, RMCF); 30 Mar, Speyside, E Inv (DNW). Small spring passage Fair Isle 16 Apr-7 June, 9 on 17 Apr (RHD); 30 Isle of May, 5-6 May (NGJ).

Autumn: Fair Isle, 21 Sept-9 Oct, unprecedented 165 on 26 Sept, good passage to 3 Oct, stragglers to 25 Oct (RHD); Ork, peaks 20 on 26 Sept, 12 on 2 Oct, N Ronaldsay (EJW); Isle of May, from 13 Sept, 14 on 27 Sept in SW gale (NJG). Last dates: 1 Arbroath 8 Nov (JD); very late ones Fair Isle 4th, 8th-9th, 19 Dec (RHD).

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. No reported changes in breeding status. Spring passage Rattray Head, Aber, 27 Mar (MW); large fall Fair Isle 29 Mar (RHD). Autumn: Shet, large numbers 22-27 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, peaks 6th, 10th-14th, 20-24 Oct (RHD); Ork, peaks N Ronaldsay 2nd, 11th-12th, 24 Oct (EJW); Aber, passage Rattray Head 5th and 10 Oct (MW); E Fife, thousands coming in all day 19 Oct on wide front in E wind and fog (DWO). Usual influx of Continental birds late Oct in Dumf; winter-ringed birds continue to be recovered in Norway and Denmark, with some onward passage to Ireland (NSRG).

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Seemed less plentiful in summer in Kirk (ADW); numbers down Caith (DMS).

Arrival: 22 Mar, 1 Hillend, Midl (ADKR); 24 Mar, Crockettford, Kirk (DS); 26 Mar, ♂ Fair Isle (RHD); 28 Mar, 1 Parkgate and 1 Glencaple, Dumf (AFi, RG), N Berwick, E Loth (DA), 13 Arbroath, Angus (MN), widespread Kirk 28th-29th (ADW); 29 Mar, 2 (5 on 30th) Langholm, Dumf (RES), 4 Fife Ness (JARG), Tulliemet, Perth (THE), Sma' Glen, Perth (VMT), Rattray Head, Aber (MW), Spey, E Inv (HB), 1 Kinlochewe, W Ross (DBa), 2 Fair Isle (RHD); 30 Mar, Crawick Glen, Dumf (AB, JMCD, RMCF), Moor of Genoch, Wigt (RCD), 5 Yetholm, Rox (RSB), Gairloch, W Ross (ENH); 31 Mar, 7 Stornoway (IMcL) and pr Carloway, O Heb (WAJC). After snowstorm Fair Isle had 25 on 10 Apr, 50 on 15th, 250 on 17th (RHD); pr St Kilda 12 Apr, lots thereafter (HK); 50 Isle of May 21 Apr (JP); large one Fife Ness 6 Apr (NE), strong movement there 25 Apr (DWO).

Autumn: Fair Isle 17 Aug-26 Oct, 20 on 1 Oct (RHD); last Speyside 25 Oct (DNW, PAW); last Caerlaverock, Dumf, 23 Oct (JGY).

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Inland Kirk population continues its recovery since 1963 (LAU, AFGW, ADW); Angus coastal territories have steadily increased in this period (GMC); Caith Oct-Dec numbers (8 localities) highest in recent years, perhaps owing to very mild weather (DMS).

Singles Fair Isle 22nd, 24th, 29-30 Mar (RHD); ♀ St Kilda 28 Mar

(PW). Other passage: 1 Fair Isle 15 May (RHD); 1 Whalsay, Shet, 21 Sept (JHSi); apparent migrants Rendall and Orphir, Ork, 2nd wk Oct (EB); 1 Isle of May 7 Oct (NJG); 1 Tynninghame, E Loth, 15 Sept (TB).

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. More than usual in breeding season Buchan and Lower Deeside, Aber/Kinc (NP); extending range in new forest areas of N Suth (EGH).

First dates mainly from 20-22 Apr, one earlier and exceptional: 11 Apr, Kindrogan, Perth (VMT); 20 Apr, ♀ St Andrews, Fife (DWO); 21 Apr, 1 Aberlady, E Loth (MGW), 3 Gladhouse, Midl (EMS, RWJS); 22 Apr, Scar Glen, Dumf (JFY, JGY), Yetholm, Rox (RSB), 5 Isle of May (JADH). Also 1 Scalloway, Shet, 24 Apr (DC); 1 N Uist 29 Apr (ARMcG). Widespread Dumf by 30 Apr (JGY); mainly from 1st wk May in Perth (VMT). Passage Isle of May 22 Apr-3 June (NJG); Fair Isle 29 Apr-8 June, 10 on 10 May, 12 on 23rd (RHD); Shet influx about 10-11 May, 20 Out Skerries 12 May (RJT).

Autumn: Shet from 5 Sept, 20 Out Skerries 6th (RJT); Fair Isle 19 Aug-2 Oct, especially 29 Aug, 11-13 Sept, stragglers to 22 Oct (RHD); Fife 28 July-16 Sept, 20 Fife Ness 15 Sept (PGTB, DWO); Isle of May 24 Aug-22 Sept (NJG, BL). Another late bird, Crimond, Aber, 13 Oct (NE, MW).

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Possibly less common than some years Kirk (ADW); absent from some usual E Loth sites (KSMcG); fewer than usual Altnaharra and Strathnaver, N Suth (EGH).

Early ♂ Irongrey, Dumf, 5 Apr (WA); 9 localities Dumf by 17 Apr (NSRG); early influx Shet from about 14 Apr (RJT); Ardeonaig 20 Apr, but main influx Perth from early May (VMT). Passage: Fair Isle 17 Apr-6 June, peaks 10th, 13th, 26 May (RHD); Isle of May 18 Apr-27 May, 100 on 5 May (JP); strong passage Fife Ness 4-10 May (10 on 7th) after E winds (DWO), and 5 Tentsmuir Pt 5 May (TGp); large movement Shet 10-12 May, 45 Fetlar and 20 Out Skerries on 12th (RJT).

Autumn: Fair Isle 24 Aug-29 Oct, peaks 11-12 Sept, 6th and 11 Oct (RHD); Shet, 20 Out Skerries 10 Sept, 15 Fetlar 8 Oct, last 25 Oct (RJT); Fife Ness 6 Aug-6 Oct, peak 6 on 13 Sept (DWO); Isle of May 5 Aug-25 Oct (NJG, IFS). Last: Tentsmuir Pt, Fife, 3 Nov (TGp); Rattray Head, Aber, 7 Nov (NE).

***Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*. Recorded (about 11 spring, 14 autumn) 17 Apr-27 May, 6 Sept-30 Oct and 28 Nov: Shet, 18 Apr Fetlar (RJT), 21 Apr Whalsay (JHSi), 13 May Fetlar (RJT), 2 Whalsay 28th and 30 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle (singles unless stated) Apr 30th, May 12th, 24th, 26th (2), 27th, Sept 6th-18th, 28th, Oct 13th, 20th, 21st, 22nd (all 3 different), 23rd (3), 24th (RHD); Aber, ♀ Old Aberdeen 17 Apr (ADKR), juv ♂ Cruden Bay 19 Oct (NP); N Kinc, ♂ Girdle Ness 28 Nov, first record (NE); Fife, single ♂♂ Fife Ness 7th and 9 May (RBH, DWO), ♀ Elie 11 May (RBH); Isle of May, 2 on 20 Oct, 1 to 23rd (IFS).

***Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Singles trapped Fair Isle 19th and 22 Apr (RHD); 1 Isle of May 29-30 Apr (JP).

***Bluethroat** *Cyanosylvia svecica*. Nest and eggs found Moray Basin (since revealed as E Inv) June, eggs lost to predator, only one adult seen (JJDG) (5: 220). First British breeding.

Migrants 6 May-5 June, 29 Aug-13 Oct: Shet, 1 Whalsay 12 May (JHSi); Fair Isle, 1 on 10-12 May, another 13th, 1-3 almost daily 21-31 May, 1 on 5 June, 1-3 on 19 days 29 Aug-24 Sept, 1 on 6-13 Oct (RHD); Fife Ness, 1 on 6-7 May (DWO), 1 on 14 Sept (HGp, DWO); Isle of May, 3 on 6 May (JP), 1 on 22nd and 3 others 23rd (MFMM), 1 on 12-13 Sept (GLAP), 2 on 17th (BL); E Loth, 1 Gullane Pt 16 Sept (WKR).

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. No reported change in breeding status. Spring passage: Fair Isle 11 Apr-23 May, peak 17-19 Apr (60 on 17th) and to 27th (RHD); Shet, influx 14 Apr, small movement about 12 May

(RJT); Fife Ness, a few from 28 Apr (DWO). Autumn: Fair Isle 16 Sept-16 Nov, peaks 5th and 10-11 Oct (RHD); Shet, trickle from 14 Sept, increase about 9 Oct (RJT); Aber, evident Continental birds on coast 21 Sept and especially 5 Oct (NP); likewise Fife Ness 5-19 Oct (DWO), this and the previous racial identification being partly based on circumstances.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Reeling in a dozen places Dumf by 17 May and increasing, especially in young plantations (NSRG), in which also abundant Kirk (LAU, ADW); general throughout mainland Clyde and probably increasing (MFMM); increasing new plantations Selk (AJS); 10 prs about Yetholm, Rox (RSB). On E coast N of the Forth scattered spring/summer reports from: Fife (4) (PGTB, DWO); Perth (2) (EJ, IMcLa); Angus (6) including record of 5 reeling Fotheringham 4 July (ARB, RTB, GMC, JD, JIS, RWS); N Kinc, 1 Maryculter 27 Apr (RIM), 3 Tilquilly 20 May (NP), 1 Banchory 27 June (CO); Banff, singing ♂♂ Ben Rinnes area (SR); E Inv (2) (WAS); E Ross, singing Maryburgh 13th and 16 May (HDS); SE Suth, singing 4 areas Dornoch 28 Apr-8 Aug, first records (DMB, JMG, DMcD); Caith, 1 Reay 2nd wk May, 1 summered Thurso, first records (JG, PMcM, DMS); W Suth (1) (ARB, RTB).

Arrival: 19 Apr (an early date), 1 Isle of May (also 1 on 20th and 22nd) (JHL, JP); 20 Apr, Langholm, Dumf (ELOC); 21 Apr, Yetholm, Rox (RSB), Dirlleton, E Loth (MGW), Fair Isle (RHD), Fetlar and Sumburgh, Shet (RJT); 24 Apr, Jardine Hall, Dumf (RTS), 7 Moor of Genoch, Wigt (RCD), Ormiston, E Loth (KSMcG), 1 Kinnaber, Angus (GMC, JD); 25 Apr, Selkirk (AJS), Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO). Fair Isle had singles 11 days 21 Apr-15 May, 3 on 29 Apr, 2 on 10 May (RHD); 4 Out Skerries, Shet, 2 May (RJT). Last: Fetlar 21 July (RJT); Elie, Fife, 28 July (DWO); Thurso, Caith, 12 Aug (DMS).

***Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. Fair Isle, singles 5th-8th, 11 May, 24 Aug, 9 days in Sept, 3 Oct (RHD); Isle of May, singles 25 May (MFMM), 9 Sept (GLAP); E Loth, Reed/Marsh Warbler Aberlady 27 Aug (RFu).

***Marsh Warbler** *Acrocephalus palustris*. One Fair Isle 6 June (RHD).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Still breeding O Heb (WAJC) and Ork (EB); numbers down Caith (DMS).

First dates (rather early): 21 Apr, Aberlady, E Loth (MGW), Fair Isle (RHD); 22 Apr, Yetholm, Rox (RSB); 23 Apr, Kilconquhar, Fife (12 on 25th, 20 on 26th) (PGTB, DWO); 24 Apr, Moor of Genoch, Wigt (RCD); 26 Apr, Kingoodie, Perth (HBo), Montrose, Angus (JD), Shet (RJT). Also in Apr in Midl (2 sites) (DGA), Isle of May (JP), E Stir (MH), Kinross (AA, JHS), E Ross (CGH), but not till 1 May in Dumf (JGY), Aber (NP). Spring passage: Isle of May 29 Apr-1 June (JP); Fair Isle 21 Apr-8 June (one 17-21 June), peak 25-31 May (RHD). Autumn: Fair Isle singles 5 Sept, 6th and 9 Oct (RHD); Isle of May 13 Aug-13 Sept (NJG). Also in Oct, 1 Forvie, Aber, 6th (NE, NP, MW).

***Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*. Records 27 May-8 June, 6 Aug-29 Sept (singles unless stated): Fair Isle, May 27th, 29th (2), 31st, June 1st, 2nd (2), 3rd, 8th, Aug 6th, 9th (2, new, 1 to 11th), Sept 6th-7th (RHD); Shet, Helendale 28 May (DC), Whalsay 20 Aug, 26th and 29 Sept (JHSi); Scourie 1 Sept, first for NW Highlands (CGC); Fife Ness 22 Aug (PGTB) and 27th (DWO).

***Booted Warbler** *Hippolais caligata*. One Fair Isle 8 Sept, 4th Scottish record (RHD).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. Pr breeding Vicar's Bridge, W Kinross, first occurrence in county (ICM).

Arrival: 14 Apr (early date), 1 Fetlar, Shet (also 19-21 Apr) (RJT); 17 Apr, 1 Lerwick, Shet (DC); 21 Apr, ♂ Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO), Isle of May (JP); 22 Apr, ♂ Castletown, Caith (♀ 26th) (DMS); 28 Apr, 2

Lochmaben, Dumf (RTS), Edinburgh (AFL), Tulliallan, Fife (ARB, RTB). Main arrival by 2 May Dumf (JGY); noted various counties early May, and migrants Fife Ness (DWO); passage Fair Isle 29 Apr-3 June, singles 16 June, 5 July (RHD); Shet influx 11-12 May (RJT).

Early very heavy autumn passage Fair Isle, Sept 3rd (4), numbers to 8th (17), peaks 13th (25), 21st (60), 22nd (50), 23rd (40), 26th (25), 29th (25), Oct 1st-2nd (20), 9th (12), 23rd (9), stragglers to 28 Nov (RHD); with some reflection Shet (RJT) and Ork (EB, RJW), especially about 20-22 Sept; last Shet 27 Oct (RJT), Caith 9 Nov (JARG).

Many winter records, with some apparently still moving in early Dec: Dumf/Kirk, 2♂♂ Dumfries Jan-Mar (JKRM, JSE), and pr 29 Nov-11 Dec (♂ to 13th) (EKA), ♂ Dundee mid Feb (per ADW); Ayr, ♂ Hayhill 16 Nov (WB); Renf, ♂ Bridge of Weir 15th and 25 Jan (ERTC), ♂ Clarkston 30 Dec (BMSM); Lan, ♀ Bellshill 13 Dec (KCRH); Arg, ♂ Campbeltown 13 Jan (FRT); Peeb, ♂ Carlols 3rd and 6 Jan (JVBC, EG); Midl, ♂ Juniper Green 1 Jan (per RWJS), ♀ Bonnyrigg 26 Jan-5 Mar, ♂ 3 Feb (JB), ♂ Colinton 10-12 Feb (PM), ♀ Corstorphine 17 Feb-5 Mar (AMa); Fife, ♂ St Andrews 22nd and 29 Jan (RAC), ♂ Kirkcaldy 17 Nov, ♀ 15 Dec (GHB); Aber, Rattray Head 8 Dec (NE, ADKR); Banff, ♀ Jan-Feb (AFWS); Moray, ♂ Gordonstoun 7 Dec (THJ); E Inv, ♀ 3 Jan-Mar, ♂ 28 Feb-8 Mar (paired), ♀ 26th and 29 Dec, all Inverness (MMCl).

***Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*. Records 7 Aug-23 Oct: Shet, 1 Fetlar 18-21 Aug, 2 Whalsay 20 Aug, 1 Unst 16 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, 9 Aug-29 Sept, especially 23 Aug-15 Sept, with Aug 23rd (5), 24th (5 new), 25th (3 new), 27th (4), 29th (8, 4 new), up to 3 to 15 Sept, stragglers 5 Oct (2), 23 Oct, latest ever (RHD); Ork, 1 Birsay 7-11 Aug (BC), 4-6 N Ronaldsday (singles 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 29 Sept, 2nd and 9 Oct, 2 on 26 Sept) (EJW); Fife Ness, 1 on 2 Sept (DWO), 2 on 15th (HGp); Isle of May, 6 on 2 Sept (GAP), 3 more by 10th (GLAP).

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. Breeding in a few scattered sites Kinross, first occurrence (JHS); at least 14 territories Angus (GMC); nest with young Newtonmore June, first E Inv breeding (AM); nest with 5 eggs Grantown June, first breeding Moray (HM); ♂ Cullen 3 June, first for Banff (JE).

Arrival: 17 Apr (early date), Keir, Dumf (JFY); 21-22 Apr, 1 Fair Isle (RHD); 26 Apr, Banchory, N Kinc (NP); 27 Apr, Edinburgh (AMS); 29 Apr, Shet (RJT). Widespread Dumf by 5 May (NSRG). Passage: Fair Isle, 1 as above, 1 on 11th and 15 May, more 24 May-9 June (6 on 25 May, 5 on 31st, 8 on 5 June), singles 16 June, 2 July (RHD); Shet to 13 June, peak 12 May (RJT); Isle of May 11 May-4 June (AMcD, JP). Autumn: Fair Isle 16 Aug-1 Nov, mainly 25 Aug-21 Sept, 33 on 5 Sept, 35 on 8th (RHD); Shet peaks 4-6 Sept (40 Out Skerries 6th) and about 10 Sept (50 Out Skerries) (RJT); Moray, 1 Gordonstoun 22 Oct (THJ); Aber, 1 Rattray Head 13 Oct (NE, AR, MW); Fife Ness 23 Aug-13 Sept (PGTB, DWO); Isle of May 13 Aug-24 Oct (IFS, ADW); Dumf passage started by 14 Aug (NSRG).

One ringed Isle of May 14 Aug 1965 recovered near Lisbon, Portugal, 8 Aug 1968 (5: 263).

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. No reported changes in breeding status, but now breeds regularly Caith (DMS), and still breeds Stornoway, O Heb (WAJC).

Arrival: 16 Apr, 1 Isle of May (JP); 17 Apr, Fair Isle (RHD); 20 Apr, 1 Caerlaverock, Dumf (JGY); 21 Apr, Laurieston, Kirk (JDo, ELR); 22 Apr, Yetholm, Rox (RSB), Usan, Angus (GMC); 23 Apr, 1 N Berwick, E Loth (DA); 24 Apr, 1 Blackford Hill, Midl (7 by 28th) (RMS); 25 Apr, Lundin Links, Fife (PGTB), Caith (PMcM); 26 Apr, 2 L Heron, Wigt (ARB, RTB), Kingoodie, Perth (HBo). Widespread Dumf by 1 May (JGY). Passage: Fair Isle 17 Apr-12 June, peaks Apr 30th (9), May 10th (15), 26th (25), 27th (15), 29th (20), 31st (15) (RHD); Shet peaks 1st-2nd, 11 May

(15 Fetlar) (RJT); Ork peak 29 May (10 Auskerry) (EB); Isle of May 16 Apr-10 June (JP).

Autumn: Isle of May 14 Aug-20 Sept (NJG, BL). Later records: Fair Isle to 25 Sept (RHD); 1 Sanday, Ork, 22 Sept (EB); 1 Rattray Head, Aber, 8 Oct (NE); 1 Fetlar, Shet, 9 Oct (RJT).

One ringed Isle of May 15 May 1965 recovered France July 1967 (5: 263).

***Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*. No breeding record, but singing birds at Yetholm 16 June, 6th and 14 July, first for Rox (see 3: 48) (RSB), and Alloway, Ayr, 11 May-23 June (WB, MEC, SLH).

Spring 20 Apr-23 June: Isle of May, 6 between 24th and 30 Apr, 3 on 4 May, 4 on 22nd (JMSA, JP); Fife, 1 E Wemyss 28 Apr (RAC), 1 Fife Ness 6 May (DWO); Aber, 1 Newburgh 8th and 19 May (WM); Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 1 June (EJWi); Fair Isle, small passage 20 Apr-9 June, 12 on 10 May, 7 on 15th (RHD); Shet, some May, especially 12th and after, 1 on 23 June (RJT).

Autumn 17 Aug-29 Oct: Shet, singles 17 Aug, 5th, 6th, 9 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle 23 Aug-29 Oct, 4 on 27th and 30 Aug, 6 on 18 Sept (RHD); Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 21 Sept (EJW), 1 Rendall 10 Oct (EB); Aber, 1 Forvie 14th and 23 Sept, 6 Oct (WM, NP); Fife Ness, 1 on 8th-9th, 15 Sept (HGp, PGTB, DWO); Isle of May, 2 on 27-29 Aug, 5 ringed Sept (BL, KP, GLAP); Ber, 1 St Abbs 16 Sept (TB, EMS, RWJS); Midl, 1 Roslin 27 Aug (ADKR).

Singles of Siberian race *S. c. blythi* Fair Isle 17th and 30 Sept (RHD).

***Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans*. One Whalsay, Shet, 22 Apr-5 May, second bird 5 May (JBr, JHSi); 1 Auskerry, Ork, 29 May (EJWi).

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Very early bird (considered acceptable by ADW, JGY) seen and heard Langholm, Dumf, 31 Mar (KB); 1 heard Ballinluig, Perth, 9 Apr (THE); noted Ardwell, Wigt, 13 Apr (RCD), St Andrews 15 Apr (JMCF), but most first dates thereafter: 17 Apr, Yetholm, Rox (RSB), L Leven (where arrivals continued and bulk in by 24th) (AA, JHS), Fair Isle (RHD); 18 Apr, widespread Dumf (NSRG), 1 Isle of May (JP), main arrival started Perth (VMT); 19 Apr, Selkirk (AJS), Muir of Ord, E Ross (DCH), Gairloch, W Ross (ENH); 20 Apr, Dalry, Kirk (ADW), 7 Moor of Genoch, Wigt (RCD), N Berwick, E Loth (DA), main arrival period E Fife (DWO), 1 Letham Grange, Angus (JD), 1 St Kilda (HK); 21 Apr, 20 Gladhouse, Midl (EMS, RWJS), many Threipmuir, Midl (TB), noted Glassel, N Kinc (DGA), Ballater, Aber (NE), Bullenie, Caith (DMS), Stornoway, O Heb (IMcL). Passage to early May in Kinross (AA, JHS); fall Fife Ness 6-7 May (30 on 7th) (DWO); Fair Isle 17 Apr-7 June, 75 on 10 May, 20-50 to 15th, 18 on 24th, stragglers to 7 July (RHD).

Autumn: Fair Isle 7 Aug-6 Oct, mostly 17 Aug-22 Sept, peaks Aug 17th (15), 25th (25), 28th-29th (30), Sept 8th and 10th (25), 19th (15) (RHD); Fife Ness, fall from 23 Aug (DWO); Isle of May, up to 50 on 25-31 Aug (KP), last 11 Oct (BU).

Northern bird *Ph. t. acredula* Fair Isle 16 June (RHD). Juv ringed Kilconquhar, Fife, 27 Aug 1967, recovered Algarve, Portugal, 19 Sept 1968 (DWO).

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. Nest with 4-5 young Skibo woods 5 June, first SE Suth breeding (IDP); otherwise usual thin scatter of summer records (without proof of breeding) N of main range.

Leaf-warbler, presumably a Chiffchaff, Stranraer, Wigt, 3 Mar (DS, RTS, JGY). Single birds Canonbie, Dumf, 29 Mar (RES), Caerlaverock 30 Mar (WA), Fair Isle daily 29 Mar-1 Apr (RHD); 15 Culzean, Ayr, 5 Apr (TMC); 2 Pressmennan, E Loth, 8 Apr (DGA); 2 St Kilda 9 Apr (HK); Ballinluig, Perth, 10 Apr (THE), and Kindrogan 11 Apr (VMT); but in most areas first records not till 13 Apr onwards; protracted arrival Dumf, where not widely recorded till mid May (JGY). Peak passage

Fair Isle 25 on 17 Apr, 10-20 to 23rd, last 6 June; again from 8 Sept, peaks Oct 6th (15)-11th, 23rd (10), 25th (11), stragglers Nov to 9 Dec (RHD); in Ork, 7 N Ronaldsay 6 Oct, 1-2 at Binscarth to end Noy (EB).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. Increasing Nithsdale, Dumf (JMX, JFY, JGY); absent from several Selk haunts, apparently not just from habitat destruction (AJS).

First dates: 27 Apr, Kenmore and Ardeonaig, Perth (VMT); 28 Apr, several Garroch, Kirk (JKRM, LAU); no other areas before 6 May. Singles Fair Isle 6 dates 22 May-3 June (RHD). Autumn: singles Fair Isle 6 dates 16-29 Aug, 8 Sept, unusual run 12-26 Sept (3 on 18th and 23rd) (RHD); Shet, singles 5 dates 1-19 Sept (DC, JHSi); Dumf, marked movement Thornhill, 7 trapped 3-12 Aug (NSRG, JFY).

***Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis*. One Fair Isle 12-15 Aug (RHD).

***Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*. Birds (21), singles unless stated, 13 Sept-23 Oct: Shet (2), Sumburgh 1 Oct (PKK), Whalsay 15 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle (11), Sept 13th, 17th-18th, 26th-29th, Oct 2nd (2), 3rd (3, 2 new), 4th, 5th (new), 6th (2), 7th (new), 23rd (RHD); Ork (6), N Ronaldsay Sept 21st, 22nd, 26th, 29th, Oct 2nd, all different (EJW), Kirkwall 3 Oct (EJWi); Fife Ness 5-6 Oct (JMCL, DWO); Isle of May 9-10 Oct (PK, DJN, BU).

***Pallas's Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus*. One Collieston, Aber, 22-24 Oct, 2nd Scottish record and first for Dee, part of an astonishing influx (*Brit. Birds* 61: 577) (AAn, NE, WM).

***Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi*. One Isle of May 22 Oct, 2nd Scottish record (IFS).

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. No reported changes in breeding status. Small spring passage: Fair Isle 29 Mar-27 Apr, peak 20-21 Apr (RHD); Shet 14-24 Apr (RJT); Fife Ness 17 Apr (DWO); St Kilda, where rare, singles 8th, 9th, 16th, 28 Apr (HK, IDP). Autumn: Shet 7 Sept-15 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle 14 Sept, 2 Oct, passage 9 Oct-1 Nov, peak 9-15 Oct, late bird 11 Dec (RHD); Ork, a few N Ronaldsay from 9 Oct (EJW), Mainland 27 Oct, small group Binscarth late Nov (EB); Aber, Forvie 22 Sept-30 Oct (NE, WM, NP); Fife Ness, from 9 Sept, 6 on 5 Oct (DWO); Dumf, 40-50 Caerlaverock 16 Sept (JGY); Kirk, many Carsethorn same day (JDo).

One ringed Isle of May 24 Sept 1966 recovered Holland 19 Apr 1968 (5: 263).

***Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*. One Isle of May 11-13 June (IT); 1 Seafield, Lerwick, Shet, 11 Oct (PKK).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. One pr bred Vane, Kinross, where 4 in 1967 (JHS); no other reported changes.

First dates rather spread out: 28 Apr, 1 Blackford Hill, Midl (AFL); 29 Apr, 1 L Earn, Perth (ARB, RTB); 3 May, Thornhill, Dumf (JMX); 5 May, 2 Isle of May (JP); 8 May, Old Aberdeen (ADKR, MW); 11 May, Yetholm, Rox (RSB), 1 St Kilda (RT); 12 May, Vane, Kinross (JHS), several places Shet (RJT). Widespread Dumf by 17 May (NSRG). Passage: Isle of May to 13 June (NJG); Ork, 10 Auskerry 29 May (EJWi); Fair Isle, first 15 May, mainly 23 May-13 June (RHD); Shet to 3 June (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, 3 between 23 Aug and 22 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle, a few 23 Aug-12 Oct (RHD); Isle of May 28-29 July and 27 Aug-13 Sept (NJG, GLAP). Last: Rattray Head, Aber, 24 Oct (ADKR, MW); Ladykirk, Ber, 3 Nov (KAMcK).

Pied Flycatcher *Muscicapa hypoleuca*. Impression of decrease on account of lack of nest sites Kirk (ADW), but good numbers where boxes put up Dumf and new breeding sites found Crawick Glen (WD) and Village of Ae (HO); pr summer Mugdock Wood, W Stir (TMC); none Ancrum, Rox, where several 1967 (AJS); only one report Perth, where

fluctuates (DBMcG, VMT); none Speyside, where same applies (DNW); bred Aberlour, first breeding in Banff (DB).

Only Apr record ♂ Isle of May on 18 Apr (JP). Subsequent arrival: 3 May, ♂ Glenarlie, Dumf (JMx, JGY); 4 May, passage Fair Isle till 2 June (4 on 15-16 May) (RHD); 5 May, ♀ Lochaber, Kirk (CKMcK, RJWS), 1 N Berwick, E Loth (DA), start of extensive fall after E winds E Fife with some 12 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀ at 10 localities between 5th and 17 May (per DWO), records Isle of May to 1 June (JP), first of series of Angus records 5-19 May (GMC). Others in N: pr St Kilda 11-12 May (MJHR, RT); ♂ Coulin, W Ross, 19-20 May (ENH, JAW); 1 Caith 12 May (KH); Shet passage 10-26 May (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, small movements 24-28 Aug, from 5 Sept, 10-15 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle 16 Aug-16 Sept, peaks 25th and 28 Aug, 7 Sept, stragglers to 13 Oct (RHD); Isle of May 3 Aug to 15 on 13 Sept (NJG, GLAP); 1 N Uist 21 Aug (ARMcG), and 2 Garry, Lewis, 1 Sept (WAJC, RMcI, IMcL, WMa); ♂ Achnasheen, Ross, 24 Sept (ARo); last Rattray Head, Aber, 6 Oct (MW); 1 trapped Keir 16 Sept, first Dumf autumn bird for at least 5 yrs (JFY).

***Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa parva*. Two spring, 19 autumn records. Single ♀♀ Fife Ness 7 May (DWO), Fair Isle 25 May (RHD). Otherwise singles (unless stated) E coast 2 Sept-13 Oct: Shet, Whalsay 29 Sept (JHSi), Sumburgh 29 Sept-1 Oct (NB, DC, PKK), Aywick 13 Oct (JN, RJT); Fair Isle 12th and 20 Sept, 11 Oct (RHD); Ork, Deerness 11 Sept (EJWi), 2 Sanday 21 Sept (EB), N Ronaldsay 2nd-3rd and 9 Oct (EJW); Aber, Forvie 21 Sept (NP), Rattray Head 22 Sept (NE, AR, MW) and 5-6 Oct (NE, JAL), Collieston 5 Oct (NP); Fife Ness 8th-10th and 14 Sept (PGTB, WJE, DWO); Isle of May 2nd (GAP) and 9-11 Sept (GLAP); Ber, first record, St Abbs Loch 14 Sept (RWJS).

Dunnoch/Hedge Sparrow *Prunella modularis*. No reported changes in breeding status. Passage: Fair Isle, 1 on 19-20 Mar, a few 12 Apr-8 June, then 16 Sept-16 Nov, mainly 11-31 Oct, peaks 11th, 15th and 30th (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 20 Apr, elsewhere 27 Oct, 6th and 18 Nov (RJT); Ork, 3 N Ronaldsay between 21 Sept and 24 Oct (EJW); usual Oct influx Applegarthtown, Dumf, ringing site but no recoveries to indicate source (NSRG). In Shet 1 wintered 1967/68 Unst (FJW), 1 Mid Yell 1968/69 (RJT).

One ringed Isle of May 2 Oct 1965 recovered Belgium 11 Nov 1967 (5: 263).

***Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. Records 8 Sept-23 Nov: Fair Isle, one 8-22 Sept, two 11 Oct, two 15-16 Oct (1 to 18th), singles 22-24 Oct, 6-7 Nov, 23 Nov (RHD); Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 2 Oct, 1 on 26th (EJW); N Kinc, 1 Girdle Ness 19 Oct, first for Dee (ADu, AFL, MAMcD); Isle of May, singles 17th-18th and 19-21 Sept, first records (JAG, ERM). Ork records subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Probably increasing Dumf (NSRG), but may be decreasing in parts of Kirk (ADW).

Arrival: 12 Apr (early date), 1 Roslin, Midl (ADKR); 14 Apr, 1 Blackford Hill, Midl (RMS); 17-19 Apr, 1 Fair Isle (RHD); 21 Apr, L Leven, Kinross (JHS), Ardeonaig, Perth (VMT), 2 Derry Lodge, Aber (NP); 22 Apr, 2 Old Aberdeen (ADKR); by 24 Apr, Glenarlie, Dumf (JMx). Passage: Fair Isle 10 May-8 June, peaks 10th, 12th, 14th, 31 May (RHD); Shet, from 12 May (RJT). Autumn: Shet, 1 Out Skerries 6 Sept (RJT); Fair Isle 2 Sept-10 Oct, peaks 5th-6th, 26th, 30 Sept (RHD); Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 6 Oct (EJW).

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. No reported changes in breeding status. Main return Yetholm, Rox, 23-30 Mar (RSB), corresponds with Fair Isle increase from 6 on 20 Mar to 45 on 29th (RHD); flock 20 St Kilda 7 May (IDP); 100 Braedownie, Angus, 9 May (GMC). Sept passage: Fair Isle from 23rd (RHD); Ork, obvious migrants Sanday 20th-

22nd (EB); Kinross, 100 on 20th-21st (JHS); Fife Ness, 400/hr 7th, 500 in field in fog 10th (DWO); Isle of May, peak 13th-25th (NJG). Usual large winter flocks (*cf. Birds of Scotland*) Caerlaverock to Annan, Dumf, littoral area (JGY).

***Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*. One Fair Isle 15 Sept (RHD).

Rock Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*. No reported changes in breeding status. Some passage Fair Isle from 23 Aug through Sept (RHD). Singles, inland Midl, Gladhouse 13 Oct (DGA), Cobbinshaw 9 Nov (TB, EMS, RWJS).

Pied/White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. Two White *M. a. alba*, the usual race there, had young in nest Shet 25 May (RJT); Pieds *M. a. yarrelli* continue to breed Ork and O Heb in small numbers (EB, WAJC).

Passage White: Fair Isle 17 Apr-31 May, peaks 27-29 Apr, 9-10 May (RHD); Shet 14 Apr-early May (RJT); St Kilda 23 Apr, 15 on 30th, 20 on 8 May (HK, IDP). Other dates: Midl, singles, Gladhouse 7th and 28 Apr, 5 May (DGA, EMS, RWJS), Duddingston 20 Apr, 4 May (DRA); E Stir, 10 Skinflats 28 Apr (MH); Fife, 1 Ballo 27 Apr (AMMF), 2 Fife Ness 28th and 30 Apr (DWO); Moray (first record of race), 1 Covesea 29 Apr (THJ); Inverness from 29 Apr (MR). Autumn: Shet from early Aug (RJT); Fair Isle 6 Aug-19 Oct, peaks 18th, 25th, 28 Aug, 4th and 16 Sept (RHD).

Passage Pied: 2 Fair Isle 10th-12th, 21-24 Apr, 1 on 6 May; 1 autumn 25 Sept (RHD). Widespread Dumf movement 29 Sept-17 Oct (JDo, RTS, JGY). One ringed Auchenalma, Wigt, 9 June 1965 found dead Sherbourne, Dorset, about 7 Apr 1968 (ADF).

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. At least one pr continues to breed O Heb, at Stornoway (WAJC).

Passage: Ork, 4 Finstown 1st wk Aug (EJWi); E Fife, 2 in from sea Fife Ness 13 Sept, 1 Kilrenny Common same day, 1 in from sea St Monance next day, 1 Balcomie 6 Oct (DWO).

***Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*. No reported change in Clyde breeding status; no proof of breeding E Stir though family party Skinflats 29 July (TDHM).

Other Yellow *M. f. flavissima* 17 Apr-8 May: Midl, ♂ Gladhouse 5 May (DGA); Kinross, ♀ L Leven 2 May (JHS); Isle of May, 1 on 17th, 24-25 Apr (JP); Fife, ♂ Fife Ness 30 Apr (DWO); Moray, 1 Covesea 24 Apr, 7 May (THJ); St Kilda, ♂ 8 May, first record of race (IDP); Fair Isle, 1-2 on 10 days 17 Apr-1 May (RHD); Shet, ♂ 28 Apr (DC).

Grey-headed *M. f. thunbergi*: Shet, 2 Scatness 10 May (DC, RJT), 2 Whalsay 12 May (JHSi); Fair Isle, 1-3 between 21st and 30 May (RHD).

Blue-headed *M. f. flava*: Shet, 1 Out Skerries 2 May (RJT); Fair Isle, small passage 26 Apr-5 June, singles probably this race 9 Aug, 3 Sept, 5 Oct (RHD); Lan, ♂ (with ♀ of species) Hamilton 4 Aug (DCS).

Race unspecified. Spring: 1 Heb, ♀ Tiree 5 June (MJE), first on island for many years (JGr); Midl, ♀ Edinburgh 4 May (AFL); Isle of May 22-28 Apr, 25-26 May (JMSA, JP); Angus, 1 Nether Balgray and 1 between Isla and Prosen glens 15 Apr (GMC); Caith, 1 Sandside 12 May (DGs), 1 Castletown 16 May (DMS); Ork, 1 Start Pt 4 June (EJWi). Autumn: Shet, 1 Out Skerries 6 Sept (RJT); Moray, 1 Covesea 19 Sept (THJ); Aber, 3 Rattray 7 Sept (MW); Angus, 1 Kirkton of Glenisla 1 Aug (AN); Isle of May, 1 on 8 Sept (GLAP); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 24 Aug (DCS); Wigt, 2 Luce Bay, late Aug (WHM).

***Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*. One Isle of May 20 Sept, first record (JAG, ERM).

Waxwing *Bombicilla garrulus*. Substantial invasion winter 1967/68 (reports of 300+ observers summarised by MJE), widespread except in N and W (*cf.* 4: 546); earliest 30 Stonehaven, Kinc, late Sept 1967;

small numbers second half Oct (Rothiemurchus 19th, Brechin 24th, Duns 25th), but most arriving and dispersing Nov and Dec; stragglers to Apr and a few into May; last 1 L Garten 31 May (JAMcE); mostly small numbers but frequently 20-30, 4 reports of 60 (max. 68 Boat of Garten Dec); largest concentration 300-1000 (taken as 600 in table) Speyside, E Inv, Jan, possibly owing to heavy crop of juniper berries (DNW); the table shows the number of birds in each faunal area month by month (and the number of reports).

Faunal area	Total birds (and reports)	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
N Isles	170+ (12)		37	130+		4				
N Coast	50+ (15)			50+						
Moray	930 (76)		7	73	320	750	100+	40	10	3
Dee	210 (22)	30	30	140	53	16	65	14		
Tay	650 (86)		8	385	87	180	66	7	30	
Forth	800+(145)		12	410	148	135	220	15	3	1
Tweed	115 (18)		3	86	24	8				
O Heb	50+ (5)			50+						
NW High	12 (3)			9		3				
Arg/I Heb	21 (5)			8	3	10				
Clyde	600+(110)		1	194	232	101	98	67	2	
Solway	250 (33)			16	49	116	110	10	2	1
	3858 (530)	30	98	1551	916	1323	659	153	47	5

No invasion in autumn 1968, 45 reports of about 160 birds in all (notes of 35 observers summarised by MJE), mostly scattered N Isles and E coast, but 1 report Stornoway, 1 W Ross, 1 Glasgow and 3 Solway; mostly Oct and Nov, 4 Dec records; earliest 5 Ae, Dumf, 23 Sept (HO), and 20 Braemore Lodge, W Ross, 27 Sept (per MR); first Oct dates 11th Stornoway, 14th Fetlar, 17th Fair Isle; max. 20 as above, 16 Dores, E Inv, 16 Nov.

*Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*. Recorded (singles unless stated) on 8 June and from 24 Sept (mainly Oct). Spring (about 38): Kirk, Carsphairn Jan (IWa), sites near Dalry 1 Feb (GAF), 26 Feb (LAU), early Apr (THa), Cairn Edward Forest Feb-31 Mar (ADW); Rox, St Boswells 3 Jan (ADKR), Gattonside 12-20 Mar (AMW); Peeb, Neidpath Castle 25 Mar (AMW); Lan, Motherwell 26 Dec 1967-6 Mar (KCRH); Dunb, Endrick mouth 21 Feb (WKR); N Arg, Taynuilt Jan (NGMcG), 2 Kenra Bay, Ardnamurchan, 7 Apr (SMG-R); Perth, Glen Artney 17 Mar (RMR); Angus, R Tarf Feb (GMC); Moray, Fochabers 25 Dec 1967-late Mar (RH); E Inv, L Garten 28 Mar-5 Apr (HB, RJF), L Morlich 7 Apr (SR); E Ross, Strathpeffer 14 Feb (HDS), 3 Garve/L Luichart 1 Mar (DBa), Dingwall throughout winter to 23 Mar (HDS), Achanalt 24 Mar (JAW), Contin 6 Apr (DCH); W Ross, Kinlochewe 2 Jan-end Mar (DBa), Plockton 20 Feb (JSu), Gairloch 25 Mar (ENH), Glen Torridon wintered to 9 Apr (JAW); SE Suth, 3 mls W of Dornoch 12 Jan, 17 Feb, 9 Mar (DMcD); N Suth, Tongue 11 Feb (RHD); Caith, Helshetter 31 Mar (JFa); Fair Isle 11-12 Apr, 24-25 Apr, 23 May (RHD); Shet, 2 Sumburgh 15 Apr (GDJ), Unst 8 June (per RJT).

Autumn (about 33): Shet, Unst 12 Oct (MS), Yell 13 Oct (RJT), Feflar 23 Oct (TT); Fair Isle, Oct 3rd, 11th (5), 12th (2), 14th-15th, 16th-17th (another), Nov 6th (2), 17th-20th (RHD); Ork, Stennes 13 Oct (JSc), Hoy 16 Oct (per EB), N Ronaldsay 9th and 17 Oct (EJW); Aber, Forvie 5 Oct (NP), Meikle L 23 Oct (AD), Balmedie 23 Oct (ADKR), Aberdeen 17 Nov (DJ); N Kinc, Banchory 22 Oct (BS), Strachan 15 Nov, 5 Dec (NP); Angus, Invermark 24 Nov, Lintrathen Dec (GMC); Fife, Cleish Hills 19 Oct, 2 Nov (per TDHM); Isle of May 8-9 Oct (PK, DJN, BU); E Loth, Tynningame 27 Oct (EMS); Ber, Grantshouse 3 Nov (JMs); Rox,

St Boswells 17 Nov (DRG); Dunb, Glen Fruin 23 Oct (JH); Dumf, Bridge of Ae 24 Sept (HO).

***Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*. One Foula, Shet, 29-30 Apr, 5 May (JGH); ad Fair Isle 4-8 June (RHD); 1 Whalsay, Shet, 10 Sept (JHSi), subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee; imm Fair Isle 18 Sept (RHD).

***Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*. Passage, singles unless stated, 5 May-13 June, 22 Aug-29 Sept. Spring: Shet, Unst 8 dates 11 May-8 June (2 on 29 May) (WCJ, MS, RJT, FJW), Whalsay 3 on 28 May (JHSi), Mainland 29 May, 31 May, 1 June (DC, DH, RJT), Fetlar 2 June (TJ-F); Fair Isle, record spring 10 May-13 June, peaks May 14th (3), 22nd (4), 23rd (8), 25th, 27th and 29th (7), June 2nd (4) (RHD); Ork, Stronsay 30 May, Sanday 1 June, 3 N Ronaldsay 1 June (EB, EJWi); SE Suth, Dornoch 30 May (DMcD); E Ross, Munloch 3 June (ACC); Aber, Rattray Head 11 June (MW); Isle of May 5-7 May (JP).

Autumn: Shet 10 Sept (JHSi); Fair Isle 22 Aug, 3-5 Sept (RHD); Ork, Stenness and Tankerness 14-15 Sept (EB, EJWi); W Ross, Gairloch 30 Aug (RAW), Torridon 23-29 Sept (JAW); Isle of May 26-29 Aug (GAP), 1 Sept (DCG).

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Fewer than usual bred Fair Isle (RHD). Passage late Mar and Apr Fair Isle (RHD); influx E Fife 2-8 Nov (DWO). Angus roost of about a million birds used for third winter running (GMC); enormous winter roost Dunscore, Dumf (JMcC, BST, JGY); 5000-10,000 at Gladhouse island roost, Midl, 29 June (DGA). Birds from winter roost at Elie, Fife, recovered in summer in Norway, Sweden and Finland (DWO).

***Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*. Ad trapped Fair Isle 23 May-1 June (judged an escape), imm 23-25 Aug (RHD); 1 Iona, N Arg, 9 July-2 Aug (JMcF, JDS, RALS, DEW).

***Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. No nests reported, but no reports from breeding areas in SE counties and Drumlanrig/Thornhill part of Dumf. Elsewhere singles: Kinmount, Dumf, 7 July (JGY); Saltoun Wood, E Loth, 12 June (HMa); Corstorphine Hill, Midl, 10th and 19 Feb (AMa); Doune, Perth, 27 May (DSB); Errol, Perth, mid July (JFi); Dunblane, Perth, 27 Oct (BT).

Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*. No reported changes in breeding status: ♀ building Altnaharra, N Suth, 2 June (EGH).

Isle of May, 50 on 2 Apr (DCG); Fair Isle, ♂ 19-21 Apr, small passage 11 Oct-9 Dec (RHD); Shet (now rare, though breeds Ork), 1 Fetlar 25 July (RJT), 1 Unst 15 Oct (MS).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. Breeding numbers increased slightly E Fife (DWO); numbers good Midl (RWJS); nest Belhelvie, Aber, is only one known in area in recent years (NP).

Unusual numbers in N: Banff, 4 Aberlour 5 Apr, 2 on 10th (DB); Moray, 1 Elgin 19 Jan, 4 Kinloss 3 Feb (THJ); E Inv, 12 Longman 16 Jan (MJE, JMcG), 4 on 25 Feb (GC); E Ross, 1 Tore from 22 Mar (MKMcD-D); W Ross, 1 Shieldaig, Gairloch, 10 Mar (ENH); SE Suth, 3 Dornoch 3 Feb, 1 on 14 Dec (DMcD); Caith, 2 Thurso and 2 Lybster 19 Feb (DMS), 1 Reay 9 Apr (JG); O Heb, 3 N Uist 7 Feb (DGA, DJ, IN), 1 Stornoway 23 May (JF); Ork, 2 Mainland 30 Apr (EJWi), dozen N Ronaldsay late Apr (KGW); Fair Isle, 1 on 5-8 June (RHD); Shet, 2 Lerwick 28-29 May (DC), 2 Helendale 1 June (JWt), 1 Whalsay 4 June (JHSi), 1 Sumburgh 12 June (DC). Unusual numbers Apr, Isle of May, 15 days 1 Apr-2 May (8 on 2 Apr, 20 NW on 3rd) (DCG, NJG, JP), 2 on 28 May (JP); also 1 on 23-25 Oct (IFS).

Flocks S Scotland: S Arg, 20 Crarae 9 Mar (MJE); Midl, 40 Outer-ston 26 Oct (EHa); E Loth, 20 N Berwick 4 May (DA); Rox, 60 about Yetholm Sept after good season (RSB); Dumf, local dispersal by 25 Aug when 30-40 Castledykes (JGY).

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. No reported changes in breeding status. At least 12 singing in territories Dumf (WM, HO); 2 prs Altnaharra, N Suth, in summer (EGH).

Flock 200 Newcastleton, Rox, 24 Mar (KB per JGY). Spring passage. Fair Isle, 1 on 14th and 19 Apr (RHD); Shet, 2 Unst 22 Apr (MS). Autumn, mainly 8-21 Sept, also mid Oct and mid Nov: Shet, 9 Out Skerries 11 Sept (RJT), 6 Bigton 15 Sept (DC); Fair Isle 8-21 Sept (19 on 12th, 25 on 17th), 4-26 Oct (14 on 11th) (RHD); Ork, 2 Toab 12 Sept, 3 Orphir 7 Oct (EJWi), 7 N Ronaldsay 1st wk Oct (EJW); Caith, Thurso 22 Oct (PMcM); Aber, 2 Rattray Head 16 Nov (NE), 2 Newburgh 17 Nov (ADKR); Perth, 6 Kingoodie 17 Nov (HBo); Kinross, mainly 21 Sept (6)-23 Oct (JHS); Fife Ness 9-15 Sept (25 on 12th-13th), 10 flew S 19 Oct (PGTB, DWO), also 10 Elie 12 Oct (DWO); Isle of May 10 Sept (5)-21 Oct (NJG, GLAP); Midl, 4 Roslin 4 Sept (ADKR).

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*. Pr laid Isle of May (NJG); no other changes reported.

Beyond breeding areas: Fair Isle, 5 on 8 Jan, passage 16 Apr-8 June, 1 on 19 Nov (RHD); Shet, 1 Fetlar 3 June (RJT); O Heb, 1 Balmore and 1 Balranald, N Uist, 7 Feb (DGA, DJ, IN), 1 Stornoway 23 May (JF), 16 Nov (MFMM).

Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*. No reported changes in breeding status. Autumn/winter flocks: Fair Isle, 150 on 29 Aug, 117 on 20 Sept, most gone by mid Nov (RHD); O Heb, 1500 (including 2 flocks of 500) noted, without any special search, on stubble in N Uist in a single day in early Feb (DGA, DJ); Perth, where now very local, 18 Devil's Elbow 6 Aug (GMC); E Loth, 15 Aberlady 20 Dec, 17 on 24th (DJ); E Stir, up to 100 in winter Skinflats (MH); N Arg, 132 Seil Island 30 Sept, 250 on 5 Oct, fewer 18 Oct (MPMcM); Dumf, 50 Glencaple 25 Nov (JMcGr), increased to 250 by 6 Dec (when another 250 Kenneth Bank and 25 Caerlaverock), 500-550 in area 14-20 Dec, but only parties up to 25 by end of month (JGY).

Some evidence of poisoning by seed dressings Fair Isle (RHD).

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*. Lesser Redpoll *C. f. disruptis* spreading into new plantations (a significant habitat elsewhere) E Fife (DWO). More in summer N Suth (Altnaharra, Borgie, L Hope, Strathnaver) than in previous 10 years (EGH); commoner W Ross (parties over 100 Gairloch) than in past 7 years (ENH).

Migrants: Shet, 1 Unst 17-24 Apr (RJT), 1 Foula 22-24 July (per RJT); Fair Isle, a few 25 Apr-11 May, 1 on 12 July, 2 on 22 July, a few 29 Sept-8 Nov (RHD); Isle of May, a few 4-24 May (JP), 9 on 30 Sept (DWO), 12 Lessers 22-23 Oct (IFS); O Heb, small flock 12 Mar (WAJC).

Mealy Redpolls *C. f. flammea*: 1 Isle of May on 23 May (MFMM); 2 Blackford Hil, Midl, 22 Dec (HEMD); and doubtless some of the northern records.

Greenland Redpoll *C. f. rostrata* trapped N Ronaldsay, Ork, 14 Oct (EJW).

***Arctic Redpoll** *Carduelis hornemanni*. Singles seen with the characteristics (of uncertain significance) of this bird: Whalsay, Shet, 19 Feb (JHSi) (5: 292); Mid Yell, Shet, 14-16 Oct (DC, ARM, RJT). The Rarities Committee no longer considers records of this debatable species unless the bird is handled.

***Serin** *Serinus canarius*. One Scalloway 17 Nov and probably a few days earlier, first for Shet (RD).

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. Breeding numbers, but not range, increased Dumf (JGY).

In the N: 1 Fair Isle 18 Jan (RHD); 1 Fetlar, Shet, 20 Apr (RJT).

Influx of obviously Northern birds *P. p. pyrrhula* from 9 Oct: Shet, unusually large influx from 9 Oct, parties in many places Oct-Nov, some well into Dec (RJT); Fair Isle, unusual numbers 9 Oct-24 Nov (1-3 on

24 dates) (RHD); Ork, 1 Kirkwall 20 Oct, 2 Binscarth 6 Nov (EJWi); Caith, 3 Wick 12 Oct (DMS, IW); Aber, ♂ Rattray Head 14 Oct (MW). A ♀ Fife Ness 6 Oct was also thought to be a Northern bird, but like most of the rest it was not caught (DWO).

***Scarlet Grosbeak** *Carpodacus erythrinus*. Spring: Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 2 June (EJWi); Fair Isle, ♀ 25-27 May, ♀ 6 June (RHD); Shet, singing ♂ Fetlar 1-3 June (RJT, JWt). Autumn: Shet, 1 Out Skerries 11 Sept (WLNT, RJT), 2 Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, Aug 29th (1), Sept 6th (1), 7th (3), 8th (2), 9th (1), 18th-20th (1), Oct 12th (1) (RHD). The Ork and Whalsay records are subject to acceptance by the Rarities Committee.

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*. No reported changes in status of Scottish residents. Winter breeding of presumed immigrants, which probably began Sept 1967, continued to May in Dumf, 17 nests found Forest of Ae (HO); a few birds also Cairn Edward Forest, Kirk, Feb-Mar (per ADW).

Small arrival July: Fair Isle, singles 6th, 12th, 15-24 July (RHD), but none Shet or Ork; E Inv, some immigrants Speyside from about mid July (DNW); Kirk, 20 L Mannoch 17 July (RHM). Other possible immigrants: Aber, 2 Cruden Bay 4 Sept (NE), 1 Collieston 23 Oct (ADKR).

***Two-barred Crossbill** *Loxia leucoptera*. Forest of Ae, Dumf, 1 on 17 Feb, ♂ and ♀ 19th and 23 Feb; later details not received but last sighting reported 19 May (HO).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. No reported changes in breeding status. A few wintered as far N as Fair Isle and Shet (RHD, RJT). Spring: Fair Isle, passage to 27 May (10 on 19 Apr, 6 on 16 May) (RHD); Shet, a few from 14 Apr and in May (RJT). A ♀ 8-30 July Fair Isle, passage 31 Aug (♀), 12 Sept-9 Nov (10) on 29 Sept, 25-35 on 11-13 Oct, 15 on 23-24 Oct) (RHD); a few parties Shet from 14 Oct (RJT); a few Ork in Oct (EB).

One ringed Isle of May 14 Oct 1966 recovered Norway 18 Apr 1968 (5: 263).

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. N Suth, ♂ in full plumage 10 June in area of only recorded breeding (in 1920), and ♂ singing 11 June in another area of birchwoods (HOB, EGH); N Kinc, ♂ found injured Stonehaven 22 July showed no signs of captivity or of having been prevented from migrating by earlier injury (WBa).

Spring maxima: Dumf, at least 7 flocks over 100 Jan-Feb (JGY); Kirk, unusually numerous Jan, 300 Castle Douglas (WA); Rox, 300 Yetholm 2 Jan (RSB); Dunb, 100 Dumbarton 1-2 Jan, unusually many (DJL). Departure: last dates mid Apr in Peeb (ADKR), Fife (DWO), E Inv (HB, DNW); Isle of May 13 Apr-1 May (max. 12), 1 on 27 May (JP); Fair Isle 29 Mar-30 Apr, 10 May-8 June, especially 14-23 Apr (40 on 19th) (RHD); Shet, from 14 Apr (60 Fetlar 20 Apr) (RJT).

General pattern of autumn dates is given by Fair Isle, early birds 3-21 Aug (1-2), passage 6 Sept-22 Nov, especially 26 Sept-30 Oct, big peaks Oct 3rd (250), 11th-14th (up to 1300), 24th (200) (RHD); only odd birds elsewhere before 2nd wk Oct; Shet influx from about 9 Oct, reaching 600 on Fetlar (RJT); Ork peak 100-160 N Ronaldsay 10-12 Oct, 100 on 20th (EJW); E Inv, Spey passage from 10 Oct (DNW); Fife, 30 flew S at Fife Ness 19 Oct (DWO); Isle of May peak 190 on 10 Oct (BU). Winter maxima: up to 300 Portmore, Peeb, Nov-Dec (DGA, EMS, RWJS); 70 Muirkirk, Ayr, 10 Nov was unusually many (JMCL).

One ringed Isle of May 13 Oct 1962 recovered Belgium 11 Nov 1967 (5: 263).

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*. Though widespread coastal breeder Dumf, has not been found breeding for 30 yrs in Upper Nithsdale, where some noted Sanquhar and Thornhill since 1963, but birds in territories probably bred both areas 1968 (WD, JFY, JGY); common low-

land breeder Wigt, but flocks 200 and 40-50 near Sandhead 3 Mar notable (DS, RTS, JGY); up to 4 singing Hoselaw L, Rox, in Mar were observer's first in area (RSB).

Passage: Fair Isle, 1 on 24 Apr, 1 on 24 Nov (RHD); Isle of May, 3 on 3 Sept (NJG).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. No reported changes in breeding status. Migrants: Shet, 1 Unst 30 Mar (RJT), 3 Whalsay 5 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, singles 22 days 15 Apr-6 June, 2-3 on 21st and 23-24 Apr, 1 on 26 Sept, up to six 11-17 Oct, one 6-17 Nov (RHD); Isle of May none (NJG); O Heb, ♂ Howmore, S Uist, 5 Feb (DGA, DJ, IN).

***Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala*. A ♂ trapped 17-26 Apr, considered an escape (RHD); ♂ Ardnave, Islay, 11 June (RHB, SG). There must be suspicion that birds of this species are escapes.

***Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps*. About 9 ♂♂ 21 Apr-10 July, presumably escapes: E Loth, Gullane 21 Apr (RL); W Ross, Anancaun, Kinlochewe, 25 June-5 July (DBa, JAW); I Heb, Rhum 26 Apr-6 May (or later) (PW); O Heb, N Uist 11 June (CHT); St Kilda, for some days prior to mid-July (per HEMD); Ork, Holm 10 May (MT-C); Fair Isle, singles 1 June-10 July, 10-12 June, 1st and 4 July (RHD). Note the distribution to N and W.

***Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*. One Fair Isle 13-18 Sept (RHD); 1 Isle of May 26 Aug (KP, GAP).

***Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*. Spring: Fair Isle, May 10th-14th (2), 21st (1) (RHD). Autumn: Fair Isle, Aug 25th (1), Sept 3rd-5th (1), 7th (another), 9th (another), 10th, 11th, 13th (1), 14th (2), 22nd-26th (1), 28th (1), Oct 5th (1) (RHD); Isle of May, Aug 28th (4), 29th (3), 30th (1) (KP, JP).

***Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*. Singles Fair Isle 26-28 Sept, 11-14 Oct, 23-27 Oct (RHD).

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. Three prs bred Inchkeith, Fife; *Birds of Scotland* gives no breeding records for Forth islands (EMS, RWJS).

Spring passage: St Kilda, where rare, 1 on 12 May (RT); Fair Isle, a few 24 Mar-30 Apr, 40 on 10 May, up to 20 until 14th, fewer to 30th, last on 5 June (RHD); Shet, considerable passage from 10 May (RJT). Autumn: Shet, small numbers 29 Sept-28 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle 24 Sept-30 Oct, mainly 6-24 Oct (20 on 6th, 10 on 23rd-24th), stragglers to 17 Nov (RHD).

***Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*. Records to 12 May and from 31 Aug: E Loth, 2 Aberlady 2 Jan (MAMcD), then Nov 23rd (1), Dec 8th (17), 20th (4), 22nd (6), 27th (13) (MJE, DJ, KAMcK); Isle of May, 1 on 2 Oct (ADKR); W Stir, ♂ in huge finch flock Drymen 26 Jan (TMC); Aber, 8 Bridge of Don 7 Jan, 1 Strathbeg 17 Nov (NE, ADKR); E Inv, ♂ with Twites at 1500 ft near Kingussie 23 Apr, first record (DNW); O Heb, 1 Gallan Head 31 Aug (AFJ); Ork, a few N Ronaldsay from 21 Sept (3 on 11 Oct) (EJW); Fair Isle, ♂ 1 Apr, ♂ 7 May, small numbers 31 Aug-22 Sept, 1-24 Oct (6 on 7 Sept and 3 Oct, 4 on 11 Oct) (RHD); Shet, 1 Out Skerries 2 May, 2 on 12th (RJT), 1 Mainland 22 Sept (DC, RJT), 2 Whalsay 11 Oct (JHSi), 1 Unst 28-29 Oct (MS).

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Cairngorms: ♀ with 2 fledglings 2nd wk July in corrie where pr seen previous wk; 3 in early June and singles to July in another corrie where nesting not known (DN-T, DNW); 5 ♂♂ (4 singing) elsewhere 16 June (VCW-E). W Ross: prs at 2 sites Beinn Eighe Reserve 22 June where ♂♂ singing earlier, and 2 birds thought to be juvs seen at one site 8 July (DBa).

Flocks in early months: 250 Selkirk 2 Jan (ADKR); Renf, where rare, 25 Langbank 2 Jan (GTW); E Loth, maximum only 40, Aberlady 2 Mar (KSMcG); Fife, more than usual, 350 Craik 2 Jan (JARG), 80 Anstruther

3 Jan, 120 Pittenweem 7 Jan, 100 Largoward 25 Feb (DWO); Ork, 2000 L of Skail 10 Mar (EB). Passage: odd birds N at Fife Ness 9-23 Mar (DWO); Isle of May, only 1 bird 16 Apr (JP); Fair Isle, peaks 90 on 26 Mar and 8 Apr, last 22 May (RHD); Shet, last 16 May Out Skerries, 18 May Unst (RJT).

Autumn from mid Sept: Shet, 1 Fetlar 15 Sept, 50 on 17th, usual autumn flocks up to 200 (RJT); Fair Isle, 13 on 13 Sept, peaks 80-100 on 14th, 16th, 22nd, 150 on 27 Sept, numbers not high in Oct (max. 120), 200 on 17 Nov, 250 on 28th (RHD); other first dates 15-22 Sept in Ork (EB), Aber (NE, MW), Fife (DWO), Isle of May (BL). Fewer than usual Caith to Dec (DMS); 300 Crail, Fife, from 23 Dec (JARG).

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. No reported changes in breeding status. Two on Isle of May on 13-14 May (AMcD).

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*. Continues increase and slow spread N in Dumf, breeding in two areas at Thornhill (JMX, JFY); bred Luce Bay, Wigt (RCD); still increasing Midl, as in Moorfoots, where 30 Gladhouse 11 Aug, 60 on 8 Sept, 40 on 30 Nov (DGA, EMS, RWJS); now common Morton Lochs area, Tentsmuir, Fife, and breeding (cf. 2: 159) (JD, DWO, RWS); singles caught near Dollar 7 Jan and 31 Dec (cf. *Edin. Bird Bull.* 3: 33), occupied nest above Alva 27 May, first breeding Clack (TDHM, AT); 15 Cape Wrath Hotel, Suth, 11 Feb (RHD), 21 nearby 16 Sept (NE).

In Ork, where small colony on Eday, 4 seen Auskerry 29 May (EJWi), 3 N Ronaldsay 20 Sept (EJW); Fair Isle, 1 on 30 May, up to 7 on 2-13 June, 1 on 2 Oct, 2 on 4-5 Oct (RHD); St Kilda, 1 on 17 July (HEMD, MM); Isle of May, up to 16 on 23-30 May (MFMM, JP), 4 on 23 Oct, 3 on 24th, only second autumn record there in 30 yrs, though autumn passage used to be larger than spring (IFS).

Earlier records - 1966, 1967

This section will inevitably be needed for the few records that are held over from year to year, but otherwise it will be used only for those that seem of unusual interest. Ringing recoveries, which are often reported late, will usually be given in the main list.

Manx Shearwater *Procellaria puffinus*. Up to 12 flying S at Stoer Pt 6 June 1967, first for W Suth (ARB, RTB).

Little Owl *Athene noctua*. One near Elsrickle, Biggar, 14 July 1967, first for Lan (HD).

Redwing *Turdus musicus*. Two with juv NW Ross 8 June 1967, different from breeding localities given at 5: 32 (ARB, RTB).

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Singing Carron, Moray, summer 1966, few records for area (SR).

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. Singing ♂ Tarryblack Wood, Banff, mid June 1966, few records for area (per RH).

Review

Birds of the Atlantic Islands. Vol. 4. History of the Birds of the Cape Verde Islands. By David A. Bannerman and W. Mary Bannerman. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, 1968. Pp. xxxi + 458; 20 colour and 31 monochrome plates; maps and numerous text-figures. £6.6/-.

This book concludes the remarkable work on the ornithology of the Atlantic Islands, launched by Dr Bannerman with the volume on the Canary Islands, and continued in those on the Maderian Islands and the Azores, in both of which the authorship was shared, as in the present volume, by Dr Bannerman and his wife, W. Mary Bannerman. *A History of the Birds of the Canary Islands and of the Salvages* appeared in 1963, the same year in which the last volume of Dr Bannerman's monumental *Birds of the British Isles* was published. The production of this final sumptuous book on the Cape Verde Islands after so short a lapse of time is a tribute to the scholarship, industry and determination of the authors and to the skill and application of illustrators and publisher. The name of the senior author has of course long been associated with the study of the birds of this island group—the endemic Buzzard was named *Buteo buteo bannermani* in 1919—but, characteristically, he and his wife set forth from Scotland in 1966 to make an arduous field trip to gain first-hand impressions of the living birds in their environment. Equally characteristically, they have enriched their book with impressions of far more than the birds. Readers will gain a vivid picture of human life in the islands and of the extraordinary contrast between the arid desolation of much of the landscape and the prosperous irrigated plantations, whose produce includes fine bananas and coffee, maize, sugar and tomatoes. Rain may not fall for five years at a stretch and "water, or rather the lack of it, is the greatest curse which the Cape Verde islanders have to endure."

The first part of the book includes a detailed historical survey of past ornithological studies, a short discussion of the origins of the fauna in general, a concise account of the butterflies by N. D. Ripley, and a contribution on the vegetation. The earliest references to birds by fifteenth century explorers are tantalisingly few and obscure; Dr Bannerman has perforce to leave unsolved the mystery of the alleged pigeons which were so tame and numerous that Cadamosta's crew in 1456 "seized them en masse." The most eminent nineteenth century visitor was Charles Darwin, on the *Voyage of the Beagle*, but the foundations of modern knowledge of the birds were laid by several later visitors, notably Capt. Boyd Alexander in 1897. A curious episode involves a certain J. G. Keulemans who, Dr Bannerman observes, can hardly have been other than the man who later became celebrated as a bird artist. Keulemans appears in the present book as a young taxidermist who accompanied Dr Dohrn to the Cape Verdes in 1865 and incurred that gentleman's displeasure by preceding him in print with an account of their finds. Recently, in 1951, Dr W. R. P. Bourne made an enterprising solo expedition, discovering a colony of a pale insular form of Purple Herons, though the specimen which he obtained was regarded at the British Museum as a bleached example of the typical race, until the intrepid Abbé de Naurois rediscovered the colony in 1963 and named the birds *bournei*. Throughout the book full acknowledgment is paid to the Abbé's recent outstanding researches on the birds of the Cape Verde Islands.

In discussing the origins of the avifauna Dr Bannerman pays tribute to Dr Robert Cushman Murphy for arguing convincingly that colonisation of the islands was far more from the Palaearctic than from the

Ethiopian region, so presenting a fascinating contrast with the butterflies, which are almost entirely African.

Before proceeding to detailed accounts of the birds under species or subspecies, the Bannermans each contribute a section on their own expedition. Both accounts are delightfully personal, Dr Bannerman's more measured descriptions being nicely balanced by the vivid and racy notes from his wife's diary. I particularly enjoyed Dr Bannerman's account of their arrival at the local inn at Ponta do Sol where, being the only guests and the staff having gone home, they were locked in at night, in company with "a family of enormous red cockroaches shaped like torpedoes" and "the most gigantic spiders". In spite of an abscess in his eye, caused by the all-pervading dust and high winds, the veteran ornithologist observes that, "a right and left at those speedy cockroaches before our lights were extinguished reassured me that there was not much wrong with my vision".

Some 300 pages of the book are allotted to an "annotated list of the birds and field notes," a compilation of the utmost thoroughness which never makes dull reading. Here, perhaps inevitably, there is often some repetition of information given in earlier sections of the book. In his account of the Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber roseus* the author makes it clear that breeding has at no time been conclusively proved, so it is surprising, on turning to page 113, to find him saying, "It is on Sal and Boa Vista that the rosy flamingo still maintains a breeding colony". The total list of recorded species is only 105, of which 43 breed or have bred. The most remarkable of the birds peculiar to the Cape Verdes are the Razo Lark, confined to the island of Razo, and Dohrn's Cane Warbler. Traditionally, great colonies of Brown Boobies, Lowe's Frigate Birds and Red-billed Tropic Birds were a feature of the islands but, except on the most inaccessible cliffs, seabird colonies have been decimated in the past hundred years or so by the local fishermen. Birds of prey, too, have declined catastrophically through persecution—boys take the eggs and young of Ospreys and Kestrels for food. The insular form of Buzzard is close to extinction. It might at first seem surprising that the Brown-backed Raven is among the least molested birds, but it still holds a respected position as a scavenger. Unfortunately, in recent years, the beautiful White-headed Kingfisher—not a fish-eating species—has been increasingly destroyed by children. The publication of this book, in which the authors stress the urgent need for conservation measures, supported by education in the schools, must surely help the efforts already being made by the Abbé de Naurois to save the birds most in danger. The Bannermans wisely stress that, as far as the seabirds are concerned, full protection cannot be sought where protein food is manifestly in short supply for the people.

In so large a book there is a commendable absence of printing errors but on page 196 the reference to the photograph of the nest of Lowe's Frigate Bird should be to plate 7, not plate 8.

No review of this book would be complete without a discussion of the outstanding plates. Among the photographs the coloured frontispiece showing a woman carrying a live turkey on her head and a baby on her hips is a delight. So is the coloured plate of butterflies. The reproduction of the paintings by David M. Reid-Henry and P. A. Clancey achieves a very high standard. Their totally different styles keep slightly uneasy company in the same book. Those by David Henry, which are the larger number, never fall short of his own exacting standards of good drawing, meticulous detail and superb technical execution. In the striking plate of the White-headed Kingfisher and in that of the Cane Warbler he demonstrates the value of a strong sense of design in the

difficult handling of foliage and branches. The picture of the Cape Verde Islands Peregrine is among his very highest achievements. The group of Herons contains some beautiful bird painting, but to my mind the absence of luminosity in the cast shadows and the regularity of the cracks in the parched ground do not convey an authentic impression of sunlight and glare. P. A. Clancey's illustrations are very ambitious and highly coloured. I like best his Quail and Guinea-fowl among convincing vegetation. His work is least successful when he is faced with the exacting problems of painting flying birds in relation to a landscape or seascape setting. His text-drawings are technically very accomplished. The richness of C. F. Tunnicliffe's two tailpieces will catch the eye of many who only glance through the book. Taken as a whole, the illustrations greatly enhance this important work.

A. DONALD WATSON.

Request for Information

The Birds of Estuaries Enquiry. In view of the number of development proposals for estuarine areas throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the lack of reliable quantitative and comparable information on the numbers of estuary birds, a national survey of our estuaries and their bird life, to start in August 1969, is being put into operation by the joint efforts of the BTO, RSPB, IWRB Wader Working Group, Nature Conservancy and other interested bodies. It is envisaged that this enquiry will form part of an extensive ecological study of estuarine areas.

The role of ornithologists will be to provide an assessment of the waders, wildfowl and gulls, with additional information, where possible, on feeding and roosting sites. While emphasis is on the sparsely covered wader group, the Wildfowl Trust has welcomed complementary counts of wildfowl in the estuarine habitat. Gulls are often difficult to count, but ecologically important, and observers will be asked to place at least a frequency rating on the counting card. It should be stressed that this enquiry is essentially a non-breeding-season project and will not interfere with other current BTO enquiries. Monthly counts between August and April coinciding with the optimum local tidal conditions are required where the observer force allows. Where this is not possible, counts are requested as a priority in August and December.

Philip Burton (IWRB Wader Working Group) is combining the Group's existing godwit and other wader studies with the present survey and will organise the survey jointly with David Glue (BTO Populations Section), under the guidance of an Advisory Committee. Coverage for the Scottish estuaries is patchy at the moment and ornithologists who would like to help are asked to contact David E. Glue, BTO, Beech Grove, Tring, Herts, who will provide further details. It should be stressed that coverage of as many estuaries as possible is envisaged, whatever the size and considered importance of the tideland. Your full support for this important and long awaited enquiry is urgently required.

The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 22nd Annual Conference and 32nd Annual General Meeting will be held in the Hotel Dunblane Hydro, Perthshire, on 24th-26th October 1969. Bookings should be made direct with the hotels. The full programme will be given in the next issue of *Scottish Birds*. The registration fee will be 10/-, and the Annual Dinner 30/- for those not staying in the Hotel Dunblane Hydro (both to be paid on arrival).

Hotels in Dunblane

Hotel Dunblane Hydro (tel. 2551). Special Conference charge £8.0.0d, inclusive of 10% service charge, bed and all meals (except tea on Saturday afternoon) from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch, after-meal coffee, and the Annual Dinner (with wine or soft drinks). For less than a full day, bed and breakfast is 42/-, lunch 12/6 and dinner 18/6, all with additional 10% service charge. Rooms with private bathroom have a supplementary charge of 10/- per person per day.

Stirling Arms Hotel (tel. 2156). Bed & Breakfast from 28/6 to 30/-.

Schiehallion Hotel, Doune Road (tel. 3141). B & B from 22/6 to 27/6.

Neuk Private Hotel, Doune Road (tel. 2150). B & B from 23/- to 25/-.

Ardleighton Hotel (near Hotel Dunblane Hydro gates) (tel. 2273). B & B from 25/- to 27/6.

Hotels in Bridge of Allan

Allan Water Hotel (tel. 2293). B & B from 45/- to 62/6.

Royal Hotel (tel. 2284). B & B 47/6.

Prices, except for the Conference Hotel, are provisional and should be confirmed.

BRANCH MEETINGS 1969/70

Will Members please note that the dates of the first Meetings of Branches for next winter will be as follows:

September 22nd	Glasgow
23rd	Edinburgh
24th	Ayr, Dumfries and St Andrews
25th	Dundee and Stirling
29th	Aberdeen
30th	Inverness

St Andrews please note that there may be a change of location. Please contact your Branch Secretary before the Meeting for confirmation.

BINDING ARRANGEMENTS

Anyone thinking of having their copies of *Scottish Birds* bound should note that G. Blunt & Sons Ltd no longer undertake this work. New arrangements will be announced when the present volume is completed.



RSPB

'To Protect and Conserve'

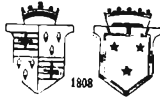
The RSPB now maintains 10 Reserves in Scotland and employs regional representatives in Shetland, Orkney and Speyside.

BUT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE—WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

17 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh 7

Tel. 031 - 556 5624



SUTHERLAND ARMS HOTEL

**GOLSPIE
SUTHERLAND
SCOTLAND**

Telephone : Golspie 216

Situated on the main North Road near the sea, Golspie offers invigorating open air holidays to all.

In addition to its unique golf course, it has fine loch fishings, sea bathing, tennis, bowls, hill climbing, unrivalled scenery, including inexhaustible subjects for the field sketcher and artist and is an ornithologist's paradise. It is, indeed, impossible to find elsewhere so many natural amenities in so small a compass.

The astonishing diversity of bird life in the vicinity has been well known to ornithologists for many years, but it is still possible to make surprising discoveries in Sutherland.

The Hotel is fully modern, but retains its old world charm of other days, and enjoys a wide renown for its comfort and fine cuisine.

Fully descriptive brochures, including birdwatching, will gladly be forwarded on request. Central Heating.

Proprietor, Mrs F. HEXLEY

A.A. R.A.C. R.S.A.C.

Garage & Lock-ups available

THE BOAT HOTEL



Set amidst mountain and moorland scenery, the Boat Hotel, with its reputation for comfort and good food, is an ideal centre for studying birds—the Ospreys at Loch Garten are only three miles away, and this is the country for Crested Tit, Crossbill, Capercaillie and much besides. Also ideal for photography, fishing and climbing. 18-hole golf course 2 minutes from hotel. Permits available for the river Spey. Under ownership of Mr and Mrs James Harris. Reduced rates for children when sharing room.

**BOAT OF GARTEN
Inverness-shire**

COLOUR SLIDES

We are now able to supply slides of most British Birds from our own collection, and from that of the R.S.P.B. Send for our list covering these and birds of Africa—many fine studies and close-ups.

FOR HIRE

We have arranged to hire out slides of the R.S.P.B. These are in sets of 25 at 7s 6d per night's hire. Birds are grouped according to their natural habitats.

W. COWEN, Keswick

The Scottish Field Studies Association

KINDROGAN FIELD CENTRE

Kindrogan provides comfortable accommodation, class-rooms and laboratories. Situated in Strathardle, 16 miles north of Blairgowrie and 9 miles south-east of Pitlochry, it affords excellent opportunities for all aspects of Field Studies in the Scottish Highlands.

The standard weekly charge is £12, 10s. Members of Local Natural History groups or Scientific Societies may be eligible for bursaries valued at £3 made available by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust.

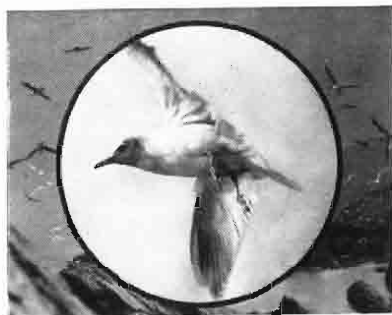
The programme for 1969 includes courses for adults in a variety of subjects including :—

Birds
Archaeology
Bryophytes
Conservation
Field Botany for Amateurs
Flowerless Plants
Forestry
Wild Flowers

Highland Natural History
Insects
Landscape Painting
Mammals
Mountain Flora
Mountain and Moorland Ecology
Natural History Photography
Rocks and Minerals

All applications and enquiries and requests for programmes should be addressed to the Warden, Kindrogan Field Centre, Enochdhu, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

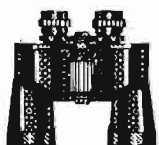
The brilliant
AUDUBON
by
SWIFT®



—the specialist binocular for bird-watching

Observe bird-life in its natural surroundings—close up, in great detail. Become an Eagle-eyed spectator, the SWIFT way with the 'AUDUBON' 8.5 x 44. Designed to the suggested specification of an internationally-known Group of Ornithologists this is one of the finest nature study binoculars available today. Power and brilliance reveal details at dawn or dusk. The fantastically wide field permits easy tracking and extra-close focussing enables the skilled stalker to approach within 12ft to watch feeding activities as if they were only 18" away.

Price inc. case & PT £42.0.0d.



Please send me the new Swift brochure 6244B

PYSER - BRITEX (SWIFT) LTD

Sole Importers of SWIFT Instruments

FIRCROFT WAY, EDENBRIDGE, KENT. 0732 71-2434

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

WHICH BINOCULAR ?

Since the turn of the century we have been a family business of binocular specialists and telescope makers, and consequently feel qualified to advise on the right choice of instruments. Moreover you can be sure that any instrument purchased from us has undergone stringent alignment and other tests in our own workshops.

Mr Frank's popular book on how to choose and use binoculars is available at 20p incl. postage.



Top prices offered in part exchange

**SEND
FOR NEW
ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE
CHARLES FRANK LTD.**

145 QUEEN STREET : GLASGOW
TEL. 041 - 221 6666



We stock all makes, but one binocular which we can particularly recommend is the Frank/Nipole 8 x 30 which, complete with case costs only £12.50. Not only do we ourselves recommend this binocular, it also carries a strong recommendation from The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, and each glass carries the seal of approval of the Game Conservancy. Our Free 42 page catalogue illustrates hundreds of Binoculars & Telescopes including the larger 10 x 50 model at £16.50 and the 9 x 63 at £30.

FREE COMPARISON TEST

Test any Frank/Nipole binocular free for 7 days. Should you decide, however, on a binocular other than the Frank/Nipole make, we can promise a substantial price reduction at least equalling any other offer which you may bring to our notice. This offer also applies to Telescopes.