

# SCOTTISH BIRDS



THE JOURNAL OF THE  
SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Volume 6 No. 7

AUTUMN 1971

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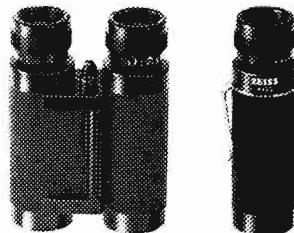
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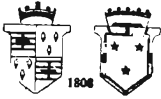
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# SCOTTISH BIRDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB



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Vol. 6 No. 7

Autumn 1971

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Edited by Tom Delaney, assisted by D. G. Andrew

## Editorial

**Scottish Bird Report 1970.** This issue consists almost entirely of the third annual Scottish Bird Report. Although the format of the report does not make for light reading, a great deal of information is summarised here, and we hope readers will find it interesting and useful. We would particularly like to thank Robbie Macgregor, Richard Richardson and Donald Watson for contributing the sketches that illustrate the report.

**Local recorders.** The list of local recorders given on p. 349 shows many changes from that of a year ago. We should like to take this opportunity of welcoming all new recorders to the task, and thanking those retiring for all their good work in the past. We trust observers will give recorders their fullest co-operation, in particular by submitting records promptly.

**James Fisher Memorial.** Seabirds and seabird islands were the lifelong interest of the late James Fisher. In his memory, his friends and the organisations with which he was associated have launched an appeal to provide money to purchase or safeguard an important seabird island off the coast of the British Isles. All those who recognize the value of his work are asked to send a contribution to the James Fisher Memorial Appeal, c/o World Wildlife Fund, Plumtree Court, London E.C.4.

**New reserve in Orkney.** The RSPB have recently set up their first reserve in Orkney. Situated in the Dale of Cottascarth on Mainland, the reserve covers some 335 acres and contains a variety of typical habitats of characteristic Orkney breeding birds, including raptors such as Hen Harrier, Merlin and Short-eared Owl. Reserve management policy will include control of heather-burning, which in the past has caused a fair amount of habitat destruction.

**Loch of Strathbeg.** The Ministry of Defence propose and have received planning permission to erect a Naval radio station at a disused airfield by the Loch of Strathbeg, Aberdeenshire. The installation would comprise a number of masts up to 900 feet high (about the height of a typical television

transmitter mast) together with large areas of vertical curtain-array antennas.

Apart from its other considerable scientific and ornithological interest, Strathbeg is a wintering location for flocks of Grey Lag and Pink-footed Geese, Whooper Swans and other wildfowl, and indeed was designated an internationally important wetland by the MAR Conference. It seems clear that the construction hard by of a huge complex of masts, guy wires and aerial systems will create a sizeable hazard for these birds in their regular feeding and roosting flights in the area. How many birds might be injured and killed it is impossible to predict, but for wildfowl this is possibly as bad a site as could have been chosen, and conservationists concerned at the dangers have made strong representations and protests.

The problems in siting such installations are of course enormous, and they can scarcely be welcome anywhere on our coasts, but it rather seems that the Ministry of Defence chose Strathbeg without a full awareness of the biological and ornithological interest and importance of the place. They have already suggested revision of the layout to reduce the station's potential obstruction to birds, and may be willing to locate the station elsewhere if a suitable alternative site can be found that meets their requirements.

We would encourage the Ministry in their search for a better site and urge that, if need be, some technical and operational sacrifices might be made to help protect this unique and important wetland.

**Current literature.** *Ornithological studies on Foula* 1970. Edited by P. Mawby. Expedition field-studies report No. 14 from the Brathay Exploration Group.

*Fair Isle Bird Observatory Report for 1970.* Edited by R. H. Dennis.

The Golden Eagle survey in Scotland 1964-68. M. J. Everett, 1971, *Brit. Birds* 64: 49-56. Study of breeding success in seven selected areas.

Evening Grosbeak on St Kilda: a species new to Britain and Ireland. N. Picozzi, 1971, *Brit. Birds* 64: 189-194.

Breeding status of Red-necked Phalaropes in Britain and Ireland. M. J. Everett, 1971, *Brit. Birds* 64: 293-302. Survey carried out during 1968-70.

Growth and development of nestling Hen Harriers. W. C. Scharf and E. Balfour, 1971, *Ibis* 113: 323-329. Orkney study.

The Water Pipit as a winter visitor to the British Isles. I. G. Johnson, 1970, *Bird Study* 17: 297-319. Bearing on Scottish records of Water and Scandinavian Rock Pipits (*Scot. Birds* 6: 50).

Bird communities in woodland habitats in Wester Ross, Scot-



land. K. Williamson, 1969. *Q. Jl. For.* 63: 305-328. Spring 1968 expedition.

Scarce migrants in Britain and Ireland during 1958-67. Part 4. Bluethroat and Ortolan Bunting. J. T. R. Sharrock, 1970. *Brit. Birds* 63: 313-324.

Research on human pressures on Scottish mountain tundra, soils and animals. A. Watson, N. Bayfield and S. M. Moyes, 1969. In *Proceedings of the Conference on Productivity and Conservation in Northern Circumpolar Lands*. Published by International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Morges, Switzerland, 1970. Cairngorms study 1967-69.

## Scottish Bird Report 1970

Compiled by ROY H. DENNIS

This 1970 report is the third in the series of annual reports on the birds of Scotland; the previous two, compiled by Andrew T. Macmillan, were published in *Scot. Birds* 5: 302-356 and 6: 62-128. Its appearance is late largely because of the lengthy postal strike early in 1971. Some reports from local recorders were received before the start of the strike, others arrived by various means during the strike, but a few came in very late indeed. This delay was most unfortunate as it meant that much of the report had to be prepared during a very busy time of the year. A few records arrived too late for inclusion; we apologise to the observers whose records are involved, but the more important ones will be included in the addendum to the next report.

We hope readers will find the report of interest; it is a concise, factual account of data collected during the year for all species known to have occurred in Scotland in 1970. Already there is much interesting information to be gleaned by reading this report and comparing it with its two predecessors. Reference should also be made to Baxter & Rintoul *Birds of Scotland* (1953).

As before we must stress that observer cover in different regions of Scotland varies from good to very thin, and care should be taken in comparing numbers and regional distribution, especially of migrants. Generally speaking, the northern isles, the North Sea coasts, central Scotland and the Clyde/Solway area are better covered than elsewhere, but there are local pockets of good cover in most regions. In some areas more information is published in greater detail in local reports such as the *Fair Isle Bird Observatory Report*, the Isle of May report in *Scot. Birds*, the *Shetland Bird Report* and the *North Solway Bird Report*. Although much local information cannot be published here, the collection of records by the local recorders provides a most useful fund of data for reference on regional ornithology.

Some 283 species are recorded in this report (compared with 274 in 1968 and 292 last year), 29 being represented by only one individual of each species. A Stilt Sandpiper in Sutherland was the only new species recorded for the country in 1970, but confirmation was gained of the presence of Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers in west central Scotland, and this species is now added to the Scottish list. In 1970 Great Northern

Diver and Goldeneye were added to the list of Scottish breeding birds; one pair of each species successfully reared young, and these constituted the first satisfactory records of breeding. Other interesting breeding records included the first known Fieldfare's nest on the Scottish mainland, following recent breeding in Orkney and Shetland; once again Snowy Owls nested on Fetlar, this time rearing two young; seven pairs of Ospreys built eyries, and at least ten, and probably 11, young were reared from four nests; Redwings were found in various counties and spread their breeding range both north and south on the mainland; a Kingfisher's nest found in Easter Ross was also noteworthy. No breeding Wrynecks were found, and fewer Wood Sandpipers were located.

It was quite a cold harsh winter: Glaucous Gulls and Little Auks were a feature in the northern isles in the first few months while Bean Geese continued to decline in numbers as a wintering species in Scotland. Spring migration was slow to get under way, and summer visitors were on average rather late. Redstarts, Whinchats and Lesser Whitethroats occurred on migration in record numbers, especially in the northern isles, and there were good numbers of Bluethroats and Wrynecks. Six Thrush Nightingales in May plus one in July was a record total in one year. The autumn was characterised by record numbers of Snow Buntings, Waxwings and Great Grey Shrikes; there were unusually large numbers of Grey Plovers and rather more Brent Geese than usual; Little Gulls peaked at 325 at Methil in September. Rarities included no fewer than eight Arctic Warblers, the first Steller's Eider since 1959 and the second-ever Upland Sandpiper in Scotland.

Rarities within the scope of the *British Birds* Rarities Committee have been accepted by the committee unless noted as still subject to a decision. With regard to rejected rarities, it is worth noting that in most cases these records were not accepted because the committee were not convinced, on the evidence before them, that the identification was fully established; in only a very few cases were they satisfied that a mistake had been made. We are not prepared to publish in this report records of species that are rare in Scotland though not on the Rarities Committee list or that are new additions to the faunal areas, unless adequate supporting evidence is given. We would call upon observers to submit descriptions of rare or unusual species to their local recorders as soon as possible so that the record can be sent to the editor of *Scottish Birds* without delay; he will pass records to the Rarities Committee where necessary.

With such a volume of material moving from observer to recorder to editor to printer there is the risk of transcription errors, and we will be glad to be informed of anything to be corrected next year (some additions and corrections for 1968 and 1969 are given at the end of this report). We would also apologise to anyone who finds his records attributed to someone else: this can happen because at times, mainly for the sake of brevity, we have named one observer (or the recorder) when several were involved. This leads to a request that all observers should give their full name and all initials when submitting records to local recorders; with so many observers contributing now, the key to observers' initials is doubly difficult to prepare if observers give only a first initial.

To keep the report within a reasonable number of pages, we have been terse; as in the past we have abbreviated months, counties and other words and omitted most qualifications such as 'near' and 'about'. References in the form (5: 302) are to the pages of *Scottish Birds*. English names and scientific nomenclature follow the same rules as in the first report (5: 304), and an asterisk indicates that all known records are given.

We appeal to all observers to send their 1971 records to the local recorders promptly at the end of the year. It is especially helpful if

records for the first ten months of the year are sent to local recorders in November; this allows recorders to start processing the bulk of the material in good time, leaving only the relatively few November and December records to be handled in January. It would also be helpful if word were spread that we are keen to receive records from visitors to Scotland and others who are not members of the Club. In conclusion we wish to thank everyone who has contributed to the 1970 report. Special thanks go to the local recorders for their considerable efforts in collecting and sorting the records, and we are indebted to Andrew Macmillan for his help and advice in the compilation of the report.

### Local recorders

- Shetland (except Fair Isle)** R. J. Tulloch, Reafirth, Mid Yell, Shetland.  
**Fair Isle** R. Broad, 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, Varkasaig, Scourie, Sutherland.  
**Caithness** Mrs P. Collett, Sandyquoy, East Gills, Scrabster, Caithness.  
**Sutherland, Ross-shire (except Black Isle)** D. Macdonald, Elmbank, Dornoch, Sutherland.  
**Inverness-shire (within 18 miles of Inverness) Ross-shire (Black Isle only)** Dr Maeve Rusk, Arniston, 51 Old Edinburgh Road, Inverness.  
**Inverness-shire (mainland more than 18 miles from Inverness)** R. H. Dennis, The Old Manse, Rothiemurchus, Aviemore, Inverness-shire.  
**Nairnshire, Morayshire, Banffshire** J. Edelsten, 14 South High Street, Portsoy, Banffshire, AB4 2NT.  
**Aberdeenshire, North Kincardineshire** N. Picozzi, Nature Conservancy, Blackhall, Banchory, Kincardineshire, AB3 3PS, 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** Miss Bridget H. Moore, Vane Farm Reserve, Kinross.  
**Isle of May** Miss N. J. Gordon, Nature Conservancy, 12 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh, EH9 2AS.  
**Fife, Clackmannanshire, East Stirlingshire** D. W. Oliver, East Cottage, Balass, Cupar, Fife.  
**West Lothian** Dr T. C. Smout, 19 South Gillsland 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.  
**Argyllshire, Inner Hebrides, Skye** M. J. P. Gregory, 4 High Bank Park, Lochgilphead, Argyllshire.  
**Dunbartonshire, West Stirlingshire, Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, Arran, Bute** R. W. Forrester, 29 Crandleyhill Road, Prestwick, Ayrshire.  
**Dumfriesshire** D. Skilling, 86 Auchenkeld Avenue, Heathhall, Dumfries, and R. T. Smith, Applegarthtown, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.  
**Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtownshire** A. D. Watson, Barone, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

### Key to observers' initials

D. E. Abbey, D. G. Adams (DGAd), D. G. Adamson (DGAm), A. F. Airey, A. Allison (AA), A. Anderson (AAn), D. R. Anderson, D. G. Andrew, J. Angus, I. Armstrong, N. K. Atkinson, W. Austin.

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C. Park (CP), T. Parmenter (TPr), J. R. Parrott, T. Patterson (TP), G. Peattie (GP), Dr I. D. Pennie, J. Penny (JP), C. Placido (CPl), Miss G. Pettigrew (GPw), Prof. R. W. Pickford (RWP), N. Picozzi, Miss M. Piper, R. K. Pollock, J. A. Pollock-Morris, J. Porter (JPo), B. Pounder, A. J. Prater, A. Pringle, R. W. Powell (RWPo).

Dr G. T. Quinn.

R. M. Ramage, A. D. K. Ramsay, Dr D. A. Ratcliffe, R. S. Reid, R. A. Richardson, Dr R. Richter (RRi), R. Riddell (RR), W. K. Richmond, A. Robb (AR), H. Robb, Mrs H. N. Robb, E. L. Roberts, I. S. Robertson, Miss E. M. Rogers, P. J. Roger, R. Rose (RRo), D. W. Rothwell, Miss D. E. Rowling, A. N. Roxburgh, R. Roxburgh (RRx), K. T. Rushton, Dr M. Rusk, A. Russell (ARu), G. Russell, H. M. Russell.

G. L. Sandeman, Miss M. Sanderson (MSa), C. J. Savoury, J. Scott (JS), P. Scott (PS), C. C. Sears, A. R. Seymour, R. Shand, Mrs A. F. W. Sharp, R. J. W. Shaw, D. C. Shenton, D. M. Shepherd (DMSH), R. M. Siliitto, C. Simpson, D. A. Simpson, J. H. Simpson (JHSi), J. I. Simpson, Miss W. Simpson, P. Simon (PSi), M. Sinclair (MS), W. A. Sinclair, D. Skilling (DSk), J. Skilling (JSk), J. Slee (JSI), A. Smith, A. J. Smith, D. Smith (DSm), Mrs E. M. Smith, H. D. Smith, P. Smith (PSm), R. T. Smith, R. W. J. Smith, Dr T. C. Smout, E. F. B. Spragge, D. Stalker (DS), B. W. Staines, D. M. Stark (DMS), T. Stark, A. G. Stewart, Miss E. Stevens, D. J. Steventon, Miss J. Stirling (JSt), D. Stone (DSt), J. A. Stout, N. Suggate, G. Summers, R. W. Summers, J. H. Swan (JHS), J. Swan (JSw), R. L. Swann, J. C. Sinclair.

Dr A. M. Tait, C. S. Tait, Mrs E. Taylor (ET), I. Taylor, J. Taylor (JT), J. Thorogood (JTh), Miss V. M. Thom, D. Thompson (DT), D. Thorogood (DTh), C. H. Thorpe, J. Tindall (JTl), D. Tomlinson (DTo), R. B. Tozer, Mrs M. Traill-Clouston, R. J. Tulloch, B. S. Turner, Mrs E. Tweedie (ETw).

N. Usher, L. A. Urquhart.

L. L. J. Vick, A. Vittery, T. G. Vorsterman.

J. Wagstaff (JW), B. Wall, A. F. G. Walker, K. Walker, R. Walker (RW), Miss T. Wareham, G. Waterston, (GWT), Miss J. Watkins (JWa), D. A. Watson, A. D. Watson, A. J. Watson, R. O. Watson, Hon. D. N. Weir, J. R. Weir, G. T. White, Capt. A. R. Whitfield, Mrs J. A. Whyte, E. J. Williams, M. J. Williams, M. R. Williams, S. Williamson, R. Willis (RWs), G. Wilmett (GW), J. Wilson (JWi), R. Wilson (RWn), R. D. Wilson, W. Wilson, W. P. Wilson, A. Wood, J. B. Wood, K. F. Woods, P. Wormell, W. C. Wright, Prof. V. C. Wynne-Edwards

Dr E. I. Young, H. L. Young, I. W. Young, J. F. Young, J. G. Young, L. Young, R. F. Yule

B. Zonfrillo.

## Species List

**Great Northern Diver** *Gavia immer*. Usual winter numbers. Largest spring flock, 20 Quendale Bay, Shet, 12 Apr (DC). Pr reared 2 young on loch in W Ross, (6: 195) (ENH), first record of breeding in Britain. In July one watched at Ollaberry, Shet, stalking, catching and eating Eider ducklings (SW). First autumn records: 2 Findhorn, Moray, 2 Aug (BE); 1 Nigg, N Kinc, 6 Sep (MM); 1 Lunan Bay, Angus, 12 Sep (HB); 3 Methil, Fife, 20 Sep (DWO, ARS). Later in north, first Fair Isle 28 Sep (RHD) and Shet 8 Oct (RJT). Winter flocks, 14 Fetlar, Shet, 30 Oct (ARM), 5 Dornoch, Suth (JBW).

\***White-billed Diver** *Gavia adamsii*. 1 found dead Findhorn, Moray, 1 Feb (BE), subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee.

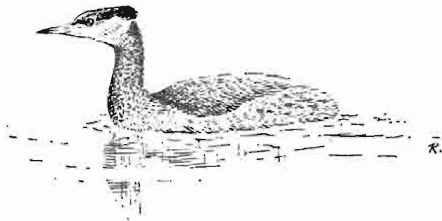
**Black-throated Diver** *Gavia arctica*. Peak numbers: 21 Gullane/Aberlady Bay, E Loth, 8 Mar (MH, DCS); 4 Dunure, Ayr, 15 Jan (AGS). Early birds in north, Findhorn, Moray, 1 Feb (BE); Foyers, Inv, 28 Mar (WMM). Migrants: 2 Weisdale, Shet, 10-11 Apr, 1 on 7 May (DC, RJT); Ork, singles Graemshall Bay 10 May and Echnaloch Bay 18 May (EB). Inland summer records south to Angus (GMC) and Galloway (JGY). Build-up on sea after breeding season, 21 off Red Point, W Ross, 26 Aug (AMMF); 12 L Ewe, W Ross, 28 Aug (ENH). First migrants: 2 S West Haven, Angus, 26 July (TMC); 1 Carsethorn, Kirk, 20 Sep (JDn); 1 Weisdale, Shet, 16 Sept (DC), 1 Quendale, Shet, 20 Sep (GR); 3 Echnaloch Bay, Ork, first week Oct (EB).

**Red-throated Diver** *Gavia stellata*. Poor breeding season in Shet, early droughts followed by flooding in July (RJT); only 5 young from 13 prs on Fetlar (ARM). Wintered Shet, first visited breeding lochs from 6 Feb (RJT). Inv, 2 Beaully Firth 18 Jan (MIH), 1 River Ness 10 Feb (MR); singles L Leven, Kinross, 3-4 Jan and 1-15 Feb (JHS); 37 oiled E Fife coast Jan-Feb (DWO). Flocks: 60 Bridge of Don, Aber, 28 Jan (RLS); 100+ Montrose Basin, Angus, 12 May (GMC); 35 N Girdle Ness, N Kinc, 25 Apr (AFJ). Last Musseiburgh, Midl, 27 May (JB, LLJV); last Shet 16 Sep (JRP); 30/hr N Fife Ness 20 Apr (DWO); 5 Kirkcudbright Bay 3 Apr (RJT); first off Ythan, Aber, 29 Aug (DB); 1 Skinflats, Stir, 1 Aug (MH); 100+ Montrose Basin, Angus, 9 Oct (GMC).

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*. Another year of poor breeding success; only 1 pr and 1 chick Kilconquhar, Fife, 11 July (DWO); 9 prs Morton Lochs, Fife, 12 Apr, 4 prs 5 July but no young, nests flooded (CST); 2 nests destroyed Yetholm, Rox, but 2 young elsewhere Sel/Rox (RSB); no proof of breeding Dumf (JGY), and although prs on 9+ lochs in Galloway only young were 4 L Arthur, Kirk (ADW, JGY); pr bred Collieston, Aber (WM); 2 prs reared young L Leven, Kinross (JHS).

At Leith, Midl, 500 on 8 Feb, 250 on 8 Mar (DGA); 10 Lunan Bay, Angus, 23 Apr, 14 on 28 May (GMC); singles Whalsay, Shet, 22 Feb-17

Mar (JHSi), L Spiggie, Shet, 12 May-12 June (DC); Fair Isle 21 Oct (RHD). Summer influx L Leven, Kinross, max 22 on 5 Aug (AA, JHS); 25 L Martnaham, Ayr, 10 Aug (WRB); build-up Leith, 70 on 14 Sep, 130 on 24 Sep but down to 25 on 14 Nov (LLJV); Aber, 2 L Davan 13 Sep (RSBy), 1 Meikle Loch 12 Nov (JAL); up to 27 L Ryan, Wig, in winter (JGY).



**\*Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps griseigena*. Recorded 5 Jan-8 Mar and 28 Aug-28 Dec. Spring: 1 Mid Yell, Shet, 5-11 Jan (RJT); 1 Fair Isle 25-27 Feb (RHD); 1 dead Elliot, Angus, 8 Feb (NKA); 1 Leith Docks, Midl, 8 Jan (DRG), 1 Musselburgh 17 Jan (RWJS, LLJV); 1 Gullane, E Loth, 11 Jan, 2 on 8 Mar (DCS); 1 long dead Findhorn, Moray, 22 Aug (BE, MM).

Autumn: E Loth, 3 Gullane 28 Aug, small numbers to end of year (RMB, LLJV), 2 Gosford Bay 28 Aug and 31 Oct (DJ, LLJV), 1 Tynninghame 11 Oct (TB, RWJS); 1 Broadbay, O Heb, 30 Sep (MM); 1 Gartmore Dam, Stir, 6 Oct (ICM); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 26 Sep (RF, DCS, LLJV), 2 on 28 Dec (RMS), 1 Joppa 8 Oct (MJE).

**Slavonian Grebe** *Podiceps auritus*. Marked decline at Caith colony (DG); fewer at main Inv loch (JAL); first at Inv breeding lochs 28 Mar (EIY); 1 nr inland Rannoch, Perth, but no proof of breeding (MP). Shet, 25 on 6 Mainland voes 8 Feb (DC), latest 13 May (FH); 1 Fair Isle 13-16 Apr (RHD). Usual winter records include singles Ythan, Aber, 8 Feb (RLS); Morton Lochs, Fife, 25 Jan (CST); Kilconquhar, Fife, 6 Feb (PGTB); L Arthur, Kirk, 15 Mar-13 Apr (HMR, ADW *et al*). Autumn migrants Fair Isle 3 Oct (RHD) and Fetlar, Shet, 7 Oct (ARM).

**\*Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis*. At E of 2 established colonies in central lowlands, first bird 24 Mar, max 12 on 7 Apr, 3 prs and 4 large juveniles 8 Aug, last juvenile 11 Oct; 5-6 prs at other site, at least 5 young on 7 July; 1 pr on a loch between these two sites on 21 Apr but not seen again (anon). Other summer records: 1 Forvie, Aber, 10-14 May (GMD, CJF); 1 Skinflats, Stir, 14-16 May (MH, DF). Winter records: Weisdale Voe, Shet, 25 Feb (Jlr); Leith, Midl, 8 Jan, 3 on 18 Jan (RMB, DRG); Carse-thorn, Kirk, 28 Mar (AFJ).

Autumn records: Ayr, 2 Belston Loch 7-9 Aug (PM), 1 Trabboch Loch 16-17 Aug (WRB, PM); Rox, 1 Lady Moss Aug (per AJS), 1 Hoselaw Loch Aug-Sep (RSB); 1 Arbroath, Angus, 28-30 Oct (NKA, AN, MN). Regular winterers L Ryan, Wig; first, 8 on 6 Aug; max 11 on 9 Aug (RCD).

**Little Grebe** *Podiceps ruficollis*. No change in breeding status, although local increases reported W Moray/Nairn (BE) and Nithsdale, Dumf (JGY); none bred Yetholm, Rox, for 3rd year running (RSB). Migrants: Fetlar, Shet, 5 Nov (ARM); Fair Isle 23-24 Oct (RHD); O Heb, Lewis 5 Apr, 4 Ness 16 Apr, Braighe 11 Oct (WAJC); L Stack, Suth, 28 Dec (IDP). 5 wintered Musselburgh, Midl, last seen 13 Apr (JB, LLJV).

**Leach's Petrel** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*. No reports from breeding colonies. 1 off Westray, Ork, in summer (CB); 7 Thurso Bay, Caith, 21

May (DMS); 1 Forfar Loch, Angus, 22 May (GMC); 1 Longhaugh Point, Renf, 4 Oct (HG, IG, RM, GTW).

**Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Over 1100 mistnetted Fetlar, Shet, included controls from St Kilda (1), Foula (3), Fair Isle (2) and Yell (1), also 35 1968 retraps from Fetlar and 67 from 1969 (ARM); Fair Isle, seen on crossing 22 May-29 Sep, noted ashore 3 June-23 Aug (RHD). No other breeding-site reports. Stragglers: Usan, Angus, 21 Aug (GMC); Fife Ness 12 Sep (DWO, ARS); Islay, 1 Heb, 2 Nov (CGB); Wig, 1 long dead Stranraer 19 July (JFG), 1 Corsewall Point 16 Aug (NE), several Mull of Galloway early Sep (per ADW), 2 off Stranraer 2 Oct (RTS).

**Manx Shearwater** *Procellaria puffinus*. Little information from colonies: Shet, first on sea, Whalsay 20 Mar (ARM); c 100 off Fetlar in summer (RJT), stranded chicks to 8 Sep (ARM); summer totals 1000/hr N to S off Balranald, O Heb (GMC); 500 between Gigha and Islay, I Heb, 13 June (DJS).

Spring movements: peaks, 12 Gullane, E Loth, 26 Apr (DCS); 19 N Fife Ness 20 Apr (DWO); 30 Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 4 May (DCH); seen Fair Isle crossing 15 May-29 Sep (RHD); 2 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 17 Apr (JGY); 2 W Southerness, Kirk, 30 Mar (DSK, JGY).

Summer numbers: 70 Usan, Angus, 23 July (GMC); 50 Kirkcaldy, Fife, 3 July (GHB); hundreds off Mull of Galloway 5 July (ADW). Aber, passage N, 11 Collieston 21 Aug (CJF) and 4 Ythan 21 Aug (LHC, JAL, MAMcD); Isle of May seen 8-25 Sep, max 46 on 22nd (NKA).

\***Great Shearwater** *Procellaria gravis*. 3 N in seabird movement, Collieston, Aber, 21 Aug (CJF), and 3 Rattray Head, Aber, same day (MRW).

\***Cory's Shearwater** *Procellaria diomedea*. Aber, 1 Rattray Head 21 Aug (MRW), 1 N Collieston, Aber, same day (CJF *et al*); Ork/Caith, 1 Pentland Firth 24 Sep (6: 330) (MFMM).

**Sooty Shearwater** *Procellaria griseus*. Shet, 4 Aug-early Sep (ARM, RJT); Fair Isle, record numbers 31 July-27 Sep, mainly 9 Aug-9 Sep, peaks 100 on 16th, 200 on 17th and 15 on 18 Aug; seen on Fair Isle crossing 31 July-29 Sep (RHD); Ork, 3 Hoy 24 Sep (MFMM); 20 N Ronaldsay 18 Oct, 15 on 21 Oct (EJW); E Ross, 4 Tarbat Ness 16-17 Aug, 1 on 22nd (CJM-G); Aber, 24 N Collieston 21 Aug (CJF, MAMcD), Ythan 36 N/hr 21 Aug (LHC, JAL) and 2 N on 22 Aug; 2 Moray Firth 16 July (RSBy); Angus, 1 Usan 23 July, 2 on 22 Aug (GMC), 1 West Haven 16 Aug, 3 on 9 Sep (TMC), 29 N in  $\frac{1}{4}$  hr Arbroath 16 Aug, 17 N in  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr 7 Sep (AN, MN); Fife Ness, 12/hr N 16 Aug, small numbers to 24th (DWO, ARS); Isle of May, 5 on 23 Sep, 1 on 24th (NKA). West coast: 16 W Faraid Head, Suth, 23 Aug (AMMF); 1 Rubha Reidh, W Ross, 28 Aug (JLF, RDW).

**Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis*. Increase in Forth, 363 sites on Inchkeith (317 in 1969) (RWJS); increased Meikle Ross, Kirk (JGY); pre-egg-laying dispersal Fair Isle 6-21 May, first egg 16 May (RHD); first egg Scarp, O Heb, 10 May (DWR). Blue-phase birds: singles many dates Fair Isle (RHD) and Shet (RJT); Tiumphan Head, O Heb 29 May, 30 June (MM, WAJC); Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 16 Aug (CJM-G); Aberdeen 4 May (JRP); Ythan, Aber, 21 Aug (MAMcD, JAL). Inland prospecting birds: Abernethy Glen, Perth, 22 May (EJM), up to 7 Benarty Crags, Kinross, 15 Apr-26 July (AA, JHS); Skinflats, Stir, 3 on 27 May, 4 on 28th, 1 on 3 Aug and 1 on 27th (MH); 1 Falkirk 12 July (MH); 2 Duddingston, Midl, 25 Apr (JADH); Blackford Hill, Midl, 4 dates 27 May-3 July (LLJV); landing Traprain Law, E Loth (RMB); inland Dumfries 14 Mar (JGY). Big movements: 700/hr N Fife Ness 20 Apr (DWO); 600/hr N, Collieston, Aber, 21 Aug (CJF), later in day 480/hr N (LHC, JAL, MAMcD); 250 N in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs Arbroath, Angus, 16 Aug (MN).

**Gannet** *Sula bassana*. Scar Rock colony, Wig, increased (JGY); successful season at 2 Shet colonies (RJT). Pullus ringed Ailsa Craig 10 July



1970 found in stomach of shark 20km off Tan-tan, Morocco, 14 Nov (JGY). 7 off Dingwall Canal, E Ross, 24 Oct were far up Cromarty Firth (HDS). Passage included 150 N in 2½ hrs Arbroath, Angus, 16 Aug (MN); 50/hr N Collieston, Aber, 21 Aug (CJF).

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*. 20 prs Eilean Mhor, L Torridon, W Ross (JAW) and 5 prs near Durness, Suth, (DCH) (not mentioned: 363-378); O Heb, Causamul colony 119 nests 9 June (70 nests 15 June 1967) (GC). Increase in Wig, Piltanton estuary 75 nests (RCD), Meikle Ross 34 nests (17 in 1969) (JGY) and Rigg Bay, but decrease on Mulberry (RHM); increase Ord of Caith (DMS).

Largest flocks recorded: 600 West Ferry, Angus, 16 Dec (TMC); 300 Invergowrie Bay, Perth, in Oct and 600 in Nov (EJM); 230 Cramond Island, W Loth (TCS); 470 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 17 Dec, 12% 1st Y (JGY). Fair Isle, autumn passage from 29 Aug, peaks 42 on 12 Sep, 60 on 21 Sep and 39 on 2 Oct (RHD).

**Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Increase reported in Firth of Forth: 194 nests Lamb 13 June (158 in 1969) and 104 nests Craighleith 20 June (95 in 1969) (RWJS); similar increase Wig and Kirk (per ADW). Fair Isle, first eggs 7 Apr, about average date (RHD), but in Shet 25 Apr, about 2 weeks late (RJT); 36 nests Causamul, O Heb, 9 June (GC); 5 Waterfoot, Annan, Dumf, 6 Aug (JGY).

**Heron** *Ardea cinerea*. Ork, only 2 prs cliff site at Yesnaby, no proof of success (EB); O Heb, new colonies in N and S Uist but species on decrease (GC, WAJC); W Ross doing well, 16 nests Plockton (ENH), 3 nests Eilean Mullagrach (DCH); possible increase in some areas of Perth (VMT); increase to 13 nests at Kirkconnel, Kirk (JGY); E Fife, 24 nests at Tentsmuir (JEF), 1 chick ringed there 10 May 1970 recovered Delvin, Co Westmeath 11 Oct, 250 miles SW (TRG); Fair Isle, passage to 15 May when 3, autumn passage 29 July-8 Nov, mainly Aug and Sep, but max only 7 on 22 Sep (RHD); Shet, last seen early Apr, immigrants from mid July (RJT); 58 Montrose Basin, Angus, 14 Aug (GMC).

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*. 1 Fair Isle 4-11 June (RHD, BM), 7th Scottish record.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*. 1 found dead Sandness, Shet. 2 May (DC, TGO); 1 L Feochan, Argyll, 1 Feb (6: 196) (AG, SGH); 1 L Gorm and L Gruinart, Islay, I Heb, 25 May-4 July (6: 197) (JC, RH, GJL, JRM, DT); 1 N of Whithorn, Wig, 19 Apr (GW) and presumably same bird Garlieston, Wig, 30 Apr-6 May (6: 331) (RHM, GW).



**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus*. ♂ Gillingshill Reservoir, Arncroach, Fife, 10 June (6: 331) (JARG, TW, JW).

**Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*. 1 found dead Ballantrae, Ayr, 28 Jan (per AGS); 1 Kinnaird Lake, Angus, 2 Feb (JD); 1 Lochmaben, Dumf, 6 Apr (ES), 1 Dumfries 3 May (JGY); ♀ killed by car Laurencekirk, Kinc, 7 May (per TMC). 5 in one year is more than usual.

\***Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia*. 1 Caerlaverock, Dumf. 2 June (FLR *et al*); Aber, 1 Strathbeg 9-13 June (RC), 1 Ythan 24 June-24 Aug (MAMcD, JW, CW *et al*); 1 Ardmore Point, Dunb, 4 Nov (RHDo).

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*. Poor breeding season L Leven, Kinross, (AA, CRGC). Peak counts and migrants: Fair Isle, passage from 21 Aug, max 8 on 23 Sep, 20 on 23 Oct (RHD); Inv, 770 Beaully Firth 18 Jan (MIH), 121 Longman on 15 Feb and 418 on 13 Dec (MR); Aber, 300 Auchlossan 24 Jan, 1330 Loch of Skene 25 Jan (RSBy); Angus, 300 Montrose Basin 14 June (GMC); Kinross, L Leven 2080 on 17 Feb, 2250 on 13 Sep, 1000 Nov-Dec (AA, CRGC, JHS); Fife, 1800 Kilconquhar 15 Feb, 1500 on 13 Sep (DWO); Stir, 600 Tullibody Inch 7 June (CJH), 1000 Grangemouth 8 Feb (DF); Midl, 900 Moorfoots Jan, 350 on 23 Aug, 1300 on 13 Sep, 1900 on 25 Oct (DGA, JB, RJWS); Dumf, 600 moulted Blackshaw Bank, 1200 Nith estuary 14 Dec (JGY); Wig, 2000 Lochinch late Nov (JGY).

**Teal** *Anas crecca*. Good breeding season Kirk (ADW); ♀ with 9 ducklings Unst, Shet, 15 June (MS). Fair Isle, spring records 14 Mar-8 June, max 7 on 7 May, autumn passage 9 Aug-12 Nov, peaks 15 on 9th, 20 on 10th and 8 on 25 Sep (RHD); Isle of May, more than usual late Aug-late Sep, max 9 on 24 Aug (GLS). E Ross high total of c1000 Alness Bay 13 Sep (CGH), otherwise numbers rather low, max 350 on Beaully Firth 18 Oct (MIH) and only 26 Longman Bay, Inv, 16 Jan and 13 Sep (MR); Kinross, L Leven, 370 on 18 Jan and c500 in late Sep (AA, JHS); Midl, 400 Moorfoots 10 Oct (RWJS); Dumf, 870 Nith estuary 17 Oct (JGY).

♂ N American Green-winged Teal *A. c. carolinensis* was seen Sinna Water, Northmavine, Shet, 5 Apr (DC, FH, RJT).

\***Garganey** *Anas querquedula*. O Heb, 3 Balranald 29-30 May (DGA) and ♂ 26-28 Apr (GC); Lan, 3 Merryton 11 Apr, 5 on 12th-13th, 7 on 14th, 2 on 16th, 3 on 17th (ITD, MMD, HSCH, KCRH); Shet, 2 ♂♂ Hillwell 10-14 May (DC, RJT); Dumf, 3 prs Caerlaverock 16 May (JH, JGY); Ayr, pr summered in county (PM, WRB), 2 Barr Loch 8 Aug (RAJ); Caith, 1 shot Greenvale 31 Oct (JM).

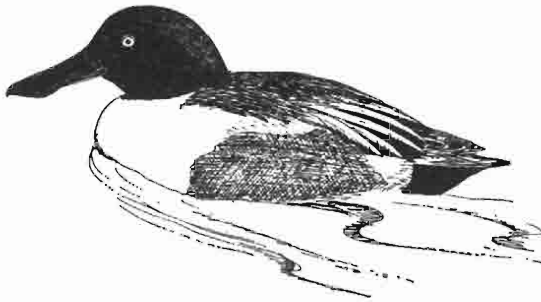
**Gadwall** *Anas strepera*. Poor breeding season at L Leven, Kinross, present 5 Apr-late Nov (AA, CRGC, JHS); Perth loch held 7-8 prs and 5 broods totalling 32 ducklings 7 July (VMT); probably bred Kilconquhar, Fife, where 17 on 20 Apr, down to 2 on 17 May, but 14 on 24 June (DWO); ♀ with 3 ducklings Balranald, O Heb, in June (GC). Migrants: Fair Isle pr 17 May (RHD), ♂ Fetlar, Shet, 2-3 June (ARM); singles Ork 3 Jan, 29 June and Sep (EB, RSBy, MFMM); 1 Gairloch 5 Sep, first seen by (ENH) in W Ross.

Small numbers in winter SE Suth, E Ross, Angus, Midl, E Loth, Ayr, Renf, Dumf and Kirk; only big numbers Kilconquhar where 22 on 17 Aug, 170 on 1 Sep, 150 on 13 Sep, 100 on 4 Oct, 76 on 11th and 58 on 14th (DWO, ARS).

**Wigeon** *Anas penelope*. Poor breeding season at L Leven, Kinross (AA, CRGC); but pr bred Caerlaverock, Dumf (JGY); ♀ with 3 small ducklings in Kirk, first definite record for many years (EBD, JGY); probable increase in Ork (EB); 4 broods W Moray (BE).

Migration: Fair Isle, few 28 Jan-22 May, autumn passage from 14 Aug, mainly 24 Aug-2 Oct, max 14 on 25 Sep and 12 Oct (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 26 on 1 Apr and 31 on 5th; autumn passage from 8 Sep, max 20 on 22 Oct (ARM); more than usual Isle of May, max 10 on 23 Aug (GLS); last Glencaple, Dumf, 14 Apr (17); first returned Glencaple 1 Sep (JGY) and Moorfoot reservoirs, Midl, 6 Sep (DGA, RWJS). Peak counts: Inv, Beaully Firth 384 in spring, 567 in autumn (MIH), Longman 580 on 16 Jan, 1720 on 18 Oct (JAL, MR); Aber, 650 Loch of Skene 25 Jan (RSBy); Kinross, L Leven, 700 early Jan, down to 170 mid Apr, max 1000 in autumn (AA, JHS); Rox, 300 Hoselaw Loch 22 Nov (RSB); Dumf, 720 Priestside 2 Nov (JGY); Wig, 3000 Stranraer late Dec (ADW, JGY); Kirk, 640 L Ken 22 Jan (ADW).

**Pintail** *Anas acuta*. Breeding records: pr Stronsay, Ork (EB); ♀ with young Lairg, Suth, 3 July (HR); ♀ with brood W Moray 18 June (BE); ♀ hatched all but 1 egg River N Esk, Angus (GMC); ♀, possibly breeding, Kinloch Rannoch, Perth (TCS); bred Caerlaverock and Dumfries (JGY); nest destroyed by fox Southerness, Kirk (JGY). Migrants: single ♂♂ Fair Isle 24 Jan, 22 Feb, 5-17 and 28 June, 9 Sep (RHD); Shet, 3 Hillwell 10 May, 1 on 31 May (DC), singles Spiggie 26 June (PMcM) and 22 Oct (FH); Caith, 7 Loch Rangag 30 Aug (DG). Peak counts: 88 Longman, Inv, 15 Feb (MR); L Leven, Kinross, 6 Sep-9 Nov, max 25 on 26 Sep (AA, JHS, WPW); Stir, 140 Skinflats 25 Oct and 8 Dec (DF), 50 Cambus Pans 12 Apr (CJH); E Loth, 16 Tynninghame 18 Oct (RWJS); Dunb, 54 Ardoch 1 Jan (AGG); Renf, 38 Longhaugh Point 23 Oct (RWF); Kirk, 1700+ Carsethorn-Drumburn 22 Sep (NU, JGY), 60 L Ken 7 Nov (ADW); Wig, 480 Piltanton estuary 17 Oct (RCD).



**Shoveler** *Spatula clypeata*. Breeders back L Leven, Kinross, 26 Mar, but poor season, increase from mid Aug to max 190 on 17-18 Oct, last mid Nov (AA, JHS); Fife, Kilconquhar from 16 Apr, 20 prs by 30 Apr, ducklings from 23 July, stayed late, 54 on 14 Nov and 18 on 13 Dec (DWO); also bred N Isles, Ork (EB); 10 prs Kinnordy, Angus, 31 May (HB); pr and 3 young Skinflats, Stir (MH, JP); 2-3 prs Threipmuir, Midl (JB) and L Ken, Kirk (LAU).

Migrants: Shet, 1 Strand Loch 10 May, 3 on 13th, 2 Hillwell 31 May (DC); O Heb, 5 L Stiapavat 14 May (DWR), 1 Ness 17 June (DJS); W Ross, pr Badachro 15-16 May, 1 on 20 June (ENH); Fair Isle 1 on 2 Sep (RHD); Shet, 2 Fetlar 16 Sep (ARM), 1 Lerwick 17-18 Oct (DC). Flocks of note: O Heb, 18 L Biall Fhionnianidh 13 Oct (DJ); Perth, 65 Blairgowrie 18 Oct (VMT); Stir, 38 Grangemouth 14 Nov (DF); Rox, 90 Hoselaw Loch 8 Nov (RSB); Dumf, 200 Powfoot 14 Dec (JGY).

**Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*. No reports from Perth, but ♀ Blackford Pond and Duddingston, Midl, from 18 Nov (EMS, LLJV).

**Scaup** *Aythya marila*. No reports of breeding: pr Barr Loch, Renf, 15 May (RGC); 2 prs L Branahuaie, O Heb, 15 May (DWR); ♂ Brora, Suth, 15 July (RAH, DTh).

Migrants: Fair Isle 7 Aug and 11 Oct (RHD). Inland records: Loch of Skene, Aber, 15 Feb-15 Mar (RSBy); L Leven, Kinross, 8 Jan, 5 on 18 Jan, 13 Apr, 9 Sep (AA, CGRC, TG); Kilconquhar, Fife, 23 on 15 Feb (DWO); Lochinch Loch, Kirk, 3 Oct (LAU). Peak counts: Seafield, Midl, 26000 on 8 Feb, down to 12000 on 8 Mar, 800 on 2 Apr (several hundreds affected by oil) (DGA); return, 4 on 11 Sep, 50 on 23 Sep (RWJS); 300 Edderton Bay, E Ross, 17 Mar (CGH); 200 Troon, Ayr, 15 Feb (RGC); 400+ Ardoch, Dunb, 4 Feb (AGG); 520 Kippford, Kirk, 18 Feb (AFGW); 400 Carsethorn, Kirk, 1 Dec (NU); 340 L Ryan, Wig, 10 Jan (RCD).

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*. Poor breeding season reported from L Leven, Kinross (AA, CGRC) and Moorfoot and Gladhouse reservoirs, Midl (RWJS); no young reared Duddingston, Midl (DGA); young scarce Rox (RSB). In contrast, Kilconquhar, Fife, had good breeding season (DWO), and there was an increase in pairs at Castle Loch, Wig (RHM, GW). ♂ L Braighe 29 June, 8 ♂♂ and 1 ♀ 4 July (RMcl) is unusual for Lewis, O Heb, where not known to breed (WAJC), also 2 prs L Stiapatvat 14 May (DWR).

Counts: Shet, max 130 Clickhimin 9 Feb (FH) and 70 Fetlar 9 Feb (ARM); arrivals Fetlar 12 on 15 Oct (ARM) and max 150 Clickhimin 6 Dec (FH); Inv, max 350 Clachnaharry 15 Feb (MIH); Aber, 30 Auchlossan 24 Jan (RSBy); 600+ West Ferry, Angus, 11 Jan (TMC); L Leven, Kinross, max 4000+ on 13 Sep is record total for loch, 3000+ in early Oct and 100 at end of year (AA, JHS); Fife, 732 on 15 Feb is best ever at Kilconquhar (DWO); 550 wintered Edinburgh lochs, down to 350 on 8 Mar and 240 on 2 Apr (RWJS *et al*); 127 Lochmaben, Dumf, 13 Oct (JGY).

**Pochard** *Aythya ferina*. Few reports of breeding. 8 prs bred Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); pr bred Rossie Moor, Angus (NKA), but no young reared Duddingston, Midl (DGA).

Counts: 235 L Leven, Kinross, 17 Feb, small numbers from July increased to 1800+ on 26 Sep, max 2500+ on 9 Nov, decreased to 2100 on 15 Nov and 1500 on 31 Dec, highest autumn and winter counts since at least 1966 (AA, JHS); Fife, Kilconquhar peaks 1254 on 15 Feb and 1800 on 13 Dec (DWO). Other peaks: 30 Tingwall, Shet, 23 Feb (RN); 600-700 wintered L Harray, Ork (EB); 75 Auchlossan, Aber, 4 Apr (RSBy); 4000 wintered Edinburgh lochs to 8 Feb, down to 1700 by 8 Mar and 100 on 2 Apr (DGA). In autumn increased to 950 on 18 Oct, 1250 on 15 Nov and 1500 in Dec (DRA); max 90 Moorfoots, Midl, 8 Nov (DGA).

**Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula*. Bred E Inv, where ♀ and 4 ducklings seen in July (6: 197) (CFM *et al*), first Scottish breeding record. Summer records: Tingwall, Shet, 14 June (DC); ♂ Boreray, O Heb, 7 July (ADKR); Suth, L Hope 16 June (GS), 12 Bonar Bridge 16 July (RAF); 3 Tain, E Ross, 9 July (RAH, DTh); various E Inv; New Pitsligo, Aber, 8 June (NE); Loch of Lowes, Perth; L Leven, Kinross; Kilconquhar, Fife; Almond estuary, W Loth (RDM); Midl, 4 Musselburgh 30 June (RWJS), Crosswood Reservoir 14 July (TCS); 3 L Ken, Kirk, 29 July (LAU).

Peak counts and migration: Fair Isle, small numbers to 16 Apr, first autumn arrivals 4 on 21 Oct (RHD); Shet, last Fetlar 5 June, arrivals from 5 Oct, main increase from 22 Oct (ARM); E Ross, 650 Invergordon 16 Mar (CGH); E Inv, 162 River Ness 8 Mar, 201 on 13 Dec (MR); 100 Banff 5 Dec (AFWS); Aber, 123 Loch of Skene 15 Mar (RSBy); Angus, 600+ West Ferry 11 Jan (TMC); Kinross, 431 L Leven 15 Mar, sudden increase to 1000+ on 13 Apr, 445 on 15 Nov (AA, JHS); Midl, 4000 Seafield 1 Jan, 3000 on 25 Jan, 2000 on 8 Mar and 2 Apr (DGA); 120 Moorfoots 28 Mar, last 5 on 10 May (DGA, RWJS); Dumf, 123 Torduff Point 18 Jan (JGY).

**Long-tailed Duck** *Clangula hyemalis*. Summer: last Fair Isle 11 May (RHD); Shet, last Fetlar 23 May (ARM), pr Lerwick 23 and 29 June (BZ, DC); O Heb, 4 L Branahuie 15 May (DWR); Suth, ♂ Handa 8 June (JB); Moray, last Spey Bay 20 June (JMB). Pre-breeding season peaks: 600 Rousay, Ork, 30 Apr (EB); Moray, max 800 Spey Bay 18 Apr (JMB), 300+ Findhorn 20 Feb (BE); Aber, 80 Don mouth 4 Feb (MAMcD); Midl, 70 Musselburgh 22 Jan, last 2 on 14 Apr (LLJV); Ayr, 36 Irvine 11 Jan (DLC).

Autumn: Shet, from 6 Oct, mainly after 21st (ARM), max 24 Foula 24 Oct (JGH); Fair Isle, from 3 Oct, peak 41 on 20th and 56 on 21 Oct, most ever seen on isle (RHD); Suth, 450 Embo 24 Oct (JBW); Aber, 5 Ythan 21 Oct, 95 on 29 Nov (JAL); Kinc, first Girdle Ness 7 Oct (MJHC); Angus, first Carnoustie 8 Oct (GMC); 2 Fife Ness 16 Aug (DWO). Inland:

1 L Leven, Kinross, 24 Oct, 3 on 13-15 Nov (AA, JHS); Renf, 1-2 Barr Loch 10 Oct-3 Dec (RGC, DLC); Ayr, L Martnaham 12 Nov (AGS, MAO), Kirk, Kendoon and Earlstown Lochs 7 Nov-31 Dec (GAF, LAU, ADW).

**Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*.** No definite breeding records but suspected Shet (RJT); ♀ seen in July on breeding loch, Perth (VMT); ♀ with 3 half-grown ducklings on sea, Monreith, Wig, 15-23 July (GW). Summer-moult flocks: 127 Luce Bay, Wig, 7 July and peak 1000 on 27 Aug (RCD); 120 Little Ross, Kirk, July (JGY). Other counts: 7000 scoters, mainly Common, off Dornoch, Suth, 24 Oct (JBW); 1100 Findhorn, Moray, 12 Sep (DBMcG); Aber, many hundreds off Ythan and Collieston 20 Sep (CJF); 50 Seafield, Midl, 2 Apr (DGA); 1 Isle of May 4 May (DWO); 1 Skinflats, Stir, 18 Jan (MH, DF); 2 L Ashie, Inv, 2 Nov (MIH).

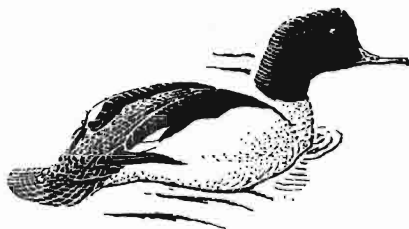
**Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*.** 900 N Fife Ness 16 Aug (DWO). Fair Isle, 1 on 15 Aug, 3 on 9 Sep (RHD); Shet, usual records, but ♂ Hills- wick 12 June (RJT), first of autumn 3 on 28 Oct (DC); O Heb, 1 Back, Lewis, 4 May; Angus, 50 Usan 22 June (GMC); ♂ L Ken, Kirk, 30 Oct, new record for loch (LAU, ADW).

**\*Steller's Eider *Polystica stelleri*.** ♂ Rattray Head, Aber, 8 Nov (MRW).

**Eider *Somateria mollissima*.** Badly hit by North Sea oiling (6: 235-250), 2112 were found dead or dying on E coast beaches 1 Jan-15 Feb, the great majority near the Tay, 1055 in Fife and 934 in Angus/Kinc.

Peak counts: 18000 West Ferry, Angus, 3 Nov (TMC); 3000 Seafield-Musselburgh, Midl, Jan-Feb and 2500 on 2 Mar (DGH); 2000+ Gullane Point, E Loth, 29 Aug (RMB); 1500+ Ardmore, Dunb, Sep (AGG); 700 L Ryan, Wig, 9 Aug (RCD); 230 Coll, Lewis, 17 Nov, largest flock recorded in O Heb (WAJC); 400 Bettyhill, Suth, 14 June (DG); 550 Fair Isle 6 Oct, most ever counted there (RHD).

**\*King Eider *Somateria spectabilis*.** ♂ Ronas Voe, Shet, 23 Mar-9 Apr (DC, RJT et al); immature ♂ Kirkcolm, L Ryan, Wig, 30 March (6: 275) (RMBa, AFJ et al).



**Goosander *Mergus merganser*.** Little breeding information, but increase continued Dumf, e.g. 13 nests Langholm (KB); good season Kirk, up to 20 L Ken 19 Aug (AAN-S) and increase in the Borders (RSB).

Winter numbers low in north, only 3 Beaulay Firth 18 Jan (MIH); more than usual in south: 15 Whiteadder reservoir, Ber, 18 Jan (RWJS); 120+ Ale-Ettrick, Sel, 15 Mar (JB); 60 Morton Lochs, Fife, 19 Mar (AMMF, RWS), 150 off Newport early Apr (DBT); 71 L Leven, Kinross, 18 Jan (AA, CGRC); 12 Loch of Skene, Aber, 25 Jan (RSBy). Stragglers: singles, Fair Isle 3-12 Nov (RHD); Shet, Channerwick 18 Oct (DC, RJT), Whalsay 28 Nov (JHSi); Loch of Skail, Ork, 27 Jan (HMCK). Winter peaks: 800+ Beaulay Firth, Inv, 13 Dec (CJF); 220 L Leven 31 Dec (AA, JHS).

**Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*.** Continued increase in Dumf and Wig (RHM, JGY); pr with 5 ducklings L Leven, Kinross, first breeding record for loch (AA, JHS). Scarce in early months Beaulay Firth, only

5 on 18 Jan (MIH). Counts: 250 Coldbackie, Suth, 23 Aug (PRJ); 120 Whiteness Head, Nairn/Inv, 17 July (JE); 300 Findhorn, Moray, 12 Sep (JE); 250 Kinnaber, Angus, 23 July (GMC); 155 Burntisland, Fife, 7 Apr (JMC); 500 Grangemouth, Stir, 14 Nov (DF); 150 Musseiburgh, Midl, 8 Oct (MJE); 150+ L Ryan, Wig, 31 Dec (JKRM, ADW).

\***Smew** *Mergus albellus*. 13 winter records all S of Angus-Ayr except ♂ Invergordon, E Ross, 16 Mar (CGH); last Castle Semple Loch Renf, 5 Apr (RGC), singles except 3 Hoselaw Loch, Rox, 9 Feb (per AJS) and 2 Castle Semple Loch, 17 Jan-22 Mar (RGC). 6 autumn records after first, shot Newton Stewart, Wig, late Oct (per ADW); distribution Angus, Midl, Rox and Renf (3).

**Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*. Good season at Kingoodie, Perth, 44 juveniles 8 July (HB); 9 broods, L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHS); 2-3 prs bred Isle of May (NJG). Counts: 176 Munloch Bay, E Ross, 8 Jan (MKM-D); E Inv, build-up at Longman, 24 on 13 Sep, 52 on 15 Nov, 122 on 13 Dec (MR); 614 Eden estuary, Fife, 18 Jan (RAC); 1130 Skinflats, Stir, 8 Feb (DF); 2017 Ardoch, Dunb, 30 Jan (AGG); 636 Gretna-Nith estuary, Dumf, 14 Dec (NSRG). Fair Isle migrants, 27 Jan and 2 on 1 May (RHD).

**Grey Lag Goose** *Anser anser*. National count 8 Nov 65000; all but 1440 in Scotland; most as usual in E central region where 28750 in Perth and 10530 in Angus/Kinc. Further slight increase in population after moderately good breeding season; 25.1% young birds, best since 1964, average brood size 2.4 (MAO).

Rather little information on breeding success in Scotland; breeding proved Harris and Lewis, O Heb (WAJC); brood of 8 Loch Maree, W Ross (ENH); 7 summered Munloch Bay, E Ross (MKM-D); 4 summered Eden estuary, Fife (DWO, GO); 2 Fair Isle 10 July (RHD) and pr possibly bred Foula, Shet, where pr and 3 young 24 Aug (ARW).

Spring departure: mid Apr Galloway; L Leven, Kinross, 1440 on 7 Jan, 652 on 13 Feb, 1780 on 18 Feb, last early May (AA, CRGC, JHS); last Perth, 90 Kingoodie 27 Apr (HB); 26 Glen Ogil, Angus, 11 May (GMC); 350 Findhorn, Moray, 16 Apr (BE); 100-200 W off Faraid Head, Suth, 30 Apr (RSBy); passage Fair Isle 15 Apr-11 May, max 5 on 24th (RHD); Shet, 42 Sumburgh 4 Apr (ARW), few Foula to 8 May (JGH), 1 Skerries 16-17 May (RJT).

Autumn migration: Shet, from 23 Sep, mainly 20 Oct, exceptional numbers with flocks of over 200 (RJT); Fair Isle, from 23 Sep, max 30 on 30 Sep, 72 on 8 Oct, 110 on 20th, 140 on 22nd (RHD); first Angus, Lunan Bay, 22 Sep (GMC); L Leven, Kinross, 2 on 26 Sep, main arrival mid Oct (JHS); 68 Gladhouse, Midl, 2 Sep (LY); 12 Dumf 21 Sep, mainly from 21 Oct (JGY). Peaks: 650 Beaully Firth, Inv, 16 Nov (MIH); c8000 Kinnordy, Angus, 15 Nov (JIS); L Leven, max 4700 on 6 Dec (AA, JHS, WRW); 1856 Kilconquhar, Fife, 13 Dec (DWO); 2000+ Gladhouse, Midl, 8 Nov (WB, LY); 1200 Tinwald Downs, Dumf, 20 Nov, 1840 on 14 Dec (KB, JGY).

**White-fronted Goose** *Anser albifrons*. European race *A. a. albifrons*: 1 Fair Isle 21 Jan-13 Feb (RHD); 3 Morton Lochs, Fife, 11 Apr (RAS); 24 Islay, I Heb, 3 Apr (GLCF); 5 Lockerbie, Dumf, 27 Mar (RTS). Others unspecified unless marked G for Greenland race *A. a. flavirostris*.

Departure: up to 300 G L Ken, Kirk, Apr is low (ADW), last 90 G on 30 Apr (LAU) and 45 G Moor of Genoch, Wig, 24 Apr (RCD); 1 G Barr Loch, Renf, 8 Mar (IG, GTW, DLC); 1 G Kilconquhar, Fife, 5 Feb, 3 G on 27 Feb (DWO); 2 G L Leven, Kinross, 2 Jan (JHS); 1 G Comrie, Perth, 18 Apr (MH); single G birds Ythan, Aber, 31 Mar (RLS), Crimond, Aber, 27 Apr (NE); 14 G Badachro, W Ross, 25 Jan (ENH); 13 G Balranald, O Heb, 20 Apr (GC); 70 Birsay, Ork, 17 Apr (EB).

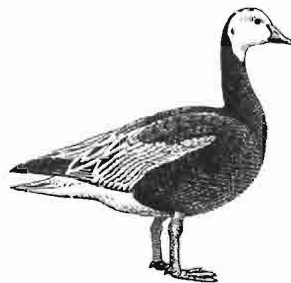
Autumn arrivals: Kirk, 20+ G Loch Ken 18 Oct (LAU), peak 330 G L Ken 7 Nov (ADW), 126 G Moor of Genoch, Wig, 25 Oct (RCD), 138 G Lochinch Loch, Wig, 31 Dec (JKRM, ADW); 10-12% young in Oct, better than last winter (PS, ADW). Islay, 1 Heb, population 2500 G on 17 Nov (MAO). Other counts: 40 Endrick, Dumb, 12 Dec (JM, ETI, CP); 9 Crichton, Midl, 29-30 Oct (HFB, WB); 40+ Barvas, O Heb, 5 Sep (RMcl) was early; 1 G Spiggie, Shet, 5 Oct (RE-H); 2 G Hoselaw Loch, Rox, 22 Nov-13 Dec, where unusual (RSB); 23 G Kilconquhar, Fife, 23 Nov (DWO).

\***Bean Goose** *Anser arvensis arvensis*. Castle Douglas, Kirk, flock reached only 17 in Jan (RE-H, ADW); Aber, 6 Tarty 14 Mar (MJHC), 1 Slains 25 Oct (RLS, WM); 2 Kilconquhar, Fife, 27 Feb (DWO); 2 Gullane, E Loth, 12 Oct (BCF); singles Fetlar, Shet, 26 Jan (ARM); Rothiemurchus, Inv, 21 Mar (DNW); North Ronaldsay, Ork, 27 Mar-4 Apr (RJWS).

**Pink-footed Goose** *Anser arvensis brachyrhynchus*. Spring departure: L Leven, Kinross, max 3700 Jan-Feb, 3300 until Apr, 500 on 3 May, last on 15 May (AA, CRGC, JHS); Hoselaw Loch, Rox, 2000+ NE 28 Mar (RSB); 2000 left Solway, Dumf, 5 May, last 57 Glencaple Dumf, 20 May (JGY); 1720 Kirkconnel, Kirk, 5 May (JGY). Elsewhere: 250 Carsebreck, Perth, 3 May (VMT); 207 Nairn 22 Mar (MIH, MR); 200+ Nigg Bay, E Ross, 11 May (CGH); 22 N North Galson, Lewis, O Heb, 15 May (RAE, DWR); 1 Fair Isle 10 Jan (GJB). 14 summered inner Solway (JGY), 3 at L Leven (AA, JHS) and 1 Drum Holliston, Suth, 27 June (DG).

Autumn arrivals: Shet, 5 Sumburgh 21 Sep, 30-40 on 19-24 Oct (ARW); Fair Isle, a few from 22 Sep (RHD); O Heb, 5 S Broadbay 25 Sep (MM); heard over Inverness 23 Sep (WAS); Angus, 32 Glen Clova 23 Sep, 1000 S Monikie 8 Oct (GMC); Kinross, 38 L Leven 12 Sep, 150 on 21st, 1500 on 25th, second wave from 29 Sep, peaks 9000 on 3 Oct, 10000+ on 16-24 Oct, 4000+ thereafter (AA, JHS, WRW); Fife, 50 S St Monance 16 Sep (DWO, GO, RWS); Midl, 2 Gladhouse 16 Sep (RW), 150 on 27th, 1200 on 4 Oct, 5500 on 9th Oct, down to 3500 by 22 Nov and 1500 by 20 Dec (WB, LY); E Loth, 300 Aberlady 24 Sep (AMT); Solway, 12 on 1 Sep, 50 on 12th, 120 on 17 Sep, 3700 by 21 Oct, 6200 on 20 Nov, decrease to 2800 in Dec (JGY).

National count on 8 Nov 72000 birds, 67000 in Scotland, most Perth where 34360; numbers low in Aber where 2230 compared with 12810 in 1969; 23.1% young birds and average brood size 2.2 (MAO).



\***Snow Goose** *Anser caerulescens*. Presumed escapes: Dumf/Kirk, 1 between Caerlaverock and Southerness 2 Nov-30 Dec (JGY *et al*); Fife, 2 N Burntisland 16 Mar (ARS), blue-phase summered Tentsmuir (RAS, DWO); Angus, 1 Montrose Basin in July (GMC); Kinross, 1 L Leven, 13 Feb, one 8th and 26 Oct (AA, JHS); probably same bird Dupplin, Perth, 7 Nov (VMT).

\***Brent Goose** *Branta bernicla*. Dark-breasted *B. b. bernicla*: Shet, 1

Virkie 29-30 Jan (ARW); Kinross, 1 L Leven 8 Dec (JHS); Midl, 3 Musselburgh 19 Jan (RMS).

Pale-breasted *B. b. hrota*. More recorded than usual: 6 W Brough of Birsay, Ork, 27 Sep (EJW); c150 Northton, Harris, O Heb, 17 Oct (AJMcK); 3 Buckpool, Banff, 26 Sep (JMB); Angus, 1 Rescobie 6 Feb (GMC), 1 Kinnaber 9 Sep (GMC), 2 Monifieth 23-27 Oct (GG) and West Haven 1 Nov (TMC); Perth, one 1 Nov (NE, NP); Kinross, L Leven, singles 1-2 Jan, 3-10 Oct and 6 Dec (AA, JHS); Fife, 1 Kirkcaldy 10 Oct-2 Nov (MMt, DER, DWO); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 10 Oct (LLJV); Dumf, 1 Caerlaverock 19 Oct-31 Dec (JGY). Other sightings, race not mentioned: Shet, 1 Whalsay 16 Oct, 5 on 20 Oct and 3 on 27 Oct (JHSi), 1 Clickhimin 2-3 Dec (DC), 1 Virkie 6 Dec (ARW); E Inv/Nairn, 18 Whiteness Head 3 Oct (WAC); Fife, 3 Burntisland 24 Jan (JMC), 1 Methil 26 Oct (DWO); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 21 Sep-15 Dec (AMt); I Heb, 1 Islay 21 Dec (RHD); Wig, 5 L Ryan 21 Nov (DCI).

**Barnacle Goose** *Branta leucopsis*. Solway flock 2000 last seen Caerlaverock 20 Feb, small parties to 18 Apr when 42 (JGY); 10 at Fair Isle 14 Feb quite unusual in winter (RHD); 108 Eilean Hoan, Suth, 21 Mar (RHD); I Heb, Islay count 13700 on 13-14 Mar (MAO). Usual scatter of small parties and singles outside regular winter areas. Summer records: 1 Foula 24 May (JGH); Angus, 3 Kinnordy Loch 13 July (HB); Stir, 1 Skinflats 16-21 May (MH, DF); 1 Isle of May 9 Aug-17 Sep (NJG).

Autumn arrival: more E side than usual: Shet, 140 Sumburgh 14 Oct (ARW), probably largest ever flock Shet, small flocks stayed, last reported 12 on Lady Holm 12 Dec (ARW); Fair Isle passage 30 Sep-9 Nov, max 30 on 17-18 Oct, 21 on 22 Oct (RHD); build-up at Caerlaverock, 27 on 12 Sep, 33 on 20th, 120 on 27th, 300 on 1 Oct, 600 on 7th, 2200 on 14 Oct, peak 3200 on 22 Nov, 47.2% young birds (JGY); Islay count 14800 on 16-17 Nov (MAO). Small numbers many places including 4 Spynie, Moray, 27 Nov (RRi); 5 Slains, Aber, 25 Oct (RLS, WM); 5 Girdle Ness, Kinc, 21 Oct (NE); 9 L Leven, Kinross, 13 Dec (AA, JHS); 10 Tynninghame, E Loth, 18 Oct (LLJV, RWJS, TB); 18 Wooden Loch, Rox, 18 Oct (WS).

\***Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*. SW Scotland population: 45 at Kinmount, Dumf, included 14 juveniles; 2 prs reared 6 young at Cowhill, Dumf (KB, NSRG); 42 Wigtown Merse 5 Aug (RCD); X Grey Lag hybrid Durnagait, Wig, 16 Feb (AK, JWi); singles at Drem Pools, E Loth, 16 Apr (DJ) and Yetholm Loch, Rox, 25 Apr (RSB); origin uncertain of 6 at Glen Errochty, Perth, 30 May (VMT).

Max count of Beaully Firth moult flock of Yorkshire birds 232 in July (MIH); 13 stragglers still present 15 Nov (MIH). Following reports probably refer to this population on migration: northwards, Angus, 38 Backwater Dam 16 June (HB), 25 Kinnaber 17 June (GMC), 6 SW West Ferry 28 June (TMC); return, 38 Newburgh, Fife, 6 Sep (JW); 28 Musselburgh, Midl, 16 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, 23 Gullane Point 29 Sep (AMt), 40 over Aberlady Bay 3 Oct (LLJV).

Others: 2 Kilconquhar, Fife, 8 Aug (DWO, ARS), singles Fife Ness 5 and 14 Oct (JARG); O Heb, 5 Loch Druidibeg 11 Aug (DWR); I Heb, small Canada Goose with Barnacles Gruinart Bay, Islay, 18 Nov (MAO).

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor*. Shet, where rare, 2 arrived 21 Jan, stayed Spiggie and Hillwell to 15 Mar (LJ), 1 Whalsay 23 Jan (JHSi); Fair Isle, ad died 1 Jan (GJB); Isle of May, one 6 Sep (ADW) only 4th record; 5 prs bred West Moray as against 1 pr 1969 (BE); poor breeding season L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHS); failed Hoselaw and Yetholm, Rox (RSB).

**Whooper Swan** *Cygnus cygnus*. Spring departure: L Leven, Kinross, up to 70 in March, last 8 on 7 Apr (AA, CRGC); last 22 at Islestepps, Kirk, 26 Apr (JGY); 16 W Buckpool, Banff, 10 Apr (DBMcG); 25 NW 15 miles



SW of St Kilda 11 Apr (RSBy); Ork, last 10 on 16 Apr (EB); Fair Isle, passage to 29 Apr, max 22 on 26th and 15 on 27th (RHD). Stragglers or summering birds in Shet (2), Lewis, O Heb (5), Suth (2), Ross (4), Moray (1), Renf (2), Eigg, I Heb (1).

Autumn arrival: Shet, first 4 on 20 Sep Fetlar (ARM), 10 Loch Spiggie, 6 Oct, 25 on 8th, 54 on 18th, 77 on 1 Nov (DC, FH); O Heb, 202 in Uists 13-16 Oct, 21% juveniles (DGA, DJ); E Ross, 380 Delyn 9 Nov, 25% 1st Y (CGH); Kinross, L Leven, 12 on 8 Oct, 250 on 22nd, max 428 on 8 Nov, 10.7% juveniles is lower than elsewhere (AA); Fife, 250 Kingskettle 5 Dec (DER, DWO); Stir, max 160 on 19 Nov, 16% young (CJH); Renf, 74 Paisley 19 Nov (GTW); Galloway, lower numbers than usual, max 64 at Islesteps, Kirk (ADW).

\***Bewick's Swan** *Cygnus columbianus*. Shet, 1 Whalsay 1-5 Jan from Oct 1969 (JHSi); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 8 Apr (DJ); 2 Wigtown Merse. 15 Mar (RCD). Autumn: 1 Whalsay, 10 Oct (JHSi); Angus, 1 N Esk estuary 24 Dec (JCI); Dumf, 1 Stanhope 22 Nov, 3 Ruthwell 26-31 Dec (JGY); Kirk, 3 Carsethorn 28 Nov (ADW *et al*).

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*. Very good season W Ross (per ENH); but in SW Scotland out of 5 prs only 1 pr reared 1 chick (ADW, JGY); a few good reports from peripheral areas, but both nests apparently raided in Caith (DMS); Ork, imm seen Mainland 1-4 and 8 May (EB).

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo*. Increase of breeders reported from Dornoch, Suth (DMcD), Tain, E Ross (CJM-G); possibly also on lower Deeside (NP) and in Dumf (JFY, JGY) where 22 young reared (NSRG); 2 prs bred Hoy, Ork (EB); also bred Glen Clova, Angus (GMC); 8 Glen Esk, Angus, 25 Oct (AN, MN); 1-2 on 4 occasions Benarty Hills. Kinross (JHS, AA, RL). Migrants: Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 29 Sep (MFMM), 1 Kirkwall Nov and Dec (EB); 1 SW over Glasgow 15 Apr (DLC). **Red-tailed Hawk** *B. jamaicensis* (6: 34 and 6: 81) shot in spring, Midl (per RWJS).

\***Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*. 3 singles: Shet, Bigton 18 Oct and Sumburgh 20 Oct (DC, RJT, ARW); W Ross, Red Point 13 Oct (per ENH); Angus, Invermark Castle, Glen Esk 2-10 Oct (GMC).

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*. Increase reported from Tain (CJM-G) and Maryburgh (HDS), E Ross, and from Galloway (ADW); Dumf, 92 nests found, 102 pulli ringed (HO, JGY).

Migrants: Shet, 1 Kergord 22 Feb and 2 on 30 Mar (DC), 1 Skerries 15 May (RJT), 1 Fetlar 16 May (RKMCG); 1 Fair Isle 19-20 Apr, 3-4 on 5 days 1-17 May (RHD); 1 Stornoway, O Heb, 16 June (DJS). Autumn: Shet, 1 Whalsay 13 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, singles 6 days from 12 Sep, 3 on 3 Nov, 2 on 4th and 3 singles to 23 Nov (RHD); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 15-16 Oct (EJW); Aber, 1 Rattray Head 5 Sep (NE); Kinc, 1 Nigg Bay 8 Sep (MM).

\***Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis*. From one region 2 prs reported wintering, one area defended in spring, but no proof of breeding; a solitary bird nearby 10 Mar-17 Apr (anon).

\***Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*. 1 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 28 Sep (6: 331) (MFMM), 4th record of this rare species in Northern Isles in 5 years in contrast to 65-year gap between 1st and 2nd Scottish records.

\***Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*. 1 Fair Isle 24 June, found dead 29 June (6: 198) (RHD); 1 Aviemore, Inv, 1 Aug (DNW). 3 records in 1968 and 7 in 1969.

\***Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*. Angus, ♀ Clatterin Brig 18 May, Montrose Basin 18 July, ♂ Montrose Basin 19 July, 14 and 16 Aug (GMC); Aber, singles Bridge of Don 5-7 May (RFG), Kemnay 20 May (RLS); Midl, Brothershiels Moor 23 Aug (HFB, WB); Shet, Whalsay, 1 Oct (JHSi).

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*. Ork, about normal population, bigamy more pronounced, one ♂ mated to 4 ♀ ♀ and another to probably no fewer than 6 ♀ ♀! (EB). Elsewhere: apparent increase Perth (VMT); some success in southwest (JGY, ADW). Migrants: Fair Isle, ♂ 1-2 Nov, ♀ 22-23 Nov (RHD); Shet, Clumlee 21 Feb (ARW), Foula 6 Dec (JGH); Aber, ♀ Ythan 21 Oct (RFY, JAL).

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*. Three young reared L Garten, Inv; only 1 bird seen 2nd site; nearby, pr rebuilt nest at known site but disturbed and moved to frustration eyrie. 2 young reared at "third" Scottish site and 3 reared from nearby eyrie; a total of 8 young from 3 eyries (HJB, DNW). In 1971 another site "found" where young reared in secrecy 1968, 1969 and 1970, thought to be 3 young 1970 (per RHD). Loch of Lowes, Perth, pr built nest and laid 2 eggs, but eggs and nest destroyed by high winds, 5 birds seen late summer (VMT). Elsewhere, pr built a nest but failed to breed (anon).

Widespread reports (certainly incomplete) 18 Apr-24 Sep; records outside Highlands (singles unless stated): Shet, Spiggie 9-10 May (per RJT), Fetlar 26 June (ARM); Fair Isle 12th and 26 May, 16 Sep (RHD); Longhope, Ork, 21 June (EJW); O Heb, the Minch E of Harris 18 June (AV), L Druidibeg July (IHJL); Aber, Haddo 6-8 June (NE); Angus, Lintrathen Loch 29 July-24 Aug (JF), Backwater Dam 26 Aug (JADH); Kinross, L Leven 8 Aug (KL, TS); Fife, Morton Lochs 15 Aug (DJB); W Loth, Bee Craigs Reservoir 17-24 Sep (per TCS); Midl, Roseberry Reservoir. 6 Sep (RWJS); 2 E Loth May (WAP); Isle of May 6 Sep (ADW); Dunb/W Stir, L Lomond/Endrick Mouth 26 July, 11 Aug, 18th, 19th (2), 20-30 Aug (ICM, JP); I Heb, Islay 11-23 May (JRM, EM, AMT), Rhum 7-16 May (PW); Galloway, Palmure Burn 28 May (IA).



\***Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*. 1 Fair Isle 30 May (RHD); 1 Ythan, Aber, 19 Sep (MAMcD).

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*. Shet, 4 prs known and may have bred, but only one nest with young seen (RJT); Fair Isle, 2 prs present, but no young reared (RHD); Ork, of 12-13 prs attempting to breed, at least 7 prs (possibly 8) produced young (EB); 3 prs bred Angus (JB, GMC); 5 young from 7 sites, Dumf (WM, JMx, JFY, JGY); but less successful Kirk and Wig than in 1969 (DAR, RRx).

Migrants: L Leven, Kinross, 2 until early Apr and from late July (JHS); singles Wormit, Fife, 24 Sep (PJC) and Dollar, Stir, 7 Sep (TDHM); wintered Moorfoots (WB, RWJS); Seafeld, Midl, 7 Feb (RST); E Loth, Aberlady 11 Feb (ADW), Gullane 19 July (DGA); Carrick Hill, Ayr, 13 June (WRB).

\***Gyr Falcon** *Falco rusticolus*. Greenland form Whalsay, Shet, 8 Apr (6; 199) (JHSi).

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*. Little breeding information, but obviously a scarce bird; slight encouragement can be obtained from following com-

ments: "improvement seems to be maintained" Shet (RJT); "fairly successful" Ork (EB); "slow improvement" Dumf (JGY).

Migration: Fair Isle, 1 wintered, spring passage to 18 May, autumn passage 22 Aug-18 Nov, but scarce, max only 3 on 3 days (RHD); coastal sightings in north and east from 30 Sep, E Loth from 14 Aug and 1 Skinflats, Stir, 4 July (DF).

\***Red-footed Falcon** *Falco vespertinus*. Ad ♀ Tingwall, Shet, 10-25 May (FH, Jir, RMo), similar bird, probably same individual, Yell 7-24 June (DC, ARM, RJT).

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*. Good breeding season reported from Kirk, Wig, Dumf, where 38 pulli ringed and 52 seen Eskdalemuir late July (NSRG), Yetholm, Rox, Kinross, Moray, E Ross and Ork; possibly scarcer in Fife (JEF).

Migrants: Shet, 1 Asta 6 Feb (FH) is unusual, spring records 9 May-20 June (RJT); Fair Isle, stragglers 27 Mar-8 June (RHD). Autumn: Shet, 1 Unst 7 July, 4 on 24 Aug (MS), 1 Foula 29 Aug (JGH); Fair Isle, passage 29 July-2 Dec. mainly late Aug-Sep, max 6 on 27 Sep (RHD); Moray, 6 in off sea Findhorn 23 Aug, 5 likewise 24 Aug (BE, MM); 3 Fife Ness 16 Aug (DWO).

**Red Grouse** *Lagopus scoticus*. Breeding reports range from "best in recent years" Dumf (JGY) and "record bag" Wig (JKC) to "poor-moderate season" Kinross (JHS) and "reduced success" Rox/Peeb (AJS).

**Ptarmigan** *Lagopus mutus*. Suth, ♀ with young Glasven (1085ft) 23 July (RAF); W Ross, abundant Torridon Hills late summer (ENH); Banff, 2 coveys and a single on Ben Rinnes 26 July, where absent for many years (JE).

**Black Grouse** *Lyrurus tetrix*. W Ross, 1 Achnasheen 26 Feb (JAW), first in area by observer; Kinross, fairly good breeding season (JHS), c70 Ochill foothills 15 Oct (WW); noted increase Dumf, especially northern part where bags up to 120 (JMx).

**Capercaillie** *Tetrao urogallus*. Angus, nested Fettercairn, Inshmaldie Forest, Glen Esk (GMC).

**Red-legged Partridge** *Alectoris rufa*. Banff, 2 dozen birds reared at Cullen, Seafeld Estates (JE); young seen Bowmount Forest, Rox (per AJS).

**Partridge** *Perdix perdix*. Some encouragement to be gained from most reports; increase recorded Moray (coveys of 25+ Findhorn dunes, most in 5 years) (BE), Dornoch (DMcD), E Fife (DWO), Dumf (JMx, JGY); slow increase Midl (RWJS); good breeding season Angus/Kinc (GMC), Kinross (AA, JHS), Yetholm, Rox (RSB), Galloway (ADW).

\***Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*. Nested successfully Scotscaidier, Caith (DMS); Wig, 1 calling Stranraer Apr-29 May and 29 Jun-3 Sep (AJ), 1 Mull of Galloway summer (DCB); Rox, 1 Yetholm summer (RSB); E Loth, 2 East Linton 1 Aug (HMT); Perth, 1 Strath Earn 19 June (MP); Angus, summer records 3 localities near Kirriemuir (per GMC); Moray, 1 Findhorn late July (BE); Suth, 1 Borgie 17 July (RAF), Dornoch last week July (DH); 1 Heb, Islay 18 June (GJL); O Heb, Bairnald 23 Aug (GC); Fair Isle, recorded between 7 May and 11 Aug, several in May, one most of summer, 3 calling 1 Aug (RHD); Shet, Whalsay 12 May (JHSi), Unst 3-4 June (MS), Hillswick 12 June (RJT).

**Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus*. Reports of good breeding season Kinross and Dumf; 2+ prs bred wild South Hoy, Ork (EB), ♂ in May, North Uist, O Heb (GC).

\***Golden Pheasant** *Chrysolophus pictus*. No change in Kirk feral population (ADW); ♂♂ in wild Largoward, Fife (DWO).

\***Crane** *Grus grus*. Shet, 1 Fetlar from 7 May, 2 from 12-16 May, one 17 May (AGGH, RKMCG, ARM).

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*. Nest found Loch Insh, E Inv (HJB); likely breeding Kilconquhar, Fife, and Kirk. Winter records various counties. Summer: Kemnay, Aber, 2 June (RLS). Autumn records from 28 Aug. Migration: scarce at Fair Isle, only singles 2 Jan, and 9 days 5 Oct-27 Nov (RHD); Shet, Foula 3 Jan (JGH) and Whalsay 21 Feb (JHSi), 6 autumn records 1 Nov-13 Dec; I Heb, singles Rhum 20 Feb and 7 Nov (PW).



\***Spotted Crake** *Porzana porzana*. Arrived W Suth site for 5th yr 24 Apr, only 1 bird, calling to 3 Aug (per DMcD). Migrants, all singles: Fair Isle 11 May (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 15 May (RKMCG), Whalsay 10 June (JHSi); O Heb, Ness, Lewis, 17 June (DJS); Kinc, Girdle Ness 6 May (ADKR); Renf, Glen Reservoir 29 Aug (DLC).

\***Little Crake** *Porzana parva*. Fair Isle, ad ♂ trapped 11 May (RHD), new species for island and first Scottish record since Shet Apr 1959 (6: 277).

**Corncrake** *Crex crex*. No status change reported. Arrival: O Heb, Stornoway 6 May (RMCI), Balranald 7 May (GC); Fetlar, Shet, 7 May (ARM); Ork 8 May (EB); Girdle Ness, Kinc, 8 May (ADKR); Longman, Inv, 10 May (MR); Fair Isle 9 May (2)—2 June, max 3 on 17 May (RHD). Autumn (singles): Fair Isle 15 Aug and 7 Sep (RHD); Kinnaber, Angus, 23 Aug (GMC).

**Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*. Migrants: Fair Isle scarce, singles 4 and 11 May, (dead) 21 Aug, 4-5 Oct, 1-4 Dec (RHD); Shet, Foula, 1 all winter, 1 on 31 Mar (JGH), 1 Fetlar 6 May (ARM); O Heb, 4 Stornoway 16 Nov (WAJC); I Heb, 1 Rhum 22 Apr (PW).

**Coot** *Fulica atra*. Shet, 2 in winter Foula (JGH), 1 pr probably bred Mainland (RJT); Fair Isle, singles 9-23 Jan, 23-24 Jan and 8-14 May (RHD); Ork, 100 Loch of Bosquoy in Nov (EB); 225 Forfar Loch, Angus, 22 Sep (HB); L Leven, Kinross, moderate breeding season, increase to 120 on 3 July (CRGC, TG), peak 150+ on 18 Oct, then rapid decrease (AA, JHS); Fife, 250 Kilconquhar 25 May, 400 on 13 July, up to 500 on 4 Oct, then 150 on 11 Oct (DWO); Rox, increased to 20-30 prs Yetholm, 340 on 10 Sep (RSB); Wig, 73 on sea L Ryan 10 Jan (RCD); Dumf, 500-600 L Milton in Nov-Dec (JGY).

\***Great Bustard** *Otis tarda*. Ad ♀ Fair Isle 11 Jan-6 Apr (GJB, RHD) (6:171), first since Shet May 1936.

**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*. Return to breeding territories: Dumf, inland 7 Mar (JGY); Yetholm, Rox, 14 Mar (RSB); Gladhouse, Midl, 22 Feb (JB); Aber, 2 Banchory 27 Feb (NP) and 53 Auchlossan 28 Feb (RSBy); Fair Isle, 15 Feb, full numbers from 13 Mar (RHD); Shet, 6 Mar, most by 22 Mar (ARM). c25% decrease in breeding population at Fair Isle (RHD), and Isle of May population down to 12 prs from usual 15-20 prs (NJG) may reflect winter control measures in England.

Exodus: Fair Isle from 9 Aug; Moray, Findhorn 160 on 29 June increased to 700 by 5 Aug and 1000+ on Kinloss airfield 17-24 Aug, several thousands Findhorn Old Bar 22 Aug (bE); Fife, passage S at Fife Ness from 13 July (DWO), Tentsmuir peak 3000 on 15 Sep (TRG). Other peaks, Whiteness Head, Nairn/Inv, 716 on 11 Aug (MR); 87 S Cobbinshaw Reservoir, Midl, 2 Aug (JB); Musselburgh, Midl, 600 on 13 Apr, 500 in summer, 1000 Aug-Oct, peak 1700 on 25 Oct (JB, RF); 17000 on Solway count Southernness-Gretna 14 Nov (JGY *et al*).

**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*. Breeding reports good from Dumf, Borders, Moray, Orkney and W Ross, nested Torridon first time for 6 years (JAW). Return to breeding grounds Shet 11 Mar (RJT). Passage: Fair Isle, from 28 Feb, peaks on 12 Mar (40), 21 Mar (42), 24 Mar (60) (RHD); Aber, 13 Strachan 23 Feb (NP), 100 Auchlossan 28 Feb (RSBy). Return passage: first on shore Dumf 14 June (JGY); peaks Fair Isle 27 on 13 Sep, 46 on 14 Oct (RHD). Counts: 900 Kinloss, Moray, 17-24 Aug (BE); 2500 L Leven, Kinross, Oct (JHS); c2000 Guardbridge, Fife, 27 Sep (ARS, RWS).

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*. Kirk, 6 prs bred successfully Clatteringshaws Dam where first definite breeding (ARu, LAU, ADW); L Leven, Kinross, 2 prs reared 6 young (AA, JHS); inland Perth-Strathtay, 5 Apr (THE); inland, Auchlossan, Aber, 14 Mar (RSBy); 21 on breeding grounds Kinloss, Moray, 21 Feb (BE); at inland territories, Shet, from 16 Mar (RJT); Fair Isle, 1 wintered, breeders from 8 Mar (RHD).

Autumn passage: Fair Isle, to 8 Oct, max 50 on 23 Aug, 40 on 6 Sep (RHD); Shet, peak 100 Virkie 23 Aug (DC), last Foula 27 Sep (JGH); 60 S Findhorn, Moray, 22 Aug (BE); first flocks on shore Glencaple, Dumf, 40-50 on 17 July (JGY). Counts: Skinflats, Stir, max 200 on 3-4 May (DF); Midl, 250 Musselburgh 15 Aug (JB, GLS), 42 Gladhouse 16 Aug (JB); E Loth, 400 Tynninghame, 24 May, 250 on 15 Aug (RWJS); Wig, 130 Luce Bay 13 Aug (RCD).

**Grey Plover** *Charadrius squatarola*. Small numbers in winter N to Dornoch. Spring: single Skerries, Shet, 18 May (RJT). Record autumn migration: Shet, 14 Sep-7 Oct, max 9 Virkie 20 Sep, 6 Yell 22 Sep (DC, ARM, RJT); Ork, more than usual Sep-Oct, max 5 (EB); O Heb, small numbers (max 6) 27 Oct-27 Dec (WAJC, WM, DJ, DGA); Inv, 1 Beaully Firth 18 Oct (MIH); Banff, 6 Buckpool 19 Sep (DBMcG, HC); Moray, 71 Findhorn Old Bar 3 Oct (DBMcG, HC); Aber, 2-6 Ythan 2 Aug-20 Dec, but 10 on 21 Sep (CJF, MAMcD, WM, JAL); Angus, max 12 Montrose Basin 24 Sep (GMC); Stir, Skinflats 16 Sep-27 Dec, max 16 Sep (120), 3 Oct (70) (DF); Midl, 18 Musselburgh 1 Oct and 25 on 31st (JB, RF); Clyde, small numbers 20 Sep-5 Nov (HG, JLB, WRB); I Heb, 3 L Gruinart, Islay, 3 Oct (CST); Dumf, 4 Glencaple 21 Sep, 2 on 22nd (JGY); Kirk/Wig, from 6 Aug, max 22 Southernness 14-20 Dec (BST, JGY).

**Golden Plover** *Charadrius apricarius*. Breeding numbers above average Kirk (ADW); pr nested successfully Fair Isle, first time since 1926, and pr attempted to breed Foula, possibly first time ever (RHD, JGH).

Passage: Fair Isle, to 12 May, max 5 May (15), 8 Aug-16 Oct max 29 Aug-1 Sep (50-63) (RHD); Shet, from 1 July, max 500 Fetlar Aug-early Sep (ARM). Pre-breeding-season counts: Dumf, 300 Caerlaverock 1 Apr (JGY); Rox, 1200 Northern form Hoselaw Loch, 20 Apr (RSB); Midl, 350 Threipmuir 19 Mar (RMB).

Autumn peaks: Banff, 400 Buckpool 25 Oct (DBMcG), 1300 Whitehills 11 Dec (JE); Aber, 3820 Ythan 23 Sep (CJF, MAMcD); Midl, 2500+ Gorebridge 18 Sep (LY), 600 Gladhouse 25 Oct (JB, RWJS); Dumf, 5800 Glencaple 20 Dec (JGY); Wig, 2250 Moor of Genoch 17 Oct, 3500 Wigtown Merse 18 Oct, 3130 L Ryan 12 Dec (RCD).

**Dotterel** *Charadrius morinellus*. Good numbers in main breeding areas and evidence of extension of breeding range. Migrants: 2 Fair Isle 6 May (RHD); 2 Montrose Aerodrome, Angus, 24 May (per GMC); 1 Ben Lomond, Stir, 27 Sep (JT).

**Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*. Spring passage to 26 May, Musselburgh, Midl (JB) and Fair Isle, peak 12 May (RHD). Usual summering birds, especially on islands; inland 1 L Leven, Kinross, 6-7 July (AA, CRGC, JHS). Counts: 61 Avoch Burn, Ross, 25 Jan (MR); 300 Buckpool, Banff, 21 Feb (DBMcG); Midl, Musselburgh 21 July, increased to 280 by 21 Aug (JB). Albino still at Gullane, E Loth, Feb, Mar and Oct, where recorded since 1967 (KSMcG).

\***Dowitcher** *Limnodromus* sp. 1 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 4 Apr (6: 200) (RJWS).

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*. No change reported in breeding status. Autumn passage: Shet, max 200 Fetlar 15 Oct (ARM); Fair Isle from 16 Aug, peaks 21 Aug (25), 14 Oct (30), 28 Nov (40) (RHD); Aber, max 50 Ythan 23 Sep (CJF, MAMcD), 35 Auchlossan 29 Aug (RSBy); Angus, 40 Forfar Loch 28 Sep (GMC); Midl, 30 Gladhouse 23 Aug, 40 on 20 Sep, 30 on 25 Oct (RWJS); Wig, 62 Luce Bay 10 Sep (RCD).

**Jack Snipe** *Limnocyptes minimus*. Scattered winter records as far N as Fair Isle; max 3 Balgownie, Aber, 6 Feb (RLS); last Paisley Moss, Renf, 7 Apr (IG, GTW). Autumn records from 3 Sep Fair Isle (RHD) and 6 Sep Ythan, Aber (MAMcD); peaks 7 Fair Isle 15 Oct (RHD); 4 Whalsay, Shet, 5-15 Oct (JHSi); 4 Paisley Moss 1 Oct (IG, GTW).

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*. Decrease W Ross (ENH); 1 Polloch, S Uist, O Heb, 17 June is unusual (GC). Incubating adult caught St Serf's Island, L Leven, Kinross, had been ringed there at nest in 1966 (CRGC). Spring passage Fair Isle 1-19 Apr, max 20 on 1 Apr, stragglers later. Scarce in autumn: passage Fair Isle 12 Oct-12 Dec, peak only 33+ on 29 Oct (RHD); also scarce Shet and Ork.

\***Upland Sandpiper** *Bartramia longicauda*. 1 Fair Isle 5 Oct, first for island and 2nd Scottish record (RHD *et al*).

**Curlew** *Numenius arquata*. No change reported in breeding status but apparent change in wintering status: 15 wintered Fair Isle (RHD); 6 wintered Foula, Shet (JGH); 2 wintered Yetholm, Rox, first time ever (RSB); 40 remained L Ken, Kirk, Oct-Nov (LAU, ADW).

Migration: Fair Isle, spring peaks 18 Apr, 23 Apr (35+) and 3 May; autumn passage from late June, peak 13 July (30+) (RHD); Shet, 200 Virkie 20 Sep (DC); L Leven, Kinross, return passage from July, 600+ by end of month, 1500 Aug-Sep, 1000+ on 19 Oct, down to 400+ by end of year (AA, JHS); Fife Ness passage from 13 July (DWO). Counts: Dumf, 2180 Southernness-Gretna 13 Dec (NSRG); Kirk, 2000 Drumburn Jan-Feb, Nov-Dec (KB, JGY); 725 Wigtown Merse 13 Sep (RCD).

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*. Breeding records: expansion and increase maintained Shet, where estimated 150 prs (RJT); Ork, 1 pr apparently bred Mainland (EB); new colony located Scottish mainland, 3 prs July, one nest, c/3, possibly bred 1969 (6: 279) (CGH).

Spring passage: Kirk, Lochinvar Loch 15 May, 2 on 22 May (LAU); Dumf, few 2-11 May (DSK, RTS); Ayr, Doonfoot 17 Apr and 10 L Fergus 8 May (WRB); I Heb, 3 Islay 25 Apr (HK); few E coast early May; arrival Shet from 26 Apr, Unst (MS), 2 May Fetlar (RJT); Fair Isle from 30 Apr, peaks 6 May (14), 9 May (15) (RHD); Foula 1 May-7 June (JGH).

Autumn passage: Shet, most left early Aug, last Fetlar 16 Sep (RJT, ARM); Fair Isle, stragglers to 29 Sep (RHD); E coast passage Caith to Borders 13 July-11 Oct, peak 20 Torry, Aber, 3 Aug (RSBy); more plentiful than usual in south; 30 Isle of May 12 Aug (HG); E Loth, 20 Aberlady 24 July (AJH), 30 Whitesands 27 July (AMt), 25 Tynninghame 2 Aug (RWJS); in southwest 17 July-13 Oct, max 10 Paisley Moss, Renf, 23 Aug (HG, IG, GTW).

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*. Pr bred new site, Shet (RJT); 1 pr present usual site S Scotland, outcome unknown and 1 pr in another area 24 June, but no proof of breeding (anon).

Winter and spring: N Fife, 77 Eden estuary 24 Jan, 103 on 12 Apr, 100+ on 23rd (DWO, ARS); Stir, 1 Skinflats 5 Apr (MH), 2 on 19th (DF), singles through May, but 21 on 3rd (MH); small numbers Lothians and Clyde including 1 Gladhouse 25 May (DGA); Solway, 77 Nith estuary, Dumf, 30 Mar (NU, JGY), up to 4 wintered; O Heb, 5 Ness, Lewis, 3 May (IMcL), 1 on 4th (RMcI); Shet, 1 Virkie 2 May (DC); 1 Fair Isle 1 Mar (RHD).

Autumn: last Shet, Yell 25 Sep (RJT); 1 Isle of May 10 Sep (4th record) (JHBM); small numbers E coast from E Ross to E Loth from 4 July; peak counts: Aber, 7 Logie-Buchan 19 Sep (MAMcD); 50 Eden estuary 28 July, 83 on 25 Sep, 85 on 10 Oct (DWO, ARS); small numbers Clyde to Solway from 9 July; peaks, Ayr, 20 Barassie 24 Sep (WRB), 9 Kilberry Head 31 July (RAH, DT, JT); Solway, 32 Nith estuary 18 Aug, 97 on 30 Aug-10 Sep, 39 on 13 Oct (RTS, NU, AFGW, JGY); W Ross, 1 Loch Kishorn 7 Nov (JAW).

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*. Counts: 150 Findhorn, Moray, 14 Feb (BE); 200+ Invergowie Bay, Perth, 15 Feb (BML). Spring-summer: 1 Fair Isle 15 Apr (RHD); singles Virkie, Shet, 11 Apr and 2 May (DC); 2 Luce Bay, Wig, 13 June (RCD); 7 Gladhouse, Midl, 6 July (TC).

Good numbers in autumn: passage from 17 July Findhorn, Moray (BE); passage Fair Isle 30 Aug-26 Sep, peak 16 on 20 Sep is high for island (RHD); O Heb, 70 Broadbay, 24 Sep, a high total (MM), 10 North Ford 16 Oct (DJ); 440 Embo, Suth, 24 Oct (JBW); 275 Old Bar Findhorn, Moray, 3 Oct (DBMcG); 1000 Tentsmuir, Fife, 15 Sep (RWS); 200 Seafield, Midl, 16 Dec (DT); 1767 Priestside, Dumf, 13 Dec (JGY).

\***Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*. Fair Isle, singles 4-9 May, 2 on 5 May; 1-2 on 24 days 29 July-31 Aug, 3 on 16th, 22nd and 23 Aug, late one 12 Nov (RHD).

Summary of other records received:

	Apr May		Aug		Sep		Oct Nov	
			1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Inv/North)		1	21+	8				
East (Moray-Stir)		3	14	30	4	3	2	2
Southeast (Lothians/Borders)			5	8	3		1	
Southwest (Clyde-Solway)	6	3	9	7	2	1	1	2

Other interesting records: 1 Tynningame, E Loth, 13 Sep-27 Dec (RWJS); 1 Dryburgh, Rox, 5 Mar (PC); 1 Paisley Moss, Renf, 25 June (HG, IG); 2 Merryton, Lan, 14 Nov (HSCH, KCRH); 1 Bothwellhaugh, Lan, 25 Dec (JMD).

\***Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*. Suth, pr at original site 15 May (DMcD, WAS); 5 birds at Perth site 8 June (DAR, JGR).

Spring migrants (singles unless shown otherwise): Lindean Reservoir, Selk, 18 Apr (AB); Lossiemouth, Moray, 18 Apr (BE); Paisley Moss, Renf, 6-10 May (IG, GTW) and 2 June (HG); Loch o' the Lowes, Ayr, 5 May (BCF); 2 Aberlady, E Loth, 11 May (KSMcG), Drem Pool, E Loth, 16 June (DJ); Badachro, W Ross, 25 June (ENH); Papa Westray, Ork, 26 May (EB); Shet, Whalsay 16 May (JHSi), 2 Skerries 8 May (RJT) and Fetlar 10 May (ARM); Isle of May on 5 days 8-17 May (DWO); Fair Isle 29 July (RHD); Balranald, O Heb, 30 July (GC).

Autumn migration: Shet, Fetlar 21 Aug (ARM), Lerwick 23 Aug (RJWS); North Ronaldsay, Ork, 26 Aug (RHD); Aber, Newburgh 1 Aug (JAL), 8 Clochtow 23 Aug (NE); small numbers Angus-E Loth, Aug-Sep, max 7 Drem Pool, E Loth, 22-23 Aug (DJ); 2 Islay, I Heb, 6 Oct (CST).

**Common Sandpiper** *Tringa hypoleucos*. No status changes reported except in Midl, where 50% decrease (WB); pr summered Munloch Bay, Ross, first time (MKM-D). Spring arrival: Kirk, 2 Skerrow 19 Apr (ADW); Dumf, Scaur Glen 10 Apr (ARH); Kinross, L Leven, 18 Apr (JHS); Perth,

3 Birnam 22 Mar (EJM); Angus, first 11 Apr (TMC); Moray, 3 Cawdor 19 Apr (BE); W Ross, Torridon 26 Apr (JAW); Caith, Dunbeath 19 Apr (DMS); O Heb, 3 Stornoway 13 May (WM); Fair Isle, passage 2-30 May, max 10 on 9 May (RHD); Shet, passage 11 May-7 June (RJT).

Autumn migration: Findhorn, Moray, 30 June-12 Aug 25-60 daily, estimated 350-500 birds through in 6 weeks, 70% juveniles from trapping data (BE); Kinross, L Leven, summer max 33 on 7 July, last 13 Sep (AA, JHS); Fair Isle, 28 July-9 Sep, max 12 on 21 Aug, 2 late birds 16 Oct (RHD); Shet, few 17 Aug-26 Sep (RJT); Isle of May more than usual, max 7 on 24 Aug (GLS). Last records: Buckpool, Banff, 25 Sep (DBMcG); 2 Kingoodie, Perth, 28 Sep (HB); Glasgow 7 Nov (TPD).

**Redshank** *Tringa totanus*. Breeding status: maintaining increase Shet (RJT), young on wing 26 June (ARM); increase Altnaharra, Suth (EGH). Fair Isle, passage from July, peaks 30 Aug (35) and 20 Sep (34) (RHD).

Counts: 450 Longman Bay, Inv. 18 Feb, 1000 on 18 Oct (MR); heavy movement Fife Ness 23-24 Aug (DWO); 750 Musselburgh, Midl, 26 July (JB); up to 4000 Erskine-Langbank, Renf, Sep-Oct (HG, IG, GTW); Solway peak 3700 Southernness-Gretna 18 Oct, still 2200 on 13 Dec (JGY *et al*).

\***Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*. Winter and spring records: Montrose Basin, Angus, 13 May (GMC); Cambus Pans, Stir, 12 Apr (CJH); Erskine, Renf, 22 Feb-27 Mar (RWF *et al*); Merryton, Lan, 2 May (HSCH); Doonfoot, Ayr, 1 Jan-26 Apr (WRB); Prestwick, Ayr, 9 Feb (AGS) and 1 May (WRB); 2 Annan, Dumf, 9 May (RTS).

Summary of autumn records:

	July	Aug		Sept		Oct Nov	
		1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Inv and North including islands)	1		4	3	3	5	
East (Moray-Stir)	3	2	18		6	1	
Southeast (Lothians)		1	6	4	3		
Southwest (Clyde-Solway, Islay)	6	2	16	1	2	7	4

Most noteworthy occurrences: O Heb, 1 N Uist 25 July (GC), 3 Broadbay 24 Sep (MM), 2 Benbecula 16 Oct (DGA, DJ); 1 Balnakeil Bay, Suth, 18 Aug (DME); 4 Montrose Basin, Angus, 15 Aug (GMC); Wormit, Fife, 4 July (AMMF); 3 Islay, 1 Heb, 5 Oct (CST); 6 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 17 July (JGY); 13 Luce Bay, Wig, 23 Aug (RCD).

**Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*. Wintered: Annat and Torridon, W Ross (JAW); 2 Beaulady, E Loth, 18 July-3 Oct, max 12 on 16 Aug (RMB, AMt); Ythan, Aber, 6 July-17 Oct, max 3 on 19 Sep (MJHC, MAMcD); Fair Isle 2 Aug-24 Sep (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 6 Aug-16 Sep (ARM). Counts: 4 Baleshare, O Heb, 13 Oct (DJ); 35 Eden estuary, Fife, 24 Aug (DWO); 15 Skinflats, Stir, 14 Aug and 16 on 19 Sep (ADKR); 6 Leperstone Dam, Renf, 19 Nov (RAJ); 22 Torduff Point, Dumf, 6 Sep (RTS); 18 Carsethorn, Kirk, 5 Nov (NU); 14 Luce Bay, Wig, 23 Aug (RCD). Winter birds: 3 Munlochry Rav. Ross, 13 Dec (IT); L Leven Dec (JHS); 2 Doonfoot, Ayr, 14 Nov-31 Dec (WRB).

Spring arrival: Kirkcudbright Bay 3 Apr (AFJ); Tynninghame, E Loth, 29 Mar (RWJS); Findhorn, Moray, 31 Mar (BE); inland L Builg, Banff, 19 Apr (JE); Fair Isle, singles 7 days 18 Apr-3 June (RHD); Clumlee, Shet, 10 May (FH). No change in breeding status; summer stragglers 2 L Leven 26 June (TG); 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 4 June (RWJS).

Autumn migration: Findhorn, Moray, 4 July-12 Sep, max 19 on 4 Aug (BE); Aberlady, E Loth, 18 July-3 Oct, max 12 on 16 Aug (RMB, AMt); Ythan, Aber, 6 July-17 Oct, max 3 on 19 Sep (MJHC, MAMcD); Fair Isle 2 Aug-24 Sep (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 6 Aug-16 Sep (ARM). Counts: 4 Baleshare, O Heb, 13 Oct (DJ); 35 Eden estuary, Fife, 24 Aug (DWO); 15 Skinflats, Stir, 14 Aug and 16 on 19 Sep (ADKR); 6 Leperstone Dam, Renf, 19 Nov (RAJ); 22 Torduff Point, Dumf, 6 Sep (RTS); 18 Carsethorn, Kirk, 5 Nov (NU); 14 Luce Bay, Wig, 23 Aug (RCD). Winter birds: 3 Munlochry Rav. Ross, 13 Dec (IT); L Leven Dec (JHS); 2 Doonfoot, Ayr, 14 Nov-31 Dec (WRB).

**Knot** *Calidris canutus*. Winter counts: Skinflats, Stir, 2000 on 11 Jan, rising to 10000 on 23 Jan, decreasing to 4000 on 8 Feb and 200 on 15 Mar (MH, DF); 2000+ Eden estuary, Fife, 20 Apr (JARG); 350 Buckpool, Banff,



21 Feb (DBMcG); 1300 Whiteness Head, Inv/Nairn, 21 Feb (MR). Spring passage: 60 Ythan, Aber, 15 May (GMD); 2 Fair Isle 5-9 June (RHD). 200 summered Tentsmuir, Fife (JARG).

Autumn passage: Shet, from 9 July (ARM), peak 50 Whalsay 2 Aug (JHSi); Fair Isle, 31 July-8 Oct, max 29 on 1 Aug (RHD); 4 Luce Bay, Wig, 31 July, 280 L Ryan, Wig, 6 Aug (RCD). Inland: 35 SW Gladshouse, Midl, 20 Sep (EMS, RWJS, GLS); 3 L Leven, Kinross, 26 Nov (per AA).

**Purple Sandpiper** *Calidris maritima*. Winter counts: 34 Southernness, Kirk, 25 Jan (RTS); 22 Leith Docks, Midl, 18 Jan (RMB); 50 Buckpool, Banff 24 Jan (DBMcG); 100 Banff 2 Feb (JE). Shet, normal numbers, max 46 Fetlar 11 Jan, last 21 May (ARM, RJT); Fair Isle, last 13 on 21 May (RHD).

Return from 15 July Fair Isle (RHD); 5 Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 17 July (RAH, DTh); 1 Usan, Angus, 5 July (GMC). 1 Redcastle, E Ross, 13 Dec, far up Beaulay Firth (CJF).

**\*Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*. Spring: singles Tynninghame, E Loth, 24 May (RWJS); Skinflats, Stir, 16 May (MH); Balranald, O Heb, 2 Apr (GC).

Autumn: 200-250 birds reported from Shet, Fair Isle, Ork, Caith, O Heb, Moray, Aber, Angus, Fife, Stir, Midl, E Loth, Renf, Ayr, Dumf, Wig, 12 July-17 Oct, nearly all mid Aug-early Oct. Peak counts: 14 Virkie, Shet, 14 Sep (DC); 6 Fair Isle 9 Sep (RHD); 8 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 27 Sep (MFMM); Moray, 11 Findhorn 12 Sep (DBMcG), 12 Lossiemouth 13 Sep (JE); 6 Ythan, Aber, 23 Sep (CJF, MAMcD); 6 Montrose, Angus, 4 Oct (GMC); 9 Eden estuary, Fife, 26 Sep (DWO *et al*); 8 Skinflats, Stir, 23 Aug (MH, DF); 15 Grangemouth, Stir, 26 Sep (DF); 6 Aberlady, E Loth, 27-29 Sep (RMB, AMt); 6 Luce Bay, 27 Aug (RCD). Inland: singles Gladhouse, Midl, 6th and 11 Sep and 7 Oct (GLS, RWJS). 2 late stragglers Castle-town, Caith, 17 Nov (PMcM).

**\*Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*. 1 Skinflats, Stir, 15-19 July (6: 332) (DF, MH).

**\*White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis*. 1 Tankerness, Ork, 11-12 Oct (EB, EJW).



**\*Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*. 1 Westwater Reservoir, Peeb, 16 Oct (6: 281) (RKMCG).

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*. Little comment on breeding population. First Fetlar 30 Apr, chicks 6 June (ARM); pr attempted to breed Findhorn, Moray (BE).

Passage: Fair Isle, 3 May-26 June, peak 19-21 May (11), autumn from 10 July, max 18 Sep (21) (RHD); Shet, peak 10 Virkie 20 Sep (DC). Inland: 4 L Leven, Kinross, 24 Mar (AA, TG); 65 Gladhouse, Midl, 19 July, 40 on 16 Aug (JB, RWJS). Peak counts: 6700 Greta-Southernness, Solway, 14-22 Oct (JGY); 3000 Erskine, Renf, end Dec (HG, IG); 3000 Almond estuary, W Loth, 18 Jan (TCS).

\***Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris testacea*. Spring: singles Balranald, O Heb, 17 May (GC); Skinflats, Stir, 3 June (MH); Tentsmuir, Fife (RWS).

Heavy autumn passage: early 2 Pabbay, O Heb, 9 July (ADKR), otherwise 25 July-4 Nov, mainly 20 Aug-early Oct, in two waves with fewer records first half Sep; few in west and southwest until mid Sep. Reports from many places on coast; peaks: 9 Baleshare, O Heb, 16 Oct (DGA, DJ); 26 Kinloss, Moray, 23 Aug (BE, MM); 42 Ythan, Aber, 26 Sep (MJHC); Invergowrie Bay, Perth, 28 Sep-4 Nov, max 60 on 4 Oct (DB, EJM *et al*); Eden estuary, Fife, 21 Aug-25 Oct, max 32 on 22 Aug and 30 on 14 Sep (ARS *et al*); 12 Black Devon estuary, Clack, 30 Oct (TP); Skinflats, Stir, 28 July-31 Oct, peaks 40 on 21-23 Aug, 20 on 10 Oct (MH, DF *et al*); Musselburgh, Midl, 29 Aug-10 Oct, max 6 on 14 Sep (JB, RF, LLJV); 20 Seafield, Midl, 22 Aug (GLS, LLJV); Aberlady, E Loth, 29 Aug-11 Oct, max 24 on 27 Sep (RMB, AMt, KSMcG); Erskine, Renf, 30 Aug-3 Oct, max 10 on 3 Oct (RWF *et al*); up to 4 Paisley Moss, Renf, 30 Sep-12 Oct (HG, IG); up to 8 Barassie, Ayr, 29 Aug-11 Oct (WRB); Glencaple, Dumf, 10-29 Sep, max 15 on 21 Sep (JGY). Singles Gairloch, W Ross, 20 Aug (AMMF) and Gladhouse, Midl, 20 Sep (RWJS).

**Sanderling** *Crocethia alba*. Spring departure: 3 Unst, Shet, 16 June (MS); 1-2 Fair Isle, 31 May-2 June (RHD); 7 Stornoway, O Heb, 13 June (RMcI), 6 Shawbost, O Heb, 16 June (AV); 450 Buddon Point, Angus, 18 May and 17 West Haven 24 May (TMC); singles Gladhouse, Midl, 10 May and 21 June (DGA, RWJS); 50 Prestwick, Ayr, 29 May (WRB); few summered Tentsmuir, Fife (DWO).

Autumn migration: Shet, 31 July-21 Sep, max 15 Fetlar 2 Aug (ARM, RJT); Fair Isle, 31 July-29 Sep, max 6 (RHD); 50 in heavy moult North Ronaldsay, Ork, 26 Aug (RHD); Skinflats, Stir, 10 July-27 Sep (MH, DF); 48 Doonfoot, Ayr, 25 July (WRB); 1 inland Gadhloch, Lan, 16 July (BZ).

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*. Seen all months except July Aberlady, E Loth, peaks 16 on 19 Mar, 20 on 19 Sep, 14 on 7 Nov (KSMcG). Winter and spring records elsewhere: Fife Ness, singles 3 Jan (DWO), 14 Feb (JARG); Skinflats, Stir, 4-11 May (1), 12-14 May (2) (MH); 1 Montrose, Angus, 11 May (GMC); 2 N Uist, O Heb, 28 June (GC).

Autumn migration: E coast records Shet-E Loth 3 July-6 Oct, mainly 16 Aug-end Sep (especially in north); earlier in Clyde/Solway, mainly Aug (from 2nd), stragglers to 16 Oct. Peak counts: 6 Virkie, Shet, 16 Sep (DC); 7-12 daily Kinloss, Moray, 18-24 Aug, but 24 on 23rd (BE); Aber, 10 Clochtow, and 8 Tarves, 23 Aug (NE); 8 Eden estuary, Fife, 27 Sep (DWO, ARS); 8 Skinflats, Stir, 28 July and 14 on 27 Aug (MH, DF); 13 Gladhouse, Midl, 23 Aug (RWJS); 5 Paisley Moss, Renf, 30 Sep (HG, RM); 7 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 4 Aug (JGY). Late singles: Barrassie, Ayr, 28 Nov (WRB); S Uist, O Heb, 14 Oct (DGA, DJ).

\***Stilt Sandpiper** *Micropalma himantopus*. 1 Dornoch Point, Suth, 18 Apr (6: 280) (DMcD, VMT), new species for Scotland.

\***Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor*. 1 Forfar Loch, Angus, 19-21 Sep (6: 333) (DRB, GMC, JIS *et al*).

\***Grey Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicarius*. Singles: Fair Isle 1 Aug (RHD); Aberlady, E Loth, 17 Aug (RMB) and 11 Sep (RMB, AMt).

**Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus*. National survey gave 35+ prs from 5 areas, although only single at one site (per MJE). Shet, reported improvement over 1969 with at least 30 prs, first 15 May, dispersal late July-17 Aug, last 29 Aug (ARM, RJT). Migrants: Fair Isle 15 July (RHD, ISR); Skinflats, Stir, 23 Aug (RE, TDHM).

**Great Skua** *Catharacta skua*. Shet, no change in status, arrivals at sea off Foula 9 Mar (JGH) and Unst 16 Mar (MS), on land Fetlar 3 Apr (ARM), most gone by 20 Oct, last Foula 1 Nov (JGH, RJT); Fair Isle, 4 Apr-22 Oct, eggs from 28 May, 8 prs bred (RHD); Ork, still on increase (EB);



PLATE 25. Red-footed Falcon, female, on Yell, Shetland, 7-24th June 1970.

*Photograph by Dennis Coultis*



PLATE 26. (a) Long-tailed Duck, summer-plumage drake, Shetland, 29th June 1970.

(b) Iceland Gull, immature, Shetland, 1970.

*Photographs by Dennis Coultis*

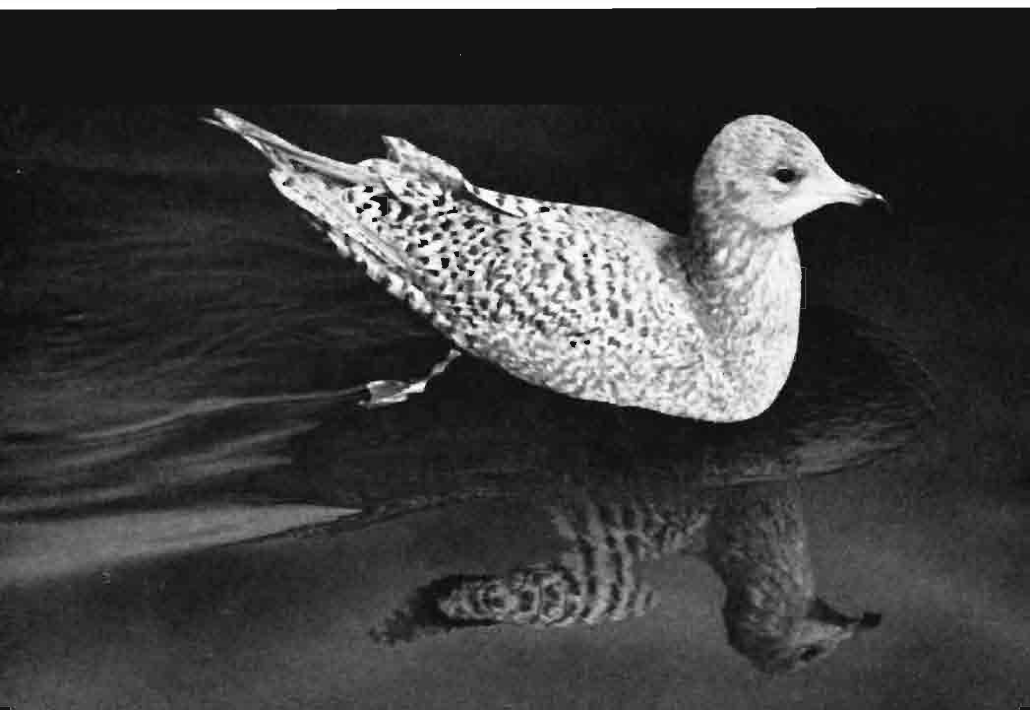




PLATE 27. (a) Grey Phalarope, Fair Isle, 1st August 1970.

(b) Bluethroat, big spring influx, Fair Isle, May 1970.

*Photographs by R. H. Dennis*





PLATE 28. (a) Rustic Bunting, Sumburgh, Shetland, 7th October 1970.

(b) Little Bunting, Lerwick, Shetland, 21-25th October 1970

*Photographs by Dennis Coultis*



Caith, no breeding reports (DMS); Suth, bred Handa (DMcD), Stoer (DS), Eilean nan Roan (EC) and prob Drum Holliston (DG); O Heb, 4 Apr-10 Oct, 11 prs bred Gress (MM, IMcL).

Migrants: 65 passed Tarbat Ness, E Ross, in 2 hrs 17 Aug (CJM-G); records down E coast included colour-ringed bird (1968 Foula pull) at Findhorn, Moray, 26 Aug (BE); Aber coast 13 July-22 Aug, max 18 Collieston 21 Aug (LHC, JAL); 52 N in 2½ hrs Arbroath, Angus, 16 Aug (AN, MN); Fife Ness 16 Aug-11 Oct (DWO, ARS). West coast records: 2 Blackshaw, Dumf, 30 July (per JGY); 2 Southernness, Kirk, 27 June (JGY); 1 Little Ross, Wig, 21 Aug (RTS).

\***Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus***. Four singles in spring, 14 sightings in autumn. O Heb, one 30 miles SW of Rockall, 18 Apr (RSBy); 1 N Shiant Islands 24 Apr (RSBy); 1 Fair Isle crossing 22 May (JAS); 1 Fetlar, Shet, 24 May (RKMCG). Autumn: run of records West Haven, Angus, 21 July, 2 Aug (3), 29th (2), 23 Sep, 11 Oct (TMC); 1 Skinflats, Stir, 3 Sep (DLC); 3 Tynninghame, E Loth, Sep (RWJS), 1 on 1 Nov (TB, EMS), 1 Ythan, Aber, 19 Sep (MAMcD).



**Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus***. Breeding reports: Shet, arrived Fetlar 17 Apr (ARM), Foula 18 Apr (JGH), but few until 1 May, last Hascosay 25 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle, first 17 Apr, 18th (12) then scarce until 10 on 30th Apr and 50 on 2 May, most gone 6 Sep, stragglers to 11 Oct (RHD); 1 pr bred Handa, Suth (GS, DMcD); bred for first time Sollas, N Uist, O Heb (GC).

Spring migrants: 3 Girdle Ness, Kinc, 24 Apr (JRP); singles Arbroath, Angus, 25 Apr (MN); Elie, Fife, 30 Apr (DWO) and Skinflats, Stir, 8 May (RE). Passage birds July-Oct many places E coast, migration periods or peaks as follows: Alturlie, Inv, 10 Oct (MIH); 12 Strathlene, Banff, 27 Sep (DBMcG); 16 N Collieston, Aber, 22 Aug (JAL, WM); 60+ off Peterhead, Aber, with Kittiwakes 3 Sep (RWB); 20 Arbroath, Angus, 16 Aug (MN); Fife, 15 Aug-mid Oct, max 35/hr S Fife Ness 12 Sep (DWO); 7 Skinflats, Stir, 30 Aug (RE); Midl, 26 July-11 Oct, max 20 on 15 Sep (JB, GLS, LLJV); 25 Aberlady, E Loth, 2 Sep (RWJS). 2 Nith estuary, Solway, 24-30 June (JGY, RW).

\***Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus***. 1 off Mousa, Shet, 2 June (RAR); imm off Peterhead, Aber, 3 Sep (RWB, ARG); 1 S Fife Ness 12 Sep (DWO).

**Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus***. Breeding reports: pr with eggs Whiteness Head June, first for E Inv (RWPo); pr with 1 chick Loch Thom, apparently first for Renf(per MFMM); 4 prs bred Isle of May (NJG). Large winter flocks again Fair Isle, peaks 8 Jan (500+), 10 Feb (400+), 15 Nov (1500), 16th (2000), 17th (1500), 22nd (3000) (RHD).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus***. No reported changes in breeding status. 6 wintered Glencaple, Dumf (JGY). Arrivals: Glencaple 3 Mar (GMcM); Aberlady, E Loth, 1 Apr (DJ); 2 Kincardine, Stir, 2 Mar (TDHM);

Fife, 21 Mar (JMC), big increase 20 Apr (DWO); 6 L Leven, Kinross, 4 Mar (AA, JHS); Shet, 10 Mar (DC); Barvas, O Heb, 28 Mar (WAJC); Fair Isle 30 Mar, more from 15 Apr (RHD). Last Fair Isle 29 Sep (RHD); last Fetlar, Shet, 11 Sep (ARM).

Scandinavian birds, *L. f. fuscus*: Fair Isle 19-26 Feb (RHD); 2 Broughty Ferry, Angus, 8 Jan (TMC); Fife Ness 16 Aug (DWO).

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*. Breeding reports: increase to 16500 prs Isle of May (NJG); now nesting 5 sites on buildings in Inverness (MR); 5 prs bred Findhorn Bay, Moray (first time), and 420 prs bred Kinloss, Moray (up 15% on 1969) (BE); 4 prs attempted to breed L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHS). Winter flocks of large northern birds again a feature at Fair Isle, peaks in rough weather: 1 Feb (2000+), 10th (750), 1 Nov (4000), 15th (8000), 16th (10000), 17th and 22nd (8000). 5000+ at roost L Leven Jan-Mar, 5-7000 in Oct-Dec (AA, JHS). Albinos reported Stornoway, Inverness, Oban and Port Ellen.

**Common Gull** *Larus canus*. Recolonized Carloway Loch, O Heb (WAJC). Migrants: Fair Isle from early Apr, peaked 80 on 17 May, first juvenile migrant 11 July, autumn peaks 1 Aug (500), 15 Aug (1500) (RHD); 600 Kinross, Moray, 1 July, influx 17-24 Aug, max 6000+ on 21st (BE); L Leven, Kinross, from mid-July, 1500 in mid-Sep and up to 5000 later (AA, JHS).

**Glaucous Gull** *Larus hyperboreus*. Shet, more than usual Jan-Apr, max 17 Fetlar 8 Jan (ARM), four May sightings, 1 Lerwick 8 June, 1 Mid Yell 4 June-8 Aug, 1 Gremista 11 Aug, autumn arrivals from 17 Oct, max 12 Fetlar 23 Oct (ARM) and 6 Virkie 27 Oct (RAR), good numbers to 31 Dec, mostly Fetlar where 20 on 8 Dec (ARM, RJT). Fair Isle, another good year but down on 1969, good numbers to Apr, max 50 on 8 Jan and 10 on 15 Feb, singles 3 days May, 25th June, 4 July, first of autumn 1 Oct, influx from 20 Oct, peaks 50 on 16 Nov and 40 on 5 Dec (RHD).

Elsewhere (singles unless otherwise stated): Ork, a few in winter, Westray 7 May (EB); O Heb, Stornoway 12 Feb, 13 May, 4 July, 15 Nov (WAJC, RMcl), 2 S Uist 30 Mar (DGA), 2 Branahue 17 May (DWR), Balranald 19 June (GC), Bernera 5 July (ADKR); Caith, Wick 28 Feb, 23 Mar, 23 Sep (RDo, RS, MFMM), Thurso 16 Nov (PMcM); Suth, Golspie 21 Jan (DMcD, WAS), Embo 7 Feb, 13 Dec (DMcD, JBW); Moray, dead Kinloss 22 Sep (BE); Aber, Rattray 8 Feb (MM), Don estuary 7 Mar (RLS), Balmedie 23 Mar (RLS), Peterhead 30 Aug (NE), Kinc, 2 Fowlsheugh 7 Mar (NP); Angus, Carnoustie 14 Mar, Arbroath 30 Mar, West Haven 22 Nov, 2 on 29 Nov (TMC); Midl, Musselburgh from 28 Nov (DMcN); E Loth, Gullane 17 Jan (MFMM), Tantallon 28 Feb (JM); Renf, Paisley Moss 12 Apr (HG, IG), Longhaugh Point 23 Oct (IG); Lan, Eaglesham 19 Apr (DLC); Ayr, 4 individuals 24 Jan-16 May (AGS), Prestwick 12 Nov (DLC); I Heb, Port Ellen, Islay, 15 May (ER); Isle of May 26 Sep (NKA), 6 Oct (DM).

\***Iceland Gull** *Larus glaucoides*. Shet, scattered singles, mostly immatures, Jan-Apr, most Lerwick (DC, RJT), singles Scalloway 16 May, Lerwick 27 May (DC), Unst 15 June (MS), Virkie 27 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, singles 5 Jan, 9 Mar, 17 Apr, 3-5 June, 6-7 July, 30 Nov and 10 Dec (RHD); O Heb, Balranald 19 June (GC), 2 Lewis 17 May (RAE, DWR), S Uist 22 July (IHJL), Stornoway 18 Nov (WAJC); Suth, Balnakeil 22 Mar (RHD); Banff 24 Dec (DWOg); Caith, Castlehill 23 Mar (DMS), Wick 28 Feb (RS), 2 Scrabster 1 Mar (PRJ); Aberdeen 27 Feb-28 Mar, 2 on 9 Mar (RLS *et al*), 25 Oct (NE); Angus, West Haven 18 Apr (TMC), Forfar Loch 2 June (HB); Edinburgh 28 Mar-11 Apr, different bird 10 Apr, 2 May (TD), Duddingston 24 Apr (LLJV); Renf, 3 Paisley Moss 30 Jan-30 Apr (HG, IG, GTW); Lan, Gadloch 12 Apr (BZ); Ayr 2 between 30 Jan and 4 May (AGS *et al*); Arg, Oban 6 June (IWY); I Heb, Port Ellen, Islay, 11 Apr (HK).

**Little Gull** *Larus minutus*. Recorded throughout year in Angus and



Fife; peak counts: Angus 158 West Ferry 7 Apr, 130 Broughty Castle 11 May, 127 West Haven 4 Aug, 160 on 23 Aug, 250 on 13 Sep (TMC, BP); Fife, 325 Methil 15 Sep, 157 on 4 Oct, down to 30 by 26th (DWO), 20 Fife Ness 24 Aug (DWO), Kilconquhar numbers low this year, max 15 on 8 Aug (DWO). Nearby: 4 Kingoodie, Perth, 28 Mar (HB), singles L Leven, Kinross, 26 June (CRGC, TG), 3rd, 18th and 23 July, 15 Aug (AA, JHS), Isle of May 24 Aug (GLS), 3 on 24 Sep (NKA).

Elsewhere (singles unless otherwise stated): Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 16 Aug (CJM-G); Lossiemouth, Moray, 13 Sep (AP); Strathlene, Banff, 27 Sep (DBMcG); Skinflats, Stir, 16 May (DF); 2 Devonmouth, Clack, 13 Sep (CJH); Musselburgh, Midl, 31 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, Barns Ness 22 Aug (KSMcG), Aberlady 30 Aug (LLJV), Tynninghame 13 Sep (TB), Gullane 11 Oct (RF); Renf, Barr Loch a few 25 May-11 Aug, max 5 on 18 June and 27 July (WRB, RGC *et al*), Longhaugh Point 20-22 Sep (HG, IG, GTW); Ayr, Doonfoot 28 May, 28 July-2 Aug (WRB), 4 Oct (PM), Ailsa Craig 5-8 June (TPr); Caerlaverock, Dumf, 14 Sep (JGY).

**Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus*. Breeding reports: good season L Leven, Kinross, c 7500 prs (AA, JHS); decrease Fife, ceased to breed Tentsmuir (DWO); decreased to 50 prs Horse Island, Ayr (AGS); general increase Galloway (ADW). Passage: Fair Isle, 20 Mar-7 May, peak 25 on 3 May, autumn passage from 4 July, peak 30 on 14 July (RHD); big influx Kinross, Moray, 17-24 Aug, max 4000 on 21st (BE).

**Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla*. Increase continued Shet (RJT) and Fair Isle (RHD), ashore Fair Isle from 8 Feb, decrease from mid-Aug, last ashore 30 Sep but some breeders back on cliffs 1 Nov (RHD); Firth of Forth, Inchkeith colony 342 nests as against 187 in 1969 (RWJS); slight increase E Loth (KSMcG); still increasing several places Wig (RCD, ADW, JGY). Inland: 15 L Leven, Kinross, 29 May, 2nd record (CRGC, TG). Peak counts at Skinflats, Stir, 300 on 23 May, 500 on 27 May (MH). Peak movements at sea: 500/hr N Fife Ness 16 Aug (DWO, ARS); great numbers N Usan, Angus, 21 Aug, estimated 50000 in 2 hrs (GMC); Aber, 2000/hr N Ythan and 430/hr N Collieston 23 Aug (CJF, WM *et al*); 2000/hr Strathlene, Banff, 27 Sep (DBMcG); 1000/hr Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 16 Aug (CJM-G).

\***Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*. 8 spring records: singles Elliot, Angus, 4 Jun (NKA, MN); Eden estuary, Fife, 10 May (CST); Skinflats, Stir, 8-12 May (MH, DF); Yetholm, Rox, 8 May (per AJS); Lochmaben, Dumf, 8-10 May, 3 at Annan, Dumf, 11 May (RTS).

Autumn passage 1 Aug-27 Sep, about 100 is more than usual; Findhorn, Moray, 12th and 23 Aug (BE, MM); 2 Speymouth, Moray, 22 Aug (JMB); Angus, Scurdy Ness 22nd and 30 Aug, 3 Sep, 12th (3), 13th (9), 27th (GMC, TMC, AN, MN), 4 S West Haven 27 Sep (TMC), Forfar Loch 5th and 21 Sep (GMC, JIS); L Leven, Kinross, 25 Aug, 10-11 Sep (2), 13th (4), 14th (3), 15th (AA, JHS); Fife, Eden estuary 21 Aug (WRB, BCF), 2 Kilconquhar 20 Sep (DWO, ARS); Stir, Skinflats 24-26 Aug (DF, MH), 30th (3), 31st (2) (MH), 3 Sep (5) (DLC), 6th (6), 8th (19) (MH); E Loth, 16 Barns Ness 16 Aug (KSMcG), Aberlady 30 Aug (LLJV), 2 Tynninghame 13 Sep, one 27 Sep (TB, EMS, RWJS); Renf, Castle Semple Loch 1 Aug (RM, GTW), Barr Loch 22 Aug (RGC), Rowbank Reservoir 10 Sep (JM).

\***White-winged Black Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*. 1 Aberlady, E Loth 5 July (RMB, AMT); 1 Whiteness Head, Nairn/E Inv 14 July (BE, KTR); 8th and 9th Scottish records (6: 203).

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*. 1 pr reared 2 young Fair Isle, all 4 migrated 3 Sep, first breeding record for isle (RHD); 59 nests at L Leven colony, 68 last year (AA, JHS); Fife, c 200 prs successful Eden estuary, but 50 nests failed Longannet (TDHM); 150 nests failed Inchmickery, Forth, 10 June (RWJS) but good season at Aberlady, E Loth, where 250 prs (RMB, AMT).

Passage: first 2 'Comics' West Haven, Angus, 18 Apr (TMC); 1 Rattray Head, Aber, 19 Apr (NE); 5 Luce Bay, Wig, 23 Apr (RCD), most early May. Last 'Comics' Musselburgh, Midl, 1 Nov (RSB); 3 Burntisland, Fife, 3 Nov (JMC).

**Arctic Tern** *Sterna macrura*. Shet, from 23 Apr Whalsay (JHSi), main arrival 4-7 May (RJT); first mainland 26 Apr West Haven, Angus (TMC); O Heb 4 May (GC). Very few nested Tentsmuir and little success (TRG); 50 prs bred Fidra, Forth (RWJS); last Aberdeen 17 Oct (NE).

**Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougalli*. c 100 prs Fidra, Forth, 13 June and 1-2 prs Inchmickery 10 June (RWJS); pr attempted to breed Aberlady, E Loth, first record of nesting there (RMB, AMt, KSMcG); pr in tern colony, Wig, late May (BW); none nested Fife (DWO). Sightings in Fife June-8 Sep, but fewer than usual (DWO); 7 Buddon Ness, Angus, 18 May (TMC), 4 West Haven 29 Aug (TMC); 3 Nairn 9 July (BE); 1 Findhorn, Moray, 23 Aug (BE, MM).

**Little Tern** *Sterna altifrons*. At least 3 young reared Wester Burn, Caith (DMS); O Heb breeding records, 3 prs Balranald (RHM), 3 prs Baleshare, N Uist, 9 July (ADKR); 15 prs Sound of Harris 4 July (ADKR), 3 prs Barra 9 July (RHM); 6 prs Brora, Suth (DMcD, WAS); 35-40 prs bred E Loth, above average (RMB, RWJS) but only 3 prs Tentsmuir, Fife (RWS). First dates: 19 Apr, Luce Bay, Wig (RCD); 23 Apr, Balranald, N Uist (GC).

**Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicensis*. Not a good year; fewer in Ork (EB); 150 prs Whiteness Head, E Inv/Nairn, totally unsuccessful (BE); none bred Fife (DWO); 201 nests Fidra, Forth, 13 June (RWJS); 147 nests Morrlich More, E Ross, 17 June (DMcD, WAS); pr bred lower Spey, Moray (JMB); pr bred for first time ever Aberlady, E Loth, but unsuccessful (RMB, AMt). First dates: 3 Usan, Angus, 9 Apr (GMC); E Loth 12 Apr (RMB, KSMcG). Peak counts: 300 Beauly Firth, Inv, 15 Aug (MIH); 600 Findhorn, Moray, 22 Apr (BE); 1000 Tentsmuir, Fife, 15 Sep (RWS). Migrants in Shet, 2 Whalsay 27-29 Apr (JHSi), 3 Fetlar 3 June (ARM), 2 Unst 4 June (MS); Fair Isle 21-22 Aug (RHD). Last records: Findhorn 18 Oct (BE); Aberlady 25 Oct (KSMcG).

**Razorbill** *Alca torda*. Breeding status little change: 2 adults incubating Inchkeith 14 June, first eggs seen inner Forth (RWJS); slight increase Mull of Galloway (RCD, ADW, JGY); Fair Isle, ashore from 21 Feb, main body from 29 Mar, last seen ashore 12 Aug (RHD). Bad oiling in Jan-Feb in North Sea (see 6: 235-250 for data on oiling of all auks); 840 found oiled on beaches in Angus/Kinc and 282 in Fife. 2 in Beauly Firth, Inv, 8 Jan, 9 Chanonry Point, E Ross, 25 Jan (MIH).

**Little Auk** *Plautus alle*. Record numbers in late winter in north; very common Shet to 8 Mar, small flocks in voes and calling could be heard from the shore (DC, RJT); Fair Isle, singles to 7 Apr, some flying over land (RHD). Large scale oiling in North Sea in Jan-Feb, birds found dead on beaches Shet to Ber, mainly Aber where 428 dead between Peterhead and Aber (CJF *et al*); further south 132 beached in Fife and 254 oiled in Angus/Kinc. Scarce in autumn, after 15 Oct in Shet (RJT) and 3 Nov Fair Isle (RHD); 1 Musselburgh, Midl, 27 Dec (LLJV).

**Guillemot** *Uria aalge*. Large numbers killed by North Sea oiling from Shet to Ber, Jan-Feb totals of beached birds: Ber/Lothians 783, Fife 562, Angus/Kinc 1362 and Aber 157 (JJDG *et al*). Breeding populations still increasing Fair Isle, ashore from 9 Jan, continuously from 29 Mar, good season, mid-July decrease, last ashore 7 Aug; some back on cliffs 27 Oct, 10-14 Nov (RHD); good numbers Shet, last ashore Fetlar 15 Aug (ARM, RJT); increases O Heb (WAJC); possible decrease Mull of Galloway (ADW). Several hundreds Ardwell Bay, Wig, 16 Oct (ADW).

**Black Guillemot** *Cephus grylle*. No reported changes in breeding status; sightings Kingsbarns, Fife, 1 Jan (JSw), Fife Ness 27th and 30 Jan (JARG).

**Puffin** *Fratercula arctica*. Involved in North Sea oiling but smaller numbers, max 37 in Angus/Kinc and 71 in Aber (JJDG *et al*). A few in-shore Fetlar, Shet, still in winter plumage, first ashore Fetlar 4 Apr and last 15 Aug (ARM); Fair Isle, lots on sea 2 Apr, ashore 3rd, most from 9th, last 29 Aug (RHD); 4 prs Causamul, N Uist, O Heb, in June (GC); Forth, 80 Inchkeith 14 June, and 800 Craighleith 20 June (RWJS); at least 1 pr, breeding strongly suspected, Mull of Galloway (ADW, JGY). Stragglers on A9 at Muir of Ord, E Ross, 18 July (RAH, DTh) and Skinflats, Stir, 15 Nov (DLC, DF).

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*. No reported changes in status: 35 at Vane Farm, Kinross, 21 Oct (JHS).

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia*. Fair Isle peaks 20 in Apr and May, 40 on 16 Oct and 1 Nov (RHD); some large flocks 200-300 Mainland, Shet, Dec (DC, RJT).

**Woodpigeon** *Columba palumbus*. Summer records Uig and Tarbert, S Harris, O Heb (WAJC); spring passage Fair Isle 25 Mar-25 May, peak 11 on 17 May, stragglers to July, scarce in autumn, only singles on 8 days 14 Oct-13 Nov (RHD). Small numbers Shet 25 Apr-15 June (RJT), max 8 Fetlar 8-10 June (ARM). 2000-3000 migrants at Kingsbarns, Fife, 21-22 Nov (JLSC). Pullus ringed Torrance, Stir, 28 Apr 1954 shot Lennoxton, Stir, 30 Mar 70.

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*. No breeding reported. Records (singles unless noted) 2 May-30 Oct, mainly May-June, most in Fair Isle and Shet. Dumf, Thornhill 7 June (JMx); Rox, Hawick 8 May (RDM); E Loth, Gullane 7 June (DGA); Midl, Penicuik 23 May (DGM); Renf, Paisley 20 June (HG, GTW); Fife, Fife Ness 16 May (DWO, ARS), Donibristle 30 May (GHB); Moray, Fochabers 23 June (JMB); Suth, Dornoch 29 Sep (DMcD); O Heb, Scarp, Harris, June (DWR), 2 N Uist 4 June (GC), Causamul 9 June (GC); Ork, Binscarth 16 May (CB); Fair Isle, from 2 May, max 3 on 10 May and 22 June, stragglers present to 16 July, in autumn singles 11th, 13th and 29 Aug, 1-3rd and 11-30 Sep, 1-10 Oct (RHD); Shet, Helendale 8 May (DC), Skerries 12 May (RJT), Foula 30 May, 3rd and 7 June (JGH), Mid-Yell 9-16 June (RJT), Unst 6-7 June (MS), in autumn Foula 30 Sep and 1 Oct (JGH), Helendale 30 Oct (DC).

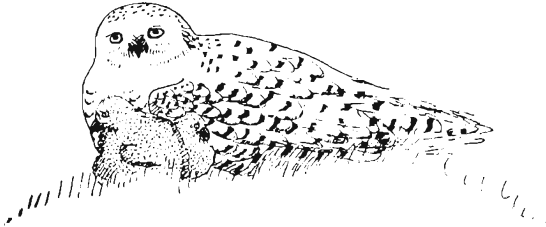
**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*. Still spreading in some areas; increase noted W Wig (RCD, ADW); bred Kirkbean, Kirk (JGY); Dumf (NSRG); I Heb, 3 prs Rhum May-June (PW); song Broxburn, W Loth, (WAH); Angus; Perth; Buckie, Banff (DBMcG); Suth, 80+ Dornoch, 20 Stoer (DMcD), 7 Kinlochbervie (JB), also Bettyhill, Badcall, Torridon and Kinlochewe, W Ross; 30 Maryburgh, E Ross (DCH); several places O Heb, max 30 Newton, N Uist (GC) and 25 Grogarry, S Uist (GC); breeding several places Shet, migrants mainly spring, peak 10 Foula 3 June (JGH), 5 Fetlar 7-8 June (ARM). Fair Isle, 14 Apr-23 Oct, mainly 3 May-11 June, peaks 9 on 25th and 29 May, 6 on 11 June, 2 summered (RHD).

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*. Little comment on breeding status: apparent increase Ork (EB) and probably bred Shet (RJT). Arrival: Garroch, Dumf, 20 Apr (JMx); Strathalladale, Suth, 23 Apr (PRJ); L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHS), Dalry, Kirk (ADW) and Moor of Genoch, Wig (RCD) all 24 Apr; Strathtay, Perth, 25 Apr (THE); Loganlea Reservoir, Midl (RMB), 2 Glen Clova, Angus (AN, MN) and Kinlochewe, W Ross (JAW) all 30 Apr. Passage Fair Isle 6 May-8 June, peak 3 on 9 May (RHD); Shet 6 May (DC). Last ones Skerries 23-25 Aug (RJT) and Foula 30 Aug (JGH); Fair Isle 28 July-31 Aug, singles 15 days, 2 on 2 dates, 5 on 17 Aug (RHD); last Lockerbie, Dumf, 1 Sep (RTS).

\***Yellow-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus americanus*. ♂ found dying Thurso, Caith, 9 Nov (6: 335) (PMcM).

\***Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*. All reports given: Dumf, 28 ringed (NSRG); Rox,

bred Yetholm (RSB); Midl, Fala 15 July and 2 on 19 Dec (WB), 1 Milton Road E, Edinburgh Sep-Oct (HJB); Perth, 3 breeding reports (VMT); Angus, 1 West Ferry 26 June (TMC); Banff, absent only known site (CS); Inv, 3 territories along A9 Bunchrew-Beaully (MIH); E Ross 1 Tain in spring and 1 Alness 6 Oct (HDS), 3 breeding sites Evanton-Dingwall and 1 pr Kildary (CGH), seen Redfield and Udale Bay (MKM-D).



\***Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca*. Bred for 4th year Fetlar, first egg 9 May, 5 laid, all hatched, 3 young died, 2 fledged. 3 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀ on Fetlar early part of year, 1st Y ♀ there all summer as well as breeding pair, another ♂ from late Sep (ARM, RJT). Outside Fetlar, singles Yell 19 Apr (RJT), Uyea Isle 17 Apr, Burra Isle 26 Sep, Ronas Hill summer (per RJT), Unst 15-16 Nov (MS). As in 1969, two migrants Fair Isle: ♂ 26 Apr, ♀ 21 May (RHD).

\***Scops Owl** *Otus scops*. One found dead Holm, Ork, 27 Nov (WG, IHJL).

**Little Owl** *Athene noctua*. Bred usual area Midl (WB).

**Tawny Owl** *Strix aluco*. Increase Yetholm, Rox (RSB); apparent decrease Burntisland, Fife (JMC).

**Long-eared Owl** *Asio otus*. 2-3 young, Stornoway Woods, O Heb, 16 June, first breeding record (WAJC, DJS); bred Broxburn, W Loth (WAH); 5 prs attempted nest Aberlady, E Loth (KSMcG); 14 sites known Dumf (HO, JGY); Ork, a few prs bred, 12 Binscarth in Dec (EB); Shet, Scalloway roost peak 9 on 11 Jan; one nest c/1 usual area 10 Apr, up to 14 Scalloway Nov-Dec (RD). Migrants: Isle of May 13 Oct (ME); Shet, Foula 18 Oct (JGH), few Fetlar, Whalsay and Foula 6-28 Nov (per RJT); Fair Isle 30 Apr, 9 May, 2 on 15 Oct and 18 Nov, singles 14 days 16 Oct-3 Nov (RHD).

**Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus*. Generally low numbers; fewer than usual Galloway (ADW); scarce Selk (JB); poor season Altnaharra, Suth (EGH), but several times over 40 Eskdalemuir, Dumf, 7 July-1 Aug (WM, RRo, JGY); pr reared 2 young at 4th attempt St Serf's Island, L Leven, Kinross (AA); nest Balranald, O Heb, 28 May (GC). Migrants: Fair Isle, 21 Mar-13 June, 19 Sep-2 Dec, max 3 on 15 Oct and 4 Nov (RHD); Shet, Whalsay 31 Mar, 16 Apr, 25 Sep (JHSi), Skerries 18 May (RJT), Virkie 20 Sep (DC), Foula 12 Oct, 5 Nov (JGH). Others: 2 Findhorn, Moray, 12 Aug (BE); 3 Buddon, Angus, 7 Oct, 5 on 10 Oct (TMC); 3 Skinflats, Stir, 15 Mar (MH); max 4 Aberlady, E Loth, 25 Jan (KSMcG).

**Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*. A better year: Galloway, best season in recent years, 2 prob 3, in song Cairn Edward Forest, Kirk, June-July, 1 pr behaving as if with small young 17-23 July (LAU, ADW, AJW); pr new site Clatteringshaws, Kirk (ADW). Singles Kinnelhead, Dumf 8 May (JKRM), Kildary, E Ross, 17 June (DMcD, WAS), Valtos Lochs, O Heb, 13 June (KW) and Kildrummie, Nairn, 28 Jun (JAL, WMM).

**Swift** *Apus apus*. Arrival: 23 Apr, 1 Bridge of Don, Aber (MAMcD) and 1

Dumfries (JKRM); 30 Apr, 1 Kilconquhar, Fife (PGTB, DWO); generally late, more from end first week May. Dumf, 2 on 3 May and widespread 10 May (JGY); Midl, 6 Duddingston 4 May (RMB); L Leven, Kinross, 12 on 6 May, 100 on 10th and 200 on 20 May (AA, JHS); Perth, 1 on 4 May, main from 18 May (VMT). In north, first Buckie, Banff, 18 May (DBMcG); Fair Isle, 2 on 16 May, 8 on 2-9 June, 28 on 20 June (RHD); Shet, many singles from 3 June, max 5 Unst 7 June (MS, RJT). Summer flocks: 200 passed over Findhorn, Moray, 29 July (BE); L Leven, 500 on 30 June, up to 800 early July, peaked at 2000+ on 20 July (AA, JHS).

Departure: small numbers Shet to 30 Aug (RJT); Thurso, Caith, 2 Sep (PMcM), Inverness last 26 Aug (JMck); Aber, 150 Ellon 21 Aug (CJF), last Aberdeen 8 Sep (RSBy); Arbroath, Angus, 11 Sep (MN); Fife, only few after 16 Aug, but renewed passage 12 Sep, when peak 100 Anstruther (DWO); Yetholm, Rox, 3 Sep (RSB); last 4 Lockerbie, Dumf, 10 Sep (ES); Fair Isle 23 Sep (RHD); Dumbarton 29 Oct (AC).



\***Alpine Swift** *Apus melba*. 1 flying north Rattray Head, Aber, 19 Apr (6: 209) (NE, MRW).

\***Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*. Dumf, bred 3 sites, unsuccessful 2 others; albino reared Cairn River and survived to at least 17 Nov (EBd, JGY); 1 found dead River Ken, Kirk, early spring (GAF); Rox, 1 Ancrum Reservoir 4 May (per AJS); Ayr, 1 Water of Coyle Dec (PM); E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 15 Aug, 13 Sep (TB, RWJS), 1 Aberlady 22 Sep (AMt), Kinross, 1 North Queich 14 Feb (DSm), 1 River Leven 13-14 Oct (WM, JT); Perth, pr river Almond Oct-Nov (RJB); E Ross, pr bred, 6 eggs 6 May, 6 young 30 May, but nest and brood destroyed in flood 6 June (per DMcD)—first breeding record for Moray Basin (5: 209).

\***Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*. Shet, 2 Halligarth, Unst, 8 July-5 Aug (MS, RJT et al); Fair Isle ♂ 6-17 Aug (RHD).

\***Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*. Shet, 1 Unst 6 May (MS, RJT), 1 Fetlar 4-6 Sep (ARM); Ork, 1 Rendall mid Sep (EB); E Ross, 1 Foulis 13-16 Oct (CGH); Angus, 1 Forfar 10 Oct (JIS); Arg, 1 Campbelltown 29 June-mid July (AFu, IH).

**Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis*. Breeding reports; bred quite widely Kirk, but still none proved Wig (IA, ADW); decrease continues in Borders (AJS), only records Yarrow, Selk, and Yetholm, Rox (RSB); Fife, chicks flew from nest at Lethan, near Cupar; first for E Fife (DWO); Kinross, 1 Vane Farm 24 Mar, 1 Milnathort late Aug (JHS); Angus, singles Dron 14 June (DMSH), Lintrathen Loch 15 Sep (JIS), Burn Estate 7 Oct (GMC).

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*. Breeding reports: general increase Kirk (ADW); more than last 3 years Kinross (JHS); slight increase Tain, E Ross (CJM-G), Gairloch, W Ross (ENH). Fair Isle, 1 on

7 May, new one 8 May, 1 on 9-10 May, two 16-17 May (4 individuals) (RHD), 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 18 Nov (GLS) and 5 together Caerlaverock, Dumf, 17 Nov (JGY) might reflect movement in S Scotland.

\***Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos minor*. E Stir/Perth, 3 on 5-6 Jan (RRO) (6: 210). This is a new species for Scotland; an earlier record of 2 at the same site on 23 Sep 1968 is now accepted.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*. No breeding records. Big influx 7-10 May, stragglers to 10 June. Singles, unless otherwise stated: Ber, St Abbs 8 May, 10 May (EMS, RWJS); Fife Ness 10 May (TWE); Angus, 2 Lethan Grange 10 May, Arbroath 11 May (MN); Aber/Kinc, Girdle Ness 7 May, 9 May (MAMcD), Nigg Church 8 May (AR, WMM), Newburgh 9 and 10 May (AA, GMD, AR), Cruden Bay 10 May (AR, WM); Isle of May several daily 7-16 May, max 9 on 8 May (DWO); Fair Isle, 12 on 7 May, 15 on 8 May, 35 on 9 and 10 May—birds in good condition, song and display; most departed overnight then 11th (10), 12th (3), up to 6 until 17th, 1-2 on 6 days to 26th, 27th (4), singles 30 May, 2nd and 10 June (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 9 on 7 May, 7 on 8th, stragglers to 11th, one 19 May (ARM), Skerries, 6 on 7 May, 8th (10), 13th-14th (8), 17th (4), 18th (3) (RJT *et al*); Foula 1 on 7 May, 8 on 8th, small numbers to 15th (JGH), Whalsay, 1-3 on 8-13 May (JHSi), Unst 8 May (MS), Mainland 7 and 10 May (DC), other reports of singles same time (per RJT).

Good numbers also in autumn: singles unless otherwise stated, Fair Isle, 18 Aug, 21st, 3 on 22nd, up to 4 by 25th, 1-2 to 31st, 2 on 2 Sep, 6th-7th, 8th (3), 9th (2), 13th (RHD); Shet, Fetlar singles 26 Aug-4 Sep (ARM), Tingwall 25 Aug (per RJT), Skerries 27 Sep (RJT); Ork, Evie 24 Aug (EB), North Ronaldsay 26 Aug (RHD); Isle of May, daily 22-29 Aug, max 15 on 23 Aug (GLS); Aber, Cruden Bay 22 Aug (JAL, AR, WM); Fife Ness 23 Aug (PSm); Ber, St Abbs 23 Aug (KSMcG, TD), Barns Ness 23 Aug (TD, KSMcG).

\***Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella cinerea*. 4 records: 1 Fair Isle 10-14 May, another 12-14 May (RHD); 2 Skerries, Shet, 29 Sep (ARM, RJT).

\***Woodlark** *Lullula arborea*. 1 Isle of May 8-12 May (DWO).

**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*. No reported changes in breeding status. Arrival of migrants at Fair Isle, 35 on 7 Feb, more from 23 Feb, peak 300 on 21 Mar, passage some days 12 Sep-20 Nov (RHD); Shet, from late Feb, song from 7 Mar, large flocks (2000 Fetlar) 1 Apr (RJT); Black Isle, E Ross, 78 on a farm 11 Jan, 700-750 on 17 Feb and 200 on 19 Feb (MKM-D); Moray, 1500 W Kinloss in 3 hrs 6 Feb (BE); Fife, 1000/hr moving over E Fife 3-4 Jan (DWO); Dumf, 2000+ W in snowstorm Caerlaverock 17 Feb (RHK, JGY).

\***Shorelark** *Eremophila alpestris*. 10 Sandyhills, Kirk, 13-17 Apr (AMJ), first for Galloway; Midl, 1 Musselburgh 16-17 Oct (EL, LLJV); Fife, 1 St Monance 3 Jan (DWO); Angus, 1 West Haven 6 Dec (TMC); Fair Isle, 1 on 18 Apr, 2 on 8 May, 1 on 9 May, 1 on 1-5 Nov, 2 on 6-7th and 1 until 9 Nov (RHD).

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*. Arrival: 15 Apr, Gullane, E Loth (AMt); 17 Apr, Annan and Ae, Dumf (RTS, JGY), Leuchars, Fife (JARG), Buckie, Banff (DBMcG) and N Uist, O Heb (GC); 18 Apr, Strathtay, Perth (VMT), L Leven, Kinross (JHS) and 3 places in Kirk and Wig (per ADW). More after 23 Apr in Perth (VMT); big movement 5-10 May L Leven (AA, JMS); main arrival Dumf after 12 May (JGY). Shet, first Foula 19 Apr (JGH), mainly from 3 May, peak movements 3-11th, 17-20th and 24-29 May (RJT); Fair Isle, 30 Apr-11 June, peaks 20 on 24-25 May, 35 on 5-8 June, stragglers to 10 July (RHD).

Breeding reports: nests in N Uist and S Harris are first outside Stornoway, O Heb (WAJC); more than usual bred Ork (EB); few pairs bred Shet (RJT). Albino at Kingsbarns, Fife, summer (JLSC).

Autumn passage and last records: Fair Isle, scarce, 4 Aug-2 Oct, max 3

on 31 Aug (RHD); Shet, a few 9-17 Oct (RJT); E Ross, 3 Foulis 6-7 Oct (CGH); Aber, 2 Newburgh 21 Oct (JAL, RFY); Angus, Arbroath 4 Nov (TMC); Perth, Invergowrie 30 Oct (VMT); Fife, pr feeding young Kilconquhar 26 Oct, 5 St Andrews 2 Nov (DWO); E Loth, North Berwick 14 Nov (DGA); Stir, 3 Killearn 2 Nov (ITD, MMD); Ayr, 2 Fairlie 7 Nov (per MFMM); Dumf, Lockerbie 21 Nov (RTS); Wig, 2 Sandhead 7 Nov (RCD).

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*. Arrivals: 18 Apr, Duddingston, Midl (RMB); 19 Apr, Lochmaben, Dumf (RTS), Luffness, E Loth (DJ) and Kingoodie, Perth (HB); 20 Apr, 5 Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO) and 20 Peebles (RDM); main arrivals from 20 Apr in Perth (HB) but generally rather late; main arrival Dumf 2 May (JGY); late and rather scarce L Leven, Kinross (JHS). Further north: first Aber, Newburgh 26 Apr (WMM, AR) and 2 Kinloss, Moray, 3 May (BE); Thurso, Caith, 24 Apr (PMcM); Westray, Ork, 6 May (EB); Fair Isle 4 May-14 June, peaks 13 May (25), 25th (32) and 27th (45), 6th June (35); Shet, from 3 May, influxes 7-12th and 24-27 May (RJT).

Breeding reports: coastal colonies on increase in Galloway (JGY, ADW); 10<sup>+</sup> prs breeding on North Sutor, E Ross (RAH, DTH). Passage and last records: Fair Isle scarce, only singles 22 Sep-2 Oct (RHD); Reay, Caith, 18 Oct (JFa); 200 Nigg Ferry, E Ross, 23 Aug (CJM-G); 14 Elgin, Moray, 9 Oct (JMB); 3 Banchory, Aber, 22 Oct (MM); L Leven, Kinross, 130+ on 30 Aug, 300+ on 7 Sep, 90+ on 13 Sep, last 7 Oct (AA, JHS); Fife, 30 St Andrews 2 Nov (DWO, ARS), 1 on 12 Nov (MMcW); 1 Machrihanish, Arg, 7 Nov (AGG, MJPG); 3 Carnoustie, Angus, 11 Nov (TMC); last 1 Aberlady E Loth, 30 Nov (AMT).

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*. Arrival: 28 Mar, 6 Lochmaben, Dumf (RTS); 3 Apr, L Leven, Kinross (CRGC, TGI); no others until 13 Apr. when 30+ Lochmaben (RTS), 4 Lindores Loch, Fife (AMMF) and Perth (VMT); main arrivals Dumf 16 Apr (RTS), Moorfoots, Midl 19 Apr (RWJS); Fife and Perth 20 Apr (DWO, VMT). In north, first Buckie, Banff, 17 Apr (DBMcG), Fochabers, Moray, 18 Apr (JMB) and Evanton, E Ross, 20 Apr (CGH), but 140 L Flemington, E Inv, 19 Apr (BE). Fair Isle, 1 May-5 June, peaks 10 on 8 May and 11 on 9 May (RHD); Shet 4-13 May, max 15 Skerries on 7th (RJT), 2 Balranald, O Heb, 11 May (GC).

No comments on breeding status. Summer and autumn records: Fair Isle, 10th, 27th (2) and 31 Aug (RHD); 11 West Haven, Angus 5 Sep (TMC); last Kingoodie, Perth, 23 Sep (HB); L Leven, max 250+ on 26 July, 200 on 25 Aug, last 20 on 20 Sep (AA, JHS); last Gullane, E Loth, 19 Sep (LLJV); last Fife, Methil 20 Sep and Kilconquhar 11 Oct (DWO, ARS).

\***Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*. Scarce, only 2 records as against 9 in 1968 and 7 in 1969. ♂ ringed Fair Isle 18-20 June (BM, ISR); ♀ Aywick, Yell, Shet, 14-17 Sep (DC, RJT).

**Raven** *Corvus corax*. 1 pr nested successfully Upper Deeside, Aber (NP); bred Yetholm, Rox (RSB); about 15 prs Galloway (ADW). Movement: spring migrants at Fair Isle, 23+ on 4 Mar, 15+ on 5th and 6th, 19 on 29 Mar (RHD); 1 Black Isle, E Ross, 20 Feb, and 2 on 25 Feb; first there since 1950s (MKM-D).

**Crow** *Corvus corone*. Hooded Crows *Corvus corone cornix*. Singles outside range in Angus, Arbroath 26 Jan-12 Mar (MN), Elliot 13 Apr (NKA), Monifieth 25 Oct (TMC); Burntisland, Fife, 24 Jan (JMC).

Carrión Crows *Corvus corone corone*. Counts: 120 Alva, Stir, 26 Dec (CJH); 200+ Stronachie, Kinross, 16 Mar (AA); 64 Barnhill, Angus, 10 Oct (TMC). Outside range: Fair Isle, occasional 9 Apr-27 May, but 7 on 8 May, 12 on 17th, 17 on 18th-19th and 4 on 20th May, singles 19 July and 17 Sep (DC); Shet, singles Foula 22-28 May (JGH) and Quarff 13 Sep (DC); 1 Kinlochberrie, N Suth, 9 Nov (IDP); singles Ness, Lewis, 8 Apr (AS) and Stornoway 18 Aug and 16 Nov (WRPB, IMcL) appear to be first records for O Heb (WAJC).

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*. Nest-building earliest ever in Caith, from 24 Oct (DMS); c 250 nests Stornoway, O Heb, 19 Apr (WAJC); roost 1000+ Berstane Wood, Ork (EB). Migrants: Fair Isle, winter stragglers (also 1 Foula), small passage 17 Apr-15 May, max 3 on 21 Apr (RHD); 1 c 20 miles SE of Fair Isle 10 Apr (RSBy).

**Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula*. Shet, migrants, Skerries 25 Jan and 7 May (RJT), Foula 17-19 Feb, 2 on 11-13 May (JGH); Fair Isle, 8 wintered, departed late Mar-May, last pair even built nest and mated, but last seen 25 May (RHD). Reported increase Stornoway, O Heb (WAJC).

**Magpie** *Pica pica*. Fred Kelty, Fife, for first time (JEF). 1 Kirkwall airport, Ork, 13-26 Feb (ROW); 1 Dornoch, Suth, 25 Oct (DMcD); 5 Brodie, Moray, 15 Oct (BE); 1 Archerfield, E Loth, 20 May (RSB).

**Jay** *Garrulus glandarius*. Probably still increasing Kirk (ADW); 30 in one tree Lockerbie, Dumf, 18 Nov (RTS); Deeside, max 7 at Banchory 10 Nov (MM); 1 Heb, 1 Kildalton, Islay, early June (JCI); Ayr, 2 prs Failford, 1 Barrhill (per WRB), 1 Straiton early June (DMcG).

**Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*. Situation improving Islay, 1 Heb, now breeding in at least 3 areas (CGB), 24 seen mid May (DJH).

**Great Tit** *Parus major*, **Blue Tit** *Parus caeruleus* and **Coal Tit** *Parus ater*. No reported changes in status and no migrants recorded.

**Crested Tit** *Parus cristatus*. Slight increase Heathmount, E Ross (CJM-G); a few prs bred Roseisle forest, Moray (BE).

**Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris*. Rox, 3 prs Yetholm, 2 Cattonside and bred Heaton (RSB); 1 at bird table Selkirk (JMe).

**Willow Tit** *Parus montanus*. No change in breeding status reported; 1 Killermount, Dunb, 17 Mar (TPD).

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*. No change in breeding status reported; small party Reay, Caith, 4 Jan (JG).

**Tree-creeper** *Certhia familiaris*. Breeding reports: slight decrease Kinross (JHS) and rather scarce E Loth (KSMcG). Migrants: 1 Binscarth, Ork, 11 Jan-13 Feb (EB); 1 Isle of May 25 Sep (NKA).

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*. Fair Isle population of *T. t. fridariensis* now very low at c 25 prs after 3rd severe winter in succession (RHD); elsewhere very good numbers.

**Dipper** *Cinclus cinclus*. No migrants recorded Northern Isles. Several sightings and empty nest Hoy, Ork (EB); 1 Loch of Skene, Aber, 25 Jan (RSBy).

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus*. Numbers increased Moray (BE) but decreased Fife (DWO). Counts: 30 Kinloss, Moray, 21 July (BE); 30 Cupar, Fife, 26 Sep (DWO, ARS); 40 migrating over Gladhouse, Midl, 20 Sep (RWJS); c 100 Balmaclellan, Kirk, 2-9 Oct (ADW). Migrants: Fair Isle, singles 27-31 Jan, 9 days 28 Mar-15 May but 2 on 10 Apr and 9 May (RHD); Shet, 2 Whalsay 17-22 Mar (JHSi), Unst 25 Mar (RJT), Fetlar 8 May (WDi), Unst 8-13 May (MS), Sumburgh 27 Sep (RE-H).

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*. Bred Shet Mainland at 1969 site, possibly 2 or 3 prs; young seen 20 June (DC, RJT); pr bred E Inv, 6 young flew 16-17 June (DNW *et al*), first breeding record for mainland. None recorded Ork.

Spring: passage 7-14 Apr Dumf (JGY), 13-14 Apr Kirk (ADW); 200 Roseberry, Midl, 19 Apr (RWJS); 150/hr N St Monance, Fife, 17 Apr (DWO); Black Isle, E Ross, peak 60+ on 19 Mar (MKM-D); Fair Isle, usual winter numbers, but peak 80 on 20 Jan, scarce on spring passage, max 25 on 16 Apr, 34 on 8 May and 35 on 14 May, stragglers to 26 May (RHD); Shet, slight passage mainly 7-16 May, max 25 Skerries 15 May (RJT), last Foula 22 May (JGH); mainland stragglers Kellie Moor, Angus, 5 May (NKA), Girdle Ness, Kinc, 6-9 May (RLS), Balmedie, Aber, 11 May (NE) and Fife Ness 12 May (DWO).



Autumn early birds: Shet from 16 Aug (RJT); Fair Isle from 18 Aug (RHD); Isle of May 20-21 Aug (GLS); small flocks Kinlochewe, W Ross, 21 Aug (EBr); Fife Ness 24 Aug (DWO); St Abbs, Ber, 23 Aug (RWJS).

Main arrival: Shet from 27 Sep, large movement started 12 Oct (200 Foula), peaks 500 Foula 13th (JGH), 1500 Fetlar 14th (ARM), 200 Whalsay 14th (JHSi), then lower numbers, smaller arrival 18th when 800 Fetlar (ARM), further arrivals Fetlar 200 on 31 Oct and 1 Nov (ARM), 40 Whalsay 4 Nov (JHSi); Fair Isle from 25 Sep, peaks 27 Sep (200), 13 Oct (400+), 14 Oct (700), 15 Oct (300), 17 Oct (1500), 1 Nov (4000), 2 Nov (500) (RHD). Large numbers Aber/Kinc coast 12 Oct (RLS *et al*), also Fife (DWO); noticeable passage Midl 17-23 Oct (RWJS); 40 Yetholm, Rox, 12 Oct and 1000 on 24 Oct (RSB); Dumf, 20-23 Oct when 300 Caerlaverock, main arrivals after 17 Nov (NSRG).

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*. Fair Isle, scarce in early spring, but passage 7-18 May, max 49 on 8th, stragglers to 31 May (RHD); Shet, scattered records, 3 Mar-17 Apr, small numbers 5-13 May, max 9 Foula 10 May (JGH, RJT); some Fife Ness 12 May (DWO).

Autumn: Shet, from 23 Sep, small arrival 27 Sep when 15+ Skerries, main passage from 12 Oct (200 Foula (JGH) but from 14th on E side when 300 Fetlar and 20 Whalsay (ARM, JHSi, RJT); Fair Isle, 1 Sep-8 Dec, nearly all 22-30 Sep (max 20 on 27th) and 12-17 Oct: 12th (200), 13th (300), 14th (100), 15th (30); main passage mainland 12 Oct when 60 Nigg, Kinc (RLS), many Aberdeen (RSBy), 500 Arbroath, Angus (MN); 30 Fife Ness 11 Oct, 50 daily 12-17 Oct (JARG, DWO).

**Redwing** *Turdus musicus*. Further extension of range in breeding records from Caithness (DMS) and N Perth (JJ); 2 nests fledged young and another ♂ in song N Suth (EGH, RAH); bred W Ross (EBr); 5 singing N Inv glen but no proof of breeding (MIH); bred Spey Valley (DNW); song N Fife 12 May (DWO); song Glen Clova, Angus, 2 May (AN, MN).

Spring passage: Yetholm, Rox, 27 Apr but scarce (RSB); L Leven, Kinross, 20 on 6 Apr (JHS); Strathhtay, Perth, 24-30 Apr (EMH); Fair Isle, 29 Mar-3 May, but peaks only 25 on 3 and 16 Apr, stragglers to 25 May (RHD); Shet, scarce, up to 13 May, max 10 Fetlar 25 Apr (ARM, RJT).

Autumn early records: Fair Isle 13 Sep (RHD); Shet, Skerries 20 Sep (RJT); Fife, 4 Kingsbarns 14 Sep (JLSC); Midl, Middleton 14 Sep (RW). Main arrival: Fair Isle, from 23 Sep, peaks 400 on 23rd and 27 Sep, in Oct, 3rd (200), 7th (150), 8th (500), 12th (3500), 13th (5000+), 14th (7000), 15th (2500) down to 75 on 22nd, 23rd (800), 24th (500), 30th (300), 1 Nov (3000), 2nd (400) (RHD); Shet, 27 Sep, 60 Fetlar (ARM); 7 Oct, 500 Foula, 60 Fetlar; large arrival began 12 Oct (Fetlar 300, Whalsay 200, Foula 1000), increased on 13th (Fetlar 500, Whalsay 500, Foula 3000) and 14th (Fetlar 5000, Whalsay 1000 but Foula down to 2000), thereafter numbers decreased, smaller movements 31 Oct and 3 Nov, max 200 Fetlar (ARM, JGH, JHSi, RJT); Isle of May, max 2000 on 12 Oct (JGY); Ork, c 15000 North Ronaldsay 14 Oct (EB, EJW); O Heb, 500 daily Uists 13-16 Oct, southward passage of Continental birds 14th Oct (DGA); Moray, 665 in ½ hr in off sea Spey Bay 12th Oct (JMB); Kinc, 800 Girdle Ness 12 Oct (RLS); thousands over Aberdeen 12 Oct (RSBy); Angus, 6000 Arbroath 12 Oct (MN); Kinross, max 800+ L Leven 19 Oct (AA, JHS); Fife Ness, big movement started 11 Oct, thousands present 12-17 Oct (JLSC, JARG, DWO); main passage Yetholm 12 Oct (RSB); heavy overnight passage Ayr 12-18 Oct (PM), Paisley, Renf, 13 Oct (HG) and West Kilbride, Lan, 13 Oct (JLB); arrived Dumf 15 Oct (NSRG).

**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*. 1-2 prs bred Hoy, Ork (EB). Arrival (singles unless stated): Garvald, E Loth, and Loganlea, Midl, 27 Mar (WB, LLJV); Yarrow, Selk, 28 Mar (RF); Abernethy, Perth, 30 Mar (per VMT); Crawick Glen, Dumf, 31 Mar (WD) and 2 on 14 Apr (JGY); first Kirk, Lorg 14 Apr (ADW, AJW); 10 passing Traprain Law, E Loth, 18

Apr (RMB); 2 Fife Ness 19 Apr (DWO); Glen Lethnot, Angus, 20 Apr (GMC); Kerloch, Kinc, 12 Apr (NP); Cruden Bay, Aber, 11-14 May (DEBL); Fair Isle, 18 Apr-28 May, mainly 8-18 May, peaks 8th (15), 12th (16) and 17th (14), singles 7 days to 18 June (RHD); Shet, 2-17 May, max 4 Unst 10th (MS), 7 Fetlar 7th (ARM), 4 Skerries 14th (RJT), 2 Whalsay 8th (JHSi) and 5 Foula 10th (JGH).

Autumn: scarce Fair Isle, singles unless stated, 27 Sep, 12 Oct (3), 13 Oct, 14 Oct (8), 15 Oct (4), 21 Oct; Shet, 1 Foula 20 Sep, scattered records 12-19 Oct, max 8 Whalsay on 13th and 3 on 14th (JHS, RJT); Aberdeen 8 on 12 Oct (RLS); 4 Arbroath, Angus, 12 Oct (MN); 30 Fife Ness 12 Oct (JLSC, JARG), 4 on 18 Oct (DWO); 40 Moorfoots, Midl, 20 Sep and one 14 Oct (WB).

**Blackbird** *Turdus merula*. No reported changes in breeding status except pr nested successfully Fair Isle, first since 1959 (RHD). Spring: passage 19 Apr Fife Ness (DWO); Fair Isle influx 75+ on 14 Jan, scarce on passage 30 Mar (25) to mid May, peaks only 50 on 5 Apr and 30 on 12 Apr (RHD); scarce also Shet (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, moderate numbers mid Oct, max 300 Fetlar 14-17 Oct (ARM, RJT) and 100 Foula 12-15 Oct (JGH); Fair Isle, poor autumn passage from 12 Oct (100), peaks 13th (300+), 14th (500), 17th (150) down to 40 later in month except 30th (150), 1 Nov (1000), 2nd (100), 3rd (150); Ork, 250 North Ronaldsay 14-16 Oct (EB); large numbers Kinlochbervie, Suth, 14 Oct (IDP); 120 Aberdeen 12 Oct (RLS); 300 Arbroath, Angus, 12 Oct (MN); Fife Ness, large numbers 11-17 Oct, max 300 on 12th (JARG, DWO); large influx Dumf 20 Oct (JGY).

**\*Rock Thrush** *Monticola saxatilis*. ♂ ringed Fair Isle 30 June (6: 336) (RHD, BM); 3rd record for island, last one 1936.

**Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Arrival: 26 Mar, Dalveen Pass, Dumf (ADW), Dalry, Kirk (ADW) and Newton Stewart, Wig (GW), a few more that area 27 Mar; 28 Mar, St Mary's Loch, Selk (RF), 2 Gladhouse, Midl (EMS, RWJS); 29 Mar, Usan, Angus (JD); 30 Mar, Fife Ness (DWO). Movement halted by cold weather and main arrival late: Dumf 10-14 Apr (WD, JFY); Fife Ness from 12 Apr (DWO); L Leven, Kinross, 12 Apr (JHS); Perth, first 8 Apr, main 15 Apr (VMT); Aber, first Clochtow 10 Apr (AR, HNR), passage 3-25 May (RLS *et al*); Kinc, 2 Kerloch 12 Apr (NP); Inv, first Abriachan 17 Apr (JAL); Banff, Whitehills 19 Apr (AFWS) but earlier in north; W Ross, Alligin 3 Apr (EBr) and 2 Red Point 4 Apr (ENH); Suth, Bettyhill 12 Apr (PRJ); O Heb, 3 Carloway, Lewis, 11 Apr (WAJC); Fair Isle, late, from 10 Apr (6), but no big numbers until 28th, and large falls in early May, Greenland birds 24 Apr-7 May, rather late breeding (RHD); Shet, first Scalloway 6 Apr (RMo), Skerries 12 Apr, main from 18 Apr (RJT).

Autumn migration: Fair Isle, from 17 Aug, numbers down to 15 on 6 Oct, last 24 Oct, Greenland birds 3-21 Sep, 3-11 Oct (RHD); Shet peaks 30 Sep (DC), 12 Oct (RJT); O Heb, 11 in Uists 13-16 Oct (DGA), last Stornoway 24 Oct (IMcL); Aber, 22 Fraserburgh 24 Aug (MM), last Aberdeen 17 Oct (NE); last Kinloss, Moray, 18 Oct (BE); Arbroath, Angus, 18 Oct (MN); Fife Ness, large fall 16-17 Aug (200), last 26 Oct (DWO, ARS, PJC); last Musselburgh, Midl, 18 Oct (LLJV); last North Berwick, E Loth, 28 Oct (DEA); migrants Caerlaverock, Dumf, 8-20 Aug, last 2 on 6 Nov (JGY); last in country Embo, Suth, 22 Nov (JBW).

**\*Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti*. Fair Isle, ♂ on 20 Nov, first there since 18 Nov 1940 (RHD).

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*. Breeding reports: Ork, Hoy population increased, 1-2 prs bred Mainland (EB); very scarce E Ross (CJM-G) and only 1 pr N Suth (EGH); possibly scarcer Fife (DWO); bred Skinflats, Stir (DF); first brood fledged Kirk 17 May (ADW). Migrants: Shet, Fetlar 6 May (ARM), Ronas Hill 9 May (RJT), Unst 16 June (MS), Whalsay 25 Sep (JHSi), Sumburgh 2 Oct (RE-H); Fair Isle, singles 26 and 28 Mar,

15 Apr, pr 16 Apr (RHD); 2 Isle of May 11 May (AMcD), 1 on 11 Oct (JGY); Nigg, Kinc, 13 Oct (RLS); c 100 Mull of Galloway, Wig, 23 Sep, but only few there 16 Oct (LAU, ADW, AJW).

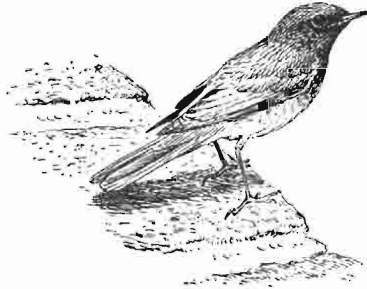
**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*. Breeding reports: little change, but decrease Yetholm, Rox (RSB) and Kirk (LAU, ADW); still increasing N Suth (EGH). Spring passage: 30 Apr, Kingholm, Dumf (JKRM), widespread 17 May (JGY); Glenkens, Kirk, 5 May (LAU); 1-2 Fife Ness 16 May (DWO); first Cleish, Kinross, 14 May (JHS); first Perth 14 May (VMT); 2 Girdle Ness, Kinc, 6 May (MAMcD, RLS); Fair Isle, 4 May-9 June, big fall early May: 6th (6), 7th (33), 8th and 9th (350), 10th (100), numbers slowly dropping to end of month, stragglers 23 June (RHD); Shet, 5 May, big fall few days later with peaks 80+ Fetlar 8th (ARM), 50 Whalsay 8th (JHSi), 50 Unst 9th (MS), 250 Skerries 13th (RJT), dispersal over next 2 weeks, last Skerries 14 June (RJT).

Autumn passage: Shet, 23 Aug-19 Oct, singles except small passage 10-30 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle, 17 Aug-15 Oct, low numbers, peaks only 15 on 22 Aug and 12 on 8 Sep (RHD); 10 Slains, Aber, 18 Aug (CJF); 5 Mull of Galloway, Wig, 23 Sep (LAU, ADW).

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Breeding reports: marked increase Tain, E Ross (CJM-G); drastic drop Maryburgh, E Ross (HDS); still scarce E Loth (KSMcG); continued decrease Rox (RSB); fewer than usual Kirk (ADW); possible increase Ayr (WRB).

Arrival: 19 Apr, Roseberry, Midl (RWJS) and Rattray Head, Aber (NE); 24 Apr, Aberlady, E Loth (LLJV). Passage from 26 Apr in south and 5 May in north. Very large fall in Northern Isles: Fair Isle, 5 May-19 June, day totals 5th (1), 6th (6), 7th (30), 8th (300) and 700 on 9 May; numbers dropped to 250 on 10th, 150 on 11-17th, up to 50 through May and 15 in early June, stragglers 22 June, 8 and 10 July (RHD); Shet, from 5 May, big numbers from 7 May, peaks 100+ Fetlar 7-10 May (ARM), 80 Foula 10 May (JGH), 60 Whalsay 9 May (JHSi), 50 Skerries 7 May, 200+ on 13 May (RJT), stragglers to 8 June (RJT).

Small autumn passage: Shet, small movements 10-13 Sep, 24-30 Sep and 8-17 Oct (RJT), stragglers Whalsay 23 Oct (JHSi) and Foula 25 Oct (JGH); Fair Isle, 21 Aug-16 Oct, peaks only 1-2 in Aug, 10 on 23 Sep, 20 on 12 Oct, late one 1-2 Nov (RJT); a few Nigg, N Kinc, 12-16 Oct (MJHC, RLS); 6 Arbroath, Angus, 12 Oct (MN); last Yetholm, Rox, 13 Oct (RSB); last Caerlaverock, Dumf, 20 Oct (JGY).



\***Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*. Spring, 9 Mar-10 June; 3 Fife Ness 9-10 May (JARG); 1 Dundee, Angus, 9 Mar (JST); 1 Girdle Ness, N Kinc, 7 May (JRP, ADKR); Fair Isle, singles 16th, 20th and 21 Apr; passage 3-28 May, mainly 1-2 daily but 6th (4), 7th (8), and 3 on 3 dates, ♀ 7-19 June, ♂ 10 June (RHD); Shet, up to 3 Fetlar 6-12 May (ARM), 1 Whalsay 5th and 7 May (JHSi), 1 Unst 8 May (MS), 2 Skerries 13 May (RJT). Autumn records 12 Oct-1 Dec; Fair Isle, singles 22nd and 25 Oct,

27 Nov-1 Dec (RHD); Ork, 2 North Ronaldsay 14 Oct, 1 on 16th. (EB, EJW); Fife, 2 Fife Ness 12 Oct (JLSC), 1 Craill 20-22 Oct (DAS).

\***Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*. 3 records: 1 Fetlar, Shet 9-11 May (ARM, RJT); Fair Isle, singles ringed 17-18 May, 21-26 June (RHD, BM, ISR).

\***Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia*. A record total of 7 birds: Fair Isle, 4 individuals, 8 May (ringed), 9 May (ringed), 11-12 May (ringed) and 14 May (found freshly dead), 6th-9th records for island (6: 283) (GJB, RHD); Isle of May, two ringed, 9-16 May and 17 May (AMcD, DWO *et al*); 1 Hillswick, Shet, 31 July-7 Aug (6:284) (GMCh).

\***Bluethroat** *Cyanosylvia svecica*. Spring records 7 May-21 June, large numbers 2nd week May; Ber, St Abbs 10 May (EMS, RWJS), 16 May (KSMcG); Bass Rock 16 May (RWJS); Fife, Boarhills 14-15 May (JARG), Fife Ness 15 May (TWE, DWO); Isle of May, 8 May (1), 9th (2), 10th (6), 11th (2), 12th (4), 13th (4), 14th (3), 15-16th (6), 17th (1) (AMcD, DWO); Angus, Arbroath ♀ 11-14 May (NKA, MN), ♂ 15 May (MN); N Kinc, Girdle Ness 7 May (2), 8th (3), 9th (5) 10-15 (1), 16th (2) (RLS *et al*); Aber, 2 Newburgh 10 May (DEBL, WM), Balmedie 9-12 May, Collieston 12 May, Slains ♀ 11 May and ♂ 12 May (WM *et al*); Fair Isle, large fall, 7 May (2), 8th (9), 9th (31), 10th (31 but some different), 11th (17), 12th (16), (probably at least 50 individuals involved), numbers then lower but 2nd peak 14 on 16 May, 1-3 to 31 May, 1 on 1 June, ♂ 3-21 June, ♀ 6 June (RHD); Shet, Fetlar, 8 birds between 7 and 13 May (ARM), Foula, singles 10th, 11th and 12 May (JGH), Whalsay, singles 8th, 11th and 13 May (JHSi); Unst 8th and 10 May (MS), Skerries, 8 May (3), 13th (15), 17th (c 8) and 18th (1) (RJT *et al*), Quendale 3 on 8 May (FH), 1 on 10th (DC). No White-spotted birds reported.

Autumn: Fair Isle, scarce, singles 27 Sep and 5-7 Oct (RHD); Isle of May 8 Sep (ADW), 2 on 21st (NKA); Shet, Skerries 27 Sep (RJT), Fetlar 13 Oct (ARM), Virkie 13 Oct (DC); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 6 Oct (MK).

**Robin** *Erithacus rubecula*. No reported changes in breeding status. Spring: a few Continentals Fife Ness 12 May (DWO); Fair Isle, 3 Apr-31 May, scarce Apr but 11 on 7 May, 8th (66), 9th (70), 10th (100+), another peak 50 on 16-17 May, a few stragglers in summer (RHD); Shet, unusual numbers 5-20 May, peaks 100 Unst 8-12 May (MS), 20 Fetlar 7-9 May (ARM), 30 Whalsay 8 May (JHSi), Skerries 90 on 13 May, 130 on 18th (RJT), stragglers to 25 June Dunrossness (PMcM). Autumn: Fair Isle, from 27 Sep, peaks 100+ on 13 Oct, 50 on 14th (RHD); Shet, from last week Sep, passage from 12 Oct, max 20 Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi), 20+ Fetlar 15 Oct (ARM); Ork, 100 North Ronaldsay 14-16 Oct (EB); 50 Fife Ness 12 Oct (JARG).

**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia*. No reported changes in status. Arrival: 29 Apr, Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 30 Apr, 2 Kilconquhar (DWO) and 1 Moor of Genoch, Wig (RCD); 3 May, Yetholm, Rox (AJS); mostly in second week May. Passage: Isle of May, few daily 4-17 May, max 9 on 4th (DWO); Fair Isle, 3-22 May, max 10 on 7-8th and 8 on 9th (RHD); Shet, 5-17 May (RJT), peaks 4 Whalsay 6th May (JHSi) and 3 Fetlar 7-10th (ARM). Last autumn dates: Fife Ness 20 Sep (DWO, ARS), Locharbriggs, Dumf, 27 Sep (KB).

\***Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*. 1 Fair Isle 12-14 June (RHD); 1 singing Kilconquhar, Fife, 17 June (6: 337) (DWO, DT).

\***Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. Very scarce. 2 Fair Isle 9-11 June, one 22 Aug (RHD); singles Girdle Ness, N Kinc, 6 May (MAMcD, RLS); Forvie, Aber, 10 May (DSt, ADKR); Isle of May 22-24 Aug and 25-27 Aug (GLS).

\***Marsh Warbler** *Acrocephalus palustris*. Singles Fair Isle 5th, 12th, 16th and 17 June (RHD).

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Breeding reports: "still

low numbers" Dumf (JGY); "below average" Glenkens, Kirk (ADW) but "good numbers" Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO) and "most ever" Yetholm, Rox (RSB). Arrival: 28 Apr, Kilconquhar (DWO); 3 May, Yetholm (RSB), Vane Farm, Kinross (JHS) and Errol, Perth (VMT). Main arrival: Yetholm 68 ♂♂ in study area 16 May and 82 ♂♂ on 30th (RSB); most Kilconquhar 12 May (DWO); main arrival Perth 11 May (VMT); widespread Dumf 14 May (JGY).

Passage: Fair Isle, 4-30 May, numbers small but 7 on 8th and 12 on 9th (RHD); Shet, 5-16 May, max 6 Fetlar 7 May (ARM); max Isle of May, 200+ on 16 May (AMcD). Autumn: Fair Isle singles 6-11 Aug, 3rd, 11-13th and 17 Sep (RHD); last Aber, Auchlossan 13 Sep (RSBy); 2 Arbroath, Angus, 13 Sep (MN); last Fife Ness 26 Sep (DWO, ARS); last Piltanton, Wig, 8 Oct (RCD).

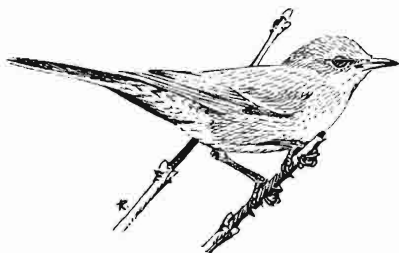
\***Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*. A poor year. Singles Fair Isle 4 Aug and 13 Sep (RHD); singles Whalsay, Shet, 23 Aug and 9 Sep (JHSi); 3 Isle of May 23 Aug, 2 on 24th (GLS), 1 on 8 Sep (JHBM).

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*. Jan-Apr: ♂ Ceres, Fife 5 Feb-13 Apr (JI, EFBS); 1 Edinburgh Jan (KFW); ♂ Glencaple, Dumf 14 Feb-13 Apr (JH).

Arrival: 28 Apr, Moffat, Dumf (JGY); 29 Apr, Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 2 May, Riccarton, Midl (EH); 4 May, Elliot, Angus (MN). Passage: Fair Isle, 5 May-18 June, peaks 8 on 8-9 May, 11 on 10th, stragglers to 6 July (RHD); Shet, 5-19 May, max 5 Whalsay 8th (JHSi) and 4 Fetlar 9th (ARM); stragglers in June, one in song Lerwick 2 July (DC); first 2 Kirkwall, Ork, 10 May (EB); 1 Stornoway, O Heb, 15 June (AV).

Autumn migration: Shet, 23 Aug-22 Nov, mainly 11 Sep-18 Oct, peak 10+ Fetlar 13 Oct (ARM), 10 Whalsay 13th and 16 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, 19 Aug-28 Nov, mainly 10 Sep-early Nov, peaks 25 on 27 Sep and 8 Oct, 20 on 3 Nov (RHD); 47 ringed North Ronaldsay, Ork, 6-18 Oct (MK); Isle of May, 35 daily 12-17 Oct (ME).

Late records: 2 Stornoway 18 Nov (WAJC); 2 Scourie, Suth, 13 Oct (IDP); Dornoch, Suth, 18-19 Nov and 12-14 Dec (DMcD), Foulis, E Ross, 20 Nov (CGH), Badachro, W Ross, 23-28 Nov (ENH), Evanton, E Ross, 1 Dec (HDS); Fortrose, E Ross, 23-31 Dec (HDS); Inverness 29 Nov (JMCK); 2 Portsoy, Banff, 26 Dec (JE); Old Aberdeen 31 Dec (RIM); Dunure, Ayr, ♂ 28 Nov and ♀ 30 Nov (JKRM); Scaur Glen, Dumf, 2 Dec (ARH); Rockcliffe, Kirk, 15-31 Dec (ATC).



\***Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*. Ad Cruden Bay, Aber, 10 May (AR, WM). Autumn records 4 Aug-16 Oct, singles unless noted otherwise: Shet, Fetlar, 20-22 Aug, 23rd (3) (ARM), Whalsay, 13 Aug, 1-2 on 6 dates 11-23 Sep (JHSi), Skerries, 23 Aug, 19-20 Sep (RJT), Foula, 1-2 on 1-2 Sep (JGH), Sumburgh, 26 Sep (DC), 27th (5) (RE-H, GR); Fair Isle, 4 Aug-12 Oct, peaks 7 on 17 Aug, 7 on 22nd, 3 on 29-30th, 5 on 8 Sep, at least 50 individuals this autumn (RHD); Ork, 2 North Ronaldsay 26 Aug (RHD), 6-16 Oct (MK); W Ross, ringed Badachro 27 Aug (JLF, RDW); Aber, Col-

lieston 22 Aug (MAMcD, WM), Newburgh 22 Aug (CJF); Fife Ness, 16 Aug (DWO, ARS); Isle of May, 4 daily 22-27 Aug (GLS), 8 Sep (2) (JHBM), 21st and 23 Sep (NKA).

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*. Numbers down at Yetholm, Rox (RSB); pr feeding young Edzell, Angus, 26 June (GMC); 1 singing Foulis, E Ross, May (CGH). Arrival: 20 Apr, Keir, Dumf (JFY) is early, but no more reported until 4 May, Fair Isle and 10 May, Fife Ness (JARG), Elliot, Angus (MN) and Yell, Shet (RJT).

Passage: Fair Isle, scarce, 4 May-22 June, peaks only 10 on 9 June and 5 on 10th; Shet, singles Foula 16 May (JGH) and scattered records 31 May-19 June, peak 4 Foula 7 June (JGH).

Autumn migration: Shet, 14 Aug-8 Oct, small influx from 20 Aug, more from 8 Sep, max 5 Whalsay 9 Sep (JHSi, RJT); Fair Isle, 13 Aug-17 Oct, mainly 19 Aug (12)-20 Sep (20), other peaks 22nd Aug (60), 23rd (20), 13 Sep (25) (RHD); Isle of May, peaks 22nd Aug (30), 23rd (50) and 24th (20) (GLS); Fife Ness, a few migrants 16-17 Aug, last one 12 Oct (JLSC); last Yetholm, Rox, 4 Oct (RSB).

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*. Improvement in breeding numbers reported from Kirk (ADW), Dumf, but still low (JGY), Midl (LLJV); E Loth, but still low (KSMcG); Kinross (JHS); Aber (NE); Black Isle (MKM-D); E Ross overall (DCH, HDS); W Ross (ENH); but decrease reported Yetholm, Rox (RSB) and Caith (DMS).

Arrival (rather late): 1 May, Aberfoyle, Perth (VMT); 3 May, Fair Isle (RHD) and Foula (JGH); 5 May, Ledlanet, Kinross (JHS) and Girdle Ness, Kinc (RLS); 6 May, Caerlaverock, Dumf (JGY); 7 May, Dalry, Kirk (LAU). Passage: Isle of May, more than usual, peak 100 on 16 May (AMcD); widespread Dumf 26 May (JKRM); 6 Fife Ness 15 May (DWO); Fair Isle, 3 May-13 June, mainly 8th (13)-24 May (9), other peaks 45 on 9 May, 35 on 10th, 22 on 16th, stragglers to 28 June (RHD); Shet, 3 May-12 June, mainly 7-18 May (RJT), peaks 8 Fetlar 7 May (ARM), 6 Whalsay 9 May (JHSi) and 8 Foula 10 May (JGH).

Autumn: Shet, 6 records 11-23 Sep (MS, JHSi); Fair Isle, scattered records 18 Aug-23 Sep, max 5 on 22 Aug; last Strathtay, Perth, 4 Sep (VMT); migrants Craill, Fife, 15 Aug (JARG).

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*. No breeding record. Singing ♂ at Altnaharra, Suth, 4 June (EGH); another Inverewe, W Ross, 11 June (DCH).

Spring: 4 May-12 June, exceptional numbers; Ber, St Abbs 4 on 8 May, 12 on 10th and 4 on 16th (KSMcG, RWJS); 1 Ayr 12-15 May (WRB); Fife Ness, 9 May (1), 10th (10), 13th (2), 14th (1), 15th (2), (JARG, DWO); 1 Burntisland, Fife 24 May (JMC); Angus, Elliot 10 May (MN), Arbroath 11-16 May, but 2 on 15th (NKA, GMC, MN); Kinc, 1 Girdle Ness 6 May, 3 on 7th (MAMcD); Aber, 6 Cruden Bay 9 May (AR, WMM, WM), 1 on 14 May (DEBL), 4 Skateraw 8 May (MJHC), 2 Balmedie 12 May (CJF, JRP), 1 Blackdog 11 May (NE); Isle of May, more than usual, max 20 on 7 May and 30 on 8th (DWO); Fair Isle, 4 May-12 June, peaks 19 on 7-8 May, 9th (20), 17th (12), 26th (15), 6 June (8) (RHD); Shet, 6-18 May, stragglers to 12 June (RJT), peaks 10 Unst 4 May (MS), 8 Fetlar 7 May (ARM), 10 Whalsay 9 May (JHSi), 6 Skerries 14 May (RJT).

Autumn: Fair Isle, 1-2 on 17 days 14 Aug-2 Oct (RHD); Shet, singles on 6 days 4 Sep-13 Oct (DC, ARM, JHSi); Fife Ness 17 Aug (PJC).

\***Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans*. ♂ Arbroath, Angus, 14 May (6: 215) (NKA, MN).

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Arrival: 18 Apr, Lockerbie, Dumf (ES) and Yetholm, Rox (RSB); 19 Apr, Loch Skerrow, Kirk (ADW), 7 Moor of Genoch, Wig (RCD) and Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 20 Apr, 3 Elliot, Angus (MN). Build-up and migration: widespread Dumf 28 Apr (JGY); Yetholm, 87 singing ♂♂ in study area 18 May and 113 on 30

May (RSB); main arrival E Fife 29 Apr (DWO), 15 Fife Ness 12 May (DWO); 4 L Leven 24 Apr (AA, TG); Perth, first 23 Apr Kingoodie, many 24th (HB, VMT); first Kinloss, Moray, 28 Apr (BE); Ork, noticeable passage first half May (EB); Fair Isle, 30 Apr-28 June, mainly early May when 15 on 6th, 100 on 7th, very large fall of 1000 on 8th, still 1000 on 9th, 10th (400), numbers down to 70 on 18th and 8 on 31 May (RHD); Shet, first Foula 21 Apr (JGH), passage from 5 May when large influx (RJT), max 50 Unst 9-12 May (MS), 100 Fetlar 7 May, 200+ on 8-9th (ARM), 150 Whalsay 8 May (JHSi); 300 Skerries 13 May (RJT), stragglers to 11 June (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, numbers low, 16 Aug-16 Oct, mainly 8-29 Sep, max 8 Whalsay 9 Sep (JHSi, RJT); Fair Isle, 4 Aug-7 Oct, peak 50 on 22 Aug and 18 on 16 Sep, late one 11 Oct (RHD); autumn peak Dumf coast 23 Aug (JGY); last records Perth 13 Sep (HB), West Ferry, Angus, 26 Sep (TMC), Vane Farm, Kinross, 16 Sep (JHS), Fife Ness 20 Sep (DWO).

\***Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochloides*. 1 Fair Isle 21-24 Aug (RHD, BM).

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*. No reported changes in breeding status, but singing birds in north, including 5 Gairloch-Torrison, W Ross, from 12 Apr (ENH) and 1 Hoy, Ork, 29 May (EB). Arrival: rather late, 7 Apr, Rockcliffe, Kirk (JSK); 9 Apr, Lockerbie, Dumf (ES); 15 Apr and 19th Fair Isle (RHD); 16 Apr, Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 17 Apr, Morton Lochs (JARG). Build-up and migration: more Dumf 20 Apr (JGY); small numbers, Fife Ness 12 May (DWO); Fair Isle, more than usual early May, peaks 7th (9), 8th (50), small numbers to 31 May, 2-3 on 21-30 June, one summered (RHD); Shet, 6-19 May, Whalsay 10 on 6th and 50 on 8th (JHSi, RJT); Ork, noticeable passage first half May (EB).

Autumn: Shet, small numbers 16 Aug-22 Oct, max 12 Whalsay 16 Oct (JHSi, RJT), 1 Asta 22 Nov (DC); Fair Isle, 2 on 6-7 Aug, scattered records 13 Sep-3 Nov, peak 6 on 13th and 5 on 14 Oct (RHD). Last Edinburgh 22 Sep (TCS), Lockerbie, Dumf, 29 Sep (ES).

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. Pair bred Geddes, Nairn (RRi). Arrival: 6 May, Glenarlie, Dumf (JGY); 7 May, Fair Isle (RHD); 8 May, Vane Farm, Kinross (JHS); 9 May, Balmedie, Aber (RLS, JRP) and Loch Tummel, Perth (EMH); 10 May, Cruden Bay, Aber (WM, WMM, AR). Passage: Fair Isle, 3 on 9 May, 1 on 10th (RHD); Shet, Fetlar 8 May (1), 10th (3), 11th (1) (ARM), 2 Mainland 11 May (FH); singles Islay, 1 Heb, 27 May (DAR), 19 June (MFMM). Autumn records: Fair Isle few 19-29 Aug, max 3 on 27 Aug (RHD); Shet, singles Fetlar 19 Aug (ARM), Gott 11 Sep (DC), Lerwick 13 Oct (DC); Isle of May 2 on 2 Aug (HG).

\***Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis*. 8 records: Fair Isle, singles trapped 7 Aug, 13-14 Sep, 15-19 Sep, 16 Sep and 12 Oct (RHD, BM, ISR *et al*), 1 unringed 20 Sep (RWB, ARG); Isle of May 7 Sep (ADW); Shet, Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi).

\***Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*. About 12 birds, 24 Sep-11 Oct: Shet, 1 Whalsay 24-25 Sep (JHSi), 2 Fetlar 27 Sep (ARM), 2 Skerries 27 Sep (RJT), 1 Foula 27 Sep (JGH); Fair Isle, 24 Sep, 25th (3), 26th-27th (2), 28th (1), 7-8 Oct (1) (RHD); 1 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 11 Oct (MK).

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*. No reported changes in breeding status. Spring: Fair Isle, 2nd-28 May, max 15 on 7th and 6 on 8th (RHD); Shet, 1 Kergord 22 Feb (DC), records from 12 Apr, but mainly 6-13 May, max 6 Fetlar 6 May (ARM); 3 Blackdog, Aber, 11-12 May (NE); singles Arbroath, Angus, 8th and 11-14 May (MN). Autumn passage: Shet, 25 Sep-1 Nov, mainly late Sep and 10-20 Oct (RJT), peaks 15 Fetlar 13 Oct and 30 on 15th (ARM), 12 Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, sporadic 1 Sep-5 Nov, peaks in Oct, 11th (8), 12th (40), 13th (20+), 14th (12) and 16th (15) (RHD); 23 ringed North Ronaldsay, Ork, 6-12 Oct (MK); passage Fife Ness 12 Oct (JLSC).

\***Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*. 3 Relugas, Moray, 4 Oct (RRI).

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*. Marked decrease reported from Yetholm, Rox (RSB). Arrival late, first records from Northern Isles: Fair Isle, 9 May-25 June, peaks 6 on 12 May, 6 on 6 June and 15 on 9th, stragglers 7 July (RHD); Shet, 9-18 May, peaks 4 Whalsay 9 May (JHSi), 4 Skerries 13 May (RJT), singles to 21 June (MS); 10 May, Riccarton, Midl (EH); 11 May, Cruden Bay, Aber (DEBL) and Strathtay, Perth (VMT); 12 May, 2 Glenlee, Kirk (ADW); O Heb, 2 North Uist 2 June (GC), 1 Barra 21 July (RHM), first summer reports outside Stornoway (WAJC).

Autumn: Shet, 1 Foula 27 Sep (JGH); Fair Isle, small influx, max 4 on 23-27 Aug, one 27 Sep (RHD); 1 Inverness 25 Aug, 2 on 28 Aug, 1 on 17 Sep (JMCK); last Kingoodie, Perth, 28 Aug (HB); L Leven, Kinross, 31 Aug (JHS); 6 Blackford Hill, Midl, 17 Sep (LLJV).

**Pied Flycatcher** *Muscicapa hypoleuca*. Fewer in Kirk (ADW); bred Scaur Glen (new site), good numbers 5 other areas Dumf, (ARH, JGY); pr bred Inverarnan, Dunb, 20 June (JMi, JSG), first for county; Midl, bred Penicuik and ♂ singing Redburn Glen (RWJS); ♀ laid infertile egg in nest box Kindrogan, Perth (AW); bred Strathglass, E Inv (MIH); ♂ singing Contin, W Ross, 3 May (ENH).

Spring migration: 1 May, pr Humble, E Loth (RF); 6 May, Fife Ness (JLSC); 7 May, Lochwood Oaks, Dumf (DSK), 6 Fife Ness (PSM); 6 coastal records Aber 9-15 May (CJF *et al*); Fair Isle, 6 May-27 June, mainly 6-11 May, peaks 7th (11), 8th (35), 9th (120), 10th (90) and 11th (30), down to 18 on 22nd, 2-5 daily to 6 June (RHD); Shet, 7-18 May, large fall as Fair Isle (RJT), max 100+ Unst 8 May (MS), 40 Fetlar 9-10 May (ARM), 20 Whalsay 9 May (JHSi), 23 Foula 10 May (JGM), 20 Skerries 13 May (RJT), stragglers to 19 June (DC).

Autumn records: Shet, scattered records 19-24 Aug, 13 Sep-18 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, 15-27 Aug (max 15 on 22nd) and 9-25 Sep (max 15 on 23rd), late ones 7 and 14 Oct (RHD); Aber, singles Collieston and Newburgh 23 Aug (NE, MAMcD); Fife Ness, 8 on 16 Aug (DWO, ARS), 2 on 17 and 27 Aug (PGTB), 1 on 22 Sep (AMH).

\***Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa parva*. 1 in spring, 4 in autumn—a poor year. Isle of May, singles 8 May (DWO), 3 Oct (TDHM), 12 Oct (JGY); Shet, 1 Skerries 29 Sep (ARM, RJT), 1 Whalsay 13 Oct (JHSi).

**Dunnock/Hedge Sparrow** *Prunella modularis*. No reported changes in breeding status. Fair Isle, 1 on 31 Jan, spring passage 31 Mar-30 Apr, max 3 on 15 Apr, then unusual influx May, 7th (4), 8th (10), 9th (15) some until 2 June (RHD); Shet, May-1 June, mainly mid-May, max 8 Skerries 13th (RJT); c 20 Fife Ness 12 May (DWO); 1 Uig, Lewis, O Heb, 12 Apr (WAJC). Autumn: Fair Isle, small passage 7 Oct-7 Nov, max 8 on 13 Oct (RHD); Shet, few 27 Sep-19 Oct, mainly 13-19 Oct, max 3 Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi, RJT); 50 Fife Ness 12 Oct (DWO).

\***Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. About 17 individuals 23 Sep-5 Nov; Fair Isle, 23 Sep (3), 24th-25th (4), 26th (2), 27th (6), 28th (4), 29th (2), 30 Sep-4 Oct (1), 5th (2), 6-7th (1), 8th-9th (2), 12th (4), 13th (1), 14th (2), 5 Nov (1), about 12 individuals (RHD); Shet, 2 Skerries 27-29 Sep (ARM, RJT *et al*), Whalsay 27 Sep and 14 Oct (JHSi); Ork, North Ronaldsay 28 Sep (MFMM).

\***Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*. 3 records; Fair Isle, ad 25-26 May, imm trapped 8-10 June (RHD); Shet, 1 Whalsay 10-11 June (JHSi).

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*. No reported changes in breeding status. Arrival: 24 Apr, Vane Farm, Kinross (JHS) and Newburgh, Aber (WMM, AR); 25 Apr, 2 Loch Evelix, Suth (DMcD); 30 Apr, Dalry, Kirk (LAU); 2 May, Dumfries (JKRM) and Glen Clova, Angus (MN). Passage: Fair Isle, another large influx 6 May-9 June, mainly 7-22 May, peaks 7th (100),



8th (350), 9th (500), 10th (400), 11-12th (150), 13th (80), 14th (250). 15th (200) decreasing to 15 on 31 May, then stragglers, one 8 July (RHD); Isle of May, peak 80 on 8 May (DWO); Shet, large influx started 5 May, peaked 9th, tailed off about 20th (RJT), peaks 250 Skerries 7 May (RJT) and 100 Fetlar 9 May (ARM).

Autumn: Fair Isle, 21-30 Aug, max 10 on 21st, 1-2 on 7 days 9-28 Sep (RHD); 30 Isle of May 23-24 Aug (GLS); 35 S Arbroath, Angus, 12 Sep (TMC); last Vane Farm, Kinross, 28 Aug (JHS); 6 St Abbs, Ber, 23 Aug (TD, KSMcG).

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*. No reported changes in breeding status. Spring passage: 150+ Sanquhar, Dumf, 11 Apr (WD); Midl, odd ones Moorfoots 22 Mar, movements over Edinburgh 17 Apr and 1 May (RMB); peaks L Leven, Kinross, 160+ on 11 Apr, 100- on 14 Apr (JHS); Moray, 9 Kinloss 12 Mar but 400+ on 14 Apr (BE); Fair Isle, 1 on 20 Jan, arrivals from 26 Mar, peaks 200 on 13 Apr, movements to 8 May (RHD).

Autumn: Shet, last Fetlar 3 Nov (ARM); Fair Isle, peaks 29-31 Aug, 3 and 12 Sep, few after 26 Oct (RHD); heavy passage, thousands Kinloss, Moray, 11-12 Aug (BE); 1000/hr S Arbroath, Angus, 11 Sep (MN); 200/hr S Fife Ness 12 Sep (DWO); 227 Moor of Genoch, Wig, 14 Sep (RCD).

**Rock Pipit** *Anthus spinoletta*. Breeding counts from Galloway: Little Ross 11 prs, Isle of Fleet 10 prs, Heston 7 prs, Rough Island 5 prs (JGY). 1 Fndrick Mouth 5-9 May (JMi, CPL), first for W Stir; Fair Isle passage late Aug (RHD). Water Pipit *A. s. spinoletta*. 1 Doonfoot, Ayr, 13 Mar (WRB, AGS).

**Pied/White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*. Pied Wagtail *M. a. yarelli*: small number bred Ork (EB); appears to be on increase O Heb (WAJC); decreased Yetholm, Rox (RSB); albino reared Fountainhall, Midl (per AJS). 1-2 prs White Wagtail *M. a. alba* bred in Unst, Shet (MS).

Pied Wagtail migration: Shet, Foula 30 Apr (JGH), Unst 8 May (MS), Sumburgh 10 Oct (DC); Fair Isle, several records 14 Apr-30 May, 1 on 1-2 July (RHD); 50 Forfar Loch, Angus, 5 Sep (JIS); notable passage Glencaple, Dumf, 23 Aug (JGY).

White Wagtail migration: Shet, 12 Mar-22 May, max 10 Skerries 7 May (RJT), 8 Aug-4 Nov mainly late Aug, max 12 Fetlar 28 Aug (ARM); Fair Isle, 16 Apr-30 May, max 9 on 7-9 May, small numbers to 26 June, 3 on 28 July, 8 Aug-27 Sep, mainly 16 Aug-11 Sep, peaks 40 on 20th, 70 on 29th and 1 Sep (RHD); Inverness mid Aug-30 Sep (MR); Moray, 6 Spey mouth 1 May (JMB), 150 roost Kinloss late July-Aug (BE); 50 Skinflats, Stir, 27-30 Apr (DF).

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*. Good breeding numbers Galloway (ADW); pr Strathnaver, Suth, first seen by observer since 1962 (EGH). Migrants: Shet, 1 Fetlar 9 May (ARM); O Heb, 1 Stornoway 11 Apr 2 on 30 May (RMcI); Shet, 1 Fetlar 23 Nov (ARM); 1 Fair Isle, 13 Sep and 3 on 3 Nov (RHD); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 15 Oct (EJW); 1 Fife Ness 22 Aug (DWO); 18 on 7 days 7-18 Aug at Glencaple, Dumf (JGY).

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*. Yellow *M. f. flavissima*. Pr bred, 3 young, River Cart, Renf (HG, IG, GTW); pr probably bred Skinflats, Stir, records there 3 May-14 Aug, including pr and 2 juv 28 June (MH, DF); prs seen Melrose and Yetholm, Rox, but no proof of breeding. Arrival: 30 Apr, pr Melrose (per AJS); 1 May, Spey mouth, Moray (JMB) and 2 ♂ L Leven, Kinross (JHS); 2 May, 1 L Leven (JHS), 2 Millden, Aber (NE) and 1 Fair Isle (RHD); 3 May, ♂ West Haven, Angus (GMC) and Aberlady, F. Loth (RMB); various sightings in south and east in May. Passage: Fair Isle, 2-13 May, max 7 on 8th (RHD); Shet, 6-9 May, max 8 Skerries 7 May (RJT).

Blue-headed Wagtail *M. f. flava*: Fair Isle, 1-3 on 11 days 8-27 May, singles 7 days 3-18 Sep (RHD); Shet, 3 Skerries 7 May (RJT).

Grey-headed Wagtail *M. f. thunbergi*: Fair Isle, 2 ♂♂ 8 May, 9th (3), 10th (4), some to 31st, max 4 ♂♂ and 2 ♀♀ on 13 May, singles on 5 days in June to 9th (RHD); Shet, 4 Skerries 7 May (RJT).

Black-headed Wagtail *M. f. feldegg*: Fair Isle, ♂ 7-9 May, not previously recorded on island (RHD).

\*Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*. 1 Fair Isle 16 Sep (RWB, RHD, ARG *et al*).



**Waxwing** *Bombycilla garrulus*. Jan-early May, 30 reports of about 100 birds; largest counts: 14 Yetholm, Rox, Jan (RSB); 10 Dinnet, Aber, 15 Mar (CJS); late 2 Dundee 2-3 May (DGAd).

Very large invasion in autumn; early records 1 Carnoustie, Angus, 22 Sep (per GMC) and 2 Buckie, Banff, 7 Oct (per JE). Main influx from 17 Oct, and peak reached early Nov; numbers then dropped and most moved on by end Nov. Recorded from all areas, but most on E coast with largest numbers Aber-Ber. Passage periods and peaks: Shet, from 17 Oct when 50 Unst (MS); Fair Isle, 22 Oct-27 Nov (RHD); Ork, 26 Oct-18 Nov, 20 Kirkwall 27 Oct (EB); O Heb, from 24 Oct, max 20 Stornoway 31 Oct (WAJC); Caith, 24 Oct-end Nov (DMS); Suth, 22 Oct-22 Nov, max 25 (DMcD); Ross, 30 Oct-25 Dec, up to 40+ W Ross (DMcD); Inv, 6 Nov-26 Dec, 40 on 15 Nov (MR); Banff, Moray and Nairn, from 23 Oct, flocks up to 50 (JE); Aber, from 29 Oct when 60 Newburgh, max 200+ Aberdeen 7 Nov (per NP); Kinc, 200+ Stonehaven first days Nov (per DMcD); Perth from 25 Oct, 100+ Invergowrie 4 Nov (EJM), 80+ Perth 8 Nov (EJM); Fife, many from 22 Oct (DWO); E Loth, big arrival Aberlady-Port Seton from 23 Oct when 140, peak 750-1000 on 7 Nov, then decrease (DGA, AMt, KSMcG *et al*). W-side peaks: 20 Airdrie, Lan, 21-28 Dec (MPK); Galloway, from 27 Oct, max 15 Dalry, Kirk, mid-Nov (LAU, ADW); 18 Islay, I Heb, 4 Nov (GCB).

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*. Winter-spring, 1 Jan-10 May, singles unless otherwise stated: Wig, Glassoch 30 Mar-12 Apr (RCD, ADW), Minniwick 12 Apr (PM); Carsethorn, Kirk, 8 Mar (JDn); Kilbirnie, Ayr, 12 Apr (RWR); Endrick mouth, Dunb, 14-22 Feb (WKR *et al*); Ashiestiel, Selk, 6 Mar (per AJS); Tynninghame, E Loth, 1 Feb (TB, RWJS); Morton Lochs, Fife, 4 Apr (PJC); Sidlaws, Angus, 4 Jan (EMR); Waterside, Aber, 5-8 May (IG-C *et al*); Inv, Ness Islands 14 Feb-15 Apr (JAL *et al*), Abriachan 2 Apr (JAL, WMM); Ross, Contin 29 Jan (ENH), Torridon 26 Mar (JAW); Fair Isle, 4 birds 11-16 Apr (RHD); Shet, Spiggie 28 Jan (RJT), Unst 23 Apr (MS); Killimister, Caith, 10 May (RS).

Big influx in autumn, at least 140-150 birds involved; the table gives

approximate monthly totals of individuals in each area; the dates indicate first autumn record in area.

Area	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Shet	(27th) 5	15	2	1
Fair Isle	(25th) 1+	8	6	
Ork	(29th) 2	12+		
Caith		(25th) 1	2	
Suth		(13th) 5	5	4
Ross		(3rd) 3	3	2
Inv		- - -	at least a dozen	- - -
Aber/N Kinc	(14th) 1	6	6	2
Angus/Kinc	(25th) 1	5	7	4
Perth	(30th) 1	1	7	4
Stir/Fife		(12th) 2	3	1
E Loth		(25th) 1	1	
Arg/Clyde		(25th) 2	2	1
Solway	(16th) 1	3	3	9

\***Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor*. Shet, 1 Whalsay 17-19 May (per JHSi), 1 Sumburgh 26 Sep (RE-H, JNL), 1 Catfirth 7 Oct (DC, FH, TI).

\***Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*. 1 Bressay, Shet, 22 May-26 June (DGo, RJT *et al*).

\***Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*. Spring passage: Fair Isle, good numbers, 8 May (5), 9th (14), 10th (13) then decrease, but some to 24 May, singles 1st, 2nd and 5 June, 6th-7th (7), 8th (1), 9th (5), singles to 23 June (RHD); Shet, 8 May-17 June at 7 places, mainly singles but 3 Fetlar 11 May (ARM), 2 Foula 7 June (JGH), late one Fetlar 29 June (ARM, RJT); Ork, pr Mainland early June (EJW), 1 Holm 12 May (MT-C), 1 Hoy 29 May (EB); Aber, 1 Slains 14 May (CJF, DEBL, WM); Angus, ♂ Kellie Moor 10 June (NKA, MN); Fife Ness, ♂ 9-10 May (JARG, JLSC).

Autumn: Shet, 1 Unst, 10-11 Sep (MS), 1 Fetlar 15-16 Oct (ARM); Fair Isle, 16th-17th (2) and 29 Aug, 9th and 16-17 Sep (RHD); Isle of May, 4 on 23 Aug (GLS); E Loth, 1 Barns Ness 23 Aug (TD, KSMcG).

\***Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*. Fair Isle, spring passage from 9 Mar, peak 200 on 14 Mar, autumn influxes 12-13 Oct, 1st and 23 Nov (RHD); Moray, 2000 W in 3 hrs Kinloss 6 Feb (BE).

\***Blue Grosbeak** *Guiraca caerulea*. ♂ Skerries, Shet, mid-26 Aug (RJT) is considered an escape.

\***Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. Dumf, 1 Drumlanrig 5 Jan (JMcC); E Loth, summer records Luffness (WBi); Perth, 3 Kingoodie Apr-May (HB), 2-3 Comrie Jan-Feb (DOa), 1 Dalguise 2 June (JRW), 1 Scone 22 Apr (JK); Angus, juv found dead Brechin 30 June (JD), another 17 Nov (JD); Shet, ♂ Lerwick 5-8 May (per DC), ♀ Yell 9-10 May (died) (RJT); Ork, 1 Binscarth Jan (EB).

\***Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris*. 6 L Druidibeg, Uist, 10 June (GC), very rare O Heb outside Stornoway (WAJC). Peak counts: 500 Seafeld, Midl, 16 Dec (DTH); 450+ Vane Farm, Kinross, 2 Jan (JHS). Passage: Fair Isle, 9 Apr, 1-2 on 9-30 May, one 21 Oct; Shet, 1 Lerwick 13-15 Apr (DC), 1 Skerries 7 May (RJT), 5 Gott 13 Dec (DC, RJT).

\***Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*. Increase in breeding numbers Dumf (JGY) and Glenkens, Kirk (LAU). Peak counts: 180+ Castle Douglas, Kirk, 10 Sep (JSK); 38 Yetholm, Rox, 11 Sep (RSB); 30 Mountlothian, Midl, 1 Jan (RWJS); 20 Gladhouse, Midl, 20 Oct-4 Dec (GLS); 25 North Berwick, E Loth, 9 Sep (DEA); 20 Fife Ness 15 Oct (PGTB); 14 Glenquiech, Angus, 30 Sep (GMC); 23 Tore, E Ross, 28 Nov (MKM-D); small numbers various places in north; O Heb, 13 Stornoway 6 Dec, 15 on 19th (IMM, RMcI); 1 Kergord, Shet, 22 Nov (DC); 1 Isle of May 10 Mar-17 May (per NJG); 1 Rhum, 1 Heb, 18 Nov (PW).

**Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*. Increase in breeding numbers reported from W Ross, Inv, Moray, Banff, Aber, Angus; 6 prs bred Rhum, 1 Heb (PW). Spring: Shet, 1 Quendale 12 Apr, 2 Lerwick 19 May (DC), 1 Fetlar 27 May (RKMCG), another 11-12 June (ARM), 1 Lerwick 13 June (DC); Fair Isle, 7-28 May, peaks 10th (14), 16th (25), 17th (22), singles into June, but 3 on 15th (RHD); Ork, small numbers 7-10 May (EB).

Autumn: Shet, 20 Sep-16 Oct, max 12 Skerries 29 Sep (RJT), 2 Foula 4-5 Nov (JGH); Fair Isle, 20 Sep-15 Oct, peaks 29th (80), 30th (70), 1 Oct (100), 2 on 3-5 Nov, singles to 29 Nov (RHD); 200 Inverness Oct (ANR); L Leven, Kinross, 5 Aug-17 Nov, max 17 on 17 Nov (AA, JHS); 45 Gullane Point, E Loth, 3 Nov (RF).

**Linnnet** *Carduelis cannabina*. Peak counts: 150+ Vane Farm, Kinross, 20 Feb (JHS); 300 West Haven, Angus, 3 Jan (TMC). Migrants: Shet, 2 Foula 17-24 Apr (JGH); 2 Whalsay 5 May (JHSi), 1 Mainland 7 May (DC), 3 Skerries 7-18 May (RJT), 2 Whalsay 15 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, one 30 Mar, scattered records 9 Apr-2 June, max 3 on 8 May, 1-2 on 5 dates 12 Oct-26 Nov (RHD).

**Twite** *Carduelis flavirostris*. Suggested increase Wig, where young seen Mull of Galloway 18 June (JGY), 2 prs Mochrum late May (BW); pr W side Mull, 1 Heb (RCD); bred N Fintry Hills, Stir (JMi); continued decline Altnaharra, Suth (EGH); numbers still low Shet (RJT) and Fair Isle (RHD).

Winter flocks and migration: peak 40 Balterston, Wig, 3 Feb (ADW), 60 Borgue, Kirk, 22 Feb (HMR, BST); up to 150 Caerlaverock, Dumf, Nov (RTS, JGY) was fewer than usual; 80 Gales, Ayr, 28 Feb (WRB); up to 20 Aberlady, E Loth, 24 Jan-8 Mar (RF, DJ); Stir, 65 Skinflats 25 Jan (MH), 100+ on 15 Nov (DF); Vane Farm, Kinross, max 18 on 5 Jan (JHS); 60 Glen Clova, Angus, 2 May (AN, MN); 50 Glen Clunie, Aber, 29 Mar (AW); Isle of May, 12 on 10 Mar, 3 on 29th, 7 on 30th, 13 on 31st, 45 on 2 Apr (RDM), 35 on 2 Nov (NJG); Fair Isle, 70 on 28 Jan probably Shet migrants, peaks 34 on 24 Feb, 50 on 21 Mar, 55 on 28 Apr, autumn peak low, 100 in Sep (RHD).

**Redpoll** *Carduelis flammea*. Increase in breeding numbers Suth (EGH), E Ross (HDS), Dumf (JGY), Kirk (ADW); juveniles in Rumster Forest July, first Caith breeding record (DMS); apparently reduced success Fife (TRG). Flocks: L Leven, Kinross, from 26 on 9 Sep, 180+ Vane Farm 13 Sep (record number) (JHS).

Migrants: Mealy Redpoll *C. f. flammea*. Fair Isle, small numbers 27 Feb-27 May, 20 Sep-12 Oct, max 4 on 29 Oct (RHD); Shet, few 8-18 May, 4 on 4 July, then 24 Sep-6 Dec (RJT); 3 Aberlady, E Loth, 21 Feb (MFMM), 2 Scoughal, E Loth, 11 Apr (JM); 1 Yetholm, Rox, 13 Dec (RSB). Greenland Redpolls, *C. f. rostrata* very scarce, a few Fair Isle (RHD).

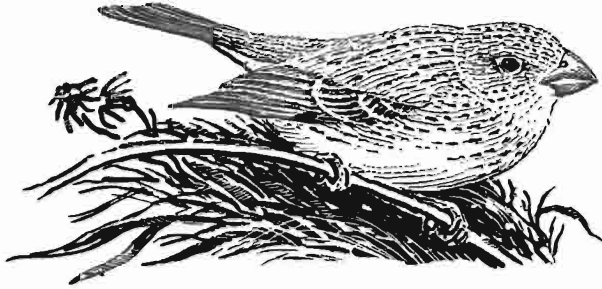
\***Arctic Redpoll** *Carduelis hornemanni*. Ad ♀ trapped North Ronaldsay, Ork, 11 Oct (MK).

**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. Breeding reports included increase 3 areas in Fife (DER, PGTB, JMC) and Gairloch, W Ross (ENH); very good season Glenkens, Kirk (ADW).

Migrants: Shet, 2 Fetlar 16 Apr (per ARM) 3 Lerwick 5-11 Nov (DC, FH, RN), 1 Fetlar 15 Nov (ARM); Fair Isle, 5 different birds 2-10 Nov, 1 on 26 Nov (RHD); Ork, 6 Finstown, late Nov-early Dec (EJW); 1 Heb, 2 Rhum 3 Apr, 10-15 May and 18-19 Nov (PW).

\***Scarlet Grosbeak** *Carpodacus erythrinus*. Fair Isle, ad ♂ 27 July; first red ♂ at isle in recent times, autumn birds 21 Aug (2), 22nd, 25th and

31 Aug, 4 Sep, 5th, 9th, 10th-11th (2), 12th-13th, 20th (4) and 27-28 Sep, 10-12th and 15-16 Oct, about 14 individuals (RHD, BM, ISR); Shet, Fetlar 9th and 24 Sep (ARM), 2 Skerries 20th and 27 Sep (ARM, RJT), Whalsay 12 Aug (JHSi); Ork, single North Ronaldsay 26 Aug (RHD, BM).



**Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra*. Nest with 3 young Achnamara, Arg, 16 Mar (MJPJG); counts from Forest of Ae, Dumf, include 14 Apr (15), 25 Apr (30), 1-10 May (40), 2 June (20), breeding likely but not proved (HO); fledged young seen Glentool, Kirk (CHT); 4+ Cairn Edward Forest, Kirk, late Feb (ADW, AJW), also pr 22 July and 14 Sep (LAU).

No irruption. Counts outside main breeding areas: 20+ Glen Glass, E Ross, 6 July and 9 Migdale, Suth, 14-15 July (RAH, DTh); Aber, 5 Peterculter 28 Mar (BWS), 6 Strachan 22 June (AW); Kinc, Banchory Oct-Dec, max 14 on 18 Dec (NP, MM).

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*. No reported changes in breeding status. Migrants: Shet, Apr-5 June, max 5 Foula 16-17 Apr, autumn 27 Sep onwards, max 20 Fetlar 13 Oct (ARM), 20 Whalsay 14-15 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, 21 Mar-20 May, peak 12 on 13 Apr, stragglers to 25 June, autumn 27 Sep-6 Nov, mainly 12-19 Oct, scarce, peak only 20 on 16 Oct (RHD); Ork, up to 40 North Ronaldsay 15-16 Oct (EB).

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*. Winter-spring counts: 500 Stornoway, O Heb, 9 Feb is unusually large flock for islands (WAJC, RMCl); 130+ Tore, E Ross, 11 Feb (MKM-D); 400 Cabrach, Banff, 3 May (JE); 300 L Saugh, Angus, 23 Mar (GMC); 500 Anstruther, Fife, mid Feb (PSi); 500 Portmore, Midl, 15 Mar, 2000 on 5 Apr and 300 on 26th (DGA, EMS, RWJS); 60 Rhum, I Heb, Jan (PW).

Spring migration: Shet, 16 Apr-22 May (RJT), peaks 20 Fetlar 8 May (ARM), 20 Skerries 7 May (RJT); Fair Isle, 12 Apr-26 May, mainly 25 Apr-13 May, max 55 on 10 May (RHD). Late records. Shet, Fetlar 26 June (ARM), 2 Unst 13 July (MS); Dornoch, Suth, 20 June (DMcD); Foulis, E Ross, 21 May (CGH).

Autumn: Shet, 27 Sep-13 Dec, mainly 12-19 Oct (RJT), peaks 60 Fetlar 13 Oct (ARM), 500 Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi); Fair Isle, singles 19 Aug and 10 Sep, small passage 22 Sep-30 Nov, mainly 12-19 Oct, max 120 on 15th (RHD); 250 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 16 Oct (EB); generally scarce in autumn.

**Corn Bunting** *Emberiza calandra*. 3 prs feeding young Yetholm, Rox, where first definite proof of breeding (RSB); slight recovery in numbers Shet (RJT), but scarcer Ork, 21 prs bred Sanday (EB). Counts: 80+ Arbroath, Angus, 11 Mar (NKA); 63 Skinflats, Stir, 1 Feb (MH); 52 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 17 Dec (JGY). Migrants: Fair Isle, singles 1-6 Jan, 3 May,

30 Oct, 5 Nov (RHD); Foula, singles on 9 days 7 Apr-16 May, 2 on 12 May (JGH).

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella*. Brood seen N Uist, may be first breeding record for O Heb (ADKR); continued increase Islay, 1 Heb (MFMM); ♂ singing Tarbert, Suth, 8 June (JB); possible decrease E Fife (DWO). Migrants: Shet, 1 Fetlar 6 May, 2 on 9th (ARM), 1 Foula 11 May (JGH), 1 Fetlar 14-16 Oct (ARM); Fair Isle, singles 11-12 Apr, 8-9 June, 2 on 3rd, 4th and 7 Nov, one 21-29 Nov (RHD).

**\*Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala*. ♂ Boreray, Sound of Harris, O Heb, 6-8 July (6: 338) (ADKR).

**\*Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps*. Regarded as escapes: Fair Isle, ♂ 25 May, ♂ 7 July (RHD); Shet, ♂ Fetlar 24-31 Aug (ARM), ♂ Foula late Aug (JGH), ♂ Fetlar 18-20 Sep (ARM); 1 Heb, ♂ Rhum 29-30 Sep, another 20 Oct (PW).



**\*Cirl Bunting** *Emberiza cirlus*. ♂ Mull of Galloway, Wig, 17 Aug (JCS).

**\*Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*. Ork, 1 Westray, 7 May (EB); Fair Isle, 7-8 May (2), 9th (8), 10th (10), 11th (4), 12th (10), 13th (9), 14th (7), 15th (5), 16th-17th (1), scarce in autumn, singles 21-22 Sep and 27th (RHD); Shet, 1-2 Fetlar 7-11 May (ARM), 1 Foula daily 9-22 May, but 2 on 11th and 15th, 3 on 16th (JGH), few Skerries daily 7-17 May, max 6 on 13th (RJT).

**\*Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*. 1 Sumburgh Hotel, Shet, 7 Oct (RE-H, DC et al).

**\*Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*. Shet, 1 Fetlar 27 Sep (ARM), 1 Lerwick 21-25 Oct (DC, LD); Fair Isle, singles 13 Sep and 3-10 Oct (RHD).

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*. Counts: 75+ Dornoch, Suth, 31 Jan, largest flock seen there (DMcD); 500 Guardbridge roost, Fife, Oct (TRG); Glencaple roost, Dumf, peak 300 on 14 Dec (JGY).

Spring: Isle of May, more than usual, 15-20 daily 7-17 May (DWO); Fair Isle, small numbers 24 Mar-5 May, then influx, rising to peak 250 on 10 May, down to 100 by 15th, but another peak 160 on 14th, down to 14 on 20th, stragglers to 20 June (RHD); Shet, large spring passage from 5 May (RJT), peaks 150 Skerries 7 May (RJT), 30 Whalsay 7 May (JHSi), 30 Fetlar 9 May (ARM), most gone by 19 May (RJT). Autumn: small passage Shet late Sep-Oct, max 10 Whalsay 2 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, 21 Sep-25 Nov, small numbers, max 10 on 13-16 Oct (RHD).

**\*Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*. 1 Eden estuary, Fife, 17 Jan (DLC); 1 Nigg, Kinc, 28 Jan (MJHC); 1 Whiten Head, Suth, 21 Mar (RHD). Spring migrants: Fair Isle, 1 on 10 Apr, 4 on 26-28 Apr, 1-3 on 10 days to 17 May (RHD); Shet, 1 Whalsay 5 May (JHSi), 1 Foula 13 May (JGH).

Autumn: Shet, rather scarce, 1 Spiggie 8 Oct (DC), 1 Lerwick 13 Oct (FH), 2 Whalsay 14 Oct (JHSi), 1 Foula 22-24 Oct (JGH); Fair Isle, 11 Sep-16 Oct, peaks 19th (5), 23rd (6), and 27 Sep (9), 7 Oct (4), late one 23 Oct (RHD); 1 Isle of May 20 Sep (NKA); E Loth, 3 Aberlady 10 Oct (BCF) 9 Belhaven 5 Dec (DTH).

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Very few Cairngorms in summer. Winter counts: Shet, max 200 Unst 27 Feb (MS); Fair Isle, up to 100 (RHD); 150 Don estuary, Aber 6 Feb (RLS); 20+ Vane Farm, Kinross, 20 Feb (JHS). Spring departure: Shet, from Apr, stragglers to 11 May (RJT); Fair Isle, increase to 65 on 13 Apr, influxes on 29th (31) and 30th (40), stragglers to 21 May (RHD); 72 W (in 5 parties) Whiten Head, Suth, 21 Mar (RHD).

Autumn: exceptional numbers, especially in northern isles, but scarce O Heb; Shet, first Fetlar 8 Sep, then 12th (50), 16th (200) and 18th (1000+) (ARM), Foula, 50 on 13 Sep increased to 2000 on 18th Sep, then decreased, but 1000 on 2 Oct (JGH), other high totals 300 Unst 13 Sep (MS), 250 Skerries 19 Sep (RJT), 500 Whalsay 12 Oct, 1000 on 15th (JHSi), large numbers to mid Dec, mostly ♂♂ (RJT); Fair Isle, best autumn since early 1950s, build-up 5 Sep (3), 6th (18), 9th (15), 10th (200), 11th (600), 17th (1000), 18th (2000), decrease thereafter to 1500 on 20th, 21st (1000), 25th (300), later peaks 500 on 11 Oct, 300 on 5 Nov; Sep flocks nearly all ♂♂ (RHD); Ork, considerable numbers, peaks 3000 North Ronaldsay 26-30 Sep, 400 mid Oct (EB), 2000 Sandwick, Mainland, 10 Dec (EJW); 80 Dornoch, Suth, 7 Dec (DMcD); 1 Spey mouth, Moray, 14 Sep and 28 on 19 Sep (JMB); 100 Rattray Head, Aber, 9 Nov (NE); 4 Fife Ness 18 Sep (AMH); 1 Musselburgh, Midl, 11 Sep, 10 on 26 Sep, 50 on 5 Dec (JB, RF, LLJV); 2 Tynninghame, E Loth, 13 Sep, 60 on 29 Nov (RWJS).

\***White-throated Sparrow** *Zonotrichia albicollis*. 1 Thurso, Caith, for 4 months from early May (6: 339) (PMcM, PJR, DMS).

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*. Fewer Inverness garden (MR); slightly up in numbers Fair Isle (RHD).

**Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*. Increased Kirk, 11 prs at Kirkbean as against 8 prs in 1969; also bred Whithorn (GW); Aber, bred Bridge of Don, Auchmacoy, Rattray (RLS, WM); small colony again bred Eday, Ork (EB); pr feeding young Mousa, Shet, July, also bred Unst (RJT).

Counts: 13 Grogarry, S Uist, O Heb, 15 Oct (DGA, DJ); 14 Tore, E Ross, 22 Dec (MKM-D); 100+ Seaton Den, Angus, 19 Nov (NKA); 50 Morton Lochs, Fife, 30 Nov (PJC, DWO). Migrants: Fair Isle, 3 May-18 June, build-up to max 35 on 5 June, down to 7 on 7th, 2-3 resident, but 6 on 19 Oct (RHD); Shet, 2 Fetlar 1 May (ARM), singles Foula and Skerries May (RJT).

## Additions and corrections to 1968 and 1969 reports

This section comprises significant records that have come to light for past years, further information on matters previously left in suspense, such as the acceptance or rejection of particular records, and the correction of errors. Trivial omissions from past reports are ignored, but even trivial errors are normally corrected, in the interests of accuracy.

### 1968 and 1969 rarities

No decisions have yet been given by the *British Birds Rarities Committee* on the 1968 and 1969 (and earlier) White-billed Divers (5: 308; 6: 67), nor on the 1969 Spotted Eagle (6: 81). Evening Grosbeak (6: 122) is now accepted as a species new to Britain and Ireland (*Brit. Birds* 64: 189-194). The 1969 Foula and Isle of May Scarlet Grosbeaks (6: 122) have been accepted and also the 1968 Orkney record (5: 534), though this last bird was thought from its damaged plumage to have been an escaped cage bird and the date is now given as 1 June (not 2nd). We have been unable to get descriptions of the Surf Scoter (6: 75) and Rose-coloured Starling (6: 122) reported from Orkney in 1969, and accordingly these two records must be regarded as unacceptable.

### Corrections to 1969 report

The headings on pp. 6: 69, 70, 75, 78, 79, 83, 84, 86, 87 and 115 should read "SCOTTISH BIRD REPORT 1969" (not "1970").

**Great Crested Grebe** (6: 68). Though 8 were at Alemoor Reservoir, Rox, 21 Sep, breeding was not in fact recorded in 1969.

**Manx Shearwater** (6: 69). The 13 off Burntisland were on 27 July (not Sep).

**Goldeneye** (6: 75). Line 15, Fannyside is in Dunb (not Lan).

**Marsh Harrier** (6: 82). Line 2, for "were" read "where"; line 4, for "(AJF)" read "(AFJ)".

**Crane** (6: 84). Line 5, for "MW" read "MWi".

**Guillemot** (6: 98). Delete the W Inv breeding record; the birds were Black Guillemots (per D. R. Saunders).

**Barn Owl** (6: 104). Lines 9/10, for "Levenburgh" read "Levenmouth".

**Green Woodpecker** (6: 106). Line 7, for "(TMC)" read "(JMC)".

**Wheatear** (6: 112). Last line, for "Maryculter, N Kinc" read "Newburgh, Aber".

**Redpoll** (6: 124). The autumn birds on Skerries, Shet, were (as at Fair Isle) mainly *Greenland C. f. rostrata* (not Lessers).

### Enquiries

**Winter Rook roost survey.** The survey in southern Scotland is now complete, and the results will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Scottish Birds*. The survey is continuing north of the Forth and Clyde, and information (not already submitted) is requested on the location of winter roosts, the species of trees used, the rough number of birds in each roost, and, if obtainable, any details of the history of the roost. Please reply to J. H. B. Munro, 9 Capelaw Road, Edinburgh EH13 0HG.

**Bird skulls in raptor pellets.** Skulls of small birds of the groups Passeriformes (except Corvidae), Swift, Kingfisher, woodpeckers, and the smaller game birds are required for a study aimed at providing a key to the remains of bird skulls in raptor pellets. Skulls from pellets (regardless of damage caused to them) and fully ossified and named specimens are wanted and will be returned if so desired, although non-returnable specimens would be especially valuable. Material should be sent (in cotton wool) to M. A. Macdonald, 18 Summerfield Terrace, Aberdeen.

## The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

### TWENTYFOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

### HOTEL DUNBLANE HYDRO, PERTSHIRE

### 29th - 31st October 1971

### PROGRAMME

#### Friday 29th October

5 to 7.30 p.m. Conference Office in the Hotel Dunblane Hydro open  
and 8 to 9 p.m. for members and guests to register and collect name  
cards and Annual Dinner tickets.

6.15 p.m. Meeting of Council.



- 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. **FILM AND SLIDE PROGRAMME** in the Ballroom, including a brief talk by Dr Lorenz Ferdinand, President of Dansk Ornithologisk Forening, on "Bird Locations in Denmark".  
At 9.30 p.m. details of excursions on Saturday afternoon will be given.
- 10 p.m. Meeting of Local Recorders.  
9.30 p.m. to midnight Lounges open for informal discussions and refreshments (late licence).

### Saturday 30th October

- 8.45 to 9.15 a.m. Conference Office open for registration.
- 9.20 a.m. Official opening of the Conference in the Ballroom.  
**ADDRESS OF WELCOME** by Mrs S. H. Maclachlan, J.P., Lady Provost of Dunblane.
- 9.30 a.m. **LECTURE**, "The Birds of Denmark" by Mr N. Otto Preuss, Zoological Museum, Copenhagen.
- 10.15 a.m. **LECTURE**, "Migration Studies in Denmark" by Mr Jan Dyck, Zoological Museum, Copenhagen.
11. a.m. **INTERVAL** for coffee and biscuits.
- 11.30 a.m. **LECTURE**. "Professional Ornithology in Denmark" by Mr A. Holm Joensen, Game Biology Station, Kalo, Ronde, Denmark.
- 1 p.m. **INTERVAL** for lunch.
- 2 p.m. **EXCURSIONS** by private cars leaving the Conference Hotel car park. Details will be posted on the Conference notice board.
- 2.30 p.m. **MEETING** of members of the R.S.P.B. in the Ballroom, to which members of the Club and their guests are invited.
- 6 p.m. **35th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLUB** in the Ballroom.

#### BUSINESS :

- (1) Apologies for absence.
- (2) Approval of the Minutes of the 34th Annual General Meeting of the Club held in Dunblane on 31st October 1970 (see *Scottish Birds* 6: 229).
- (3) Matters arising from the Minutes.
- (4) Report of Council for Session 34.
- (5) Approval of Accounts for Session 34.
- (6) Appointment of Auditor.
- (7) Election of Hon. President.  
The Council recommends that Dr W. J. Eggeling C.B.E. be elected an Honorary President of the Club.
- (8) Election of new Members of Council.  
The Council recommends the election of R. H. Dennis, Dr Ian Newton and N. Picozzi as new Members of Council to replace the late Mr James MacGeoch, and R. G. Caldow and Dr David Jenkins who are due to retire by rotation.

(9) Consideration of the following proposed addition to the Constitution recommended by Council:

**4. MANAGEMENT AND OFFICIALS (b) Council.**

(3) Have control of the funds and finances of the Club, **and have power to borrow from the Bank or any other source.** (The addition is in bold type).

(10) Any other competent business.

7.30 for 8 p.m. ANNUAL DINNER in the Dining Room of the Hotel Dunblane Hydro (dress informal).

**Sunday 31st October**

9.30 a.m. LECTURE, "Birds of Prey in Scotland" by Dr Ian Newton, Senior Scientific Officer, The Nature Conservancy, Scotland.

10.45 a.m. INTERVAL for coffee and biscuits.

11.15 a.m. FILM, "Storks over Stavno" by Mr F. G. Hollands.

1 p.m. INTERVAL for lunch.

2 p.m. EXCURSIONS (informal), leaving the Conference Hotel car park.

**BRANCH SECRETARIES**

Will Members please note the names and addresses of the new Branch Secretaries of the Dundee and Edinburgh Branches.

**Dundee** Mrs A. Noltie, 14 Menteith Street, Broughty Ferry, Dundee.  
**Edinburgh** L. W. G. Alexander, 3 Barnton Gardens, Edinburgh 4.

**AYR BRANCH WINTER EXCURSIONS**

The Ayr Branch will be holding Winter Excursions on the first Saturday of every month from October to April inclusive, except that in January 1972 the excursion will take place on the second Saturday (8th). All excursions meet with cars outside the County Hotel, Wellington Square, Ayr—at 10 a.m. in October and April (picnic lunch) and at 2 p.m. in all other months.

Further details will be given at the Branch Meeting on 29th September, and can also be obtained from the Branch Secretary, R. M. Ramage, 57b St Quivox Road, Prestwick, tel. 79192.

**DUNDEE BRANCH WINTER EXCURSIONS**

**Sunday 10th October 1971** KILCONQUHAR LOCH and FIFE NESS (Depart 9 a.m.).

**Sunday 7th November** GLENMOY.

**Sunday 5th December** LINTRATHEN LOCH.

**Sunday 9th January 1972** TENTSMUIR

**Sunday 13th February** SIDLAW LOCHS (Wildfowl counts).

**Sunday 5th March** DUNKELD LOCHS.

**Sunday 9th April** RESCOBIE and BALGAVIES LOCHS.

All excursions leave City Square, Dundee, at 10 a.m. (except 10th October at 9 a.m.) by private cars. Those requiring transport should contact the Branch Secretary, Miss Jenny Stirling, 21 Johnston Avenue, Dundee DD3 8HE.

**DUNDEE BRANCH MEETINGS**

Will Members please note that all Dundee Branch Winter Lectures will take place in the **Physiology Lecture Theatre**, Dundee University.

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Seabirds. *David Saunders*. 40p

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**T**HE Scottish Ornithologists' Club was formed in 1936 and membership is open to all interested in Scottish Ornithology. Meetings are held during the winter months in Aberdeen, Ayr, Dumfries, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, St Andrews, Stirling and elsewhere at which lectures by prominent ornithologists are given and films exhibited. Expeditions are organised in the summer to places of ornithological interest.

The aims of the Club are to (a) encourage and direct the study of Scottish ornithology; (b) co-ordinate the efforts of Scottish Ornithologists; (c) encourage ornithological research in Scotland; (d) hold meetings at which Lectures are given, films exhibited and discussions held, and (e) publish information regarding Scottish ornithology.

There are no entry fees for Membership. The Annual subscription is £2.00 or 50p in the case of Members under twenty one years of age or University undergraduates who satisfy Council of their status as such at the times at which their subscriptions fall due. The Life subscription is £50. Joint Membership is available to married couples at an Annual subscription of £3.00, or a Life subscription of £75. 'Scottish Birds' is issued free to Members but Joint Members will receive only one copy between them. Subscriptions are payable on 1st October annually.

'Scottish Birds' is the Journal of the Club. Published quarterly it includes papers, articles and short notes on all aspects of ornithology in Scotland. The Scottish Bird Report is published in the Journal.

Application for Membership form, copy of the Club Constitution, and other literature are obtainable from the Club Secretary, Major A. D. Peirse-Duncombe, Scottish Centre for Ornithology and Bird Protection, 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BT (Tel. 031-556 6042).

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## NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

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1. General notes (not of sufficient importance to be published on their own as Short Notes) should be sent to the appropriate local recorders for inclusion in their summary for the annual Scottish Bird Report, not to the editor. A list of local recorders is published from time to time, but in cases of doubt the editor will be glad to forward notes to the right person. All other material should be sent to the editor, Tom Delaney, 27 Trinity Crescent, Edinburgh. EH5 3EE. Attention to the following points greatly simplifies the work of producing the journal and is much appreciated.

2. If not sent earlier, all general notes for January to October each year should be sent to the local recorders early in November, and any for November and December should be sent at the beginning of January. In addition, local recorders will be glad to have brief reports on matters of special current interest at the end of March, June, September and December for the journal. All other material should of course be sent as soon as it is ready.

3. All contributions should be on one side of the paper only. Papers, especially, should be typed if possible, with double spacing. Proofs will normally be sent to authors of papers, but not of shorter items. Such proofs should be returned without delay. If alterations are made at this stage it may be necessary to ask the author to bear the cost.

4. Authors of full-length papers who want copies for their own use MUST ASK FOR THESE when returning the proofs. If requested we will supply 25 free copies of the issue in which the paper is published. Reprints can be obtained but a charge will be made for these.

5. Particular care should be taken to avoid mistakes in lists of references and to lay them out in the following way, italics being indicated where appropriate by underlining.

DIOR, G. & POTTER, J. 1960. Goshawk in East Stirling. *Scot. Birds* 1: 329.

EGGELING, W. J. 1960. *The Isle of May*. Edinburgh and London.

6. English names should follow *The Handbook of British Birds* with the alterations detailed in *British Birds* in January 1953 (46:2-3) and January 1956 (49:5). Initial capitals are used for names of species (e.g. Blue Tit, Long-tailed Tit) but not for group names (e.g. diving ducks, tits). Scientific names should be used sparingly (see editorial *Scottish Birds* 2:1-3) and follow the 1952 B.O.U. *Check-List of the Birds of Great Britain and Ireland* with the changes recommended in 1956 by the Taxonomic Sub-Committee (*Ibis* 98:158-68), and the 1957 decisions of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (*Ibis* 99:396). When used with the English names they should follow them, underlined to indicate italics, and with no surrounding brackets.

7. Dates should normally be in the form "1st January 1962", with no commas round the year. Old fashioned conventions should be avoided—e.g. use Arabic numerals rather than Roman, and avoid unnecessary full stops after abbreviations such as "Dr" and "St".

8. Tables must be designed to fit into the page, preferably not sideways, and be self-explanatory.

9. Headings and sub-headings should not be underlined as this may lead the printer to use the wrong type.

10. Illustrations of any kind are welcomed. Drawings and figures should be up to twice the size they will finally appear, and on separate sheets from the text. They should be in Indian ink on good quality paper, with neat lettering by a skilled draughtsman. Photographs should either have a Scottish interest or illustrate contributions. They should be sharp and clear, with good contrast, and preferably large glossy prints.

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