

SCOTTISH BIRDS



THE JOURNAL OF THE
SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

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AUTUMN 1972

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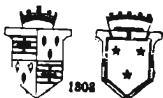
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SCOTTISH BIRDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB



Vol. 7 No. 3

Autumn 1972

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

Editorial

S.O.C. Research Committee. The fifth and final year of fieldwork for the BTO Atlas is now complete. An unusual merit of this enquiry was that wherever he lived a birdwatcher could contribute useful records, and he did not have to be an expert. Thus many people had their first experience of taking part in a co-operative scientific enquiry; and results have been far beyond what anyone expected at the start.

The Council of the Scottish Ornithologists' Club was keen that after this Atlas work was finished the enthusiasm it had created should not be lost. In January therefore it appointed a Research Committee consisting of Andrew T. Macmillan (Chairman), Roy H. Dennis and Dr Ian Newton to suggest and coordinate Scottish ornithological projects—these might be for the whole of Scotland or of a more local nature. Branch representatives were asked to invite their local committees to submit suggestions.

The Research Committee met several times and has submitted a detailed report to the Council, as well as dealing with other matters referred to it.

The primary purpose of the committee is to provide impetus for SOC members and others who would like to take part in useful fieldwork in Scotland. This will be done by suggesting projects to the Council and by commenting on any that are referred to it. The committee will be glad to receive suggestions for enquiries, now and at any time. It particularly favours short simple projects from which published results will emerge quickly, and ideally will aim for a geographical and seasonal spread offering something for everyone. Enquiries into matters of specifically Scottish interest which would not be considered on a wider basis will be especially attractive, and those with a bearing on conservation problems are likely to be preferred over more abstract ones. At times enquiries run by the BTO and others may be commended; and it is not intended to divert people from important national enquiries run by such bodies.

The committee will consider any project put to it, but in the

absence of suggestions will put forward its own ideas. Before any enquiry, whether at Scottish or local level, is given official Club backing it will have to meet certain minimum requirements, including a worthwhile aim, enthusiastic and competent organisation, a planned timetable, and publication of results. Official backing by the Council will mean that a project is publicised (in *Scottish Birds* and elsewhere) as a Club enquiry, eligible for necessary finance and subject to supervision by the Council. Branches also will publicise these enquiries, and some may decide to set up field groups to co-ordinate the work of their members.

The committee will consider the value and aims of an enquiry, and the means of achieving them, but will not become involved in running it. It is absolutely essential to get good organisers to run each enquiry, because nothing discourages observers so much as feeling that their efforts have been wasted in contributing to a badly run enquiry, where perhaps results are not published, or the organiser does not answer letters, or makes insufficient effort to find people to cover all areas and to see that they do in fact cover the places they take on. It is not necessarily the most experienced ornithologists who make the best organisers. The committee will be very glad to hear from anyone who feels able to undertake the work of running an enquiry or to suggest the name of someone who might be asked.

A number of winter and summer enquiries have been put up by the committee for consideration by the Council, and details of those taken up will be announced. Preliminary work on a survey of the birds associated with sewage and other effluent round the Scottish coasts should be under way this winter. Other projects being looked at include surveys of breeding Great Crested Grebe and Redwing, Shelduck distribution, and the zone of hybridisation between Hooded and Carrion Crows. Information is awaited on the BTO's plans for new enquiries, and it may be that the Club will want to support one or more of these on an official basis, as against individuals taking part on their own initiative.

Finally, at the suggestion of the committee, it is hoped to publish in *Scottish Birds* as complete a list as possible of ornithological research projects in progress in Scotland—to help put workers in touch with one another and to prevent overlap and wasted effort.

Comments, suggestions and offers of help in organising enquiries will be welcomed by the committee and should be sent to A. T. Macmillan, 20 Garscube Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 6BQ.

Scottish Bird Report 1971

Compiled by ROY H. DENNIS

(Plates 9-12)

This is the fourth in the new series of annual reports on the birds of Scotland; the previous ones were published in *Scot. Birds* 5 : 302-356, 6 : 62-128 and 6 : 347-402. I hope readers will find it of interest and of value for reference; it is a concise, factual account of data collected during the year on all the species known to have occurred in Scotland in 1971.

Coverage of migrants and rarer species is pretty good from year to year, and the reports now readily provide answers to such questions as "How unusual is the Woodlark in Scotland?" A quick check will reveal three reports in 1968, about seven in 1969, one in 1970 and two in 1971, so the Woodlark is indeed a rare visitor to Scotland, with only 13 sightings in four years compared with about 20 records of Short-toed Lark in the same period. Comparison with the previous reports will show seasonal and annual fluctuations in the numbers of various migrant species; for example the relative scarcity of Little Stints and Curlew Sandpipers in autumn 1971 and the small numbers of Bluethroats and Wrynecks that year.

With careful reading, trends in relative abundance and changes in migration periods may already be apparent, although these changes are more likely to be revealed as the number of reports increases. Even so, some trends become noticeable over quite short spans of time : for instance simple analysis of the Fair Isle Bird Observatory reports 1963-70 shows that Fieldfares became commoner at Fair Isle in spring and that the migration period noticeably extended into May; these changes occurred at the time when the species started to breed in Scotland. I hope that ornithologists interested in this sort of study will make use of these annual reports; I am sure the many contributors will be pleased to see their records used further in a positive way.

Alas, one part of the report remains disappointing : we are often unable to give a reasonable comment on the relative numbers and breeding success each season for many of our breeding birds. Of course such reports are often subjective, but at present most local recorders receive few comments on these points and have to make their own assessment; for example, that there were fewer or more Swallows this year. The task is obviously huge; good coverage would be difficult to achieve, and in any case observers keen on this subject should be helping with the BTO Common Bird Census, whereby the

results can be analysed in a thorough manner. But counts of, say, the number of occupied House Martins' nests in a village, the number of Grasshopper Warblers singing in a marsh or the number of used Ravens' nests on a section of coastline, all compared with the previous year's records, would be useful material for this report, especially if there were several observers gathering such data throughout the country. Although one person's local information might by itself have little significance, taken together such reports might provide a useful indication of the fortunes of a species in a particular year. We hope regular observers will help by sending such records to their local recorders.

Some 294 species are mentioned in the list, and there are two others that are not at present definitely attributed to either of two possible species. The precise number of wild species recorded in Scotland in 1971 is more difficult to give because of the confusion caused by escaped or released birds. In 1971 the BOU published its new list of British birds. Five species that have successfully established regular feral breeding populations have been added to it to join Red-legged Partridge, Pheasant and Little Owl as accepted members of our avifauna. They are Egyptian Goose, Mandarin Duck, Ruddy Shelduck, Golden Pheasant and Lady Amherst's Pheasant. Three of these species breed in Scotland. Records of escaped or released birds are documented in this report; eight species are regarded as definitely and another four probably not of wild origin. In a few cases some individuals were probably wild birds and others, of the same species, of captive origin. Where there is a likelihood of captive origin I have marked the species entry with the symbol †. Sometimes, however, it is impossible to be definite; for example the Ruddy Shelduck might have been a wanderer from the British breeding population or an escape, and Red-legged Partridges cannot really be accepted as Scottish birds just yet, though they have long been established in England.

A Spotted Sandpiper in East Lothian was a new bird for Scotland, and a large Nightingale at Fair Isle in autumn was of a race not previously recorded in the British Isles. There were four accepted second records for Scotland, namely Baird's Sandpiper, Caspian Tern (three), Red-flanked Bluetail and Thick-billed Warbler. Other vagrants included Steller's Eider, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pratincole, Gull-billed Tern, five Nutcrackers, White's Thrush, Red-rumped Swallow, Melodious Warbler, Pechora Pipit and Citrine Wagtail.

1971 was not an especially exciting year for birdwatchers in Scotland. The winter weather at both ends was not very cold, and so there were rather few cold-weather immigrants.

On the other hand spring and early summer were cold and inclement. Spring arrivals were late and slow to build up; several species, such as the hirundines, were generally down in numbers. Other species ranging from ducks to tits had rather poor breeding success because of the weather conditions. Numbers of several species, for example Scottish Crossbill, tended to be low. There was continued improvement in a few species such as Kingfisher and Grey Wagtail. The Loch Garten Ospreys were robbed; no Great Northern Divers were reported breeding; the pair of Goldeneyes laid eggs but failed to rear young, and Fieldfares bred at only one site. On the bright side, Temminck's Stints were proved breeding at a new site, while five other pairs of Ospreys reared 11 young, and the pair of Snowy Owls hatched four young from five eggs.

Migration was rather dull, and had it not been for an interesting trickle of rarities, especially in the Northern Isles, the year would have been poor. There was a general lack of Continental weather at the right times and in consequence a general lack of Continental drift migrants. "Bread-and-butter" species such as chats, warblers, Brambling etc. were scarce at both seasons, and semi-rarities like Wryneck, Bluethroat and Ortolan Bunting were very scarce. Some waders occurred in smaller numbers than usual, but the numbers of Pomarine Skuas off the Outer Hebrides was exciting.

The following paragraphs reiterate some of the comments I made last year, and I apologise to regular readers for this repetition, (though I hope they will take special notice of the final paragraph). Since the Scottish Bird Report is read by many who are not members of the SOC, however, there is a need to put some features of the report in perspective. For example I must stress that observer cover in the regions 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 pockets of good cover in most regions. In some areas more information is published and greater detail given in local reports such as the Fair Isle Bird Observatory Report, the Isle of May Report in *Scottish Birds*, the Shetland Bird Report, the North Solway Bird Report and the publications of the Tay and the North Solway Ringing Groups. 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.

All records given here of species that come 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 records of rarities that have not been accepted, it is worth noting that in most cases it was 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, though not on the Rarities Committee list, are rare in Scotland or would represent new species for the faunal areas, unless adequate supporting evidence is given. We appeal to 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 compiler to printer, there is the risk of transcription errors; we will be glad to be informed of anything to be corrected next year. 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, I 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, the key to their initials is doubly difficult to prepare if only a first initial is given.

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*. The sequence of species, English names and scientific nomenclature follow the BTO's recently published guide *A Species List of British and Irish Birds* (1971). An asterisk indicates that all known records are given.

We appeal to all observers to send their 1972 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 : why not go through your notebooks **now** and send off the bulk of your 1972 records immediately ? This year there was a good response from visitors to Scotland to our request for records; please continue to spread the word that we are keen to receive records from visitors to Scotland and others who are not members of the SOC.

The sketches that illustrate the text were drawn by : John Busby (Red-throated Diver, Lapwing, Green Sandpiper, Kittiwake, Arctic Terns); Robbie Macgregor (Black-necked Grebe,

Gyr Falcon); Richard Richardson (Pied Flycatcher, Great Grey Shrike); Donald Watson (Teal, Bean Goose, Whooper Swan, Woodcock chicks, Short-eared Owl, Ring Ouzel); and Hon. Douglas Weir (Goshawk in pursuit of a Woodpigeon). The photographs are all by Dennis Coutts. I would like to thank them and everyone else who has contributed to the 1971 report; my special thanks go to the local recorders for their considerable efforts in collecting and collating the records.

Local recorders

- Shetland (except Fair Isle)** R. J. Tulloch, Reafirth, Mid Yell, Shetland.
Fair Isle R. A. 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.
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 PH22 1QP.
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 B. 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.
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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.
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Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtownshire A. D. Watson, Barone, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Key to observers' initials

Over 600 observers contributed records for 1971 to the local recorders, and to them we are extremely grateful. Not all contributors are mentioned in this key, since, in many cases, records were summarised before submission to me, and owing to editing, not all those listed here are mentioned in the main part of the report. Where an observer may have submitted only a single record, e.g. a rarity, to avoid multiplication of initials his (or her) full name is given with the record.

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 S. Kerridge
 Miss B. C. Kinloch
 J. Kirby (JKy)
 J. Kirk (JK)
 A. J. Knox
 Miss S. Laing (SLg)
 G. J. Langsbury
 D. J. Law
 S. Laybourne (SL)
 Miss F. Lemaire
 Mrs L. D. G. Linehan
 Dr J. Lockie
 W. M. Logan-Home
 J. A. Love
 B. M. Lynch
 H. Macbeth
 J. McCarthy
 D. MacDonald
 R. MacDonald
 Mrs M. K. MacDuff-
 Duncan
 Miss J. MacFarlane
 D. W. McGarvie
 D. B. McGinn
 K. S. Macgregor
 R. K. Macgregor
 R. MacIntyre
 K. MacKenzie
 C. J. MacKenzie-Grieve
 P. Mackie
 I. McKinnie
 D. McLean
 I. M. McLean
 Mrs M. J. MacLean
 A. T. MacMillan
 R. McMillan
 D. MacNee (DMcN)
 D. McNeillie (DMcNi)
 R. M. MacNaughton
 Mrs E. M. McTaggart
 E. J. Maguire
 A. R. Mainwood
 R. Mann (RM)
 J. Manson (JM)
 J. H. Marchant
 M. Marquiss
 A. Marshall (AM)
 Dr B. Marshall
 R. Martin (RMt)
 J. Mather (JMa)
 W. Matheson (WMA)
 A. Matheson (AMt)
 P. J. Mawby
 C. Maxwell
 J. Maxwell (JMx)
 Dr G. W. Mears
 K. R. Melhuish
 Dr J. Meikle (JMe)
 Prof M. F. M. Meikle-
 john
 J. K. R. Melrose
 T. D. H. Merrie
 R. H. Miller
 J. Mitchell (JMi)
 Rev R. I. Mitchell
 N. C. Morgan
 C. M. Morrison
 Mrs J. Morrison (JMo)
 W. M. Morrison
 A. R. Mountford
 S. Moyes
 J. Murray (JM_u)
 J. R. D. Murray
 R. D. Murray
 T. Murray
 W. Murray (WM)
 C. K. Mylne
 Dr R. Napier (RN)
 R. A. D. Nettleship
 P. Newberry
 J. A. S. Newman
 Dr I. Newton
 A. Nicoll
 M. Nicoll
 R. Nisbet (RNi)
 T. Nisbet
 D. J. Norden
 R. J. O'Brien
 M. A. Ogilvie
 R. O'Grady
 A. Ockendon
 D. W. Oliver
 J. Oliver (JO)
 J. Oliver (Sutherland)
 (JO_r)
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 J. R. D. Osborne
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- C. Park (CP)
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 Mrs I. Ranier
 A. D. K. Ramsay
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 R. M. Ramage
 R. S. Reed
 R. A. Richardson
 Dr R. Richter (RRi)
 R. Riddell (RRi)
 G. Riddle
 J. Riddoch (JR)
 A. B. Ritchie
 A. Robb
 H. Robb
 E. L. Roberts
 I. S. Robertson
 Mrs M. Robinson
 (MRo)
 T. F. Rodger
 D. Rose
 D. W. Rothwell
 P. D. Round
 J. Rowbottom (JRo)
 Dr D. E. Rowling
 M. H. Rowntree
 K. T. Rushton
 Dr M. Rusk (MR)
 H. M. Russell
 G. L. Sandeman
 I. Sandison
 M. A. Scott
 P. B. Scott
 Dr J. G. Selwyn
 A. R. Seymour
 Mrs A. F. W. Sharp
 J. T. R. Sharrock
 G. Shaw (GSh)
 R. Shaw (RSh)
 D. C. Shenton
 J. C. Shutes
 J. H. Simpson (JHS)
 J. I. Simpson
 M. Sinclair
 W. A. Sinclair
 D. Skilling (DSk)
 J. Skilling (JSk)
 Mrs S. Skilling (SSk)
 J. Slee (JS)
 A. Smith
 A. J. Smith (AJS)
 Miss C. Smith
 Mrs E. M. Smith
 H. D. Smith
 R. Smith (RS)
 R. T. Smith
 R. W. J. Smith
 Dr T. C. Smout
 A. J. Souter (AJSO)
 D. Stalker (DSt)
 D. M. Stark
 G. Stephen (GSt)
 C. R. Steven
 D. Stewart (DS)
 A. G. Stewart
 J. Stewart (JSt)
 N. L. Storie
 R. A. Strachan
 G. Summers (GS)
 R. W. Summers
 J. H. Swan (JHSw)
 R. L. Swann
 K. Taylor (KTa)
 Miss V. M. Thom
 J. R. Thomlinson
 D. Thomson (DT)
 D. B. Thomson
 R. Thorne
 D. Thorogood (DTh)
 J. Thorogood (JTh)
 P. Tizzard
 E. Towers
 R. B. Tozer
 Mrs K. Traquair (KT)
 Dr B. Tulloch
 R. J. Tulloch
 B. S. Turner
 Mrs P. J. Turner
 L. A. Urquhart
 D. Urry
 Mrs K. Urry
 D. Vernon
 Mrs V. R. Viviers
 Dr L. L. J. Vick
 W. Wakefield (WWa)
 Dr W. C. Wakefield
 (WCW)
 R. Walker
 B. Wall
 A. Wallace (AWe)
 D. I. M. Wallace
 A. Watson (AW)
 A. D. Watson
 A. J. Watson
 P. S. Watson
 W. Watt (WWt)
 I. Wattret
 P. J. Webster
 Hon. D. N. Weir
 T. Weir
 D. S. Whitaker
 G. T. White
 A. R. Whitfield
 Mrs J. A. Whyte
 E. J. Williams
 M. R. Williams
 D. P. Willis
 G. Wilmett
 D. Wilson
 J. M. Wilson
 W. Wilson (WW)
 W. P. Wilson
 J. B. Wood
 P. Wormell
 S. Wratten
 R. P. Wright
 W. C. Wright (WCWt)
 Prof V. C. Wynne-
 Edwards
 A. Yoeman
 Dr E. I. Young
 J. F. Young
 J. G. Young
 L. Young
 R. F. Yule
 B. Zonfrillo

Species list

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*. A few bred successfully Perth (CMH), Ayr (WRB, AGS) and Arran (JAG), but breeding failures quite frequent in Highlands (RHD). 1 Tynningame, E Loth, 10 Jan (RWJS); 1 L Leven, Kinross, 16 Feb-7 Mar (AA, JHSw)—first for county; 2 Findhorn Bay, Moray, 21 Feb (TC); 1 Dalmeny, W Loth, 17 Mar (RDM). Migrants: 1 Sumburgh, Shet, 14 Sep (BH); 1 Isle of May 30 Sep-1 Oct (DJL)—4th record.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. Shet, spring maximum 35 Quendale Bay 4 Apr (BM), most departed by 20 May (RJT). No report of breeding, but hybrid Great Northern x Black-throated Diver breeding with Black-throat on loch, W Ross (RHD, ENH) (7: 89). Usual summer coastal records in north and west, also 2 Spey Bay, Moray, 29 June (JMB). Autumn migration: 2 Rattray Head, Aber, 3 Aug (MRW); 3 Findhorn Bar, Moray, 19 Aug (DBMcG); passage 71 W and 7 E Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 27 Nov (RHD).

***White-billed Diver** *Gavia adamsii*. 1 in summer plumage Upper L Torridon, W Ross, 6- (at least) 22 June (PT, JAW *et al.*); 1 Fair Isle, 29 May (JHS); both subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee.



Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*. Poor breeding season Caith owing to dry weather (PMC); pr bred successfully L Laggan area, S Inv (HJB). Peak numbers: 100 Collieston, Aber, 28 Sep (LHC); 61 S Usan, 8 Feb (NKA) and 40 Lunan Bay, Angus, 29 Apr (GMC), 94 Lunan Bay 12 Oct (GMC); 28 Invergowrie Bay, Perth, 28 Oct and 46 on 28 Nov (EJM); 9 Carsethorn, Kirk, 20 Oct (JGY). Migration: few Fair Isle between 13 May and 16 Sep (RAB); 10 W Faraid Head, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD); 9 Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 2 Sep (CJMCK-G); 1 Isle of May 4 May (DWO); last spring record L Ryan, Wig, 5 May (RCD). Inland: 1 Kilconquhar Loch, Fife, 23 Jan (DWO), 1 Lochore, Fife, 17 Oct (JM); 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 13-19 June (RKMCG, JS).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*. 3 prs bred successfully Balgavie Loch, Angus (GMC); 3 prs reared 8 young L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHSw); 6 prs bred L Martnaham, Ayr (AGS), and better breeding season than 1969 and 1970 in Galloway (ADW). Poor season in Fife, no young reared Kilconquhar Loch (DWO, AG), and none bred Morton Lochs (RWS); none bred Borders (AJS). Migration and peak counts: Shet, 1 Catfirth 12 Mar (FH, JHS); Suth, 1 Balnakeil Bay 3 Aug (RAH, DTh); Inv, 1 Longman Bay 10 Jan (MR); Angus, 26 Lunan Bay 20 Aug (GMC); Kinross, maximum 27 on 3 Aug, up to 7 to 31 Dec (AA, JHSw); Fife, 21 Methil 21 Mar (DWO); Midl, last 8 Musselburgh 2 May, 1 on 1 July, 16 on 17 Aug, 118 on 16 Sep, decreasing to 30 in late Oct (LLJV); Wig, 10 Garlieston 5 Sep (ADW), 27 L Ryan 23 Jan (JGY) and 25 on 31 Dec (ADW, JGY).

***Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps griseigena*. More than usual Jan to 10 Apr and 6 Aug to Dec, especially E Loth. Spring: 1 Pabay, Skye, 6-8 Apr (ECG); 1 Fife Ness 10 Jan (DWO, ARS), 4 Lundin Links, Fife, 7 Mar (DMB); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 8 Mar (RF), singles 28 Feb and 13 Mar (LLJV); E Loth, 1 or 2 Gullane Point Jan-Mar, 5 or 6 Apr (WRB), 1 Gullane Bay 28 Mar (PH), 10 on 10 Apr (LLJV), 2 Gosford Bay 7 Feb (RBT), 8 on 15 Mar (DGA), 4 on 4 Apr (LLJV); Wig, 2 L Ryan 23 Jan (JGY, DSk).

Autumn: Shet, singles Boddam 1-2 Oct (DC, RJT), Tingwall 6 Oct (BM) and Cunningsburgh 27 Nov (NLS, RJT); 1 Fair Isle 22-24 Aug (RAB); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 12 Dec (LLJV); E Loth, 2 Gullane Point 21 Aug (RWJS), Sep max 5 on 24th (RF), 3 Gullane Bay 28 Aug, 1-3 to 31 Dec, but 6 on 2 Oct, 15 on 9 Oct, 10 on 17 Oct and 5 on 27 Oct and 28 Nov (LLJV *et al.*), 8 Gosford Bay 6 Aug (RHH), 1-4 to 31 Dec, but 7 on 17 Sep (LLJV), 6 on 25 Sep (DGA); Kirk, 1 Carsethorn 20-22 Nov (JGY).

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*. Census put Scot population at 52-58 pairs in Caith, Inv and Moray, none found Suth and Aber (RHD *et al.*); breeding success poor, 27-29 pairs in main haunt Inv reared 9-10 young, 11 prs in N Inv reared 6 young, one pair reared one young in SE Inv (new locality) (RHD, MIH *et al.*); Moray, 7 pairs on territory, but no young seen (RHD); Caith, possibly 6-10 pairs, but very poor season owing to low water levels (DG, PMC).

Spring migrants on sea to 22 Apr; Shet, max 7 Tresta Voe 22 Apr (DC); 1 Fair Isle 3 Apr (RAB); W Ross, 1 Upper L Torridon 5 Apr (RHD); O Heb, 9 Sound of Taransay, Harris, 3 Apr (WAJC); Skye, 3 Broadford 6 Apr (ECG); I Heb, 2 Islay 14 Mar (CGB); E Loth, Gosford-Gullane Jan-4 Apr, max 9 Gosford 21 Feb (LLJV), 27 Gullane Bay 6 Mar (DGA)—very high count, 14 Gosford-Gullane 4 Apr (LLJV). Singles Loch of Lowes, Perth, 3-6 Apr and 3 July-17 Aug (MD).

Autumn: Shet, first 5 Sep (DC); Ork, 1 Scapa 30 Aug (CJB); E Ross, 2 L Eye 6 Sep (CJMcK-G); Kinross, 1 L Leven 27-28 Nov (AG); Midl, 1 Cobbinshaw 6 Nov (TB, RWJS).



***Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis*. At E of 2 established colonies in Central Lowlands first bird 7 Mar, 14 on 21 Mar, 14 ads and 1 young 25 July, 2 ad + 2 young 13 Aug, last 8 Oct; no data from other colony but present; pr summered on loch farther north, but breeding not proved (anon); pr bred Central Highlands (anon).

Winter records: 1 Thurso, Caith, 16 Jan (SL); Inv, 1 L Ailort 17 Jan (JRo), 1 Dalcross 14 Mar (RHD, JAL); fewer L Ryan, Wig, peak 5 on 23 Jan (JGY, DSk, JSk), last 27 Mar (ADW). Autumn: 1 Ythan, Aber, 15 Sep (CJF, JAL); 1 Tentsmuir, Fife, 21 Dec (DWO); 1 Portmore Loch, Peebles, 10-19 Sep and 10-24 Oct (GLS, RWJS); 1 Ardmore, Dunb, 11 Sep (SMDA); 1 Carsethorn, Kirk, 20 Nov (JGY); 1 L Ryan, Wig, 11 Sep (RCD), 31 Dec (JKRM, ADW).

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*. Only breeding season comments were: probable increase in Caith (PMC) and probably scarcer in Fife (DWO). Wintering birds L Eil, W Inv, to 2 Mar, returned 30 Oct (JASN); Shet, singles Hillwell 7-28 Mar (DC, BM). Nesting 25 Mar (DC, RJT) and Fetlar 12-26 Apr (ARM).

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Fair Isle, first eggs 18 May (RAB); Caith, increase in prospecting of Thurso buildings (PMC); present Benarty Crags, Kinross, 7 Mar-3 Aug, max 8 on 18 June and 9 July (AA, JHSW); Midl, 3 sitting Torphin Quarry (JB), 431 sites Inchkeith 20 June (363 in 1970) (RWJS); E Loth, 3-4 prs Traprain Law 16 May (KSMcG); Ayr, 60 prs Ailsa Craig (JAG), 50 prs Bennane Head (AGS). Blue-phase sightings Fair Isle (several); Faraid Head, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD) and Findlater, Banff, 2 Apr (DBMcG).

***Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris diomedea*. One south of Sumburgh Head, Shet, 22 June (BM).

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. Fair Isle offshore sightings between 6 Apr and 24 Aug, max 7 on 25 July (RAB); Isle of May records 13 June to 4 Oct (HG, MN), max 15 on 6 Sep (AJW); max passage at Rattray Head, Aber, 186/hr 22 June (MRW). 50+ off Dalmeny, W Loth, 1 July (GLS); 25 Usan, Angus, 1 July (GMC); poor autumn Fife, records Fife Ness 27 July-3 Oct, max 30/hr N on 24 Aug (DWO); 42 W Meikle Ross, Wig, 14 Sep (JGY). One in hand Fort Augustus, Inv, 9 Sep (JCu).

***Great Shearwater** *Puffinus gravis*. 1 Rattray Head, Aber, 16 June (MRW) 1 N Collieston, Aber, 18 Sep (MM, NP).

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*. Average or low numbers, recorded between 24 July to 21 Nov; Shet, latest 3 Nov (BM); Fair Isle 24 July-21 Oct, max 13 on 26 Aug (RAB); Ork, good passage late Aug North Ronaldsay, 111 NW in 3 hrs on 28th and 58 in 2½ hrs on 29th (RG); 4 W Faraid Head, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD); O Heb, 7 Aird an Runair, North Uist, 17 Aug, 12 on 20th, 4 on 6 Sep (GC), 140 N Butt of Lewis in 5 hrs 5 Oct (per BB); Inv/Nairn, 7 NW off Whiteness Head 21 Nov (RHD, ISR); Aber, from 22 Aug, max 6 N and 2 S Collieston 18 Sep (MM, NP); 1 Fraserburgh 17 Oct (JE); 1 Heb, 4 between Jura and Gigha 4 Sep (RPW); Angus, singles 13 and 22 Aug, West Haven (TMC); Isle of May, max 28 on 25 Sep (NKA); Fife, records 1 Aug-18 Sep (DWO), max 3 Fife Ness 15 Aug (DCS, DLC).

Leach's Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*. No reports from breeding colonies. 1 trapped Fair Isle 11 Aug (RAB), 1 on crossing to Sumburgh 3 Nov (BM); 1 Achfarry, Suth, 16 Nov, released Scourie 18 Nov (IDP).

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Nest found Stroma, first for Caith (per PRJ); bred Longa, W Ross (per ENH); bred Lunga, Treshnish islands, 1 Heb (I. Griffiths). One ringed Auskerry, Ork, 18 Aug 1971 found dead Aberdeen 11 Sept 1971, 215 km S (ADKR). Fair Isle records 16 May-5 Oct, large unprecedented movement N past island 17 July following NW gale (RAB). 1 Upper L Fyne, Arg, 3 Sep (WWa); 2 flew past Whiteness Head, Inv/Nairn, in storm 21 Nov (RHD, ISR); singles Isle of May 11 and 14 July (JP); 1 dead Little Brechin, Angus, 30 Nov (GMC).

Gannet *Sula bassana*. Increases at breeding colonies: 14347 nests Ailsa Craig (12729 in 1970) (JAG) and 500 nests Scar Rocks, Wig, increase of 100 since 1969 (JGY). 100+ off Hound Point, 31 Aug is exceptional for W Loth (GLS); 138 W in 1 hr Faraid Head, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD). Singles, Invergowrie Bay, Perth, 8 Aug (EJM), L Leven, Kinross, 24 July (WPW) and 1 E Kirriemuir, Angus, November. Long-distance recovery: 1 ringed Ailsa Craig 2 July 1966 found dead Ashdad, Israel, 3 Mar 1971 (RAJ).

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Breeding comments: nested Meall Erca and Meall Mor, Badcall Islands, Suth (IDP); 84 nests Piltanton estuary, Wig (RCD); c 280 nests Lamb, Firth of Forth, 18 June (240 in 1968) (RWJS). Counts: 500 Tay estuary, Angus, 1 Jan (TMC); 350+ Inver-

gowrie Bay, Perth, 19 Jan (EJM); 150+ Dalmeny, W Loth, 25 Feb (GLS). Passage Fair Isle, 28 Mar-2 June and from 7 Aug, large numbers last week Aug, max 70 on 26th and 75 on 28th, 2nd peak in Sep, max 80 on 10th (RAB).

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Breeding records: Firth of Forth, pr bred Fidra, first record, 196 nests Lamb 18 June (165 in 1970), decrease Craigleith to 94 nests (RWJS); 50 prs Ailsa Craig, Ayr (JAG); 30 prs Crowlin Isles, W Ross (ECG); first eggs Fair Isle 4 Apr (RAB); 2 young still in nest Bullers of Buchan, Aber, 5 Sep (NE).

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. Breeding records: cliff colony at Yesnaby, Ork, almost extinct (EB); cliff colony Dunnet Head, Caith, now deserted (PMC); 10 prs Scalpay, Skye (ECG); Speyside, increase at Lynchat colony but decrease at Broomhill (DNW); E Loth, 7 nests Tynninghame (RWJS), new colony 4 prs Gosford (FDH); new colony Leithope Forest, Roxb (RSB); good breeding season Kirk (JGY). Counts: 51 L Linnhe, Inv, 15 Nov (JASN); high numbers in autumn Islay (CGB, PBB) and 25 L of Lintrathen, Angus, 5 Dec (NKA). Passage: Fair Isle, 11 on 7 Apr, and from 12 July-9 Nov, peaks 10 on 22 Aug and 12 on 26 Sep (RAB); Egg, W Inv, 7 in from N 30 Aug (JCu).

†**Great White Egret** *Egretta* sp. One North Roe, Shet, 26 Mar, found dead 27 Mar (D. Cromarty, DC *et al.*). Possibility of eastern species.

†**Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*. Adult 20 June and immature 30 June on River Esk, Musselburgh, Midl, presumably from Edinburgh Zoo colony (LLJV).

***Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus*. ♂ North Ronaldsay, Ork, 31 May (RG).

***Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*. Singles Oban, Arg, 12 Jan (R A McEachern); Barr Loch, Renf, 19 Jan to 1 Feb (AWC, WCW) and Dalbeattie, Kirk, 20 and 23 Jan (WA).

***White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia*. Singles: Banff, Bridge of Alvah, 11 May (AFWS) and Tomintoul 31 May (Mrs M. Hawkins); Ork, Westray 20-24 May (GWM, MAS *et al.*); Caith, Doureay 26-28 May (DG, PRJ *et al.*); Arg/Inv, Benderloch 22 Apr (Mrs P L Mackie-Campbell), Acharacle 24 Apr (A MacColl) and Glenug Bay 24 Apr (E A S Bailey). See 7: 92.

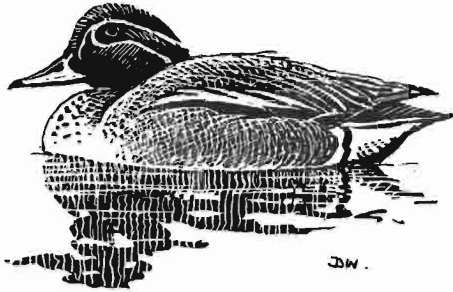
***Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorordia*. Singles; Endrick mouth, Dunb, 13 June-3 July (JMI *et al.*); Ythan, Aber, 8 July (JAL) and Stornoway, O Heb, 24 Sep-25 Dec (WAJC, WMa, IMMCL, RMCL).

†**Flamingo** sp. Presumed escapes. Ad Chilean Gladhouse, Midl, 18-28 July (EMS, RWJS); Chilean Eden estuary, Fife, 19 Sep-23 Oct (PNJS, DWO, RWS); 1 Luce Bay, Wig, 27 Aug (RCD); Wigtown Bay in Sep (RHM, BST), and there or Carsluith, Kirk, to end of year (JEBc).

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. Good breeding season reported Galloway, Midl and Speyside, but poor L Leven, Kinross. Peak counts and migration: Inv, peaks Longman Bay 218 on 19 Jan and 208 on 10 Oct (MR); Aber, 1150 L of Skene 14 Feb (RSBy); Angus, 800 Broughty Ferry 1 Jan (TMC), 100 L of Lintrathen 5 Dec (NKA); Kinross, L Leven 1200 on 17 Jan, increase from low July numbers to 3500 on 12 Sep, then decrease to 1500 on 17 Oct and 1000 on 14 Nov (AA); Fife, Kilconquhar peaks 2650 on 23 Jan, 1800 on 17 Nov (DWO); Midl, Moorfoot reservoirs 600 end Aug, increase to 1050 on 19 Sep and 1500 on 17 Oct; decrease to 900 in Dec (JB, RWJS); Renf, 650 Barcraigs Reservoir 4 Jan; 639 Langbank 21 Nov (HG, IPG); Ayr, 640 Doonfoot 28 Sep (WRB).

Teal *Anas crecca*. Good breeding season Kirk; nest found Rumster Forest, Caith (SL); breeding proved Turnhouse, W Loth (RDM) and 2 prs bred Aberlady, E Loth—first record (ADKR). Migrants: Fair Isle, Apr to 12 June, max 8 on 1 June, 4 Aug to 16 Nov, max 30 on 19 Sep (RAB); St Kilda, 3 on 4 May (DS), 1 on 6 Aug (CEMG, JRT). Counts and fluctuations: Suth, 830 Skibo 16 Oct (DMcD); E Ross, 350 Alness Bay 14 Nov

(CGH); Inv, Beaully Firth 600 on 17 Jan and 308 on 14 Nov (MIH); Kinross, L Leven increase from early July to 1000 on 12 Sep (AA); Fife, 267 Kilconquhar 12 Sep, 347 on 3 Oct (DWO); Clack, 910 Alloa 23 Jan (CJH); Midl, Gladhouse 100 in Jan, 150 on 21 Feb, 22 by 21 Mar, 80 on 1 Aug, 350 on 19 Sep, 500 on 2 Oct (JB, RWJS); Kirk, c 1000 L Ken 13 Mar was exceptional (ADW).



***Garganey** *Anas querquedula*. About average numbers in spring from 9 Mar; Shet, 3 Hillwell 28 Apr, one 19 May, pr 22 May (DC); Ork, pr North Ronaldsay 12 and 21 May (RG); Moray, pr L Oire 6 Apr (JGY); Aber, ♂ Auchlossan 18 May (RSBy); Midl, ♂ Edinburgh loch 9 Mar (AJF); E Loth, ♀ Aberlady 13 May (ADKR); Renf, ♂ Barr Loch 19 May (HG, IPG); Wig, one Stranraer 9 May (RCD). Summer record; ♀ Fetlar, Shet, 1-21 July (ARM).

Gadwall *Anas strepera*. Poor breeding season at L Leven, Kinross, present 7 Jan to 15 Oct, mainly from early April, max 30+ on 20 and 29 Aug (AA, IN, JHSw); 19 prs on Perth loch end Mar (EJM), also bred Perth square NN46 (HR); probably bred Kilconquhar, where 210 on 12 Sep and 237 on 3 Oct (DWO); 1-4 prs summer Balranald, O Heb (GC).

Migrants outside usual areas: Shet, pr Sandwater 18-19 May (IS); Ork, pr N Ronaldsay 22-24 May (RG); Suth, pr Skibo estuary 16 Jan-3 Apr (DMcD); W Ross, ♂ Shieldaig, Gairloch, 9 May (ENH); Inv, ♀ L Garten 15 Apr (HJB), 6 Longman Bay 19 Sep (RHD); Moray, ♂ Fochabers 6 Feb and 23 Dec (JMB); Aber, 1 L of Skene 14 Feb (RSBy).

Wigeon *Anas penelope*. Poor breeding season L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHSw); small breeding population Ork, slightly increased (EB); O Heb, 2 prs Ness, Lewis, 6 June (IMMcL), pr Coll, Lewis, 11 July (WRPB). Migration: Fair Isle 9 Sep to 11 Nov, peak 62 on 26 Sep (RAB); Inv, absent from L Linnhe 3 Apr to 1 Sep, max 94 on 28 Oct (JASN).

Counts: Caith, 1400 L Calder 24 Jan, 1200 St John's Loch 9 Jan (GHF); E Ross, 950+ Munloch Bay 30 Nov (MKMcD-D); Inv, Beaully Firth peaks 522 on 14 Feb and 745 on 17 Oct (MIH); deterioration continued Longman Bay, autumn peak only 832 on 17 Oct (MR, EIY); Angus, 1000 Lintrathen Loch 19 Jan (HB), 2500 Montrose Basin Oct (GMC); Perth, 500+ Strathearn 12 Jan (SLg); Kinross, L Leven, 1100 on 16 Feb and 1000+ on 21 Nov (AA, JHSw); Renf, 300 Barr Loch 29 Oct-13 Nov (WRB); Wig, c 3700 Stranraer area Jan-Feb and Nov-Dec (JGY); Kirk, 730 L Ken 22 Jan (ADW).

***American Wigeon** *Anas americana*. ♂ Eden estuary, Fife, 10 Jan (7: 92) (DMB).

Pintail *Anas acuta*. Only breeding record ♀ with 3 ducklings L Ken, Kirk, 4-5 June (ADW). Migration: Shet, 2 Fetlar 26 Mar (ARM), 3 Hillwell 28 Apr, 1 Strand Loch 2 May (DC); one Unst 6 May (LJ); Fair Isle, pr 28 Mar, 1-2 on 27 May-2 June (RAB); O Heb, 1-3 Balranald 28 Apr

(GC, WAJC), ♂ Ness, Lewis, 3 May (IMMcL); E Loth, 10 SW Tynninghame 19 Sep (LLJV).

Peak counts: Wig, max 1242 Wigtown Bay 1 Dec (RHM); Kirk, 1500 Carsethorn-Drumburn 20 Oct (JGY); Renf, 101 Longhaugh Point 7 Feb, 149 on 31 Dec (HG, IPG, ANG); Angus, 136 Montrose Basin 13 Mar (DMB); Inv, Longman Bay 82 on 7 Feb and 83 on 11 Dec (MR); 76 Edderton, E Ross, 30 Dec (RHD); 7 L Watten, Caith, 21 Nov (GHF).

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*. Bred O Heb, 6 prs Balranald (GC); Inv, 4 prs Insh Marshes (DNW); poor season L Leven, Kinross (AA); pr bred Possil Marsh, Lan, first since 1963 (DJN). Migration: Shet, several 20 Mar-Aug, max 5 Hillwell 29 Apr (ARW); Fair Isle, singles 19 Apr and 5-7 Oct (RAB); E Ross, 2 L Eye 6 Sep (CJMCK-G); Inv, 3 L a' Chlachain 20 Aug (RAH); Aber, 4 Auchlossan 14 Mar (RSBy); Arg, ♂ Tayinloan 5 Jan (TDHM).

Noteworthy counts: Angus 120 Forfar Loch 15 Oct (GMC); Kinross, L Leven, autumn build-up 60+ on 20 Aug to 637 on 17 and 18 Oct (highest since regular counts began), decrease to 160 on 6 Nov and 10 on 29 Nov (AA, IN, JHSw); Dumf, 342 Powfoot 19 Sep (JGY).

†**Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*. No reports from Perth: ♀ present Blackford Pond, Midl, from 18 Nov 1970 to 13 Feb (LLJV).

Scaup *Aythya marila*. No record of breeding; summer records, May-Aug: W. Ross, ♂ L Raa 5 Aug (RAH, DTH, JTH); O Heb, 1 Stornoway 3 Aug (RMCl); L Leven, Kinross, pr 26-31 May (AA, JHSw), Midl, pr Musselburgh 2 May (LLJV). Inland records include Inv, ♂ L Garten 25-27 Apr (RHD), ♀ 16 Oct (DJB). Peak counts: 20000+ Seafeld, Midl, in winter, first of autumn 7 on 19 Sep (RF); Kirk, 320 Carsethorn 21 Nov (per JGY); Renf, 318 Longhaugh Point 27 Nov (HG, IPG); Fife, 600 Burntisland 6 Jan (JMC), 3000 Methil 23 Jan (PGTB), 250 Kilconquhar 17 Mar (PGTB, JARG); I Heb, 1050 Bowmore, Islay, 14 Nov (CGB); E Ross, 290 Edderton 17 Jan (CGH).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*. Poor breeding season L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHSw); bred for first time Drem, E Loth (DJ), and ♂ nearby Aberlady June-July was unusual (ADKR). Few migrants Fair Isle 4-12 May and 17 Sep-14 Oct (RAB); post-breeding-season increase L Leven, Kinross, to 1600+ on 29 Aug, 2000 in Sep, decrease to 400 by end Dec (AA). Peak counts: Renf, 350 West Ferry 8 Jan (HG, IPG); Fife, 900 Kilconquhar 23 Jan, 1000 on 7 Nov (DWO); Angus, 320 West Ferry 2 Jan (TMC); Inv, 134 Clachnaharry 17 Jan (RHD); Caith, 523 L Watten 21 Nov (GHF).

Pochard *Aythya ferina*. ♀ with 4 ducklings L Dornal, first confirmed breeding Wig since early 1920s (JGY); 2 ♂ and 1 ♀ Skerrols, Islay, 14 June (MFMM).

Counts: Renf, 2000+ Barr Loch 6 Nov (HG, IPG); Midl, numbers very low Duddingston in spring, 930 on 17 Jan down to 8 on 13 Mar, 800 on 17 Oct, 5000 on 14 Nov, 6000 on 12 Dec (DRA); Fife, 1100 Kilconquhar 7 Nov (DWO); Kinross, L Leven, ice gone 4 Jan, increase to 2450 on 17 Jan, decrease to 100 in Apr, summer max 40 on 7 July, increase from mid Aug to 1200 on 12 Sep, decrease to 200 by end Dec (AA, JHSw); Arg, 52 L Meldaloch 16 Nov (JBH), 31 Glassary 21 Nov (MJPG) and 218 Tangy Loch 6 Nov (AGG, TDHM) are high for Arg; Inv, L Ashie moulting flock peaked 61 on 1 Aug (RHD), 17 L Laide 27 June (MR, Eiy), 36 L Morlich 13 Oct (RHD); Caith, 150 Rangang Loch 19 Sep (PMC).

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*. Bred E. Inv, nest containing egg shells and 2 added eggs found, but ducklings not seen with adults (RHD); summer stragglers Fair Isle, Ork, Suth, Inv, Perth, Kinross where 5 on L Leven on 5 June (AA), Fife, Midl, E Loth and Kirk.

Peak counts and migration: E Ross, 400 Invergordon 7 Mar (RHD); Inv, 475 mouth of River Ness 28 Jan (RHD), L Linnhe to 27 Apr (JASN); Angus, 198 West Ferry 2 Jan (TMC); Perth 500+ Invergowrie 11 Feb, 260+ on 9 Mar (EJM), 200+ Port Allen 27 Feb (JK); Kinross, L Leven

500-600 in Jan-Feb, increase to 750+ on 14 Mar, emigration from mid Apr, Fife, peak 650 Kilconquhar 9 Apr, nearly all gone by 3rd week Apr (DWO); W Loth, 300 Cramond 16 Jan (TCS); Midl, 2000 Seafeld-Musselburgh 28 Feb (DLC), 70 Moorfoot reservoirs 7 Mar, decrease to last one on 16 May (JB, RWJS); Renf, 286 Woodhall 14 Feb (HG); Kirk, 100+ L Ken 28 Apr (ADW). Autumn arrivals: Midl, 2 Moorfoot reservoirs 2 Oct (JB, RWJS); Inv, 8 Aviemore 6 Oct (RHD); first Fair Isle 16 Oct (RAB); first Caith 17 Oct (JMW); return L Linnhe, Inv, 16 Oct (JASN); 40 L Leven 17 Oct and 200 on 14 Nov (AA); 300 Invergordon, E Ross, 12 Dec (CGH).

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*. Winter and spring: Shet, 50+ L Spiggie 14 Apr (DC); Moray, 684 Spey Bay 1 May (JMB); Aber, 30-40 Ythan Jan-Mar, down to 10 in Apr, but 21 on 28 Apr, last 5 on 29 Apr (JAL); Angus, 70 Buddon 30 Jan (TMC); Fife, 95 Largo Bay 21 Mar (DMB); Midl, 34 Musselburgh 10 Apr, last pr 2 May (LLJV). Inland: 2 Lake of Menteith, Perth, 14 Mar (TW); Renf, 2 Rowbank Reservoir 4-31 Jan (RWF, HG, IPG), 1 on 5 Mar (ITD, MMD); Kirk, 1 Kendoon Loch 1-28 Jan (LAU).

Summer records: Shet, 7 Fetlar early June, last 13th (ARM), ♀ Gott 10 June and Sandwater 30 June (DC), ♂ Gulberwick 29 Aug; Fair Isle 10 June and 22-24 Aug (RAB); 2 L Leven, Kinross, 6-12 June (AA, RL, JHSw).

Autumn arrivals: 3 Oct, pr Fife Ness (DWO); 6 Oct, Fair Isle (RAB); 9 Oct, 2 Thurso, Caith (SL); 12 Oct, 2 Spey Bay, Moray (JMB); 14 Oct, Seafeld, Midl (LLJV); 17 Oct, Clachnaharry, Inv (MIH, RSR); Aber, first 2 Ythan 4 Nov, 24 on 5th (JAL). Peak counts: Caith, 16 Dunnet Bay 14 Oct, no larger flocks (PMC); Suth, 500+ Embo 20-25 Oct (DB), 650 on 6 Nov (DMcD); Moray, 400+ Findhorn 28 Oct (RHD); Midl, 46 Musselburgh 26 Nov (LLJV). Inland: L Leven, 1 on 22 Nov, 2 on 13-14 Dec, 1 on 22 Dec (AA, AG).

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*. Counts: Aber, 300 off Murcar, June-Aug (LHC); Angus, 100 Lunan Bay 8 July (GMC); Moray, 11 Spey Bay 12 Apr (DBMcG). Scarce Shet, only 4 sightings, including ♂ Fetlar 5 June (ARM); Fair Isle, 9 Sep, 15 Sep (3) and 27 Sep (RAB); Midl, 3 Musselburgh 10 Apr (LLJV); Wig, 2 Monreith 28 Feb (GW). Inland: ♂ Perth loch 19 Jan (EJM); ♀ L Insh, Inv, 8 Oct (DJB).

***Surf Scoter** *Melanitta perspicillata*. ♂ Murcar, Aber, 22 June into July (last date not known) (LHC, JAL *et al.*).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. Nest with 8 eggs found Walls, Shet, 3 July (BM); ♂, 2 ♀♀ with 3-4 ducklings NE Suth (JTRS); 2 pairs bred N Perth, 2 ♀♀ with 6 ducklings on 2 July (RHD, DNW). Inland summer records: pr L Hope, Suth, 27 May (DCH); ♀ L Ruthven, Inv, 27 Aug (RF); Dunb, pr L Lomond 1-19 May (RMHC, SW).

Peak counts: E Ross, 700 E Tarbat Ness 29 Aug (RHD), 8000 off Portmahomack 8 Sep (CJMCK-G, JHM); Moray, 300+ Spey Bay 12 Apr (JMB), 1000 Burghead 28 Oct (RHD); there is regular passage between Burghead and Dornoch Firth flocks (RHD); Inv, 20+ Canna 20 Aug (JCu); Aber, 1200 off Murcar June-Aug (LHC); E Loth, 550 summered Gullane Point (ADKR); Kirk, 200+ Muncraig 3 Apr (ABD, ADW).

***Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri*. ♀ Fair Isle 9 May to 13 June—new species for island (RAB, GJJ, ISR *et al.*).

Eider *Somateria mollissima*. Apparently increasing O Heb (WAJC); poor breeding season Fife (DWO); E Loth, count Aberlady-Dirleton on 26 June 350 ♀♀ and 100 ducklings (RWJS); first eggs c/2 Fair Isle 18 May, newly hatched ducklings 8 June-mid July (RAB). Counts: W Ross, 600+ Plockton 15 Oct (ENH); W Inv, 94 Fort William 18 Oct (JCu); Angus peak, 24000 West Ferry 1 Nov (TMC); E Loth, 3500 moulting ♂♂ Dirle-

ton-Aberlady 26 June (RWJS); Ayr, 900 Prestwick 20 June-25 July (WRB, RWF); Renf. 950 Woodhall 31 Dec (HG, IPG); Dunb, 1600 Ardmore Point 14 Nov (SMDA).

***King Eider** *Somateria spectabilis*. Shet, ♂ Clift Sound, Scalloway, 10 Mar to 14 Apr (DC *et al.*), ♂ Bixter 24 May to 5 June (BM *et al.*), ♂ Ronas Voe 31 Mar to 5 Apr (DC, RJT), ♀ Blue Mull Sound 9 Apr (DC); Bute, ♂ Rhubodach 2 Apr (RCC-S); Ayr, ♂ River Irvine 22 Dec into 1972 (IMD *et al.*). The Scalloway and Bixter sightings probably refer to the same bird, and it is possible that the Bute and Irvine records (7: 93) refer to further sightings of the L Ryan drake of 30 Mar 1970; even so, a total of 6 sightings in one year is an increase on 1 record in 1968, 3 in 1969 and 2 in 1970.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*. Peak counts: 140 Brora, Suth, 4 June (RRI); E Ross, 205 Barbaraville 26 Aug (CJMCK-G); Inv, scarce Beaully Firth, max 21 on 14 Mar (MIH); Inv/Arg, 584 in L Eil and L Linnhe 25 Aug (RAH); Angus, 580 Buddon Ness 4 Jan (BP); Fife, 127 Burntisland 14 Mar (JMC); Midl, 100 Musselburgh 29 Sep (RF); Wig, 265 L Ryan 11 Sep (RCD). An albino Brora 4 June (RRI).

Goosander *Mergus merganser*. No information on breeding. Apparently still increasing in east and Borders; Peeb, 50 on Fruid Reservoir 24 July (JB); Selk, 55 Headshaw 20 Feb (JB); Midl, 39 Cobbinshaw Reservoir 7 Mar (JB); Fife, 39 Morton Lochs 3 Jan (DWO), 32 on 18 Dec (JARG); Kinross, L Leven 220+ on 5 Jan, decrease to 90 on 7 Feb, then to 120 on 16 Feb, last 17 on 14 Mar, first 8 on 3 Oct, increase to 125 by 26 Nov (AA, AG, JHSw); Perth, 48 Drummond Pond 13 Nov (JK). Rather scarce in Beaully Firth, peak 300+ on 17 Jan (RHD). Migrants: Shet, 2 L Spiggie 28 Apr, 1 Sandwater 15 May (RJT); O Heb, 1 in North Uist 6 June (GC).

***Smew** *Mergus albellus*. 9 records in winter-spring to 6 Apr, although one to 5 July; 3 after 10 Nov. Shet, ♂ L Spiggie 10 Nov (ARW); Angus, ♀ Stannergate 20 Nov (JF, BP); Perth, ♂ Lake of Menteith 19 Feb (JMi, CPI); Kinross, L Leven ♀ 8 and 22 Dec (AA, AG); Fife, ♀ Cameron Reservoir 7 Mar (DMB), 6 Apr (JK); Midl, ♂ Musselburgh 1 Jan-21 Mar (LLJV); Rox, ♂ Kelso 28 Feb (DCo), 30 Mar (GR), ♀ Ackerknowe Reservoir 17 Jan (LDGL); Selk, ♀ Headshaw Loch 20 Feb (JB); Dunb, 1 Endrick 21 Feb-21 Mar (JMi, TPD, DST); Renf, ♀ Barr Loch and Castle Semple Loch 11 Jan-5 July (WRB *et al.*), ♂ Barr Loch 30 Jan (BCF).

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. Breeding records: becoming scarce Caith, no broods Dunnet Sands (PMC); E Ross, 106 adults and 40 young Munloch Bay 24 June (MKMcD-D); Banff, only breeding pr in county at Whitehills (AFWS); I Heb, 3 prs bred Pabay, Skye (ECG); Perth, b/8 at Invergowrie 31 May, was only 3rd brood ever seen in May in 50 years (HB); good breeding season Kinross. High counts: 1722 Eden estuary, Fife, 7 Mar (DMB); 95 Almond estuary 17 Mar and 12 Apr is record number for W Loth (RDM); Dunb, 650 Ardoch 26 Dec, 588 Erskine-Langbank (HG, IPG, ANG). Migrants: Fair Isle, 4 Mar, 17-18 Mar (3), 20 May-7 June (2) (RAB); Perth, ♂ L Dochart 27 Apr (RMR); Lan, 4 Merryton 28 Apr (HSCH, KCRH).

†**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*. ♂ Kinnaber, Angus, 4 May, presumed escape (GMC).

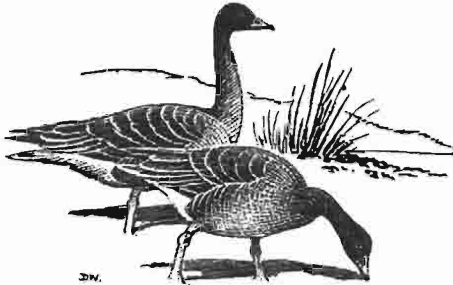
Greylag Goose *Anser anser*. Feral population in southwest c 1160 in July, 300 goslings from 129 nests found (JGY *et al.*); increase reported Caith (PMC), but decrease Lewis (WAJC); L Leven, Kinross, 2000+ on 10 Jan down to 1700 by 7 Feb, but increased to peak 2300 on 11 Mar, emigration to late Apr (AA, JHSw); departure Dalry, Kirk, mainly 12-13 Apr (LAU, ADW); northward passage Tay-Tummel, Perth, 12 and 21 Apr (EMH); passage over Inverness 11 Apr (MR) and 300 Munloch, E Ross, 12 Apr (ACu, MKMcD-D), 800 L Eye, E Ross, 12 Apr (RHD); W Inv, Skye,

140 N Pabay 13 Apr and 150 on 4 May (ECG), north passage Dunvegan 7-12 Apr (TCS); spring peaks Fair Isle 16 on 16 Apr and 11 on 25 Apr (RAB).

Autumn migration: early records Shet, 6 Unst 11 Sep (MS) and passage Fair Isle from 13 Sep, but mainly early Oct, Shet 10-14 Oct and Fair Isle peaks 380 on 11 Oct and 90 on 12 Oct (RAB); Caith, 300 Thurso 2 Oct; Suth, 500 Strath Halladale 3 Oct (PRJ); 400 S over L Garten, Inv, 23 Sep (HJB); build-up L Leven from late Sep, 500 on 16 Oct, 1400 on 24 Oct and 3000+ end Nov (AA); Fife, 1896 Kilconquhar 7 Nov, highest count there (DWO); Midl, 500 Gladhouse 10 Oct and 800 on 16 Oct (LY); arrival Dalry, Kirk, 12-13 Oct (LAU, ADW). Large kill of 400-500 poisoned Coupar Angus early Nov and smaller numbers also died E Loth, Dec.

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*. Only reports of European race, *A. a. albifrons* were: 1 Rattray Head, Aber, 14 Feb (DPW), 1 L Ken, Kirk, 14 Mar (ADW). Other reports unspecified unless marked G for Greenland race *A. a. flavirostris*. Caith, 128 G L Calder, 14 Mar; W Ross, 13 G Badachro 25 Feb-15 Apr (ENH); E Ross, 32 L Eye 7 Mar (RHD), 1 Munloch Bay 12 Apr (MKMcD-D); Skye, 17 Pabay 21 Apr (ECG); occasional sightings Jan-Apr Aber, Perth, Kinross; Midl, 11 G Gladhouse 17 Jan (JB, LLJV); Kirk, 300 G L Ken 6 Mar (DLC), early departure 42 N Dalry 20 Apr (ADW).

Early return to Kirk, 6 G L Ken 6 Oct (LAU), 50 G on 14 Oct, 250+ on 27 Oct and 400 on 22 Nov, better percentage of young than in recent years (ADW); Dunb, 70 Endrick mouth Nov (JMI); O Heb, 55 Barvas, Lewis, 26 Sep (RMCl); E Ross, 60 G L Eye 6 Nov (CGH); W Ross, up to 100 G Gairloch area 2-27 Dec—more than usual (ENH); Caith, 65 L Calder 17 Oct, first of autumn there (PRJ, SL); 6 Fair Isle 12 Oct (RAB).



***Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*. Becoming rarer in southwest but possibly more regular in east. Only records from Castle Douglas, Kirk, area, 12 Mid Kelton 5 Jan, 8 Hightae (Dumf) 17 Jan (IHA), 14 Gelston Lane 31 Jan (DMcL), none Oct-Dec (ADW). Fair Isle, 5 on 31 Jan (GJB); 1 Beaully Firth, Inv, 18 June (RHD); Aber, 2 Strathbeg 17 Jan (JE), 7 Slains 12 Feb (CJF); Fife, 23 at Kilconquhar 26 Dec was very unusual (DWO).

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*. Spring departure: L Leven, Kinross, population increased from 1200+ on 10 Jan to peak 4800 on 4 Apr, decrease to 2000+ on 25 Apr, rapid departure then to 700+ on 30th and all gone by 12 May (AA); Midl, Fala/Gladhouse, 3500 in Jan, 5000 in Feb, decrease especially around 24 Apr, down to 1000 on 1 May (WB); Kirk, Southernness peak 6000 on 12 Feb. Passage north: Glenalmond, Perth, 28-30 Apr and 1-4 May (JK); Speyside, Inv, from 1 Apr, mainly 26-29 Apr (DNW); W Inv, NW over Fort William from 1 Apr (JCu), 115 NW over Lochaber 1 May, 145 on 2 May and 150 NW on 4 May (IDHM); Shet, 9 Unst 26 Apr (ARW); Inv 500 Beaully Firth 14 Mar, 300+ 24 Apr (MIH), 5 summered L Leven, 2-3 Gladhouse (RWJS) and 1 Beaully Firth, Inv (MIH).

Autumn arrivals: Shet, very large passage 2000+ S Mainland 2 Oct (ARW); Fair Isle, 12 on 17 Sep, 35 on 26th, peaks 200 on 2 Oct and 43 on 11 Oct (RAB); Caith, passage 2-3 Oct; Inv, Speyside 22-23 Sep, main 4 Oct (DNW); heard over Newburgh, Aber, and Banchory, Kinc, 20 Sep (JAL, MM); Angus, 35 Barnhill 13 Sep (ABR); Perth, first 11 Sep (JMcK), large arrival 20-23 Sep, but numbers low (VMT); L Leven, 200 on 18 Sep, big fall 23rd, 4500 by 25 Sep, down to 2000 on 27th, then 6000 on 3 Oct, decrease to 3500 in mid Oct, 4000 on 7 Nov, then to usual 2500-3000 (AA); Fife, big movements 23 Sep (DWO), 8000 Cameron Reservoir Nov (JARG); Midl, 3 Fala 11 Sep, 200 on 24 Sep, 1450 on 3 Oct, 6000 on 10th, 9000 on 16 Oct, dropping to 5500 on 14 Nov (WB, LY); E Loth 2000-3000 Aberlady in Nov; 2000 Solway, Dumf, by 25 Sep (JGY).

†**Snow Goose** *Anser caerulescens*. Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 13 May (RG), 6 Harray 16 Nov (ET); Suth, 1 Kyle of Sutherland (with Pink-footed Geese) 23 Apr (JBW); I Heb, 1 "Inter-blue" Gruinart, Islay, from 28 Oct (MH); Angus, 1 Invergowrie Bay 14 Sep (HB); Perth, 3 Carse of Gowrie 28 Apr (JG); Kinross, L Leven singles 24 Feb, 6 Mar and 26 Apr (AA, JHSw); Fife, 1 "Blue" Morton Lochs in summer (DWO), 1 Carnbee 7 Nov (DWO); Midl, 1 Moorfoots 20-24 Apr (WB), 1 Gladhouse 26 Oct (IB-P); Kirk, 1 "Lesser" Solway 14-20 Feb (JGY *et al.*).

†**Ross's Goose** *Anser rossii*. 1 L Leven, Kinross, 23 Sep to end of year (AA, AG); probably one of the old regulars.

***Brent Goose** *Branta bernicla*. P = Pale-breasted *B. b. hrota*; D = Dark-breasted *B. b. bernicla*; others were unspecified. Shet, 3 Virkie 2 Oct (ARW); Fair Isle, 10 on 12 Oct (RAB); Ork, a few P Oct and Nov (ER); W Ross, 2 Poolewe 25 Sep (ENH); O Heb, 36 North Uist 19 Sep (GC); Inv, 6 P Longman Bay 5-7 Oct (JMcR, MR), 4 on 10th (MR), 2 P Pabay, Skye, 24 Sep (ECG); Moray, 47 Findhorn 19 Sep (KTR); Banff, 1 P Buckpool 26 Sep (DBMcG); Arg, 1 P Tayinloan 1-9 Jan (AGG, TDHM); Perth, 1 P Keillour 7 Nov (JK), 1 Invergowrie 9 Mar (EJM); Kinross, 1 P L Leven 27-30 Sep (AA, AG); Aber, 3 Ythan 28 Nov (LHC, RWS); Fife, 4 P Tayport 10 Oct (DMB); Midl, 1 P Fala 7 Nov-19 Dec (JB, WB); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 8 Jan-6 Feb (AMT), 1 Tynninghame 10 Jan (EMS), 1 North Berwick 7 Oct and 7 Nov (DEA, HFDE); Ayr, 1 Doonfoot 23 Sep-3 Oct (WRB, RWF, AGS); 2 Turnberry 2 Oct (WRB, BCF); Wig, 1 D L Ryan 6 May (JKC), 7 P and 1 D L Ryan 21 Oct (PB).

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*. Perth, 13 Blackford-Carsebreck 17 Jan (DMB, CJH); 7 Tibbermore 17 Mar (EJM), 6 on 5 Apr (JK); Aber, 1 Corby Loch 16 Jan (NE). Counts: max 214 Isay Island, Skye, 14 Apr (TCS); Suth, 58 Handa 3 Apr (RHD). One summered again with Canada Geese, Beaully Firth (RHD, MIH); 1 Duddingston, Edinburgh, until July (AJF). Autumn arrivals: 1000 Caerlaverock, Dumf, 25 Sep, 2000 on 27 Sep, max 3800 on 19 Oct (ELR); Fair Isle, more than usual, peaks 46 on 26 Sep, 35 on 27 Sep and 44 on 11 Oct (RAB); Caith, 16 W Holburn Head 11 Nov (PMC); W Ross, 200+ Longa island, Gairloch, 27 Dec (ENH); O Heb, first of autumn North Uist 4 Oct, 700 Aird an Runair 11 Oct (GC); Aber, 6 Ythan 11 Oct (LHC), 4 on 23 Oct (PDR); Midl, 25 Fala 10 Oct (WB, RW); E Loth, 12 SE Tynninghame 3 Oct (LLJV); Kirk, c 1000 West Preston, including 2 albinos, Dec (ADW).

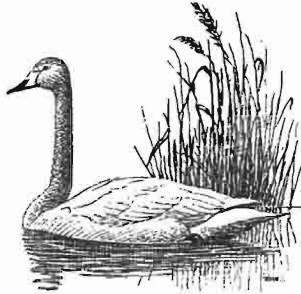
Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*. Southwest Scotland population: 38 Wigtown Merse 24 July, 32 on 22 Aug (RCD); hybrids x Greylag Goose seen L Inch (JGY, ADW). Brood of 5 young L Tummel, Perth, 25 May (EMH) and 11 (1 juv) L Mahaick Aug (RMcM).

Beaully Firth moulting flock of Yorkshire birds: 66 on 30 May, peak 378 on 6 July, still 282 on 29 Aug (RHD). Migrants, probably these birds, Inv, 14 NE Aviemore 10 June (I Hudson); Banff, 10 W Buckpool 28 Apr (DBMcG), 1 Inverisla 20 June (KT); Aber, 25 Auchlossan 26 May (NP), 5 L Vrotachan 26 May (AW); Perth, 26 W Craiglugh 29 May (MD);

Kinross, L Leven 12 on 2 June (WPW), 7 N on 3 June (AA); Fife, 4 S Lie 3 June (DT). Return passage: Inv, 17 L Mhor 17 Aug (MIH); Kinc, 2 Blackhall 22 Sep (MM); Angus, 25 Invergowrie Bay 14 Sep (HB); Perth, 2 Port Allen 28 July (HB), 2 Carsebreck 31 Oct (TCS) and 15-20 Murthly 30 Oct (JK), possibly locals; Kinross, L Leven 11 S 22 Sep (AG), 2 during 10 Nov-22 Dec (AA, AG); Fife, 20 Newport 20 Aug (RA), 1 Kilconquhar late Nov (JARG, DT); W Loth, 26 Dalmeny 19 Aug (TCS); Midl, 1 Rosslynlee Reservoir 14 Nov (JB); E Loth, 6 Dirlerton 27 Aug (HSCH).

Other migrants: 1 Scatness, Shet, 16-17 Oct (RHD, ARW); 1 Heb, Islay, 3 small Canadas with Barnacles mid November (MAO), 1 medium-sized Canada with Greenland Whitefronts 24 Nov (CGB, JMSA, TW).

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*. Good breeding season L Leven, Kinross, 3 prs with 13 young (AA, JHSw); increasing Caith and Speyside, Inv (PMC, DNW). Counts: Angus, 162 Montrose Basin 3 Aug (GMC); 40 L Gilp, Arg, 13 Oct (MJPG); 65 Inverness 13 July (JMCr); E Ross, 119 (11 juv) L Eye 27 Nov (RHD). Migrants: 2 Baltasound, Unst, Shet, 8 June-mid Oct, one to Dec (MS).



Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*. Spring departure: Kirk, last 12 Islesteps 14 Apr (JGY); Kinross, L Leven peak 119 on 24 Feb, last 5 on 10 Apr (AA, JHSw); Inv, peak Insh Marshes 112 (17 juvs) Feb (DNW); Fair Isle, peak 17 on 1 Apr (RAB); pr St Kilda 14 May, one injured stayed to Aug (DS); late pr L Rosque, E Ross, 17 May (DCH) and Lairg, Suth, 20 May (RHD). 6-10 individuals summered, mostly injured birds, singles except 3 Coupar Angus (JK).

Autumn migration: Shet, first 2 Fetlar 2 Oct (RJT), build-up L Spiggie, 10 on 3 Oct, 9th (28), 16th (138), 27th (187) and 200 early Nov, highest counts ever, high percentage of immatures (DC, FH); Fair Isle, 7 on 22 Sep, mainly from 6 Oct, max 30 on 11 Oct (RAB); Caith, first 20 St John's Loch 12 Oct, 200 L Calder 24 Oct; E Ross, 18 Delny 1 Oct (CGH), 130 on 30 Dec (RHD); O Heb, 258 (33% 1st Y) Uists 18-20 Oct (DGA, DJ); Aber, 157 (13 1st Y) L Kinord 5 Dec (NP); Kinross, 10 L Leven 24 Sep (AG), increasing to 366 (57 1st Y) on 14 Oct, peak 380 on 15 Oct, 50-150 later (AA, DLC); Fife, 310 Leslie 18 Nov (JM), 280 Kingskettle 27 Nov (DWO); Clack, 49 (15 1st Y) Alva 26 Oct (CJH); Kirk, first 2 Islesteps 4 Oct, 64 on 14 Dec (JGY).

***Bewick's Swan** *Cygnus bewickii*. Shet, 1 Sandness 22-24 Mar (DC, BM); Fair Isle, 2 on 7-15 Jan (GJB); E Ross, 3 (2 1st Y) Alcaig, Cromarty Firth, 28 Jan-7 Feb (MKMcD-D, MR); Arg, 1 Ruel River 10 Jan (JBH); Aber, 6 (1 1st Y) Strathbeg 17 Jan (JE); Ayr, 1 Bogton Loch 21 Jan, 7-27 Nov (DWMcG); Dumf, 4 Ruthwell 10 Jan (DCI), 2 Clarencefield 11 Feb (ELR); Kirk, 1 Carsethorn 3 Jan (MJA), 1 L Ken 22 Jan (LAU, ADW), 1 Carlingwark Loch 15 Mar (PJM); Wig, 5 (3 1st Y) L Ryan 23 Jan (DSK, JSk, JGY), 3 River Cree 13 Nov (RCD).

†**Black Swan** *Cygnus atratus*. One L Ryan, Wig, June-Sep (RCD).

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*. Variable success from main areas; successful year W Ross (ENH) and Arg, where 12 prs reared young from 16 prs laying eggs (AGG, MJPG) but poor season Speyside due to human disturbance and persecution (RHD, DNW), only 1 young from 5-6 sites Lochaber, Inv (JRo, JCu), and much destruction of eggs and birds O Heb, including nests robbed in Uists (WAJC). Peripheral records: Caith, 1 pr failed, 1 pr probably reared young (PMC, JMG); Banff, pr reared 1 young new site (JE); Angus, 3 prs bred (GMC); apparently 4 prs SW Scotland, one of which was robbed by egg-collectors (AGS, RTS, ADW).

Sightings: Ork, 1 Binscarth 19 Nov (EJW); E Ross, imm Tain 18 Oct (DB); imm Eskdalemuir, Dumf, 23 Feb (ELBC). Influx in winter to upper Findhorn attributable to peak in blue hare population (DNW).

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. Doing well in most areas, eg Caith, O Heb, Inv, Ayr and Dumf. Nest-building at L Eye, E Ross, 7 Mar (RHD); good breeding season Beaulay area, Inv, 7 prs reared 17 young (MIH, RSR); 3 prs Endrick, Dunb, each with 3 young (DSt); pr tried to breed Edgelaw Reservoir, Midl (RWJS). Migrant: North Ronaldsay, Ork, 23 May (RG).

***Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*. Singles Fair Isle 25 May (GJB) and Gruinard Bay, W Ross, 19-22 Oct (AJK).

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. Continued increase in sightings throughout mainland, except possibly Speyside. Migrants: Fair Isle, singles 10 days Apr-17 May, 4 between 8 Oct and 6 Nov (RAB); Shet, singles Fetlar 9 Apr (ARM), Unst 1 May (MS), 3 Kergord 31 Oct (DC); Isle of May, singles 8-10 May (GLAP), 5 Sep (JMAO).



†**Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis*. Probably bred in one area, few sightings in other regular locality (anon); singles elsewhere: Isle of Rhum April (PW); Perth 21 June (JGY), Sheriffmuir, Perth, 30 Oct (GMD, DJ); Quothquan, Lan, 3 Apr (RE-H); Endrick, Dunb, 5 Nov-11 Dec (JMi et al.); Roxb, 16 Aug (KTa). Imm male trapped and ringed Fair Isle 24 Nov-31 Dec (RAB) might be wild migrant, but others must be suspect, as it appears that quite large numbers of imported birds escape or are being released each year.

***Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*. Singles: Shet, Gott 31 May-3 June (DC), Whalsay 7 June (JHS), Fetlar 29 June (ARM); Fair Isle, 30 June-6 July and 6 Aug (RAB); Insh, Inv, 29 May (JED).

***Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*. Singles: Fetlar, Shet, 18 May (RSPB); ♀ Fair Isle 30 May-2 June (RAB); ♀ Speyside, E Inv, 1 June (RHD); Galloway, ♀ 2 May (ELR), imm ♂ 4-5 June (ADW); unconfirmed report of pair in south Scotland May-June.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. Poor breeding season Galloway and Renf; persecution many areas; early nest Dornoch, young flying 12 June (DMBr, DMcD). Migrants: Shet, singles Unst 14 Jan and ♀ 31 Mar (MS), ♂ Yell 31 Mar (RJT); Fair Isle ♀ 3 May (RAB); more sightings Fife, 3 Jan-19 May and 24 Sep-20 Dec (DWO); E Loth, singles Tynninghame 17 Jan (TB), Aberlady 24 Apr and 5 May (KSMcG, GLS); imm ♂ found dead Wig 10 Dec, ringed Kinc, 6 July (NP, ADW).

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*. 7 pairs with eyries, 5 successful, reared 11 young—the best year to date. L Garten, Inv, ♀ arrived 8 Apr, ♂ 9th, first egg 19 Apr, clutch of 3 eggs stolen by egg-collectors on night of 17 May, pr stayed in area and built frustration eyries; only one bird seen at eyrie 2; 3 eggs laid at eyrie 3, 1 young reared, other 2 eggs failed to hatch; eyrie 4, three young reared; eyrie 5 (Loch of Lowes, Perth) 2 young reared; eyrie 6, at least 2 eggs laid, but failed to hatch; eyrie 7, three young reared; eyrie 8, two young reared, both recovered in Mauretania, West Africa, one on 4 Oct, the other in Dec 1971.

Many sightings elsewhere in Highlands, N to Suth and Caith, at least one other pair regularly seen but no eyrie located. Migrants elsewhere, all singles: Fair Isle 26 May (RAB); Isle of May 2 May (DWO); Angus, Forfar Loch 21 May (HB); Fife, 1 N over St Andrews 13 May (DWO), 1 in from sea Fife Ness 25 July (DBT); Midl, Glencorse Reservoir end July (per GLS); E Loth, Aberlady 29 Aug (RHH); Lan, Tinto 12 June (RE-H); W Stir, Bardowie Loch 12 July (PJI); Dumf, Moffat Water 26 Apr (ED, FDH); Wig, Tom Warren 25 May (ETI, JMcC). Late record Spinningdale, Suth, 19 Aug (per DMcD).

***Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*. 1 Abernethy Forest, Inv, 23-26 Aug (HJB *et al.*)

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. Breeding success and numbers patchy, generally good inland, poor in coastal and peripheral areas. Good reports: 'good season' NW Suth (IDP); 'increase noted' Ross and Suth (DCH); 'successful season' E and central Inv (DNW); 5 out of 7 prs successful S Arg, 11+ young reared (MJPG); Perth, birds at 11 of 13 known sites, young at 6 sites (VMT); L Lomond/Trossachs, 15 young reared at 6 nests (JMi). Poor reports: Shet, none bred, and only 13 sightings reported (RJT); Fair Isle, 3 present but no evidence of breeding (RAB); Ork, normal numbers but low success (EB); Caith, numbers still very low (PMC); Galloway, 'poor season' (ADW). Other records: 1 pr bred successfully Lewis, O Heb (WAJC); Banff, 1 pr bred (JE); Angus, 2+ prs bred (GMC); S Ayr, 4 prs reared 4 young (AGS), 1 young reared Ailsa Craig (JAG). Migrants, Isle of May 10 and 30 Sep (AJW, NKA).



***Gyr Falcon** *Falco rusticolus*. ♂ Fair Isle 17 Apr (GJB).

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. Slight improvement: Shet, better breeding season, including pr bred Fetlar first time for years (RJT); Galloway, best

season for years, including 11 flew from 15 young at 4 nests (ADW *et al.*). Migration: Fair Isle, 10 Sep-2 Dec, mainly Oct, max 5 on 11 and 24 Oct; fewer in Fife, only 5 reports (DWO); scattered reports throughout country.

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. Good breeding season Kinross, Midl, E Loth and apparently increasing Lewis, O Heb. Partial albino bred Newtonmore, Inv (DNW). Migration: Shet, 1 Tingwall 24 Jan (BM), slight passage 18-30 May, scarce in autumn; Fair Isle, spring 1 Apr-12 June, autumn 19 Aug to 12 Nov, numbers low (RAB). 5 found dead E Loth Dec, probably due to toxic seed dressings (AMt).

Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*. Good reports from Caith and Ochils, Kinross, but poor season Selk, Roxb and Kirk. Vagrants: 1 Aberlady, E Loth 3 Aug (ADKR); 2 Montreathmont, Angus, 6 Nov (TMC); 2 Handa Suth, 30 July (RAH, DTh, JTh).

Ptarmigan *Lagopus mutus*. Bad weather affected breeding success Cairngorms; flocks 38 (11 juveniles) on 10 July and 27 (6 juvs) on 13 July (RSPB). W Ross, nest 6 eggs Applecross Pass 14 May (GS).

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*. Increase in Kinross, 50-100 Ledlanet Moor (WW), 30 Ochil foothills 3 Mar (AB), 20 Lomond Hills Dec (WF).

Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*. Inv, Abernethy numbers lower than 1970/71 but higher percentage young in shot birds (DNW); ♀ Tentsmuir, Fife, Feb (PGTB, RWS); E Stir, pr Cambusbarrow 19 May, first sighting there by observer (JGG); good numbers, including 9 together, Tain, E Ross (CJMCK-G).

†**Red-legged Partridge** *Alectoris rufa*. Suth, 30 introduced Rosehall Mar 1970—doing well (per JTRS); Banff, Cullen, more released (per RHD); Angus, introduced Cortachy (per GMC); Kirk, 1 Fingland Hill 10 Apr (AF); Wig, 1 escaped Wigtown (DCI).

Partridge *Perdix perdix*. Mixed reports, but numbers generally very low; better numbers reported Caith, SE Suth, Kinross, Fife and Midl; possibly fewer Clyde.

***Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*. Very poor year, considerably fewer than in past 3 years. Only reports received: singles, Fetlar, Shet, 4 June (ARM); Kinncraig, Inv, 14 May (per DNW) and Kirriemuir, Angus, early May (per GMC).

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*. 'Migrant' female Fetlar, Shet, 9 July (RSPB), probably from Unst where a few kept (RJT).

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*. Considerable stock in Kirrough-tree Forest - Newton Stewart, Kirk/Wig (ADW), doing well and increasing (ADW), some hybridising with Lady Amherst's Pheasant *Chrysolophus amherstiae*.

†**Reeves's Pheasant** *Syrnaticus reevesii*. Some released and living wild, but wild breeding not proved Kinveachy Forest, Inv (RHD), 2 ♂♂ Kinncraig, Inv, Sep-Dec (DNW).

***Crane** *Grus grus*. Ork, singles Papa Westray 23 May (T Miller), Westray 24-29 May (WJE *et al.*) and Wideford Hill, Mainland, 3-4 June (W Groundwater) almost certainly same individual; E Ross, 1 Nigg Bay 11 Jun-(at least) 8 July (RHD, CGH *et al.*). Reports of crane sp near Nethy-bridge June and 11 July (RSPB).

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. No definite breeding records, but birds heard in summer E Inv (RHD, DNW); 2 in summer Balranald, N Uist, O Heb (GC); 1 Loch of Lowes, Perth, 17 July (EMH). Good number of winter records many areas, Jan-8 Apr. Migration: Fair Isle, a few to 21 May (RAB); Isle of May, 5 and 8 Apr (NKA, MN); 1 Aberlady, E Loth, 12 Apr (NDCG). Autumn: Fair Isle from 7 Sep, peak 4 on 30 Oct (RAB); 1 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 21 Aug (RG); first returned Kilconquhar, Fife, 3 Oct, peak 8 on 7 Nov (DWO); 12 heard Barr Loch, Renf, 29 Oct (WRB); usual winter reports elsewhere.

***Spotted Crake** *Porzana porzana*. 1 calling NW Ross summer (anon); E Inv, singles calling Aviemore 19 May-end June (I Hudson), Abernethy June (HJB), Boat of Garten early July (WAJC) and 2 Insh Marshes June (WAS); Perth, 1 seen Pitlochry 23 July (A Dawson, M Walker). Migrants: singles Fair Isle 9 and 30 Sep (RAB) and New Cumnock, Ayr, 22 Sep (PMCK).

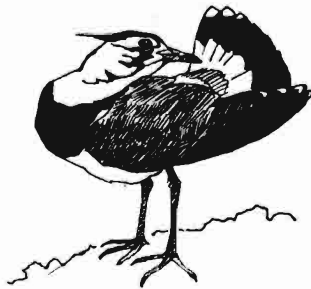
Corncrake *Crex crex*. Breeding reports generally show no change, but increase reported N Ayr and summered Endrick mouth, Dumb, first time since 1965 (JMi); 2 Bannockburn, E Stir, 24 Apr (7: 52), reared 3 young from 8 eggs, last seen 8 Aug (JGG); 3 prs Killantringan, Wig, all lost nests due to silage mowing (BW); perhaps fewer Eigg, I Heb (JCu); one tame bird Droman, N Suth, taking household scraps (IDP *et al.*). Arrivals: Fair Isle 14 Apr (RAB); Arg, 18 Apr (IR); Aberlady, E Loth, 24 Apr (LLJV); Balranald, O Heb, 4 May (GC). Last reports: 4 Sep, Parkgate, Dumf (per MCr); 10 Sep Isle of May (AJW *et al.*) and East Haven, Angus (RAS).

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*. Fair Isle migrants, 1-2 on 8 days in April, 1 on 21 May (RAB).

Coot *Fulica atra*. Pr with young Aberlady Bay, E Loth, apparently first record there (ADKR); Kinross, good breeding season L Leven, peak 400 late Aug, decreased mid Sep to 60 on 17 Oct (AA). Counts: E Ross, 350 L Eye 17 Jan, 150 on 14 Nov (CGH); Fife, 439 Kilconquhar 17 Oct (DWO), 350 Cameron Reservoir 14 Nov (JARG), 362 L Ore 17 Oct and 827 on 12 Dec (JM); Midl/Peeb, Gladhouse-Portmore, 40 on 8 Aug, 275 on 17 Oct (JB, RWJS); Dumf, 200 Lochmaben 14 Mar (RTS). Migrants: Fair Isle, singles 11 and 16 Apr, 30 May-7 June (RAB); 1 Ness, Lewis, O Heb, 13 Nov (WAJC, MFMM).

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*. Return to breeding territories: Yarrow, Selk, 21 Feb (JB); Midl, Moorfoot reservoirs 21 Feb (RWJS); Kinross, from mid Feb, poor breeding season (JHSw); Inv, 6 Boat of Garten 18 Feb (RHD), albino again summered Rothiemurchus (DNW); Fair Isle, first 13 Feb, 22 by 9 Mar, first eggs c/3 found 14 May.

Exodus: Fair Isle down to 50 by 25 Aug, 3 on 30 Sep and last 1 Nov (RAB); passage over Inverness from 1st week July (MR); first autumn migrants Gladhouse, Midl, 11 July (RWJS). Peak counts: Solway, record 14000 Nith-Southwick 19 Sep, 9000+ on 21 Nov (NSRG); 24078 inner Scottish Solway 19 Sep (per JGY); Ayr, 2000 Fairlie 29 Dec (IPG); Renf, 1600 Erskine 19 Dec (HG, IPG); E Loth, 1000 on 4 Aug (ADKR); Midl, 1300 Musselburgh 28 Mar (RF), 1800 on 13 July and 17 Oct, 3000 on 21 Nov and 19 Dec (RF, LLJV, DIMW); Fife, 5000 Tentsmuir 5 Sep (RWS); Inv, peaks Longman 189 on 7 Feb and 317 on 26 Dec (MR). 400 Whiteness Head 7 Sep (RHD); Caith, 200+ Brims Ness 5 Dec (PMC).



Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. Breeding reports good from Caith, W Ross, where 'marked increase Torridon' (JAW), O Heb, where 'regained pre-

1962 status', Kinross, Midl, Ayr. Very few chicks from early broods in Fife owing to cold and wet (DWO); counts of 570 and 474 on Cree estuary, Kirk/Wig, 17 Aug gave 28% juveniles (JGY).

Spring passage: Fair Isle, 28 on 23 Feb, peak 50 on 1 Apr (RAB); arrived Speyside, Inv, 22 Jan (DNW), marked passage 25 Feb (RHD, DNW). Autumn: Fair Isle, Aug-5 Dec, peak 40 on 26 Sep (RAB); L Leven, Kinross, 500 on 23 Aug, 2000+ in mid Sep (AA), 1000 S/hr 21 Nov (AG); large immigration E Fife 13 Aug (ARS). Peak counts: Renf, 5000 Woodhall 7 Feb (HG), 4500 Glasgow Airport 17 Dec (IPG); Aber, 5000 Strathbeg 5 Feb (RHD); Inv, 1500 Longman 5 Oct (RHD); Caith, 200 Dunnet Sands 4 Nov (PMC).

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. E Loth, excellent breeding season Aberlady where c 50 prs reared nearly 200 young (ADKR); Midl, bred Leith Docks (LLJV); for 3rd year in succession none bred Dunnet Sands, Caith (PMC). Peak counts and migration: Dunb, 95 Endrick mouth 23 May (JMi, DSt); E Loth, 550 Aberlady 21 May (ADKR), 400 Tynninghame 9 May, 130 on 22 Aug (RWJS); Midl, 180 Musselburgh 17 Oct (RF); Fife, 260 Tentsmuir 29 May (RWS); Inv, 120 Longman 19 Sep (RHD); Suth, 77 Dornoch 10 Oct (DMcD); Fair Isle, peaks 40 on 5 Aug, 55 on 29 Aug (RAB).

***Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*.** 1 imm Gladhouse, Midl, 10-11 Sep (GLS, JSt, RWJS).

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. Fewer reports early in year: 60 Southernness, Kirk, 14 Feb (JFY); 64 Tentsmuir, Fife, 7 Mar (DMB); 1 Heb, 4 Islay 11 Jan and 2 on 15 Apr (CGB); Suth, 12 Dornoch 14 Mar (DMcD); E Loth, 24 Tynninghame 28 Mar (RWJS), 40 summered Aberlady Bay (ADKR).

Autumn migration: Shet, 3 Unst 22-26 Aug (BM), 3 Virkie 3-17 Oct (DC, BM); Fair Isle, 1 on 28-30 Sep (RAB); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 10 Sep (RG), 1 South Ronaldsay 2 Oct (CJB); Caith, 1 Brims Ness 6 Dec (AFCMC, PMC); O Heb, singles Balranald 11 Oct (GC), Stornoway 5 Dec (RMcI); usual east-coast autumn records, peaks: 9 Dornoch, Suth, 10 Oct (DMcD), 20 Montrose Basin, Angus, 1 Oct (GMC), 60 Aberlady, E Loth, 10 July and 76 on 6 Aug (ADKR); 57 Southernness, Kirk, 30 Oct (NSRG). Inland: 2 Gladhouse, Midl, 4 Oct (GLS); 1 Balgray Reservoir, Renf, 7 Oct (IPG).

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*. Winter-spring counts: 260 'northern's Stranraer, Wig, 27 Mar (ADW); Midl, 300 'northern's Gladhouse 17 Apr (RWJS). 2000 Gorebridge mid-28 Feb (LY); W Loth 500+ Dalmeny 15 Feb (DTh). Passage: 150 St Kilda 29 Apr (DS); 9 Isle of May 3 Apr (NKA); Fair Isle, from end July, peaks 60 on 17 Sep and 75 on 30 Oct (RAB); large passage Fife Ness 27 Sep (DWO, ARS); E Loth, peak Aberlady 250 on 19 July (ADKR). Autumn counts: 1000 Carsethorn-Drumburn, Solway, 19 Sep (NSRG), 800 Luce Bay, Wig, 21 Nov (RCD, JGY); 780 Ythan, Aber, 9 Oct (JAL, AR); 900 Buckie, Banff, 18 Dec (DBMcG).

Dotterel *Eudromias morinellus*. Evidence of continued expansion, including records from Perthshire and Lochaber, Inv (JCu); first report 4 Cairngorms 8 May (M George); reasonable numbers of young reported despite bad weather (snow) in early summer. 1 Whalsay, Shet, 6-7 June (JHS, DC); 1 Glen Etive hills, Arg, 6 Aug (AHG).

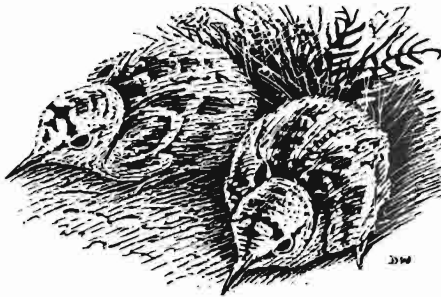
Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*. Usual summering records: passage Fair Isle 8 Mar-2 June and from 9 July (RAB). Counts: Angus, 400 West Haven 2 Oct (TMC); 490 Isle of May 7 Oct (MN); 300 Dalmeny, W Loth, 4 Aug (RDM); 350 Musselburgh, Midl, 27 Apr (JB). Inland: 1 Endrick mouth, Dunb, 23 May (DSt); 4 Glencorse Reservoir, Midl, 24 May (GLS); singles L Leven, Kinross, 3 Aug (AA, JHSw), 29 Aug (AG).

***Dowitcher *Limnodromus* sp.** 1 Kinnaber, Angus, 2 Oct (GMC).

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. Increase reported Gairloch area, W Ross (ENH). Counts: Ayr, 70 Galston 11 Dec (WRB, BCF); Suth, 10 Scourie

4 Feb (IDP). Migration: Fair Isle, peaks 20 on 9 Sep, 20-25 on 2-4 Oct and 15 on 23 Oct (RAB); Kinross, up to 25 L Leven in Aug, scarce in Sep, 30 on 30 Oct (AA); Midl, 30 Gladhouse 5 July, 100 on 11 and 18 July (RWJS).

Jack Snipe *Limnocyptes minimus*. Usual scatter of records in first 3 months north to Shet; 3 Canna, 1 Heb, 24 Mar is noteworthy (AJW *et al.*); 1 Fair Isle 6 May, only spring record there (RAB). Autumn: first record Skinflats, E Stir, 26 Aug (DLC); Fair Isle from 6 Sep-11 Nov, peak 5 on 27 Sep (RAB); usual scatter of records Oct-Dec; but more in W, where 7 West Kilbride, Ayr, 1 Dec (JLB), 7 Barr Loch, Renf, 18 Dec (HG, IPG) and 3 Paisley Moss, Renf, Dec (IPG).



Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*. Scarce as migrant; Fair Isle, rare in spring, very few in autumn 16 Oct-Nov, peak only 25 on 27 Oct (RAB); O Heb, becoming uncommon as winter visitor to Lewis (WAJC); very few Isle of May; fewer than usual Kinross estate (WW).

Curlew *Numenius arquata*. First inland Speyside, Inv, 22 Feb (RHD). Counts: 1400 Kirkcudbright Bay 21 Nov (NSRG); 2894 Scottish Solway 19 Sep (NSRG); W Loth, 1000 Almond estuary 3 Aug (GLS); Kinross, 300 L Leven Jan-Mar, 400+ 28 July increased to 1000 on 11 Aug (AA, JHSw); Angus, 1000 Montrose Basin 20 Aug (GMC).

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. Breeding records: usual numbers Shet, first Fetlar 25 Apr, last 22 Aug (RJT, ARM); one pair summered Ork (per EB); Scottish mainland site increase to 4-5 prs (RHD, CGH). Winter: 1 Glencaple, Dumf, 11 Jan (THJ). Spring passage: 1 Monreith Bay, Wig, 5 Apr (JDo); Ayr, 1 Kilwinning 2 May (WCW); Angus, first 29 Mar (GMC); usual scatter of records in May.

Autumn peaks: Fair Isle, 6 on 25 Aug, records to 28 Sep (RAB); Caith, 14 Scrabster 19 Aug (SL); 18 in off sea Faraday Head, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD); 10 Eden estuary, Fife, 5 Aug (RWS); 23 Aberlady, E Loth, 22 July (ADKR); 9 Dalry, Kirk, 24 July (LAU); 10 Beaully Firth, E Ross, 29 Aug (RHD, MIH). Late records: 2 Scrabster, Caith, 24 Oct (PMC); 2 Skipness, Arg, 24 Oct (PGTB); 2 Southernness, Kirk, 21 Nov (NSRG).

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*. Pr bred Shet, 3 adults and 3 chicks seen 20 June (BM); 2 prs south Scotland site, but neither successful (anon). Winter-spring records: Nith estuary flock, Dumf/Kirk, 52 on 20 Feb, 144 on 1 Mar, 100 on 16 Apr, 10 on 4 May (ADW, JGY); 16 Stoneykirk, Wig, 24 Apr, 18 on 25th and 2 to 6 May (RCD); 57 Mountlothian, Midl, 23 Apr (GLS); small numbers Midl and E Loth; Eden estuary, Fife, peak 125 on 3 Apr (DWO). Migrants: 4 Tiree, 1 Heb, 17 May (PBB); 10 Balranald, O Heb, 20 Apr (GC); 4 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 26 May (RG); 7 Fair Isle 8 Mar, 2 on 17-21 Mar (RAB); singles Foula 14 May (JGH) and Fetlar 22 May (ARM). Inland: singles Amulree, Perth, 15 May (DW) and Auchlossan, Aber, 18 May (RSBy); 3 L Shin, Suth, 20 May (RHD).

Autumn: small numbers east coast areas Shet to E Loth, peaks: 10 Montrose Basin, Angus, 9 Aug (GMC); 80 Eden estuary, Fife, 5 Sep (RWS); 13 Skinflats, Stir, 18 Oct (MFlu); 15 Aberlady, E Loth, 4 Aug—record total (ADKR). 1 Yetholm, Rox, 23 Aug, first since 1929 (RSB); 2 L Leven, Kinross, 29 Sep (DU, KU). Nith estuary 27 on 14 Aug, 130 on 19 Sep, 50 on 14 Oct (JGY); 30 Sandhead, Wig, 8 Sep (RCD).

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Scarcer Shet, Perth and Ayr, but more E Loth. Counts: E Ross 450 Nigg 30 July (DCH), 800+ Barbaraville 28 Aug (CJMCK-G); Inv/Nairn, 400+ Whiteness Head 21 Nov (RHD); Moray, 468 Findhorn 21 May; Fife, 2000 Tentsmuir 21 Feb and 2500 on 5 Sep (RWS); Midl, 600 Musselburgh 14 Feb and 700 on 21 Nov (RF); E Loth, 100 Aberlady 8 July, increased to 1500 on 9 Aug (ADKR) and c 3000 on 5 Oct (WRB).



***Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*. Winter records: 1 Brechin, Angus, Jan-17 Apr (GMC); 1 Tynninghame, E Loth, Jan-14 Mar (RWJS); 5 Merryton, Lan, 20 Jan and 13 Feb, 3 on 7 Mar (HSCH, KCRH); Kirk, 1 Kingsholm 31 Jan (TN).

Spring passage: 8 Apr-22 May; singles Fair Isle 3 May (RAB); North Ronaldsay, Ork, 22 May (RG), Lochinver, Suth, 12 May (SMD), Bowden, Rox 8 Apr (per AJS); L Martnaham, Ayr, 13 Apr and Doonfoot, Ayr, 5 May (WRB). 1 in suitable breeding habitat Newtonmore, Inv, 26 June (DNW).

Autumn passage: 9 July-7 Oct, records east coast and southwest Scotland; peaks and noteworthy dates: Shet, 2 Quendale 7 Sep, + other singles; recorded Fair Isle 17 July-12 Sep, max 5 on 4 Aug and 6 on 5th (RAB); 3 Livingston, Midl, 22 Aug (JO); 3 Tynninghame, E Loth, 22 Aug (RWJS); 4-5 Paisley Moss, Renf, 15 Aug (HG *et al.*). 2 late ones Merryton, Lan, 6 Nov (HSCH, KCRH); one wintered Tynninghame (RWJS).

***Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*. 1 singing E Inv site 30 May and 1 June (RHD, PT); present Suth and N Perth sites (anon). Rather scarce on passage. Spring 19 May-12 June and autumn 24 July-14 Sep. Singles: Shet, Fetlar 19-22 Aug and 28 Aug (RSPB); Fair Isle 19, 24 and 29 May, 31 July, 23 and 25 Aug (RAB); Ork, Rendall 10 Aug (EB); Aber, 2 Meikle Loch 14 Aug (JAL); Angus, Elliot mouth 8 Sep (RAS); Isle of May, 24 May (DRG), 24 Aug-14 Sep (GLS, AJW); Fife, Earlsall 5 Aug (RWS); Midl, Gladhouse 10 Sep (GLS); E Loth, Drem 12 June, 24 July, 2-4 Sep (DJ).

Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*. Winter: 1 Alloa, Clack, 17 Jan (DMB). Spring arrivals: 8 Mar, Kelso, Rox (RSB); 12 Apr, Loch of Lowes, Perth; 13 Apr, L Vaa, Inv (RHD), Dalry, Kirk (LAU), Penpont (ARH) and Canonbie, Dumf (ELBC); 14 Apr, Glencorse Reservoir, Midl (RDM) and Glen Clova, Angus (GMC). Passage: Shet, 9-24 May, scarce (RJT); Fair Isle, 1 May-4 June, peak 6 on 24 May (RAB); peak 20 Moorfoot reservoirs, Midl, 2 May (RWJS).



PLATE 9 (a) Dotterel, Whalsay, Shetland, 7th June 1971.

(b) Pectoral Sandpiper, Hillwell Loch, Quendale, Shetland, 11th September 1971.

Photographs by Dennis Coultis





PLATE 10 (a) Roller, Bixter, Shetland, 5th June 1971.

(b) Bee-eater, Lerwick, Shetland, 5th September 1971.

Photographs by Dennis Coultis

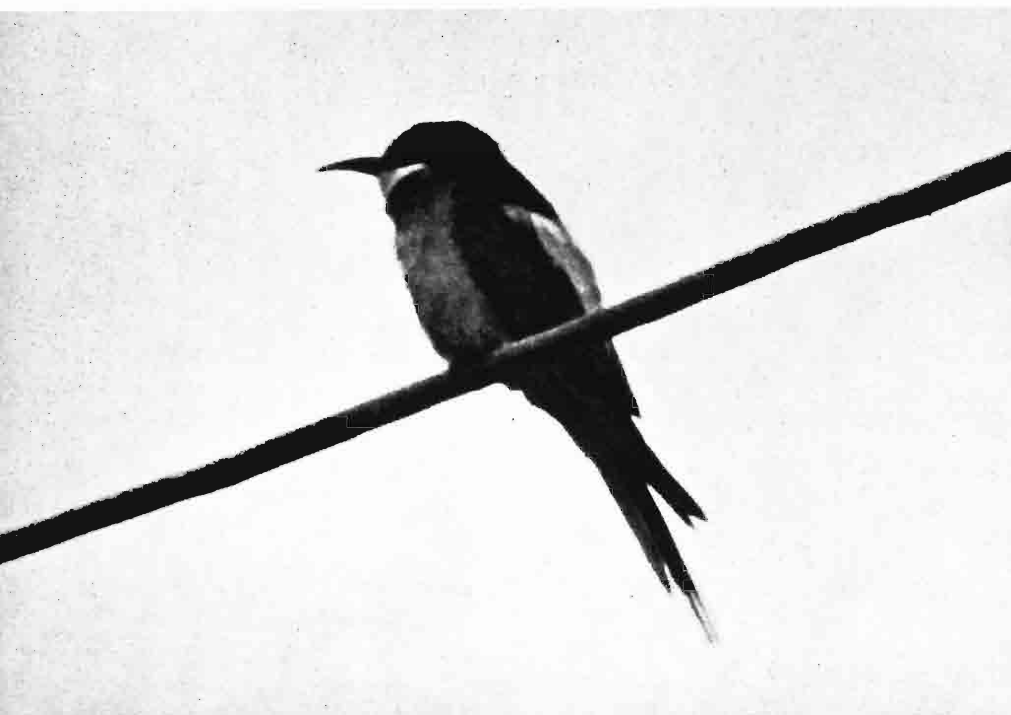




PLATE 11 (a) Steller's Elder, female, and drake common Elder, Fair Isle, 31st May 1971.

(b) Honey Buzzard, Gott, Shetland, 1st June 1971.

Photographs by Dennis Coultis





PLATE 12 (a) Snowy Owl, female, caught on trawler off Spitzbergen, and released by Bobby Tulloch on Fetlar, Shetland, February 1971.

(b) Scarlet Grosbeak, Fair Isle, 19th September 1971.

(c) Great White Egret, roosting in a drain, North Roe, Shetland, 26th March 1971.

(d) Tawny Pipit, Sumburgh Airport, Shetland, 30th September 1971.

Photographs by Dennis Coultts



Autumn: Fair Isle, 25 July-11 Aug, peak 5 on 30 July (RAB); Skye, 40 S Pabay 25 Aug (ECG); Aber, last Ythan 9 Oct (PDR); Angus, 40 Montrose Bay 8 July (GMC); Kinross, peak 28 L Leven 2 Aug (AA, JHSw); E Loth, 9 Aberlady 9 July (ADKR); last Portencross, Ayr, 17 Oct (JLB).

***Spotted Sandpiper** *Tringa macularia*. 1 Tynninghame, E Loth, 30 Oct (LLJV)—a new bird for Scotland.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Peak counts: 3573 Scottish Solway 19 Sep (NSRG); Renf. 4000+ Erskine 10 Apr and 5000+ on 19 Dec (HG, IPG, ANG); Midl. 1500 Musselburgh 27 Mar (RF); W Loth, 1000 Almond estuary 30 Sep (GLS); Fife, 2000 Eden estuary 19 Sep (RWS); Moray, 2000 Findhorn 20 Sep (JE); Inv, 800 Longman Bay 19 Sep (RHD).

***Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*. Winter: 1 Doonfoot, Ayr, Jan-mid Apr (WRB); 1 Aberlady, E Loth, 7 Feb (RMB, AMt). Spring passage, all singles: Barns Ness, E Loth, 1-2 May (AMt); Ythan, Aber, 13-14 Apr (JAL); Unst, Shet, 31 May (JKy).

Autumn passage from 19 July, singles unless stated: Shet, Breiwick 20 Nov (NLS); Fair Isle, 14 Aug and 7 Oct (RAB); Ork, North Ronaldsay 22 Aug (RG); Suth, Golspie 28 Sep (MHI); Inv, 2 Lentrán 28 Aug (RHD); Moray, Garmouth 18 Sep, Findhorn 20 Sep (JE); Aber, Ythan 19-25 July, 18 Aug, 22 Sep, 11 Oct (RWS); Angus, Montrose Bay 9 and 20 Aug (GMC); Perth, Invergowrie 9 Aug (2), 10 Aug, 19 Sep, 7 and 9 Oct (RMCM, EJM); Isle of May 26-28 Aug (GLS); Fife, Eden 12 Aug (PJO'B, EJM); E Stir, Skinflats 29 Aug (DLC, DCS); W Loth, Almond estuary 4 Aug (RDM), 11 Sep (TCS); Midl, Musselburgh 24 and 27 Aug (RWJS, LLJV); E Loth, Aberlady 22 July (ADKR), 11 Nov (PH), Drem 1-2 between 13 Sep and 24 Oct (DGA, PH), Tynninghame 12 and 24 Dec (TB, LLJV); Ber, St Abbs 7 Sep (RM); Ayr, Hunterston 24 Sep (IPG), Doonfoot 14 Nov-31 Dec (WRB); Renf, Woodhall 29 Aug and 23 Sep (ANG, IPG), Erskine 6 Sep, 5 Oct (3), 6 Oct, 14 Nov (2) (HG, IPG); Wig, Sandhead 27 Aug (RCD).

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. No reported changes in breeding status. Winter records: Ayr, 2 Doonfoot 1 Jan-7 Mar (WRB), 1 Hunterston 1 Jan-end Mar (JLB, WCW); Renf, 6 Woodhall 1 Jan-14 Mar (HG, IPG); Fife, 1 wintered Boarhills-Kingsbarns; Kinross, 1 L Leven 1 Jan-16 Feb (AA); Angus, 1 Dighty mouth Jan-Feb (TMC, NKA); E Ross, 3 Kessock 14 Feb (MIH); W Ross, Torridon 22 Feb (JAW).

Spring return: 5 Apr, Scourie, Suth; 7 Apr, L More, Caith and Speyside, Inv. Passage, scarce in north; only singles Fair Isle 13 May (RAB) and Whalsay, Shet, 25 Apr (JHS).

Autumn passage 3 Aug to end Oct; good numbers most areas; peaks: Shet, 6 Hillwell Loch 8-18 Aug; Inv, 7 Lentrán 28 Aug (MIH); Aber, 5 Ythan 24 Aug and 9 Sep (JAL); Angus, 11 Montrose Basin 22 Aug (GMC); Fife, 21 Eden estuary 8 Sep (JK); E Loth, 6 Aberlady 7 Aug; Renf, 24 Woodhall 27 Sep, still 11 on 31 Dec (ANG, HG, IPG); 49 on Solway count 19 Sep (NSRG). Scattered wintering records north to Cromarty Firth.

Knot *Calidris canutus*. Spring passage; few Shet 7 Apr-6 June; spring peaks 160 Spey mouth, Moray, 1 May (JMB) and 800 Aberlady, E Loth, 14 May (ADKR). Winter counts: c 3000 West Haven, Angus, Jan (TMC); 1700 Almond estuary, W Loth, 16 Jan (TCS).

Autumn passage and peak counts: Shet, 11 July-22 Dec, max 35 on 3 Aug (RJT); Fair Isle, 25 July-24 Sep, max only 13 on 1-2 Aug; North Ronaldsay, Ork, peak 35 on 25 Aug (RG); Inv, numbers Longman Bay have declined in recent years and peak only 150 on 28 Aug (RHD); 3000+ Whiteness Head 21 Nov (RHD); Moray, 500 Burghead 28 Oct (RHD), 676 Findhorn 21 Nov (KTR); Isle of May peak 34 on 7 Sep (JMAO); Midl, 300 Musselburgh 21 Nov (JB, RF); E Loth, 350 Aberlady 19 June, increasing to 1200 on 9 Aug (ADKR); Solway count 5780 on 21 Nov, Southwick to Carsethorn (NSRG).

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. Last Isle of May 24 May; Angus, 158 between Boddin and Ferryden 8 Apr (NKA); Inv, 3 L Linnhe 3 Apr (JASN), 2 Clachnaharry, Beaully Firth, 17 Jan (RHD), singles 14 Feb and 14 Mar (RHD, MIH); Ork peak 150 North Ronaldsay 21 May (RG); last Fair Isle 22 May; later than usual leaving Shet, 100 Whalsay 20 May (JHS), last Fetlar 25 May.

Autumn arrivals: Fair Isle, 16 July, max 42 on 6 Aug; Ork, 120 Birsay 30 June (CJB); Isle of May, from 9 July, peak 253 on 7 Oct (NKA). Counts: 250 Buckie, Banff, 19 Dec (DBMcG); 115 Arbroath, Angus, 4 Dec (NKA); 90 West Kilbride, Ayr, 19 Dec (JLB). One in Clyde at Erskine, Renf, 17-19 Sep (HG, IPG).

***Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*. Spring: singles Endrick mouth, Dunb, 10 May (DSt) and Kinnaber, Angus, 25 May (GMC). Scarce in autumn, about 35-40 birds reported, singles unless stated: Shet, Unst 21 Aug (BM), 2 Hillwell 1 Sep (DC); Fair Isle, 26-28 July, 20 Aug, 21 Aug (2) (RAB); Ork, North Ronaldsay 10 Sep (RG); Aber, Ythan 23 Sep (RSBy); Angus, Kinnaber 21 Sep (GMC). 6 Dighty mouth 14 Aug (TMC), West Haven 21 Aug-5 Sep, 2 on 9 Sep (TMC), Montrose Basin 21 Sep and 5 Oct (GMC); Perth, Invergowrie Bay 30 Sep (EJM, PJO'B); Fife, Elie 7 Aug (MHR), 2 Fife Ness 9 Sep (AMH); Midl, Gladhouse 24 July (RWJS), Musselburgh 3-17 Oct (RWJS, LLJV); E Loth, Aberlady 8-10 July, 6 Aug, 7 Aug (3), 24 Aug (RHH, AJK, ADKR); Dunb, 5 Ardmore Point 17 Oct (SMDA).

***Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*. At least one pair reared 2 young (chicks seen 16-22 July) at site in northern Scotland, apparently present in previous two summers (anon) (7: 94 and plate 8).

***Baird's Sandpiper** *Calidris bairdii*. O Heb, 1 Traigh Iar, North Uist, 27-29 Sep (7: 94) (GC); 2nd Scottish record, the first was St Kilda 28 Sep 1911.

***Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*. Singles North Ronaldsay, Ork, 6-7 Sep (RG) and Hillwell Loch, Shet, 11-19 Sep (DC *et al.*).

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. 2 prs bred L Thom, Renf (IPG); 2 Eigg, 1 Heb, 5-12 June (JCu). Peak counts: Renf, 2800 Erskine 14 Feb. 1387 on 21 Nov (HG, IPG); Ayr, 1450 Fairlie 29 Dec (DLC, IPG); Midl, 2000 Musselburgh 6 Feb, 2600 on 21 Nov and 19 Dec (JB, RF); W Loth, 3000 Almond estuary 16 Jan (TCS); Fife, 2500 Eden estuary 11 Jan (RWS); Perth, 1400 Invergowrie Bay 25 Nov (EJM); Moray, 300 Findhorn 21 Nov (KTR); Inv, 300 Longman 17 Jan (RHD).

***Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*. 14 spring records 23 Apr-28 May compared with one in 1968, none in 1969 and 3 in 1970. E Loth, 2 Aberlady 21 May (ADKR); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 9 May, 1 on 23 May (LLJV); Stir, 1 Skinflats 23 Apr (MHu); O Heb, 6 Balranald 28 May (GC); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 19-20 May (RG); Shet, 1 Fetlar 16-17 May (ARM). One summered Aberlady, E Loth (ADKR).

Scarcer autumn than last two years, recorded 17 July-26 Sep: Shet, singles Whalsay 26 July (JHS), Virkie 1 Aug (FH), Fetlar 12 Aug (RSPB); Caith, 1 Thurso 25 Oct (SL); Angus, 1 Dighty mouth 14 Aug (TMC); Perth, 1 Invergowrie Bay 11 Sep, 4 on 25th, 1 on 26 Sep (EJM, PJO'B); Fife, 3 Fife Ness 4 Aug (JARG), 5 Eden estuary 12 Aug (EJM, PJO'B), 2 on 8 Sep (JK); Stir, 2 Skinflats 15 Aug, 6 on 26 Aug, 3 on 29 Aug (DLC, DCS); Midl, 8 Musselburgh 5 Aug, 3 on 15 Aug (DMcN); E Loth, 2 Aberlady 17 and 25 July, 6 on 31st, 7 on 1 Aug, 1 on 6 Aug, 9 on 9 Aug (ADKR, PH); Renf, 2 Erskine 27 Aug (HG). Winter: 2 L Ryan, Wig, 12 Dec (JGY).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*. Spring departure: Fair Isle, few 2 Apr-23 May (RAB); Ork, 10-25 North Ronaldsay 16-19 May (RG); E Ross, 3 Morrish More 30 May (RHD); 1 Heb, singles Tiree 15-21 May (PBB), Lunga 29 May-4 June (IG); E Loth, peak 24 on 21 May (ADKR); Dunb, 2 Endrick mouth 23 May (DSt).

Autumn passage from 3 July; numbers low in north, peaks: Inv/Nairn, 40 Whiteness Head 21 Nov (ISR); Moray, 80 Findhorn 21 Nov (KTR);

Fife, 44 Tentsmuir 21 July (RHD), 200 on 5 Sep (RWS); E Loth, 178 Aberlady 25 July (ADKR). Kinross, 1 L Leven 29 Aug (AA, JHSw), 2 on 3 Oct (AG)—first for many years; 1 Ardgour, Arg, 25 Aug (RAH); 4 St Kilda 29 July (CEMG, JRT) are noteworthy.

***Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis*. 1 Kilchoman Bay, Islay, 1 Heb, 28 Sep (GHE *et al.*); 6th Scottish record (7: 53).

***Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*. 15-20 wintered Aberlady/Drem, E Loth, Jan-Mar, decrease to early May (PH, AMt), 15 at end of year (DJ). Spring-summer records: Fair Isle, 24 Apr, 25th (2), 1-2 May (RAB); E Ross, ♂ Rockfield 14 June (DCH); Inv, 1 Newtonmore 19 July (DNW); Fife, ♂ Eden estuary 2 Apr (DWO); Midl, 1 Mountlothian 23-25 Apr (EMS, RWJS); Ber, 1 Dowlaw 8 June (KSMcG).

Autumn from 15 July, mainly Aug and Sep, last 5 Nov. Summary of migration data: Shet, 12 records 3-23 Aug; Fair Isle, small numbers (1-4) 25 July-3 Aug, 22 Aug-3 Sep (RAB); Ork, singles North Ronaldsay 21, 23 Aug, 7 Sep (RG); E Ross, 1 L Eye 11 Sep (RHD); O Heb, 2 St Kilda 7 Aug (CEMG, JRT), 1 Balranald 13 Aug (GC); Banff, 2-8 Buckpool 21-28 Aug (DBMcG); Angus, 1-2 13 July-21 Sep, max 4 Montrose Basin 20 Aug and 1 Sep (GMC); Perth, 2 Kingoodie 15 Aug (HB); Kinross, L Leven 21 July-12 Oct, few, but peak 9 on 29 Aug (AA, AG, JHSw *et al.*); Isle of May, 1 on 8 Sep (AJW); Fife, 3 Aug-5 Nov, peak 34 Eden estuary 16 Sep (EJM, PJO'B); Stir, Skinflats 15 Aug (6)-12 Sep (4), max 33 on 26th and 16 on 29 Aug (DLC, DCS); Midl, first Gladhouse 27 July (RWJS), max 5 on 10 Aug (GLS); E Loth, first 2 Drem 15 July, max 11 Aberlady 6 Aug (PH, ADKR); Clyde, 20 July-27 Sep, max 15 Linwood, Renf, 29 Aug, 14 on 4 Sep (ANG, HG, IPG); Wig, 1 Stoneykirk 14-17 Aug, 2 Sandhead 14 Aug, one 28 Aug (RCD), 2 Maryport 28 Sep (BST). Winter: ♂ Eden estuary, Fife, 27 Dec (AG, DWO).

***Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*. 1 Tynninghame, E Loth, 5-7 June (DGA, TB, DJ, AMt).

***Grey Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicarius*. 6 records compared with 2 in 1970. 3 in 1969 and none in 1968. Shet, 1 Scalloway, 3-4 Sep (DC, RD, RJ); Fair Isle, 2 on 3 Sep, 1 to 8th (RAB); Fife, 1 St Andrews 22 Nov (DAH); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 27-28 Nov (LLJV *et al.*); Dumf, 1 found dead (fresh) Caerlaverock 21 Dec (ELR).

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*. Shet, Fetlar 13 May-14 Aug, numbers a little below average; O Heb, 2 Balranald 26 May, up to 6 until 18 July, 2 prs bred but both broods lost (GC). St Kilda, pair present 3 weeks early summer (DS); singles Fair Isle 18 June (RAB); Endrick mouth, Dunb, 28 June (7: 95) (RKP).

***Stone Curlew** *Burhinus oedicnemus*. One in poor condition West Linton, Peeb, 26 Oct, released Aberlady Bay, E Loth, 27 Oct (FDH, B Marshall *et al.*) (7: 53).

***Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola*. 1 Fair Isle 2 June (T Boothroyd, RAB, ISR *et al.*); 6th Scottish record; last 1963.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*. Breeding numbers still increasing Ork (EB); bred Drum Holliston, Suth/Caith border; 10 prs present Handa, Suth (RHD); 8 prs St Kilda where 4 prs in 1969 and 5 in 1970 (NC). Arrivals: early records Foula 26 Jan (JGH), Noss 14 Feb (per RJT); 1 Apr, Fair Isle and Unst (RAB, MS), 2 Apr, Foula (JGH), 4 Apr, Fetlar (ARM); last Shet 23 Oct and Fair Isle 7 Nov. Records around coasts include: 7 Thurso Bay, Caith, 21 Aug (PMC); 17 W, 2 E in 2 hrs Faraid Head, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD); 5 N Collieston, Aber, 18 Sep (NP, MM), 1 Murcar 24 Nov (LHC), 3 N Buchan Ness 28 Mar (LHC, JAL); Angus, passage 18 July-10 Oct, max 7 West Haven 14 Aug (TMC); Fife and Lothians 7 July-8 Oct, small numbers. 1 Carsethorn, Kirk, 14 Feb (PMcK, BST).

***Pomarine Skua** *Stercorarius pomarinus*. Spectacular northward passage in spring O Heb, 20 Ard Ness, North Uist, 17 May, 54 on 18th, 15 on 19th, 3 on 23rd—86 of the 92 individuals were pale-phase adults (GC).

Autumn passage: Fair Isle, singles 4 and 12 Sep (RAB); Shet, 1 Burra Haaf (at sea) 3 Nov (per RD); Suth, 9 (4 ads) Embo 10 Oct (DB); Aber, Ythan 1 Sep (JAL *et al.*), 4 Sep (NP), 4 on 11 Sep (GMD, WM, RFY), 2 Collieston 18 Sep (MM, NP), 2 on 25 Sep (MM); Angus, singles West Haven 29 Aug and 12 Sep (TMC), 2 Montrose 9 Sep (GMC); E Loth, 2 Tynninghame 12 Sep, 1 on 26 Sep (TB, EMS); I Heb, 1 off Mull 9 Sep (RMMcN), 1 off Islay 16 Sep (CGB), 2 between Gigha and Islay 3 Oct (GJL).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*. First record 3 N Buchan Ness, Aber, 28 Mar (LHC, JAL). Arrival of breeders: Shet, Foula 15 Apr (JGH), Fetlar 18 Apr (ARM), Whalsay 24 Apr (JHS), Fair Isle 19 Apr increasing to 8 on 21st and 40 by 4 May. Notable NW passage O Heb, 6 Ard an Runair, North Uist, 17 May, 102 on 18th, 10 on 19th, 7 on 20th and 11 on 23rd (GC); singles St Kilda 4th and 28th June, 4 July (DS); summer records: I Heb south to Islay; Inv, 1 over Cairn Gorm 31 May (TE).

Autumn migration: plentiful on east coast; peaks and dates of passage: last Fair Isle 20 Sep (RAB); E Ross, max 10 in 1 hr Tarbat Ness 2 Sep (CJMCK-G); Inv, 4 Lentran 29 Aug (RHD, MIH); Moray, 12 Findhorn 30 Aug (RHD); Aber, Ythan 25 July-6 Nov, max 30+ on 4 Sep (MM, NP, PDR); Angus, 18 July-10 Oct, max 10 Usan 13 Aug (GMC); Isle of May 11 Aug-29 Sep; Fife, from 19 July, max 35 Eden estuary 25 Aug (DWO); Stir, Skinflats 30 July-8 Oct, 8 on 8 Oct (RHH, DW); W Loth, max 8 Almond estuary 27 July (DIMW); Midl, max 10 Musselburgh 1 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, peaks 33 on 23 July, 38 on 25 July, 19 on 4 Aug (ADKR). In southwest: 1-2 off Ayr 19 June-8 Sep, 2 Ailsa Craig 28 Aug (RO'G); 1 Comlongan, Dumf, 22 Oct (WA).

***Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus*.** Singles: Ard an Runair, North Uist, O Heb, 17 May (GC); Fair Isle 23 May (GJB); Rattray Head, Aber 13th and 15 June (MRW), Ythan 1 Sep (JAL, MAMcD *et al.*).

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. 400 prs breeding Morrich More, E Ross (RHD); breeders spreading inland and increasing Caith (PMC). Peak counts of 'pelagic' birds during storms at Fair Isle: 1500 on 18th and 23 Jan, 2000 on 10 Oct, 22 Oct and 21 Nov (RAB, GJB). Angus, 800 Broughty Ferry 20 Nov (TMC); autumn build-up Longman dump, Inv, 156 on 6 Sep, 385 on 10 Oct (JMcR, MR); 15 at L Garten roost, inland Inv, 25 Jan (RHD).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. Arrival of breeders: Shet, Fetlar 17 Mar (ARM). Scalloway 19 Mar (RJT); Fair Isle, 8 Apr, 6 on 11 Apr, last 23 Sep (RAB); Suth, 3 Handa 3 Apr (RHD); E Ross, 7 North Kessock 7 Apr (MKMcD-D). Passage: Angus, 5 Apr-31 Oct; Fife, 19 Mar, fairly general 9 Apr (DWO). Winter: Kinross, recorded all months L Leven; Gladhouse, Midl, 28 Feb (LLJV); Doonfoot, Ayr, 7 Feb. Scandinavian race, *L. f. fuscus*: 3 West Ferry, Angus, 18 Nov, 2 Broughty Ferry 15 Dec (TMC); 2 Burntisland, Fife, 27 Mar, 1 on 3 Apr (JMC).

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Breeding records: no young reared Tentsmuir, Fife (TRG); 4 prs attempted to breed L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHSw); increase many areas, eg 700 prs Horse Island, Ayr (300 pairs 1970) (AGS). Inv, white adult present Longman, except 18 Feb-28 Aug (RHD, MR); rough-weather peaks Fair Isle, 2000 on 18 Jan, 1000-3000 on 14-20 Apr, 7000 on 6 Nov (RAB, GJB); roost 4000 L Leven Jan (AA, JHSw); 140 inland roost L Garten, Inv, 25 Jan (RHD).

Common Gull *Larus canus*. Breeding numbers L Thom, Renf, down by half to 100 prs, very poor success (HG, IPG). Peak counts: Fair Isle, from 17 Mar, max 23 on 18 May, autumn from end July, 500 on 9 Aug, 1000 on 23 Oct (RAB); L Leven, Kinross, 5000 in Jan, very few mid Apr-late July, 5000 in Aug, 10000+ in Sep (AA, JHSw); c 20000 gulls, mainly Common, L of Skene, Aber, 6 Nov (RSBy); 2500 Doonfoot, Ayr, 17 Oct (WRB).

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*. Good numbers Jan-Mar, but not so

plentiful autumn-winter. Shet, 60 reports Jan-Feb, max 10 Ronas Voe 10 Apr (BM), few summer records, arrivals from 15 Oct, max 6 Muckla Skerry 21 Oct (RHD, RJT); Fair Isle, small numbers Jan-Apr, but 44 on 18 Jan (GJB); singles May, June, Aug, arrivals from 22 Sep, max 9 on 19 Nov (RAB); Ork, a few in winter, 1 Stenness 3-20 June (EB); Caith, winter singles, 1 Scrabster, 2 May (SL); Suth, singles Embo Jan 9, 23 Oct-18 Dec (DMcD), Helmsdale 21 Feb (RHD); O Heb, few from 13 Nov (MFMM); Inv, 1-2 Mallaig Jan-3 Apr (MIH, AJW), 2 on 4 Dec (RHD); W Ross, 1 Kyle of Lochalsh 3-16 Apr (TCS); I Heb, 1 Portree 8 Apr (TCS); Aberdeen, 3 singles to 21 Mar, one 17 Oct-Dec (PDR); Angus, singles West Haven Jan-Dec, Arbroath 28 Dec, 2 West Haven 5 Dec (GMC); Fife, 1 St Andrews 1-31 Dec (DAH); Kinross, 1 L Leven 16 Oct-17 Nov (when found dead) (AA, AG); Midl, 1 Musselburgh to 4 Apr (RF, LLJV); Ayr, singles Ayr 7 Apr (AGS), Doonfoot 16 Apr (WRB), 9 Oct (WRB), Portencross 24 Nov (JLB), Renf, 1 Kilmaccolm 1-14 Feb (JAG).

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucooides*. Rather more plentiful than usual early 1971, normal numbers autumn-winter: Shet, 15 reports Jan-Apr, 2 on two dates, 1 on 7 June, 3 singles 29 Oct-Dec (RJT *et al.*); Fair Isle singles 26 Jan, 28 Mar, 23 Apr, 5 Oct, 20 Dec (RAB); Ork, imm Birsay Nov-Dec (EJW); Caith, imm Wick, ad Thurso, imm Scrabster 21 Feb (RHD), 1 Scrabster 2 May (SL), ad + imm Scrabster Dec (PMC, SL); Suth, imm Helmsdale 21 Feb (RHD), 1 Embo 20 Apr (G Savage); Inv, 2-3 Inverness area 8 Jan-10 Mar (RHD, MIH), singles Mallaig 21 Mar (AJW *et al.*), 16 June (RLS *et al.*); Aberdeen 30 Oct-20 Nov (MAMcD, PDR); Angus, imm Monifieth 20-24 Mar (TMC), 1 West Haven 22 Aug (TMC); Midl, 1 Edinburgh 11 Feb-11 Mar (TD), 24-26 Mar (AJF); Ayr, imm Doonfoot 7 Feb-10 Apr, 2 Prestwick 4 Apr, 1-2 Ayr 21 Mar-8 Apr (WRB, JLB, BCF *et al.*); I Heb, 1 Rhum 7 Oct (PW); O Heb, first of autumn Ness, Lewis, 13 Nov (MFMM, WAJC).

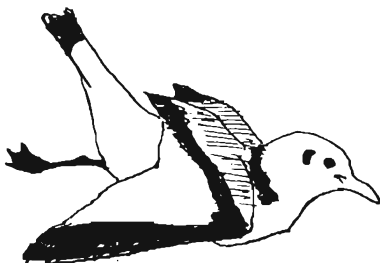
Little Gull *Larus minutus*. Angus and Fife, reported as usual every month. Peak counts Fife, 31 Methil 23 Jan (DWO, ARS), 100 Kilconquhar 15 and 22 Aug (PGTB, DLC, DCS), 200 on 2 Sep (PGTB), 350 (30 juvs) 12 Sep (DLC), down to 47 on 7 Nov (DWO), 20 Eden estuary 3 Aug (DWO, RWS); Angus, 96 Broughty Ferry 3 Apr (TMC), 180 West Haven 9 Sep, 230 on 5 Sep (NKA).

Elsewhere, singles unless stated; Shet, Scalloway 18-20 Feb (DC, RD); Ork, North Ronaldsay 19 May, 22nd (2), 24th, 3 June (RG); Aber, off Aberdeen 4 July (DJH), 19 July (MJA), 2 Strathbeg 26 July (MRW), 2 Meikle Loch 14-27 Aug (LHC, JAL), 2 on 4 Sep (NP), different one on 5 Sep, Strathbeg 12 Sep (MRW); Kinross, L Leven 30 Apr (JHSw); Isle of May 13 Aug (RWJS); W Loth, Hound Point 29 Oct (GLS); Midl, 3 Gladhouse 24 May, 4 on 30 May-17 June (EMS, RWJS), Musselburgh 7-12 June (GLS, LLJV), 5 Aug (2) (DMcN), 22 Oct (2) (GLS), 21 Nov (2) (LLJV); E Loth, Aberlady 26 Sep (DMcN), 2 Gullane 12 Sep (DJ, NP); Peeb, 4 Portmore 30 May (EMS, RWJS); Ayr, Stevenston 22 Apr (WCW), Ayr 2 Aug (WRB).

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. Apparently on decline; Caith, large traditional site Strathmore deserted (PMC); Suth, no colonies found Scourie area (IDP); Inv, Duntelchaig colony absent (MR); now fewer than 30 prs Horse Island, Ayr (AGS); poor season Angus and Fife but good year L Leven, where 7500 pairs bred. 4000 Broughty Ferry, Angus 1 Jan (TMC); big arrival Speyside, Inv, 25 Feb (RHD, DNW); pre-breeding roost L Garten peak 5500 on 2 Apr (RF).

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Continued increase Firth of Forth, 3436 nests Isle of May (3095 in 1969); Inchkeith 407 nests (342 in 1970), Fidra 164 (104 in 1970), Lamb 125 (116 in 1970) (RWJS); 8000 nests Ailsa Craig, Ayr (JAG); 22 nests Sandwood Bay stack, Suth (DCH). Return to ledges: Fair Isle from 5 Feb, regularly from early Mar (RAB); Caith, 300 Clett Rock 28 Feb (KRM). Spring passage: 800 Caol, head of L Linnhe, 9 Apr (RHD), 300 on 10th (JASN). Peak counts and passage: 1500 Helmsdale

harbour, Suth, 5 Sep (RHD); Inv, 2000 off Whiteness Head 21 Nov (RHD, ISR); Moray, 2000 Speymouth 11 Sep (DBMcG); Banff, 1000 in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr past Buckpool 11 Sep (DBMcG); Angus, 3000 S West Haven 2 Oct (TMC).



***Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*.** Singles unless stated. Spring, 24 Apr-17 May, Shet, Hillwell 17 May (AO); Aber, 2 Meikle Loch 26 Apr (LHC, CJF), 28th (3), 30th (3) (LHC, JAL, CJF), 8 L Davan 7 May (DR); E Loth, Aberlady 24 Apr (GLS); Ayr, Barassie 24 Apr (WRB); Lanark 7 May (JBI, ND); Dunb, 3 Endrick mouth 8 May (JM_i, DW).

Autumn, 3 Aug-3 Oct; Ork, North Ronaldsay 27 Aug (RG); Aber, Ythan 1 Sep (JAL), 2 Meikle Loch 5 Sep (NP); Angus, 4 Kinnaber 3 Aug (FL), 3 Montrose Basin 4 Aug, 6th (7) (ABR), West Haven 13 Aug, 17th (3) (TMC); Kinross, L Leven 29 Aug, 2 early Sep, 8 Sep (AA, JHSw); Fife, Kilconquhar 9 Aug (MHR), 3 Oct (DWO); E Loth, 5 Barns Ness 29 Aug (LLJV); Ber, St Abbs 1 Sep (RM); Sel, Lindean Reservoir 24 Aug (CS); Kirk, L Kindar 31 Aug (HMR).

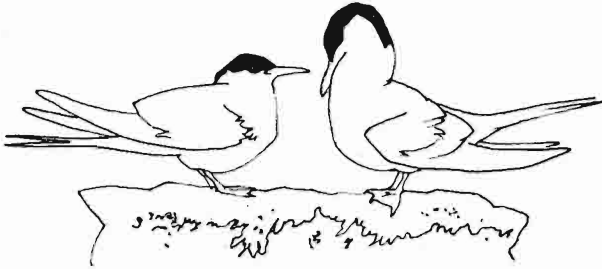
***Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*.** One Fair Isle 24-29 May (RAB, SG, ISR *et al.*); first for island and 7th Scottish record.

***Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*.** One Aberlady, E Loth, 20 June (DGA, ADKR, KMCK, WWt), 2 on 1 July (ADKR) (7:54). Only previous Scottish record was on 7 Aug 1968.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. Breeding status: further increase Aberlady, E Loth, to 350 prs (ADKR); 300-400 prs Fidra (RWJS); increase Leith Docks, Midl, to 50 prs, good fledging success (ADKR); very successful season main colony Tentsmuir, Fife (TRG); new colony, 7 nests found, Rhum, I Heb (PW). Bad reports: W Ross, poor season (ENH); Inv/Nairn, 50 prs Whiteness Head failed (JE, KTR); Aber, most of Forvie colony Common/Arctics failed after gale 15 July (AS, NP); poor year L Leven, Kinross (AA, JHSw).

Arrivals and departures: Fair Isle, 21 May-13 Sep (RAB); O Heb, Uig, Lewis, 8 May (IMMcL); Moray, 30 Speymouth 23 Apr (JMB); Angus, Ferryden 11 Apr (TMC), 14 Usan 7 Oct (GMC); Perth, 21 Apr Loch of Lowes (EMH); Fife, 2 Elie 17 Apr (DWO, ARS), Fife Ness 3 Oct (DWO); 2 Ayr 21 Apr (WRB); 2 Glencaple, Dumf, 16 Apr (ADW).

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*. Breeding status: further increase to 125 prs Aberlady, E Loth (ADKR); 2-3 prs bred Leith Docks (ADKR); 25 prs Fidra 18 June (RWJS); fewer bred Tentsmuir, Fife (TRG); c 1500 prs North Ronaldsay, Ork (RG); good season Shet (RJT); 30 prs Lady Isle, Ayr (JAG). Arrivals and departures: Shet, Whalsay 2 May, 60 on 3rd (JHS, BM), last Hillwell 28 Sep (DC); Fair Isle, 13 May-22 Aug (RAB), c 400 29 July, mainly Arctics (RAB); O Heb, 1 South Uist 26 Apr (WAJC); Inv, first L Linnhe 7 May, most 10 May, last 5 Sep (JCu, JASN); Angus, 5 West Haven 18 Apr (TMC); last Perth, Invergowie 14 Oct (EJM, PJO'B); Maidens Harbour, Ayr, 10 Oct (RHH).



Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*. Inchmickery colony, Forth, apparently deserted (due to Herring Gull explosion?), 1 pr briefly seen 16 June (RWJS); but 100 prs Fidra 18 June (RWJS), few prs Inchcolm (RSPB); 3 prs bred Aberlady, E Loth, one young reared (ADKR); 2 prs Lady Isle, Ayr (JAG); fewer seen Fife coast (DWO); 13 reports Angus 27 Apr-5 Sep (per GMC). Elsewhere only reports: 2 Isle of May 11 July (per NJG); 1 Logie Buchan, Aber, 31 May (CJF); 2 Morrich More, E Ross, 30 June (CGH, HDS); 1 Eigg, 1 Heb, 4 July (SWH).

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*. Record numbers E Loth, where c 16 prs reared c 12 young Aberlady (ADKR); good numbers Angus coast; Rattray colony, Aber, had 7 prs (MRW), but breeders failed Forvie (AS, NP); 10 prs Tentsmuir, Fife, 30 May, but only 3 prs mid June (RWS, DWO); usual breeding records north to Caithness. Arrivals, departures, passage: Ork, 3 Walkmill Bay 4 June (EB); first Stornoway, O Heb, 3 May (IMMcL); 2 Kingoodie, Perth, 22 Aug (HB); first Aberlady 24 Apr (GLS); 1 Endrick mouth, Dunb, 10 July (DJN).

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*. 65 prs nested Aberlady, E Loth, but deserted (ADKR); 94 nests Lady Isle, Ayr (JAG); 300 nests Fidra, Firth of Forth, 18 June (RWJS); bred L Riddon, Arg (JBH); 7 prs nested L Fleet, Suth, but failed, last nested there 1964 (DMcD); bred Stroma, Caith SL, PRJ). Arrivals, departures, passage: first Fife Ness 4 Apr (DWO); first Dunbar, E Loth, 8 Apr (LLJV); Isle of May 9 Apr (NKA); Usan, Angus, 11 Apr (GMC); Speymouth, Moray, 12 Apr (JMB); 2 Dunnet, Caith, 21 Apr (DG). Last: 28 Sep Largo Bay, Fife (PGTB); Isle of May 2 Oct (MN); Gosford, E Loth, 8 Oct (DGA); Musselburgh, Midl, 24 Oct (LLJV).

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Little comment; ashore Fair Isle from early Feb, regularly early Mar, last ashore 18 Aug (RAB); 1 Canonbie, Dumf, 21 Oct (per RS).

Little Auk *Plautus alle*. Scarce Shet winter 70/71, but more at end of year, 150 between Yell and Out Skerries 31 Dec (RJT); 100 off Sumburgh Jan, seen on crossing to Fair Isle, 3 Sep (1) and from 10 Nov. Vagrants: Achfary, Suth, 30 Dec (IDP); dead Speymouth, Moray 12 Mar (JMB); Rhinns, Islay, 1 Heb, Nov (CGB); dead Elie, Fife, 12 Mar (DWO). Fife Ness 2 May (PGTB); dead Humbie, E Loth, 21 Mar (DGA); dead Glenluce, Wig, 1 Dec (TCC).

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Ashore Fair Isle from 10 Jan, also visits from 13 Nov (GJB); 75 ashore Fetlar, Shet, 11 Jan (ARM); ashore Caith 10 Jan, also Dec (KRM, SL). 500 Ayr Bay late Sep (AGS). Vagrants: Stanley, Perth, 12 Oct (WDa), 2 Endrick mouth, Dunb, 19-21 Sep (JMi, CPl, TW).

Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*. 2 prs Melrose, Banff, 2 May (JE); counts 100 prs Sanda islands, Arg; 12 prs Ailsa Craig, 2 prs Little Cumbrae, Bute (JAG). Migrants, singles unless stated: Gosford Bay, E Loth, 2 Oct (GLS, LLJV); Elie Ness, Fife, 30 Apr (WJE); Isle of May, May and

early Oct (per NJG); Rattray Head, Aber, 13 and 22 May (MRW); Inv, Chanony Point 14 Nov (RHD, MIH), inside Whiteness Head 21 Nov (RHD); 7 Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 8 Sep (CJMCK-G).

Puffin *Fratrercula arctica*. Breeding status: at least one pr again summered Mull of Galloway (ADW, JGY); increase to c 2500 prs Isle of May (per NJG); 40 birds Prail-Red Head, Angus, 4 Aug (GMC); 1 Heb, marked increase Rhum, now c 100 prs Carnus Pliasgaig (PW); Suth, big decrease Clo Mhor since last visit 20 years previously (IDP)—possibly aggravated by increasing use of Cape Wrath range by NATO ships; Caith, numbers slightly down (per PMC). Fair Isle, singles 14 Jan, 16 Feb, 2 on 14 Mar, 7 ashore 1 Apr, 100 on 2 Apr, food for young from 4 June (RAB); 4 off Dunnet Head, Caith, 30 Mar.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*. Migrants: Fair Isle, singles 25-26 Mar, 31 Mar, 23 Apr, 29 Nov-2 Dec (RAB); 1 L Hope, Suth, 7 June (JFS). Flocks: 20 Vane Farm, Kinross, 14 Feb (AA); 40 Woodend, W Loth, 1 May (DTH).

Rock Dove *Columba livia*. Increase Torridon area, W Ross (JAW); Fair Isle peaks 22 in May, 46 in Nov (RAB).

Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*. Breeding status: increasing in Forestry Commission plantations Caith, nest and eggs in Nov (JMW); big increase Gairloch area, W Ross (ENH); summer immigrants ored Scourie, Suth (IDP); pr bred Rattray Head Lighthouse, Aber (MRW). Migrations: Fair Isle 17 Mar-11 June, max 9 on 2nd, 3rd and 14 May, 26 Sep-1 Dec, max 4 on 5 Oct (RAB); 1 North Uist, O Heb 25 May (GC); 300 Isle of May 8 Nov (RAJ); 1000 Tarbat Ness and 2000 Delny, E Ross, 30 Dec (RHD); 8000 Langbank, Renf, 31 Jan (RWF, GTW).

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*. Summer records: Aberlady, E Loth, 9 July (ADKR); pr Rattray Head, Aber, 3 May-29 July (MRW); St Monance, Fife, 11 Aug (MHR); St Kilda 28 July (CEMG, JRT); L Hope, Suth, 6 July (DCH); no reports of breeding.

Migration: Shet, 20 reports 8 May-8 June, max 4 Skerries 1 June (RJT), 5 Helendale 26 May and 7 June (DC, BM); singles Fetlar 26 June (ARM), Foula 8-12 Sep (JGH); Fair Isle, very few 23 Apr to 12 July; 28 Aug, 3 Sep (2) and 14 Oct (RAB); Ork, singles North Ronaldsay 17, 20, 21, 30 May, 9 June, 7-8 Sep, 5 Oct (RG), Rendall 30 May (EB); Suth, Altnaharra 25 May (DB), Crask early June (JFo), Dornoch 19 June (DMcD); O Heb, Uig, Lewis, 23 May (WAJC), Isle of May, 2 May (2) (DWO), 8-14 May (GLAP), 24 May, 30 May (3) (DRG).

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. Breeding status: Midl, flock of 100 increased to 300 by end of summer Ingliston (JMu); still increasing Galloway; Renf, Paisley colony of 120 birds reduced by shooting to a few pairs (HG, IPG); increase W Loth; increase and spread O Heb.

Migration: Fair Isle, 7 Apr-23 July, peaks 7 on 13 Apr, 22-23 Apr and 5 June, none in autumn (RAB); 13 Foula 13 May was Shet peak (JGH); 24 S West Ferry, Angus 1 Jan (TMC); 3 Isle of May 2 May (DWO), few to 26 May. Counts: 78 Scrabster, Caith, Aug (PMC); 50+ Portmahomack, E Ross, Sep (CJMCK-G); 75 Covesea, Moray, 28 Oct (RHD); 200+ Wormiston, Fife, Jan-Mar (TRG).

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. Arrivals: 8 Apr, Hightae, Dumf (RTS); 13 Apr Corpach, Inv (JASN); 19 Apr Innerwick, E Loth (AMt); 21 Apr, Laurieston, Kirk (AFA); 22 Apr, Knapdale, Arg (IR), L Ruthven, Inv (RF); small numbers until early May. Fair Isle, passage 10 May-28 June, max 3 on 24-25 May, few Aug (RAB); 2 St Kilda 18 May (DS). Last record Fair Isle 28 Aug (RAB).

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*. Slight increase Midl; more sightings Fife; breeding from 3 more Atlas squares Perth; usual records north to E Ross, including brood of 4 found at Mountcoffer, Banff, June (AFWS); singles, Speyside, Inv, Rothiemurchus spring (JPG), Newtonmore Nov (DNW).

***Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca*. Bred for 5th year Fetlar, Shet, first egg 14 May, 5 laid, 4 hatched; Fetlar max 7 (3 ♂♂) on 9 Feb, 4 in Mar, 3 in Apr, 2nd ♀ all summer, 5 (3 juveniles) in July-Sep, 4 (2 juv) in Oct, 3 in Dec (ARM, RJT *et al.*); singles Unst 22 Apr, 28 Mar (♂), 29 Dec (♂); Yell, 2 imm in June, juv ♀ 18 Oct, ♀ found dead 14-15 Nov—ringed Fetlar 17 July 1971; Whalsay 30 Mar (♂), 22 Sep-16 Oct (♀); ad ♀ caught on Hull trawler off Spitzbergen in Feb, brought to England, released Fetlar, probably seen there later in Mar (RJT *et al.*). ♀ Fair Isle 25 Apr (GJB).

***Little Owl** *Athene noctua*. Bred usual area Midl (per WB); 1 Moffat Water, Dumf, 14 Mar, entered cottage and released (ED); 1 Glasgow Airport, Renf, 7 Sep (RCDA).

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*. Only comments: probably increasing Gallo-way (ADW); improvement Burntisland, Fife (JMC); two Islay, 1 Heb, 15 June (MFMM).

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*. Shet, 8 in Scalloway garden Mar, 1 pr nested nearby, back in Scalloway from 24 Sep (RD, BM); Fair Isle, singles 18-19 Mar, 7 Apr, 13 June, small passage 16 Oct-5 Dec, max 3; Ork, few bred, 8 Binscarth 30-31 Dec (EB); pr Rhum, 1 Heb, 20 Jan, 6 Mar (PW). No changes in status reported.



Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. Better year; more than usual Dumf, N Ayr and Angus; 2 nests St Serf's Island, L Leven, Kinross, 2 Apr (AA, IN). Migrants: Shet, singles Foula 29 Mar, 8th and 17 May (JGH), Fetlar 12 May (RSPB), Asta 18 May (FH); Fair Isle scattered records 27 Apr-Oct, max 2 on 25 May and 3 on 2 Oct (RAB); singles Isle of May 16-17 May, 4 Nov (per NJG); Eigg, 1 Heb, 8 June (JCu).

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*. Records from 6 areas Kirk-Wig, first 2 churring King Edward Forest 22 May (ADW), ♀ killed by car Beeswing 22 June (JR, AY), last seen Murray's Monument 22 Sep (RHM); 2 sites Ayr (WRB); 2 Arran, Bute (JAG), one site Dunb (SMDA). Migrants: Fair Isle 30 May (J A Stout); Catfirth, Shet, 19 Sep (IS); North Ronaldsay, Ork 11-13 June (RG); one summer Harris, O Heb (per WAJC); Isle of May 27 May (DRG).

Swift *Apus apus*. Breeding numbers generally low, and arrival late many areas north to Caith. Arrivals: 21 Apr, Vane Farm, Kinross (AA, IN); 28 Apr, Dalmellington, Ayr (DWMcG); 29 Apr, 2 Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 1 May, 100 Dalmeny, W Loth (GLS); 4 May, Aberlady, E Loth (AMt); most areas south Scot next few days; 9 May in north, Fort William, Inv (JCu) and 4 L Ussie, E Ross (RHD); first Caith 19 May (PMC).

Migrants: Shet, from 16 May, most 26 May-2 June, max 10 Saxavord 29 July (MS, RJT); Fair Isle from 18 May, max 30 on 24 June, last 1-4 on 1-11 Sep, late one 1 Oct (RAB); 6 St Kilda 31 July (CEMG, JRT); L Leven, Kinross, 500+ on 14 July, 500 on 24 July, 300 on 6 Aug (JHSW);

c 1500 passed Aberlady, E Loth, 3-5 June (ADKR). Last records: Yell, Shet, 7 Sep (BM); Boat of Garten, Inv, 1 Sep (HJB); Collieston, Aber, 12 Sep (JAL); 4 L Leven 2 Sep (AA); Isle of May 28 Sep (AJW).

***Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*. Continued improvement; bred Newton Stewart (RHM) and records from 7 other districts, Wig-Kirk; pr with 4 young, Dumf (CM), 1 spring and 7 autumn records elsewhere in county; records from 7 areas in Ayr, 2 in Arran and 1 in Lan (WRB, MEC, AGS, MHD, JAG, RE-H); 6 sightings Sel-Rox; 1 Tynninghame, E Loth, 14 Nov, 20 Nov (AMt, RWJS); 1 Almondell, Midl-W Loth, Aug-Nov (AAy); 1 Livingston, Midl, 22 Aug (JO); singles 4 sites Perth (per VMT); 1 Edzell, Angus, 27 Sep (GMC); 1 Crathie, Aber, 11 Apr (RH); singles west coast Ruel River, Arg, 5 Dec (JBH); Dunoon 12 July (RMcD); Mull, 1 Heb, 12-13 Oct (CGH); Islay, 1 Heb, 18-26 Sep (PBB); 1 Kyle of Sutherland, 12 Oct (DB); 1 Voe, Shet, 17 Aug-1 Sep (per DC).

***Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*. Four in Northern Isles: Shet, singles Mainland 20-24 June and 29 June (DC, AO), Kergord 26-27 June (DC *et al.*), Lerwick 31 Aug-6 Sep (DC *et al.*); 1 Fair Isle 30 June-18 Aug (RAB, ISR *et al.*).

***Roller** *Coracias garrulus*. One Bixter, Shet, 4-5 June (7: 55) (DC, BM *et al.*).

***Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*. 9 in spring, 1 in autumn; 1 Fair Isle 25-29 May (RAB); 1 Sarclet, Caith, 23 Apr (per PMC); Suth, 1 L Choire 4 May (J Cairney); Arg, 1 Sanna 17 Apr (Mrs D M Stead); Angus, 1 Fortis 7 May (JDo); Perth, 3 Fealar Lodge, one died, 2nd week May (per E Green); Dumf, 1 Westerhall 10 May (ELBC). Autumn: one found dead Castlemilk, Dumf, 20 Sep (GHF).

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*. Breeding status: now very scarce Lothians, and no signs of recovery, but very good year Fife, where records from 7 sites (DWO); possibly increased Galloway, more reports from coast, Kirk (ADW); reports from 6 sites Angus; present Glen Lyon, Perth, new site (EDC); at least 1 Aviemore, Inv, 7 Feb-26 Mar (JPG, DNW) and 1 Kinlochewe, W Ross, 12 Aug (EBr) are well north of present breeding range.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*. More sightings reported Lochaber, Inv (JCu, JRo) and in Clyde, bred Linn Park, Glasgow (NLS). Migrants: Shet, Scalloway 26 July (RD), Sullom 5 Nov (per DC); Fair Isle, 22 Aug (RAB).

***Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*. Scarce on migration and no breeding records. Summer: Speyside, Inv, 2 L Insh 16 June-July, possibly both ♂♂ (RHD, DNW *et al.*), 1 singing Aviemore 7 June (DNW), 1 singing Inshriach 2 July (per DNW); singing birds Amat, E Ross, 29 May (CGH) and Glen Cassley, Suth, 31 May (RCB).

Migration: Shet, singles Fetlar 5 and 8 May (ARM), Mainland 8-9 May, Whalsay 8 May (JHS); Fair Isle, 2 on 24 Apr, one 25-26th, 4 on 28 Apr, one 24 May, one 9 Sep, 7 on 10th, one 11 and 16 Sep (RAB); one Isle of May 25-28 Apr (CB); 1 Swinton, Ber, 17 Aug (WML-H); 2 Sandhead, Wig, 28 Aug (RCD).

***Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella cinerea*. 1 Out Skerries, Shet, 7-9 May (DGA, DJ); Fair Isle, singles 17-21 May, 28-30 Sep, 3 Oct (2), 4 Oct, the 3 autumn birds were of the grey, eastern race, *longipennis* (GJB, RAB, ISR *et al.*).

***Woodlark** *Lullula arborea*. Singles Fair Isle 19 Mar and 17 Nov (RAB).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. Migration: Fair Isle, 200 arrived 26 Feb, further peak 300 on 3-4 Mar, autumn passage influxes 12-13 Sep, 21-22 Sep and 500+ on 25-28 Sep (RAB); Isle of May, peaks 5 Apr (50), 11 May (50), 28 Sep (100), 30 Sep (120) (per NJG); 100 Scourie, Suth, 6 Mar (iDP); 300 S/hr in snow storm Vane Farm, Kinross, 21 Nov (AG).

***Shore Lark** *Eremophila alpestris*. 2 Tynninghame, E Loth, 10 Jan (RWJS). Autumn records from 30 Oct: 1 Kinnaber, Angus, 31 Dec (GS); ♂ Musselburgh, Midl, 14 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 5 Aberlady 30 Oct (DEA), 7 Tynninghame 28 Nov (RWJS); 1 Mull of Galloway Lighthouse 20 Nov (RCD).

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. Rather late, breeding numbers down in many areas; in Buckie, Banff, study area only 40% of 1970 sites occupied (DBMcG); some late broods; pr hatched 3 eggs Poolewe, W Ross, 2 Sep (ENH) and a late brood in nest North Kessock, E Ross, 3 Sep (MKMcD-D); 2 prs bred Isle of May, single prs bred Sumburgh and Foula, Shet; juvs still being fed by adults Evanton, E Ross, 4 Oct (CGH); poor breeding season Fife, where many early broods died because of cold weather (TRG).

Arrivals and passage: 7 Apr, 2 Harperrig, Midl (GLS); 12 Apr, Portpatrick, Wig (RCD) and Loch of Lowes, Perth (VMT); 13 Apr, Canonbie, Dumf (ELBC, RS) and Fair Isle; soon well distributed, and main arrivals 21 Apr Midl and Perth, 23 Apr Fife. Fair Isle, peaks 30 on 24 May and 35 on 2 June (RAB); Shet, from 22 Apr, max 50 Unst 1 June (MS, RJT). Late records: Fair Isle, last 20 Oct (RAB); Caith, 2 Smerral 23 Oct (RHD); Inv, 2 Corpach to 25 Oct (JCu); Aber, Newburgh 21 Oct (JAL); Ayr, Dunure 29 Oct (JKRM); Dumf, Caerlaverock 28 Oct (ELR); Wig-Kirk, 2 Garieston 2 Nov (RHM), some Rockcliffe 7 Nov (HMR); Fife, Kelty 3 Nov (DWO); Angus, 2 Brechin 4 Nov (GMC); last Isle of May 8 Nov (RAJ); last one Banff 15 Dec (JE).

***Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica*. 1 Whalsay, Shet, 23-25 Sep (J Bruce, JHS). 4th Scottish record, previous three Fair Isle June 1906.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. Breeding numbers down in Borders and W Stir, but normal Galloway, and slight increase Kinross; pr nested Unst, Shet, still feeding young 3 Sep (BM, MS); 3 prs nested Hunterston Power Station, Ayr, the first colonists in 7 years (JLB); successful season Caith and Kinross.

Arrivals and passage: 17 Apr 4 Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO, ARS) and 1 Gladhouse, Midl (RWJS); 18 Apr 1 Dryburgh, Rox (AJS), 2 Dalry, Kirk (LAU), 2 Crossford, Lan (DCS) and 1 Knapdale, Arg (IR); good numbers last week April north to Shet. Fair Isle, passage from 24 Apr, mostly 6 May-26 June, max 70 on 1 June (RAB); Shet, passage from 23 Apr, when 12 Unst (MS), mainly 22 May-1 June, max 50 Skerries 1 June (RJT *et al.*); Ork movements 24 May-11 June (EB); 12 Rhum, 1 Heb, 25 May (PW). Departure: southward passage Fife Ness 16 Sep (PNJC); singles Fair Isle 26-27 Aug and 24 Sep (RAB). Last records 1 Nov, 2 Hillside, Angus (JC); 3 Nov, 2 Dornoch, Suth (DMcD); 7 Nov, 1 Rockcliffe, Kirk (HMR); 14 Nov, 2 Cramond, W Loth (NDCG); 17 Nov, 1 Cramond (GLS).

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. Breeding numbers slow to arrive; possibly fewer Caith; numbers down Ayr and Borders. First L Leven, Kinross, 2 Apr (WPW); next singles Cupar, Fife, 5 Apr and West Haven, Angus, 9 Apr (TMC); first flocks: 15 Gladhouse, Midl, 17 Apr (RWJS) but mainly late Apr when 100+ L Leven 25 Apr (JHSw). Migration: Fair Isle, 24 Apr-31 May, max 7 on 24 May (RAB); Shet, 2 Hillwell 28 Apr (DC); autumn, 600+ L Leven 7 Aug, decreased to 260+ on 29 Aug, last mid Sept (AA, JHSw) late records, 2 L Martnaham, Ayr, 1 Oct (WRB); last Isle of May 2 Oct (MN); last one Bonar Bridge, Suth, 16 Oct (DB).

***Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*. 9 or 10 records. Shet, 1 Mainland 31 May, 1 Kergord 1 June, 2 Helendale 2 June, 1 Scalloway 4 June (DC), 1 Unst 3 June and 13 June (MS); Fair Isle, one 30 June (RAB); Ork, ♀ North Ronaldsay 29 May-1 June trapped (RG), ♀ St Andrews, Ork, 18 Sep (EB).

Raven *Corvus corax*. Bred Clack, 4 young fledged one nest (CJH); 3 prs W Renf (HG, IPG); ad and juvenile Munloch, E Ross, in summer (MKMcD-D). c 30 migrants Fair Isle 26 Apr and 3 May (RAB).

Crow *Corvus corone*. Carrion Crow *C. c. corone* Migrants: Fair Isle, one 31 Jan, 1-6 on 25 days 23 Apr-11 June, peaks 15 on 3 May, 19 on 9th and 21 on 11 May (RAB); Shet, 2 Hillwell 16 Oct (DC, BM), 1 Whalsay 24 Oct (JHS), 1 Yell 17-19 Nov (BM); 100+ Buddon, Angus, 23 Jan, large gathering (MC).

Hooded Crow *C. c. cornix*. Roost flock 263 Abernethy, Inv, 25 Jan (RHD); 1 Cramond, W Loth, 17 Nov (GLS).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. Caith, c 5700 nests in county (DMS); migrants Fair Isle, 22 Apr-16 May, max 4 on 22 Apr, singles 5 dates 16 Oct-31 Dec, 6 on 17 Oct (RAB); 1 Isle of May 12 Apr (per NJG).

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. Migrants: Fair Isle, 2 on 16 May, 5 on 16-19 Oct and one 29 Oct-2 Nov (RAB).

Maggie *Pica pica*. Breeding records 2 new sites Perth, Dunning and between Crieff and Comrie (per VMT). 9 Ballingry, Fife, 5 Mar (DWO).

***Nutcracker** *Nucifraga caryocatactes*. Flock of 5 Eddleston, Peeb, 28 Aug (7: 56) (Mr & Mrs M E Ball); 4 previous Scottish records.

Jay *Garrulus glandarius*. Increase in Kirk, 12 Penkiln Glen 28 Dec (AJW, ADW); pr Wells, Rox, Sep (AB); 1 Skares, Ayr, early spring (per WRB); 9 prs Banchory area, N Kinc (NP *et al.*); 2 nr Corran Ferry, Arg/Inv, 26 Apr (per JCu, JRo).

Chough *Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*. Largest flock Islay, 1 Heb, 25 (CGB); 1 in summer on sea-cliff N Arg (J H Wood).

Great Tit *Parus major*. Good season Kinross, numbers higher than in 1970 (JHSw); increasing Stornoway woods, O Heb (WAJC); 2 Arbroath cliffs, Angus, 8 Dec (NKA).

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. Many early broods deserted and died Fife because of cold and wet (TRG). Migrants: 1 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 2 Oct (RG); some Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 11 Nov (NP); 20 Arbroath cliffs, Angus, 8 Dec, 30 on 15th (NKA).

Coal Tit *Parus ater*. No comment.

Crested Tit *Parus cristatus*. No change in status reported.

Marsh Tit *Parus palustris*. Reports Rox and Sel include pr at Yair, Sel, July (Dr Cullen).

Willow Tit *Parus montanus*. Unchanged status Clyde and Galloway, apparently still absent west Wig (ADW); 2+ prs Dalmellington, Ayr (DWMcG).

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*. High numbers and good season throughout country; Caith, 20 Thurso 20 Nov (JMW); Suth, 15 Strathalladale 3 Oct (PRJ); E Ross, 20 Munloch 17 Jan, more than usual (MKMcD-D); Inv, good numbers Lochaber (JCu), 35 in flock L Garten 12 July (RSPB); Aber, 15 Culterty 7 Dec (JAL); Angus, 46 Inglismaldie 12 Aug (GMC); I Heb, young on wing Rhum 16 June (PW), numerous Islay (MFMM); good reports elsewhere.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. Decreased recent years Stornoway woods, O Heb (WAJC). Migrants: 1 Binscarth, Ork, 9 and 30 Oct (CJB); singles Isle of May 2 Aug (British subspecies) (LA) and 27 Sep (race uncertain) (NKA).

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*. Population high throughout mainland; one migrant Isle of May 29 May (DRG).

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*. Plentiful Galloway and perhaps local increase (ADW), but continued decrease O Heb (WAJC). Migrants: singles Asta, Shet, 7 Apr (per DC) and brown-bellied Fair Isle 23-25 Apr, unusual for Fair Isle (RAB).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. Ork, apparently bred Binscarth and probably bred Kirkwall (EB). Spring passage: some movement Fife Ness 14 Feb (DWO); few Isle of May early Apr; 1 Fetlar, Shet, 25 Apr (ARM); Fair Isle, singles 13-15 Feb, 5 and 17 Mar, 5 days Apr, 7 Apr (2) and 1 May (RAB). Autumn: 1 Fair Isle 17 and 20 Oct (RAB); 2 Isle of May 5 Nov; Suth, 32+ Glencassley 2 Aug (RAH, DTh, JTh).

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. At least 1 pr bred Mainland, Shet, with young in July (DC, RJT); 1 displaying Amat, E Ross, 28 May (CGH) and 1 L Rannoch, Perth, mid July (CJH), but no mainland or Ork breeding records.

Spring migration: 50 L Leven, Kinross, 14 Mar (JHSw); 300 Roseberry, 4 Apr last big flock Midl (EMS, RWJS); 150 N Strathearn, Perth, 9 Apr (MP); Fair Isle, 30 Mar-13 Apr and 19 Apr-19 May, peaks rather small, 200 on 30-31 Mar, 140 on 7 Apr and 100 on 24-25 Apr (RAB); Shet, 23 Apr-9 May, max 40 Foula 24 Apr (JGH, RJT). Last records: Speyside, 4 May (DNW); 2 Slains, Aber, 7 May (CJF); 2 Redfield, E Ross, 18 May (MKMcD-D); Thornhill, Dumf, 21 May (JMx), Isle of May 24 May (DRG).

Autumn migration: a few August arrivals, Fair Isle 16 July and a few from 25 Aug (RAB); 30 Glen Buchat, Aber, 16 Aug (RMG); 12 Glen Lethnot, Angus, 15 Aug (TMC); first Isle of May 4 Aug (LA). Then rather scarce until mid Oct when big numbers reported some areas, although peaks not as high as in some recent years. Main movements and peak counts: Fair Isle, mainly from 14 Oct, peaks 24th (400), 26th (250), 29th (800), 200-400 to 7 Nov (RAB); low numbers Isle of May except 400 on 5 Nov (RAJ); first O Heb, Lewis 27 Oct (IMMcL), then large numbers in Nov (WAJC); I Heb, main passage Rhum 25-26 Oct (PW), Islay 28-29 Oct (CGB); big movements Perth 17-19 Oct and 30 Oct (VMT); Kinross, 24-29 Oct, max 260 Vane Farm 26th (AG); Fife, 150 on 22 Oct (DWO), 500 S/hr Fife Ness 23 Oct (JARG); big arrival E Loth 23 Oct; 300 Helensburgh, Dunb, 24 Oct (SMDA); large numbers Flanders Moss, W Stir, 30 Oct (TW); many hundreds Robroyston, Lan, 31 Oct (BZ) and 500 Coylton, Ayr, 31st (WRB); Kirk, from 16 Oct, large flock 27th (ADW).

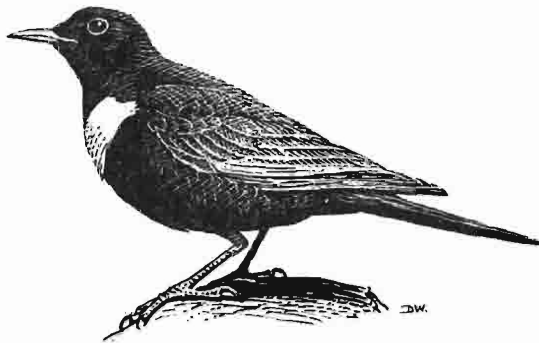
Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. Pair bred Isle of May, first for many years (NJG). Spring: large passage Scourie area, Suth, 3 Mar (IDP); Fair Isle, 17 Mar-20 June, mainly Apr, peaks 25th (45) and 28th (26); Shet, 10 Whalsay 31 Mar (JHS), other Apr; 50 Isle of May 5 Apr (per NJG). Autumn: Fair Isle from 23 Aug, mainly from 27 Sep (40), further peak 35 on 17 Oct (RAB); 30 Isle of May 5 Oct; 40 Fife Ness 16 Sep (PNJC).

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*. 40 to 50 occupied territories located, but situation unclear owing to lack of recorded data and confused by presence of unattached singing males. Suth, c 12 prs, mainly in southeast, scattered except one group c 6 prs, 8 prs feeding young; Ross, c 12 prs usual site W Ross, nest and eggs N Ross; c 8 prs N Inv, various glens, but 6 singing at one site where c 5 eggs 9 May, another nest completed 25 Apr; 2 sites W Inv; c 12 sites E Inv, including 10 singing birds Speyside, only 2 broods seen, but probably more present; pr bred Banff, 4 young in nest 16 May, but robbed later. (RHD, MIH, PADH, JE, DBMcG, DMcD, JTRS, DNW et al.).

Spring passage: Shet, stragglers to 3 June; Fair Isle, 29 Mar-15 May, max 70 on 30 Apr (RAB); heavy passage Largoward, Fife, 6 Apr (DWO); last Kinross 14 Apr (JHSw), Isle of May 30 May (DRG) and Duddingston, Midl, 5 May (LLJV).

Autumn passage: first Barvas, Lewis, O Heb, 20 Aug (IMMcL) and Unst, Shet, 21 Aug (BM), but mainly from late Sep; some very large movements Oct. Fair Isle, from 6 Sep, mainly from 26th (100), further peaks 5 Oct (650), 15th (1300) decreased to 500 by 18th and thereafter fewer than 300, except 500 on 26 Oct, numbers rather low for Fair Isle (RAB); Shet, peaks 27 Sep, 5 Oct, 18 and 30 Oct, 4 Nov (RJT); Isle of May from 26 Sep (AJW), peaks 600 on 5 Oct (NKA), 500 on 5 Nov (RAJ); Caith, 500 S Wick 15 Oct (RHD); Inv, 60+ Glenmazeran 6 Oct (JMcR),

arrivals Speyside 6 Oct, many thousands 17 Oct (MTD, DNW), 2000 Strathnairn 25 Oct (WAS); Perth, many thousands Glen Shee and Glen Clunie 16 Oct (TW); Fife, not exceptional numbers but 150/hr passing Colinsburgh 16 Oct and 200/hr Kilconquhar 23 Oct (DWO); Ayr, 600 Culzean 13 Oct (RO'G), very large numbers Paisley, Renf, 22 Oct (HG, IPG) and Glasgow same day (NLS); c 1000 Glenluce, Wig, 21 Oct (ADW).



Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*. Bred W Renf, b/3 (RWF, IPG, GTW); apparently bred Hoy, Ork (EB); scarcer Clack hills (CJH). Spring arrivals: 30 Mar, 2 ♂♂ Dalwhinnie, Inv (CGH); 2 Apr, Drumochter, Inv (DNW); 4 Apr, Moorfoots, Midl ((WB), 4 Gatehouse, Kirk (PGTB) and 1 Cairnsmore of Fleet (ELR); Fair Isle, 6 Apr, small passage 22 Apr-25 May, peak 25th (25); Shet, first Fetlar 4 Apr (ARM); first Isle of May 5 Apr (MN).

Autumn: rather scarce on passage; Shet, only one, Ronas Hill 8 Aug (B Copeland); Fair Isle, 1-2 on 13 days 19 Sep-28 Oct, 7 on 16 Oct (RAB); 1 Mull of Kintyre, Arg, 23 Oct (PGTB); Isle of May, 1 on 30 Sep, few early Oct; Midl, last Loganlea Reservoir 25 Oct (RMB).

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. Unusual nest dates: Lerwick, Shet, c/3 on 15 Jan (RJT); Meikle, Perth, c/2 on 14 Feb (per BML); Thornhill, Dumf, c/5 in Dec (JMx); 2 prs bred Isle of May. Passage: Fair Isle, small spring passage to 11 June, mainly Mar-Apr, peaks 100 on 30 Mar, 150 on 1 Apr; numbers low in autumn, first 11 Sep, peaks 5 Oct (14), 15th (20), 16th (200), 50-200 daily to 7 Nov (RAB); Isle of May, small numbers, peaks 30 on 7 Apr, 500 on 5 Nov (RAJ); Fife, 200 Largoward 6 Apr (DWO); poor autumn passage from 16 Sep, best day 20-30 Fife Ness 15 Oct (JARG).

***White's Thrush** *Zoothera dauma*. One Fair Isle 13 Feb (GJB); first there since 1958.

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Spring: 17 Mar, ♂ Fife Ness (DWO); 24 Mar, 4 Fife Ness (PJM); 29 Mar, Dalwhinnie, Inv (CGH); 31 Mar, Thornhill, Dumf and Whalsay, Shet (JHS); 1 Apr, Isle of May (DRG), Arbroath, Angus (NKA), 2 Fort William, Inv (PGTB) and Fair Isle (RAB); first arrivals most districts by first week Apr, but main arrival rather slow. Peaks at Fair Isle 9 Apr (4), 10th (6), 13th (13), 22nd (40), 24th (100) (RAB); Greenland migrants Fair Isle 3-25 May; 3 Pabay, Skye, 22 Apr (ECG); 1 Isle of May 2 May (DRG).

Autumn: last Shet, Weisdale 21 Oct (IS); Fair Isle 24 Oct (3) (RAB); Glengolly, Caith, 24 Oct (SL); Fort William, Inv, 22 Oct (JRo); Southend, Arg, 23 Oct (PGTB); 23 Oct, North Berwick, E Loth (DEA); 24 Oct Musselburgh, Midl (LLJV) and Carstairs, Lan (DCS); 30 Oct Isle of May (GCh) and Sherriffmuir, Perth (AGS).

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Breeding status: spreading Ork (EB); more Perth (VMT); some reappearance Borders (AJS); bred Arthur's Seat, Midl. Migration: Fair Isle, ♂ 9 Mar, ♀ 1 Apr, pr 3 Apr (RAB); influx Lochaber,

Inv. in autumn (JCu); Fife, numbers high, max 10 Fife Ness 19 Aug (AG); one Isle of May 8 Oct (NKA); influx E Loth from Aug.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. First dates mainly 24 Apr-8 May, although 1 Fair Isle 19 Apr; others, 24th Apr Mainland, Shet, and Barr Loch, Renf (RGC); 25 Apr, Lockerbie, Dumf (RTS), Tynninghame, E Loth (RBT), 4 Gladhouse, Midl (LLJV), and several Shet. Spring passage small; Fair Isle, peaks 7 on 24th, 11 on 5 May and 13 on 29 May (RAB); Isle of May, 26 Apr-30 May, max 10 on 24 May (CB, DRG); 4 Rattray Head, Aber, 25 May (MRW).

Autumn: Shet, scarce in autumn 26 Aug-17 Oct, max 5 Whalsay 9-12 Sep (JHS, RJT); Fair Isle, 17 Aug-14 Oct, numbers very low, max 10-20 on 9-16 Sep (RAB); 12 Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 9 Sep, 10 on 10th (CJMCK-G); 9 Rattray Head, Aber, 10 Sep (MRW); 7 Vane Farm, Kinross, 15 Aug (JHSw); Isle of May, 3 Aug (LA)-4 Oct (NKA), max 50 on 9-10 Sep (AJW); Fife Ness, 1 Aug-1 Oct, max 8 on 26 Aug (PGTB, AG, DWO); last Corpach, Inv, 31 Oct (JCu).

***Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus*. A 1st Y ♂ trapped and ringed Fetlar, Shet, 31 May-1 June (7: 57) (D P Cyrus, ARM *et al.*); second Scottish record, first was Whalsay, Shet, 7 Oct 1947.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Breeding status: good numbers Lochaber, Inv (JCu) and continued increase Ayr, 12 prs Dalmellington (WRB, DWMcG). Spring: 13 Apr, 4 Perth (SLg); 20 Apr, Thornhill, Dumf (JMX); 21 Apr, Fetlar, Shet (ARM); most first arrivals mainland breeding areas 24-25 Apr; passage Fair Isle 23-29 Apr (max 7), 8-21 May (max 2) and 23 May-2 June (max 20 on 24th and 29th), singles to 11 June (RAB); Shet, small numbers 24-25 Apr, 23 May-2 June (RJT); Isle of May, 10 on 23 Apr, last 30 May (DRG).

Autumn: Shet, small passage 12 Sep-4 Oct, max 6 Whalsay 23 Sep, last Foula 16 Oct (JGH, JHS, RJT); Fair Isle, 22 Aug-9 Oct, peaks 26 Sep (15), 29th (40) (RAB); 14 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 28 Sep (RG); Isle of May, 4 Aug (GLS)-9 Oct (NKA), max 25 on 9 Sep and 30 on 27 Sep (AJW *et al.*); very few Fife Ness 26 Aug-1 Oct (AG, DWO); last North Uist, O Heb, 9 Oct (GC) and Scrabster, Caith, 26 Oct (AFCMC, PMC).

***Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*. Recorded (about 10 spring, 6 autumn) 16 Feb, 6 Apr-29 May, 15 Aug-15 Dec; Fair Isle (singles unless stated), ♂ 16 Feb, 7 Apr, 23-26 Apr, 1-2 May, 9th (2), 11 May, 29 May, 30 Oct, 4 and 11 Nov (RAB); Isle of May 6 Apr (NKA); Fife Ness, ♂ 15 Aug (DLC, DCS), ♀ 27 Sep (DWO); Ber, ♀ St Abbs 24 Apr (per RWJS); W Stir, Balfron 13 Apr (KHB, HWK, SK); Ayr, Prestwick 15 Dec (GLAP); I Heb, Rhum ♂ 9-13 Nov (PW).

***Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Fair Isle one 9-11 May, trapped 9th (RAB *et al.*); one found dying 30 Oct, apparently the first British occurrence of the larger eastern race, *L. m. hafizi* (RAB, GJB, ISR).

***Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia*. One Fair Isle 24 May, found dead later (GJB, SG, TO).

***Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*. Very poor year; spring about 20, only 2 autumn: Fair Isle, 15 May, 21st, 22nd (2), 24th (8), 25th (5), 26th-29th (2-3), 1 June (RAB *et al.*); Shet, Whalsay 23 May, 25th (2), 28th (JHS), Unst 2 June (MS); Isle of May, 15 May (JMSA), 25-26 May (DRG). Autumn singles Fair Isle 26-27 Sep (RAB), North Ronaldsay, Ork, 3 Oct (RG).

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. Migration, spring: Isle of May 100 on 6 Apr (NKA); Fair Isle, 10 May-2 June, mainly 30 Mar-11 May, max 15 on 7 Apr, 35 on 26 Apr (RAB); Shet, 22-29 Apr, max 12 Whalsay and 12 Mainland 24 Apr (BM, JHS).

Autumn: Shet, peaks 10 Fetlar 17 Sep (ARM), 30 Skerries 26 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle, 26 Sep-5 Oct, max 27 Sep (20), 28th (40), stragglers later (RAB); 50 Fife Ness 27 Sep (DWO); few Isle of May autumn, max 15 on 28 Sep.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Breeding status: excellent year Clyde, considerable increase (RWF *et al.*); good numbers in north, 8 reeling Insh Marches, Inv, 7 May (DNW), 6 around Gairloch, E Ross (ENH) and 2 Scourie, Suth (IDP). Arrivals: 13 Apr, Munloch, E Ross (MKMcD-D); passage Fair Isle 23 Apr-27 May, max 4 (RAB); Shet, from 24 Apr, max 4 Whalsay 29 Apr and 9 May (JHS); most birds arrived mainland haunts last week Apr or first week May. June singles Kirkwall (CJB) and Hoy (EJW) Ork. Autumn: Methlick, Aber, 5 Sep (NE); Isle of May 5 Aug (LA).

***Thick-billed Warbler** *Acrocephalus aedon*. One Whalsay, Shet, 23 Sep, released Lerwick, found dead there 25 Sep (BM, JHS, RJT *et al.*); 2nd Scottish (and British) record; first was at Fair Isle 6 Oct 1955.

***Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*. One Fair Isle 29 May (RAB, ISR *et al.*).

***Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. Spring: 1 Cobbinshaw Reservoir, Midl, 22 Apr (GLS); Fair Isle 6 May (RAB); Whalsay, Shet, 23 May (JHS). Autumn: Shet, Fetlar, 5-6 Sep (ARM); Fair Isle, 2 on 9-10 Sep, singles 7 days 14-29 Sep (RAB); Isle of May 14 Aug (RDM).

***Marsh Warbler** *Acrocephalus palustris*. One Fair Isle 19 July (RAB).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Little comment on breeding status except fewer Rox and possible decline last few years Caith. Arrival: first 24 Apr Barr Loch, Renf (RGC); 25 Apr, 2 Balgavies Loch, Angus (JIS); 29 Apr, Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); mostly May, e.g. 1 Duddingston, Midl, 2 May, 2 on 5th and many 12th (LLJV); in north first Insh Marshes 7 May (DNW) and Banavie, Inv, 8 May (JCu).

Passage: Isle of May, from 3 May (DWO), 10 on 23-26 May; Shet, small numbers from 7 May, max 3 Whalsay 9 May, few to 2 June (JHS, RJT); Fair Isle, 27 Apr-5 June, max 9 May (6), 25th (12), 27th (10).

Autumn: Shet, single Skerries 25-26 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle, singles 10 Sep, 27-29 Sep and 16 Oct (RAB); 2+ Tarradale, E Ross, 29 Aug (RHD); last L Leven, Kinross, 29 Aug (JHSw).

***Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta*. One trapped North Ronaldsay, Ork, 23-24 Aug (RG); fourth Scottish record.

***Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*. Spring singles: Fetlar, Shet, 24 May and 1 June (ARM); North Ronaldsay, Ork, 23 May and 19 June (RG); Isle of May 24 May (DRG). Autumn: 1 found dead Sumburgh, Shet, 2 Sep (BM) and 1 Isle of May 7 Sep (AJW).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. Summer: pr reared 3 young Linn Park, Glasgow (NLS); fewer Clack (CJH); records north to N Inv; 2♂♂ singing L Shin, Suth, 4 June (JFo); ♂ singing Islay, I Heb, 13 June (MFMM).

Arrival and migration: Shet, 6-12 May, 23-30 May, max 3 (RJT); Fair Isle, recorded 10 days 6 May-5 June, max 4 on 24 May (RAB); Isle of May, from 24 Apr; first Crail, Fife, 6 May (JARG); 10 May, Stranraer, Wig (RCD) and Selkirk (AJS). Autumn: Shet, 9 Sep-6 Nov, max 9 Mainland 2 Oct, late bird Unst 14 Dec (BM); Fair Isle, from 19 Aug, mainly 6 Sep-5 Nov, max 40 on 28 Sep and 13 on 2 Oct, late one 1-2 Dec (RAB); Ork, 44 trapped North Ronaldsay 20 Sep-8 Oct (RG); few east coast Sep-Nov.

Winter records: Ayr, Culzean 6 Dec (RO'G); Dumb, Helensburgh 7-11 Jan (DWC); 2 ♀♀ Edinburgh 1 Dec (per RWJS); Aber, ♀ Aberdeen 1 Jan (per RIM), 1 Aberdeen 25 Dec (EK); Moray, 2 Grantown-on-Spey 25-30 Nov (per RHD); Inverness, ♂ 7 Feb, 25-26 Feb (JMcCr); E Ross, Fortrose 23 Dec, 7-14 Jan (HDS); Suth, Golspie ♂ 16-22 Dec, ♀ 22 Dec (JOr).

***Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*. Records 14 Aug (late)-16 Oct, singles unless stated: Shet, Whalsay 14 Aug, 22 and 29 Aug, 14 Sep, 23rd, 25th and 27 Sep, 2 Oct and 8-9 Oct (JHS), Fetlar 21 Aug, 1 Sep (RSPB); Unst 1 Sep (BM), Foula 1-7 Sep (JGH), Mainland 22-24 Aug and 28 Aug, 10 Sep,

14th (2), 23rd, 25th, 27th and 28th (3), 3 and 5 Oct (DC, BM), Yell 1 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle 19 Aug (2) seen all but 2 days to 28 Sep, peaks 22 Aug (9), 20 Sep (5), 27 birds ringed; late ones 3 and 16 Oct (RAB); 9 trapped North Ronaldsay, Ork, singles 22 Aug, 23, 24, 25 Aug, 9 Sep, 14 and 20 Sep, 4 and 6 Oct (RG); one Wideford, Mainland, 12 Sep (CJB); Caith, Holburn Head 16 Oct (PMC); Suth, Bettyhill 5 Sep (DSW); Isle of May 19 Aug, 21 and 24-26 Aug (GLS); Fife Ness 25 Aug (AG); 3 trapped Pabay, Skye, 21 Aug, 24 and 28 Aug (ECG).

***Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*. Summer records: singing Beauly, Inv, 22 May (MIH); Arg, present Ardnamurchan (BTO), Glen Etive (MFMM) and Morven (JE).

Arrival: 4 May, Isle of May (DWO); 8 May, Straiton, Ayr (WRB); 9 May, Hensol, Kirk (JGS, LAU, ADW). Passage: Fair Isle, scarce, 7 May-6 June mainly 22 May-6 June, max 29 May (10), 2 June (8), stragglers to 9 July (RAB); Shet, 5-9 May and 21-31 May, small numbers (RJT), 1 singing Tresta 27 June (DC).

Autumn: Shet, sparse passage 21 Aug-3 Oct (DC, BM); Fair Isle, 3 Aug-4 Oct, mainly 21 Aug-28 Sep, max only 22 on 22 Aug, late ones 24 Oct and 1 Nov (RAB); singles Kinlochewe, W Ross, 6-7 Sep (EBr) and Pabay, Skye, 19 Aug (ECG); Isle of May, recorded 6 Aug (LA)-2 Oct (MN); 1 Rattray Head, Aber, 10 Sep (MRW); few Fife Ness 26 Aug, 9 Sep (2), 10 Sep (3), 11 Sep (2) (AG).

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. Breeding status: improvement in numbers reported Banff (DBMcG), Fife (DWO) and 1 Heb (JCu *et al.*) but no improvement Renf (HG).

Arrival and migration: Shet, first Scalloway 15 Apr, small numbers 22-28 Apr, 7-10 May, 24-25 May, last Foula 13 June but one singing Kergord 11 July (JGH, DC, RJT *et al.*); Fair Isle, 23 Apr (2), 24 Apr, passage 5 May-8 June, max 24 May (15), 29 May (20), one 6 July (RAB); Isle of May, 3-30 May, max 30 on 24th (DRG, DWO). Mainland: Sandhead, Wig, 22 Apr; Fife Ness 24 Apr (PJM); 28 Apr, Thornhill, Dumf (JMx); mainly early May; 1 L Naver, Suth, 29 May (DMcD, WAS).

Autumn: Shet, 1 Sumburgh 12 Aug (DC, BM), very few 5 Sep-28 Oct (RJT *et al.*); Fair Isle, 2 on 22 Aug, 1-2 on 6 days to 28 Sep (RAB); 1 Inverness 18-19 Aug (JMcCr); last Kinross 6 Sep (AG); 7 Fife Ness 19 Aug (AG); some Isle of May 3 Aug-1 Oct.

***Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*. Summer status: ♂ built nest Aber 26 May but did not breed (RWS); singles singing Torphins, Aber, 11-14 May (RSBy), Blackhall, Kinc, 1 June (NP), Duddingston, Midl, 2 May (RM, LLJV), Thornhill, Stir 4 June (JK); Kyclerhea, Skye, 21 July (RADN) and Lairg, Suth, 21 July (JTRS). Spring passage: Isle of May 4-24 May (DRG, DWO); singles Fife Ness 24 Apr (PJM), 8 May (JARG); Rockcliffe, Kirk, 11 May (ECF); Collieston, Aber, 7 May (CJF); Fair Isle 1-4 on 6-10 May, singles 6 days to 25 June (RAB); Shet, singles Skerries 8-9 May, 2 Whalsay 18 and 27 May, 2 Foula 9 May, 1 Mainland 27 May (DC, BM, JHS).

Autumn: Shet, 1 Mainland 14 and 29 Sep (DC, BM) and 1 Foula 2-4 Oct (JGH); Fair Isle, 23 Aug-14 Oct, peaks 26 Sep (9), 27th (5), 28th (4) (RAB); singles North Ronaldsay 26 Sep, 27 and 28 Sep (RG); Isle of May 23 Aug-27 Sep (GLS, AJW); 1 St Abbs, Ber, 9 Sep (RM).

***Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans*. Three records: ♂ trapped Binscarth, Ork, 26 Apr (CJB, EJW); ♂ trapped Fair Isle 22 May (RAB, RAR, ISR); ♂ trapped Sumburgh, Shet, 11 Aug-30 Sep (DC, BM *et al.*).

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. 10 Apr, first L Ken, Kirk (WRB); 11 Apr, Inverness (MR) and Stornoway, O Heb (WAJC); 13 Apr, 2 L Martnaham, Ayr (WRB); 14 Apr, several localities, Sandhead, Wig (RCD), Canonbie, Dumf (ELBC), Doonfoot, Ayr (WRB), Glencorse, Midl (RDM), Kilconquhar, Fife (JARG), Dunvegan, Skye (TCS); recorded all

areas by following week, main arrivals from 21-22 Apr. Spring passage rather low numbers: Isle of May, peak 50 on 20 May (DRG); Fair Isle, 22 Apr-17 May, 22 May-13 June, peaks 15 on 24 Apr, 40 on 24 May, 70 on 29 May (RAB); Shet, 22 Apr-9 June, most 23 May-3 June, max 30 Whalsay 24 May (JHS *et al.*).

Autumn: Fair Isle, 4 Aug-5 Oct, rather scarce, up to 12 daily 19 Aug-21 Sep, max 20 on 26 Sep is low for Fair Isle (RAB); Shet, scarce, 8 Aug-6 Oct, mainly Sep, max 5 Whalsay 9 Sep (JHS, RJT); Isle of May, scarce, 1 Aug-1 Oct; peak 80 Vane Farm, Kinross, 17 Aug., last 30 Sep (AG).

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. No reported changes in breeding status except scarcer Sel (AJS) and more summer records of singing birds in north: Caith 2 individuals, Suth 5 including 3 near Scourie (IDP), Ross 11 including 6 Gairloch area (ENH); pr bred Pluscarden, Moray (RRi).

Arrival: 27 Mar, Dunure, Ayr (JKRM); 1 Apr, Isle of May (DRG); 6 Apr, Loch of Lowes, Perth (EMH); 8 Apr, River Ken, Kirk (AJW) and Fort William, Inv (JCu); most places 11-20 Apr. Passage: Fair Isle, 30 Mar, small numbers 4 Apr-21 May, max 5 on 23 Apr, one 2 and 5 June, autumn movements 12 Sep-16 Oct, mainly 26 Sep-4 Oct, max 8 on 26th, last 2 on 5 Nov (RAB); Shet, last Whalsay 3 Nov (JHS).

Winter records: Heathhall, Dumf, 11-16 Jan (DSk, SSk); Rhum 1 Dec (PW).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. Arrival: 24 Apr, Glen Esk, Angus (TMC); 2 May, Spean Bridge, Inv (JCu); 3 May, Dalry, Kirk (ADW); 8 May, Aviemore, Inv (RHD). Passage: Shet, Fetlar 24 May, 25th (2), 29th (ARM), 1 singing Helendale 24-27 May (DC); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 20 May (RG). Autumn: Isle of May, singles 21 and 24 Aug (GLS); Fair Isle, 12 Aug-26 Sep, mainly Aug when 22nd (5), 23rd (7), 24th (4) and 25th (2) also 2 on 6 Sep (RAB); Shet, about 8 records 23-28 Aug, 2 on 1 Sep, last 5 Sep (RJT *et al.*); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 26 Sep (RG).

***Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis*. One Fair Isle 16-17 Sep (RAB, BH, ISR).

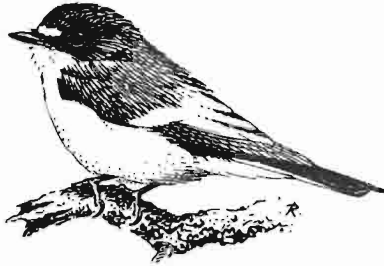
***Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*. About 25-30 birds 14 Sep-21 Oct, singles unless stated: Shet, Sumburgh 27-30 Sep (DC), 3 Oct (FH), Seafeld 2-3 Oct (BM), Whalsay 16 and 21 Oct (RHD, JHS); Fair Isle, 25 Sep, 26th (9), 27th (8), 28th (7), 5 Oct (RAB); Isle of May, 26 Sep (2), 27th (4), 28th, 29th (AJW *et al.*); Fife Ness, 14 Sep (AG), 27 Sep (DWO).

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. Small spring passage: Fair Isle, 29 Mar-14 Apr, max 7 on 30 Mar, 8 on 1 Apr, stragglers to 15 May (RAB); Shet, scarcer than usual, 3 Mar-28 May, some movement Apr (RJT). Autumn: Shet, 1 Sep-5 Nov, max 6 Whalsay 27 Oct (JHS); Fair Isle, 26 Aug-5 Nov, low numbers, max 13 on 26 Sep (RAB); Ork, a few from 24 Aug (EB); Angus, passage Broughty Ferry 19 Sep (NKA); 12 Fife Ness 16 Sep (PNJC); first Isle of May 18 Aug (GLS), max 200 on 30 Sep (AJW *et al.*); increase Mull of Galloway, Wig, late Sep (RCD, BST).

***Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*. One Isle of May 26 Sep (JRPO *et al.*).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Pair raised late brood Dalry, Kirk, b/3 fledged 28 Aug (ADW). Arrival: 25 Apr, 5 Vane Farm, Kinross (JHSw); 2 May, Yarrow, Sel (RF); 3 May, Newton Stewart, Wig (RCD); mostly second week of May in north, first Strathfarrar, Inv, 9 May (RHD); but not until 5 June Stornoway, O Heb (IMMcL). Passage: Isle of May from 4 May (DWO); Fair Isle from 9 May, mainly 20 May-4 June, peaks 40 on 24-25 May and 29 May, stragglers 21 June and 24-25 June (RAB); Shet, Whalsay and Mainland 7 May, main passage from 22 May, max 20 Whalsay 24th (JHS), 10 Fetlar 25th and 29th (ARM), 15 Skerries 1 June (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, 2 Fetlar 2 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, 22 Aug-30 Sep, very few but 5 on 26 Sep (RAB); last Perth 22 Sep (SLg); 15 Vane Farm, Kinross, 27 Aug (AG); last Kelso, Rox, 26 Sep (GR); last 2 Dalry, Kirk, 28 Sep (ADW).



Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. Breeding records: Kirk numbers low and apparently on decline, none Wig (ADW); usual numbers Dumf, including 9 nests found (ARH); Ayr, 5 prs Dalmellington (DWMcG); W Stir, 5 prs Inversnaid (DSt) and others L Lomond; Lan, 1 pr Stockbriggs (DLC); Midl, 1 pr Roslin Glen 15 May, but Penicuik breeding-site wood felled (RWJS); Perth, bred Killiecrankie, young on 30 May (HBr, RWS), ♂ Dunkeld 16 June (JG); 2 ♂♂ Speyside and 1 pr bred (RSPB, DNW); W Ross, ♀ nest-building Coulin 1 June (ENH); Suth, pr L Choire (J Cairney).

Arrival and passage: Fair Isle, 1-4 from 22 Apr to 1 May, small influx 24 May-2 June, max 7 on 24th (RAB); Shet, scarce, 1-3 Foula 25-30 Apr (JGH) and 1 Mainland 26 Apr, small numbers 23 May-2 June (RJT); first at breeding ground 25 Apr Penpark, Dumf (ARH); first Isle of May 25 Apr (CB); 1 Luffness, E Loth, 30 Apr (DJ); 1 Glenlee, Kirk, 3 May (ADW).

Autumn: Shet, scattered records 27 Aug (BM)-17 Oct (DC, BM), max 6 Whalsay 9 Sep (JHS); Fair Isle, 23 Aug-11 Oct, peaks 30 Aug (10), 6 and 15 Sep (15), 26th (20), 27th (25); Caith, 1 Dounreay 13 Sep (PRJ); E Ross, 2 Tarbat Ness 9 Sep (CJMck-G); Aber, singles Rattray Head 9 and 29 Sep (MRW), Strachan 9 Sep (MM), Collieston 10-11 Sep (JAL); Isle of May from 19 Aug, max 50 on 9-10 Sep (AJW); Fife, some Fife Ness 24 Aug (9)-30 Sep (DWO), max 12 on 9 Sep (PNJC); Ber, 9 St Abbs 9 Sep (RM); last Dalry, Kirk, 22 Sep (AJW).

***Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*. Two in spring, about 16 autumn, 10 Sep-19 Oct except one 17-19 Aug (very early); singles Fetlar, Shet, 24 May (ARM) and Rattray Head, Aber, 25 May (MRW). Autumn: Shet, singles Foula 17-19 Aug and 19 Oct (JGH), Whalsay 10 Sep (JHS), Kergord 25 Sep-2 Oct (IS), Helendale 30 Sep-2 Oct (DC, BM), Sumburgh 6 and 10 Oct (DC); Fair Isle, 2 on 26 Sep, one 28-30 Sep (RAB); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 11 Sep (RG); E Ross, 1 Tarbat Ness 11 Sep (MTD, RHD); Isle of May, 2 on 11-15 Sep (HG), 2 on 26-29 Sep (AJW *et al.*).

Dunnoek *Prunella modularis*. Migration: Fair Isle, small numbers 16 Mar-2 June, peaks 14 on 6 Apr and 20 on 26 Apr (RAB); Shet, scattered records late Mar-9 May, max 6 Whalsay 25 Apr (BM, JHS). Autumn: large fall c 100 Fife Ness 27 Sep (DWO); scarce in north; Shet, 2 Skerries 25-26 Sep (RJT), 1 Weisdale 17 Oct (FH); Fair Isle, singles 14-15 Oct, 9 days in Nov, 13 Dec (RAB).

***Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. Six autumn records: Fair Isle, 23 Sep, 27-29 Sep, 3 Oct (2) and 6 Nov (RAB); 1 Islay, 1 Heb, 28 Sep (GHE).

***Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*. Two records: Isle of May 27-28 Sep (NKA, MN, AJW); Sumburgh, Shet, 29 Sep-3 Oct (DC, JHS, RJT).

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. A brood at Ardgour, Arg, contained one albino young (R A Oldale). Passage movements: Fair Isle, from 5 Mar, mainly from 1 Apr (20), peaks 11 Apr (150), 23 Apr (500), last of autumn 5 on 19 Nov (RAB); flocks Fort William and Ballachulish, Inv, 21 Mar (JCu); 110 Vane Farm, Kinross, 8 Sep (AG); heavy passage Fife Ness first week Sep and especially 9 Sep (PNJC); 300 Ochills, Clack, 29 Aug (CJH); several hundreds passed St Abbs, Ber, 8-9 Sep (RM); 267 in 2 hrs passed Mull of Galloway, Wig, 12 Sep (RCD).

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Arrival at breeding grounds: 24 Apr, 2 Newtonmore, Inv (RHD); 25 Apr, 20 Delnabo, Banff (JE); 26 Apr, first Muir of Ord, E Ross (DCH); 27 Apr, first Corpach, Inv (JASN); 29 Apr, 2 Vane Farm, Kinross (JHSw) and first Sel (AJS), where breeding numbers were low.

Spring passage: very scarce; Fair Isle, 23 Apr-7 June, max 11 on 29 May (RAB); Shet, 8 May, 2 Skerries, 9 May, 1 Skerries, 1 Whalsay, 2 Mainland (RJT *et al.*); first Isle of May 3 May (DWO); 2 Fife Ness 8 May (DWO). Autumn passage: scarcer than usual; Fair Isle, 6 Sep-4 Oct, mainly 24-30 Sep, max 7 (RAB); Shet, 1 Mainland 27 Aug, 2 Skerries 26 Sep (RJT); Isle of May, 17 Aug (GLS)-28 Sep (AJW), max 20 on 12 Sep; last Vane Farm, Kinross, 12 Sep (AG); 16 Fife Ness 24 Aug (DWO).

***Pechora Pipit** *Anthus gustavi*. One Fair Isle 29 Sep-3 Oct (RAB, P R Holness, ISR *et al.*); first since 1966.

***Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*. One Isle of May 9-10 Sep (JMAO, JRDO, AJW); first for the island.

Rock Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*. Bred Cramond Island, W Loth, first for many years (RDM); first nest c/4 Fair Isle 16 May (RAB), 1 inland Cobbinshaw, Midl, 16 Jan (RWJS); 1 Kingoodie, Perth, 26 Jan (HB), 2 on 27 Feb (EJM).

Pied/White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. Pied Wagtail *M. a. yarelli*: Fair Isle, single migrants 4 days in Mar from 14th, 7 days in Apr, 2 on 23-25 Apr, 1 on 4-7 June, 1-4 July (RAB) 40 West Haven, Angus, 5 Sep (TMC); roost 120 Portmahomack, E Ross, early Sep (CJMCK-G).

White Wagtail *M. a. alba*: none bred Shet; one bred with a Pied Wagtail Balranald, O Heb (GC); ♂ carrying food Bonar Bridge, Suth, 29 May (JFi). Spring passage: on mainland from 6 Apr (Paisley Moss, Renf, although one there 21 Feb GTW); peaks 4 Aberlady, E Loth, 1 May (GLS); 4 Fife Ness 15 May (JARG); Pabay, Skye, 24 Apr-9 May, max 10 on 30 Apr (ECG). Fair Isle, 5 Apr-31 May, mainly 21 Apr-15 May, max 20 on 24 May (RAB).

Autumn: Fair Isle, 6 Aug-13 Oct, max 10 Aug (30), 28th (40), 10 Sep (30) (RAB); North Ronaldsay, Ork, peaks 15 on 26 Aug, 11 on 27th (RG); 8 West Haven, Angus, 5 Sep (TMC); scattered records several areas from 31 July.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. Increase in breeding population in W Ross, Gairloch (ENH) and Torridon (JAW), Banff (AFWS), Fife (JHSw) and Midl, where pair bred Gladhouse, first time since 1962 (RWJS). Few more seen Caith, where 6 roosting Thurso River 29 Aug (SL). Single migrants Fair Isle, 11 Apr, 16 Sep and 10-14 Nov (RAB), and Fife Ness 19 and 26 Aug (AG).

***Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*. Yellow *M. f. flavissima*. 2 prs bred E Dumf (ELBC, RS); 1 pr bred Chapelton, Lan, and 1 pr at Drumclog, Lan (DLC). Arrival and migration: Kirk, 2 ♂♂ Meikle Ross 4 May (ABD), ♀ Balcary June (DBC); Rox, 1 Maxton May (DCo); Angus, ♂ Usan 25 Apr (GMC), ♂ West Ferry 11 May (TMC); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 24 and 27 May (RG); Fair Isle, 1-4 between 24 and 28 Apr, 3 on 5 May, 6 on 6

May, singles 7-9 May and 14 May, 1-4 on 22 May-1 June (RAB); Shet, 1-3 Foula 6-12 May (JGH), 1 Skerries 7-8 May (DGA, DJ), 1 Whalsay 4 May (BM), 1 Hillwell 19-27 May, singing last date (DC). Isle of May, several in May and 2 in Sep (per NJG); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 24 Sep (RG); 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 8 July (JB); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 31 July, 4 on 1-3 Aug, 6 on 4 Aug, one 21 Aug (ADKR, DMcN, LLJV); 2 *flavas* St Abbs, Ber, 9 Sep (RM).

Blue-headed Wagtail *M. f. flava*: Fair Isle, ♂ 23 Apr, 1-3 on 8 days between 2 and 22 May, 5 on 24th, 12 on 25th, 9 on 26th and 29th, 1-2 until 3 June (RAB); 1 Fetlar, Shet, 31 May (ARM). Singles on 10 days Fair Isle 6-28 Sep probably this race.

Grey-headed Wagtail *M. f. thunbergi*: Fair Isle, 1-2 on 6 days between 24 May and 1 June (RAB).

***Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*. One Fair Isle 6-12 Oct, found dead 16 Oct (GJB, RAB, ISR *et al.*); third successive year that a single has occurred in autumn at Fair Isle.

Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*. Good numbers in winter (Jan-Mar), max 80+ in one flock, last 18 May; not so plentiful in autumn, first 19 Sep (early), but most later than usual in Nov, max 100.

Winter-spring recorded nearly all areas mainland Jan-Mar; maximum flock numbers and late dates: 30 Glasgow 3 Feb (WRB), last 4 on 13 Apr (GTW); Rox, 40 Hawick Jan, last 2 Gattonside 12 Apr (per AJS); Perth, 30 Longforgan Jan-Feb (BML), 30 Perth 7 Mar (SLg), 80+ Auchterarder 8 Mar (SLg), last 9 Scone to 30 Apr (EDC); Angus, 30 Brechin 8 Mar (GMC); Aber, 70 Aboyne 6 Mar (per NP); Kinc, last 12 Banchory 11 Apr (NP); Banff, 40 Banff to 13 Apr (AFWS); Moray, 1 Kinloss 18 May (CAP); Inv, 25 Inverness 26 Jan (Mrs R Laming), spring flock Tulloch Moor to 28 Apr, max 42 on 24 Apr (RSPB), 13 Carrbridge 25 Apr (RHD); E Ross last 6 Munloch 23 Apr (MKMcD-D); Suth, 15 Helmsdale 18-21 Feb, last Dornoch 23 Apr (JBW); singles Fair Isle 24 and 25 Apr (RAB).

Autumn-winter first dates and peak numbers: 1 Stornoway, O Heb, 19 Sep (WMA); Shet, 1 Fetlar 25-28 Sep, 8 other birds seen, including 5 Lerwick 24-25 Nov (per RJT); Fair Isle, singles 3 and 5 Nov, 29 and 30 Nov, 3 on 1 Dec (RAB); Ork, very few late Nov-Dec (EB); small numbers north Scotland mainly late Nov-Dec; Aber, from 25 Nov, max 100 Aberdeen 1 Dec (JCh); first Arg 21 Dec (MJPG); 20 Elliot, Angus, early Dec (NKA); 20 Dunkeld, Perth 24 Nov; E Loth, from 12 Nov, 40 on 16 Nov (AMt, LLJV); 16 Selkirk 16 Nov (CS); 14 Langholm, Dumf, 14 Nov (ELBC, RS); Galloway, few in Dec; 11 L Lomond, Stir, 30 Nov (CPI, JM).



***Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*. After the big influx of autumn 1970, about 70+ recorded Jan-Apr, many of them wintering birds present in one area Jan-Apr; the county totals of probably different individuals were Suth 5, Ross 7, Inv c 20, Nairn 2, Aber/Kinc 5, Angus 6, Perth 3,

Peebles 1, Rox 1, Arg 4, Dunb 2, Stir 2, Lan 1, Renf 1, Dumf 2, Galloway 9. The monthly totals of individuals present on the mainland were 30 in Jan, 32 in Feb, 31 in Mar and 18 in Apr; the last dates were 8 Apr, Strathnairn, Inv (HJB); 9 Apr, Dornoch, Suth (DMcD); 10 Apr, Millhouse, Arg (TFR); 11 Apr, Dalry, Kirk (LAU) and Abernethy, Inv (RHD); 17 Apr, Brechin, Angus (GMC); 18 Apr, Trochry, Perth (WJE).

Spring migration: Isle of May, 5 Apr (4), 6-7 Apr (3), 1 to 10th, 7 ringed (NKA); Ork, Kirkwall 6 Apr, Wideford 8 Apr (CJB); Fair Isle, one 31 Mar, 1-2 on 7 days 7-17 Apr (RAB); Shet, Yell 8 Apr (DC), Foula 8 Apr, 9th, 14th, 24th, 28th and 29 Apr (JGH), Fetlar 12 and 16 Apr (ARM), Mainland 15 and 25 Apr (DC, BM), Unst 9 May (MS), Fetlar 27 May (ARM).

Autumn: Shet, (singles unless stated) Fetlar 25-30 Sep, 2 Oct (RJT), Sumburgh 27 Sep-1 Oct, Bigton 5 Oct (DC, BM), Foula 23-28 Oct (JGH); Fair Isle, 7 individuals between 29 Sep-24 Oct, singles except 3 on 24th (RAB); Ork, Rendall 29 Nov (EB); Isle of May, 27 Sep, 28th (2), 29th (AJW); Fife Ness 11 Oct (JLSC); Aberlady, E Loth, 23 Oct (DJ).

Rather scarce Oct-Dec on mainland, about 20 records, all singles as follows: Inv, Farr 24 Oct (L Payne), Dunachton 17 Dec (DNW); Arg, Achnamara 24 Oct (IR); Aber, Braemar 27 Oct (AW); Angus, Buddon 29 Oct (RAS), Glen Clova 31 Oct (ABR); Perth, Dunkeld 27 Oct (THE), Trinafour 29-31 Oct (CGH), Tummel Bridge 29 Oct (CRS), Strathtay 4-12 Dec (EMH); Rox, Yetholm 24 Oct-Dec (RSB), 3 others in Borders Nov-Dec (per AJS); Rox, Newcastleton 12 Oct (ELBC); Kirk, L Ken 14 Oct, Dalry 15-17 Nov (LAU); Ayr, Troon 13 Oct (WRB), Girvan 14 Oct (IMD), Maybole mid Dec (RO'G).

***Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor*. E Loth, 1 Aberlady 29 Aug-11 Sep (7: 95) (K. A. Mackenzie, J. Moss, GLS *et al.*); I Heb, 1 Rhum 12 Sep, probably present 10th-15th (7:96) (PW *et al.*).

***Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*. 1 North Ronaldsay, Ork, 26 May (EJW).

***Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio*. Spring passage: Fair Isle, seen 13 days 22 May-12 June, max 4 on 24th and 3 on 25th; Shet, 1 Mainland 22-23 May, 2 June (DC), ♂ Fetlar 25 May-3 June, ♀ on 1 June (ARM), 1-2 Whalsay 23-28 May, 4 on 27th (JHS), 2 Skerries 1 June (RJT); Ork, ♂ North Ronaldsay 2 June (RG); Isle of May one 24 May (DRG); Aber, ♂ Cruden Bay 15 May (JAL, AR); Midl, ♂ Penicuik 11 June (RM); Ayr, ♀ Camphill Reservoir 22 June (WCW)—was first for county.

Autumn: Shet, singles Grutness 27 Aug (BH), Foula 28 Sep (JGH), Hillwell 3 Oct (FH); Fair Isle, 1-3 on 23-31 Aug, singles 1-10 Sep, 26-28 Sep, 3 Oct (RAB); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 4 Sep (RG).

***Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*. Good breeding season Kinross (JHSw); albino juvenile Islay, I Heb, 27 May (CGB). Fair Isle, influx 1000 on 30-31 Mar and 7 Apr, autumn passage peaks 16-17 Oct and 29-31 Oct (RAB).

†**Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*. Suth, adult Droman 3 June (7: 97) (PT), probably same bird Sheigra 4 June (IJP) and Faraid Head 16 June (KMC, BT); I Heb, adult Rhum 4-8 May (PW *et al.*); Shet, 1 Unst 20 Sep-3 Oct (LJ *et al.*).

***Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. None found breeding: Perth, 1 pr Scone mid Feb (JK), ♂ dead Dowally 13 Apr (THE), 2 Perth 4 May (RMcM), 1 Bridge of Earn 7 June (EJM), 3 Perth 5 Aug (SLG); E Loth, 4 Aberlady 24 July (ADKR); Sel, 1 Bridgeheugh 13 July (JMe); E Ross, adult Heathmount, Tain, 7 Sep (CJMCK-G). Single migrants Fair Isle 5 Apr, killed by cat (RAB) and Foula, Shet, 7-10 Apr (JGH).

***Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*. Breeding numbers seemed low Caith (PMC); good season Kinross (JHSw); xanthomorphic individual fledged Selkirk, but killed by cat (H Kerrod). Counts: 1000 Montrose, Angus, 17 Jan (GMC); 100+ Vane Farm, Kinross, 1 Mar (JHSw). Migrants: Fair Isle, 2 June, 21 Oct (2), 24-28 Oct (1-2), 29 Oct-4 Nov (10), 20-26 Dec

(RAB); Shet, singles Lerwick 14-15 Feb (DC, BM), Weisdale 13 Mar (IS), Foula 14-15 Dec (JGH).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. Good numbers most areas. Peak counts: Sel, 60 Stantling Crag 17 Oct (KMck); Midl, 30 Edgelaw 17 Jan (JB, LLJV); W Loth, 28 Dalmeny 17 Sep (GLS); Angus, 18 Boddin 8 Feb (NKA); E Ross, 17 Redfield 15 Jan (MKMcD-D); Suth, 12 Golspie 8-29 Apr ((Jor); Inv, 14 Aviemore 26 Nov (RHD); O Heb, 20 Newton, North Uist, 12 Oct (JAW). Scattered records north to north coast, e.g. 2 Thurso, Caith, 17 Jan (PMC). Migrants: 2 Scalloway, Shet, 9-10 Feb (per DC); Isle of May, up to 4 in first week Apr (NKA), singles 9 May, 21 May, 6 Nov; Skye, Pabay 13 Feb (3), 17 Mar (1), 30 Mar (2) (ECG); 2 Rhum 5 Nov (PW).

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. Bred Dunnet, Reay (6 pairs) and Rumster, Caith (PMC, GHF); Dornoch, Suth (JTRS); Portree, Skye (GDF), Scalpay, Skye (ECG), pair Eigg (NKA); increase Gairloch area, W Ross (ENH). Peak counts: 60 Redfield, E Ross, 1 Jan-15 Mar (MKMcD-D); 50 Spey-mouth, Moray, 18 Dec (JMB); 40 Cortachy, Angus, 5 Apr (GMC).

Migration: Fair Isle, small numbers, max 5 on 30 Mar-2 Apr, but scattered records, some from 23 Sep, max 17 on 25 Sep, few in Oct, one 1-2 Dec (RAB); Shet, first 29 Mar, scattered records to 3 June, max 8 Fetlar 3 May (RJT), scarce in autumn, first 11 Sep, 10 Skerries 26 Sep (RJT), 12 Helendale 29 Sep (DC). Otherwise few records; Isle of May, up to 4 on 1-7 Apr (NKA), 24 May (1) (DRG), one 10-14 Sep (HG).

Linnet *Acanthis cannabina*. Counts: 1000 Montrose, Angus, 17 Jan (GMC); Ayr, 300 Prestwick 29 Aug (WRB); plentiful Scourie, Suth (IDP). Migrants: Shet, 1 Skerries 9 May (DGA, DJ); Fair Isle, one 2 and 10 Apr, few 21 Apr-2 June, max 5 on 25 and 28 Apr, singles 9 days 5 Oct-13 Nov and once Dec (RAB); 1 Heb, 2 Pabay, Skye, 5 May (ECG), ♂ Rhum 17 Nov, new for island (PW).

Twite *Acanthis flavirostris*. Breeding evidently now regular Wig (RCD *et al.*); 5 pairs Ailsa Craig (JAG); pair with b/3 Calder Dam, Renf, 27 June (HG); 3 pairs Morrich More, E Ross, 30 May (RHD); some recovery Shet (RJT).

Winter flocks and migration: peak counts Galloway, 140 L Ryan 13 Nov, 180 Wigtown Merse 14 Nov, 43 Mull of Galloway, Wig, 20 Nov (RCD); 80 Ayr Dec (WRB); 35 Aberlady, E Loth, 15 Nov (DJ); 13 Crail, Fife, 12 Nov (JARG); Isle of May 34 on 5 Apr, 22 on 6th, few to 27 Apr (NKA, CB); 27 Ben Lawers, Perth, 25 Sep (TCS); 200 Glen Clova, Angus, 14 Nov (NKA, MN); 80-100 Ythan, Aber, 21-27 Nov (LHC); 16 Old Bar, Nairn, 28 Nov (RHD, MIH); 35 Stratherrick, Inv, 12 Mar (RHD), 43 L Laide 9 Oct (MR), 24 Fort William 26 Mar, 50 on 3 Apr, last 7 on 9 Apr, 50+ back on 22 Aug, peak 100+ on 27 Sep (JCu); 100 Longa Island, W Ross, 27 Dec (ENH); 200 Dornoch, Suth, 20 Feb (DMcD); Fair Isle, peaks 100+ on 11-12 Sep, 200+ on 22 Sep, 60 migrants 23 Nov (RAB).

Redpoll *Acanthis flammea*. Pair in suitable breeding habitat Hoy, Ork, June (EB); more in northwest Suth (IDP). Counts: 200 Invermark, Angus, 22 Sep (GMC); 85 Doonfoot, Ayr, 16 Feb (WRB).

Migrants: Mealy Redpoll *A. f. flammea*: Fair Isle, scattered records 26 Feb-20 May, max 7 on 8 May, very few singles between 20 Sep-13 Nov (RAB); Shet, scattered records 25 Apr-2 June, max 5 Whalsay 5-10 May (BM, JHS), few in Oct (RJT); one Bannachra, Dunb, 31 Jan (SMDA). Lesser Redpoll *A. f. cabaret/disruptis*: Fair Isle, 14 and 21 May, 10-14 Sep (RAB); Shet, 8 Unst 22-28 Aug; Isle of May, one 25-27 Apr (CB), one 24 May (DRG); one redpoll Stornoway, O Heb, 11 July (WRPB). Greenland Redpoll *A. f. rostrata*: Fair Isle, 3 on 2 May, 3rd (4), 4th (3), one 22-30 Sep, one 3-12 Oct (RAB). Birds showing characteristics of Arctic Redpoll *A. hornemanni* reported Fetlar 5 Feb, 19 Feb-12 Mar (ARM), Foula 29 Mar (JGH), Unst 21 Mar (MS) and Yell 15 Mar (RJT) but none examined in hand.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. Increase reported Torridon (JAW) and Gairloch (ENH), W Ross, and in Fife (DWO). Migrants, northern race *P. p. pyrrhula*, spring: Isle of May, ♀ 5-7 Apr (NKA); Fair Isle, 3 ♂♂ 6-7 Apr, 1 on 8th (RAB); autumn: Shet, 1-2 Lerwick 6-15 Dec (DC), 1 Unst 9-14 Dec, 2 on 15th (BM); Fair Isle, about 8 individuals 27 Oct-2 Dec (RAB); Ork, 1 Birsay 23 Nov (EB). Singles Thurso, Caith, 6 Feb (PMC) and 27 Nov (JMW), and 3 Shurrey, Mar (PMC) might also be migrants.

***Trumpeter Bullfinch** *Rhodopechys githaginea*. ♀ Handa, Suth, 8-9 June (C R Tubbs), subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee; this species is not on the British list, but it is interesting that one was at Minsmere, Suffolk, 30 May-15 June 1971.

***Scarlet Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*. Four in spring, 14 in autumn; the recent increase in spring occurrences (4 in 1971 including 2 ♂♂) is probably due to the quite rapid westward spread of this species breeding range. Spring: Shet, ♂ Whalsay 8 May (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, ♀ 24 May, another ♀ 30 May (RAB); ♂ trapped North Ronaldsay, Ork, 29 May (RG, EJW). Autumn, singles unless stated: Shet, Skerries 25-26 Sep (RJT), Whalsay 9-10 Sep (JHS), Sumburgh 1 Sep (DC); Fair Isle, 22-23 Aug, 1 Sep, 7-12th, 14th, 15-16th (2), one to 21st, 2-6 Oct (8 individuals) (RAB *et al.*); Ork North Ronaldsay 16-24 Sep and 5 Oct (RG); Isle of May 6 Sep (TJRB, JRDO, AJW *et al.*).

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*. Bred usual areas north to Strathy Forest, Suth (JTRS), west to Lochaber (Spean Bridge JCu) and Glenbranter Forest, Arg (JTRS); numbers rather low Speyside, where poor Scots pine cone crop, but pockets of breeding birds in larches (good cone crop), first young flying 1 May (RHD, DNW). Apparently no Continental migrants, species not recorded Northern Isles. Peak counts mainland: 27 Blackhall, Kinc, 8 Jan (MM); 30 Bachnagairn, Angus, Sep (AH); 35 Dulfain Bridge, Inv, 13 July (RHD); 3 Gladhouse, Midl, 1 Aug (EMS); 12 Langholm, Dumf, 31 May (RS).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Albino L Craignish, Arg, spring (Miss H Reid); count: 1000 Portmore, Peeb, 17 Jan (JB). Migration: scarce on both passages: Isle of May, few early Apr, very scarce autumn (NJG); Fair Isle, 30 Mar-14 Apr, max 18 on 7 Apr, 1-7 many days 23 Apr-1 June, small passage 23 Sep-7 Nov, mainly 23-30 Sep, but max of only 8 (RAB); Shet, small passage from 23 Sep, largest flock only 30 (RJT).

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. Apparent hybrid Chaffinch/Brambling juvenile Newtonmore, Inv, early July (NP, DNW). Rather scarce in Scotland this year and on passage. Peak counts: 50 Spey Dam, Inv, 8-25 Nov (JRo); 200 Glen Clova, Angus, 7-14 Nov (NKA, MN); 70 Dunning, Perth, 13 Nov (DMB); 100 Edgelaw, Midl, 14 Feb (JB); 55 Borthwickshiel, Rox, 10 Jan (JB); 50 Selkirk 24 Oct (KMCK); 100 Carnwath, Lan, 4 Feb (HSCH, KCRH); most places reported very low numbers.

Passage: Fair Isle, 5 Apr-9 May, max 53 on 7 Apr, 50-60 on 23-27 Apr, autumn 23 Sep-11 Nov, peaks 28 Sep (50), 17 Oct (65), 6-7 Nov (40); Shet, movements 20-30 Apr, max 15 in flock, last 2 Skerries 1 June; very few autumn from 23 Sep, max 25 Kergord 17 Oct (DC, RJT); Ork, max, 16 North Ronaldsay 27 Sep (RG); Isle of May, last 2 on 24 May (DRG), first autumn 26 Sep (AJW); Fife Ness, very few from 27 Sep, max 30+ on 23 Oct (JARG, DWO).

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*. 70 Duddingston, Midl, roost Jan-4 Mar (GLS); 40 Arbroath, Angus, 24 Nov (NKA); 1 Stoer, Suth, early May (SMD). Single migrants Isle of May 3-5 May (DWO), Fair Isle 17 and 27 May (RAB).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. Flying young seen Stornoway Woods, O Heb, 11 July (WRPB); 1 Mingulay, O Heb, Aug (JCS). Migrants: 1 Foula, Shet, 1-2 Apr (JGH); Fair Isle, 3 on 1 Apr, 5-10 Apr (2-3), singles 14 and 30 Apr, 11th, 18 and 21 May, 2 on 12 May, singles 16 and 27 Oct, 28 Oct (2), 5-7 Nov, 23 Dec (RAB); 3 Isle of May spring (NJG).

†**Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala*. ♂ Fair Isle 12-15 May (RAB, ISR *et al.*); it is possible that records of this species, as of Red-headed Bunting, concern escaped cage-birds.

†**Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps*. ♂ Hawick, Rox, 23 June (TDo) was surprisingly the only one reported during year compared with 9 in 1968, 7 in 1969 and 7 in 1970.

***Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*. Four autumn records Fair Isle; 1-4 Sep, 10-18 Sep, 11-12 Sep, 20-22 Sep, one ringed (RAB, ISR *et al.*).

***Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*. Very scarce this year: Fair Isle, singles daily 23-31 May, 2 on 24 May (RAB); 1 trapped North Ronaldsay, Ork, 6 June (RG).

***Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*. 1 Fair Isle 28 Sep-2 Oct (GJB, RAB, ISR); 1 Whalsay, Shet, 1 Nov (JHS).

***Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*. Four autumn records: singles Whalsay, Shet, 23 Sep (JHS), Fair Isle, 27-30 Sep (trapped), 31 Oct-4 Nov and 12 Nov (RAB *et al.*).

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. Migration: Shet, 24-30 Apr, small passage, stragglers to 1 June, pair may have bred Unst, scarce in autumn, max 20 Skerries 25 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle, 14 Mar-4 June, scattered records, max 8 on 7 Apr and 30 on 25 Apr, singles 23-24 June, 5-7 July, 4 Sep, few 21 Sep-14 Nov, max 14 on 27 Sep (RAB).

***Laund Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*. 1 Strathbeg, Aber, 5 Feb (RHD); Fair Isle, one 8 Apr, 11th (2), few 22 Apr-6 May, max 4 on 24th, one 20 May (RAB). Autumn: Shet, 1 Foula 25 Sep (JGH), 4 Whalsay 2 Oct (JHS); Fair Isle, small numbers 19-30 Sep, max 12 on 27th, singles 2nd, 7th, 16-19 and 28 Oct (RAB); ♂ Balranald, O Heb, 12 Sep (GC); 1 Torry, Aberdeen, 1 Oct (MAMcD).

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Pr reared young Cairngorms, 2 other ♂♂ and 1 ♀ present in summer (JCr *et al.*); ♂ singing Ben Nevis, W Inv, 8 June (R E Emmett).

Winter counts: 600 Wester Loch, Caith, and 300 Thurso 21 Feb (RHD, MIH); 150 Dingwall, E Ross, 30 Jan (MIH, HDS); 300 Shennachie, Inv, 18 Feb (RHD); 120+ Dalwhinnie, Inv, 4 Mar (HSH); 85 Findatie, Kinross, 15 Jan (JHSw); 100 Craik, Fife, 10 Jan (JARG); 54 Musselburgh, Midl, 16 Jan, 40 on 20 Feb, last 4 on 28 Mar (LLJV); 60 Tynninghame, E Loth, Jan, last 28 Mar (RWJS).

Passage: Fair Isle, 120 in Jan, 150 in Feb, 200-300 on 12-16 Mar, 70 early Apr, 1-2 in May but 6 on 5-6th, single stragglers to 26 June (RAB); last Shet, Fetlar 13 June and Unst 15 June (RJT *et al.*); 1 Durness, Suth, 22 May (DCH). Rather low numbers autumn: Shet, from 12 Whalsay 13 Sep, first Foula 19th and Unst 23rd (JHS, JGH, MS); Fair Isle, from 5 Sep, peaks 50 in Sep, 3 Oct (80), 4 Nov and 18-19 Nov (200) (RAB); Ork, first 11 Sep (EB); E Ross, flocks 40+ and 200+ arrived Tarbat Ness 11 Nov (NP); first Isle of May 14 Sep (HG); c 100 Moorfoots, Midl, Nov (WB).

***White-throated Sparrow** *Zonotrichia albicollis*. 1 Whalsay, Shet, 1 Nov (JHS); first for Shetland.

†**Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina amoena*. ♂ trapped Isle of May 22-23 May (DRG *et al.*); this species is kept in captivity, and one shot Orkney 31 May 1964 was an escaped cage-bird.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. No changes reported.

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*. Breeding records: up to 14 summered Fair Isle, some bred, fledglings seen 3rd week Aug (RAB); Shet, may have bred Foula and Unst (per RJT); 10-12 pairs breeding Eday, Ork (EB); several present Scourie, Suth (IDP); O Heb, few pairs bred Stornoway woods (WAJC), good few St Kilda, at least 1 pair bred, fledged young 7-8 July from Factor's house (DS); young seen Ross of Mull, Arg (per MJPG).

Peak counts: 100 Coylton, Ayr, 31 Dec (WRB); 400 Montrose, Angus, 17 Jan (GMC); 50 Redcastle, E Ross, 17 Jan (RHD). Migration: Shet, Foula 60 arrived 13 May, peak 100 on 15 May, numbers down to 10 on 25th (JGH), 20 Skerries 14 May, 12 on 1 June (RJT), 2-6 Fetlar 7-20 May (RSPB), 2 Unst 18 May, increased to 22 by 22nd (MS); Fair Isle, passage from 29 Apr, 10 early May, peaks 14 May (30), 16th (37), 20 until 3 June (RAB); Ork, 25 Ronaldsay 17-20 May (RG); one Isle of May 5 June (HG).

Additions and corrections to 1969 and 1970 reports

This section comprises significant records that have come to light for past years and the correction of errors. Some errors have been reported, and the more important of these are corrected; I am grateful to those who wrote in. Unfortunately some records were attributed to the wrong observers; this usually occurred when I was dealing with a run of sightings covered by a block of three or more initials, and to save space I used one or two initials to credit the record and regrettably chose the wrong ones. My apologies to those involved and also to those places in Wigtownshire that were mistakenly placed in Kirkcudbrightshire, and vice versa.

1969 Addition

Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus*. One found dying last week Sep, Barcaldine, Arg (D McDonald, H Insley).

1970 Additions

Manx Shearwater. Small wreck S and W Inv; singles L Ailort 9 Sep, Foyers 18 Sep, Fort Augustus 8 Oct and 3 Fort William 8 Oct; 1 Kyle of Lochalsh, W Ross, 25 Sep (JCu).

Great Shearwater. Aber, 1 Rattray Head, 31 Oct, 4 on 2 Nov (MRW).

Cory's Shearwater. 2 Rattray Head, Aber, 2 Nov (MRW).

Red-breasted Merganser. 308 Inversanda, Arg, 6 Aug (JASN).

Black-tailed Godwit. 35 Corpach, Inv, 6 July (JASN).

Greenshank. 1 L Linnhe, Inv, 24 Jan (JASN).

Purple Sandpiper. 1 Beattock, Dumf, 8 Nov, died 2 days later (ED).

Great Spotted Woodpecker. Pr bred L Eil side, Inv, June (JRo).

Grasshopper Warbler. 4 different birds Lochaber, Inv, 15 May-16 July (JCu).

Chiffchaff. Pr bred Braemore, W Ross, eggs hatched 10 June (Dr S. Tyler).

Add Miss R. M. Bairnson (RMBa), Mrs H. F. Brotherston and M. Hutcheson to the list of observers, as their initials appear in the report.

Corrections to 1970 report

Storm Petrel (6: 354). Line 7, there were 2, not 1, at Corsewall Point.

Scaup (6: 357). Line 7, for "Lochinch Loch" read "Lochinvar Loch"

Tufted Duck (6: 358). Line 14, delete "is" and "ever".

Velvet Scoter (6: 359). Line 4, for "30 Oct" read "3 Oct".

Goosander (6: 359). Line 3, for "20 L Ken" read "70 L Ken".

Curlew (6: 368). Line 4, for "40" read "400".

Black-tailed Godwit (6: 369). Line 15, delete "20 Barassie 24 Sep", they were Bar-tailed Godwits.

Curlew Sandpiper (6: 372). Line 2, date of Fife record was 20 June.

Great Skua (6: 377). Last two lines, delete "2 Southerness, Kirk, 27 June (JGY); 1 Little Ross, Wig, 21 Aug (RTS)" they were Arctic Skuas, the first date was 17 June not 27 and Little Ross is Kirk not Wig.

Black-headed Gull (6: 379). Line 3, delete "Tentsmuir" and substitute "Morton Lochs".

Guillemot (6: 380). Last 2 lines, change "possible" to "considered"; observer was (JGY) not (ADW).

Barn Owl (6: 381). Remove asterisk.

House Martin (6: 385). Line 11, change "on increase" to "continuing".

Raven (6: 385). Line 2, change "about" to "at least".

Water Pipit (6: 395). Date was 13-18 Apr, not 13 Mar.

Great Grey Shrike (6: 396). Line 4, change "12 Apr (RWR)" to "1 Jan (RWF)".

Twite (6: 398). Line 3, change "Mull, I Heb" to "Mull of Galloway".

Cirl Bunting (6: 400). Delete. The record was 17 Aug 1969 and appeared in the 1969 report (6: 126).

The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Hotel Dunblane Hydro, Perthshire, 27th-29th October 1972

PROGRAMME

Friday 27th October

4.30 - 7.30 p.m. Conference Office in the Hotel Dunblane Hydro open for and 8 to 9 p.m. 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. 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 28th 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 Mr K. Matheson, Provost of Dunblane.

9.30 a.m. LECTURE, "The Developing Woodlands of Britain" by Professor J. D. Matthews, Department of Forestry, University of Aberdeen.

11 a.m. INTERVAL for coffee and biscuits.

11.30 a.m. LECTURE, "The Study and Conservation of Woodland Birds" by Dr Bruce Campbell.

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.

4.30 to 5.30 p.m. MEETING of participants of the **Birds of Estuaries Enquiry** and the **Wader Study Group** to which all who are interested in waders are invited.

6 p.m. 36th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLUB in the Ballroom.

BUSINESS :

- (1) Apologies for absence.
- (2) Approval of the Minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting of the Club held in Dunblane on 30th October 1971 (see *Scottish Birds* 6: 461).
- (3) Matters arising from the Minutes.
- (4) Report of Council for Session 35.
- (5) Approval of Accounts for Session 35.
- (6) Appointment of Auditor.
- (7) Election of new Office Bearers and Members of Council. The Council recommends the following elections :
George Waterston as President of the Club to succeed A. Donald Watson who is due to retire having completed his three year term of office.
Andrew T. Macmillan as Vice-President to succeed George Waterston.
J. H. Ballantyne, F. D. Hamilton, H. Robb and B. S. Turner as new Members of Council to replace A. T. Macmillan; R. S. Baillie who has resigned, and Professor M. F. M. Meiklejohn and T. D. H. Merrie who are due to retire by rotation.
- (8) Any other competent business.

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

Sunday 29th October

9.30 a.m. LECTURE, "Tawny Owls and their prey—a population study" by Mr H. N. Southern, Animal Ecology Research Group, Department of Zoology, Oxford University.

10.45 a.m. INTERVAL for coffee and biscuits.

11.15 a.m. FILMS, "Wildlife in Alaska" by Mr B. L. Sage, and "Solstice" by courtesy of The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, Australia.

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 Dumfries and Inverness Branches.

Dumfries W. Austin, 54 Albert Road, Dumfries.

Inverness M. I. Harvey, Clach Bhan, Loaneckheim, Kiltarlity, Inverness.

ARGYLL WEEKEND 1973

Last year the Stirling Branch held a very successful weekend based on the Cairnbaan Hotel, Lochgilphead, Argyll. Visits were made to places of special interest in Kintyre, Knapdale, and north to Oban. Some 40 people attended and about 90 species were seen. Arrangements have been made with the hotel for a similar weekend, on 23rd to 25th February 1973. The price will be £6.50 per person inclusive, which will cover bed and breakfast for the Friday and Saturday nights, dinner on Saturday evening, and packed lunch on Saturday and Sunday. This really represents excellent value for money. As there are only 42 beds at the hotel, persons wishing to attend should book early. It would be appreciated if persons coming alone would be willing to share a room if required, as there are only six single rooms. Bookings should be made direct with the hotel, but would you please let the organiser, T. D. H. Merrie, West Faerwood, Dollar, know when your booking has been confirmed.

SOLWAY WEEKEND 1973

The weekend excursion will take place on 9th-11th February 1973. Full details will appear in the next issue of the Journal.

THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

THE 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 Thurso 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.

The affairs of the Club are controlled by a Council composed of the Hon. Presidents, the President, the Vice-President, the Hon. Treasurer, the Editor of 'Scottish Birds', the Hon. Treasurer of the House Fabric Fund, and ten other Members of the Club elected at an Annual General Meeting. On the Council is also one Representative of each Branch Committee appointed annually by the Branch.

The Scottish Bird Records' Committee, appointed by Council, produces an annual Report on 'Ornithological Changes in Scotland'.

The Club tie in dark green, navy or maroon terylene and a brooch in silver and blue, both displaying the Club emblem, a Crested Tit, can be obtained by Members only from the Club Secretary or from Hon. Branch Secretaries.

The Club-room and Library at 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BT is available to Members during office hours (Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 5 p.m.), and, by prior arrangement, in the evenings during the week in the winter months from 7 to 10 p.m. Members may use the Reference Library, and there is a small duplicate section, consisting of standard reference books and important journals which can be lent to students and others wishing to read a particular subject.

The Bird Bookshop is also at 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh. It is managed by the Club and the profits help to maintain services to ornithologists at the Scottish Centre.

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).

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

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, 31 Starbank Road, Edinburgh, EH5 3BY. 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.

DICK, 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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