

SCOTTISH BIRDS



THE JOURNAL OF THE
SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

Volume 8 No. 4

WINTER 1974

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SCOTTISH BIRDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB



Volume 8 No. 4

Winter 1974

Edited by D. J. Bates

Editorial

Scottish Birds. Readers of our previous editorial will be aware of the reasons for the late appearance of this 1973 Scottish Bird Report. As a short cut to bring *Scottish Birds* back on schedule, the spring and summer number will be combined for 1975 only, and it should appear in August. This will be a bumper issue, containing almost as much material as two normal numbers, and we trust that members will agree that little reading matter has been lost and much time gained by this drastic measure. The autumn and winter numbers should appear nearer the correct times but the 1974 Bird Report will be published in the winter number again, thus avoiding two Bird Reports out of three issues. By 1976, *Scottish Birds* should be appearing punctually.

Rare birds Editorials have appeared before in this and other journals warning birdwatchers not to disturb rare birds, especially at the nest. Readers should need no reminding that some rarities are particularly vulnerable to disturbance. Birds in well-trodden ornithological localities, such as Red-throated Divers in Shetland, may suffer repeated disturbance from a flow of visitors, although each visitor may be under the illusion that his or her visit is only an isolated, and therefore harmless, intrusion.

It would be pointless to badger readers again with this exhortation, more so to raise the controversial issue of trespass, unless there was something new to be said. But there is another possible threat to those rare birds that nest on private estates, apart from the harrying of raptors by keepers or rarities by twitchers. There is reason to believe that some landowners or keepers may be prepared to destroy rare birds if they are thought to be a source of attraction to trespassers. Such acts have been suspected in the past, and although the motive is even more difficult to prove than the crime, keen birdwatchers should carefully consider the possible consequences of their actions.

Current literature. Recent material of Scottish interest includes :

- Ospreys at home. R. Green, 1974. *Birds* 5: 28-31. (Summary of data from Loch Garten).
- Breeding biology of the Buzzard in Speyside. N. Picozzi and Hon. D. Weir, 1974. *British Birds* 67: 199-210.
- Shag movements in northeast Scotland. N. Elkins and M. R. Williams, 1974. *Bird Study* 21: 149-51.
- Contamination of birds with Fulmar oil. R. A. Broad, 1974. *British Birds* 67: 297-301. (Most data from Fair Isle).
- Tay Ringing Group 1973. Price 20p. (Annual report; no address given).
- Local gull movements as a hazard to aircraft. D. R. Grant, 1974. *Bird Study* 21: 169-79. (Study at Turnhouse (Edinburgh) Airport).
- Looking at the bad side of oil. J. Andrews and K. Standing, 1974. *Birds* 5: 16-8. (Threats to birds in Scotland).
- Talon-grappling by Golden Eagles. D. A. Orton, 1974. *Bird Study* 21: 219-20. (Record from Wester Ross).
- Conservation and Research: Scottish development and wild-fowl. W. R. P. Bourne, 1974. *Wildfowlers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland Annual Report and Year Book 1973-4*: 34-9.
- Oil Pollution in the Cromarty Firth. A. Currie, 1974. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 5: 118-9.
- Endocrine basis of pair-formation behaviour in the male Eider. M. L. Gorman, 1974. *Ibis* 116: 451-65. (Study at Sands of Forvie, Aberdeenshire).
- Orientation of fish in the Tystie's beak. P. J. B. Slater, 1974. *Bird Study* 21: 238-40. (Study at Fair Isle).
- Gut analyses of Greylag and Pinkfooted Geese. I. Newton, C. R. G. Campbell and A. Allison, 1974. *Bird Study* 21: 255-62. (Study in east-central Scotland).
- Breeding behaviour of Whinchats. D. B. Gray, 1974. *Bird Study* 21: 280-2. (Study in Ayrshire).
- Hen Harriers' hunting behaviour in south-west Scotland. R. C. Dickson, 1974. *British Birds* 67: 511-3.
- Treecreepers apparently feeding on fat. R. S. Greenwood, 1974. *British Birds* 67: 515-6. (Study in Glasgow).
- Leaf-shaking by Dunnock. R. G. Caldwell, 1974. *British Birds* 67: 516. (Record from Paisley).
- Shelduck population of the Ythan estuary, Aberdeenshire. I. J. Patterson, C. M. Young and F. S. Tompa, 1974. *Wildfowl* 25: 16-28.
- Criteria for ageing embryos of the Eider. M. L. Gorman, 1974. *Wildfowl* 25: 29-32. (Study at Sands of Forvie, Aberdeenshire).

Scottish Bird Report 1973

Compiled by ROY H. DENNIS

(Plates 17 - 20)

This is the sixth 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, 6: 347-402, 7: 107-163 and 7: 324-385. It is a concise summary of data collected on all species known to have occurred in Scotland in 1973. It follows the pattern established in its predecessors, and new readers should note that no attempt is made to define the ordinary status of most species; reference should be made to Baxter & Rintoul's *The Birds of Scotland* (1953).

As before, we stress that observer cover in the various regions of Scotland ranges 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 coast, central Scotland and the Clyde/Solway area are better covered than elsewhere, but there are pockets of good cover in most regions. For some areas more information is published and greater details given in local reports such as the Fair Isle Bird Observatory Report, the Shetland Bird Report, the Isle of May report (*Scot. Birds* 8: 43-53) and the Clyde Area Bird Report. Although much local information cannot be published here, the collection of records by the local recorders provides a most useful fund of data for reference on regional ornithology.

In the species list 297 species are mentioned; at least eleven of these are species that have escaped or been released from captivity, while a few more are of doubtful origin. Nevertheless we feel it is useful to document such sightings; they are distinguished by the symbol † in the list.

As in the past five years, one new species was added to the Scottish list—in 1973 it was an Ovenbird recorded at Out Skerries on 7-8th October. This North American wood warbler (*Parulidae*) is a close relative of the Northern Waterthrush, which has been recorded twice on the Isles of Scilly in autumn. It was an exciting year for rare birds which included Purple Heron, two Little Bitterns, two Blue winged Teals, Crane, Great Snipe, three White-rumped Sandpipers, three Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Wilson's Phalarope, Pratincole, Ivory Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, two White-winged Black Terns, White's Thrush, two Lanceolated and two Melodious Warblers, Olive-backed Pipit, Citrine Wagtail, Two-barred Crossbill and White-throated Sparrow.

Once again the winters at both ends of the year were not severe; there were no big cold weather movements nor heavy winter mortality but the spring was cold and late, and the summer was rather changeable. A pair of Shore Larks summered in the Highlands and almost certainly nested for the first recorded time. A pair of Reed Warblers nested successfully on Unst and a Black Redstart laid eggs on Copinsay, Orkney; neither species has been recorded nesting in Scotland previously but in the latter case only a female was observed and the eggs were infertile.

Three broods of Goldeneye were recorded in East Inverness-shire, at least two of which were in nest boxes; ten pairs of Ospreys were successful and reared 21 young; the male Snowy Owl at Fetlar mated with two females; the old bird reared two young but the young female deserted her three eggs. Slavonian Grebes extended their range southwards and two pairs were found nesting in Perthshire; the Crested Tit population was high and some moved into Deeside. Lastly, a Waxwing was recorded in the Highlands in June, Sanderlings were seen display-fighting over a Sutherland mountain and a Pectoral Sandpiper was seen in summer on a Caithness flow.

The migration seasons were interesting with some species in record numbers; very high numbers of Little Stints and Ruffs were seen in autumn, for example a flock of 84 Ruffs in Shetland. Some warblers and chats were again scarce in autumn, but there were good numbers of Yellow-browed Warblers (about 50) and Red-breasted Flycatchers (22 in autumn), while a spring influx of Bluethroats included two Swedish-ringed birds. It was also a record spring for Scarlet Rosefinches—at least ten were recorded and one wonders when they might stay to breed. Sixty-five Bean Geese in Galloway was the most since 1966, and in the Moray Firth the totals of sea-ducks reached 4600 Long-tailed Ducks, 12,000 Common Scoters and 2000 Velvet Scoters.

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. We appeal to observers to submit descriptions of rare or unusual species to the local recorder as soon as possible, preferably on an unusual-record form, obtainable free from the local recorder. 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.

With such a volume of material moving from observer to recorder to compiler to printer, there is the risk of transcrip-

tion errors and we will be glad to be informed of anything to be corrected next year. We would apologize 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 surname and all initials when submitting records to the local recorders; with so many observers contributing, the key to their initials is doubly difficult to prepare if only a first initial is given. The different regions have been numbered and the bracketed numbers after an observer's name in the key to observers' initials indicate which observer is involved with a record in the species list.

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 have omitted most qualifications such as near and about. References in the form (6: 322) are to volumes and pages of *Scottish Birds*. The sequence of species, English names and scientific nomenclature follow the B.T.O. guide *A Species List of British and Irish Birds* (1971). An asterisk indicates that all known records are given.

The sketches that illustrate the text were drawn by: W. R. Brackenridge (Peregrine), J. Busby (Gannet, Spoonbill, Black Tern, Snowy Owl, Whinchat), R. H. Hogg (Sparrowhawk, Great Grey Shrike), A. D. Watson (Wheatear, Yellow-browed Warbler, Spotted Flycatcher, Goldfinch) and K. Brockie (Long-tailed Duck, Moorhen, Purple Sandpiper, Swift, Song Thrush, Brambling).

The photographs are by D. Coutts, S. Laybourne, I. S. Robertson, R. W. Summers and R. J. Tulloch.

I would like to thank them and everyone else who has contributed to the 1973 report. My special thanks go to the local recorders for their considerable efforts in collecting and collating the records. It is my greatest regret that this report is late; my hope is that as the years go by the historical value of this annual report will increase.

Local Recorders in 1973

1. **Shetland (except Fair Isle)** R. J. Tulloch, Reafirth, Mid Yell, Shetland.
2. **Fair Isle** R. A. Broad, Bird Observatory, Fair Isle Shetland.
3. **Orkney** E. Balfour, Isbister House, Rendall, Orkney (see Changes below).
4. **Outer Hebrides (except St Kilda)** Dr P. G. Hopkins, Leurbost Schoolhouse, Leurbost, by Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.
5. **St Kilda** Dr I. Pennie, Varkasaig, Scourie, Sutherland.
6. **Caithness** Mrs P. M. Collett, Sandyquoy, East Gills, Scrabster, Caithness KW14 7UH.

7. **Sutherland, Ross-shire (except Black Isle)** D. MacDonald, Elmbank, Dornoch, Sutherland.
8. **Inverness-shire (within 18 miles of Inverness) Ross-shire (Black Isle only)** Dr Maeve Rusk, Arniston, 51 Old Edinburgh Road, Inverness.
9. **Inverness-shire (mainland more than 18 miles from Inverness)** R. H. Dennis, Landberg, Kessock, Inverness IV1 1XD.
10. **Nairnshire, Morayshire, Banffshire** J. Edelsten, 14 South High Street, Portsoy, Banffshire AB4 2NT.
11. **Aberdeenshire, North Kincardineshire** W. Murray, Culterty Field Station, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire AB4 OAA, and A. G. Knox, Zoology Department, Aberdeen University, Tillydrone Avenue, Aberdeen AB9 2TN.
12. **South Kincardineshire, Angus** G. M. Crighton, 23 Church Street, Brechin, Angus.
13. **Perthshire** Miss V. M. Thom, 19 Braeside Gardens, Perth (see Changes below).
14. **Kinross-shire** Miss B. H. Moore, Vane Farm, Kinross.
15. **Isle of May** Miss N. J. Gordon, Nature Conservancy, 12 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 2AS (see Changes below).
16. **Fife, Clackmannanshire, East Stirlingshire** D. W. Oliver, East Cottage, Balass, Cupar, Fife (see Changes below).
17. **West Lothian, Forth Islands (except May), Midlothian** R. W. J. Smith, 33 Hunter Terrace, Loanhead, Midlothian.
18. **East Lothian, Berwickshire** K. S. Macgregor, 16 Merchiston Avenue, Edinburgh EH10 4NY.
19. **Peeblesshire, Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire** A. J. Smith, Glenview, Selkirk TD7 4LX.
20. **Argyllshire, Inner Hebrides, Skye** M. J. P. Gregory, Duiletter, Kil-mory Road, Lochgilphead, Argyllshire PA31 8NL.
21. **Dunbartonshire, West Stirlingshire, Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, Arran, Bute** R. W. Forrester, 19 Woodside Avenue, Lenzie, Dunb. G66 4NG.
22. **Dumfriesshire** D. Skilling, 86 Auchenkeld Avenue, Heathall, Dumfries, and R. T. Smith, Applegarthtown, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.
23. **Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtonshire** A. D. Watson, Barone, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Changes of Local Recorders

Miss Valerie Thom handed over the recordership of Perthshire to Bob McMillan in 1973 and Miss Nancy Gordon handed over the Isle of May recordership to John Arnott in 1974; we would like to thank them both sincerely for all their good work in connection with the Scottish Bird Report since its inception. In 1974, Cliff Henty was appointed recorder for Clackmannanshire and East Stirling; we would like to thank David Oliver for looking after these areas along with Fife in recent years.

1974

- Orkney** D. Lea, Easter Sower, Orphir, Orkney KW17 2RE.
Perthshire R. L. McMillan, 29 Lewis Place, N. Muirton, Perth.
Isle of May J. M. S. Arnott, East Redford House, Redford Road, Edinburgh EH13 0AS.
Fife D. W. Oliver, East Cottage, Balass, Cupar, Fife.
Clackmannanshire, East Stirlingshire Dr C. J. Henty, 3 The Broich, Alva, Clackmannanshire.

Key to observers' initials

More than 600 observers contributed records for 1973 to the local recorders and we are extremely grateful to them. 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 one or two records, e.g. a rarity, to avoid multiplication of initials his (or her) full name is given with the record in the species list.

Mrs D. E. Abbey	E. D. Cameron	M. Drummond
L. Adams	C. R. G. Campbell	A. Duncan
P. Agland	M. F. Carrier	Sir A. B. Duncan
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R. S. Baillie (RSB)	A. F. C. M. Collett	G. H. French
K. Baldridge (23)	Mrs P. M. Collett	Dr C. H. Fry
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I. Balfour-Paul	D. C. Cook	H. Galbraith
J. H. Ballantyne (JB)	G. B. Corbett	C. A. Gervaise
R. Q. Ballantyne	C. Corse	I. P. Gibson
W. Q. Ballantyne	D. Cottee (19)	A. G. Gordon
Miss J. Banks (JBk)	D. Coull (23)	Miss N. J. Gordon
G. J. Barnes	D. Coutts (1)	D. R. Grant
Mrs E. Bartlett (EBt)	C. N. L. Cowper	Lt-Col J. P. Grant
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C. J. Booth	Rev. J. M. Crook	Miss P. Grundy
Dr W. R. P. Bourne	W. A. J. Cunningham	J. M. Gunn (6)
T. Boyd	A. Currie	Brathay Expedition
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S. Bradley	Nature Conservancy	North Solway Ringing
D. M. Bremner	Council (NCC)	Group (NSRG)
W. N. Brigham	Eskdale & Liddesdale	Tay Ringing Group
R. A. Broad	Orn. Club (ELOC)	(TRG)
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W. Brotherston	T. P. Daniels	Mrs H. S. C. Halliday
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C. Brown	N. Darroch	Dr K. C. R. Halliday
Miss E. Brown (EBr)	M. Davies (11)	F. E. Hamilton
I. A. G. Brown	T. Delaney (17)	Mrs D. Hamilton
K. Bruce (22)	R. H. Dennis	Mrs A. R. Harding
D. M. Bryant	J. Dick	Mrs E. M. Harvey
G. Bundy	R. C. Dickson (23)	M. I. Harvey
J. L. Burton	Miss J. Donnan	T. Hastie
Royal Soc. for Protec-	T. Dougall (TDo)	C. G. Headlam
tion of Birds (RSPB)	B. Downing	M. Heubeck (11)
R. G. Caldow	Dr I. T. Draper	A. C. B. Henderson
R. Calligan	Mrs M. M. Draper	Sir N. Henderson

- C. J. Henty
 A. E. Hingston
 T. Hodd
 R. H. Hogg
 D. Holmes (21)
 I. Hopkins
 P. G. Hopkins
 Miss J. E. Howie
 D. C. Hulme
 R. A. Hume
 E. N. Hunter
 F. Hunter
 D. Hutcheson
 T. Irving
 P. R. James
 G. Jamieson
 R. A. Jeffrey
 A. W. G. John
 R. Johnson (1)
 A. Johnstone (23)
 R. Kerr (23)
 Miss B. C. Kinloch
 A. G. M. Kinnear
 P. K. Kinnear
 J. Kirk
 A. G. Knox
 Mrs S. Laing (13)
 R. M. C. Lambie
 D. C. Lang
 G. J. Langsbury
 D. R. Langslow
 P. A. Lassey
 J. Law
 S. Laybourne
 I. H. Leach
 R. Leavett
 Mrs L. D. G. Linehan
 G. D. Liston
 J. A. Love
 Miss K. Lyall
 D. W. McAllister
 D. MacDonald
 Mrs M. K. MacDuff-
 Duncan
 D. B. McGinn
 K. S. Macgregor
 R. Macintyre
 A. MacIver
 C. J. Mackenzie-Grieve
 K. A. MacKenzie
 Dr P. Mackie
 I. McKinnie
 L. Mackinnon
 J. W. S. Mackintosh
 I. M. Maclean
 A. C. MacLeod
 A. T. Macmillan
 R. L. McMillan
 E. J. Maguire
 A. R. Mainwood
 R. J. Mann
 S. Manson (6)
 Dr B. Marshall
 M. Marsland (13)
 M. Martin (MMn)
 J. B. Mason
 W. Matheson (4)
 E. A. Maxwell
 J. A. Meikle
 Prof. M. F. M. Meikle-
 john
 J. K. R. Melrose
 T. D. H. Merrie
 R. H. Miller
 A. Mitchell
 J. Mitchell (21)
 Miss B. H. Moore
 C. M. Morrison
 J. Moss (16)
 J. H. B. Munro
 J. Murray
 R. D. Murray
 W. Murray
 J. A. S. Newman
 M. Nicol
 R. G. Nisbet
 T. Nisbet
 R. Norman
 A. Ockendon
 M. A. Ogilvie
 D. W. Oliver
 J. Oliver
 H. Ostroznic
 J. Pairman
 C. Park (21)
 E. C. Parker
 J. R. Parrott
 G. L. A. Patrick
 Dr I. D. Pennie
 A. Petersen
 Rev. J. S. Phillips
 N. Picozzi
 C. Placido
 R. K. Pollock
 B. Pounder
 S. da Prato
 W. C. Prest
 Mrs I. Rainier
 A. D. K. Ramsay
 C. P. Rawcliffe
 Dr R. Richter (10)
 N. Riddiford
 G. Riddle
 H. Robb
 E. L. Roberts
 J. Roberts (12)
 I. S. Robertson
 Mrs S. Robertson
 M. Ross (1)
 P. D. Round
 J. Rowbottom (JRo)
 Dr D. E. Rowling
 R. Roxburgh
 R. M. Rusk
 A. Russell
 H. M. Russell
 G. L. Sandeman
 P. W. Sandeman
 I. S. Sandison (1)
 J. E. Sapwell
 D. Scott
 J. Scott (21)
 M. Scott (16)
 Mrs P. Scott-Plummer
 D. R. Shannon
 Mrs A. F. W. Sharp
 G. Shaw (GSh)
 R. Shaw
 P. Shaw
 G. Sheppard (23)
 D. C. Shenton
 D. Simpson (16)
 J. H. Simpson
 M. Sinclair
 D. Skilling (DSK)
 J. Skilling (JSk)
 A. J. Smith (19)
 Mrs E. M. Smith
 K. Smith (21)
 Mrs P. Smith (7)
 N. Smith
 R. T. Smith
 R. W. J. Smith
 S. Smith
 Prof T. C. Smout
 J. Spriggs (1)
 D. Stalker
 K. T. Standing
 D. M. Stead
 A. G. Stewart
 I. F. Stewart
 N. L. Storie
 M. Strickland (1)
 R. W. Summers
 I. S. Suttie
 R. L. Swann
 RAF Kinloss Ornith.
 Soc. (RAFKOS)
 Dr T. V. Tattersal
 G. K. Taylor
 Miss V. M. Thom
 D. B. Thomson
 R. Thorne (1)
 D. Thorogood (DTh)
 J. Thorogood (JTh)
 M. Traill-Clouston
 R. J. Tulloch
 D. Turner (12)
 L. A. Urquhart
 K. Verrall

Mrs U. R. Vivers	R. Wemyss (21)	A. Wright (21)
Dr L. L. J. Vick	D. S. Whitaker	N. J. D. Wright
Dr W. C. Wakefield	G. T. White	W. Wyper (21)
Mrs A. Walker	Mrs J. A. Whyte	Dr E. I. Young
R. Walker (17)	Dr F. W. Wigzell	G. Young
Miss S. Wanless	R. T. Willett	J. F. Young
A. D. Watson	E. J. Williams	J. G. Young
A. J. Watson	J. Wilson (23)	L. Young
D. R. Waugh	J. M. Wilson	B. Zonfrillo
T. Weir	P. Wormell	

Species List

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*. Another unsuccessful year, probably due to summer floods. Sample counts: Suth, 10 prs checked, only 1 young reared; W Ross, 14 prs checked, 4 young reared; Inv, 4 prs, 1 young reared (RHD, AG, ENH *et al.*); O Heb, unsuccessful Harris/Lewis (PGH); Perth, 2 sites successful out of 5 checked (RLMcM). Elsewhere: Ayr, pr failed (WRB, RHH); pr nested in new locality SW Scotland, but young did not survive.

Shet, 1 Skellister 29 July-20 Aug (DC); Ork, max 7 Walkmill Bay 20 Sep (DL); O Heb, max count 20 Branahuie 1 Sep (WAJC, PGH); W Ross, 15 Red Point 10 Mar (ENH), 25 ad Gruinard Bay 16 Aug (DCH); Inv, 1 Longman Bay 18 Feb (MR); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 15 Dec (LLJV); Kinross, 1 inland L Leven 9-10 Feb (AA, KB, GC).

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. Winter counts: 12 Dales Voe, Shet, 30 Jan, 15 Weisdale 14 Feb and 15 Unst 25 Feb; 3 Tynninghame, E Loth, 18 Feb & 23 Mar (RWJS, EMS); Arg, 9 Machrihanish-Tayinloan 11 Mar (DLC); 14 Portnahaven, Islay, 19 Mar (R. Dawson); Ayr, 7 Turnberry Bay 20 Mar (RHH). Spring records: Shet, 18 Quendale 26 Mar, increase to 28 by 3 May; Ork, 72 in one group, Scapa Flow 25 Apr (DL). More late records than usual on west coast: 11 Balnakeil Bay, Suth, 20 May (AG); 7 Port Henderson, W Ross, 3 May (ENH); 3 Arisaig and 4 Loch nan Uamh, Inv, 26 May; 5 Kilmalieu, Arg, 27 May, including display (RHD). Only one inland record—W Ross loch 28 Apr (ACMcL). Usual summer records north and west coasts. Autumn: singles Fair Isle 17 and 25 Oct, 2 on 19 Oct (RAB); Shet, 8 Weisdale 14 Nov; first Aber coast, Cruden Bay 8 Sep (ACBH); 5 St Combs 15 Nov (DIMW); Fife, 1 Fife Ness 30 Sep (ABr, RHH); E Loth, 4 Tynninghame 9 Dec.

***White-billed Diver** *Gavia adamsii*. Ad ♀ found dead (shot) Cumbrae, Bute, 27 Jan (S. J. Gorzula, per C. J. Bibby).

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*. Breeding success varied considerably from area to area: Shet, Fetlar, 16 prs, 6 young reared (RSPB); Unst, 25 prs, 10 young reared (GB); Whalsay, 14 prs all failed (JHS); Sandsting, 11-19 prs, 8 young reared (TDHM); O Heb, successful year (PGH); Ork, 23-25 prs, 23 young reared—successful as in 1972 (CJB); Suth/Ross, 12 prs, 8 young reared (RHD *et al.*); 2 prs Renf, but no young (HG); Galloway, 1 pr reared 1 young, first proved breeding record for region (RCD).

Peak counts: 12 Turnberry-Culzean, Ayr, 19 Feb (BCF); E Loth, 29 Aberlady on 4 Mar, last on 9 May, 10 Tynninghame 3 Mar; Angus, 40 Usan and 30 Lunan Bay 29 Apr (GMC); E Ross, 32 Tarbat Ness 4 Mar (RHD); Suth, 29 Embo 17 Jan (RHD). Migration: Fair Isle, scattered records 18 May-14 Sep (RAB); Shet, 4 records of wintering; on territory Fetlar 9 Mar; O Heb, first Balranald 11 Apr (PC); Caith, calling Dunnet Head loch 10 Mar (DG). Autumn and winter: 3 Kessock, Inv, 31 Dec (JMC); 15 Tarbat Ness, E Ross, 16 Nov (RHD); Moray, first Spey

Bay 2 Sep (JMB), 7 Culbin 14 Oct (RAFKOS); Midl, 4 Musselburgh 10 Nov, 11 on 15 Dec (RHH, LLJV); E Loth, max 27 Aberlady 21 Oct, 35 Gullane 10 Nov; Wig 30S Mull of Galloway in 3½ hours 15 Sep (RHH, IHL).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*. Perth, c30 prs reared 14 young (RLMcM, VMT); Kinross, 4 prs L Leven, 1 young (AA, BHM); Fife poor breeding season; Midl, no young reared; Renf, 16 prs; Ayr, 5 prs; W Stir, 8 prs (per RWF); Galloway, 12 prs Kirk and 7 prs Wig, success poor except Lochinch Loch (per ADW); Dumf, late hatch Lochmaben 16 Sep, 4 fledged (NEA, RTS).

Counts and migration: Shet, 1 Lerwick 1-3 Oct (L. Blohm); Suth, 1 Embo 4 Mar (RHD); Aber, 3 L of Strathbeg 11 Mar (RHD); Isle of May, 1 on 19 Sep (ADW); Midl, 300 Cramond-Granton 22 Jan, 200 on 25 Feb, last 8 Musselburgh 15 May, 19 on 20 Aug, 60 on 16 Sep (LLJV), 115 Seafield 27 Nov (AB); E Loth, more than usual summer records on sea: 10 Gosford 20-28 Aug, 10-12 Aberlady 2-22 Sep (KSMcG); Dumb, present Clyde Jan-6 May and 16 Sep-Dec, max 12 Ardmore Point 26 Nov (IPG).

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps griseigena*. Continued high numbers E Loth Jan-31 Mar and 14 July-Dec. Winter-spring: E Loth, present Gosford-Gullane until end Mar, max 4 Gosford and 7 Gullane 18 Mar; Midl, 1 Musselburgh 2 Jan (LLJV); Suth, 2 Embo and 3 Golspie 17 Jan (RHD).

Autumn: Shet, 1 Foula 3 Sep (BEG); Suth, 1 Handa 15 Aug (AG), 1 The Mound 13-14 Oct (CGH, DMcD); E Ross, 1 Chanorry Point 17 Nov (MIH); Moray, 1 Burghead 1 Oct (RHD); Angus, 2 West Haven 13 Oct (TMC), one 30 Dec (BP); Isle of May singles 3 Sep (MN), 8-9 Oct (HG); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 22 Aug (RHH, LLJV), 2 on 19 Dec (GLS), 2 Seafield 18 Dec, 1 Newhaven 31 Dec (GDL, GLS); E Loth, 6 Gosford 14 July, then peaks at Gosford of 11 on 27 July, 24 on 20 Aug, 26 on 8 Sep, 23 on 26 Oct but only 2 in Nov-Dec; at Aberlady-Gullane 2 on 24 July, then peaks of 16 on 26 Aug, 13 on 2 Sep, 4 on 6 Oct, 5 on 10 Nov and 3 on 2 Dec; Dumb, 2 Craigendoran 16 Sep (SMDA), 1 Cardross 11 Nov (TPD); Kirk, 1 Cree estuary 4 Sep (N. Champion).

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*. Census found 51-54 prs in Caith, Inv, Moray and Perth (new breeding record for county); breeding success still low and still suffering from disturbance. Caith, 1 pr reared 1 or 2 young (PMC); Inv, 42-44 prs on 17 lochs, about 19 young from 18-19 prs in northern area, 1 pr Strathspey reared 1 young (RHD, MIH); Moray, 5-6 prs on one loch reared 4 young (RHD). Perth, pair nested L of Lowes, but all 4 young killed or died (VMT), ad seen on another loch with one young 7 Aug (N. H. Walker). First at L Laide 7 Mar (MIH), L Ashie 13 Mar and Caith loch 18 Mar (SL).

Winter-spring: Fair Isle, one 21-23 Apr (RAB); Shet, max counts 25 Tresta 17 Feb, 16 Firth 11 Mar, last 3 Tresta 1 May (DC); Suth, 9 Embo 17 Jan (RHD), 6 Balnakeil Bay 29 Mar (AG); E Ross, 5 Portmahomack 4 Mar (RHD); E Loth peaks: 13 Gosford 25 Feb, 35 on 18 Mar, 11 Aberlady-Gullane 7 Jan, 26 on 25 Feb, 9 on 23 Mar, 4 on 5 Apr. Migration and autumn-winter counts: Fair Isle 2 on 22-24 Sep, 30 Sep-1 Oct (RAB); Shet, from 23 Sep, max 11 Tresta 15 Oct; Ork, 8 Walkmill Bay 30 Nov (CJB, DL); E Ross, 2 Findon 31 Oct (DWMcA); O Heb, 2 Broad Bay 21 Oct (WAJC); Aber, 1 L of Strathbeg 23 Sep (J. Treasurer); Isle of May, one 14 Oct (MFC); Midl, peak 10+ on 17 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 5 Gosford 12 Sep, 16 Aberlady-Gullane 21 Oct, 14 on 10 Nov, 10 on 19 Dec (KSMcG *et al.*); Dumf, 1 Lochmaben 11 Sep-16 Oct (NEA, RTS).

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*. At eastern of two main colonies in Central Lowlands first seen 12 Mar, 3 prs on 29 Mar, possibly better year with at least 4 chicks; 14 prs at other main site, 10 ads and 5 young seen 9 July; 1 pr with 2 young on loch between two main sites 25 Aug, 3 adults on another loch on 9 July and one adult on a fifth loch

13 May, but no proof of breeding in last two cases (anon).

Winter records and migrants : scarcer than 1972; Suth, 1 Embo 17 Jan and 14 Mar (RHD); E Loth, 1 Gosford Bay 4 Mar (AB, RHH), 2 Aberlady Bay 22 Sep (HG, BZ); Wig, 6 L Ryan 17 Mar (KBa), 4 on 7 Apr, 7 on 10 Nov (RCD).

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*. Breeding reports : O Heb, 4 prs bred Balranald (PC); Inv, returned Rothiemurchus 8 Mar and population high in Strathspey (RHD), 3 prs L Laide, 3 young reared (MIH). Counts and migrants : Shet, ad Hillwell 31 July-2 Aug (G. Jamieson), first of autumn 7 Oct; Ross, 6 L Shildaig 26 Jan-20 Mar (ENH); Moray, 5 Findhorn 9 Dec (RAFKOS); Angus, 7 Monikie 13 Oct (BP); Kinross, 10 Leven Cut 2 Feb (GC); Midl, max 11 Musselburgh 3 Mar, last 18 Mar, first 11 Oct, up to 9 on 28 Oct (RHH, LLJV).

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Fair Isle, first egg 19 May, first chick seen 2 July, 2 dark-phase nested with light-phase birds (RAB); Kinross, from 7 Mar, max 7 on 8 June, few after 30 July, did not nest (WQB, GC); Forth, Isle of May, increase to 68 prs, 400 sites Inchkeith 17 June, 104 young ringed in Aug (170 in 1972) (RWJS); I Heb, 500 prs Tiree (DCL). Dark-phase birds : Shet, Unst 27 Jan, 7 Mar, 4 Apr and 14 Apr, Fetlar 11 Mar, Foula 23 May, Noss 5 May, 10 Sep, Sumburgh 1 June, Skerries 29 Aug; Fair Isle, 1-2 offshore 30 Sep-12 Oct and 3 on crossing 22 Dec; Ork, Hoy 9 July (CJB), 5 Nov (MAMcD). Counts : Aber 850N per hour Greyness 24 Apr (MN), 1700 per hour Rattray Head 26 Apr (CC). Inland records include 3W Kiltarlity, Inv, June (MIH) and 1 Waterfoot, Dumf, 8 Aug (WA, RTS); 1 Gourock, Renf, 28 July was unusual (IPG).

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. Counts at colonies : Shet, 100+ Lamb Hoga (P. A. Dukes); Ork, 1000 off Hoy 9 July (CJB); I Heb, 1000 off Eigg 23 June (AWGJ); heavy rain flooded burrows on Rhum 30 June-2 July (ADKR).

Passage : Fair Isle, first on 10 Apr (RAB); Suth, first Handa 6 Apr, 76N and 20S in 1 hour 17 Aug (AG); O Heb, 2 Shiants 31 Mar (PGH), 450S per hour Rudha Ardvule, South Uist 16 Aug (DWR); Kinc, 11 Girdle Ness 13 Aug (AGK); Angus, 200N Auchmithie 21 June (GMC); Fife, 200 off Fife Ness 21 June (RSby); Isle of May, 28 July-10 Oct, max 210N on 10 Sep; Midl, max 35 Musselburgh 15 July; Ayr, 370 Troon 12 Sep (HG); Wig, 10+ Luce Bay 30 Aug (ADW, AJW). Singles Invergower Bay, Perth, 10 Sep (EJM) and Kincaig, Inv, 30 Sep, released Inverness 4 Oct (RHD).

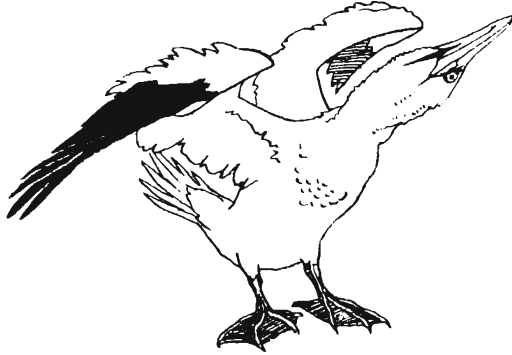
Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*. Recorded 24 July-19 Oct, large numbers late Aug and Sep. Fair Isle, 7 Aug-15 Oct, many more than usual, up to 10 many days, peaks 48 on 27 Aug, 250 on 2 Sep and 50 on 6 Sep (RAB); Shet, 2 Walls-Foula 31 July (ARM), more Aug-Sep; Ork, hundreds North Ronaldsay 28 Sep (DL), 49 on 10 Oct and 10 on 15th (R. Gomes); E Ross, 200N in 2 hours Tarbat Ness 29 Sep (MIH, ARM); Aber, 7 Rattray Head 18 Aug (ACBH), 25 Fraserburgh 28 Sep (DIMW); Fife Ness 24 July (TPD)-30 Sep (EJM), max 5 per hour 6 Aug (DWO); Isle of May, 5 Sep-14 Oct, max 30 on 23 Sep and 50 on 10 Oct (ADW, HG); Arg, 4 Rhinnis of Islay 26 Aug (KV); Ayr, 3 Troon 12 Sep (HG).

***Great Shearwater** *Puffinus gravis*. Eight records 5 Aug-28 Sep are more than usual : Fair Isle, singles S on 26 and 27 Aug, 1-2 on 28 Aug, 1 on 28 Sep (RAB) 1 on crossing to Shet 21 Sep (A. Heath); Ork, 1 off Hoy 19 Sep (D. Morton); Suth, 1S Handa 1 Sep (AG); Aber, 1S Collieston 5 Aug (KAD). Fair Isle also recorded large shearwaters probably this species 2nd (2), 6th, 13th and 28 Sep.

***Cory's Shearwater** *Puffinus diomedea*. Two records : I Heb, Rubhana-Faing, Islay 19 Aug (KV) and 20 miles NW off Stoer Point, The Minch, Suth 2 Oct (ACMcL).

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Shet, 4 Sumburgh 25 Apr (DC), possible new site Noup of Noss (SMDA); Fair Isle 25 May, ashore 6 June to 23 Sep, juv ringed 4 Oct (RAB); Ork, Auskerry colony larger than thought previously, also colonies Switha Holm, Rusk Holm, Green Holms and possibly Corn Holm (EB *et al.*); W Ross, 250 ringed Glas Leac Mor 23 July (ARM); Suth 1 ashore Handa 5 Aug (RHD, AG), 4S Reiff 1 Sep (RAH); Fife, 1 found oiled St Monans Nov (P. Smith).

Leach's Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*. Shet, 34 ringed Foula 4-13 Aug (influenced by tape-recorder) is more than ever before (ARM), 1 found dead Channerwick 11 Nov (RJ); Inv, 1 on board fishing boat at night off South Rona 27 Sep (ACMcL).



Gannet *Sula bassana*. No records from colonies, but a few ashore Fair Isle Sheep Rock July and up to 300 on Da Fless, mainly 2nd yr birds suggests possible colonization; Ork, 1 on ledge Copinsay in summer (DL). Counts and migrants: Caith, noticeable E movement 11-18 Jan Pentland Firth (SL) and westerly passage late Aug-5 Sep, large numbers of immatures (PMC); Suth, peaks 150N per hour Handa 8 Aug, 200N per hour on 17 Aug and 150S per hour 1 Sep (AG); E Ross, large N passage Tarbat Ness 29 Sep (MIH); Aber, huge N passage Fraserburgh 12 Apr, at 40 per min and estimated 4500 birds (DIMW); Ayr 2-300N per hour Turnberry 23 Mar (WRB). Inland: singles Langholm, Dumf 17 Jan (ELOC) and found dead Loch Earn, Perth Feb (per RLMcM); more 1st yr birds in Moray Firth in winter, e.g. 8 Kessock 25 Nov (JMC) and into Beaully Firth, 5 Lentrane 16 Sep (MIH).

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Counts: 100 prs Cansamal, O Heb (PC); W Ross, 14 nests Rhu Reidh 7 May (RHD), only 6 nests Eilean Mor is marked decrease (JAW); 230 nests Lamb, Forth 9 June (RWJS); Galloway, 60 nests Port o' Warren 26 Apr (13-14 nests in 1967) (ECF), no change Meikle Ross (30-40 prs) (ACBH).

Migration and peak counts: Fair Isle, autumn passage 21 Aug-20 Oct, fewer, peak only 35 on 5th, 10th and 23 Sep (RAB); Inv, 233 Beaully Firth 21 Jan (MR); Kinc, 120 Girdle Ness 2-3 Nov (MN, RLS); Angus, 300+ Tay road bridge 25 Sep (EJM); Perth, 380 Invergowrie 8 Feb, 360 on 23 Dec (EJM); Fife, max 760 Tentsmuir 29 Dec (BP); Midl, max 60 Musselburgh 13 Oct (JHB, LLJV); Clyde, 281 upper Clyde 21 Jan, 217 on 9 Dec (IPG); Kinross, max L Leven 75 on 31 Mar (GC).

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Fair Isle 1st egg c/2, 4 Apr, flying young from 10 June, albino fledged from same nest as that where albino and normal juv fledged in 1972, white bird seen around isle to 4 Oct (RAB). Shet, albino Whalsay 14 Oct-10 Dec (BM), the dates appear to agree. Suth, Handa, poor breeding success—bad weather (AG); Isle of

May continued increase to 1129 pairs, albino Apr-May (DRG); Forth, 244 nests Lamb, 164 Craigleith (RWJS), 1 pr Carr Craig 31 May is apparently first in inner Forth (GLS). Counts : Suth, 500 Portgower-Helmsdale 9 Feb (RHD), 197 Stoer Point 28 Aug (RAH); 140 Stornoway, O Heb, 28 Feb (PGH); Inv, 140+ Corpach 9 Jan (JM).

***White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus*. Surprising influx of 6 or 7 presumably escaped birds : 1 Heb, 4 Ardmore, Islay, 1-6 May, 3 L Gorm and 1 L Gruinart to 10 May (CGB); Dunb, 2 Lenzie Loch 5-6 May (per CGB); Lan, 1 Gadloch 3-5 May (WW).

Heron *Ardea cinerea*. O Heb, unsuccessful season Loch Keose (PGH); Perth, 9+ fledged Bridge of Earn c15 prs (RLMcM); Fife, decrease in colonies; Arg, formerly large Coilessan heronry now only 3 nests (JM); W Stir/Perth, 36 occupied nests Gartfairn, probably largest in Scotland (JM); Ayr, 12 prs Brownmuir but poor success, Martnaham colony deserted, Kelburn still decreasing (WRB); Kirk, 27 nests Agrennan (20 in 1972) (JSk).

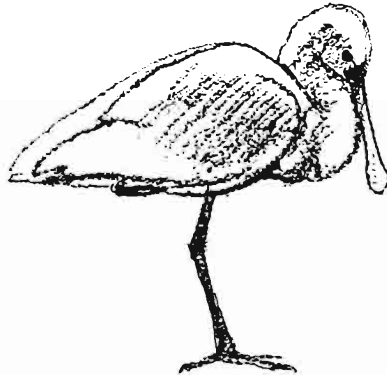
Migration and counts : Fair Isle passage 13 Aug-8 Oct, max 6 on 13 Sep (RHD); Shet, 10 Skerries 16-20 Sep (ISR); W Ross, 24 Leckmelm Jan (ENH), 25 Kyle 16 Sep (PGr); Moray, 30 Findhorn 22 Aug (RSPB); E Ross, 40 Coulmore, Beaulie Firth Sep; Angus, 107 Montrose Basin 14 Aug (GMC); Fife, 53 Morton Lochs 30 Sep (DMB); 32 west coast Bute 16 Sep (IH).

***Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*. 1 Haetae Loch, Dumf 27 May (A. Goodwin, RTS).

***Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*. 1 Loch of Isbister, Birsay, Ork, 20-27 May (G. Wylie, DL *et al.*); 1 Waterfoot, Annan, Dumf, 12 Apr-2 June (TJ-F *et al.*), latter subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee.

***Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*. Singles : Loch of Pitfour, Aber, 1 Jan-3 Feb (Cpt J. P. Curzon, AGK); Duddingston, Midl, 16 Feb (DRA); Paisley Moss, Renf, 25-28 Oct (HG, IPG, GTW).

***Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus*. Two records : ♂ Culzean, Ayr, 22-24 May (GR, M. Wilson); ♀ River Spey, Boat of Garten, Inv, 28 May (Miss H. Dow).



***Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia*. 1 Douglas Water, Lan, 21 July (W. Johnston); ad Skinflats, Stir 28 July (J. Moss), probably same bird.

†**Flamingo** sp. Kirk, 1971/72 bird still alive, seen Glen Luce 20 May, Wigtown Bay autumn to Dec (RHM, D. V. E. Roger).

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. Midl/Peeb, good breeding season Portmore, poor Gladhouse; Kinross, excellent season L Leven (AA); O Heb, 25 prs bred Balranald (PC). Peak counts and migration: Caith, 762 L Watten 21 Jan, 311 on 11 Nov; Ross/Inv, 561 Beaully Firth 18 Feb, 321 on 11 Nov (EBt, MH), 306 Longman 22 Jan (MR); Aber, 470 L of Skene 18 Feb, 2000 on 18 Nov (RSBy); Angus, 1300 Monikie-Crombie reservoirs 13 Oct (BP); Perth, 800+ Stormont Loch 13 Jan (SLG, IMck), 1000+ Invergowrie 4 Dec, 1200 on 23 Dec (EJM); Kinross, 1350 L Leven 16 Feb, 3000 mid Aug, 2000 in Sep (AA); Midl, max 875 Moorfoot reservoirs Jan, down to 250 on 4 Mar, 255 on 18 Aug, 900 on 17 Sep and 1150 on 14 Oct (RWJS *et al.*); Renf, 470 ♂♂ Longhaugh Point-West Ferry June (IPG), 700 Barr Loch 2 Sep (HG); Ayr, 1000 Turnberry 19 Feb (BCF), 640 Doonfoot 4 Oct (IHL); Wig, 1000+ Port Logan 17 Aug and Oct (AFA).

Teal *Anas crecca*. Peak counts and migration: Fair Isle, 21 Apr-31 May max 6 on 25-27 Apr; 18 Aug-1 Dec, mainly 10 Sep-1 Oct, peak 40 on 16 Sep (RAB); Caith, 156 L Calder 14 Oct, 200 Gills Bay 28 Dec (PMC); Suth, 700 Skibo 15 Sep (DMcD); E Ross, 400 Dalmore 10 Feb (ARM), 600 L Eye 13 Nov (CGH), 380 Conon Islands 11 Nov (DWMcA); Inv, 150 Insh Jan-Feb (RL), 588 Longman 14 Oct (MR); Perth, 150+ River Teith 8 Nov (GSh); Aber, 245 Cotehill Loch 29 Sep (M. Davies); Kinross, low autumn numbers L Leven, 350 in Sep, 650 in mid Oct (AA); Midl, Moorfoot reservoirs 135 on 28 Jan, 75 on 4 Aug, 250 on 29 Sep, 400 on 21 Oct (RWJS *et al.*); E Loth, 250 Quarryford Pond 14 Oct, 220 Tynninghame 1 Jan (JHB); Renf, 200+ Blairbowie 24 Nov (RHH), 150 Barr Loch 30 Aug (HG); Bute, 200 L Fad 23 Mar (IH); Kirk, poor year; Wig, 246 Portlogan 10 Nov (RCD). N American Green-winged Teal *A.c. carolinensis*. Single ♂♂ were identified at Dalmore Bay, E Ross 10 Feb-3 Mar (ARM *et al.*); Struy, Inv, 7 June on a lochan with a ♀ Teal and ducklings but no proof of breeding (MIH); Longman Bay, Inv, 12 Dec (RHD) and Eynhallow, Ork, 2 Nov (MAMcD).

***Garganey *Anas querquedula*.** Nine spring records 11 Mar-9 June, probably only 6 individuals—lowest for six years: Fair Isle ♂ 11-14 Mar (RAB); Fife, ♂ Kilconquhar Loch 26-27 May (PGTB, JARG); E Loth, ♂ Gosford Pond 10-11 Apr (GLS), ♂ Aberlady 16 May (IAGB, GJ) and 3 June (AB), ♀ 20 May (AB), ♂ Drem Pools 21 May (GLS, LLJV).

***Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors*.** Two first year drakes shot Stronsay, Ork, 5 Sep (per R. Zawadzki, AA).

†**Baikal Teal *Anas formosa*.** A drake at East Park, Caerlaverock, Dumf 19 Feb-12 Apr (CRGC, MAO, M. Owen).

Gadwall *Anas strepera*. Good breeding season L Leven, Kinross (AA); few prs bred Kilconquhar Loch, Fife (DWO); 4 prs bred Balranald, O Heb (PC); 3 ♀♀ with broods Perth site (EJM). Counts: 14 Kilconquhar, Fife 26 Aug, 18 Morton Lochs 26 Aug (JARG); O Heb, 18 Balranald Sep (PC). Outside usual areas: Fair Isle, pr 25 Apr (RAB); Shet, Benston Loch 17 Jan-8 Feb and Scatness 6 May (DC); Ork, 2-3 Sanday 23 July, 1 Harray Loch 16 Sep (DL); Caith, ♂ Loch of Mey 9-15 June (PMC, SL); Suth, 1 Skibo 13 Jan (DMcD), 1 L Fleet 17 Jan and 4 Mar (RHD); E Ross, 2 Ardjachie Bay 14 Oct (CGH); Moray, 1 Spynie 3 Feb, 5 on 16 Sep, 2 on 21 Oct, 2 on 22 Dec (CAG); Aber, 2 Logie Buchan 29 Apr (PDR, JRP); O Heb, 4 L Stiapavat, Lewis 18 Sep (P. Edwards); Kirk 1 L Ken 13 May (ELR), Dumf, Caerlaverock, 2 on 20 Mar, 1 on 22 Sep, 2 on 13 Oct, 3 from 20 Oct-12 Dec (CRGC).

Wigeon *Anas penelope*. No observations on breeding numbers. Counts and migration: Fair Isle, strong autumn passage 26 Aug-end Oct, max 40 on 13th and 20 Sep (RAB); Ork, peak Harray Loch 1665 in Oct; O Heb, first Balranald 11 on 1 Oct, 76 on 19 Oct (PC), 200 Steinish, Lewis 13 Oct

(IMMcL); Caith, 507 Watten 11 Nov, less than usual; Suth, 652 L Fleet 17 Jan (RHD), 1300 Ardnacailce Bay 6 Oct and 1100 Skibo 13 Oct (DMcD); Ross, 2300 Alness 9 Dec (ARM), 4000 Nigg Bay 14 Oct, 4200 Tain-Ardjachie 14 Oct (GGH); Beaully Firth 651 on 21 Jan, 1300 on 11 Nov (EBt, MIH); 750 Munloch Bay 18 Sep (MKMcD-D); 3000 Udale Bay 9 Oct (ARM); Inv, 1092 Longman Bay 18 Feb and 1738 on 11 Nov (MR, EY); absent L Linnhe 3 May-24 Sep, max 100 on 22 Oct (JASN); Aber, 5-600 L Davan 13 Jan (RSBy); Angus 3000+ Montrose Basin 10 Oct (BP); Kinross, 400 L Leven 21 Feb, 700 early Oct-Dec (AA); Midl, Moorfoot reservoirs first 6 on 18 Aug, 12 on 8 Sep, 120 on 22 Sep, 225 peak on 10 Nov (RWJS); E Loth, 480 Tynninghame 23 Dec; Renf, 400 Barr Loch 22 Nov (HG), 546 upper Clyde 14 Oct (HG); Dunb, 610 Endrick mouth 18 Feb, 647 on 16 Dec (JM, JHT); Bute, 700 SW Bute 21 Jan, 500 Greenan Loch 23 Dec (IH); Kirk, rather low numbers; Wig, 500 L Ryan 15 Sep, 4000 on 6 Oct (RHH).

***American Wigeon** *Anas americana*. Four records of drakes: Shet, Haroldswick, Unst, 16-24 May (GB, MS); Levenmouth, Kinross, 8 June-6 Aug (AA); Carsebreck, Perth, 24 Mar (DMB); Balranald, O Heb, 23 Apr-1 May (PC).

Pintail *Anas acuta*. Bred Loch of Banks, the Loons and Langamay, Ork (DL); immature Insh 19 Sep (RHD). Migration and peak counts: Shet, 2 in Feb, 5 in Apr, 9 in May, max 3 Hillwell 20-21 May (FH), 1 Clickhimin 26-27 Aug (DC) few later; Fair Isle ♀ 4-8 June (RAB); Caith, 2 Loch of Mey 22 Sep (PMC, SL); Ross, 310 Nigg 17 Jan (CGH), 45 L Eye 14 Oct (CGH); Inv, 18 Bunchrew 18 Mar, 69 on 9 Dec (MIH), 141 Longman 14 Jan, 56 on 14 Oct (JM, MR); Angus, 50+ Duns Dish 2 Oct (GMC), 40 Lunan Bay 27 Dec (BP); Kinross, L Leven 2 on 20 Aug, max 48 on 18 Sep (AA); Fife, 11 Kilconquhar 21 Oct (PGTB); Stir, 140 Skinflats 2 Jan (IAGT), 78 on 8 Dec (J. Moss); Midl, 9 Gladhouse 10 Nov (RWJS); E Loth, 9 Aberlady 24 Nov (GLS); Renf, Longhaugh Pt Jan-6 May and 3 Sep-Dec, peaks 154 on 18 Feb, 209 on 9 Dec (HG, IPG), 27 Hamilton 28 Dec (IPG); Ayr, 29S Doonfoot 28 Oct (IHL); Kirk, 152 Carsythorn 28 Feb (CJMCK-G); Dumf, max Caerlaverock 800 on 1 Oct (CRGC).

Showeler *Anas clypeata*. Bred several sites Ork and Caith; 7 prs bred Balranald, O Heb (PC); Inv, 1st pr Insh 10 Apr, max 3 prs May (RL); Angus, ♀ and 13 ducklings Duns Dish 5 June (GMC); poor breeding season L Leven, Kinross (AA) and Kirk, L Ken (ADW).

Counts and migration: Shet, pr Hillwell 25 Apr, 6-8 May (BM, NLS), 1 Scatness 2 May (DC); Aug peak 7 Hillwell 28 Aug, last 7 Oct (BM, DC), 1 Foula 7-12 Aug (ARM); Fair Isle, pr 29 May, one 20 June, 3 on 5-7 Aug, 2 on 8th, one 9th, one 13 Sep (RAB); O Heb, 1 Loch an Tiumpan 23 May (RMcI), 2 L Stiapavat 18 Sep (P. Edwards); Inv, 3 Lentrán 9 Dec (MIH); Perth, max 50 Monk's Myre 16 Oct (SLg, IMcK); Kinross, 400 St Serfs 22 Aug, 570 on 10 Oct, less Nov, still 120 in Dec (AA); Fife, low peak of 50 Kilconquhar Loch 29 July (DWO); Berw, 60 Hirsell 20 Oct (AB, RHH); Dunb, 20 Endrick mouth 13 May (HG); Renf, 30 Barr Loch 30 Aug (HG).

†**Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*. Up to 25 at Perth site; difficult to know how many are breeding in the wild, if any; one pr suspected breeding Scone (EDC).

†**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina*. ♀ Bothwell Bridge, Lan, 9-31 Dec (KCRH, HSCH).

Scaup *Aythya marila*. One breeding record: ♀ + 2 young Loch of Isbister, Ork, 11 July (EB, F. Greig); summer records, Fair Isle, ♀ 3-7 May (RAB); Suth, 2 ♂♂ Durness 17 June (RHD); Ross, pr L nan Diathnean 6-7 June (RFC); Inv, ♂ Insh 5 May (RL), Longman Point, 33 ads on 11 May, 11 on 24 May, 3 on 16 July (JMC, RHD); O Heb, ♂ Branahuie 28

May, ♀ on 31 May (RMCl); Perth, 2 ♂♂ Invergowrie 2-5 May (EJM, RC); Fife, ♂ Kilconquhar 6 June (DWO); Midl, 3 summered Edinburgh; Dumb, ♂ Endrick mouth 16 July, 2 ♂♂ on 23 July, pr 30 July (RKP).

Peak counts and migration: Shet, 31 Clickhimin 18 Feb (DC), 38 Tingwall 27 Feb (BM), 26 Unst 3 Feb (GB); Ork, 100 L of Harray Oct; Ross, 450 Edderton 19 Feb (CGH); Moray 400 Culbin 18 Feb (RAFKOS), 300 on 10 Oct (RHD); O Heb, 20 Branahuie 26 Nov (PGH); Angus, 36 Broughty Ferry 15 Jan (MFF); Midl, main flock off Edinburgh slightly further east than usual at Seafeld, 16,000 on 4 Jan, 10,000 on 25 Feb, 6 on 28 Aug, 300 on 7 Oct, 3000 on 13 Oct, 4000 on 1 Nov, 15,000 on 11 Nov, 18,000 on 11 Dec (RWJS, LLJV, DLC, AWGJ), leucistic ♀ Seafeld 4 Oct (RDM); E Loth, 256 Gosford 14 Oct is low; I Heb, c 1000 wintered L Indaal (CGB); Dumb, max 262 Cardross 1 Feb (IPG); Kirk, 205 Carse-thorn 28 Feb (CJMCK-G).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*. Very good breeding season L Leven, Kinross (AA). Counts and migration: Fair Isle 1-2 on few dates May and Aug-Sep, max 5S on 27 Aug (RAB); Shet, 160 Clickhimin 14 Jan (DC), 150+ Tingwall 21 Jan (FH); Ork, 1895 L Harray Oct, 1700 in Nov, 1277 Dec (DL); Caith, 350 L Watten 11 Nov; Ross 180 L Ussie 25 Feb (ARM); O Heb, 5 Shawbost 15 May (WAJC); Inv, 139 Clachnaharry 29 Jan (MIH), 271 on 27 Dec (RHD); 75 L Insh Jan-Feb (RL); Aber, 830 L Skene 14 Oct (RSBy); Angus, 790 Stannergate 1 Dec (BP); Perth, 225 Invergowrie 21 Jan, 290 on 4 Dec (EJM); Kinross, 420 L Leven 16 Feb, 4000 on 18 Sep, down to 10 by 26 Nov (AA, CJE); Isle of May, 1 on 16-19 July, 2 on 3 Sep, 1 on 26 Sep (GCh, MN, DWO); Midl, 485 Edinburgh lochs Jan, 200 on 14 Sep, 470 on 16 Nov (DRA, LLJV), 175 Moorfoot reservoirs 6 Jan, 300 mid Aug (RWJS); Renf, 266 West Ferry 21 Jan, 450 on 2 Dec (HG, IPG); 200 Castle Semple Loch 7 Apr (WRB).

Pochard *Aythya ferina*. ♀ + 3 ducklings Aird meadows, Renf (HG). Counts and migration: Fair Isle, ♂ 16 Sep, ♂ 6-11 Oct; Shet, 60+ Tingwall 21 Jan, 130 L Brow 21 Oct (FH), 36 Unst 20 Jan (GB); O Heb, 70 L Eaval. N Uist 16 Oct (PC), 36 L Gruinavat, Lewis 31 Dec (PGH); Caith, 300 St John's Loch 20 Oct (PMC, SL); Ross, 250+ L Ussie 25 Feb (ARM); Aber, 410 L of Skene 14 Oct (RSBy); Kinross, 150 Vane Bay 24 Jan, 9 on 27 Feb, last 12 Apr, 3 on 20 June, 50+ on 28 Sep, 500 on 24 Sep (GC); Midl, 6000 Duddingston 14 Jan, none 18 Feb (ice), 350 on 18 Mar, 41 in Sep, 1600 on 14 Oct, 6100 on 18 Nov, 6500 on 15 Dec and 8000 on 26 Dec (DRA); 3500 Seafeld 17 Feb (JHB); Renf, 450 Barr Loch 23 Oct (HG).

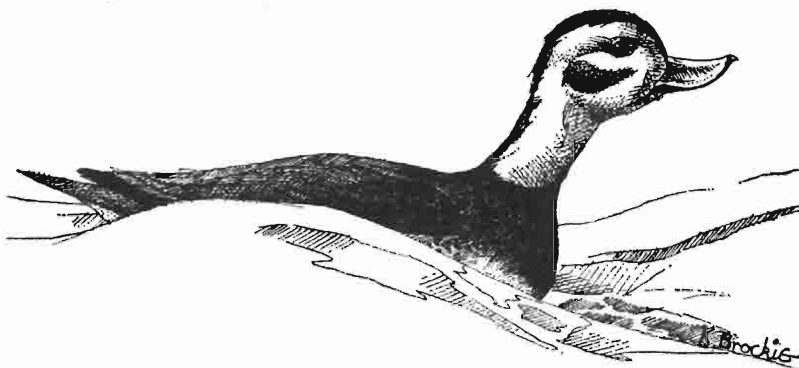
***Ferruginous Duck** *Aythya nyroca*. Ad ♂ Duddingston, Midl 25 Feb-17 Mar (DRA); its presence with the huge Pochard flock may suggest a wild bird.

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*. Bred E Inv, three broods recorded; other summer records: Ross, 10 Tarradale 30 Aug (Ebt); Banff 19 May (AFWS); ♀ L Flemington, Inv, 2 June (WGP); Perth, summer ♂♂ Tibermore and River Teith (EJM, GSh), pr L of Lowes (EMH); Kinross, ♂ L Leven 26 June (AA); 4 summered Kilconquhar Loch, Fife (DWO), 2 Lochgelly 9 July (TJH); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 21 June; 3 L Gorm, Islay 16 June (AWGJ); pr summered Lochwinnoch, Renf (HG, IPG and others).

Counts and migration: Shet, 60 Spiggie Brow 28 Feb (BM); 43 Unst Jan-Mar (GB); Caith, 150 Castlehill 14 Jan (AFCMC); Ross, 700 Inver-gordon 24 Jan, 630 on 24 Feb (RHD, ARM); Inv, 404 Beauly Firth 21 Jan (Ebt, MIH); 300 Longman 6 Jan (JMC); 100 L Insh Jan, last 14 May (RL); 104 Ft William 3 Feb (RHD); Moray, 220 Spey Bay 17 Mar (JMB); Aber, 175 L of Skene 18 Feb (RSBy), 20 Ellon 15 May (JRP); Perth, 209 Invergowrie 19 Feb (EJM); Kinross, 150 L Leven 16 Feb (AA); Fife, 100 Kilconquhar 8 Apr, 350 on 11 Apr, 620 on 16th, 300 on 25 Apr, 20 on 20 May, fewer than recent years (DWO); Midl, 4000 Seafeld 14 Feb

(JHB), 1000 Musselburgh 25 Feb (DLC), 100 Moorfoot reservoirs 10 Mar, last 2 on 13 May; W Loth, 240 Cramond 18 Mar (TCS); Ayr 300 Turnberry 4 Feb (RHH), 196 Prestwick 18 Feb (BCF); Renf, 372 Upper Clyde 21 Jan (per IPG); Wig, 200 Stranraer 5 Feb (AMCK, J. Wilson).

Autumn arrivals and counts : Fair Isle, 1st 24 Sep (RAB); Shet, peak 40 Spiggie 21 Oct is low (FH); O Heb, 1st Balranald 13 Oct (PC), 2 L Gruinavat, Lewis 13 Oct (PGH); Caith, 1st Scrabster 15 Oct (AFCMC), 130 L Watten 11 Nov (PMC, SL); Ross, 596 Invergordon 16 Nov (RHD); Inv, 15 Longman on 16 Sep, 200 on 22 Oct (JMC, MR); Moray, 160 Burghead 10 Nov (RHD); Aber, 1st Don estuary 12 Aug (AGK), 250 L of Skene 16 Dec (RSBY); Kinross, 3 L Leven 18 Sep; Midl, 1st Musselburgh 24 Aug, 400 on 10 Nov (LLJV), 10 Seafield 13 Oct, 1st Gladhouse Reservoir 4 Aug.



Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*. Winter and spring : Shet, 120 Quendale 22 Apr (DC); O Heb, c30 found dead Stornoway after gales Jan (PGH); Caith, 40 Sandside 1 Jan (AFCMC, PMC), 50 Castlehill 14 Jan (SL); Suth, 90 Balnakeil Bay 21 Apr (RHD), 50+ on 15 May, 19 on 19 May (DCH, AG), 800 L Fleet Bar 2 Apr (RHD); Ross, 350 Portmahomack, 5 May (ARM); Moray, 2000 (sexes equal) Findhorn 11 Mar, 1400 on 12 Apr, 600 on 22 Apr (RHD, RSPB), 300 Spey Bay 13 Apr (JMB); Aber, 300 off Don estuary 4 Mar (P. Shaw); Fife, 120 Tentsmuir 7 Feb (DWO), 135 Methil 24 Mar (AG); Midl, 75-80 Musselburgh Jan-18 Mar, 16 on 27 Apr (LLJV); E Loth, peak 400 Aberlady-Gullane 6 May (passage birds) (JHB, AB, LLJV, RHH); Renf, 1 Aird meadows 25 Apr (RGC, HG, IPG). Summer records : Shet, several summered, including 4 Fetlar; Fair Isle, 4 on 20 May, 1 on 31 May, 2 on 2 June (RAB); O Heb, 9 Branahuie 22 May (PGH).

Autumn arrivals : Fair Isle from 21 Sep, max 31 on 30 Oct (RAB); Ork, 560 Eynhallow Sound, 800 Rousay 5 Dec (DL); Caith, 12 Dunnet Bay 13 Oct, 70 on 1 Dec (PMC, SL); Suth, 700 L Fleet late Nov (DMCD); Moray, 15 Findhorn 1 Oct, 4600 on 10 Nov (RHD), 4300 on 9 Dec (RAFKOS); Inv, ♂ L Insh 11 Oct (RL); Aber, first Rattray 27 Sep (ACBH), 106 Murcar 13 Oct (RLS); Angus, 64 Kinnaber 27 Dec (JAC); Perth, ♀ Carsebreck 17 Nov (CJH, DRW); Isle of May 2 on 26 Sep (DWO); Midl, 10 Musselburgh 14 Oct and 96 on 10 Nov (LLJV), inland records at Duddingston 29 Oct-23 Nov (GLS, LLJV), 2 Gladhouse Reservoir 14 Oct-18 Nov (JHB); Rox, ♀ Yetholm Loch 12 Nov (RSB); Renf, 2 Barr Loch 23 Oct (HG); Dumf, 2 Caerlaverock 24 Nov (CRGC), 1 Waterfoot 15-22 Nov (NEA, RTS).

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*. Counts: Fair Isle, max 4 on 12 Sep (RAB); Suth, 566 Embo 17 Jan, 500+ on 4 Mar (RHD); Moray, 40 Spey Bay 18 Feb, 105 on 25 Mar (JMB), 800 Findhorn 10 Nov (RHD), 2000 on 9 Dec (RAFKOS); Angus, 200 Lunan Bay 13 July (GMC); Midl, 25 Musselburgh 25 Feb (DLC); E Loth, more than usual, 150-400 Aberlady-Gullane Jan-Dec (GLS *et al.*); I Heb, 1 Rhum 8 Apr (ADKR); Ayr, 5 Barassie 6 Jan, 5 Turnberry 17 Nov-1 Dec (RHH), 5 Dipple 1 Dec (WRB); Dunb, 2 Ardmore 4 Feb (WW, BZ); Kirk, 1 Lochenbreck (inland) 9 Nov (R. Kerr).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. Shet, pr bred Bridge of Walls (TDHM), 3 prs present Yell, prs present four other lochs but did not breed (RJT); Inv, 3 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀ on one loch 7 June (MIH); Perth c/8 usual site 11 June, b/7 on 26 July and 2 big young 18 Aug (RHD, D. Oates, JK); I Heb, 7 prs on loch on Islay 16 June (AWGJ), ♀ + 2 young 8 July (GJL); Arg, pr + b/4 Ford 18 Aug (TDHM). Inland summer records: Caith; Suth/Ross, 2 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ L Stack 6 May (AG), ♀ L Rosque 20 May (DCH); Moray, ♂ L Spynie 19 May (RHD).

Counts and migrants: Fair Isle peak 18S on 28 Sep (RAB); Suth, 600 Embo and 1000 L Fleet Bar 17 Jan (RHD); Moray, 1000 Spey Bay 18 Feb, 97 on 25 Mar (JMB), 4000 Findhorn 3 Mar, 3500 on 11 Mar, 2000 (♂:♀ ratio 7:1) 1 Oct, 10,000 on 10 Nov (RHD), 12,000 on 9 Dec (RAFKOS)—big increase; Angus, 50 Kinnaber 26 June (GMC); Midl, 260 Musselburgh 25 Feb, 230 on 18 Mar, last 7 on 18 May, 50 on 16 July, up to 150 on 17 Nov (AWGJ, LLJV).

***Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri*. The drake at Vorrán Island/Penine-rine, S Uist, O Heb, was present throughout 1973 into 1974 (many obs); first seen May 1972.

Eider *Somateria mollissima*. Fair Isle, first chicks on sea 19 June, further increase to peak 872 on 30 Oct (RAB); Suth, 14 prs Handa reared 10 young (AG); W Inv, 8 ♀♀ and 22 young Corpach July is better than 1972 (JCu, JASN); Fife, poor season Tentsmuir.

Counts: Caith, 800 between Holborn Head and Duncansby Head 28 Dec (PMC, RHD, SL); Suth, 2000 L Fleet bar 17 Jan, 1200 on 2 Apr, 2500 on 17 Nov and 3000 on 21 Dec (RHD, DMcD); Inv, 68 Corpach 12 Oct (JCu); Aber, 1500 Rattray Head 11 Mar, 3000 on 6 Oct (RHD); Fife, 3000 Methil 11 Nov (JHB); Isle of May, 325 on 10 Apr (RDM); Midl, 600 Seafield 27 Mar, 550 on 26 Dec (JHB), 1500 Musselburgh on 26 Oct (RHH); E Loth, c7000 Gullane Bay 8 Sep (LLJV); Ayr, 800 Dipple July, 470 Irvine 23 Dec (WRB); Renf/Dunb, upper Clyde peaks of 1326 on 18 Feb, 3144 on 16 Sep (IPG) included 1500 Ardmore Point (SMDA); Wig, 650+ L Ryan 14 July (AFA).

***King Eider** *Somateria spectabilis*. Shet, ♂ Cliff Sound/Trondra 11 Mar-6 May, 13 Nov-31 Dec (DC, PKK *et al.*), imm ♂ Ulsta, Yell, 8-17 May (DC, RJT); ♂ Mangaster Voe 1-4 June and Muckle Roe 6-7 June (P. H. Rathbone), ♀ Walls 25 Feb (DC, ISS), ♀ Gulberwick 1-3 Apr (DC, BM, JSp), ♂ Cunningsburgh 10 Nov (PKK, W. Johnson); Fair Isle, ♂ 15-16 Sep (RAB *et al.*); Caith, 2 ♂♂ Holborn Head 18 Oct (L. P. Alder), 1 still there 31 Dec (PMC); Suth, ♂ L Fleet 17 Nov-31 Dec (DMcD, J. Bell, G. Bell); Bute, ♂ Great Cumbrae 29 May (DMB); Ayr, ♂ Barassie 10 Mar (WRB, IHL), Skelmorlie 15 Apr-May (W. Wardrop), Ballantrae 8-14 July (WRB, RCF, RHH *et al.*). Although some records almost certainly refer to birds from previous years, this total of about a dozen records is an increase on previous years, the Fair Isle one is the first for the island since 1936.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*. Peak counts and migration: Fair Isle, 10 records 21 Feb-8 July, 1-4 scattered dates 9 Sep-24 Oct,

max 6 on 8 Oct (RAB); Suth, Handa peaks 9 on 20 Apr, 11 on 7 Sep (AG), 250 Brora 6 Aug, 72 L Fleet 17 Jan (RHD); Ross, 140 Balconie Point 26 Aug (ARM); Inv, 42 Beaulay Firth 11 Nov is a low peak (MIH, EBT), 142 Longman 29 July (MR); Angus, 500 Kinnaber 17 July-21 Aug (GMC, DIMW); Kinross, 4 L Leven 18 Oct (TG); W Loth, 100 Cramond 10 Nov (TCS); Midl, 80 Musselburgh 10 Nov (LLJV), rare inland but 2 Gladhouse 6-21 Oct, 2 Cobbinshaw 20 Oct (RWJS), 6 Fala 20 Oct (WB); pr St Mary's Loch 18 May is apparently first record for Selk (AJS); Arg, 1150 Tayinloan 22 July (AGG); Kirk, marked increase summer records Ken valley (ADW); Wig, 294 L Ryan 15 Sep (RCD); Dumf, 13 L Maben 23 Mar (NEA, RTS).

Goosander *Mergus merganser*. Continued increase in north-west and south; Arg, pr Islay 25-28 Apr (KV); Stir, pr + 11 ducklings Inversnaid (J. S. Groome); good breeding season central Kirk (LAU). Peak counts: Inv, 175 Beaulay Firth 18 Feb, 400+ on 9 Dec (MIH); Aber, 20 Strathbeg 18 Mar (JE); Fife, 1000+ Tayport 23 Jan (DBT), 800+ on 5 Dec (ABR); Midl, 54 Moorfoot reservoirs 5 Mar, 45 on 15 Nov (RWJS); E Loth, 14 Tynninghame 2 Sep (GLS); Berw, 27 Hirsell 20 Oct (AB, RHH), 25 Whiteadder 1 Oct (AWGJ); Peeb, 34 Fruid Reservoir 28 July (JHB); Renf, 27 Walton Dam 14 Jan (DLC, HG); Kirk, 100+ L Ken Aug-Sep (LAU); Dumf. 54 Lochmaben 6 Dec (NEA, RTS). Migration: Shet, 1 Mainland 19 Jan (AO), 1 Brow 1 Feb-11 Mar (BM, DC), 1 Baltasound 16 Feb, 3 on 17th, 2 on 24-29 Feb, 1 to 21 Mar (GB), 3 singles Oct-Dec; Fair Isle, ♂ 15 Jan (GJB); St Kilda ♂ 26 Apr (R. Brant); Suth, ♂ Handa 2-4 Apr (AG); Midl, last Moorfoot reservoirs 23 on 20 May, 1st 3 on 25 Aug (RWJS).

***Smew** *Mergus albellus*. About 13 in winter/spring to 7 May and about 14 from 21 Oct. Single red-heads unless specified; Shet, Benston 9 Jan-14 Feb (DC, BM), Sandwater 2 Apr-6 May (DC, ISS, NLS), Spiggie 21 Oct, pr Benston 25 Oct (FH), ♂ Benston 25-31 Dec; Caith, Dunnet Bay 1 Dec (PMC, SL); Aber, ♂ Strathbeg 17 Feb (JE, TCS), pr 11 Mar (RHD, JE); Perth, 2 Carsebreck 24 Mar (DMB); Kinross, ♂ L Leven 7 May (AA, GC); Fife, ♂ Cameron Reservoir 8 Jan-15 Mar (JARG *et al.*), 18 Nov, ♂ 16 Dec (JARG), pr Kirkcaldy 1-31 Dec (DER); Stir, Skinflats Dec (J. Moss), Endrick mouth 9 Dec (DW), 31 Dec (RKP); Midl, Seafield 11 Nov (RDM), Musselburgh 2-3 Dec (LLJV); Selk, Headshaw Loch 13 Jan (AWGJ), 3 (1♂) Lindean Loch 8 Mar (AJS); Peeb, Machiehill Pond 18 Nov (RWJS); Rox, ♂ Kelso 21 Jan (DCo), ♂ 9 Dec (W. Q. Brown); Ayr, Barnshean Loch 18-25 Nov (WRB, RHH, AGS); Wig, Soulseat Loch 6-14 Jan (DSW).

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. Shet, 7 prs Virkie, first 3 Jan (per RJT); O Heb, 17 prs bred Balranald (PC); Kinross, 13-14 prs L Leven, 84 ducklings, 60+ fledged (AA); Isle of May, 1 pr bred; Renf, 20 prs Longhaugh reared 120+ young (IPG); Kirk, 284 young at Kirkconnel merse 27 June (JGY); Dumf, pr + 4 young Lochmaben 8 June (NEA, RTS).

Peak counts: E Ross, 183 Munloch Bay 17 Mar (MKMcD-D), 120 Udale Bay 25 Mar (ARM); Inv, 181 Longman Bay 19 Jan (JMC), 52 on 11 Nov, 86 on 9 Dec (MR); Angus, 350 Montrose Basin 31 Dec (BP); Perth, 126 Invergowrie 18 Mar, 300+ in June (EJM); E Loth, 200 Aberlady 17 Feb (DRL), 187 Tynninghame 18 Mar (RWJS); Renf, 1331 Longhaugh Point 4 July; Dunb, 2330 Cardross Point 1 Feb, 1117 on 8 Dec (AGG).

Migration and inland records: Fair Isle, 1-7 Jan, 21-22 Apr, 2 on 29 Apr and 6 May (RAB); Moray, 2 Lochindorb 17 May (RHD); Inv, 5 L Garten 25 Apr (RSPB), 1 Glen Affric 8 June (MIH), 1 L Linnhe 2 May (JASN); Renf, 1 Misty Law 5 May (IPG).

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*. Good success Suth, 250 moulting adults

and 50 young Badanloch 12 July (RHD *et al.*); Ross, 4 broods (14 young) L Maree June-July (ENH); O Heb, 1 pr bred Lewis in new area; Dunb, pr + 5 young Wards Dam is first breeding record (EAM, RS).

Winter-spring : Bute, 4000 in Jan-Apr (IH); Midl, 300 Moorfoots 10-18 Mar (WB); Kinross, 1300-2000 L Leven 14 Jan, 2000 on 4 Feb, 1500 on 4 Mar-1 Apr, down to 64 by 18 Apr, 6 on 22 Apr, last on 24th (AA, GC, JES); Moray, 1000 Findhorn 14 Apr (RHD); Nairn, 400 Kildrummie 31 Mar (RHD); Inv, passage Insh 11 Apr-10 May, 330 on 17 Apr (RL); E Ross, 800 Redcastle 21 Mar, 3000+ on 15 Apr (EBt), 1000 Munloch Bay 22 Jan (MKMcD-D); 1200+ Evanton 19 Apr (ARM, RHD); O Heb, passage Balranald 6 Apr-9 May (2000 in period) (PC); Suth, passage Handa 13 Apr-16 May, peak 1132 in 1 hr 20 Apr (AG); Ork, 50 Harray Loch 18 Mar (EB); Shet, 4 Fetlar 26 Jan (ISR).

Autumn national count on 3-4 Nov gave 73,000 in Scotland : 10,740 in Aber, 9360 in Angus/Kinc, 35,990 in Perth; distribution slightly different from 1972 with slightly larger % in E and NE which fits pre-harvest grain spill; better than average breeding success with 30.2% young in sample of 2000, mean brood size 2.56 best for 11 years (MAO *et al.*). Fair Isle, light autumn passage from 11 Oct, max 24 on 5 Nov (RAB); Caith, 600 L Calder 14 Oct; Suth, c500S Strath Halladale 14 Oct (PRJ); Aber, 2000 Strathbeg 21 Oct, 1000 L of Skene 2 Nov (ACBH); Kinross, L Leven 6 on 6 Sep (RQB), 87 on 12 Oct, 1200 on 14th, 2000 on 4 Nov, peak 3650 on 6 Dec (AA, CJE, JES, WW); Dumf, first 35 Langholm 9 Oct (ELOC).

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*. Only reports of European race, *A.a. albifrons* were: Shet, 10 Baltasound, Unst 20 Jan (LC), 6 Hillwell 18-28 Feb (BM, DC); Aber, 8 St Fergus 19 Feb (DIMW). Some unspecified but bulk of others Greenland race *A.a. flavirostris* : Ork, usual winter flocks 70 L of Tankerness, 40-50 Birsay; Caith, 60 Broubster 7 Jan, 150 L Scarmclate 3 Apr (SL), Nos. low in autumn, esp juvs, max 30 L of Wester 14 Nov (PMC, SL); Ross, continued decline, L Eye 14 on 4 Mar, 28 on 15 Apr (RHD, ARM), 12 Red Point 26 Feb (ENH); Moray, 1 Hope-man 22 Dec (CAG); St Kilda 300 on 29 Apr (R. Brant); Aber, max 9 Strathbeg 5 Nov (ACBH); Angus, 40W Dundee 9 Oct (EJM); few singles Perth, Kinr, Midl, Bute : first 14 Oct, 50 in winter (IH); Renf, 65 Barr Loch 5 Mar (GTW); Dunb, peaks 79 Endrick mouth 16 Mar, 77 on 28 Oct (JM); Kirk, numbers slightly lower, up to 300 L Ken Jan-Apr, 11 on 17 Oct, 280 on 17 Nov (LAU, ADW); Wig, last Moor of Genoch 45 on 21 Apr (RCD); I Heb, count 3900 Greenland birds Islay 11-20 Nov (MAO, O. J. Merne).

***Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*. A better year in SW; Kirk, 32 Boreland of Balmaghie early Feb (ABD), 1 L Ken Jan-Mar, 65 Castle Douglas 30 Dec (ADW, AJW) is most since 1966; Perth, 3 Dunblane 25 Jan (DMB); Aber, 7 Strathbeg 14 Jan (JE).

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*. Winter-spring : Kinross, L Leven 2700 on 14 Jan, 6600 on 4 Feb, 5000 on 4 Mar, 500-2000 in Apr, last 500 on 2 May (AA, GC); Kirk, 7000 Nith estuary 27 Feb (CJMCK-G); Midl, 1500 Moorfoot reservoirs Jan, 5500 on 25 Feb-21 Apr, 3300 on 29 Apr then big exodus (WB, LY); Perth passage 2-7 May, 50 Methven Moss 10 May (RLMcM); Aber, 1550 Strathbeg Jan-Feb, 3000 in Apr (DIMW); E Ross, 980 Munloch 8 Apr, 280 on 18 Apr, 350 on 2 May (MKMcD-D, EBt); 800 Evanton 15 Apr, 1500 on 19th (ARM, RHD); Suth, pass Handa 22 Apr-14 May, total 803 (AG); Caith, 150 Harpsdale 7-9 Apr (AFCMC, PMC, SL). No summer records.

Autumn : National count on 3-4 Nov gave 71,000 in Scotland; peak areas being 8900 in Aber, 5600 in Angus/Kinc, 33,580 in Perth, 5200 in

Kinross, 6440 in Peeb, very good breeding season with 29.9% young in sample of 1500, mean brood size 2.35, best in 12 years (MAO *et al.*). Immigration: first 50 L Leven 10 Sep, 700 on 23rd, 2000 on 30 Sep, big increase to 10,000 on 1 Oct, dropping to 6000 by 14 Oct, 4000 on 4 Nov, 3600 on 6 Dec (AA, CJE, JES); Midl, first Gladhouse 22 Sep, many on 29 Sep (RWJS), 800 on 2 Oct, 5500 on 6 Oct, down to 2700 on 10 Nov (WB, LY); E Loth, Aberlady roost used Oct-Dec, 1378 on 20 Oct, 3000 on 3 Nov; Ayr, 85 L Martnaham 29 Sep (WRB); Dumf, early 13 on 20 Sep, 35 Lochmaben 21 Sep (NEA), 4000+ Blackshaw 5 Oct (CRGC, LTC); Fife, first Cameron Reservoir 22 Sep, peak 3000 on 14 Oct (JARG); Aber, 3000+ Strathbeg 15-16 Nov (DIMW); Fair Isle, scarce, 4 on 29 Sep, one 30th, 4 on 2 Oct (RAB); only 1 Shet record, Fetlar Dec (RJT).

+**Snow Goose** *Anser caerulescens*. Perth, 1 Meikleour, with Greylags Jan (RLMcM); Midl, ad Lesser, Middleton Mains 11-25 Feb (WB), Gladhouse 10 Mar (RWJS); Suth, Kyle of Tongue 10 June (DS); Dumf, ad Caerlaerock 17 Nov-Dec, another with Pinkfeet 7 Dec (CRGC); I Heb, 1 juv L Gruinart 11 Oct (R. Early).

***Brent Goose** *Branta bernicla*. P == Pale-breasted *B.b. hrota*; others unspecified. Fair Isle, P 6-7 Nov (RAB); E Ross, 6 Evanton 10 Oct (ARM), 6 Inver 26 Oct (per DMcD), 2 Munloch 11 Nov (JAL); Aber, 1 P Rattray 21 Oct (CC, ACBH); Angus, 27S West Haven 6 Oct (TMC); Kinross, 1 L Leven 24 Oct (CJE, BHM); Fife, 2 P Strathmiglo 21 Mar (KBR); Midl, 1 Wester Middleton 18 Nov (WB); Arg, 3 Bowmore, Islay, 18-19 Nov (CGB), 1 P Peniver 14 Oct (RCD); Ayr, 1 P Blairbowie 18-19 Nov (RHH, AGS), 2 Maiden's Harbour 17 Oct-23 Dec, one to 27 Dec (WRB, BCF, RHH); Dumf, 1 P Caerlaverock with Barnacles Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec (CRGC).

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*. Aerial count of majority of W Scot sites between 30 Mar and 7 Apr gave 19,570 : 15,000 in Islay, 750 elsewhere in Arg, 570 in Skye/W Ross, 2610 in O Heb, 640 in Suth (MAO). Counts and spring migration: Dumf, peak 1972-73 winter at Caerlaverock was 4365, 26% young, mean brood size 1.7, three albinos (CRGC); various singles several counties to May; 7 Strathbeg, Aber, 19 Feb-11 Apr (DIMW); O Heb, 1700 passed Balranald 25 Apr, last 350 on 2 May (PC), 400 Shiant 30 Mar-7 Apr (PGH); Ross, 42 Longa 12 Mar (ENH); Suth, 49 Handa 16 Apr (AG), 56 Eilean nan Hoan and 30 Durness 20 Apr (RHD); Ork, 250 Switha 21 Apr; Fair Isle, 6 on 15-16 Jan, 3 on 17-24th, one 29 Jan, one 29 Apr (RAB).

Autumn immigration from 17 Sep (in east) and 22 Sep (in west); Fair Isle, 7 on 5 Oct, 6 on 6th, 2 on 30th, 33 on 5 Nov (RAB); Shet, scarce. 15 Skerries 7 Oct (ISR), 16 Virkie 7 Oct (AO); O Heb, 70 Balranald 22 Sep (PC); Moray, 7 Burghead 7 Oct (RL); Kinc, 21S Girdle Ness 6 Oct (RLS); Angus, 20W Arbroath 17 Sep (MN); Perth, 7 Blackford 3 Nov (AM), 18 on 17 Nov (CJH, DRW); Fife, 5 Cameron Reservoir 18 Sep (JARG); Midl, 5 Gladhouse 18 Sep (GLS), 49S Fala 9 Oct (GLS); Arg, 18,100 Islay 11 Nov (MAO), arrival Tiree 9 Oct (MJPG); Dumf, first 10 on 20 Sep, peak 5100 on 15 Oct, (post-war record), 21% young, mean brood size 1.5, four albinos (one juvenile) (CRGC, MAO).

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*. Beauly Firth moulting flock of English birds peaked at 630 (a record), 600 were caught for ringing on 11 July of which 214 had been ringed or controlled in Yorkshire, 18 in Notts/Derby and 11 previously at the Beauly Firth; 68 of the controls were of birds ringed as goslings in 1972, 2 birds were survivors from the first Beauly round-up in 1963, the Notts/Derby controls were the first from those counties; the flock included 2 leucistic birds (RHD *et al.*); first 26 on 4 June (RHD), 500+ on 30 Aug (EBt), 330 on 9 Sep, 15 on 16

Sep (ARM, Ebt), some shooting by wildfowlers in first week Sep; 60 + 16 SW over Inverness on 1 Sep (MR).

Sightings elsewhere probably referring to moult migration: E Loth, 7 Aberlady 27 June (AB), 8 Tynninghame 19 June; Midl, 2 Gladhouse Reservoir 6 June, 30N 7 June (RWJS); Clack, 28S Dollar 27 May (TDHM), 36 Chance Inn 28 May; Inv, 6 L Flemington 26 May (WGP); Moray, 1 Speymouth 23 June (JMB); Ross, 10 Inver 12 June (CGH); Caith, 9 moulting birds L Rangag 30 Aug may be new moulting site (PMC); Shet, 1 Foula 28-30 June (BEG) prob overshooting migrant.

Return passage: Inv, 55+S Glenmore 18 Aug (per RHD); Aber, heard Banchory 17 Aug (S. Moyes), 25 over Banchory 18 Aug (MM); Kinross, 35 L Leven 12-14 Sep, 37 on 19 Sep (CJE, JES, BHM); Midl, 6 Musselburgh 31 Oct (HSCH); E Loth, 20 Tynninghame 19 Aug (KSMcG, TD).

Other counts: 1 small Canada Islay 21 Feb (per CGB); Renf, 48 Rowbank Reservoir 11 Oct (DLC); Dunb, 40 Endrick mouth 25 Nov (GLAP); Fife, Lindores mid July (per DWO); Perth, 4 prs and 12-16 young L Mo-haik 26 June (PWS); Inv, 2 Fort William 2 May (JASN).

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*. Arg, 72 Tiree 23 July (DCL); E Loth, 54 Tynninghame 18 Feb (RWJS); Isle of May 5 on 26 Dec—5th record (NKA); Kinross 71 L Leven 23 July (BHM); Inv, 65 Longman 4 Aug (JMC); Ross, 120 Invergordon 10 Feb (ARM), 135 Evanton 26 Aug (DWMcA), 186 (21 juv) Mid Fearn Loch 16 Nov (RHD); Caith, 104 L Watten 11 Nov; Ork, 228 Loch of Harray in Sep, 127 in Nov.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*. Winter-spring counts: Dumf, last Caerlaverock 12 Apr (CRGC); Kirk, 90+ Greenlaw Mains 25 Mar (ADW), 77 Nith estuary 27 Feb (CJMCK-G); Ayr, 62 Bogside 18 Feb (DLC); Dunb, 55 Endrick mouth 7 Mar (JM); E Loth, max 38 Drem Jan-Apr, last 17 on 5 Apr (GLS); Stir, 108 Menstrie 10 Feb (DMB); Perth, 10 L Lubhair 16 May (JM, CP); Aber, 350 L Davan 3 Jan (DJ); Inv, 83 Insh 4 Mar, last 5 on 15 May (RL); Ross, 175 Evanton 30 Mar (EBt), 160 on 8 Apr, 145 on 14th (ARM); Suth, 70 Skibo 13 Jan (DMcD), 31N Handa 20-25 Apr, 4 on 8 May (AG); Caith, 52 Harpsdale 18-20 Apr (SL); Fair Isle passage 22-31 Mar, max 15 on 20th (RAB).

Summering records: Shet (2), Ork (2), Caith (1), O Heb (5), Inv (3), Perth (1), Kinross (1), Clack (2), Renf (1) Kirk (2) and Dumf (1) but nearly all refer to damaged and single birds.

Autumn arrivals and counts: from 16 Sep, mainly end Sep; Shet, peaks 181 Spiggie 2 Nov, 73 Uyeasound 7 Nov (PKK); Fair Isle, 12 on 28 Sep (RAB); Caith, 13 St John's Loch 10 Oct (PMC); Ross, 18 Torridon 30 Sep (ENH), 200 L Eye 4 Nov (CGH), 246 Fearn 16 Nov (RHD), 80 Findon 8 Dec (DWMcA), 50 Tarradale 28 Dec (MKMcD-D); O Heb, 1st 8 Balranald 30 Sep (PC), first Bragar, Lewis 16 Sep (WAJC); Banff, 56 on 26 Dec; Inv, first 2 Insh 21 Oct, 75 in Nov (RL); Aber, 365 Strathbeg 21 Oct (JE); Kinross, 2 L Leven 7 Oct, 25 on 11th, 53 on 16th, 200 on 20th (AA, BHM), 136 Arnot Reservoir 27 Oct (GSh); Fife, 5 Kilconquhar 30 Sep (PGTB), 216 Ballo Reservoir 28 Oct (MJB); E Loth, 12 Tynninghame 30 Sep; Ber, 135 Ladykirk 4 Nov (KAMcK); Renf, 50 Stanley Dam, 25 Nov (DCL); Kirk, 80+ L Auchentreoch Dec (ADW); Wig, first 23 L Connell 20 Oct (RCD).

***Bewick's Swan** *Cygnus bewickii*. Winter-spring to 7 Apr; Ork, 1 Graemshall Loch 18 Feb (MT-C); Caith, 2 Dale 10-23 Mar (AFCMC, SL); E Loth, 8 Aberlady-Drem Jan-Mar (LLJV); Dunb, 1 Endrick mouth 17 Feb, 2 on 19 Feb, 1 on 9 Apr (EAM, RS, DS); Dumf, 8 Caerlaverock 18 Jan-6 Mar (CRGC), 3 Canonbie 19 Jan (ELOC).

Autumn: Kinross, 3 L Leven 17 Nov (AA); Midl, 3 Gladhouse, 27 Oct

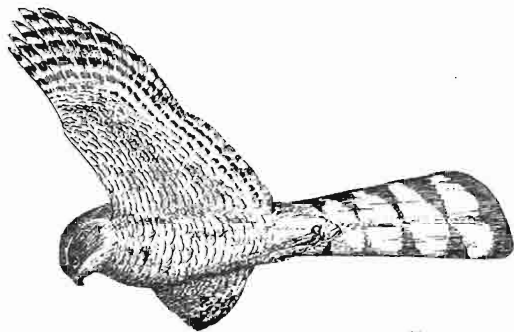
(AGWJ, LLJV), 2 West Middleton 28 Oct (RW); E Loth, 4 end Dec (SdaP); Arg, 1 Laphroaig, Islay 7 Nov (CGB); Ayr, 2 Bogside 14 Nov (JLB); Dumf, 3 Caerlaverock 26 Oct, 7 from 1-31 Dec (CRGC).

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*. W Inv-N Arg, 7 prs reared 9 young, 3 prs failed (JCu, JR); S Arg, 14 prs with eggs, 7 prs reared 9 young (MJPG, AGG); Rhum, one from 3 prs successful (NC); Perth, 4 prs successful from 8 checked (RLMcM); peripheral areas, 2 sites in north reared 3 young; in SW, 2 prs successful, one failed; Moray, 2 nests robbed. Sightings: 2 immatures visited Handa, Suth, 7 Aug-17 Sep (AG); Stir, 1 Sherriffmuir 14 Dec (DMB); 1 Portmore, Peeb 12 Dec (per RWJS).

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. Ork, 1 pr probably bred Hoy; Suth, 10 nests within 10 miles of Bettyhill (DSW); 4 prs Trantlemore to coast (PRJ); O Heb, successful N Isles; Inv, 9 prs hatched 18 young Kiltarlity area, 1 brood failed, 3 others failed to hatch (MIH); Ayr, 20+ pairs (WRB, RWF, WCW); Renf, very few prs—persecution (IPG); good season Arran (MHD); decrease central Kirk (ADW, LAU).

Migrants: Shet, Scalloway-Kergord 2 Jan-7 Feb (DC, BM, ISS), 2 Fetlar 22 July (RSPB), Scalloway 20 Sep (RJ); Fair Isle 26-27 Sep; Ork, Binscarth 7 Apr and 26 Aug (CJB); Aber, 1 Seaton Park 7 Oct (R. B. Hastings); Kinross, 1 Vane Hill 11 and 20 Sep, 2 in Nov (CJE); 1 Isle of May 22 Sep (ADW); Midl, 1 Duddingston 1 Sep (WNB); E Loth, Aberlady 28 May (GLS), Tynninghame 23 Dec (JHB).

***Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*. Singles: Fair Isle 22 Apr (RAB), 29 Nov (GJB); Ork, Sanday 23 July (E. A. Lea); Caith, Latheron-wheel end Oct (JAL), 26 Nov (PMC); Kinc, Glen Dye 1 May, Kerloch 7-17 May (NP, R. Moss, MM); Perth, Trossachs Nov-Dec (M. Connelly); Fife, Tentsmuir 7 Feb (DWO); Arg, L Sween 31 Oct-1 Nov (IR). 8-10 birds compared to 1968 (5), 1969 (5), 1970 (3), 1971 (2), 1972 (3).



Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. Continued increase and good success, but number apparently lower in Strathspey; Suth, 4 young reared from 5 eggs Scourie (AG); 6+ nests NE Angus successful; W Loth, 6 nests found (IMcK). Migrants: Fair Isle 14 Mar, 24 Mar, 22 Apr, 23 Apr (3), 2 May, 4 Aug, 17th (2), 18th (3), singles 5 days Sep (RAB); Shet, 2 Kergord 13-29 Jan, singles Skerries 6 May, Whalsay 5 May, Noss 5 June; Aber, coastal records 8, 23 Sep, 6 Oct, 12 Nov; Isle of May, 2 July (M. Scott), 1 Aug (NKA).

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*. Increase in sightings probably due to increases in released birds, but information incomplete and data not available for some areas. Reported to have nested successfully C Highlands (details not available); ♀ found dead Perth in May, was on point of

laying eggs (per VMT). Singles reported Fife 3 Nov (DWO); ad ♀ flying West Edinburgh 17 Mar (J. Murray); Islay 15 Sep (KV), Dunb 24 Feb-3 Nov (JM, CP, TW) and Aviemore 14 Dec (JPG). First-year ♂ released Moffat, Dumf, 25 Mar (captured in Finland) found dead (several weeks) 27 May Glamis, Angus (per Edward Grey Inst.).

***Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*. Singles: Fair Isle 3 June, 15 June, 20-21 Sep (RAB, GJB); Ork, St Ola 18 Sep (EJW); Shet, Unst 24 June (LC et al.).

***Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*. Singles: Fair Isle, imm 15-16 June (attacked by Arctic Skuas and wing broken, survived in captivity to autumn but died) (RAB); imm/♀ Norwick, Unst, Shet 6 May (LC); Aber, ♀ Meikle Loch 2 Sep (P. Shaw, L. Steele); Angus, ♀ Montrose Basin 27 May-21 Aug (GMC); Fife, ♀ Strathmiglo 12 May (KBR); Renf, 1 Longhaugh Point 6 May (HG, IPG).

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. Breeding reports: Ork, most successful season for years, 94 young and 11 adults ringed, roost peaks of 15-21 in Mar, 22 in late Oct-Nov (EB); Suth, only 1 pr Strathnaver where 4 prs in 1972 (DSW), Dornoch pr fledged 19 June (3rd early year) (DMcD); Inv, pr nested Fort William but eggs broken (JR); Clyde: no success Renf, prob bred S Ayr, 5 prs Dunb, poor season Arran (per RWF); Galloway, no change, 2 forest pairs reared 7 young each, 2 moorland nests failed (ADW).

Migration and counts: Shet, singles Unst 22-28 Sep (MS, LC, GB); Noss 26 Sep (PKK), Fetlar 26-30 Sep, 11-28 Oct (RJT), Bridge of Fitch 27 Sep (AO); Fair Isle 5-6 Jan, 13-25 Oct, 29 Nov (RAB); Suth, Handa 3 Apr, 9-12 Aug (AG); O Heb, Harris, Grimersta 16 Sep (JG); Aber, St Combs 28 Oct (MN); Perth, good passage of 1st yr birds Sherriffmuir Aug-Sept (GSh); Isle of May 4 Oct (RGN), 9 Oct (HG); E Loth, Aberlady 10 Oct (GLS).

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*. A successful season: at least 13 sites occupied for all or part of summer, from which 10 prs reared 21 young, 3 sites not regularly used. L Garten, Inv, ♂ arrived 27 Mar, ♀ on 26 Apr, incubation from 13 May, 2 young reared from 3 eggs, last seen 9 Sep; eyrie No. 2, pr on 19 Apr, 1 young reared from 3 eggs (1st success at this site); No. 3 first 28 Mar, 3 young reared; No. 4, eyrie tree destroyed in winter, ♂ 1 Apr, ♀ on 4th, new eyrie 200 yds away 2 young reared; No. 5 (L of Lowes, Perth) 1st 22 Apr, 2 young reared; No. 6, one 24-25 Apr, some nest building, then left; No. 7, ♀ on eyrie in May but failed; No. 8, 2 young reared from 3 eggs; No. 9, 2 young reared, still in nest 12 Aug; No. 10, last year's eyrie damaged in winter gales, only one sighting in April; No. 11, pr 5 Apr and resident all summer, did not breed; No. 12, 1st on 1 Apr, 2 young reared from 3 eggs; No. 13, 1st on 18 Apr, pr on 19th, 3 young reared; No. 14 new site, 2 young reared but one found dead nearby after fledging; No. 15, new eyrie built in spring but not occupied all season; No. 16, pr present all summer, did not breed or failed. There were also rumours of other pairs. Several pairs were late in arriving, although first bird was seen on Inv loch 19 Mar, and ♂ arrived L Garten earlier than any previous year. Summering birds in Perth and Arg.

Migrants outside main areas: Fair Isle 28 May, 28 June (RAB); Shet, Eshaness 1-2 June (P. H. Rathbone); W Loth, L Cote 18 Apr, 28 Oct (IMcK); E Loth, Aberlady 2 June (IAGB, GLS); Galloway, 2 in May (ECF, ADW); Wig, 1 Knockinaam 23 Aug (G. Shepherd); Dumf, 1 Lockerbie 11 Sep (J. Patterson). Perth, juvenile found dying River Tay 9 Oct was unringed and presumably a Scandinavian migrant (per RLMcM).

***Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*. Singles: Shet, Fetlar 28 June (RSPB); Fair Isle 21-22 June, 16 Sep-3 Oct (RAB); Aber, Dinnet 12 May (MM, NP,

DJ); Inv, L Garten 17 Aug (RSPB), Drumnadrochit 18 Aug (MIH); Arg, Knockanbearach, Islay, 17 May (KV); Kirk, Gatehouse of Fleet 18 July (AJW). 8 records compared to 1968 (4), 1969 (3), 1970 (2), 1971 (1), 1972 (1).



Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. Breeding reports : Shet, 20 sightings, no breeding records, dead imm Foula 3 June (per RJT); Fair Isle 2 non-breeding prs (RAB); Ork, apparently low success (EB); Suth, reasonable success in NW (IDP); Inv, good in Spey, 3+ prs successful Lochaber; Perth, bred successfully at 6 sites visited (RLMcM); S Arg, only 1 pr successful from 5 checked (MJPG); SW Scotland, marked improvement, 20 young fledged from 7 successful nests.

Records outside usual areas : Aber, Meikle Loch 30 June (WM), Ythan 30 Aug, 24 Sep, 6 Oct (PDR, MHe); Kinross, Vane Hill 12 Jan, 15 Apr (2), 10 Sep, 31 Oct, 13 and 26 Nov (CJE, RQQ *et al.*); Fife, still very scarce—2 winter records (DWO); Midl, recorded twice only Moorfoots, both ends of year (RWJS); E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 16 Sep (TB); Ber, 1 Abbey St Bathans 24 Oct (AB, RHH).

***Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus*.** Singles : Fair Isle 22 Apr (RAB); Caith, Berriedale Water 2 Apr (M. R. M. Leslie, R. Low, C. McKenzie); Aber, imm ♂ found dead Glen Tanar 18 Apr (per NP); 1 Heb, Tیره 27-31 Dec (JMB, I. L. Boyd); imm ♂ landed on trawler 40 miles W of O Heb 16 Feb, taken to Aberdeen 21 Feb released Shet 2 Mar, seen 11 Mar and possibly at Voe 18 Mar (RHD, NP, RJT). All except Fair Isle bird were pale specimens.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. Breeding reports : O Heb, 12 prs Uists (CB); W Loth, pr bred; Kirk, 9 known sites—nn change (per ADW). Migration and counts : Fair Isle, scarce in spring, only two records—23 and 26 Apr, small autumn passage 20 Aug-23 Nov, mainly 4 Sep-2 Nov, max 4 on 18 Sep (RAB); O Heb, Balranald, sightings to 26 Apr, from 29 July, max 3 on 18 Aug (PC); Suth, Handa 8 Apr-11 May, 26 July-13 Sep (AG); Midl, Arthur's Seat 25 Oct-19 Nov, Grassmarket 12 Dec, Musselburgh Dec (per RWJS).

***Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus*.** Six records is best year ever and reflects big spring influx in England 1973. Shet, ♀ Whalsay 17 June (JHS), ♂ Tresta 26 June-4 July (DC, BM, ISS); O Heb, ♂ Benbecula 16-21 June (ITD, MMD); Suth, ♂ Meikle Ferry 1 May (F. E. Prove); ♀ Isle of May 19 May (JHBM); Ayr, ♀ Colmonell 16-17 July (IHL).

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. Breeding reports : 50% down in Uists, O Heb (CB); Inv, scarce Lochaber (JCu); W Loth, 15 prs known, 9 successful, 6 of them rearing 22 young, 5 nests robbed, 1 pr failed (IMcK); Arran, good season (MHD); reasonable Ayr. Migration : Fair Isle, 1 overwintered, 1-2 most days May-early June, 3 or 4 in June, 10 Aug-2

Nov, mainly 16 Sep-8 Oct, 12 arrived on 16 Sep (RAB); Suth, Handa 1-2 various days 27 Apr-2 June, max 5 on 9 July (AG); one ringed Coulmore, Ross 9 June recovered Brechin, Angus 18 Oct (EBt, MIH).

Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*. Breeding reports: Caith, very patchy (PMC); Islay, very good (CGB), good Ayr, poor Arran (RWF); Kirk, higher than usual (LAU). O Heb, 1 Rhenigadale 28 July (D. Martin); pr bred Handa, Suth (AG); 18 Vane Hill, Kinross, 10 Oct is high (CJE).

Ptarmigan *Lagopus mutus*. No changes reported.

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*. W Ross, ♂ Achnasheen 18 Mar (MKMcD-D); 23 Gartlea, Dunb, 8-9 Oct (ICC); decrease Gatehouse of Fleet, Kirk (J. Henderson).

Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*. Numbers seemed low Abernethy, Inv; few more records Black Isle.

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*. Increase in records indicative of increased game management releases; species uncertain in some cases, possibly hybrids and Chukar Partridges. Aber/Kinc, 1 Maryculter-Banchory 12 Apr (AGK); Angus, 2 Strathcathro 24 July, 2 Cortachy 20 Sep (GMC); Perth, c40 prs bred Scone area (RLMcM) also bred Redgorton (VMT) and Dupplin (EJM); W Stir, 4 prs and 19 young released Killearn; Galloway, reports Cairnsmore, L Ken, Mull of Galloway (per ADW); Dumf, bred in wild (per JGY).

Partridge *Perdix perdix*. Breeding reports: Inv, increase; Perth, good-sized coveys; Kinross, good breeding season; Fife, numbers high; Midl, numbers as high as ever; Galloway, fairly good with late broods in Aug.

***Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*. A poor year—singles: Fair Isle 6 and 30 May (RAB); Shet, Skerries 8 June (RSPB), Unst 11 June (J. T. Thompson), Whalsay 16-18 June (JHS); Lanark 18-19 Apr (ND), Carmunock 16 June (RMCL); Ayr, Ballantrae 20 June (AFA); 2 E Linton, E Loth, 28 July (MWF).

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*. Shet, 2 prs Kergord (ISS), one Scalloway 14 Dec (RJ).

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*. No change Kirk.

†**Reeves's Pheasant** *Syrmaticus reevesii*. Inv, 5-6 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ Kinveachy Dec, almost certainly bred in wild (per RHD).

***Crane** *Grus grus*. One Foula, Shet 2-3 June (R. Furness, J. Vernal).

†**Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo*. 1 Carnwath, Lan, May 1972-Mar (HSCH, KCRH); 1 Tiree, 1 Heb, 9 Apr (A. Curran).

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. Bred Broubster, Caith (P. R. Castell); 6-10 calling Insh marshes, Inv, in summer (RL); 5 prs Aird meadows, Renf (DLC). Migration and counts: Fair Isle, singles Jan-May, 1-3 from 5 Sep-8 Dec (RAB); Shet, passage Mar-Apr, 1 calling Unst 13-16 July—first since 1934 (MS), first of autumn Foula 31 Aug (BEG); Ork, 2 Westray May (DL), 1 Evie 7 Oct (P. Davidson); O Heb, 1 Grimersta 14 Nov-31 Dec (JG); Suth, one Scourie 13 July (AG); Aber, singles Balmedie 4 May ADKR, Murcar 25 May (DC), Strathbeg 6 Oct (RHD), Angus, 6 Montrose Basin 24 Sep (MN); Perth, 4 Kingoodie 3 Mar, 5 on 30 Dec (EJM), 5 Seaside 3 Mar (RLMcM); Ber, 3 St Abbs Loch 13 Oct (LLJV); Renf, 9 Barr Loch 2 Dec (PHH).

***Spotted Crane** *Porzana porzana*. Calling birds Insh, Inv, 4 June (CJMCK-G); Ayr, 19-27 July (WRB, IHL); L Stiapavat, Lewis 23-25 June (IMMcL, JML), L Hallam, S Uist, summer (CB); Hillwell, Shet, 23-27 June (BM). Juv found dead Ae forest, Dumf, 1 Sep (HO); 1 Fair Isle 7-8 Oct (RAB); 1 Minishant, Ayr 12 Nov (RHH).

Corncrake *Crex crex*. Poor in north, no change or better in SW. Shet, first 6 May, fewer birds calling (per RJT); Fair Isle, only 2 migrants: 25

Apr, 4-5 May (RAB); Ork, probably scarcer than ever before, even Papa Westray (EB), first Sanday 15 May (CJB); O Heb, first Lewis 4 May (WMa, RMCl), first Balranald 8 May, 7 prs bred, last 13 Sep (PC); Caith, first Reay 5 May (JMG); Suth, 3 Scourie from 20 May (AG); Ross, bred successfully Torridon (JAW); records in E Ross (1), Inv (1), Kinc (1), Angus (2), Perth (4), Rox (3), Kirk (1). 1 Isle of May 10 Sep (JHB); 1 Aberlady, E Loth 17 Aug (TPD); Arg/I Heb, 13 calling Canna mid June (ADKR); 4 in one field, Islay (AWGJ), first Islay 3 May (CGB); first Arg 1 May (IR); Ayr, increase, with 12 calling Stinchar Valley May-June (RHH).



Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*. Pr with 2 small young Glencarse, Perth, 23 Sep (RLMcM). Counts : 60 North Queich, Kinross, 18 Nov and 65 Burreigh 18 Nov (BHM, TG); 48 Insh, Inv, 19 Apr (RL). Migration : Fair Isle, singles 3 May, 28 Aug, 1-2 daily 20 Sep-6 Oct, one 17 Oct (RAB).

Coot *Fulica atra*. Increase in breeding numbers probably due to mild winters : Inv, increase Loch Laide to 20 on 11 Apr, 3 prs successful (MIH); also L Ruthven and Strathspey lochs (RHD); good season Fife. Counts and migration : Caith, 9 Wick harbour 28 Dec (PMC, SL, RHD); Ross, 200 L Ussie 25 Feb (ARM); Inv, 55 Insh Jan (RL); Kinross, 76 L Leven 16 Feb, 400+ early Sep (AA); Peeb, 350 Portmore 14 Jan, down to 16 on 11 Feb; 50 on 18 Aug, 250 by 14 Oct (RWJS); E Loth, 111 Pressmennan Loch 14 Jan, 150 Whiteadder Reservoir 18 Nov (AWGJ); Renf, 1100 Barr Loch 2 Sep, down to 300 by 22 Nov (HG); Kirk, 50 L Ken 18 Jan (LAU), 400+ L Auchenreoch is big increase (ADW).

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*. Return to breeding territories : first Moorfoots 19 Feb, 40 by 10 Mar (RWJS); good season Kinross, 13 on 17 Feb, 20 by 3 Mar (GC); Inv, 2 Insh 20 Feb, 150 on 5 Mar (RL); Ross, Black Isle from 1 Mar (MKMcD-D); Suth, 33 prs reared 28 young Handa (AG); O Heb, 51 prs bred Balranald (PC); first egg Fair Isle 10 May (RAB).

Peak counts and migration : Shet, 150 Fetlar 19 Mar, 150 Sumburgh 19 Aug; Fair Isle 119 on 25 Mar; only 4 left by end Sep, 2 wintered, 6 on 17 Oct (RAB); Caith, 200 Scrabster Nov (PMC); Suth, 800 L Fleet 17 Jan, 200 Tongue 5 June, 500 on 6 Aug (RHD), 400 Dornoch 29 Sep

(DMcD); Ross, 700 Nigg 24 June, 800 Alness 16 Sep (ARM), 1000 Udale Bay 2 Sep (ARM), 500+ Findon Mains 16 Sep (DWMcA); Inv, 515 Longman 16 Sep (MR), 1650 Whiteness Head 30 July, 1130 on 3 Sep (RHD); Perth, 400 Dunblane 3 Mar (GSh); Fife, peak 7500 Tentsmuir Point 14 Oct (M. Martin); Midl, 2400 Musselburgh 21 Jan, 2000 on 18 Feb, 1050 on 18 Mar, 300 on 6 May, 1300 on 16 Sep, 10 Nov, 1800 on 14 Oct; W Loth, 800 Cramond 30 Aug (GLS); E Loth, 900 Tynninghame 21 Jan (EMS, RWJS, TB), 960 Aberlady 17 Feb, 1200 on 25 Aug (DRL); Renf/Dumb, 3844 Upper Clyde 18 Feb, 3800+ Ardmore, Dumb 26 Nov (IPG); Dumf, 3000 Caerlaverock 29 Sep (CRGC). Albinos Moorfoots, Midl 10 Mar (RWJS) and Guardbridge, Fife 7 Aug (JARG).

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. Good breeding season Ayr; very good season high ground Midl, many back 4 Feb (RWJS); Fife, poor early broods (TRG); Kinross, first chick Gairney 21 Mar (RQB); Inv, 200 Insh 1 Mar, 105 Aviemore 3 Mar (RL, RHD); Ross, first Kessock 7-10 on 28 Feb (MKMcD-D), increase W Ross (ENH); Suth, 2 prs Handa but only one young (AG); Caith, increase in population (PMC); O Heb, 110 pairs bred Balranald, first egg 1 Apr (PC).

Counts and passage: Shet, 200 Tingwall 13 Jan, 100 Unst 17 Jan (per RJT); Fair Isle, autumn peaks 130 on 16 Sep, 125 on 21st, 119 on 8 Oct (RAB); Caith, 700 Canisbay 5 Sep (PMC); Ross, 2200 Evanton-Alness 11 Nov (ARM), 680 North Beaully Firth 16 Sep (EBT), 500+ Udale Bay 23 July (DWMcA); Inv, 414 Longman Bay 11 Nov (EIJ); Perth, 1000+ Kingoodie 9 Jan (EJM), 750 Seaside 11 Jan (RLMcM); Fife, 1500 Guardbridge 19 Sep (DWO); Midl, 300 Gladhouse 23 June (RWJS, LLJV); Ayr, 1500 Irvine-Bogside 11 Nov (IMD); Renf, 5500+ Glasgow Airport 5 Feb, 6000 Erskine-Langbank 18 Feb, 5000 on 29 Nov (IPG); Dumb, 630 Ardmore 16 Sep (SMDA); Wig, 2000 Moor of Genoch 14 Sep (RCD).

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. Breeding: Ayr, at least 5 prs L Doon (WRB), 15 prs Ballantrae (EJM); 6 prs inland W Renf, none on coast (IPG); Ber, pr bred Watchwater Reservoir (AEH); Midl, increase inland breeding, max 4 prs Gladhouse; first inland 4 Portmore, Peeb 4 Mar (LLJV); 18 prs located inland Perth (RLMcM, EJM); 25 prs bred Balranald, O Heb (PC); Fair Isle, 9 prs bred 1973 (6 prs 1972) (RAB); Shet, 43 prs bred Unst (GB).

Peak counts and passage: Fair Isle, 6 on 6 Mar, return passage mid Aug-22 Sep, peaks 40 on 16 Sep, 50 on 18th, smaller numbers to mid Oct (RAB); Shet, 200 Virkie 16 Aug, 52 Whalsay 29 Oct is late (JHS); O Heb, 150 Hougharry, N Uist, 27 July (ADKR), 280 Rudha Ardvule, S Uist, 18 Aug increased to 410 on 25 Aug (DWR); Ross, 90 Alness 17 Feb, 160 on 16 Sep (ARM), 150 Inver 12 Aug (CGH); Inv, 79 Longman 10 Sep (JMC); Fife, 289 Tentsmuir 19 May (MN, EJM), 300 on 28 Aug (DWO); Midl, 120 Musselburgh 26 Aug (LLJV); E Loth, 140 Aberlady 5 May; 200 Tynninghame 6 May, 130 on 3 June, 125 on 26 Aug (RWJS, EMS, TB); Ayr, 150 Maidens 16 Sep (RHH), 200 Troon 8 Sep (WRB); 73 Whiting Bay, Arran, 16 Sep (MHD); Wig, 177 Luce Bay 25 Aug (RCD); Dumf, 100 Caerlaverock 25 Aug (CRGC).

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. Winter-spring: 1 Grutness, Shet, 7 Jan (FH); O Heb, 1-5 Balranald 1-15 Apr, 1 on 24 May (PC); Inv, 3 Whiteness 10 Jan (RHD); Aber, 4 Ythan 18 Mar (PSh); Perth, singles Invergowrie 31 Mar, 5th and 9th Apr (EJM), Glencarse May; Fife, 95 Tentsmuir 18 Feb (MM), 80 on 2 May (RWS); E Loth, peak 150 Aberlady 3 Mar (RHH); Renf, 2 Longhaugh Point 26 Apr (IPG); Ayr, 7 Turnberry 4 Feb (RHH); 1 Wigtown merse 10 June (NEA, RTS).

Autumn passage and peak counts: Shet, 11 records 11 Aug-3 Oct, max 5 Unst 3 Oct (GB, MS); Suth, Dornoch 13 Sep-6 Oct, max 24 on 29th DMcD, 1 Lochinver 19 Oct (ACMcL); Ross, 10 Inver 16 Nov (RHD); 4 Evanton 14 Nov (ARM); 4 Udale 31 Oct (MKMcD-D); O Heb, 4 Steinish,

Lewis 21 Oct (RMcI); Inv, 5 Longman 14 Oct (MR); Aber, from 16 Aug (PDR), 30 Ythan 13 Oct (MHe); Angus, 25 Montrose Basin 25 Sep (GMC); Perth, 1 Invergowrie 7 Aug, increasing to 14 on 11 Sep, 37 on 24th, 60 on 14 Oct, then 38 on 16th, 10 on 5 Nov (RC, EJM, ECP); Fife, peaks 82 Tentsmuir 12-28 Aug (JARG, DWO), 53 Eden estuary 25 Aug, 120 on 10 Dec (AJB); Midl, 7 Musselburgh 12 Sep (DLC), 12 on 18 Oct (GLS); W Loth, 22 Drum Sands 25 Sep (GLS); E Loth, 120 Aberlady 16 Sep (DRL), 72 Tynninghame 14 Oct; Ayr, max 10 Irvine-Bogside 7 Oct (RHH); Dunb, 13 Ardmore 14 Oct (SMDA); Dumf, 15 Caerlaverock 29 Sep (CRGC). Inland : Fife, 1 Cameron Reservoir 18 Sep (JARG); Midl, 1 Harperrig 28 Sep, 30 Sep (2), 2 Oct (3), 15 Oct (2) (PTG, GLS), 1 Gladhouse 22 Sep (RWJS); Dunb, 1 Endrick 2 and 14 Oct (RKP, JM); Renf, 1 Paisley 24 Sep (IPG).

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*. Winter-spring counts : Dumf, max Caerlaverock 4000 on 10 Feb (CRGC); Midl, 1500 Arniston 11 Feb (WB); 600 Musselburgh 9 Jan (DRL); 100 Northernns Gladhouse 8 Apr (RWJS); Perth, rather low spring peak 433 Kingoodie 9 Jan (EJM); 400+ Seaside 28 Feb (RLMcM), 160 Northernns Glen Shee 28 Apr (RLMcM); Aber, 350 Cruden Bay 27 Jan (MN); Inv, 5 Insh 1 Mar, 50 on 5th (RL); O Heb, 80 Melbost, Lewis 22 Apr (RMcI).

Autumn passage and counts : Fair Isle, passage Aug-6 Nov, mainly 7 Sep-22 Oct, peaks : 100 on 16 Sep, 80 on 21st, 100 on 5 Oct (RAB); Shet, 250 Skerries 1 Aug (ISR), 1500 Unst 29 Aug (GB); O Heb, 250 Balranald 16 Sep (PC); Caith, 300 Harpsdale 17 Oct (SL); 200 Banff 24 Sep, 300 on 28 Dec (JF, AFWS); Kinc, 140 Girdle Ness 28 Nov (MN); Perth, 300 Kingoodie 8 Aug, 440 on 18 Sep (EJM); Midl, 500 Arniston 15 Nov (WB); 700 Musselburgh 6 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, 300 Aberlady 23 Dec (JHB); Renf, 1000 Longhaugh Point 9 Dec (HG, IPG); Ayr, 4000+ Prestwick 12 Nov (IHL), 2000 Barassie 23 Sep (HG), 2000 Bogside 31 Aug (IMD), 2100 Doonfoot 9 Nov (AGS); Wig, 500+ L Ryan 3 Oct, 1700 on 3 Nov, 3000 Stoneykirk 17 Nov (RCD *et al.*); Dumf, 3000 Caerlaverock 29 Oct (CRGC); 3000 Heathhall autumn.

Dotterel *Eudromius morinellus*. Breeding reports sketchy : Good breeding year Drumochter hills, Inv (DWO), also Cairngorms, where first 3 on 19 Apr; Angus hills, 8 on 6 May (AWGJ); Perth, 6 Glen Lyon 6 May (P. M. Spencer); pairs seen Banff 3 June (JE) and NW Suth 27 May (AG).

Migration : more than usual : Shet, 3 Whalsay 19 May (JHS), 2 Fetlar 23 May (RSPB); 1 Skerries 17 Sep, 18th (2), 19th (3), one to 29 Sep (ISR); Fair Isle, one 25 Apr (GJB), one 4 May, one 21 Sep, 22nd (4), 23rd-24th (2), one 2-8 Oct (RAB); O Heb, 2 Balranald 14-17 May (PC); Fife, 4 Leuchars 16-17 May (AJB).

***Dowitcher** *Limnodromus* sp. Singles, L Ridon, Arg 5 Apr (E. Hutcheon) and Fair Isle 20-21 Sep (GJB, A. Parker, P. J. Sellar).

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*. Migration and counts : Fair Isle, singles 6 June, 15 July, passage from 22 July (15), peaks 45 on 31 July, 68 on 29 Oct (RAB); Shet, 31 Skerries 22 July, max 100 on 18-19 Sep (ISR); O Heb, 100 Balranald to mid May, 38 on 24 July, autumn peaks 143 on 10 Sep (PC); Suth, last Handa 22 May, first 17 July (AG); 75 Embo 11 Nov (DMcD); Inv, 50 Clachnaharry 16 Sep (MIH); 20+ Fort William 2 May (JCu); Kinc, 236 Girdle Ness (MN, RWS); Perth, singles, Invergowrie 4 days 10 Aug-10 Sep (EJM); Fife, 700 Fife Ness 11 Mar (JARG); Isle of May peaks 400 mid Apr, 500 on 29 Sep (DWO); Midl, 200 Musselburgh 18 Mar, 260 on 6 May, 175 on 25 Aug, 210 on 29 Sep (LLJV); W Loth, 80 Cramond 6 Sep (GLS); E Loth, Aberlady peaks 112 on 16 Mar, 110 on 13 Oct (DRL); Ayr, 543 Ardrossan-Seamill 15 Nov (IPG); 200 Prestwick 18 Feb (BCF), 200 Dippleshore 2 May (RHH).

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. Counts : O Heb, 52 prs bred Balranald (PC), 50+ L Stiapavat 18 Sep (PE); Fair Isle, autumn passage more than usual from 17 Aug, peaks 40 on 18 and 25 Sep, 1-8 Oct and 1 Dec (RAB); Shet, 162 Unst 11 Jan (LC), 17 Skerries (arrival) 5 Sep (ISR); 100+ Hillwell 29 Sep (DC); Caith, peak 30 L of Mey 22 Sep (AFCCM, SL); Angus, 35 Montrose Basin 24 Sep (MN); Perth, 62 Seaside 10 Apr (RLMcM), 42 Kingoodie 22 Mar (EJM); Ayr, 100 New Cumnock 18 Aug (WRB), 79 Erskine 18 Feb (IPG).

***Great Snipe** *Gallinago media*. One Skerries, Shet, 20-27 Sep (ISR, SR) (8 : 31-2).

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*. Winter records and peaks : Renf, 9 Paisley Moss 26 Jan, 10 Erskine 21 Jan (IPG); Kinross, 2 Vane Farm 29 Mar (GC); Aber, 2 Don estuary 5 Jan (PSh); usual scatter of singles S and E Scot Jan-Mar; O Heb, 1 Leurhost 14 Feb (PGH); Caith, 1 L Calder 18 Feb (SL); Shet, 1 Unst 11 Jan (LC). Spring passage : Fair Isle 7 Apr (RAB); Shet, 2 Fetlar 7 May, 1 Foula 23 May; O Heb, 6 Shiants 1 Apr (PGH); Angus, Arbroath 12 Apr (MN); E Loth, Aberlady 12 May (HSCH, KCRH).

Autumn-winter from 15 Aug; Shet, first Foula 20 Aug (BEG), most from mid Sep, max 5 Skerries 7 Oct (ISR); Fair Isle from 4 Sep, mainly 15 Sep-2 Oct, peaks 8 on 16 and 23 Sep, 10 on 29 Sep (RAB); Ork, 2 Kirkwall 3 and 7 Oct (CJB); Aber, from 9 Sep Ythan (PSh), max 3 Loriston 10-21 Oct (M. Davies); Angus, singles Glen Prozen 15 and 24 Aug, 2 Montrose 24 Sep (MN); Renf, 7 Paisley Moss 25 Oct and 13 Nov (IPG), 13 Barr Loch 22 Nov (HG); Lan, 6 Libberton 8 Dec (RE-H); usual scatter singles Oct-Dec all regions.

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*. Very scarce on migration continues trend of recent years : Fair Isle, singles 25 Mar, 30th, 17th Apr, 1-5 daily 25 Apr-2 May, singles 4 days to 4 June, autumn from 1 Oct to 1 Dec, mainly 3 Oct-5 Nov, max 60 on 2 Nov (RAB); Shet & Ork, very scarce (RJT, EB); Isle of May, scarce, only 3 in spring, autumn max 5 (NJG); O Heb, singles Plasterfield 1 Mar (RMcl), Valtos 11 Dec (WAJC), 2 Ballan 29 Nov (PGH).

Curlew *Numenius arquata*. Return to territory : Moorfoots, Midl, 6 Mar (LLJV); Insh, Inv, 28 Feb, 5 on 1 Mar, 50 on 5 Mar (RL); 1 pr bred Fair Isle—3rd record (RAB); possible increase breeders Ayr (WRB). Migration : Fair Isle 70N on 24 Apr, return from 20 June, peaks : 30 on 21 Aug, 30 in Nov-Dec—hard weather (RAB); Shet, Mar influx 200 Fetlar 11th, 100 Unst 11th (RSPB, GB); 200 Hillwell 25 July; O Heb, return peak Balranald 237 on 24 July (PC); Suth, 171N Handa 25 Apr (cf Fair Isle), 55S on 26 Aug (AG); Isle of May peak 50 on 19 Sep (ADW).

Counts : Ayr, 500 Barassie 14 Aug (WRB), 500 New Cumnock 18 Aug (WRB); E Loth, 570 Aberlady 4 Aug (DRL); W Loth, 700 Cramond 15 Sep (TCS); Kinross, 300 L Leven 8 Mar, 200 on 23 July increasing to 2000 early Oct (AA); Perth, 544 Invergowrie/Kingoodie 31 Jan, 350 on 15 Sep (EJM); Banff, 256 Buckpool 7 Aug (JMB); Inv, 375 Lentrane 18 Mar (MIH); Ross, 500 Alness Bay 16 Sep (ARM), 400+ Findon 16 Sep (DWMcA); Caith, 250 Murkle 9 Dec (PMC).

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. 51 pairs counted Unst, Shet (GB); Fair Isle 1 pair bred successfully—4 eggs 17 June, hatched 27th, 3 young ringed 13 July—1st breeding record (RAB); present Ork and Lewis in breeding season; 2-3 prs bred Scot mainland site—limited success (RHD, CGH); 1-2 prs new site N Scot, nest 4 eggs found 8 June (DS). Winter : 1 Islay 17 Mar (RL).

Arrivals and passage from 13 Apr : Dumf, 1st Lockerbie 28 Apr (RTS); Dumb, 1 Endrick 26 Apr (TW); Arg, 8 L Riddon 5 May (JBH), more than usual Islay, max 29 Bowmore 2 May (CGB); E Loth, Tynninghame 5-14

May, max 6; Isle of May 2-29 May; Fife, 1st Eden estuary 4 May (DWO); Kinross, 1 East Brackley 22 Apr (QOB); Perth, singles Invergowrie 2 and 7 May, 2 on 9 May (EJM, ELP); Angus, from 29 Apr; O Heb, first Balranald 28 Apr (PC), 7 Stornoway 7 May (WMa), 5 Barvas 23 May (RMcl); Moray, 3 Findhorn 6 May (RAFKOS); Ross, 3 L Kishorn 13 Apr (HSCH); Suth, Handa 30 Apr-15 May (AG); Shet, 1st Fetlar 3 May (RSPB); Fair Isle, singles 4 days from 21 Apr, passage 1 May-6 June, peaks 12 on 13-14th, 21 May, 15 on 23 May (RAB).

Autumn : Fair Isle, peak 13 on 17 Aug, last 8-9 Sep (RAB); Shet, last Skerries 18 Sep (ISR); Caith, last John o' Groats 9 Sep (PMC); Suth, Handa 5 July-9 Sep (AG); O Heb, peak 40 Balranald, last 22 Sep (PC); Nairn, 9 on 2 Sep (RHD); Moray, 10 Speymouth 9 Oct (JMB), 3 Lossiemouth 16 Oct (CAG); Aber, 9 Ythan 19 Aug (PSh), last 9 Sep; Angus, max 6 Usan 1 Sep, last 30 Sep (NKA); Perth, 4 Kingoodie 21 Aug, last 2 on 15 Sep, one 9 Oct (EJM, RC); Fife, 4 July-15 Sep, max 12 St Andrews 20 July (TPD); Isle of May 19 July-6 Oct, max 16 on 24 Aug (AJW); Midl, last Gladhouse 18 Sep (GLS); E Loth, 29 June-6 Oct Gosford (HSCH), max 20 Tynninghame 11 Aug (GLS); Arg, peak 24 Bowmore, Islay, 2 July (CGB), 1 Salachan 13 Oct (RHD); Wig, 4 Mochrum 19 Aug (RCD).

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*. 1 pr bred Shet, reared 2 young, departed by 2 July; Ork, 1 pr displaying 20-27 May (DL); inland summer records : Suth, 2 Badanloch 12 July (RHD et al.); Inv, 1 Insh 2 June (RL). Winter counts and spring passage : Fair Isle, singles 21-27 Apr, 23-24 May (RAB); Shet, Scatness 3 May, 2 Spiggie 3 May, 2 Fetlar 9 May, Noss 18 May, Clumlie 20 May (RSPB, FH, BM, PKK); Ross, 1-3 Dalmore Jan-Mar, last one 8 Apr, Udale 4 Mar, 2 on 21-25 Mar (ARM); O Heb, 5 Melbost 5-8 May (IMMcL, RMcl), 4 Balranald 6-8 May (PC); Inv, 1 Longman 1 Jan (DBMcG); Aber, 3 Ythan 5 May (BJS); Perth, singles Invergowrie 7 June-25 Apr on 5 days (EJM); Stir, 7 Skinflats 2 Jan (IAGB); Midl, Musselburgh-Seafield 7 Feb, 11 Mar; E Loth, Aberlady 5 Apr (IAGB); Dunb, 1 Endrick mouth 13 May (HG).

Summer-autumn : Fair Isle, 5 on 10 July, one 28 Aug-9 Sep (RAB); Shet, 3 Hillwell 2 Sep (FH); Ross, Udale 2 Sep (ARM), Munloch 21 Oct (MKMcD-D); Inv, 2 Lentrán 16 Sep (MIH); O Heb, 1-2 Balranald 5 Aug-10 Sep (PC); Moray, Findhorn from 12 Aug, max 7 on 26 Aug, 5 on 14 Oct (RHD, RAFKOS); Aber, 1 Ythan 30 Aug-3 Sep (PDR, RSBy), 3 Rattray 3 Sep (RSBy); Angus peak 17 Montrose Basin 3 June (GMC); various small counts S and E Scot from July, peaks : Perth, 8 Invergowrie 30 Aug (EJM, RC, ECP); Kinross, 3 L Leven on 2 Sep (AA); Fife, 100+ Eden estuary 27 July, 110 on 4 Aug, 100 on 18 Aug, 210 on 9 Dec (AJB, EJM, DWO); Stir, 3 Skinflats 19 Aug (JM); E Loth, 5 Aberlady 2 Sep (HG, BZ); 'Ayr, 23 Ballantrae 10 July (BCF), 8 Bogside 8 Sep (WRB, IHL, RGN); Renf, 5 Erskine 13 Sep (HG); Dumf, 4 Caerlaverock 15 Sep (CRGC), no count of Nith estuary flock.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Peak counts : Ork, 80 Tankerness 22 Dec (CJB); Suth, 400 Dornoch 29 Sep (DMcD); Ross, 400 Nigg 24 Jan (RHD), 800 Dalmore 24 Feb, 1100 Evanton 26 Aug (ARM), 700 Udale 4 Mar, 1000+ 31 Aug-15 Sep (ARM, MR); Inv, 700 Whiteness 1 Feb, 92 on 31 May, 920 (ads) 30 July, 1200 on 13 Aug-2 Sep (RHD); Perth, 559 Invergowrie 30 Dec (EJM); Fife, 2000 Tentsmuir 28 Aug (DWO); Midl, 540 Musselburgh 21 Jan-18 Feb, 190 on 18 Mar, 550 on 9 Dec (LLJV); F Loth, 1200 Aberlady 13 Oct (DRL).

Migrants : Fair Isle, 23 May, 8 records 29 Aug-22 Sep but 8 on 17 Sep (RAB); Shet, few to 21 May, from 14 July, max 15 Virkie 26-27 Aug; O Heb, peaks Balranald 84 on 7 Apr, 30 on 4 Oct (PC); Kirk, 1 Lochinvar 19 Nov (LAu).

***Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*.** Winter records : Dumfries 10 Jan-27 Apr (TN); E Loth, Tynninghame 1 Jan-1 Apr (TB, RWJS). Spring passage : Shet, Sumburgh 4 May (BM), Unst 19 May (GB), Foula 23 May (BEG), Skerries 5-6 and 18 May (ISR); Fair Isle, singles 13 days 5-24 May and 2-3 June (RAB); Perth, Kingoodie 28-29 Apr (RC); Renf, Linwood 6 May. Summer records : Inv, L Morlich 2 June (IMcK), Rothiemurchus 29 Aug (AGG); Lan, Douglas 27 June (MSCH, KCRH); Aber, Kintore 7 June (Mr Fizzell); Suth, Drumbeg 8 July (A. C. Meakin).

Autumn migration—rather poor season : Fair Isle singles 1 Aug, 5-9th, 10th (3), 12th, 18 Aug, 5 Oct (RAB); Shet, Foula 13 Aug, 24th (3) (BEG), Tofts 10 Aug; Moray, Findhorn 22 Aug (RSPB); Banff, Forglen 8 Oct (N. K. Wilson); Aber, Ythan 15-16 Aug (PDR), 3 Don estuary 17 Aug (RSBy); Angus, 2 Montrose 14 and 28 Aug (GMC), Brechin 6 Oct (AB); Perth, Kingoodie 12 July (EJM, MN); Kinross, L Leven 11 and 20 Aug (AA); Fife Ness 17 Sep (DWO); Isle of May 15 Aug (ADW); W Loth, 2 L Cote 15 Aug (IMcK); Peeb, Portmore 25 Aug, Edgelaw 29 Sep (LLJV); Whin Pond 21 Nov (GLS); E Loth, Tynninghame 27 July (GLS), 16 Sep-Dec (TB, RWJS), Whiteadder 16-23 Sep (AWGJ), Aberlady 18 Aug (SdaP, SB); Arg, Islay 12 Aug, 14 Sep (KV); Ayr, Irvine 21 Sep (WRB); Renf, Linwood 6 Oct (HG, KS); Lan, Wilderness Quarry 8 Sep, 2 on 17-19 Sep (TPD, BZ), 2 Merryton 17 Nov (HSCH, KCRH), 1 Bothwell Bridge 1 Sep (RN); Wig, Knockinaam 22-23 Aug, 28-30 Aug (GS); Dumfries, 4 on 30 Aug (TN).

***Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*.** Low numbers : no proved reports of breeding; Caith, 1 holding territory 9 June (RWB); E Inv, only 1 sighting 19 June (P. Gepp); 1 Aber 4 June (WRPB).

Spring migrants : Fair Isle, singles 11 days 17 May-3 June, but 3 on 21st, 2 on 22nd (RAB); Shet, Sumburgh 5 May (NLS), Skerries 18 May (ISR), Unst 19 May, 20-25 May (3); Hillwell 19 May, 4 on 20 May (DC, BM), 2 Whalsay 23 May (JHS), Foula 17-18 June (BEG); Ork, Sanday 22 May (CJB); Caith, L of Mey 9 June (RWB); Moray, 2 Portsoy 17 May (JE); Fife, Morton Lochs 21 May (PNJC), 28-29 May (AJB); E Loth, Aberlady 18 May (AB); Dumf, Caerlaverock 18 May (CRGC). Autumn : Shet, Unst 27 Sep (LC), 5 Oct (GB); Aber, 2 Ythan 4 Aug (WM), 1 Loriston 10 Oct (MD); Perth, Carsebreck Sep (PWS); Fife, Eden estuary 28 Aug (EJM); Clack, 2 Alloa 16 Sep (GSh).

Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*. Bred Unst and Mainland, and reports of breeding/summering from 5 areas Shet (per RJT); Ork, bred Kirbister, perhaps Swannay (DL); Fife, bred Largo Bay—1st ever (PGTB). Spring arrivals : 8 Apr Bridge of Allan, Stir, and Braco, Perth (GSh); 13 Apr, Balgray Dam, Renf, mainly from 22nd (HG); 17 Apr, Earlstoun, Kirk (LAU); 18 Apr, Gannochy, Angus (GMC), and Insh, Inv (RL); most areas last week Apr.

Passage : Fair Isle 2-31 May, up to 6 several days, 20 on 6 May, small numbers 5 Aug-27 Sep, max 7 on 20 Sep (RAB); Shet, 9-29 Sep, max 3 Skerries 17 Sep (ISR); Ross, 1 Dingwall 3 Oct (ARM); Moray, 12 Findhorn 31 July (FWW); Inv, peak 10 Insh 10 May, last 19 Aug (RL); Aber, St Combs 7 Oct (AGK); Perth, 8 Port Allen 14 July (EJM); Kinross, 30 Gairney 21 July (GC), last L Leven 6 Oct (CJE); E Loth, 14 Tynninghame 27 Apr (IAGB), last Whiteadder 1 Oct (AWGJ); Ayr, 9 Ballantrae 1 May, 13 on 21 July (WRB, IHL), Renf, 31 Upper Clyde 6 May; Dumb, Endrick mouth 21 Oct (D. M. Stead); Arg, Dunoon 10 Nov (IPG); Angus, West Haven 31 Dec (TMC).

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Peak counts : Ross, 600 Udale 15 Sep, 450 Dalmore 16 Sep, 400 Dingwall 3 Oct (ARM); Inv, 691 Beaully Firth 18 Mar, 500 on 16 Sep (MIH), 600 Longman 18 Feb, 550 on 14 Oct (MR); Angus, 3000 Dundee 9 Oct (EJM); Perth, 1557 Invergowrie 15 Mar, 2886

on 24 Mar, 2476 on 2 Apr and 425 by 24 Apr, 3450 on 13 Sep (RC, EJM); Midl, 420 Musselburgh 18 Mar, 540 on 14 Oct (LLJV); Renf/Dunb, 5212 Upper Clyde 21 Jan, 6317 on 18 Mar, 5462 on 29 July, 9300 on 14 Oct (8100 of them at Bowling harbour roost), 7107 on 9 Dec, a catch of 240 birds for ringing indicated 90% Icelandic on measurements (per IPG); Ayr, 750 Bogside 31 Aug (IMD); 456 Wigtown Merse 20 Oct (RCD). Passage: Fair Isle peaks 40 on 29 Apr, return from 11 July, 40 on 22 Aug, 40-45 on 24-27 Oct (RAB).

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*. Winter-spring records: Renf, Daff Reservoir 29 Apr (HG, RAJ); E Loth, Tynninghame 27-28 Apr (GLS, IAGB, LLJV), Aberlady 5 May (GLS); Perth, 2 Invergowrie 16 June (RC); Angus, Montrose Basin 19 Apr (GMC); Inv, Insh 16-19 Apr (RL, RHD); Moray, Findhorn 8 Apr (RAFKOS); Shet, Unst 24 May, 1 June (GB).

Summary of autumn records from 2 July

	July	Aug		Sept		Oct	Nov
		1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Shet-Inv)		2	2	6	12	3	
East (Moray-Stir)	4	1	14	3	18	4	2
Southeast (Lothians)			2	4	8		
Southwest (Arg-Solway)	1	1	9	15	18		

Noteworthy records include: Fife, 5 Morton Lochs 25 Sep (AJB), 5 St Michaels 24 Sep (KSMcG), 2 Culross 2 Dec (DMB); Dunb, 1 Cardross Bay 2-31 Dec (AGG); Kirk, 5 Tarff estuary 15 Sep (ADW); Dumf, 7 Caerlaverock 1-15 Sep (CRGC).

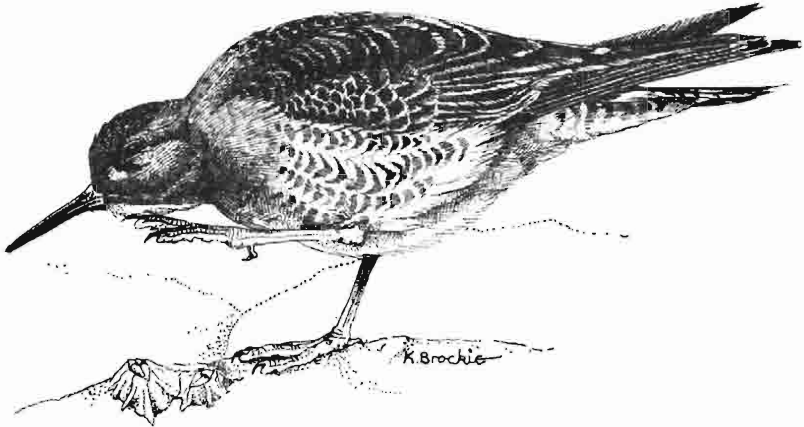
Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. About 30 records of wintering birds north to Cromarty Firth, but mostly in SW where up to 11 wintered Woodhall, Renf, 14 on 18 Feb and 17 on 18 Mar (HG, IPG); north passage from early Mar and birds on breeding grounds end of month: Trantlemore, Suth, 31 Mar (PRJ) and Badnabay 1 Apr (AG). Spring migrants: Handa, Suth, 8 Apr-30 May (AG); Fair Isle, 16-31 May (RAB); Shet, singles Fetlar 29 May, Unst 14 May; Ork, Sanday 17 May (EB).

Autumn passage and peak counts: Shet, 6 Aug-16 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, singles 30 July-22 Sep, 3 on 25 Aug, 2 on 19 Sep, one 2-15 Oct (RAB); Caith, 8 Loch of Mey 4 Aug (AFCMC, SL); Ross, 8 Ainess 9 Dec (ARM), 1 Torridon Oct-1 Dec (JAW); Inv, 8 Lentrane 16 Sep (MIH); Moray, 12 Findhorn 24 Aug (RSPB), 2 on 11 Nov, 1 Burghead 9 Dec (RAFKOS); Angus, 8 Montrose 28 Aug (GMC); Kinross, 8 L Leven 11 Aug, few to Dec (AA); Fife, 10 Tentsmuir 22 Aug (DWO), 10 Guardbridge 26 Sep (AJB), 4 Boarhills Dec (TRG); E Loth, 5 Aberlady 16-26 Aug, Tynninghame from 9 July-11 Nov, max 8 on 26 Aug; Renf, passage Woodhall from 4 July, 26 on 28 Aug, 15 on 11 Nov (HG, IPG); Ayr, 7 Bogside 1 Sep (WRB, IHL); Wig, 8 Luce Bay 23 Aug (RCD); Dumf, Caerlaverock first 1 July, 5 on 4 Aug (CRGC).

Knot *Calidris canutus*. Winter counts: O Heb, 55 Stornoway 26 Feb (WMA); Ross, 3000 Barbaraville 10 Feb (ARM); Inv, 3500 Whiteness 1 Feb (RHD); Midl, 1500 Musselburgh 18 Feb (LLJV); E Loth, 5000 Aberlady Jan, down to 900 in Mar (DRL); Ayr, 1100 Barassie 6 Jan (HG), 900+ Irvine 27 Jan (WRB). Spring passage: 240 Whalsay 14 May, 70 Unst 13 May (JHS, GB).

Autumn passage and counts: Shet, from 27 July, max 40 Virkie 9 Aug (RJT); Fair Isle, from 26 July, max only 6 on 10 Aug and 6 Sep, late one 2-5 Nov (RAB); Ross, 1500 Evanton 14 Nov (ARM); Inv, 1000 Longman 29 Dec (MR); Aber, 22 Ythan 7 Aug, 130 on 5 Sep (PDR); Perth, Invergowrie from 15 July, peak 15 on 9 Aug, last 2 on 4 Oct (RC, EJM); Kinross, 1 L Leven 15 July (AA, GC); Fife, fewer Tentsmuir (RWS), 3200

Largo Bay 18 Dec (JHB); Isle of May, peaks higher than usual: 17 on 1 Sep, 10 on 10 Sep (NJG); Midl, 250 Musselburgh 14 Oct, up to 1300 on 10 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 400 Aberlady 25 Aug, up to 2500 on 11 Nov (DRL); Wig, first 15 Sandhead 24 July (RCD).



Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. Winter-spring counts: Kirk, 32 Southernness 28 Feb (CJMCK-G); Dumf, 1 Caerlaverock 18 May (CRGC); Ayr, 65 Turnberry 26 Mar (RHH), 70 Prestwick 9 May (BCF); Arg, 44 Southend 11 Mar (DLC); E Loth, 93 Yellowcraigs 15 Apr (JHB); Midl, 40 Seafield 13 Apr (AWGJ); Isle of May 120 on 16 Apr (NKA); Fife Ness 200 on 18 Apr-4 May (DWO, JARG); Kinc, 199 Girdle Ness 13 Jan (RWS); Moray, 114 Lossiemouth 3 Mar, 120 Burghead 3 Mar, 3 on 19 May (RHD); Suth, 15 Handa 7 May (AG); Caith, 72 Thurso 11 Apr (SL); O Heb, 60 Stornoway 13 Mar (WMA), 10-30 Balranald to 21 May (PC); Fair Isle, influx 48 on 27 Mar, up to 16 in Apr, 55 on 1 May, 40 on 4-7th, last 26th (RAB).

Autumn: Fair Isle, first 8 on 19 July, peaks of 60 on 16 Aug, 15 Sep (RAB); O Heb, 45 Causamul 26 July (PC); Caith, 155 Brims Ness 30 Nov (SL); Banff, 200 Portessie 30 Dec (JE); Angus, 1 Dundee airport roost 27 Oct (EJM); Kinc, first Girdle Ness 9 Aug (MN), 204 on 14 Dec (PDR, AGK); Isle of May, 10 on 15 July, 408 on 8 Oct (HG); E Loth, 69 Aberlady 9 Dec (DRL); Ayr, 85 Ardrossan 15 Nov (IPG).

Little Stint *Calidris minutus*. 10 spring records: Angus, 1 Montrose 10 June (GMC); Aber, 2 Scotstoun Head 9 June (PDR, JRP); Fife, 1 Tentsmuir 19 May (MN, EJM); Ayr, 1 Doonfoot 25 May (WRB), 3 on 26 May (IHL), 1 Dipple Shore 24 May; Dunb, 1 Endrick mouth 3 June (DS); Dumf, 1 Caerlaverock 18 May (CRGC)—the total of spring records in the five years 1968-72 is only 6.

Autumn numbers very high, 250-300 birds from 12 Aug, but about 75% in second half Sep:

	Summary of autumn records from 12 Aug				Oct	Nov
	Aug		Sept.			
	1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Shet-O Heb-Inv)		2	1	40	10	
East (Moray-Stir)		12	5	75	4	1
Southeast (Lothians)	1	2	6	39	9	
Southwest (Arg-Solway)		5	4	32	8	

Noteworthy records and peaks include : Fair Isle 10 on 18 Sep (RAB); Shet, 5 Skerries 17-20 Sep (ISR); Ork, 1-4 North Ronaldsay 1-7 Oct (RG); Caith, 5 Thurso 22 Sep (PMC, SL); O Heb, 3 Balranald 30 Sep (PC); Aber, 8 Meikle Loch 23 Sep (PSh), 10 Don estuary 25 Sep (RBH); Kinross, 1 St Serfs 2 Nov (AA); Fife, 7 Tentsmuir 24 Sep (DWO), 8 Morton Lochs 29 Sep (TJH); Stir, 17 Skinflats 28 Sep (TJH); Clack, 10 Black Devon mouth 19 Sep (DMB, CJH); W Loth, 1 Blackness Castle 9-31 Dec (RWJS); Midl, 8 Cobbinshaw 28 Sep (GLS); E Loth, 4 Aberlady 23 Sep, 8 Tynninghame 16 Sep, 4 Whiteadder 23 Sep (AWGJ); Arg, 11 L Indaal, Islay 22 Sep (KV); Ayr, 6 Maiden's Harbour 20 Sep (WRB, RHH); Dunb, 5 Ardmore 27 Aug (SMDA); Dumf, 4 Caerlaverock 29 Sep (CRGC).

***Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*. N Scotland site: first 2 (one 1st year) on 4 June, 3 later in month (RHD), at least 1 pr probably bred successfully (CGH). Migrants: Midl, Musselburgh 28-30 May (IB-P *et al.*), 11 June (KSMcG *et al.*); Shet, Unst 22 Sep (GB); Angus, Dundee airport 9 Oct (EJM).

***White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis*. Singles Ork, Sanday 23 July (DL), Deerness 28 Oct (CJB, CMB); Shet, Grutness 7-11 Nov (DC, L. Dalziel *et al.*)—brings total to 11 in Scotland.

***Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*. Seven records compared to a total of 5 birds in the five years 1968-72. Particularly interesting is one Altnabreac, Caith, 8 June (RWB, CJMcK-G) (8 : 72-3); autumn singles Shet, Skerries 31 Aug-6 Sep (ISR, SR, BM), Whalsay 9 Sep (JHS), Loch of Cliff, Unst, 23-24 Sep (GB, LC); Fair Isle 29-30 Aug, 20-24 Sep (both ringed) (RAB); Aber, Strathbeg 21-25 Sep (RWS *et al.*).

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. 28 prs bred Unst, Shet (GB); 33 prs bred Balranald, O Heb (PC). Peak counts: Suth, 250 Brora 17 Jan (RHD), 500 Dornoch 29 Sep (DMcD); Ross, 500 Nigg 24 Jan (RHD), 1000 Dalmore 9 Feb (ARM), 900 Evanton 11 Nov (ARM); Inv, 600 Longman 6 Feb (RHD), 400 Lentran 18 Mar (MIH); Moray, 700 Findhorn 3 Mar, 600 on 10 Nov (RHD); Angus, 10,000 Dundee airport 9 Oct (EJM); Perth, Invergowrie 3000+ on 9 Jan, 1746 on 11 Feb, 360 by 21 Mar, 5740 on 4 Dec (EJM); Midl, 3700 Musselburgh 18 Feb, 950 on 6 May, 230 on 16 Sep, 1450 on 14 Oct, 1600 on 10 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 2100 Aberlady Jan, 1200 on 5 May, 885 on 16 Sep; Ayr, 2200 Barassie 10 Mar (WRB); Renf/Dunb, 6200+ Upper Clyde 24 Feb (when 4800 Cardross), 481 on 29 July, 203 on 26 Aug, 877 on 16 Sep, 1783 on 14 Oct, 5529 on 11 Nov (per IPG), 4200 Woodhall 20 Nov (IPG); Wig, 500 Calliness Bay 11 Aug (AFA).

Peaks inland waters: Kinross, 80 St Serf's 16-30 Oct (AA, CJE); Midl, 8 Gladhouse 6 Jan is rare, 40 Gladhouse 10 Nov (RWJS); 56 Harperrig 17 Sep, 194 on 20th, 42 on 28th (GLS), 130 Cobbinshaw 17 Sep, 170 on 29th (GLS); E Loth, 20 Whiteadder 16 Sep (AWGJ). Migration: Fair Isle, max 8 in Aug, 10 to 15 Sep, then an influx larger than usual, 75 on 17th, 100 on 21st, 115 on 22nd, some to mid Oct, stragglers to 8 Nov (RAB); Shet, peaks 50 Stenness 20 Sep, 60 Virkie 26 Sep; O Heb, peaks Balranald 77 on 11 May 150 on 7 Oct (PC), 350 Ardvule 25 Aug (DWR).

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*. One Kirkmaiden, Wig, 2 Feb (AMGK, JW); no spring records. Reasonable numbers autumn passage from 16 July, mainly Sep.

Summary of autumn records

July	Aug		Sept		Oct	Nov
	1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (O Heb-Shet-Inv)		1 2		8	7	
East (Moray-Stir)	1	1 13	10	18	9	
Southeast (Lothians)	1	6	9	16	1	
Southwest (Arg-Solway)	1	1	32	15	13	1

Peak counts and noteworthy records : O Heb, 3 Balranald 14 Oct (PC); Ross, 6 Dalmore 22 Sep (ARM); Angus, 8 Dundee airport 27 Sep (EJM); Perth, 9 Invergowrie 27 Aug, 7 on 13 Sep (RC, EJM, ECP); Stir, 1 Skinflats 16 July (BZ), 4 on 28 Sep (TJH); E Loth, 5 Aberlady 16 Sep; Ayr, 15 Barassie 8 Sep (AB, WRB, RHH); Renf, 6 Irvine 8 Sep (WRB), 10 Erskine 30 Sep (IPG, HG); Dumf, 10 Eastriggs 6 Oct (NEA, RTS), last Erskine 11 Nov (IPG).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*. Winter counts : O Heb, 160 Hallam, S Uist, 22 Mar (DWR); Suth, 15 Brora 17 Jan (RHD). Spring passage : Fair Isle 7-8 May (RAB); Shet, 2 Whalsay 8 June (JHS), 3 Fetlar 5-8 June (RAH); O Heb, 135 Balranald 11 June, last 18 June (PC); Aber, 45 Balmedie 2 May (RLS); Angus, 51 Elliot 27 May (MN); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 30 May (AB); E Loth, 20 Aberlady 5 May (DRL), 11 on 18th, 5 on 25 May (AB), 1 Tynninghame 3 June (RWJS); Arg, 11 L Indaal 15 June (AWGJ); Ayr, 35 Dipple Shore 24 May (RHH); Suth, singles Handa 23 May, 2 June (AG), 6 Balnakeil 17 June (RHD) and an amazing record of 2 display-flying over a high mountain NW Suth on 15 June (AG).

Autumn : Fair Isle, 14 July-25 Sep max 5 on 18 Aug (RAB); Shet, 8 July-5 Oct, max 25 Virkie 18 Aug (RJT); O Heb, Balranald from 13 July, max 57 on 10 Sep (PC); Caith, 4 Aug-20 Sep, max 24 Dunnet 24 Aug, one 2 Dec (PMC, SL); Ross, 6 Red Point 13 Aug (ENH); 37 Nairn 2 Sep (RHD); 40+ Aberdeen 4 Dec (J. F. Dunn); Perth, 7 Invergowrie 5 Aug, singles to 13 Sep (EJM); Fife, max 250 Tentsmuir 28 Aug (DWO); Isle of May 19-22 Aug, 4 on 1-2 Sep (AJW, THBM); Midl, Musselburgh from 10 July, max 12 on 11 Aug (AB), 2 Gladhouse 15 July (RWJS); E Loth, Aberlady 20 July-16 Sep, max 33 on 7 Aug (IAGB), Tynninghame 19 Aug-14 Oct, 35 on 19 Aug (TD, KSMcG); I Heb, 38 Tiree 23 July (DCL); Ayr, 35 Barassie 23 Sep (HG).

***Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*.** Three records bringing the Scottish total to 10; E Loth, Aberlady Bay 7-9 Sep (HG, BZ, WW); Fair Isle, 21 Sep (RAB, N. Riddiford, D. J. Holman *et al.*); Fife, Tentsmuir 30 Sep (DMB).

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*. High numbers, exceptional autumn passage. Winter counts-spring passage : 14 wintered Aberlady, E Loth, last 3 by 9 Apr (RHH, GLS, LLJV); Fife, none winter-spring; Perth, singles Invergowrie 22-24 Mar, 5 Apr, 21 Apr (EJM, ECP), Seaside 8 Mar (RLMcM); O Heb, 1 Balranald 29 May, 2 on 3 June (PC); Arg, 1 Keills 7 June (IR); Shet, Hillwell 19-21 May (DC, BM); Fair Isle, 28 and 31 May (RAB); Renf, 1 Longhaugh 26 Apr (IPG); Dumf, 1 Caerlaverock 15 May (CRGC), 1 Dumfries 10 Jan-15 Feb (TN).

Exceptional numbers on autumn passage, especially in Shetland; the following summary shows the minimum number of birds involved; some records, especially of smaller numbers, were not detailed.

Summary of autumn records

	July	Aug		Sept		Oct	Nov
		1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Shet-O Heb-Inv)	11	30	12	109	220	9	1
East (Moray-Stir)	3	28	26	54	34	16	1
Southeast (Lothians)	1	7	7	9	17	24	20
Southwest (Arg-Solway)	3	19	22	21	11	2	2

Peak counts and noteworthy records include : Fair Isle, from 27 July, peaks : 11 on 5-7 Aug, 60 on 17-18 Sep, 20-24 on 19-21 Sep (RAB); Shet, peaks, 84 Sumburgh 9 Sep, 18 Unst 23-24 Sep, 20 Skerries 17 Sep, 17 Fetlar 20 Sep, 23 Eshaness 25 Sep, 60 Melby 23 Sep (RJT *et al.*); Caith,

7 L of Mey 5 Aug (PMC, SL); Suth, 6 Handa 4 Aug (RHD, AG), 5 Dornoch 3 Sep (DMcD); Ross, 6 Morrich 2 Sep (CGH); O Heb, 5 Balranald 29 July (PC); Aber, 16 Ythan 3 Sep (PDR); Angus, 37 Montrose 8 Sep (JAC); Kinross, 16 Levenmouth 5 Aug (AA); Fife, 14 Eden estuary 14 Oct (AJB), 12 Cameron reservoir 18 Sep (JARG); E Loth, 12 Aberlady 26 Sep, 24 on 10 Oct, 18-20 Nov-Dec; Renf, 7 Linwood 6 Sep (DLC, HG, IPG); Wig, 9 Kirkcolum 15 Sep (RCD); Dumf, 11 Caerlaverock early Aug, 12 in early Sep (CRGC).

**Avocet Recurvirostra avosetta*. Two: one Culbin Bar, Nairn/Moray, flew off high to S 1 Apr (RAFKOS); 1 Tynninghame, E Loth, 15 Apr (TB, RWJS).

**Grey Phalarope Phalaropus fulicarius*. Eight records: 2 in full summer plumage midway Shet-Fair Isle 25 May (DC); Ork, 3 Redland, Firth, 9 Sep (R. G. Scott); Suth, 1 Handa Sound 3 Sep (AG); E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 11 Oct (GLS); O Heb, 1 found dead Balallan, Lewis, Oct/Nov (IMMcL). *Phalarope* sp. 1 Fetlar 8 Oct (J. Coutts).

Red-necked Phalarope Phalaropus lobatus. Breeding reports: did not breed Balranald, O Heb (PC); none Ork (EB); first Fetlar, Shet, 18 May, most 23-24 May, max 28, last 28 Aug (RSPB). Migrants: Shet, Whalsay 22 Aug (JHS), Foula 28 July (BEG); Fair Isle, 1st year 5-6 Aug (RAB); W Ross, 1 Shieldaig Hotel bay 25 July (W. Wood); Angus, ♀ Duns Dish 9 June (NKA); Kinross, 1st year Levenmouth 10-11 Aug (AA).

**Wilson's Phalarope Phalaropus tricolor*. One Lerwick, Shet, 7-21 Sep (M. R. Lawn, G. Robertson *et al.*); 6th Scottish record.

**Collared Pratincole Glareola pratincola*. One Loch of Mey, Caith, 4 Aug (SL)—7th Scottish record.

Great Skua Stercorarius skua. Breeding counts: Shet, 254 prs Unst (GB), 221 prs, 185 proved to breed, Noss (PKK); 13 prs Fair Isle, first eggs c/2 14 May (RAB); Ork, still increasing (EB); Suth, 2 prs with eggs Eilein nan Roan 7 June (DS), 5 prs reared 5 young Handa, 10 non-breeders (AG); O Heb, 12 prs Gress, Lewis (IMcL). Arrivals: at sea off Bressay, Shet, 15 Feb, 1st Fetlar 30 Mar; Fair Isle, 6 on 3 Apr, more from 10 Apr (RAB); O Heb, 1st Balranald 31 Mar (PC). Last records: Shet, last Whalsay 26 Oct (JHS); Fair Isle, last 22 Oct, but stragglers 29-30th, 2 Nov (RAB); last Hoy, Ork, 30 Oct (NEB).

Migration: E Ross, 8 Tarbat Ness 29 Sep (ARM), 4 Gairloch 18 Aug (ENH), singles Moray Firth July-Oct; Kinc, peaks Girdle Ness 4 on 9 Aug, 5 on 13 Aug (AGK, PDR); Midl, late singles Musselburgh 15 Nov and 8 Dec (LLJV *et al.*); E Loth, 4 Tynninghame 30 Sep (RWJS, LLJV).

**Pomarine Skua Stercorarius pomarinus*. Spring-summer: Fair Isle 14 May (GJB); Suth, 4 Handa 11 June (AG); Arg, 1 Laggan Bay, Islay, 9 July (GJL). Return passage: Shet, 1 died Whalsay 9 Oct (BM, JHS); O Heb, 1 found dead North Lochs, Lewis, 13 Nov (PGH); Ross, 1N Tarbat Ness 16 Nov (RHD); Inv, 4 Whiteness 11 Oct, one 15th, 2 on 12 Dec (RHD); Moray, 1 Burghead 10 Nov (RHD), 2 on 18 Dec (RSBy); Aber, 4 Rattray 18 Aug (ACBH, AGK, PDR), 1 Don estuary 26 Aug (SRL), 2N Cruden Bay 13 Oct, 1S on 17 Oct (ACBH), 1 Ythan 15 Oct (PDR), 5N Collieston 27 Oct, 1N Aberdeen 18 Nov (MHe); Kinc, 1N Girdle Ness 3 Oct (RBH); Angus, 2 West Haven 22 Aug, one 11 Nov (TMC), 1 Usan 1 Sep (NKA); Fife, Tentsmuir 4 Aug (DWO), Fife Ness 30 Sep (AB, RHH), 4 Oct (EJM); Isle of May 19 Sep (ADW); Midl, Seafeld 11 Nov (RDM); E Loth, Gosford 1 Sep (KCRH, HSCH), Aberlady 21 Oct (LLJV, HG, BZ), 10 Nov (KSMcG), Tynninghame 28 Oct (LLJV); Ber, 9 St Abbs Head in 1 hour 13 Oct (LLJV); Wig, Loch Ryan 25 Aug (PME).

Arctic Skua Stercorarius parasiticus. Breeding counts: Shet, c130 prs Unst (GB), 39 prs Noss (PKK); Fair Isle, 106 prs, first egg 18 May (RAB);

O Heb, 5 prs Lewis (IMMcL); Suth, 1 pr bred Handa, 2 young, 6 non-breeders (AG). Arrivals: 13 Apr, Handa, Balranald and Shet Mainland (AG, PC, RJ); 18 Apr, 16 Fair Isle, fewer until 24 on 2 May, 80 on 8th (RAB); last records on breeding grounds Fair Isle 28-29 Sep, Unst, Shet, 5 Oct, Melbost, O Heb, 29 Sep.

Migration and counts: usual summer-autumn coastal records; more E coast especially adult light-phase Fife; Suth, 15S per hour Handa 8 Aug (AG); Ross, 20N Rhu Reidh 7 May (RHD), 10N on 10 May (ENH), 8 Tarbat Ness 29 Sep (ARM); Inv, 12 Whiteness 13 Aug, 15 on 30 Aug (RHD); Aber, 7N Rattray 21 Oct (ACBH); Kinc, 20S Girdle Ness 9 Aug (PDR); Angus, 20 West Haven 22 Aug (TMC), early record Johnshaven 4 Mar (NKA), last Kinnaber 29 Dec (JAC); Perth, Invergowrie 5 Aug-11 Oct, max 16+ 29 Aug and 10 on 11 Sep (RC, EJM); Fife, 32 Eden estuary 4 Aug were mainly pale phase adults (DWO), 27 Fife Ness in 7 hrs 29 Sep (RHH); Isle of May, more than usual 4 Aug-17 Oct, max 17 on 10 Oct (HG); Midl, 18 Aug-5 Oct, max 5 Seafield 12 Sep (AB), one 26 Oct (AWGJ); E Loth, peaks 10 Tynninghame 30 Sep (LLJV), 11 Aberlady 8 Aug, 13 on 2 Sep, last 2 on 13 Oct, 12 Gosford Bay 20 Aug; 8 singles Dunb-Dumf, last L Ken, Dumf 25 Nov (RHH).

***Long-tailed Skua** *Stercorarius longicaudus*. Singles: Whalsay, Shet, 13 May (JHS); ad Balnakeil, Suth, 24 June (P. J. Gepp); Usan, Angus, 2 Aug (GMC); ad Tentsmuir, Fife, 23 July (DWO, JWSM); Aberlady, E Loth, 8 Aug (AB).

***Ivory Gull** *Pagophila eburnea*. Ad Dunnet Bay, Caith, eating dead seal on beach, 18-23 Dec (PMC, G. G. Bates, SL). First since 1969.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. 1 pr reared 1 young L Thom, Renf; 1 pr attempted to nest Isle of May; increase reported O Heb and Isle of Fleet, Galloway; Shet, 230 prs Noss, 15 prs Skerries. Counts: Fair Isle bad weather peaks 1000 on 11th and 18 Feb, 1100 on 6-10 Sep, 1600 on 15 Oct, 1000 on 5-7 and 19 Nov (RAB); Inv, 573 Longman dump 21 Jan (JMC), 80 L Garten inland roost 12 Feb (RHD); O Heb, 400 Laxdale 27 Oct; 600 Bell Rock 7 Dec (MN).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. 1000 prs nested Isle of May, c1200 culled (NCC); 350 prs Craighleith, Forth, 19 May (LLJV); 6 prs Noss, Shet, is a decrease (PKK). Arrivals: few wintered; 2 Mar, first Invergowrie, Perth (EJM); 6 Mar, 16 Granton, Midl (AWGJ); 7 Mar, Unst, Shet (GB); 10 Mar, 4 at Bathgate, W Loth (ImCK); 9 Mar, Stirling (DMB); 11 Mar, O Heb and Aber; most last week of Mar.

Scandinavian birds *L.f. fuscus*: Skerries, Shet, 20 Apr (ISR); White-ness, Inv, 1 Feb (RHD); Doonfoot, Ayr, 5 Feb (RHH), 2 on 8 Feb (AGS).

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. c9000 prs nested Isle of May, c9500 culled (NCC); 85 prs Inchmickery, 100 culled—1 pr bred, 90 prs Fidra, 80 culled (RSPB); c5000 prs Craighleith (RWJS); 1 pr bred Rosslynlea Reservoir, first for Moorfoots (RWJS); 300 prs Handa, Suth, low success (AG).

Counts: Fair Isle 2-3000 16-19 Jan, 5000 on 6 Nov, 3000 on 19 Nov, 2000 on 27-30 Dec (RAB); Inv, huge influx inner Moray Firth Dec following sprat invasion, c30,000 in Beaully/Inner Moray Firth 12 Dec (RHD), L Garten inland roost 200 on 12 Feb, 350 on 6 Apr (RHD); 5000+ Ayr 23 Feb (AGS); Renf, 5000+ West Ferry winter roost. Inverness, albino (present each year since 1957) 1-26 Jan, 22 July-Dec (JMC, MR et al.); albino on RNVR Carrick, Glasgow, Jan-Dec, at least 13 yrs old.

Common Gull *Larus canus*. 1 pr reared one young Fair Isle, 2nd record (RAB); Midl, pr bred Fala Flow; E Loth, 6-7 prs bred Lammermuirs is further colonization (AEH); 250 prs L Thom, Renf, failed due to persecution.

Counts and passage : Fair Isle, 65 on 20 Apr, 400 on 22 Apr, 100 on 4 Aug, 300 on 6th, 250 on 16th and 25th, 500 on 6 Sep, 200 on 18th (RAB); Shet, 200+ Fetlar 17 Mar, 70 Skerries 27 Aug (ISR); Inv, huge influx Beauly and Inner Moray Firths after sprats in Dec (cf Herring Gull), c10,000 on 12 Dec (RHD); 1300 Girdle Ness, Kinc, 28 Nov (MN); 5000 Doonfoot, Ayr winter roost (WRB).

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*. Rather low numbers : present all months.

Summary of records (individuals per 2-month periods)

	Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-June	July-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
North						
(Shet to E Inv)	17	10	5	5	16	59
West (W Inv, Clyde, O Heb, I Heb)	5	6	7	6	3	
East						
(Moray-Stirling)	4	7	1		9	17
South (South of Clyde-Forth)	6	3	1	1	4	4

Noteworthy records include : Shet peaks 6 Hillwell 11 Nov, 5 Whalsay 12 Dec (per RJT); Fair Isle 7 on 26 Nov (RAB); Caith, 10+ Wick 28 Dec (PMC, RHD, SL); Suth, 2 Embo, ad present to 15 Apr returned 14 Oct, imm to 4 Mar, return 29 Oct (DMcD, RHD *et al.*); Inv, 3 Mallaig 28 Mar (ADKR); Aber peak 7 Kinnairds Head 25 Nov (RBH).

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides*. About 50 individuals recorded : Shet, singles Lerwick 19 Apr, 28 Oct, 16 Dec (ISS, DC, AO), Unst 9-14, 22 May (MS), Kergord 7 Oct (ISS); Fair Isle 18 Feb, 19 Nov, 27-31 Dec (RAB); Ork, Stromness 5 Nov (MAMcD); O Heb, Stornoway 18 Feb, 10 May (WAJC, RMcI); Caith, 2 Thurso 14-19 Jan (PMC, SL), 30 Dec (PMC), Wick 9 Feb, 5 on 28 Dec (PMC, RHD, SL); Suth, Kylesku 30 Mar and 21 Apr, Handa 27 June (RHD, AG); Inverness 17 Feb (RHD), 17 Mar, 28 Mar, 17 Apr (RHD, JMC), Flemington 22 Oct (JMC); Aber, Don 2 Dec; Kinc, Girdle Ness 27 Jan, 24 Oct-9 Dec (PDR, ACBH); Midl, Newhaven 15 Mar-12 Apr, 2 on 28 Mar (AWGJ, LLJV); Arg, Islay 16 Sep (KV), Dunoon 25 Aug (IPG); Ayr, Doonfoot 7 Jan, Ayr 30 Aug (WRB, RHH, IHL); Renf, Paisley Moss 18 Nov (RWF, HG); Lan, Possil Marsh 27 Feb, Wilderness Quarry 28 Feb (TPD); Dunb/W Stir, Endrick mouth (first ever) (TPD, HG).

***Bonaparte's Gull** *Larus philadelphia*. Sub-adult Scourie, Suth, 7 June (RWB, CJMcK-G) (8 : 76-7).

Little Gull *Larus minutus*. Regular Angus-Fife as usual; counts : Fife, Kilconquhar 2 on 8 Apr, 6 on 29 July, 56 on 4 Aug, 210 on 7th, 150+ 11-26 Aug, last 29 Sep (DWO, PAL, JARG), 150 Tentsmuir 7 Aug (DWO), 51 Fife Ness 4 Aug (PAL), 3 (1 ad) in gull colony 26 June (MN, EJM); Angus, counts incomplete, peak 200 West Haven 22 Aug (TMC). Elsewhere : Caith, 2 Shalmistry 1 Oct (PMC, JMW); O Heb, Borve, Benbecula, 1 Sep (RWS); E Ross, Dalmore 19 May (ARM), Tarradale 9 Sep (MIH); Moray, Findhorn 2 June (J&DTh); Aber, 11 Meikle Loch 19 July, 3 on 27 July (RHH, WM), 3 Strathbeg 25 Sep (AGK); Perth, Invergowrie 9 Feb, 11 Feb (3), 22 Apr (7) (EJM); Stir, 11 Aug Skinflats (TDHM); Midl, more Musselburgh, 3 on 27 June (IB-P), 2 on 10 July, one to 24 July, 4 on 2 Oct, 10 on 4 Oct-9 Nov, 21 on 10 Nov, 5 on 14th, one 18th (AB, GLS, LLJV), 2 Seafield 29 May (GLS); E Loth, 2 Aberlady 3 Nov (GJ), Tynninghame 11 Nov (TB, RWJS); Arg, L Indaal, Islay, 17 Sep (KV); Ayr, Doonfoot 3-28 Feb (WRB, RHH, MFMM), 21 Aug (JLB), 30 Oct-3 Nov (WRB), 2 Martnaham 12 Aug (WRB), Renf, 3 Barr Loch 23 Oct (HG);

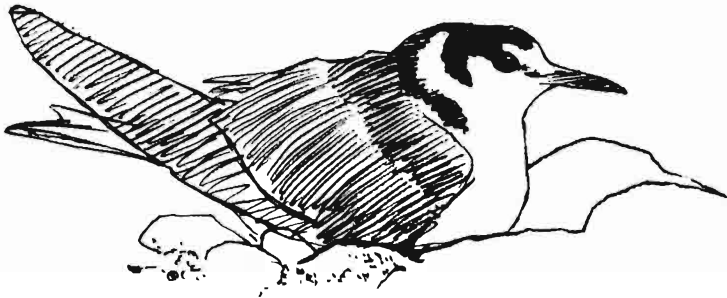
Lan, Roughriggs 20 Aug (KCRH, HSCH); Kirk, 2 L Stroan 14 June (ADW, AJW).

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. Shet, 120 prs bred Norwick, Unst, 90 arrived on 23 Mar; Inv, good season Insh—c1200 prs (RL); Kinross, good breeding season St Serf's, 7500 prs (AA); Fife, poor season due to low water levels (DWO); decrease Arran (MHD); Ayr, 800 prs L Macatterick (WRB).

Counts and passage: Fair Isle peaks 20 on 16 Apr, 5 Aug, 23-24 Aug (RAB); Foula 50 on 1 Aug (BEG); Ross, 450 Invergordon 16 Nov (RHD); Inv, main arrival L Garten roost 2500+ on 9 Mar, 3500 on 26 Mar, 6000 on 7-14 Apr (RSPB), 5000 Beaully Firth-Longman 12 Dec (RHD); Ayr, 10,000+ Barassie 27 Jan, c10,000 Doonfoot Aug-Dec (WRB); peak Upper Clyde, Dunb-Renf, 26,274 on 16 Sep (per IPG).

***Sabine's Gull** *Larus sabini*. 6-7 individuals compared to 3 1968-72: 2 1st-yr birds near fishing boat Yell-Fetlar 18 Sep (per JHS); 1 Balivanich and 2 Borve, Benbecula, 1 Vorrán Island, S Uist, 1 Sep, 1 Kirkbost N Uist, 2 Sep (RWS, N. E. Buxton) all immms.

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Further increases Fair Isle and Lewis; ashore Fair Isle from mid-Feb (RAB, WAJC). Passage and counts: Ross, 1000N per hr Tarbat Ness 26 July (DWMcA); Inv, 140 Lentran 18 Mar (MIH), 760 Whiteness 30 July, c5000 Beaully and inner Moray Firth 9 Dec (RHD), 80 L Insh 24 Jan (inland) (RL), 250 Corpach 31 Mar, 70 on 21 May (JASN); Aber, 3500N per hr Greyness 24 Apr (MN), 500N per hr Balmedie 26 Apr (RLS); W Loth, 800-1000 South Queensferry and 1000 Grangemouth flew high to west 16 Nov (GLS) (8: 77-8); E Loth, 1000NW per hr Tynninghame 11 Nov (TB, RWJS, EMS), 2300N Eyemouth 26 July (TD); Renf, small numbers E in Mar, Erskine Bridge (HG, IPG).



***Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*. Singles unless stated: 7 in spring, 18 May-5 July; Selk, Essenside Loch 18 May (H. Leschallas); Midl, Gladhouse 18 May (GLS); Fife, Kilconquhar 21 May (PGTB); Angus, Usan 22 May (GMC); Kinc, 2 Girdle Ness 19 May (ADKR); Suth, Naver estuary 5 July (per PRJ).

Autumn, 19 records, 4 Aug-6 Oct; Aber, Ythan 26 Sep (A. Parker, M. J. Grigson), Don estuary 1-6 Oct (RLS, AD); Angus, Usan 9 Sep (GMC); Kinross, Levenmouth 5 Aug (AA), 2 mid-Sep (J. Lowe); Fife, Kilconquhar 4 Aug (PAL), 16 Sep (DWO); Midl, Musselburgh 20 Aug, 24 Aug (different), 30 Sep (BCK, LLJV), Seafeld 19 Sep (GLS); Peeb, Portmore 8 Sep (RWJS); Dumf, Lochmaben 3-5 Sep (NEA, RTS), Caerlaverock 4-7 Sep, 10 Sep, 18 Sep (CRGC, JDo); Perth, 2 L of Lowes 5 Oct (DTH).

***White-winged Black Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*. Two records: Fair Isle 10 June (RAB, NR *et al.*); Ythan estuary, 26 Sep (M. J. Grigson, A. Parker) (8: 32); 10th-11th Scottish records, first since 1970.



PLATE 17 (a) Immature Sabine's Gull and Little Gulls, Borve, Benbecula, 1st September 1975.

Photograph by R. W. Summers

(b) The same Sabine's Gull.

Photograph by R. W. Summers

(c) Ivory Gull: adult at seal carcass, Dunnet Bay, Caithness, December 1975.

Photograph by S. Laybourne



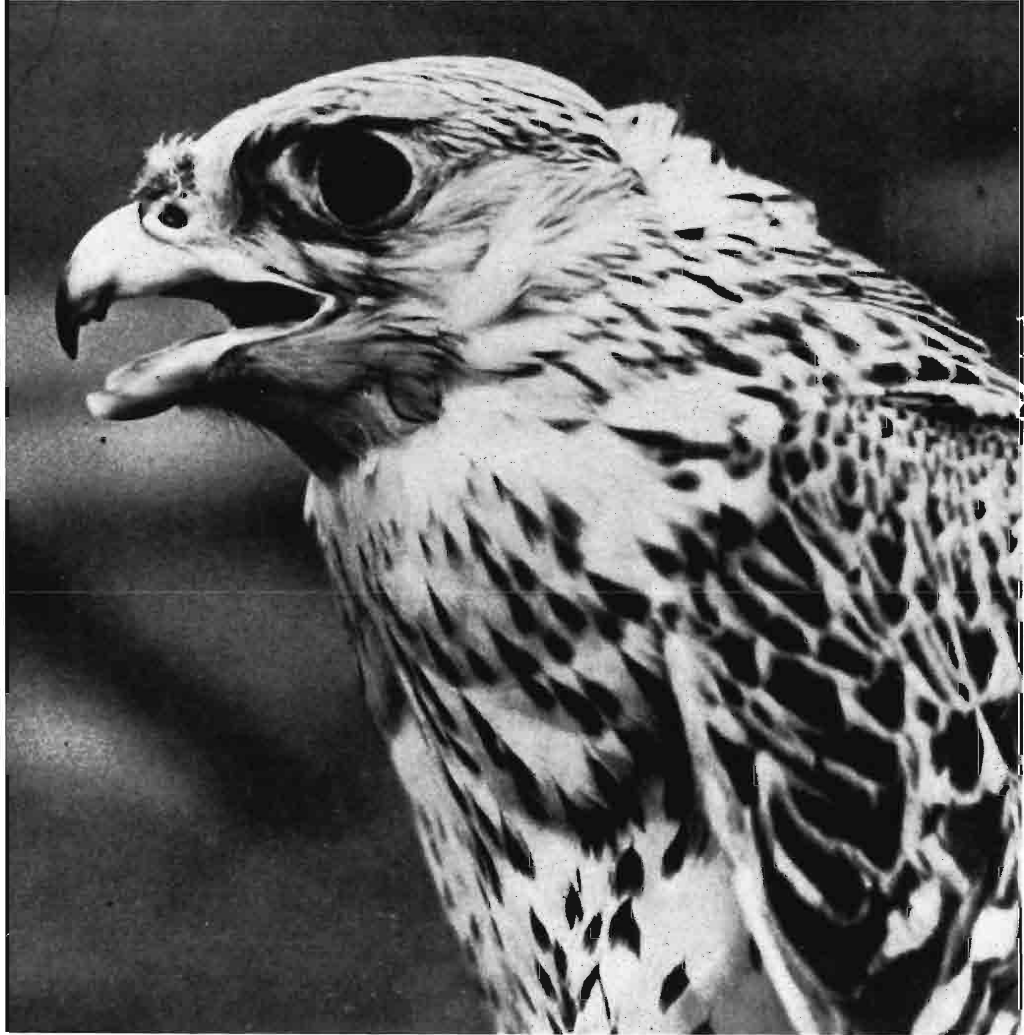


PLATE 18. Gyr Falcon: immature ♂ captured off Outer Hebrides, released Shetland
March 1973.

Photograph by D. Coult



PLATE 19 (a) Rose-coloured Starling, Bigton, Shetland, May 1973.

Photograph by D. Coulls

(b) King Eider: immature ♂ (right) with ♀ Common Eider, Ulsta, Yell, Shetland, May 1973.

Photograph by R. J. Tulloch

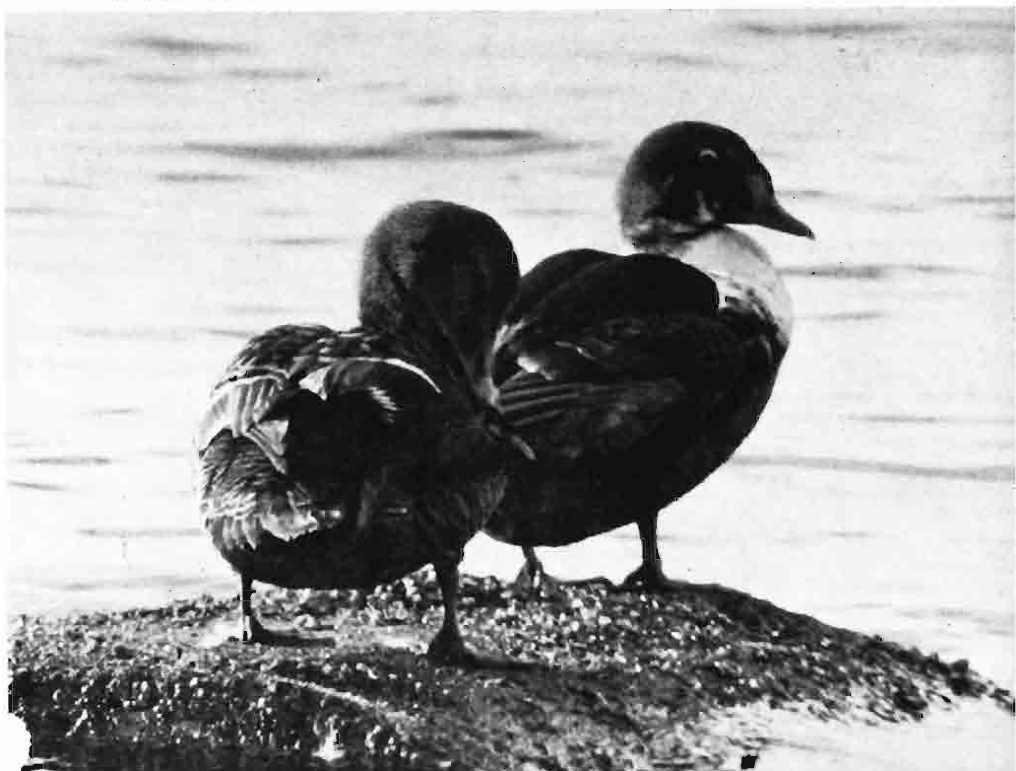




PLATE 20 (a) White-throated Sparrow, Skerries, May 1975. *Photograph by D. Coultts*
(b) Europe's first live Ovenbird, Skerries, 7th October 1975.
Photograph by I. S. Robertson



Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. Fair Isle, 2 prs bred (3rd-4th records) (RAB); Inv, 250 prs nested Whiteness and 50 prs in nearby rig yard—many young reared (RHD); Kinross, poor season St Serf's where 13 prs nested without success (AA); Fife, 300 prs Tentsmuir—2nd clutches fair success (TRG); Isle of May 1 pr nested—1st for 16 years (NJG); 750 prs Inchmickery, Forth (GLS); Ayr, 35 prs Ballantrae robbed.

Arrivals : 15 Apr, Fife Ness (DWO); 26 Apr, 2 Lunan Bay, Angus (GMS); 30 Apr, 2 Handa, Suth (AG); most in first week May. Departures : 2 Oct L Leven, Kinross (AA); 5 Oct, 4 Musselburgh, Midl (LLJV); late one West Haven, Angus, 11 Nov (NKA, EJM). Peak counts : 3000 West Haven, Angus, 27 Sep (TMC); Perth, 600+ "comics" Invergowrie 7 Aug, 940 on 14th, 600+ on 19 Aug (EJM, RC).

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*. Breeding status : Shet, 560 prs Unst, 45 prs Noss—poor season, 550 prs Skerries, good season Whalsay (GB, PKK, ISR, JHS); Ork, 8-10,000 prs Papa Westray (DL); Fife, fairly successful; Midl, 20 prs Fidra—failed (RSPB); Ayr, 20 prs Ballantrae—failed, none Lady Isle. Arrivals : 2 May, Spey Bay, Moray (JMB); 3 May, Kinnaber, Angus (GMC); most from second week May; late records Fair Isle 1 Oct; 2 N Berwick, E Loth 2 Oct (DEA); 2 Don estuary Aber 7 Oct (RBH). Passage : Fair Isle peaks 75 on 26 July, 45 on 6 Aug (RAB).

***Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*.** Becoming very scarce : Midl, 50 prs Inchmickery—only nesting record submitted (RSPB); 2 Musselburgh 24 May, 20 Aug (GLS, LLJV); Fife, continues to get scarcer (DWO); Isle of May 7 July (GCh); 2 Sep (MN), 5 on 23 Sep (ADW); Angus, 2 Usan 3 June (GMC); Ayr, no longer breeding Lady Isle (HG).

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*. Breeding status : O Heb, 12 prs nested Broad Bay (PGH), 2 prs Balranald (PC); Caith, 2 prs and 2 young 31 July Wick (PMC); Suth, none Dornoch; Inv, 3 prs Whiteness (RHD); Aber, only one pr Ythan—very poor year (WM); Fife, better year Tentsmuir 24 prs—fair No. of young (TRG); E Loth, low breeding Nos.; Arg, 4 prs Islay (AWGJ), 13 prs Tiree—only 3 successful (C. J. Cadbury); Ayr, 9 prs one site (MN, EJM); Wig, increase to 5 prs (IHL).

Arrivals : 28 Apr, 5 Tynninghame, E Loth (LLJV); 1 May, 2 Lunan Bay, Angus (GMC); Isle of May 9 July, 3 on 17 July (per NJG); Perth, 2 Invergowrie 6 June, 6 on 7 Aug, one 10 Aug, 4 Port Allen 16 July, 5 on 21 July (RC, EJM, MN); last Balranald, O Heb, 12 Sep (PC); North Berwick, E Loth, 2 Oct (DEA).

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*. Breeding status : Ork, c300 prs (DL); Caith, 40 prs L of Mey (AFCCM, PMC, SL); E Ross, 72 nests Morrich Mor 27 May (CGH); Aber only 150 prs Ythan; Fife none bred; Midl, 340 prs nested successfully Inchmickery (RSPB, RWJS).

Arrivals, departures and passage : 28 Mar Fife Ness (DWO); 31 Mar Tynninghame, E Loth (GJ); 1 Apr, 2 Findhorn, Moray (RAFKOS); main arrivals third week Apr. Shet, 8 records 6 May-21 Sep is above average (RJT); O Heb, 1 Stornoway 18 Sep (PC); Inv, 1200 ad/juvs Whiteness 30 July, 400 on 13 Aug (RHD); Angus, 1000S West Haven 22 Aug (TMC); Perth, 200 Invergowrie 12 Aug, 140 on 26th, 186 on 19 Sep (RC, EJM); Kinross, 7SE L Leven 23 Aug (AA); Fife, 4000 Tentsmuir (30% juvs) 7 Aug, 3000 on 28 Aug (DWO); Isle of May, last 28 Sep. Last records : 5 Oct, 15 Don estuary, Aber (MHe); 7 Oct, 3 Fife Ness (DLC); 24 Oct, 3 Musselburgh, Midl (LLJV); Aberlady, E Loth, 10 Nov (AB, KCRH, HSCH).

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Fair Isle, ashore from 11 Mar to 5 Aug (RAB); Shet, albino Noss, May (PKK); Caith, 1st Scrabster 11 Feb, Nos. slightly down (PMC, SL); Suth, c8000 prs Handa, gone by 14 Aug (AG); no change Forth where 8 prs Lamb, 34 prs Craighleith in June (RWJS); Inv, 300 L nan Uamh 26 May (RHD).

***Little Auk** *Plautus alle*. Very scarce : Shet, only 3 sightings Jan-Mar, 6 Skerries 8 Dec, 8 more to end of year (ISR, RJT); Fair Isle, one 18 Jan, 20 on 22 Dec, seen on crossings Jan and from 9 Nov (RAB); Ork, 1 Stromness 30 Oct (MAMcD); Caith, Thurso 21 Jan, Scrabster Loch (dead) 10 Dec (SL); Moray, dead Burghead 3 Feb (JE); Angus, 2 West Haven 11 Nov (TMC); Fife, 1 in summer plumage flew past Fife Ness 6 Aug (PAL), dead Kingsbarns 24 Feb (JARG); Isle of May, 2 on crossing to Fife 22 Dec (NKA, NJG); Arg, dead Islay 3 Feb (CGB); Ayr, Auchincruive 22 Jan (MEC, CP).

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Fair Isle, ashore through Feb, increase in numbers, last ashore first week Aug, ashore again in early Oct (RAB); Shet, 1000S per hour through Blue Mull Sound 7 Jan (RJT); Caith, 20 ashore Clett Rock 10 Mar (SL); Suth, last ashore Handa 14 Aug (AG); O Heb, 50 prs Canna nesting in boulders (ADKR); Banff, albino Troup Head 28 May (RSPB); Dumf, singles Canonbie 14 Nov (ELOC), Moffat 4 Jan (ED).

Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*. Shet, c90 prs Skerries (ISR); Fair Isle, first chick on sea 3 Aug (RAB); Moray, 4 Burghead 3 Mar (RHD), 4 on 20 Aug (RSPB), 10 Spey Bay 8 Dec (RSBy); Banff, 2 Troup Head 22 Apr (RSPB); E Ross, 2 Kessock 19 Oct (EBt); Aber, 4 Fraserburgh 2 Feb (JE), 1 Inverallochy 2 Dec (J. F. Dunn); E Loth, Gullane Pt 28 Apr, 11 June, 26 Aug-7 Oct (GLS, LLJV); Ayr, 20+ Turnberry Bay 22 Dec (RHH).

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*. Breeding status : Fair Isle, 200 ashore 3 Apr, many from 10th, last 28 Aug, few offshore to 11 Sep, 2 on 30 Oct (RAB); Shet, Skerries 11 Apr-17 Aug (ISR); O Heb, few Shiants 2 Apr, main arrival 10th (PGH); Caith, definite decrease Duncansby (PMC); Suth, 450-500 prs Handa, last ashore 14 Aug (AG), 2 foxes in Clo Mor colony 24 July (DCH); Isle of May continued increase to 3500-4000 prs (NJG); Midl, 450 birds Inchkeith 17 June (EMS), 1400 Craigeleith 16 June (EMS); W Loth, 30 off Hound Point 14 June (IAGB).

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*. Numbers very high Fife (DWO); Perth, max 58 Kingoodie 28 Sep (EJM); E Loth, 25 Tynninghame 9 Dec (TB, EMS, RWJS). Migrants : Fair Isle 20 Apr (RAB); Shet, Skerries 1 June (ISR), Voxter Voe 4 June (P. H. Rathbone)—1st Shet since 1969.

Rock Dove *Columba livia*. Fair Isle, peaks Mar 30, Aug 11, Sep 40, Oct 50, Nov 60 and Dec 7 (RAB); Suth, up to 26 Handa Aug-Sep (AG); O Heb, max 100 Balrarnald 1 Aug (PC); young in nest Ranish, Lewis 15 Aug (PGH).

Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*. Decrease noted Black Isle; 2 prs nested Halligarth, Unst, Shet (GB); increase S Lochs, Lewis (PGH). Migration : Fair Isle from Mar, mainly 1 May-4 June, max 15 on 7 May, stragglers to 9 Oct (RAB); Shet, 14 Unst 24 May; Suth, singles Handa 18, 26-27 May (AG); Kinross 3000 passed Vane Farm in 15 minutes 10 Dec (CJE).

***Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*. No breeding records. Shet, Unst 6 May, 3 records May, 24 records in June, including Skerries 3-19 June, more than usual in autumn from 6 Aug, max 4 Unst 16 Sep, last Lerwick 15 Oct (FH, GB, ISR); Fair Isle, one 6 May, 1-2 daily 16-31 May, 4 on 2-7 June, 1-2 on 9th-10th, 4 on 16th, 3 on 17th-18th, 1-2 on 5 days to 27 June, singles 11 days 30 Aug-21 Sep, 7th, 14-15th, 25-26 Oct, 2 on 23-27 Sep (RAB); Caith, Reaster 5 July (LLJV); Suth, Rhiconich 12 June (DCH); Ross, Torridon 22 May (JAW), L Maree 20 June (ENH); Inv, Gollanfield 15 Sep (RHD); Fife Ness 30 June (DWO), Culross 1 July (DMB); Isle of May 6 May (DWO), 19-21 May (JHBM); Ber, 2 St Abbs Head 20 May (TB, EMS, RWJS); Arg, 2 Islay 9 and 17 June, one 25 July (CGB), Ardnarmurchan 17 June (RL).

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. Breeding status: Shet, bred Scalloway, Lerwick and Unst: 29 Halligarth in Sep, 11 summered Foula (BEG); Caith, 180 Scrabster House 11 Sep (PMC); O Heb, 16 Carloway 15 May (WAJC); Perth, roost max 200+, 15 Dec (RLMcM); Fife, still increasing but absent some areas (DWO); Renf, 398 Blackhill roost, Glasgow, early Oct (TPD). Migration: Fair Isle 3 May-3 Sep, peaks 8 on 16 May, 16 on 6 June, 13 on 15-16th, 12 on 21st, 18 on 24 June (RAB); Suth, singles Handa 16-17 May, 16-22 June and 3 July (AG); Isle of May, singles 7 days 3-19 May, 3-4 June, 30 July (NJG); Inv, 1 L Garten 5 July (RSPB), 1 Carn Ban Mor at 3000 ft 17 July (AB).

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. Arrivals: 7 Apr Strathmiglo, Fife (DWO); 21 Apr Islay (CGB); 25 Apr Moor of Genoch, Wig (RCD), Melrose, Rox and Moorfoots, Midl (per WB); mainly last days Apr and early May. More in Lochaber, Inv (JCu), fewer in Caith (PMC); Shet, 1 juv Tresta 25 July—only known breeding report (J. Tait). Migration: Fair Isle, late, 2-6 daily 18-25 May, 1-2 to 24 June, singles 6 July, 14 days 5 Aug-1 Sep, 17th and 25 Sep (RAB); Shet, from 6 May, late ones Helendale 21 Sep, Noss 24 and 26 Sep (PKK); Ork, last Holm 20 Sep (EB); Isle of May 4 May-11 Sep (NJG).

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*. Breeding status: Kirk, continues high; S Ayr possible increase (RHH); good Nos. Arran (MHD); Borders probable increase (AJS); W Loth, 5 prs known (IMcK); Fife, possibly fewer (DWO); Inv/E Ross, possible increase. Numbers apparently higher throughout country probably due to mild winters (RHD). Migrants: single light-breasted birds at Garrabost, Lewis, O Heb 28 Feb (RMcI) and Skerries, Shet 3-5 June—later found dead, first in Shet for 20 years (ISR).



***Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca*. Shet, up to 4 Fetlar Jan-Feb, 6 (2♂♂) on 14 Mar, 6 in Apr, 3-4 in May, pr with 5 eggs on 23 May, all hatched by 18 June, 2 reared, but one died 6 Sep, another (young) ♀ joined ♂, laid 1st egg 27 May, but 3 egg clutch deserted 12-14 June, 2 extra ♀♀ on 6 June, 5 in Sep, some to Dec (RSPB), Unst, one 23 Apr, one May, 2 on 1 June, singles 2nd and 14 June (per RJT), ♂ Noss 22 June (PKK), 1 North Roe 12 Sep (per RJT); Fair Isle, imm ♂ 26 Mar, ad ♂ 9 May (RAB); O Heb, pr Jan-Dec (RMcI, WAJC)—no suggestion of breeding, imm ♂ Balranald, N Uist, 17 May-1 Sep (PC).

***Little Owl** *Athene noctua*. None reported Midl; at least one Canonbie, Dumf, mid-Oct (ELOC).

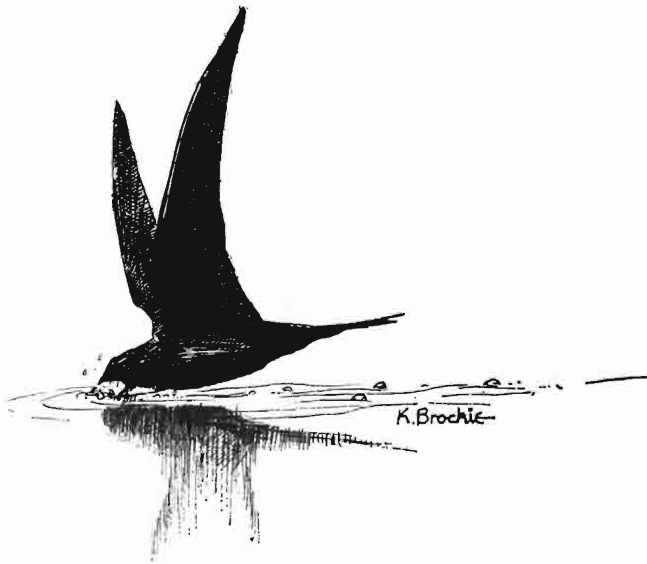
Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*. Poor breeding season Kirk (ADW); one Thurso cemetery, Caith, Dec (JMW).

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*. Breeding status: Shet, 1 pr Kergord, 1 pr Scalloway but heather burning usual nest area, 1 pr summered Seafield and still there 5 Nov (per RJT); O Heb, 1 pr bred Druidibeg (CB), singles

Balallan 15 Aug (PGH), Boreray, Sound of Harris, 28 July (ADKR); Kirk & Dumf, poor breeding season (ECF, RTS, DSk). Migrants: Fair Isle, 1-9 Jan, 26 Apr, 21-26 Sep, 1-2 on 5-10 Oct, 2 on 1 Nov, 4 on 2nd, one 15-30 Nov (RAB); Shet, 2 Skerries 7 Oct (ISR); Ork, up to 20 wintered Binscarth (EB); Isle of May 8 Oct (HG).

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. Breeding status: Ork, fairly high Nos., good success (EB); scarcer Caith (PMC), Lochaber, Inv (JCu), Angus (GMC), Stir (GSh); good Nos. S Ayr and Arran, no change N Ayr and Renf (per RWF); poor breeding season Kirk (LAU, ADW). Migration: Fair Isle, singles many days 16 Apr-1 June, 5 Sep, 26-27 Sep, 1-2 several days Oct, max 3 on 18th (RAB); Shet, singles Fetlar 3 May (RSPB), Skerries 6 May, 20-25 Sep (ISR), Unst 28 July, 23 Sep (GB), Whalsay 26 Dec (JHS); Suth, Laxford Bridge 17-24 June (AG); Isle of May one 28-29 Dec (NKA).

***Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*. Arran, 6+ prs Brodick (AB); 1 pr Balmaha, Stir, 22 July (J. B. Masson); Kirk, scarcer than 1971 or 1972, one heard Bennan 7 July (LAU, ADW); Inv, 1 heard Garten reserve 3-10 July (RSPB) first for several years; Fair Isle, one 27 May (P. Agland).



Swift *Apus apus*. Arrivals: 24 Apr, 11 East Brackley, Kinross, 3 on 2 May 100 on 7 May (GC); 30 Apr Duddingston, Midl (LLJV) and Lochmaben, Dumf (NEA); 1 May Cupar, Fife (DWO); 2 May Ayr (WRB), Turnhouse, Midl (TD), Aberdeen (PSh); mainly from 2nd week May. Migration and counts: Fair Isle, 18 May-21 Sep, max only 5 on 4 June (RAB); Shet, Scalloway 5 May, Virkie 6 May, more from 28 May, max 7 Hillwell 4 July, late singles Skerries 20 Sep, Whalsay 27 Sep (ISR, JHS et al.); Suth, 2 Handa 14 July, singles 24 Aug, 17 Sep (AG); Inv, 500+ Insh 2 Aug, 90 on 6 Aug, last 2 on 8 Sep (RL); Perth, 77W Kingoodie 7 Aug (EJM); Kinross 100 L Leven 21 July, last 8 Aug (GC); Isle of May 6 May-4 Sep (DWO, MN); Midl, 300 Cobbinshaw 22 May (IAGB), 250 Gladhouse 1 June (RWJS), last 5 Musselburgh 22 Aug (LLJV); Rox, last Hawick 25 Aug (TDo).

Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*. Continued increase in population: Dumf, Kirk, Wig, increased Nos. (ADW *et al.*), 1 pr reared 3 broods (18 young) in Kirk (ECF); increase Ayr, Renf, Lan (per RWF), 1 pr reared 3 broods in Lan (8: 32-3); 1 Balfron, Stir, 13 Sep (RKP, DS); Arg, 1 Holy Loch 14 Nov (IPG); Borders, more recorded (AJS); E Loth, Hailes 16 Sep, Tynninghame 19 Oct, 23 Dec (GLS, EMS); Ber, Ladykirk Apr-Oct (KAMcK); W Loth, Cramond 22 Sep, 1-2 Broxburn Oct-Dec; Perth, pr Bridge of Earn Sep-Oct (DWO), Dunblane Sep (RLMcM), pr Tibbermore 3 Dec (THE); Angus, Montrose Basin 26 Aug (GMC); Aber, Ythan 6 Oct-6 Dec (NP, RHD *et al.*); Ross, Dingwall 6 Oct (per ARM).

***Roller** *Coracias garrulus*. Two records of immatures: Reay, Caith 26-30 Sep (PMC, AFCMC); L Eck, Arg, 15 Oct (T. W. Haynes).

***Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*. 6 in spring, 7 in autumn. Fair Isle, 18-22 May, 11-27 Oct (RAB); Shet, Mavis Grind 4 Oct (DC); Suth, Loth 8 May (per DMcD); O Heb, Newton 12 Sep (W. McCubin *et al.*), Morsgail 15 Sep (Mrs R. O. M. Williams), L Faoghail, Lewis 21 Sep (W. H. R. Clifford); Arg, Conaglen, Ardgour, 25 Sep (C. A. G. Keeling), Ford 1 Oct (R. A. Pratt); Inv, Rothiemurchus 9-11 May (JPG, RHD); Isle of May 24 Apr (DRG, NJG); E Loth, Aberlady 28 May (AB, GLS, LLJV); Rox, Denholm 26 Apr (Mr Rae).

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*. Breeding status: apparent decrease Borders (AJS) and Dumf (RTS); increase E Loth, Midl; spreading Fife (DWO), where seen for first time Tentsmuir, and 3 (1 juv) Leuchars (AJB); bred Kinross (RQB) and Glen Esk, Angus (GMC) and seen three new areas N Perth (RLMcM); Aber/Kinc, Banchory 7 Jan (DCC), 2 adults and juv Banchory 31 July (NP) and 1 juv Dyce 1 Aug (AGK).

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopus major*. Only breeding season comment—now very scarce Renf (HG). Migrants: Shet, one wintered Kergord to 31 Mar (DC), one Kergord 6-14 May (DC, ISS), one 7 Oct (ISS); Caith, 1 Thurso 11-30 Jan (JMW *et al.*).

***Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*. Rather scarce on passage, only one summer record—one singing Abernethy, Inv, 18 June (per RHD). Migration: Fair Isle, 24 Apr, 1-2 several days 4-15 May, max 5 on 17th, one to 19 May, 3 on 28 Aug, one to 30th, 2 on 16 Sep, 5 on 17th, 1-3 daily to 26 Sep, but 6 on 20 Sep, 2 on 6 Oct, one 8th (RAB); Shet, Bigton 4 May (BM), Foula 24 May (BEG), Unst 18 and 22 Sep (GB), Fetlar 20 Sep, Skerries 17 Sep, 19th, 2 on 20th (ISR), 3 Bigton 22 Sep (JSp); Fife Ness 16 Sep (DWO); Isle of May 5-11 May, two 6-8th (DWO), one 6 Oct (JGY).

***Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella cinerea*. Six records: Fair Isle 6-8 May, 27 Sep-5 Oct, 2 on 6th, 3 on 7th, 2 on 8th, one to 13 Oct, (one grey eastern race on 6-7 Oct) (RAB, NR, GJB *et al.*); Midl, Musselburgh 16 Sep (LLJV); Shet, Skerries 4-9 Oct, eastern race (ISR).

***Woodlark** *Lullula arborea*. Singles Fair Isle 13 Apr, 6 Oct, 13 Oct (RAB, GJB).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. Migration: Fair Isle, main arrival 50 on 26 Feb, influxes 17 and 25 Mar, autumn passage from 10 Sep (RAB); Shet, first Fetlar 3 on 28 Feb, 200 on 6-8 Mar, 500 on 26 Mar (ISR); Caith, 300-400 Murkle 25 Feb (AFCMC, PMC); Inv, from 17 Feb at Insh, many Drumochter 30 Apr (RL, RHD); Fife Ness 220N on 3 Oct (EJM); Isle of May peaks 10 on 25-26 Apr (NJG), 200 on 6 Oct (RGN); Ayr, 100S per hour 14-16 Feb (WRB), 400S per hour on 29 Nov (RHH), 1000+ Dipple shore 8 Dec (WRB, IHC); Renf, 500+ per hour Langbank 21 Jan (IPG), 2000 Paisley Moss 23 Feb (GJW), 4000 Longhaugh Point 29 Nov (IPG); large W movement Dumb coast 29 Nov (SMDA); Dumf, 500 Long Glen 15 Mar (LAU).

***Shore Lark** *Eremophila alpestris*. ♂ singing in Highlands (same area as 1972) 20 June (A. Archer-Lock), 21-23 June (R. J. McCann, J. R. Mullins), pair present 10 July-18 Aug and possibly bred (A. Watson *et al.*) (*Brit Birds* 66 : 505-508). One on beach North Berwick, E Loth, 16 June (D. C. Shenton). Spring migration: Fair Isle, one 29 Apr-2 May, 2 on 5-9 May, one 14 May (RAB); Shet, 6 Skaw, Unst, 11 May, 4 on 14th (GB), ♂ Noss 24 May (PKK), Skerries 29 May, 3 on 31st (ISR); Moray, Spey Bay 12 May (JMB); Isle of May 6 May (DWO). Autumn: Shet, 2 Noss 27-29 Sep (PKK); Midl, Musselburgh 24-25 Oct (LLJV *et al.*).

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. Breeding status: low numbers Galloway (ADW); possible increase Ayr (WRB); 3 prs bred Shet. Arrivals rather late: 8 Apr Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 13 Apr 2 Flanders Moss, Stir (I. Henderson); 15 Apr Langholm, Dumf (WA) and Stornoway, O Heb (WMA); 16 Apr, 2 L Ken, Kirk (ADW); first in north mainland 21 Apr Insh, Inv (RL). Main arrivals late Apr-early May; 27-30 Apr Lothians, 1 May Fife, 5 May Aber, 8-11 May Caith. Migration: Fair Isle, 1 May-25 July, mainly 3 May-12 June, peaks 25-40 on 17-20 May, autumn 1-10 on 17-31 Aug, 1-6 on 15 Sep-9 Oct (RAB); Shet, 5 Mainland 3 May, many 5-12 May, 16-31 May, max 40 Hillwell 20th, autumn 17-19 Sep, 10 Unst 29 Sep, last 2 on 6 Oct (GB); O Heb, 5 Stornoway, 4 Oct, 14th (2), last 20 Oct (WMA); Inv, 6 Insh 24 Oct, 5 on 25 Oct (RL), Corpach last 29 Oct (JCu); Aber, 2 Strichen 21 Oct (JE); Angus, last 5 Arbroath 24 Oct (NKA); Perth, 1000+ Errol roost Sep, last 10 Nov (RLMcM); Fife, last Kilconquhar 19 Nov (JARG); Clack, Menstrie 14 Nov (CJH); Isle of May, 29 Apr-4 Oct, max 50 on 29 May (NJG), 150 on 29 Aug (JHBM); E Loth, 2 Gullane 10 Nov (SdAP); Rox, Hawick 3 Nov (TDo); Ayr, last 2 Dunure 31 Oct (JKRM); Kirk, 2 Carsethorn 4 Nov (RHH); Dumf, Dalbeattie 30 Oct.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. Breeding status: 1 pr bred Lerwick, Shet (DC), poor season Caith—gale damage to nests (PMC); still at nest Whiteadder, E Loth 1 Oct (AWGJ). Arrivals: 18 Apr Canonbie, Dumf (ELOC); 20 Apr Arg (IR); 22 Apr Arran (MHD); 25 Apr Isle of May and Dunure, Ayr (NJG, JKRM); 28 Apr Hawick, Rox, and Dalkeith, Midl (TDo, RWJS); 29 Apr L Davan, Aber (NP) and 2 Insh, Inv (RL). Most generally late, arriving in first week of May, main arrival Caith 11 May (PMC). Passage: Fair Isle, 2 May-29 Sep, mostly 4 May-30 June, peaks 30 on 6 May, 40 on 29 and 31 May, autumn peaks 4 on 30 Aug, 23 Sep, 9 on 29 Sep (RAB); Shet, first 4 May, peaks 20 Skerries 5 May (ISR), 40 Hillwell 20 May (BM), 50+ Unst 27 May (GB), stragglers Scalloway 5 Oct, Lerwick 13 Oct (NLS); O Heb, first 6 May (WAJC), 6 Balranald 22 May (PC); Ross, 5 Dingwall 8 Oct (ARM); Inv, 60S L Garten 24 Aug (RSPB), 60 Inverness 9 Sep (MR); Aber, good numbers 5 May Cruden Bay (AGK), last Aberdeen 13 Nov (MDa); Angus, last 10 West Haven 13 Oct (TMC); Perth, last Seaside 31 Oct (RLMcM, MM); Isle of May 25 Apr-14 Oct, peaks 50 on 29 Apr (NJG), 16 in Sep (MN); E Loth, heavy coastal passage 30 Sep-10 Oct (DRL), 100 North Berwick 14 Oct (DEA), last Gifford 20 Oct (AWGJ); last Ayr and Gattonside, Rox, 20 Oct (WRB, AJS).

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. Breeding status: Ayr, very low Nos. but reasonable success (WRB); Renf, very scarce (HG); scarcer in Fife, Stir and Clack (CJH, GSh, DWO). Arrivals: 26 Mar Dumfries (G. Kerr); 30 Mar Kilconquhar, Fife—next 8 on 15 Apr and very few to 1 May (DWO); 31 Mar Cramond, W Loth (J. Rostell) and Tynningame, E Loth (GJ, IAGB); 1 Apr Avielochan, Inv, present to 7th (RHD) next 4 Insh, Inv, on 17 Apr (RL). No new records 2-9 Apr, then 4 Martnaham, Ayr 10 Apr (WRB); stragglers Inv to Borders until good arrivals Moorfoots, Midl, 21 Apr (LLJV); 80 Insh 26 Apr (RL). Migration: Shet, very few 5 May-3 June, max 4 Whalsay 17 May (JHS), only autumn record Unst 20 Sep (GB); Fair Isle 16 May-7 June, scarce, max 5 on 16th and 3 on 26 May;

autumn 6 on 28 Aug, 3 on 30th, one 31st-5 Sep (RAB); Inv, last 30 Insh 18 Sep (RL); Perth, c400 Errol reedbed roost early Sep, last 26 Sep (RLMcM); Kinross, L Leven 1 May-1 Sep, max 1000 on 14 Aug (GC).

***Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*. Seven birds: Fair Isle 18-20 May, 2 June, 21 June, 29-30 June, at least 3 different birds (RAB); Shet, ♂ Weisdale 20 May (ISS), ♂ dead Fetlar 29 May (RSPB), Walls 4-5 June (DC), Swinning 15-17 June (per DC).

Raven *Corvus corax*. Fair Isle, fledglings in summer oiled by Fulmars (RAB) (*British Birds* 67: 297-301); Shet, one pr with tree nest Kergord (ISS); Perth, 5 prs bred in E (RLMcM); Ayr, low breeding success (WRB, IHL, RTW); Kirk, poor breeding season—persecution (ADW); Dumf, continued decrease (RTS). Counts: 19 Fair Isle 26 Mar (RAB); Caith, 22 Brough 23 Mar (DG); Ross, 40 Achnasheen 25 Jan-8 Feb (JAW), 2 Coulmore, Black Isle, 15 Jan (EBt); Banff, 1 Troup Head 21 June (RSPB); Arg, Bridgend, Islay roost 90-100 in Dec (CGB).

Crow *Corvus corone*. Carrion Crow *C. c. corone*. Migration: Fair Isle, one 23-25 Mar, 1-2 daily 20 Apr-4 June, 7 on 9 May, 9 on 10th, 5 on 16th, 1-2 on 4-5 Aug, 5 on 25 Sep, 2 on 27 Sep and 4 Oct, 4 on 5 Oct, singles 14-18 Oct, 15 Nov (RAB); Shet, singles Fladdabister 5 Mar (ISR), Skerries 16 Apr (ISR), Walls 29 Aug (BM); Isle of May 12 on 14 Oct is unusual peak (MFC); Suth, 1 Durness 19 May (AG). Counts: c1000 in at least 5 roosts Ken valley, Kirk (LAU, ADW).

Hooded Crow *C. c. cornix*. Fair Isle, 37 flew over high to N 24 Apr (RAB); Shet, pr nested centre of Lerwick; Suth, 6 prs Handa reared 12 young (AG); O Heb, 10 Shiants 31 Mar-7 Apr (PGH); Angus, pr bred Glen Doll (GMC); Fife, 2 Boarhills 3 May is unusual (JARG); Wig, 1 West Freugh 21-24 Feb (RTS, TVT).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. Shet, 176 nests Kergord July (colony established 1952 when 9 nests) (L. S. V. Venables) (7: 406); O Heb, 195 nests Stornoway 4 Mar (PGH); Inv, young in nests Insh 16 Apr (RHD). Passage: Fair Isle, 2 on 6-12 Jan and 3-28 Feb, 1-2 on scattered dates 22 Mar-17 May, one 1-3 Nov (RAB).

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. Shet, 3 prs nested Kergord (ISS), up to 6 Noss in summer but no proof of breeding (PKK); increase Kishorn, Ross (JAW). Migrants: Fair Isle, singles 25 Mar, 15 May, 6 July-31 Oct, 2 on 1-4 Nov, one 31 Dec (RAB); Shet, singles Skerries 17 May (FDH), Unst 19 May (MS).

Magpie *Pica pica*. Caith, singles Rumster Forest 14-21 Apr (GHF, JMW), Broubster 8-24 May and Mybster 28 Jan, is more than usual (PMC); Ross, 1 Redfield, Black Isle, 28 Feb is first there for many years (MKMcD); Inv, continued decline Strathspey (RHD); E Loth, one Tynninghame 27 Apr (IAGB, GLS).

Jay *Garrulus garrulus*. Continued increase and spread throughout range: Wig, continued westwards spread with singles Awhirk Jan-Feb (AJ) and Knockinaam Jan-Mar (GS) being furthest west to date; Ayr, 2 Rozelle Jan-28 Apr (WRB, BCF, IHL), 1 Culzean Jan-17 Apr and Nov (GR); 2 Mount Stewart, Bute Jan (IH); Ber, 1 Hirsell 20 Oct (AB); Fife, increased (DWO); Aber, 5 Midmar 14 Aug (AGK); N Arg, 1 Conaglen June (per JR).

Chough *Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*. Arg, 4 prs mainland 18 July (WW); no counts from Islay.

Great Tit *Parus major*. Kinross, good breeding season (BHM); no change Stornoway, O Heb; N Caith, pr bred Reay (JMG). Migrants: Fair Isle ♂ 15 Oct, ♀ 16 Oct—both trapped—first since 1966 (RAB); Ork, one Birsay late Nov (J. Holden).

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. Kinross, good breeding season (BHM); increase Rhum, I Heb (PW); Inv, reports of young dead in nest boxes June

due to bad weather; Caith, decrease (PMC). Migration and counts: 1 Handa, Suth 24 Sep (AG); Ork, 2 Kirkwall 3 Oct, 2 South of Kirkwall 13 Oct (CJB); O Heb, 1 Leurbost 11-21 Feb (PGH); Fife Ness, 40 on 4 Oct (EJM), 20 on 13 Oct (DWO); 1 Isle of May 17-18 Oct (TD); Renf, big increase autumn-winter (IPG).

Coal Tit *Parus ater*. Caith, decrease (PMC); Inv-Moray, numbers low and very poor breeding success Strathspey, Lochaber and Culbin Forest (RHD, JCu); O Heb, now absent Stornoway woods—last one seen 21 Mar 1972 (PGH); increase Rhum, 1 Heb (PW).

Crested Tit *Parus cristatus*. Inv, numbers very high and breeding success good Strathspey (RHD) may have been reason for arrival of birds in Deeside where 4-6 Aboyne 22 Sep-2 Oct, one at another locality 2 Nov (NP, AGK, ACBH); Moray, singles Lossiemouth Jan-11 Feb, 22-31 Dec (CAG), Fochabers 7 Oct (JMB).

Marsh Tit *Parus palustris*. Records from Gattonside, Rox (PC) and St Boswells (DCo); Ber, 2 St Abbs Head 13 Oct (LLJV), 2 Hirsel 24 Oct (RHH, AB), 3 Abbey St Bathans 24 Oct (AB, RHH).

Willow Tit *Parus montanus*. Galloway, good Nos. usual areas (ADW); continued expansion of range in S Clyde, few singing Motherwell-Merryton, Lan, 18 Mar (HSCH, KCRH), one Glenbuck, Lan 28 Dec (RHH); W Loth, 2 Beecraigs 4 Nov (IMCK).

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*. Continues at high population: high numbers reported from Galloway, Ayr, Borders, Lothians, Fife, Inv, Suth, Rhum, Caith. Counts: Caith, 24 Sandside Nov (JMG), 20 Stirkoke 14 Nov (PMC, SL); Suth, 20 Trantlemore 20 Oct (PRJ); Ross, 20 Coulmore 12 July (EBt); Midl, 35 Edgelaw 4 Aug (RWJS), 45 Levenhall 19 Dec (GLS); W Loth, 40 Bathgate 7 Jan (IMCK); Ayr, 60+ Rozelle Nov-Dec (WRB, IHL). Migration: Ork, singles Kirkwall 23 Oct and 3 Nov (CJB); O Heb, 20-30 Stornoway woods 23 Nov, down to 2 on 29 Nov (J. Macleod, IMMCL); Aber, 1 Rattray Head 24 Oct (CC); Isle of May, 9 on 24 Oct (IFS), 16 on 28 Oct (CPR); E Loth, 17 North Berwick 6 Oct (DEA); Ayr, 5 Ailsa Craig 12 Oct (SW).

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. Numbers high Midl, Arran, Renf and Fife; few prs bred Stornoway woods, O Heb (WMA). Migration: Shet, one of northern race *C.f. familiaris* present Kergord from 26 Nov 1972 to 11 Mar (ISS); Caith, 1 Thurso 11 Dec thought to be northern (PMC); Isle of May singles 26 Aug (JHBM), 24-29 Sep (DWO, ADW).

Wren Troglodytes troglodytes. Population throughout country remains very high after several mild winters; eg Renf, where 42 prs in Erskine wood (HG); Fair Isle no change (RAB); Shet, 17 prs Noss (PKK); Suth, 7 prs Handa (AG). Migration: Shet, Skerries 7-8 May, Sep-Nov, max 4 on 30 Oct—some thought to be of Scandinavian origin (ISR); Aber, 1 Rattray Hd 13 Oct, 6 on 24 Oct (CC).

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*. Numbers high, although possible decrease Caith. No eggs until last week Mar Bridge of Allen, Stir, about 15% of prs had second clutches (GSh); Ork, one seen Hoy 5 May (DL); Ross, one Rosemarkie 9 Mar (MKMcD-D); Kinross, 1 L Leven 16 May (JES).

***Bearded Tit** *Panurus biarmicus*. 5 remained from the influx of Nov-Dec 1972: Aber, 1 pr Strathbeg 11 Mar (RHD *et al.*); Angus, 1 Buddon Ness 1 Jan (TMC); Kirk, 2 Auchenreoch Loch 1 Jan (G. Blackwell, M. Jones), one, possibly 2, on 4 Jan (LAU).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. Pr bred Torridon, W Ross (JAW) and increase noted Gairloch (ENH). Counts: 30-40 Helshetter, Caith 30 Sep (PMC, SL); 40 Tarvie, E Ross 13 Sep (EBt); 45 Portmore, Peeb 18 Aug (RWJS). Migration: Fair Isle, 6 Jan, 2 on 9-10 Mar, one 15-17th, scattered records 11 Apr-17 May, max 4 on 22nd and 5 on 25 Apr; autumn singles

26 Sep, 6 and 11 Oct (RAB); Shet, singles Lochend 9 Feb (BM), Tresta 29 Apr (ISS), Fetlar 4 May (RSPB), Skerries 18 May (FDH) and Foula 30 Aug (BEG); Suth, 1 Handa 2 May—1st record for island (AG).

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. 1 pr bred usual site Shet (GJ); 1 fledged young seen N Kinc 23 June (7 : 406-8). Other summer records : Inv, dead adult on road near 1970 nest area Strathspey 11 June (RHD); Aber, 1 Peterculter 25 June (AGK); Perth, pr Pitlochry summer (per RLMcM), and 1 Glen Lednock 7 Aug (MM); Midl, 1 Glencorse mid May-June (GLS, LLJV); Renf, 2 Black Loch 5 July (R. B. Durley).

Spring passage generally late; Fair Isle, main movements 21 Apr-26 May, up to 30 several days, peaks 200 on 1 May, 100 on 5th, 300 on 6th, 130 on 7th, last one 1 June (RAB); Shet, spring passage mainly from 2 May, peak 5 May when 100 Fetlar, 100 Whalsay, 350 Skerries, 160 Sumburgh Hd, most departed by 11th (ISR, JHS *et al.*); Caith, 200 Westfield 7 Jan (PMC); Ross, 50 Redfield, Black Isle, 3 Mar, last 20 on 16 Apr (MKMcD-D); Inv, 84 Kinchurdy 10 Apr, 100 on 17th (RHD); Aber, 100 Aberdeen 25 Apr (PLS, ADKR); Angus, 700 Glen Esk 29 Apr (MN); Perth, 400 Crieff 28 Apr (RLMcM); Fife, 300 Cupar 20 Mar, last 2 Fife Ness 4 May (JARG); Isle of May, max 40 on 26 Apr, last 21 May (NJG); Midl, 200 Gladhouse 20 Apr (GLS), 150 Mount Lothian 6 May; 150 Peebles 28 Apr, last 7 May (CMM), but one Hawick 25 May (TDo); Lan, 2000 Shotts 31 Mar (JB); Ayr, 1500 Martnaham 10 Apr (WRB); Renf, last Eaglesham 27 May (RMCL).

Autumn migration : Fair Isle, singles from 20 Aug, passage 12 Sep-17 Nov, peaks 75 on 11 Oct, 18th (100), 22nd (150), 26th (300), 31st (350), 2 Nov (800) (RAB); Shet, from 16 Sep, max 200 Skerries 5-6 Oct, 150 Skerries and 100 Whalsay 31 Oct-1 Nov (ISR, JHS); Ross, 4 Torridon 30 Aug, 7 Shieldaig 1 Sep (JAW); O Heb, 1st 11 Oct—more than 1972 (PGH); Inv, 100 Insh 11 Oct, 500+ on 20 Oct (RL); Kinc, 100+ Girdle Ness 22 Oct (CC); Perth, 600 Strathallan 16 Dec (R. E. Thomas); Fife, 4 Kettlebridge 14 Sep (DWO); Isle of May, first 23 Aug, max 170 on 31 Oct (CPR); Midl, 120 Gladhouse 17 Oct (RWJS); E Loth, big passage North Berwick 31 Oct but less than usual (DEA); Clyde main passage 16-25 Oct, when 1000+ Muirshiel Park, Renf 17 Oct (IPG); Wig, 350 Moor of Genoch 20 Oct (RCD).



Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. Breeding reports : Suth, 1 pr reared 2 broods (6 young) Handa—first record for island (AG); Ross, 1st juvenile

flying 2 May (EBt); Isle of May 2 prs bred (NJG); Fife, breeding population very high (DWO); Midl, newly fledged young Oxenford 11 Jan (CNLC). Return to territories: Kiltarlity, Inv 1 Mar, several 3rd (MIH), 10 Mar Rothiemurchus (RHD); Midl, Gladhouse 10 Mar (RWJS).

Migration: Fair Isle, stragglers from 5 Mar, passage 22 Apr-19 May, max 30 on 2 May, singles in June, July, Aug; autumn passage from 15 Sep-5 Nov, peaks 500 on 26 Sep (big fall), 30 on 27 Sep, 20-40 daily 5-8 Oct (RAB); Shet, small arrival 2-6 May, 10 Skerries (ISR), autumn from 16 Sep, max 150 Skerries and 150 Noss on 26 Sep (ISR, PKK), 75 Skerries 6 Oct (ISR); Aber, 7 Rattray Head 26 Sep (CC), 30 Balmadie 6 Oct (RLS); Isle of May, peaks 15 on 4 May, 500 on 5 Oct (RGN).

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*. Breeding status: data received may suggest that colonization has levelled off or even started to fall; situation is always confused by presence of singing unmated males and possibly by visitors not reporting breeding records now that species is not as rare as in the early 1960s.

Summary of summer records

Area	Singing ♂♂ possible/probable breeding	Proved breeding
Suth	2	3
E Ross	3	
W Ross	4	1
Inv	5+	1
Banff	1	
Perth	3	1
	18+	6

The proved breeding records were as follows: N Suth, pr with 4 small young in nest early June (D. Scott); W Suth, pr carrying food to nest in steep bank 24 June (ITD, MMD); NE Suth, pr carrying food to nest in dense pine plantation 5 June (RHD); W Ross, pr feeding young 2 June (JAW); Inv, pr reared brood Strathspey (RL); SW Perth, ad carrying food into pine plantation 8 July (ITD, MMD)—the latter is furthest south breeding record to date.

Spring passage and counts: Fair Isle, mainly 23 Mar-26 May, peaks 60 on 25 Mar, 90 on 26th, 120 on 25 Apr, 100 on 1 May, stragglers to 16 July (RAB); Shet, scarce, max 30 mainland 5 May, 11 Skerries 3 May (ISR); O Heb, Balranald last 20 May (PC), 3 Leurbost 13 May (PGH); Inv, 30 Kinchurdy 17 Apr (RHD); Isle of May, 15 on 26 Apr, last 5 May (NJG); Midl, 500 Moorfoots 24 Mar (RWJS); E Loth, 200 Aberlady 23 Mar (IAGB).

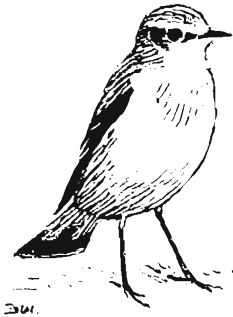
Autumn passage: Fair Isle, from 16 Sep, peaks 350 on 24 Sep, 150 on 28th, 300 on 29th, 600 on 4 Oct, 3500 on 5th, 1300 on 6th, slow decrease next few days, new arrival 250 on 22nd, 300 on 26 Oct, 350 on 2 Nov (RAB); Shet, from 16 Sep, 200 Fetlar and 50 Yell on 23-26 Sep, but big influx 6 Oct coinciding with Fair Isle peak day when 3000 Skerries, 3000 Unst, 6000 Yell, 1000 Whalsay and 1000 Weisdale (ISR, GB, RJT *et al.*); Caith, 500 Harpsdale 5 Oct (SL); Inv, big numbers Kiltarlity 5 Oct (MIH), 750 Insh 11 Oct (RL); Aber, large numbers Cruden Bay 6 Oct (AGK) and 400 Forvie 6 Oct (MHe); Angus, 100s Glen Esk 4 Oct (GMC); Kinross, 5 L Leven 4 Oct, 550 on 5th (CJE); Fife Ness, first 2 on 16 Sep, 70 on 5 Oct, 600 on 6th, 500 on 7th (DWO, EJM, PNJC); Isle of May, first 13 Sep, 1000 on 6 Oct (RGN); Rox, passage over Ettrick hills 13 Oct (AJS); Arg, first passage Lochgilphead 7 Oct (MJPG); Ayr, mainly 12-13 Oct; Renf, higher than usual numbers 6-7 Oct and 23-25 Oct, peaks 750 Linwood 25 Oct, 500 Lochwinnoch 23 Oct (IPG); Kirk, first Castle Douglas 1 Oct (JSk).

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*. Spring arrival : 22 Mar Glen Clova, Angus (RB); 25 Mar 4 Moorfoots, Midl (WB); 29 Mar Lorg, Kirk (TN, HMR); 10 Apr Glen Dye, Kinc (NP); 15 Apr Arg and Dumf; mostly late, in late Apr-early May. Spring migration : Fair Isle 22 Apr-3 June, peaks 20 on 24 Apr, 14-17 on 1-5 May, 30 on 6th (RAB); Shet, Skerries 22 Apr (ISR), few until small passage in May when peak 35 Skerries 5th-6th, stragglers to 24 June (ISR *et al.*); Aber, 4 Forvie 5 May (BJS); Fife Ness, 4 on 4 May (JARG); Isle of May 25 Apr-22 May, max 40 on 26 Apr (DRG, NJG); Ber, 4 St Abbs Head 6 Mar (LLJV).

Autumn migration : Fair Isle, 1 present 23 July-10 Sep, 2-3 on 1-2 Sep, 1-5 on 12 days 23 Sep-14 Oct, one 14 Nov (RAB); Shet, 1 Skerries 26 Sep (ISR), 1-2 Whalsay 6-10 Oct (JHS); Aber, 1 Newburgh 5 Oct, 5 on 6th (PDR, CHF), 1 Rattray 23 Oct (AGK); Fife Ness, 2 on 5th and 7 Oct (EJM, JARG); Isle of May, last 8 Oct (HG); E Loth, 1 North Berwick 6 Oct (DEA).

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. Fair Isle, 1 pr nested reared 3 young (RAB); Shet, Fetlar breeding population 12 prs compared to 1-2 prs in 1970, second broods from 20 May (RSPB). Migration numbers rather low possibly due to mild winters overseas : Fair Isle, 15-25 wintered, more than usual, 100 on 3-5 Jan, small passage 10 Apr-10 May, peaks 25 on 25 Apr, 20 on 3 May; from 17 Sep, max 20-45 in Oct, 500 on 1-2 Nov, 300 on 4th, few to end of year (RAB); Shet, few 6-7 May, 24-26 Sep, peaks 300 Skerries 7 Oct, 100 Whalsay 1 Nov (ISR, JHS); Caith, passage from 19 Sep (PMC); Ross, 200+ Coulmore, Black Isle 14 Oct (EBt); Inv, 50 Insh 18 Oct (RL), influx Fort William 12-20 Oct (JCu); Aber peaks 35 Rattray 9 May (JRP), 50 on 22 Oct (CC); Fife Ness small passage 28 Mar-16 Apr, several 100s 31 Oct (DWO); Isle of May, rather low peaks, 100 on 26 Apr (NJG), 100 on 22 and 28 Oct (IFS, CPR); Midl, influx Edinburgh 14 Oct (TCS).

***White's Thrush** *Zoothera dauma*. A first-year bird trapped and ringed Fair Isle 24-25 Sep (RAB, R. Dewey, T. Loseby) (8 : 33-4).



Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Breeding reports : good season Ayr (AGS), Renf (HG) and average Fair Isle (RAB); 40 prs Handa, Suth (AG). Arrivals : 22 Mar Dunure, Ayr (JKRM); 23 Mar, 2 Waterside, Ayr, 1 Ayr, 1 Erskine, Renf (JP, IMD) and Glencaple, Dumf (WA); 24 Mar, Isle of May (GKT), Musselburgh (AWGL), Middleton (RW), Gladhouse and 3 Edgelaw, Midl (LLJV); 25 Mar, Hawick, Rox (TDo), 12 Clatteringshaws (HMR), 2 Carsphairn, 2 Dalry, Kirk (IHL, TH); 26 Mar, Stornoway O Heb (IMMcL), L Earacha, N Suth (PRJ) and 2 Tulloch, E Inv (RSPB); several reports late Mar-early Apr, then a gap until arrival in numbers from 14 Apr.

Spring migration : Fair Isle 1-2 on 25 Mar-3 Apr, next 16 Apr, increasing to 45 on 22nd, 100 on 2 May, Greenland birds 26 Apr-2 June

(RAB); Shet, first 2 Dunrossness 8 Apr (BM), main passage 2-5 May (RJT); Kinc/Aber, coastal peaks 20 Girdle Ness 4 May (AGK), 25 Rattray Head 5 May, 20 on 9th (JRP); Isle of May, 23 on 23 May (NJG); E Loth/Ber, big passage on coast 4-6 May when 45 Barns Ness and St Abbs (LLJV, DRL); Ayr, Greenland birds Doonfoot 12 May, 3 on 15th (IHL, WRB).

Autumn migration : Fair Isle, influxes 12-20th and 29 Aug, scarce after 10 Sep, up to 40 in 1st week Oct, singles 17 Oct-1 Nov, last 10-11 Nov. Greenland birds 4-14 Oct (RAB); Shet, last records Whalsay 16 Oct (JHS), Unst 27 Oct and 8 Nov (MS, GB); Caith, small passage to 23 Sep, last 2 Oct, Greenland birds Crosskirk, Duncansby and Freiswick 27 Aug-5 Sep (PMC); O Heb, last Balranald 13 Oct (PC); Inv, Greenland bird Rothiemurchus 10 Oct (RHD); Aber, peaks Rattray Hd 50 on 19 Sep, 30+ on 25th, last 13 Oct (CC); Kinc, 30+ Girdle Ness 18 Sep (AGK); Isle of May, 28 July-22 Oct, max 45 on 3 Sep (MN); Rox, last Alermoor 14 Oct (Dco); Ayr, last Prestwick 14 Oct (BCF), Greenland birds Doonfoot 7 Oct, Craigs of Kyle 19 Sep (WRB, IHL); I Heb, 1-2 Tiree 11 Oct (MJPG).

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Breeding status : good season and further increases : another good year Kirk, Wig (ADW), Ayr (RWF) and Arran (MHD); E Loth, continued increase (KSMcG); Midl, continued extension (RWJS); Kinross, 1 pr bred Vane (BHM); Perth, increase—4 prs Little Gleshee where none in 1972 (IMcK), 2 prs Glen Artney, none before (RLMcM); Aber, flying young Cruden Bay 5 May (AGK); Ross, numerous Torridon (JAW); Suth, excellent breeding season Dornoch (DMcD), 3 prs reared 15 young Handa (AG); Ork fairly good breeding numbers (EB).

Migration : Fair Isle, 2-4 almost daily 11-23 Mar, ♂ 30-31 Mar, ♂ 18 May, singles 17 and 20 Sep, 4 and 8 Oct (RAB); Shet, ♀ Channerwick 29 Mar (BM); O Heb, 1-4 Balranald 9 Aug-12 Oct (PC); Caith, max 7 Scrabster 17 Sep, 7 Crosskirk 21 Sep, more than usual Oct-Dec (PMC); E Ross, 1 Redfield, Black Isle 29 Sep (1st for 10 years) and 4 on 15-22 Oct (MKMcD-D); Inv, increase in sightings Strathspey Apr, Sep-Nov (RHD); Aber, 9 Rattray Head 14 Sep (CC); Isle of May, singles 14 July, 12 Sep (JHB); ♂ Selkirk 28 Apr was 1st for many years (AJW).

Siberian Stonechat *S. t. maura*. One Fair Isle 5 Oct was considered to belong to this race, the first since Nov 1964 (RAB).



Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. Breeding status : fewer in Kirk (ADW); late and scarce Borders (AJS); probably decreased in Midl (RWJS); scarcer Stir (GSh). Arrival : 26 Apr Doonfoot, Ayr (WRB); 27 Apr Duntelchaig, Inv (RSPB); 28 Apr, Dalry, Kirk (ADW); 29 Apr, Aberlady, E Loth (LLJV); more in early May but late arriving in numbers.

Migration : Fair Isle, 3 May-4 June, max 15 on 6th and 25 on 20 May, autumn 16 Aug-20 Oct, peaks 10 on 28-29 Aug, 15-30 on 16-25 Sep, 40 on 24th, 10 on 4 Oct, last 25 Oct (RAB); Shet, from 4 May, max 6 May when 20 Whalsay, 15 Skerries and 20 Dunrossness, small Nos. 17-25 May, last Unst 3 June (ISR, JHS, GB *et al.*), autumn from 17 Aug, peaks 20 Skerries 20 Sep, 17 on 26th (ISR), 11 Fetlar 20 Sep (RSPB), 20 Whalsay (26th) last Skerries 13 Oct; Ork, singles St Ola 5 and 7 May (CJB); Suth, singles Handa 17th, 18th, 25 May and 18 Sep (AG); Aber/N Kinc, 3-21 May, max 3 Girdle Ness 4 May (AGK), 18 Aug-20 Oct, peak 12+ Rattray Head on 25 Sep (AGK); Isle of May 30 Apr-28 May, max 10 on 5-6 May, autumn 12 Aug-4 Oct, max 25 on 16 Aug (NJG, ADW *et al.*); E Loth, 2 North Berwick 9 Oct (DEA).

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Breeding status : population low; Ayr, probable decrease (RWF); Renf, only 2 prs found is a considerable decrease in recent years (HG, IPG); decrease Arran (MHD); very scarce Borders and scarcer Midl (RWJS, AJS); Stir, fewer (GSh); Inv, noticeable decrease Strathspey (RHD), perhaps more Lochaber (JCu); Ross, none Torridon (JAW). Arrival : 25 Apr, Ruthven, Inv (RSPB); 29 Apr, Langholm, Dumf (ELOC); mostly 1st week of May.

Spring migration : Fair Isle 3 May-8 June, peaks 10 on 5-6th, 25 on 20th, 20 on 23rd (RAB); Shet, 4-23 May, max only 12 Whalsay 4 May (JHS); Ork, 5-25 May (EB); Aber/N Kinc, 30 Apr (Rattray Head) to 23 May, peaks 4 Girdle Ness 19 May (RLS), 5 Rattray Hd 20 May (CC); Isle of May 26 Apr-3 June, max 4 on 6 May (NJG); 1 Dunsappie, Midl 30 Apr (LLJV). Autumn : Fair Isle 25-30 daily 16-25 Sep, small Nos to 12 Oct (RAB); Shet, one Foula 20 Aug (BEG), main movement 16-29 Sep when 40 Skerries 18th, 20 Noss 18th (PKK), 18 Fetlar 18th (RSPB), last Skerries 21 Oct (ISR); Caith, 2 Noss Head 16 Sep (JMG); Aber, 4 Sep—peak 7 Rattray Head 19 Sep (CC), last 17 Oct (MHe); Fife Ness 15 Sep-7 Oct, max 6 on 6 Oct (PNJC); Isle of May 16 Aug-1 Nov (CPR), max 30 on 5 Oct (RGN).

***Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*. Breeding status : ♀ nested Copinsay, Ork, but no ♂ was seen and the 4 eggs were infertile (DL)—this is the first nesting record for Scotland (8 : 80-1). Winter : ♂ Southerness, Kirk 24 Jan (TVT). Migration : recorded 23 Mar-19 June (40+) and 18 Aug-14 Nov (14+); Fair Isle, singles 23-24 Mar, 5 Apr, 24 Apr-4 May, up to 3 daily 5-25 May, singles 3 June, 18-19 June, 30 Oct, 1-2 Nov, 14 Nov (RAB); Shet, singles Whalsay 7 May and 24 Sep (JHS), Scatness 20 May (FH, JSp), Skerries 31 May-4 June and 2 Oct (ISR), Foula 18 June (BEG); Ork, few Copinsay early May (DL); Aber, singles Rattray 30 Apr (CC), 5-12 May (CC, JRP), 2 on 20th (WM), 24 May (CC), 18-19 Aug (CC, PDR, AGK), Cruden Bay 20 May (WM), Pittenheath 20 May (WM), Nigg 19 May (ADKR, RLS), Aberdeen 19 May (RLS); Kinc, Girdle Ness 21 May (ADKR, RLS); Fife, Craik 24 Apr (G. B. Corbet), Fife Ness 5 May (JARG), 15-17 Sep (2 on 16th) (DWO); Isle of May, 26-28 Apr (NJG), 5 May, 6th (3), 18-23rd (4) (JHBM, DRG), 4 June (HG), 3 on 6 Oct (JGY), 1-2 on 13-14 Oct (MFC), 18 Oct (TD).

***Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Singles Girdle Ness, Kinc, 19-20 May (ADKR, RLS, ADu); Shet, Grutness 5-6 May (NLS *et al.*) and Skerries 18-25 May—trapped (ISR, SR), also single nightingale sp (thought to be this sp rather than Thrush Nightingale) Skerries 17-18 Sep (ISR) and Scalloway 22 Sep (RD, RJ).

***Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia*. Three, all at Fair Isle and all trapped and ringed; 21 May (P. Agland, RAB, NR *et al.*), 25-27 May (D. Bell, RAB, NR *et al.*), 1-3 June (RAB, NR, R. A. Richardson *et al.*).

***Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*. About 40, most in spring, 13 May-7 June, autumn 17 Sep-25 Oct. Fair Isle, singles 13-16 May, 3-5 daily 17-23 May but 8 on 19th, up to 3 to 27 May, one 1-7 June, one seen with sprained

wing 18 June, trapped on 22nd carrying Swedish ring—present to 2 Oct, autumn singles 17 and 24 Sep, 1-2 on 6-12 Oct, one to 21st, one 25 Oct (RAB); Shet, Unst 18 May and 24 May (GB, MS *et al.*), Sumburgh 2 on 19 May, one 22nd (DC *et al.*), Noss 19 May (PKK), Skerries 18 May, 2 on 19th, 3 on 21st, new one 23-27 May, one in autumn 19-21 Sep (ISR); Ork, ♂ Copinsay 19 May (DL); ♂ Old Aberdeen 21-22 May (AGK, A. Petersen); Kinc, ♂ Girdle Ness 21 May (trapped carrying Swedish ring) (RLS, ADKR); Isle of May 2 on 20-22 May (JHBM, DRG), one 24 May (DRG). The Girdle Ness bird was ringed in Uppland as a juvenile on 3 Sep 1972 while the Fair Isle control of 18 June-2 Oct had been ringed as a juvenile near Stockholm a day earlier on 2 Sep 1972—these are the first two foreign ringed Bluethroats to be recovered in U.K.

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. Suth, pr attempted to breed Handa (AG); fledged young at Eddleston, Rox 7 Mar (AJS). Migration: Fair Isle, main passage slight from 21 Apr, peaks 25 on 25 Apr, 30 on 4-5 May, autumn from 15 Sep to 9 Oct, peak 25-30 on 25-26 Sep (RAB); Shet, peak 4-5 May when 15 Skerries, 16 Dunrossness and 10 Whalsay, autumn peak 26 Sep, when 60 Skerries, and 25 Noss (ISR, JHS, PKK); Aber, peak 30+ Rattray 22 Apr (CC); Kinc, peak 15 Girdle Ness 6 Oct (RLS); Fife Ness, peaks 20 on 5 May, 50 on 7 Oct (PNJS, DWO); Isle of May, peaks 150 on 26 Apr (NJG) and 800 on 5 Oct (RGN)—more than usual (NJG).

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Breeding status: fewer than usual, for example none Arran for first time in 18 years (MHD) and none reported Fife (DWO), counts include 14 singing Lochwinnoch, Renf, in May (HG); 9 Insh marshes, Inv, July (RL); 4 West Olig, Caith, 28 July (AFCMC, PMC, SL). Arrivals: 21 Apr, Kingoodie, Perth (EJM); 28 Apr, Cousland, Midl (AWGJ) and Balmacara, W Ross (DCH), mostly first-second weeks May; one Stornoway, O Heb 19 May (IMMcL, WMA).

Migration: Fair Isle 4 on 14 May, 1-2 on 6 days 6-17 May—low numbers (RAB); Shet, 2 Sumburgh 4-5 May (BM), singles Grutness, Dunrossness 6 May (DC), Skerries 7 and 15 May (ISR), Whalsay 2 on 5 May, one 6th and 9th (JHS); Aber, last Rattray Head 6 Oct (PDR *et al.*); Kinc, Girdle Ness 4 May (ADKR, RLS); Isle of May, one 4 May, 3 on 5th, 5 on 6th, 2 on 7th, 3 on 8th (JHBM, DWO), one 19-20 May (JHBM), one 25 Aug (AJW).

***Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata*. Two records 22 Sep: one trapped and ringed Fair Isle (N. V. Allen, RAB *et al.*) (8: 34-5); one Skerries, Shet (ISR).

***Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. Pr bred successfully at Halli-garth, Unst, Shet (GB *et al.*) is a new breeding record for Scotland. Migration: Fair Isle singles 29-31 May, 5 June, 2-4 July, 1-3 daily 20-26 Sep (2 trapped) (RAB); Shet, Fetlar 29 May (RSPB), Skerries 17-18 Sep, 22-23 Sep (trapped), 2-4 Oct (trapped) (ISR, SR); Ork, Deerness 28 Aug (DL); Isle of May 2 June (HG). Reed/Marsh Warblers at Girdle Ness, Kinc 21 May (ADKR) and Fair Isle 23-27 Aug (RAB).

***Marsh Warbler** *Acrocephalus palustris*. Fair Isle, singles trapped 24 June, 10-11 July (RAB); Shet, singles Bigton 4 June (P. Agland), Skerries 20-23 Sep trapped (ISR, SR), also probable Unst 4 June (GB).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Breeding status: probable decrease Kirk (ADW); numbers very low Fife (DWO); numbers well down Caith (PMC); only 2 prs Balranald, O Heb, is a decrease (PC); Inv, only one Lochaber (JCu), 49 ♂♂ Insh marshes (RL). Arrival: 29 Apr, Kilconquhar Loch, Fife (DWO); 2 May, Lochmaben, Dumf (WA, DSk); 3 May, Castle Semple Loch, Renf (IPG); more end of 1st week and 2nd week May but slow and late to arrive.

Migration: scarce both seasons: Fair Isle, 1-3 daily 4-10 May, up to 6 daily 17-27 May, 1-2 on 31 May-6 June, singles 29-30 Aug, 5 Sep, 15th,

2 on 19-21st, one 22 Sep (RAB); Shet, singles Noss 7 May (PKK), Sumburgh 17th and 20 May (JSp, BM), Fetlar 20th, singing Hillwell June (NLS); Angus, last 3 Buddon Ness 3 Oct (TMC); Isle of May 6-29 May, max 5 on 6 May (DWO), 27 Aug-18 Sep, max only 2 on 27th (NJG); Midl, 2 Duddingston 7 May, increased to 6 on 8th (LLJV, GLS).

***Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta*. Singles trapped Fair Isle 15-17 June (RAB) and Castletown, Caith, 8 Sep (D. M. Stark)—7th and 8th Scottish records.

***Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*. Recorded 21 May-29 May and 22 Aug-23 Sep (3 in spring, 9 in autumn); singles, Fair Isle, 27-28 May, 25 Aug, 3rd, 16-18 Sep (RAB); Shet, Helendale 21-23 May (singing) (DC *et al.*), 16 Sep (BM, NLS), 23 Sep (DC), Whalsay 29 May (JHS), Skerries 22 Aug (ISR), Grutness 28 Aug (M. Ross); Aber, Cruden Bay 13 Sep (ACBH); Isle of May 22 Aug (AJW).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. Breeding status : increase Renf, 21 singing ♂♂ (HG); Borders, the only warbler to show slight increase (AJS); E Loth, continued increase (KSMcG); Midl, very good numbers (RWJS); good breeding numbers Fife and Perth (DWO, RLMcM); Caith, ♂ singing Achvarasdale 20 May-30 June (JMG).

Arrivals and migration : mainly by late Apr-early May : Midl, 3 Newbattle 6 May, 3 Hermitage 8 May (EH, LLJV); Isle of May, 28 Apr (JHBM)-6 June (HG), max of 10 on 5 May is spring record (NJG); Aber, coastal 5-22 May, max 5 Balmadie 5 May (ADKR); Fair Isle, 5 May-26 June, max 8 on 22-23 May (RAB); Shet, 4 May Whalsay, increase about 19th, peak 5 Skerries, last Helendale 20 June (RJT).

Autumn : Fair Isle, 13 Sep-30 Nov, peaks 25 on 16 and 21 Sep, 45 on 25th, 40-45 on 5-6 Oct, 35 on 14 Oct (RAB); Shet, 15 Sep-22 Nov, max 20 Unst 22 Sep, 30 Skerries 7 Oct (GB, ISR); Caith, peak 4 Thurso 6-14 Nov (JMW); E Ross, 3 Dingwall 17 Nov (ARM); Aber, 69 records 17 Sep-23 Nov, max 6+ Rattray 7 Oct, 12 on 14th (MHe); Fife Ness, 16 Sep-7 Oct, max 10 on 5 Oct (EJM), 15 on 7th (DLC, DCS); Isle of May, 15 Sep-Nov, max 50-100 on 5-7 Oct is a record count (JGY).

Winter records	Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec
North (Shet-O Heb-Inv)	3	2		15+	
Central (Moray-Fife, Arg-Dunb)	3	2	2	4+	5
South (Clyde-Forth to Borders)	3	1		1	4

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*. Recorded 15 Aug-27 Sep, singles unless stated : Shet, about 50+ records, 16 Aug (Unst)-27 Sep (Skerries), peak 28 Aug when 8 Skerries (ISR), singles Unst, Yell, Noss, Whalsay, Foula and Mainland; a late peak 22 Sep when 3 Unst, 2 Fetlar, singles Catfirth and Scalloway (many observers); Fair Isle, 1-3 daily from 16 Aug, peaks 4 on 23rd, 6 on 28-29th, up to 5 daily in Sep to 25th, peaks 7 on 13th, 6 on 15th, 7 on 16-17th (RAB); Ork, Copinsay 8 Sep (DL); Aber, Newburgh 30 Aug (PDR), Rattray 3 Sep (CC); Isle of May 15 Aug (ADW), 25 Aug (AJW).

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. Breeding status : no change Clyde; fewer E Loth; good numbers Stir (GSh). Arrival : 7 May, pr Newlandrig, Midl (JHB); 8 May, Clatto Reservoir, Angus (MM) but earlier on coast. Spring migration : Isle of May 26 Apr-24 May (NJG); Aber, 5 May Cruden Bay (AGK); Fair Isle, small numbers 17 May-7 June, max 7 on 20 May, 5 on 3-4 June (RAB); Shet, very scarce, 19 May-14 June, max 7 Mainland on 20th (per RJT). Autumn passage : Fair Isle, 17 Aug-13 Oct, max 6 on 29 Aug, 15 on 7 Sep, 12 on 20-21 Sep, last on 26 Oct (RAB); Shet, 16 Aug-7 Oct, max 7 Skerries 16 Sep (ISR), 7 Fetlar 22 Sep (RSPB); O Heb, 1 Leurbost 18 Oct (PGH); Caith, Harpsdale 9 Sep (SL), Holborn Head 17 Sep (PMC), late records Reay 2 and 10 Nov (JMG), 2 Thurso 7 Nov

(JMW, AFCMC); Suth, Handa 17-19 Sep (AG); Inv, Rothiemurchus 5 Sep (RHD); Aber, Newburgh 7 Sep, 2 on 19 Sep (PDR), 2 Rattray 6 Oct (PDR), last Balmedie 14 Oct (RLS); Perth, 3 Invergowrie 11 Sep (EJM); last 2 Fife Ness 7 Oct (EJM); Isle of May 12 Aug-7 Oct, max 3 on 24 Aug and 7 Oct (NJG).

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. Breeding status : mixed reports, possibly slight increase E Loth (KSMcG), slight improvement Arran (MHD), increase Fife (DWO) and 5 prs Devon valley, Clack, where absent 1972 (CJH) but very scarce Caith (PMC), Inv (MIH), Renf (HG) and still low Kirk (LAU). Arrival: 29 Apr, Fife Ness (DWO); 1 May, Croy Bay, Ayr (JKRM); 2 May, Lochmaben, Dumf (NEA); mostly from 5-6 May.

Spring migration : Fair Isle, 4 on 6 May, 1-2 to 15th, more 17 May-21 June, peaks 12 on 19th, 25 on 20th and 12 on 23 May (RAB); Shet, 5 May, mainly from 17-24 May, when peaks 6 Skerries 20th (ISR) and 4 Mainland, stragglers to 6 June; Aber coast from 5 May, max 6 Rattray 23 May (CC); Isle of May 5-27 May, max 6 on 20th (JHBM, NJG). Autumn : scarce : Fair Isle, 1-2 on many days 23 Aug-30 Sep (RAB); Shet, very few from 21 Aug, last Unst 7 Oct (GB); Suth, 1 Handa 22-26 Sep (AG); Aber, last Rattray 6 Oct (RHD); Isle of May 27 Aug-8 Oct (NJG); late record Reay, Caith 10 Nov (JMW, G. McLaren).

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*. Spring migration from 5 May : Ber, St Abbs 6 May (LLJV); Isle of May, 6-27 May, max 6 on 19-20 May (JHBM); Fife Ness 5 May (PNJC, DWO); Aber, 21 records 5-21 May, singles except 2 Cruden Bay 5 May (AGK), 12+ between Aberdeen and Rattray 20 May (WM); E Ross, ♂ singing Fearn 27-28 May (CGH); Fair Isle, 10 on 5 May, some to 10 June, mainly late May when 7 on 17-18th, 8 on 19th, 1-4 until 28th (RAB); Shet, 5-6 May when 8 Mainland, 2 Whalsay, singles Unst, Fetlar, Skerries, more 17-18 May, max 4 Mainland 20th, late ones Fetlar 18 June, Skerries 21-26 June (per RJT).

Summer record : 1 Ormlie, Caith 2-3 July (JMG, SL). Autumn : Fair Isle singles 5-17 Oct, max 3 on 12th (RAB); Shet, Fetlar 28 Aug (RSPB), Skerries 12 Sep, 3 on 18 Sep (ISR), Hillswick 22 Sep, Sumburgh and Whalsay 26 Sep (JHS *et al.*); Ork, Kirkwall 12 Aug (CJB); Angus, Budon Ness 3 Oct (TMC); Fife, Morton Lochs 16 Sep (PNJC), 7 Oct (EJM), 13 Oct (KB, DWO); Isle of May, 14 Sep-15 Oct, singles except 2 on 13-14 Sep (NJG); E Loth, Tynninghame 19 Aug (AB); late record Reay, Caith 2 Nov (PMC, JMG, G. McLaren).

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Breeding status : probable increase Ayr (WRB); good breeding season Kinross (BHM); Suth, 3 prs nested Handa (AG); 0 Heb, spreading Lewis (IMMcL). Arrival : 15 Apr, Yarrowford, Selk (KAMcK), L Ryan, Wig (RCD) and 2 East Kilbride, Lan (RHH); 20 Apr, Insh, Inv (RL); 21 Apr, 2 Gladhouse, Midl (LLJV); 22 Apr, 3 Tentsmuir, Fife (MM), 1 Saltoun, E Loth (LLJV); many Midl 25th, more E Loth and Fife Ness 28th and influx to 10 Insh, Inv 30 Apr (RL); first Caith 29 Apr. Generally a late arrival and numbers slow to build up.

Spring migration : Isle of May, 1 May-8 June, max 40 on 6 May (THBM, HG, DWO); Fife Ness, max 12 on 5 May; Aber, main arrival 5 May when 30 Cruden Bay (AGK); Fair Isle, 4 May-3 June, peaks 4th (25), 5th (50), 6-8th (30-45), 18-20th (20-35) (RAB); Shet, Scalloway 29 Apr (RJ), 4 May-4 June, peaks 25 Skerries 5th, (ISR), 15 Fetlar 5th (RSPB), secondary peak 17 May.

Autumn passage poor, numbers low : Fair Isle 6 Aug-26 Sep, mainly from 16 Aug, peaks 15 on 24-25 Aug, 15 on 7 Sep, 15-20 on 10-22 Sep (RAB); Shet, from 13 Aug, peaks 10 Skerries 25 Aug and 20 on 20 Sep (ISR), 12 Noss 27 Aug, 6 Fetlar 20 Sep (RSPB, PKK), last 3 Whalsay 13 Oct (JHS), 1 Skerries 28-30 Oct (ISR); 0 Heb, last Bairnald 2 Oct (PC); Inv, last 2 Strathspey 19 Sep (RL); Ross, 3 Redfield, Black Isle

2 Oct (MKMcD-D); Perth, 50+ Kingoodie 7 Aug (EJM), last Doune 19 Sep (GSh); Fife Ness, scarce 16 Sep-7 Oct (DWO); Isle of May, 3 Aug-27 Oct, max 45 on 4 Sep (MN).

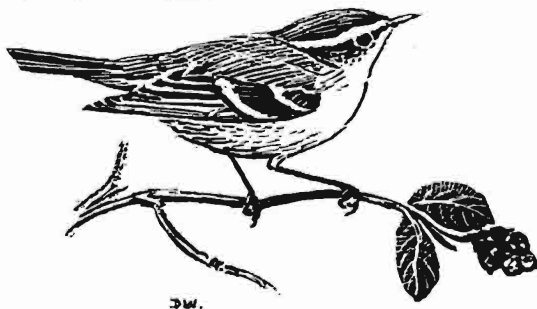
***Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides*. Singles trapped Fair Isle 24 June and 4-8 July (RAB, GJB, NR *et al.*).

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. Breeding status: 48 singing birds located N Ayr-W Renf (HG); Moray, pr nested Elgin (RR); only 1 summer record Lochaber, Inv: Leanachan 26 May (JCu), scarcer in north than recent years. Winter records: 1 Lerwick, Shet 16 Jan (FH); 1 L Auchenreoch, Kirk 1 Jan (ADW, AJW); 1 Heathhall, Dumf 14 Feb (DSk, SS).

Arrival: 24 Mar, Edgelaw, Midl (LLJV); 25 Mar, Woodhall Loch, Kirk (IHL); 28 Mar, Culzean, Ayr (GR); 30-31 Mar, big influx Bridge of Allan, Stir, and some Dunblane, Perth (GSh); new records through Apr north to Stornoway, O Heb, 24 Apr (IMMcL). Spring migration: Fair Isle, early one 12-16 Mar, some from 25 Apr, max 8 on 4 May, 5 on 5-6 May (RAB); Shet, Sandwick 6 Apr (BM), no more until early May, when 5 Whalsay 6th (JHS), late 3 Skerries 21 June (ISR). Autumn: Fair Isle, more than usual from 24 Aug, mainly from late Sep, peaks 7 on 25 Sep, 11 on 16 Oct, 10 on 21st, 15 on 2 Nov, last 9 Nov, late records mainly northern birds (RAB); Shet, first Skerries 19 Aug (ISR), most Oct, when 6 Skerries 21st, 6 Spiggie 21st, last records on 13 Nov when 3 Helendale, 1 Virkie and 2 Boddam (per RJT); Ork, 12 Oct to last one Kirkwall 23 Nov (CJB); Caith, late records Thurso 9 Nov (JMG), 2 on 14-16 Nov (PMC, RHD); Suth, 1 Durness 19 Oct (RHD); Aber, 9 records 5 Oct-17 Nov, last Don estuary (MD); Isle of May, 9 Sep-2 Nov (CPR); Kirk, 1 Carsethorn 24 Nov (JSk, JGY); Dumf, 2 Heathhall 30 Nov (DSk), one Georgetown 2 Dec (TN).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. Breeding status: fewer Gairloch, W Ross (ENH), Strathspey, Inv (RHD) and Ayr (WRB); more Lochaber, Inv (JCu); bred Aboyné and Glen Dye, Aber/N Kinc (DJ). Arrival: 5 May, Gairloch, W Ross (ENH) and Fort William, Inv (JCu); 13 May Comrie, Perth (VMT), mostly late in arriving. Migration: Fair Isle 1-2 daily 18-25 May, singles 24-29 Aug, 3-5 Sep, 6 Oct (RAB); Shet, singles Unst 18 May, Fetlar 19 and 21 May, 26 Sep (RSPB), Quendale 20 May (DC, BM), Eshaness 23 May (P. S. Plummer), Maywick 27 May (FH), Tolob 26 Aug (BM), Skerries 20 Sep (SR), Sumburgh 23 Sep (M. Ross); Stir, last Bridge of Allan 6 Sep (GSh).

***Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis*. Three records: Fair Isle trapped 4 Sep (RAB, NR), trapped 10 Sep (RAB, G. J. Armstrong); one Lunna, Vidlin, Shet, 17 Sep (BM).



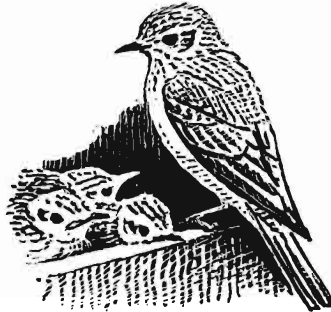
***Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*. About 50 birds 15 Sep-18 Oct; Shet, Helendale 16 Sep, 19 Sep (DC, BM), 2 Skerries 17 Sep,

one 26-27 Sep, 2 on 7 Oct (ISR), Hillswick 22 Sep (BM), Fetlar 25-27 Sep (RSPB), Noss 1 Oct (PKK); Fair Isle, 3 on 15 Sep one 17-19th, 4 on 20th, 1-3 on 21-23rd, 7 on 24th, 15 on 25th (highest ever day's total), 4 on 26-27th, 2 on 29th, one 30 Sep-1 Oct, 3 on 5 Oct, last 6 Oct (RAB); Aber, Newburgh 23 Sep (PDR), 18 Oct (J. Hardey); Fife Ness 6 Oct, 2 on 7th (EJM, DWO); Isle of May 17 Sep (D. Hope), 5 on 25 Sep (DWO), one 4 Oct (RGN).

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. Breeding status: failed to nest Kergord, Shet; bred Binscarth and Hoy, Ork (EB); Midl, numbers very high and nested Haverals where no conifers (RWJS). Rather scarce spring passage: Fair Isle 9 on 24 Mar-4 Apr, 1-6 daily 8 Apr-14 May, singles to 24 May (RAB); Shet, from 25 Mar, max 9 Bigton 9 Apr, 12 Whalsay 5 May, 6 Skerries 6 May (JHS, ISR); 5 Fife Ness 24 Apr (TJH); Isle of May peak 25 on 26 Apr (NJG).

Autumn passage: big fall of 800 Isle of May 5 Oct (RGN); Fife Ness peaks 25+ on 4 Oct, 50 on 5-6 Oct (EJM); influx Edinburgh 14 Oct (TCS); 10 Ailsa Craig 8 Oct (SW); 40+ Mull of Galloway, Wig 7 Oct (RCD); scarcer in north, Fair Isle 4 Sep-30 Oct, peaks 32 on 16 Sep, 60 on 25 Sep, 50 on 5 Oct (RAB); Shet, from 26 Aug, max 30 Skerries, 12 Fetlar and 12 Lunna 20 Sep (ISR, RSPB, BM); Aber, peaks 10 Rattray 25 Sep (AGK), 15+ on 20 Oct (CC), 12+ Balmedie 5 Oct (AGK).

***Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*. Four records: Caith, one Thurso from 7 Dec 1972 to 6 Mar (SL, PMC *et al.*); Suth, 2+ Loth 14 Dec, 1972-18 Feb (DMcD, W. C. Wright) (8 : 81); Fife, one Kilrenny 24 Apr (TJH) (8 : 81).



D.W.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Breeding status: Ork, few nested (EB); decrease Caith (PMC); good season Arran (MHD); late nesting in Galloway, starting date of nest building 18 June at Dalry, Kirk, is latest for 18 years (ADW). Arrival: 25 Apr, Penpont, Dumf (ARH); 3 May, Corstorphine, Midl (EH); 5 May, Tynninghame, E Loth (RHH), generally late in 2nd and 3rd week May; first in north, 16 May, Coulmore, E Ross (EBt).

Spring migration: Isle of May 5-30 May, max 20 on 23 May (NJG); Aber/N Kinc coast from 8 May, peak 7 Findon 22 May (AJW); Suth, 3 Handa 19 May (AG); Fair Isle, singles 5 and 8 May, passage from 17 May to 4 June, up to 25 several days and 50 on 19th (RAB); Shet, from 17 May to 6 June, peak on 19 May when 10 Mainland and 15 Skerries, also 9 Skerries on 3 June (ISR). Autumn: Fair Isle, singles 17 Aug, 5 Sep, passage 16 Sep-8 Oct, max 15 on 19th, 10 on 22nd (RAB); Shet, 16-30 Sep, max 18-22nd when 10 Mainland, 5 Unst, 5 Skerries; O Heb, 3 Druidibeg Sep (CB); Inv, 3 Rothiemurchus 5 Sep (RHD); Aber, 3 Rattray Head

25 Sep (AGK), 1 Meikle Loch 6 Oct (MHe); Angus, 6 Glen Doll 3 Sep (GMC); Kinross, last Vane Farm 28 Sep (GC); Fife Ness, singles 5-7 Oct (EJM); Isle of May, 31 Aug-5 Oct, max 6 on 4 Sep (MN); E Loth, last N Berwick 7 Oct (KSMcG).

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. Breeding status: usual SW but scarce elsewhere; Ayr, usual numbers Dalmellington (DWMcG); Borders none; Midl, pair Roslin but no evidence of breeding (LLJV); E Loth, pr nested successfully Humber (LLJV); Perth, 2 prs Ardeonaig (PWS) and several other pairs in SW (HR). No breeding reports in Highlands, and summering records scarce, only 1 Strathspey, Inv, 20 May (A. Norris); 1 Aberlour, Banff 24 June (JE); Ross 3 ♂♂ Dundonell June (ENH); Suth, ♀ Bettyhill 6 June (DSW), ♂ Strath Halladale 3 July (PRJ). Arrival: 4 May, pr Glenlee, Kirk (ADW).

Spring migration: Fair Isle 4 May-1 June, max 12 on 22 May (RAB); Shet, 4 May-22 June, mainly 4-10th and 15-18 May, max 9 Skerries 5 May (ISR *et al.*); Aber/N Kinc 4-21 May (AGK); Fife Ness, 4 May, 3 on 5th (JARG); Isle of May, 4-24 May, max 5 on 6th (NJG). Autumn: Fair Isle, 10 Aug, 2 on 17th, passage 24 Aug-10 Oct, mainly 5-27 Sep, peaks, 15 on 7th, 20 on 16th, late one 21 Oct (RAB); Shet, 16 Aug-9 Oct, peak 21-22 Sep when 14 Mainland, 9 Fetlar, 5 Unst (RSPB, GB *et al.*); Aber, peak 3 Rattray 10 Sep (CC); Fife Ness, 1-3 on 5 days 15 Sep-7 Oct (JARG, EJM); Isle of May, 12 Aug-4 Oct, 50 on 16 Aug (ADW).

***Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*. 22 in autumn and 2 in spring is best in the last six years. Spring: Aberdeen, ♀ 19 May (BJS), ♂ 27 May (K. Douglas). Autumn passage 28 Aug-3 Nov: Fair Isle 16-17 Sep, 24-27 Sep, 9-11 Oct (RAB); Shet, 2 Foula 28 Aug (BEG), Helendale 19 Sep (DC), Gloop, Yell, 19 Sep (A. R. Bomford), Weisdale 19 and 21 Sep (ISS), Noss 22 Sep (PKK), Skerries 25 Sep (ISR), Kergord 21 Oct (ISS); Aber/N Kinc, Balmedie 5 Oct (AGK), Cruden Bay 6 Oct (AGK, GPK), Girdle Ness 3 Nov (MN); Fife Ness, 2 on 16 Sep (DWO), 4 Oct, another 7 Oct (DLC, DCS); Isle of May, 14-15 Sep (D. Hope), 5-6 Oct (RGN), 11 Oct (HG); O Heb, Barra 28 Sep (P. Holt).

Dunnoek *Prunella modularis*. Migration: Fair Isle, one 10-18 Apr, passage 21 Apr-15 May, peaks 40 on 22nd, 20 on 25 Apr, 15 on 5-6 May, few to 4 June; autumn 16 Sep-21 Oct, max 8 on 25-27 Sep and 3 Oct (RAB); Shet, 1 Whalsay 10 Jan-5 Feb is unusual (JHS), passage from 22 Apr, low Nos. mainly 2-25 May, scarce autumn 17 Sep-15 Oct, max 3 Skerries 17th (ISR); Suth, 4 Handa 10-24 Sep (AG); Isle of May, max 20 on 7-8 Oct (HG).

***Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. Fair Isle, singles many days 21 Sep-5 Nov involving several birds, one known to have stayed at least 2 weeks (RAB); Shet, Skerries 20-22 Sep, 26 Sep and 2 on 8 Oct (ISR *et al.*).

***Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*. One Skerries, Shet, 22 Sep (ISR, SR).

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. 2 prs bred Isle of May (NJG); Suth, c75 prs bred Handa with moderate success (AG); good nesting season Clyde. Migration: Fair Isle, small numbers from 16 Mar, max 30 on 28 Mar; influxes 10 and 23 Sep, stragglers to 23 Nov (RAB); Shet, influx 17-18 Apr, fall on 5-7 May when 120 Skerries, 100 Whalsay (ISR, JHS), 100 Skerries 16-20 Sep, 60 Noss 18 Sep (ISR, PKK); Suth, passage Handa late Aug-Sep max 200 (AG); Isle of May peaks 100 on 13-14 Apr, 19 Sep and 8-15 Oct (NJG); Wig, 200S in 3½ hrs Mull of Galloway 15 Sep (RHH).

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Arrival: 17 Apr, Vane Farm, Kinross (GC); 21 Apr Fife Ness (DWO); 22 Apr, Balgray reservoir, Renf (GTW); 25 Apr, Dalry, Kirk (LAU), Ardrishaig, Arg (GY); 26 Apr, 2 Insh, Inv (RL); main arrivals from 27 Apr throughout country.

Migration : Fair Isle, one 23 Apr, 3-26 May, peaks 50 on 4th, 250 on 6th, stragglers to 11 June, autumn from 27 Aug, mainly from 13 Sep, max 10 on 20-24th, last 17 Oct (RAB); Shet, 4 May-4 June, peak 5 May when 25 Skerries, 20 Whalsay and 7 Fetlar, 17 Sumburgh 6 May, autumn from 21 Aug, mainly 17-23 Sep, max 15 Skerries on 22 Sep, last 2 on 8 Oct (ISR *et al.*); Suth, 1 Handa 29 May is first record for island (AG); Aber, peak 4 Cruden Bay 5 May (AGK); Angus peak 4 W Haven 12 Sep (TMC); Fife Ness 15 on 15-16 Sep (DWO); Isle of May marked passage 4-11 May, max 80 on 6th (DWO).

***Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni*. One Fair Isle 24 Sep (G. Jobling) is 3rd record for Scotland and Fair Isle.

***Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*. Fair Isle, 3 records : 28 May, another 30 May, one or other present to 2 June (P. Agland, GJB, RAB *et al.*); one 16-18 Sep (GJB *et al.*).

Rock Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*. Shet, one showing summer plumage of Scandinavian race *littoralis*, Skerries 15-30 Apr (ISR), counts : 24 prs Noss (PKK), 50 prs Skerries (ISR); Fair Isle, nest building early date 4 Apr, influx 26-31 Oct (RAB); leucistic bird still present Isle of May (NJG); 1 Crosswood, Midl, 14 Mar (GLS).

Water Pipit *A.s. spinoletta*. Ayr, Doonfoot 24 Feb-31 Mar (WRB, RHH, IHL); E Loth, Aberlady 5-14 Apr (GJ, KSMcG), West Barns, Dunbar, 16 Dec (IAGB); Midl, Harlaw Reservoir Dec 72-20 Jan (LLJV), Cobbinshaw 5 Mar, Threipmuir 5 Dec (GLS).

Pied/White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. Pied Wagtail *M.a. yarrelli*. Shet, prs nested Lerwick and Kergord; Ork, continued increase (EB); Suth, 2 prs nested Handa (AG); very successful Torridon, W Ross (JAW).

White Wagtail *M.a. alba*. Shet, prs nested Clickhimin, Girlsta and Weisdale; Fair Isle, pr nest building and probably bred (RAB).

Pied Wagtail migration : Fair Isle, sparse passage 21 Mar-29 June, max May when 1-2 on 4-14 May, autumn 1-2 daily 26 Sep-8 Oct, 12 and 30 Oct (RAB); Shet, 2 Scalloway 23 Mar (JSp), Lerwick 7 Oct; counts—Ross, Dingwall roost peak late July-early Sep, 763 caught and ringed (ARM); 80+ Bridge of Dun, Angus, 17 Aug (GMC); Perth, 300 Errol roost 24 Sep (RLMcM); 3-400 roost in turnips Milnathort, Kinross, 25 Sep (TJH).

White Wagtail migration : Fair Isle, 22 Apr-31 May, max 10 on 4-6 May, 19 Aug-28 Sep, up to 20 mid Sep, stragglers to 5 Nov (RAB); Shet, first Whalsay 6 Apr (JHS); Suth, Handa 14 Apr-10 May, 18-30 Aug (AG); Inv, 14 Longman 8 May, 28 on 9 May (JMC); Midl, peak 4 Musselburgh 2 May (LLJV); E Loth/Ber, 3 Aberlady 23 Mar (GJ), 14 Barns Ness and St Abbs 6 May (LLJV); Ayr, Doonfoot 2 Apr-15 May, max 15+ on 30th (WRB); Dunb, 35 Endrick mouth 13 May (HG), 22 Dumbarton 6 May (DNB).

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. Breeding status : good breeding season Arran (MHD); numbers high Ayr (WRB); Suth, c20 prs Tongue/Bettyhill where only few pairs 3-4 years ago (DSW). Migration : Fair Isle 25 Apr-1 May, 21 Sep, 16 Oct (RAB); Shet, Unst 25 Mar (LC, MS), Fetlar 30 May, 22 Sep (RSPB), 6 Oct (RT); Ork, Hoy 7 July (CJB); Suth, Handa 14 July-27 Sep (AG); W Ross, 1 Torridon 14 Oct is first for 8 years (JAW); Isle of May, peak on 19 Sep, 5 on 20 Sep (ADW); Wig, passage 15 Mull of Galloway 15 Sep (RHH).

***Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*. One immature Skerries, Shet, 20-23 Sep (ISR, SR, RJT).

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. Yellow *M.f. flavissima*. Breeding records : apparently only one pair bred : Dumf, bred Canonbie (ELOC); Lan, none Hamilton (HSCH) or N Ayr (HG). Migration : Fair Isle, ♂ 27 Mar is early, 1-4 on 2-6 May, 1-2 on several days to 22 May (RAB); Shet, Lerwick 30 Apr (L. Dalziel), 1-2 Quendale 19-21 May (BM *et al.*); Banff,

Buckpool 28 July (JMB); Moray, *M. flava* subsp. Spey Bay 19 May (RHD); Aber, Rattray 18 Aug (PDR, CC), Baimedie 5 Oct (AGK); Angus, 3 Elliot 6 May (MN); Kinross, Levenmouth 13 May; Isle of May, 2 on 7 May (DWO), *M. flava* subsp. 19-20 May (JHBM), *M. flava* subsp. 4-5 Sep (MN); 1 Islay 5 May (KV); about 10 records Clyde-Forth and Arg-SW Scotland: 30 Apr (Duddingston) to 28 Sep (Stranraer). *M. flava* subsp.: 7 records Fair Isle and 5 Shet, spring and autumn.

Blue-headed Wagtail *M.f. flava*. Scarce: Fair Isle, singles several dates 4-31 May (RAB); Shet, Skerries 8-11 May, 23-26 Sep (ISR), Hillwell 24 May, 1-2 Sumburgh 14-20 May (DC, BM); Suth, ♂ Balnakeil Bay 19 May (AG).

Grey-headed Wagtail *M.f. thunbergi*. Fair Isle, 1-3 on 17-24 May, 1-2 on 29 May-3 June (RAB); Shet, 2 Quendale 20 May (DC); Inv, ♂ L Ashie 18 May (RHD).

***Waxwing** *Bombycilla garrulus*. Another year of low numbers, scarce in winter, max 43, present to 6 May; one summer record, Corriemuzie, Ross 29 June (per DMcD); very small numbers autumn from 19 Oct, max 9.

Winter-spring max counts and latest dates: only records in south: 2 Gate of Fleet, Kirk, Feb (ADW), 1 Bonnyrigg, Midl, 13 Mar (N. Basden), and Cupar, Fife, 14 Feb (DWO); Aber, about 265 records 8 Jan-30 Mar, max 43 on 15 Mar (ADKR); Inv, 6 Fort William Jan (JCu); 1-8 Inverness to 19 Feb (JMC), 7 Aviemore 5 Feb, 12 on 17 Apr, 30 Loch an Eilein 25 Apr (RSPB), Tulloch spring flock 11 Apr-6 May, max 32 on 22 Apr, 25 on 6 May (RSPB); Moray, 15 Kinloss Jan-Feb (RAFKOS); Banff, 7 Cullen 1 Jan, 2 Macduff 23 Mar (AFWS); Suth, 8 Dornoch 6 Jan-25 Feb (DMcD).

Autumn passage: Fair Isle, 8 on 31 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov (RAB); Shet, Whalsay 3 Nov, 25 Dec (JHS), Scalloway 10 Nov, Unst 23 Dec and Lerwick Dec; Ork, Kirkwall 13 Nov (CJB), Holms 19 Nov (MT-C); Caith, Thurso 6 Nov, 2 on 9 and 21 Nov (JMG, JMW, AFCMC); Banff, 15 Portsoy 1 Dec (JE); Aber/N Kinc, Aberdeen 15 Nov (PSh), 2 Banchory 29 Nov, 1 on 9 Dec (MM, NP), 2 Don estuary 7 Dec, 1 Peterhead 21 Nov (HMR); Angus, 2 West Haven 20 Oct (TMC), 9 Dundee 26 Nov (MFF); Perth, 2+ Pitlochry 19 Oct; Clack, Dollar 26 Nov (DMB); E Loth, Longniddry 19 Dec (TCS); Arg, 6 Islay 23-31 Nov (CGB); Dunb, 1 Bearsden 7 Dec (BCF); Kirk, Dalry 1 Dec, 3 on 4th, 3 on 5th (LAU); Dumfries 19 Dec (G. Stobs).



***Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*. Rather low numbers, about 14 records Jan-26 May, and 28 from 18 Sep. Winter-spring: Dumf, Eskdalemuir Apr (ELOC); Kirk, Laurieston 9 Feb (J. Corson), Fleet Forest

Feb (R. Steele); Dumb, Endrick 26-27 Feb (JM, CP, RKP); Selk, Loch of the Lowes 13 Jan (AWGJ); Perth, Kingoodie 3 Mar (EJM, DWO, RLMcM); Aber, Forest of Birse 7 Jan (ACBH), Skene 11 Feb (ADKR), Aberdeen 1 May (A. Lack); Inv, Flichity 15-25 Apr (RSPB); Fair Isle 22 Apr and 8 May (RAB); Shet, West Burrafirth 6 May (NLS), Stromfirth 26 May (J. Moar).

Autumn : Fair Isle, 1-2 daily 18 Sep-8 Oct, at least 4 individuals, singles 12-15 Oct and 2 Nov (RAB); Shet, Skerries 11 Oct (ISR); Inv, Stratherrick 12 Nov (A. J. Bennett), Insh 17-27 Nov (RL); Aber, Glen Tanar 9 Nov (J. Oswald); Angus, Boddin 5 Oct (GMC); Perth 23 Nov (BCF, RWF); Fife Ness 4 Oct (EJM), Leuchars 7 Oct (AJB); Isle of May, 3 on 4 Oct, 1-2 to 10th (RGN); E Loth, North Berwick 4-7 Oct (DEA, KSMcG); Peebles 22 Nov (CMM); Arg, Strontian 27 Oct (JR); Arran 30 Dec (MHD); Kirk/Wig, Drummore 7 Oct (RCD), Auchencairn 4 Nov, Loch Stroan 11 Nov (LAU, ADW), Mossdale 17 Nov (J. Wood); Dumf, Moffat 27 Oct (A. Walker), Forest of Ae 23 Oct (ARH), St Anns Dec (E. Patterson).

***Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor*. One Montrose Basin, Angus, 3-19 July (GMC Mrs V. A. Black et al.).

***Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*. One Virkie, Shet, 20 May (DC, FH, RE-H).

***Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio*. Spring : Fair Isle, 3-4 most days 18-30 May, max 20th (5), 23rd (6), 24th (8) and 25th (6), 2 on 5-7 June, one 11th and 18-20 June (RAB); Banff, ♀ Buckie 26 May (DBMcG); Inv, ♀ Morlich 31 May (R. E. Youngman); Aber, ♀ 19-21 May (A. Lack et al.), ♀ Cruden Bay and ♀ Pittenheath 20 May (WM); Kinc, ♂ Stonehaven 20 May (AJW); Shet, 3 Sumburgh 21 May, 2 Whalsay 19 May, 2 Skerries 22 May, 11 singles 19 May-10 June elsewhere in islands; Perth, ♂ Glen Quaich 11 June (HR, GS, AM); Fife, ♂ Kingsbarns 12 May (D. McLean); Isle of May, one 20-22 May (DRG, JHBM).

Autumn : Fair Isle, 1-2 daily 14-29 Sep (RAB); Shet, singles Skerries 18 Sep (ISR), 8 Oct (ISR, RJT), Virkie 22-23 Sep (DC, M. Ross); Isle of May, 2 on 4 Oct, one 5th, 2 on 6-8th, one 9th (RGN, JGY).

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. One pr nested Handa cliffs, Suth—first recorded this century (AG); migration and counts : Fair Isle, 800 on 1 Nov, 500 on 5th (RAB); Moray, 10,000 Spynie roost 10 Nov (RHD); Angus, 40,000 Tay rail bridge roost Oct (EJM); Isle of May, peak 164 on 5 Oct (RGN).

***Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*. Shet, ad Bigton 20-24 May (DC, RE-H, L. Dalziel); Midl, ad Penicuik 29 June (N. A. Ruckley).

***Ovenbird** *Seiurus aurocapillus*. One trapped and ringed Skerries, Shet 7-8 Oct (ISR, SR, et al.) is the first record for the main British list of this of this North American migrant. A previous record (Lancashire 1969) of a wing on the tideline was included in category D.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. Pair reared 3 young Bridge of Allan, Stir (GSh); Perth, one Invergowrie 7 Feb, pr 31 Mar, ♂ 31 May (EJM, ECP et al.) ♂ Dupplin 13 May (VMT), singles Perth 30 July and 11 Dec (RLMcM); Ber, 3 Hirsell 24 Oct (AB, RHH); Aberdeen, ♂ 14 June (AGK, GPK).

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. Counts : Perth, 300+ Port Allen 21 Jan (RLMcM) Midl, 200 Blackford Jan (DRL), 350 17 Nov (CJH), 200 Seafield 11 Dec (AWGJ); Renf, 200 Erskine 9 Dec (IPG). Migrants : Fair Isle 2 on 25 May, 2 on 4-10 Nov, one 27 Nov—scarce (RAB); Shet, Weisdale 21 Jan, 22 May (ISS), Fetlar 27 Jan (ISR), Unst 11 Feb, Lerwick 2 May, 2 on 12 June (DC), 2 Skerries 2 Nov (PKK).



Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. Peak counts : 20 Whiting Bay, Arran, 30 Sep (MHD); Selkirk, 12 on 5 Mar (AJS); E Loth, 25 North Berwick 29 Aug (DEA), 30 Aberlady 28 Dec (JHB); Midl, 20 Hadfast 17 Aug (JHB), 50 Gladhouse 1 Nov (GLS); 20 Vane Farm, Kinross 14 Sep (JES); Perth, 25 Seaside 11 Jan (RLMcM); Angus, 35 Elliot 20 Oct (NKA, MN); smaller numbers north to Caith where 10 Reay 26 Dec (JMG, G. McLaren); 4 Islay 22 Nov (CGB). Migrants : singles Virkie, Shet, 14 Oct (W. Horne) and Isle of May 19 May (JHBM).

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. Breeding status : 1+ pr bred Culzean, Ayr (GR); bred Muirshiel, Renf (HG); pr bred Brechin, Angus (GMC); Inv, more Lochaber (JCu); fewer Caith (PMC). Counts : 100+ Lochmaben, Dumf, 26 Dec (RTS); Dumb, 100 Endrick mouth 6 Oct (TW); 60 Selkirk 3 Mar (AJS); Perth, 300 Dunkeld 11 Mar (RLMcM); Moray, 70 Fochabers 19 Aug (JMB). Peanut feeding reported widespread, Kirk to E Ross.

Migration : scarce Fair Isle, 5-8 May, max 6 on 5th, 5 Oct-2 Nov, max 4 on 5 Oct (RAB); Shet, very few, 5-31 May, max 3 Skerries, autumn only 6 records in Oct/Nov, max 4 Whalsay 12 Oct (JHS, ISR); Kinc, 20 Girdle Ness 5 Oct (RLS); Isle of May, 5 on 4 Oct, 7 on 5th (RGN).

Linnet *Acanthis cannabina*. 2 prs bred Isle of May, first since 1960 (NJG). Counts : 600 Portpatrick, Wig, 7 Mar (GS); Renf, 800+ Paisley 5 Oct (IPG); E Loth, big roost Longniddry May-Oct, 500 ringed (JHB, DRL, AWGJ); Inv, 1400 Essich 25 Jan, 1200 on 9 Feb (JMC); Suth, 200+ Dornoch 16 Sep (DMcD); Midl, 300 Blackford Jan (DRL).

Migration : Fair Isle, good numbers from 2 May, peaks 13 on 5-6th, 17 on 7th, stragglers into June, record total of 19 ringed (RAB); Shet, from 22 Apr, more in May, max 4 Skerries 7 May, 3 Sumburgh 7 and 24 May (DC, BM), last 2 Strand 1 July (NLS); Isle of May peak 40 on 13 Apr (RDM); Renf, 200+S per hr Langbank 21 Jan (IPG).

Twite *Acanthis flavirostris*. Suth, 7 prs nested Handa with average success (AG); continued improvement in breeding population Fair Isle (RAB). Counts : Wig, 120 Stoney Kirk 17 Feb and 17 Mar (RCD), 62 Wigtown Merse 11 Nov; Ayr, winter flock reduced at 60+ Turnberry Bay 1 Dec (WRB, RHH); E Loth, max 19 on 28 Dec; Stir, 100 Skinflats 28 Jan (RHH); Inv, 100+ Lentran 9 Dec (MIH), 66 Whiteness 1 Feb (RHD), 100 Insh 18-24 Sep (RL); Ross, 30 Dingwall 17 Nov (ARM); Caith, 50 Murkle 25 Feb (PMC); Fair Isle, 100 in early May, 60 Aug, 200 Sep, 150 Oct, 130 early Nov down to 20 by 8th (RAB). Migrants : Isle of May, 1 end of Apr, 35 on 22-29 Dec (NKA); 40S Mull of Galloway 15 Sep (IHL).

Redpoll *Acanthis flammea*. Good breeding numbers Kirk (ADW); fewer Lochaber (JCu). Counts : 220+ Craigmill Den, Angus 27 Oct (TMC); 150 Insh, Inv Oct (RL); Ross, 100+ Gairloch 15 Sep (ENH). Migration : mainly Mealy Redpolls *A.f. flammea*. Fair Isle 15 Feb-3 July, mainly May when peak 12 on 7th, 8 on 11th; only 1 autumn record, 27 Nov; 1 Lesser *A.f. cabaret* 5-7 May (RAB); Shet, 31 Lerwick 31 Jan (L. Dalziel), 10 Unst 20 Feb, peaks in May, max 20 Unst 22-24th, none autumn (RJT *et al.*); Suth, 26 Mealies Handa 19 Apr, 6 on 22nd, 4 on 25th (AG); Inv, 2 Kiltarlity 20 Jan (MIH); 30 Mealies Aberlady, E Loth 2 Sep (HG, BZ).

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. Migrants of northern origin *P.p. pyrrhula* Shet, ♀ Fetlar 26 Mar (ISR), ♂ Scalloway 18 Nov-31 Dec (RJ).

***Scarlet Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*. Record spring passage in Shet, a total of 10 birds and good numbers in autumn, at least 23 individuals. Spring : Shet, imm ♂ Tolob 20 May (DC), ad ♂ Virkie 20-21 May (DC, JI, FH), imm ♂ Virkie 22 May, ad ♂ Durigarth 23 May (DC, RE-H, L. Brown), ♀ Sumburgh 19 May (BM, RE-H); ♂ Scalloway 23-24 May (C. D. Ingram, A. Cook), ♀ Foula 22 May, ♀ Skerries 18 June (SR), Fair Isle ♀ 22 May-1 June, another 22-25 June (RAB).

Autumn : Fair Isle, 23-26 Aug, 27th (2), 28th (3), 2 to 31st, 3 on 1-5 Sep, one to 9th, 5 on 10th, 11-15th (6), 16-17th (2), 18-22nd (3), one 23rd Sep, at least 11 individuals, 4 ringed (RAB); Shet 3 Skerries 25 Aug, one 28th, 2 on 1-5 Sep, one 9-10 Sep (ISR, SR), Whalsay 26 Aug, 12 Sep (JHS), Tolob 27 Aug (BM), 12 Sep, 3 on 14 Sep (DC), Foula 30-31 Aug (BEG), about 12 individuals.

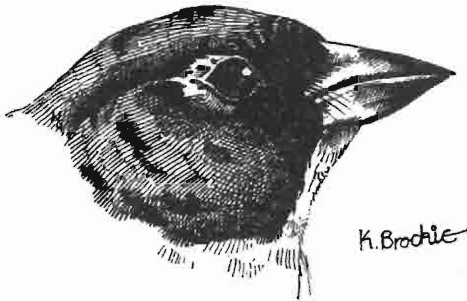
Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*. Breeding numbers of Scottish Crossbills *L.c. scotica* in Abernethy/Rothiemurchus, Inv, high and good numbers of young (RHD), fewer Lochaber (JCu); Aber, good Nos. Deeside but few young; E Ross, more records Black Isle; Perth, an increase in records, possibly a reflection of 1972 *L.c. curvirostra* invasion, 80 Dunkeld 11 Mar, 50+ on 31 Mar ((RLMcM, DBM); peaks in SE, 8-10 Glencorse, Midl, 11 Mar (Mrs M. Watson); 24 Tynninghame, E Loth, 11 May and 25 Whitekirk 10 Feb; 12 Peebles 18 May and 30 Cheesewell 19 May (AOC); Angus, 14 Glen Doll 10 May; usual scatter of records Galloway and Dumf, max 20+ Bennan Forest 4 July (ADW, AJW), first immature 7 Feb (ARH); Ork, ♂ in song Hoy 1 June (E. A. Lea). Singles Fair Isle 22 June and 25 Sep are only reported migrants (RAB).

***Two-barred Crossbill** *Loxia leucoptera*. A male Dores, Inv, 4 Apr (Miss A. M. Paterson).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Pr bred Kergord, Shet is first proven for several years. Count : 500+ Lunderston Bay, Renf, 22 Jan (IPG). Migration : Fair Isle, few from 5 Feb, small passage 20 Apr-13 May, max 9 on 6th, scarce autumn passage 16 Sep-12 Oct, max 10 on 27 Sep, 15 on 29 Sep and 6 Oct (RAB); Shet, very few in spring, small passage 18 Sep-15 Oct, max 20 Whalsay 29 Sep (JHS), 25 Mainland 15 Oct; Isle of May first 26 Sep, max 50 on 5 Oct (RGN).

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. Winter counts : Ayr, 120 Castlehill 2-3 Feb (AGS, RTW), 50 Dunure 14 Feb (JKRM); Peeb, 250 Portmore 4 Jan (JHB); Perth, 20 Longforgan 28 Mar (EJM); generally scarce in north : 16 Eathie, E Ross, 6 Apr (MKMcD-D); late records Aber/N Kinc, Rattray 19 May (CC), Cove 7 May (JRP). Spring migration : Isle of May, max 16 on 25 Apr (NJG), last 16 May (JHBM); Fair Isle 20 Apr-30 May, mostly 1-10 May when 20 on 1st, 50 on 5th (RAB); Shet, early May passage, peaks 20 Skerries 5 May (ISR), 20 Unst 4 May (GB, MS), 12 Fetlar 7 May, ♂ singing Kergord 23 July (I. Anderson).

Autumn migration, from 19 Sep : Fair Isle, peaks 7-8 Oct (150), 20th (57), 1 Nov (50) (RAB); Shet, from 19 Sep, mainly 5-6 Oct when 50 Unst,



45 Skerries, 14 Whalsay, another peak 1 Nov when 13 Skerries (ISR *et al.*); Banff, 50 Cullen 2 Dec (JE); Aber/N Kinc, 15-20 Rattray 6 Oct (MD), 30 Banchory 29 Nov (MM); Perth, 50 Aberargie 26 Oct (DWO), 400 Glen Lyon 18 Nov (DRW); Isle of May passage from 30 Sep, max 100 on 5 Oct; Midl, 40 Cobbinshaw 30 Oct (GLS); Peeb, 300 Eddleston 31 Dec (RHH); Renf, 40 Barr Loch 22 Nov (HG); Dumf, 450+ Beattock 10 Nov (NEA, RTS), 200+ Lockerbie 19 Nov (RTS).

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*. Decrease reported Caith (PMC), Prestwick, Ayr (WRB); 40 prs Balranald, O Heb (PC). Counts: 86 Fearn, E Ross 4 Nov (RHD); Shet, 14 Strand 17 Jan, 14 Asta 22 Dec and 11 South Nesting 23 Mar; one migrant Fair Isle 15 Feb (GJB). Albinos reported Rattray, Aber, 1-6 Sep (CC) and Careston, Angus, July (GMC).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. Very scarce on migration: Fair Isle, singles 16-17 May, 22 June, 1-8 Nov, 23-25 Dec (RAB); Whalsay, Shet, 14 May (JHS) and 2 Hillswick 2 Oct (L. Blohm); 1 Handa, Suth, 17 June (AG); O Heb, 1 Hougharry 19 May (PC).

†**Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala*. ♂ Fetlar, Shet, 21-30 Sep (RSPB); Fair Isle, ♀/imm 20-26 Aug (RAB *et al.*), also males regarded as escaped cage birds 17-23 May and 7 June (RAB).

†**Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps*. 11-12 records: Fair Isle, ♂ 5-15 May, ♀ 22-23 May, ♂ 17-20 June, 27 June-1 July, 20 Aug (RAB); Shet, Skerries ♂ 29 May-4 June, 18 June (ISR), Foula ♂ 1-30 July (BEG), ♂ Stenness 22 July-9 Aug (DC); Isle of May, ♂ 3-8 June, 16 June (GCh, HG); Arran, ♂ Whiting Bay 28 May (MHD).

***Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*. 3 records: Fair Isle 13-14 Sep (RAB, R. Filby, M. Lawley *et al.*), another 17-22 Sep (RAB, NR, D. J. Holman *et al.*) Shet, Skerries 9-11 Sep (ISR, SR).

***Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*. A slightly better year; Fair Isle 3 on 5 May, 5 on 7th, 2 on 8th, one 9 May, 1-2 on 7-12 Sep, one 19-21 Sep and one 25 Sep are first autumn records since 1970 (RAB); Shet, Skerries 4th, 8th, 13th (2), 16th, 21st May, 20-22 Sep (6 individuals) (ISR), Whalsay 14 May (JHS), Sumburgh 26 May, 28 May (BM, JSp); Ork, ♂ Copinsay 8 May (DL *et al.*); Caith, 1 Crosskirk 11 Oct (PMC); Isle of May, one 5-7 May (DWO).

***Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*. Only one record, ♂ Fair Isle 14-29 Sep (RAB).

***Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*. 7 records: Fair Isle 24 Sep, 2 on 25-26th, one to 30 Sep (RAB, GJB, NR), one 15 Oct (GJB); Shet, Skerries 8 May (DC, ISR, RJT), 22 Sep (ISR), ♂ song Kergord 13-14 May (BM, DC), Sumburgh 26 May (JSp).

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. Migration : Fair Isle, singles 14 and 26 Mar, 2 and 26 Apr, passage 3-28 May, peaks 30 on 5-6th, 40 on 7th, 12 on 20-22nd, autumn 16 Sep-16 Oct, 1-4 daily but 7 on 7-8 Oct, scattered records to 8 Dec (RAB); Shet, max 11 Skerries 6 May (ISR). Counts : Aber, 35+ Rattray 23 Oct (CC, AGK); 60 caught at roost Dingwall, E Ross, Oct-Dec (ARM).

†**Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina amoena*. ♂♂ Fair Isle 4-8 May and 7 June (RAB).

***White-throated Sparrow** *Zonotrichia albicollis*. One Skerries, Shet, 5-15 May (ISR, SR, DC, RJT).

***Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*. Winter-spring : Fife, ♂ Ardross, Elie, 24 Apr (G. B. Corbet); Angus, 1 found dead Arbroath cliffs 6 Feb (MFF); O Heb, 1 L Druidibeg Apr (CB); Fair Isle, singles 5-6th, 12th and 17 May (RAB); Shet, ♂♂ 7th and 31 May (ISR).

Large autumn immigration : Fair Isle, one 2 Sep, daily 10 Sep-18 Oct, peaks 3 on 10 Sep, 8 on 14th, 80 on 16th, Nos. high to 21st, 15 daily to 30th, 10 daily to 11 Oct, late singles 2nd and 6-7 Nov (RAB); Shet, 2 Noss 18 Sep, 3 on 21st, 2 on 22nd, one 24th (PKK), 1 Skerries 14 Sep, 4 on 16th, 23 on 17th, 30 on 18th, 20 on 20th, 15 on 21st, 7 on 22nd (ISR); Aber, singles Rattray 10 Oct (RBH), 13 Oct (CC, MD), Newburgh 18 Nov (RBH); Fife Ness 1 Oct (EJM); Isle of May 6 Sep (MN), 13-15 Sep (JHB, DH), 17 Sep (DH), 14-15 Oct (MFC); E Loth, Aberlady 26 Oct, 3 on 10 Nov (AB, RHH).

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Breeding status : good season, 4-6 prs in Cairngorms with up to 20 young seen; 3 ♂♂ 2♀♀ seen Ben Nevis area where 4 young seen 7 July (JCu) and 4 young nearby on 20 Aug (RGN); 3 on mountain N Suth 4 June (D&JTh); ♂ in song Perth mountain June (RWS).

Counts : Shet, 430 Unst 7 Jan (MS); Caith, 100 Murkle 23 Feb (AFCMC); Ross, 40 Longa 11 Jan (ENH); Banff, 150 Portgordon 24 Feb (JMB); Aber, 115 Bridge of Don 18 Feb (PSh); Midl, 45 Musselburgh, 18 Feb; E Loth, scarce, max Prestongrange 34 on 24 Jan; Kirk, 12 Corserine 25 Feb (H. A. Lang). Spring passage : Fair Isle, 124 on 2 Feb, 150-200 in Mar, less than 50 to end Apr, last 26 May, 1 June; Shet, last Skerries 16 June; O Heb, last Balranald 6 May (PC), 16 St Kilda 30 Apr (R. Brant); Aber, last Rattray 27 May (CC); Perth, ♂ Ben More 25 Apr (R. E. Thomas).

Autumn passage and counts : Fair Isle 4 on 9 Sep, 100 on 23rd, 150 on 25th, 250 on 2 Oct, 200 on 20th, 400 on 21 Oct, 800-1000 on 5-8 Nov (RAB); Shet, from 9 Sep Unst (GB), peaks 150 Whalsay 21 Oct, 150 Scatness 18 Oct, 3-400 Gulberwick 30 Nov, 500 Dunrossness 10 Nov; Caith, from 29 Sep, max 250 Harpsdale Dec (SL); Suth, 400 L Fleet 16 Nov (RHD, DMCD); Ross, 200 Inver 16 Nov (RHD); Moray, first 10 Spey Bay 30 Sep (JMB); O Heb, from 30 Sep; Aber, first Strathbeg 22 Sep (MM), 40 on 23 Oct (AGK); Clack, 325 SW Ochils 31 Dec (CJH); Midl, 40 Musselburgh 10 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 48 Prestongrange 23 Dec (KTS).

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. Isle of May 6 May (DWO), 24-26 Sep (ADW), 5 on 23 Oct (IFS).

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*. Breeding records : Eday, Ork, colony continues (EB); nested Europie, Lewis, O Heb; counts : 40 Doonfoot, Ayr, 28 Dec (WRB); 150 Tynninghame, E Loth, Feb-Mar (GLS); Midl, 200 Blackford Jan (DRL); Moray, 50 Alves 3 Mar (RHD); Inv, 20 Lentrane 21 Apr (RHD); Caith, 2 Watten 25 Feb (SL).

Migration, scarce: Fair Isle 1-4 many days 10 Apr-11 June, 7 on 5 and 19 May, few present throughout summer to 3 Nov, max 6 on 31

Oct (RAB); Shet, Skerries 5-18 May, max 7 on 10-13th (ISR), 1 Noss 6-12 May (PKK), 5 Unst, 18 May is peak (GB); Isle of May, 47 on 3 June (HG), 12 on 23 Oct (IFS); Suth, 4 Handa 19 May (AG); Aber, Rattray 1 on 27 May, 1 on 13 Oct (CC), 15 on 14 Oct (MHe); Kinc, 12 Girdle Ness 20 Oct (PDR).

Additions and corrections to earlier reports

White-billed Diver

The rarities committee and several experts have now re-examined all records of White-billed Divers and the following (previously published in *Scottish Birds*) have been accepted (*British Birds* 67: 257-96):

- 1964 one Fetlar, Shet, 6 June (Mr & Mrs L. Roberts).
- 1965 one found dead Earlsferry, Fife, 1 Jan (G. Waterston *et al.*).
- 1969 ad found dead Aberdeen 24 Mar (Dr Rae, J. J. D. Greenwood).
- 1969 ad summer plumage Whalsay, Shet, 4-7 May (W. Arthur, JHS).
- 1970 imm found dead Gullane, E Loth, 16 Jan (R. K. McGregor).
- 1970 ad found dead Findhorn, Moray, 1 Feb (B. Etheridge).
- 1971 ad summer plumage Fair Isle 29 May (JHS).
- 1971 ad summer plumage L Torridon, Ross, 6-22 June (P. J. Tizzard, JAW, RHD).
- 1972 imm Buckie, Banff, 5 Mar-20 May (D. B. McGinn, RHD, RL *et al.*).

1969 Additions

Wryneck 1 ringed Ardrishaig, Arg, 17 Sep (R. Spencer).

1970 Addition

Hawfinch Pr nested Girvan, Ayr, 5 eggs destroyed by boys—first nesting record in county this century (M. J. L. Wilson).

1972 Additions

Grey Phalarope 1 Cramond, W Loth, 18-20 Aug (GLS, LLJV).

Firecrest 2+ Loth, Suth, 14 Dec-18 Feb 1973 (DMcD, W. C. Wright) (8 : 81).

House Sparrow A Fair Isle ringed bird controlled on Handa.

1971 Correction

Trumpeter Finch Handa, 8-9 June (7 : 160) has now been accepted as a new bird for the British Isles.

1972 Correction

Plate 26 (above) depicts a Little Stint, not a Dunlin.

Review

Scarce Migrant Birds in Britain and Ireland. By J. T. R. Sharrock. Berkhamsted, T. & A. D. Poyser, 1974. Pp 191; 12 black-and-white plates, line drawings and 130 text figures. 22½ x 14 cm.

It is very welcome to find constructive use being made of the records of some of the rarer species recorded annually in the British Isles. In any one year the reports of the Rarities Committee published in *British Birds* can contain only the briefest of summaries and county and regional reports are, of necessity, mainly of local interest. However, by drawing extensively on these invaluable record banks and appealing successfully for other unpublished records Dr Sharrock has drawn together some 7000 records of 24 selected species (and one associated group of species) during the ten-year period 1958-1967. His analysis of these records forms the basis of his book. The chapters are formed of groups of species with some features in common, which may be their close relationship or sharing of similar breeding ranges or migratory patterns. The majority of species considered have European breeding ranges but they also include, as an interesting contrast, two North American species (Pectoral Sandpiper and Sabine's Gull) and a group of associated American land birds. The chapter concerned with these American species is rather incongruously positioned among the European species.

For each species there is an attractive format with a wealth of text figures clearly emphasising the salient features: the annual pattern of records, seasonal variation and main peaks of passage and the geographical, county by county distribution of records. The text amplifies these features and attempts to explain the reasons behind the vagrancy patterns. In this aim the inclusion of a series of distribution maps (by courtesy of the 1966 *Field Guide*) showing the European breeding range of the vagrants is an added asset. Unfortunately, the only two species considered with mainly Asiatic breeding ranges (Richard's Pipit and Yellow-browed Warbler) are not similarly provided for.

The material for the book was originally published in a series of papers in *British Birds* (1969-1973) and remains virtually unchanged in the new book form. Occasional references to the period 1968-1972 (immediately after the ten year analysis period) emphasise the only serious omission—an updated summary or appendix in the light of recent records. This would have added considerably to the text in several cases. The addition of a useful series of black-and-white plates of the species under analysis and rather brief species descriptions at the head of each chapter would seem unlikely to help this work to reach a more general readership. If this was the intention, a fuller explanation of the underlying principles of migration, frequently mentioned in the text, or a comprehensive glossary would have been of prime importance. Nevertheless, the content of the work retains its scientific importance and despite the rather scanty evidence on which some of the conclusions are tentatively drawn the book should be of wide interest to all serious-minded ornithologists.

ROGER A. BROAD.

Letters

Sir,

Gulls breeding inland in Stirlingshire

Bourne & Dixon (*Scot. Birds* 8: 75) comment that Lesser Black-backed Gulls with a few Herring Gulls have been nesting on Flanders Moss at least since the early 1950's. Lesser Blackbacks in fact bred there in good numbers long before that period. In 1935 Rintoul & Baxter in *A Vertebrate Fauna of Forth*, referring to colonies on Flanders Moss as the largest in Forth, gave no hint that these were not already long-established.

ANDREW T. MACMILLAN

Sir,

Gulls and Arctic Terns breeding inland in Aberdeenshire

Further to my note on gulls and Arctic Terns breeding in the Correen Hills of central Aberdeenshire (*Scot. Birds* 8: 75-6), a count in June 1974 revealed the following populations:

- Lesser Black-backed Gull—60-70 pairs (increase)
- Herring Gull—10 pairs (decrease)
- Common Gull—3-4000 pairs (apparent increase probably due to more accurate counting)
- Arctic Tern—4 pairs

R. L. SWANN.

(According to *The Handbook*, vol. 5 (1941), Arctic Terns breed regularly on some inland waters in Ireland and northern Scotland; also by fresh water far inland in Arctic Europe and Asia, including peat-mosses and forest-edge pools—apparently similar habitat to the Correen Hills. Baxter and Rintoul (1953 *Birds of Scotland*), however, considered inland breeding rare here and gave only a few records. Campbell and Ferguson-Lees (1972 *A Field Guide to Birds' Nests*) state "inland now in only one Irish locality, though a kilometre or more from sea in Shetland, Caithness".

Cramp, Bourne and Saunders (1974 *The Seabirds of Britain and Ireland*) maintain that only where the breeding distribution of the Common Tern overlaps with that of the Arctic Tern is the latter restricted to maritime nesting. In the absence of competition, for example, in the Arctic, the Arctic Tern nests widely inland. Similarly, in mixed colonies Arctic Terns tend to nest in areas of sparse vegetation, but where there is no competition for sites they will nest among lush growth.

It is interesting to note this small inland colony of Arctic Terns in the absence of their competitive congeners.—ED.)

Requests for Information

BTO Sites Register work in Scotland Conservation needs now, as never before, facts: it is vital to know which are our most important bird areas and the species that depend on them. The *Sites Register* work now being carried out provides the opportunity to fill such gaps in our knowledge.

Since this important project was announced eighteen months ago some 800 important Scottish areas have been suggested for documentation—the birds using each of these areas must be recorded during the next two years. Where the habitat is present on a vast scale, extensive areas are often being covered: long stretches of glens and tracts the size of the Cairngorms are included. So far, records are held for less than one quarter of these listed areas and help is urgently required in all parts of Scotland. It you can help—either by visiting new areas or by recording those you know well already—please contact your local organizer or write to: Sites Register, BTO, Beech Grove, Tring, Herts.

Island birds I am researching into testing island biogeography theories on Britain's offshore breeding avifauna. Habitat data is needed for a number of islands off the Scottish coast to facilitate inter-island comparison. I need people to fill in island outline maps with a simple habitat coding. If you think you can help with one of the following islands please write to T. M. Reed, c/o Pendley Beeches Lodge, London Road, Tring, Herts HP23 5RB.

The islands are: Hascosay, Ailsa Craig, Eilean nan Ron, Out Skerries, Berneray, Pabbay, Mingulay, Canna, Coll, Eigg, Flannans, Muck, Raasay, Sule Stack, Sule Skerry, Orkney and Shetland—any welcome.

Waxwing irruption The past three winters, 1971-2, 1973-4 and 1974-5 have all had Waxwing irruptions of varying sizes. It appears that this past winter 1974-5 has perhaps been the biggest. The results are being analysed by Andrew D. K. Ramsay, 14 Camesky Road, Caol, Invernesshire and all records are required. Records of numbers seen, dates of arrival and departure, where seen, with types of berries eaten or food being taken, would be most appreciated. Spring records are also important.

Colour-ringed gulls Over 14,000 Herring and Lesser Black-backed Gulls have been ringed on the Isle of May since 1966, each with a Darvic colour ring relating to its year of fledging, and also with a BTO monel ring. Of these, many hundreds have been culled as breeding adults as part of the Nature Conservancy Council's programme of gull control on the island. However, it is apparent from recent counts and calculations of life expectancy from the ringing returns that a large proportion of these gulls have not recruited into the breeding population on the Isle of May, and are thus presumably breeding in other colonies. Records of colour-ringed gulls breeding in colonies other than the Isle of May are of intrinsic importance to a three-year study of gull recruitment. Any such records will be most gratefully received by Neil Duncan, Department of Zoology, University of Durham, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE.

Checklist of the birds of the Gambia A comprehensive checklist of the birds of the Gambia is currently being prepared by Mr Jens Kirkeby and Mr Jorn Vestergaard Jensen in co-operation with the Gambian Ornithologists' Society. It is intended that this checklist will bring together all bird records, published and unpublished, for the Gambia. Anyone having unpublished records for this area is requested to make these known to Jorn Vestergaard Jensen, Holtevej 13, DK-8000 Aarhus C., Denmark. All contributions will be fully acknowledged.

The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

Revenue Account for the year ended 30th June 1974

	Year to 30/6/74	Year to 30/6/73
INCOME—		
Subscriptions received for year	£4715	£4388
Income Tax recovered on covenanted subscriptions	643	630
Dividends and Interest received (gross)	308	217
Surplus on Bookshop (sales £11976)	3313	2289
Sale of 'Scottish Birds'	260	238
Sundry sales less sundry purchases	22	86
Donations received	20	7
Gain on redemption of investment	56	—
	<u>£9337</u>	<u>£7855</u>
EXPENDITURE—		
Branch expenses including lectures	£551	£482
Travel expenses of Council members and of delegates to conferences	265	216
Secretarial services	5742	4281
Office expenses	1103	911
Scottish Centre for Ornithology and Bird Protection : Club's share of running expenses	1150	516
Cost of books purchased for Library	128	125
Cost of publishing 'Scottish Birds' (less advertising revenue £494)	1420	1056
Honorarium to Editor of 'Scottish Birds'	£75	
Less Contribution from 'Scottish Birds' Appeal Fund	75	
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Net cost of Annual Conference	40	18
Subscriptions paid	48	57
	<u>10447</u>	<u>7662</u>
Excess of Expenditure over Income	(1110)	193
	<u>£9337</u>	<u>£7855</u>

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1974

	Year to 30/6/74	Year to 30/6/73
Accumulated surplus as at 30th June 1973	£4098	£3905
Deduct : Excess of Expenditure over Income	1110	(193)
Accumulated surplus as at 30th June 1974	<u>£2988</u>	<u>£4098</u>

(Note: £1000 of this surplus is earmarked for the House Fabric Fund)

Made up of:

Cash in hand and Bank current accounts	£229	£271
Cash in Savings Banks and Building Society	1655	309
Bookshop stock at valuation	2330	2100
Tie and Badge stock at valuation	82	177
Debts due to Club	879	572
Night store heaters—Cost	£465	
Less depreciation	375	
	90	180
Addressing machine—Cost	£530	
Less depreciation	330	
	200	300
Investments at cost, as below	2406	2900
	<u>7871</u>	<u>6809</u>

Less:

Life Membership Fund	£875	675
Subscriptions paid in advance	45	54
Debts due by Club	2193	1035
Sum due to Endowment Fund	242	198
'Scottish Birds' Appeal Fund	1120	582
Sum earmarked for Library binding	167	167
Balance of Royal Society Grant to Library	188	—
Sum raised for purchase of Projector	53	—
	<u>4883</u>	<u>2711</u>
	<u>£2988</u>	<u>£4098</u>

Investments as at 30th June 1974:

	Market Value	At cost	At cost
Safeguard Industrial Investments Ltd.—			
875 Ord. shares of 25p each	£350	£508	£508
£950—6½% Treasury Loan 1976	860	946	946
£1300—British Electricity 3% Guar. Stock 1974/77	1118	952	952
£550—5½% Conversion Stock 1974 (redeemed)	—	—	494
	<u>£2328</u>	<u>£2406</u>	<u>£2900</u>

ENDOWMENT FUND

(The free income of which is available for the advancement of ornithology)

Revenue Account for the year ended 30th June 1974

	Year to 30/6/74	Year to 30/6/73
INCOME—		
Interest and Dividends received (gross)	£260	£242
EXPENDITURE—		
Grants as detailed in Report of Council	384	100
Excess of Expenditure for the year	(£124)	£142

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1974

Endowment Fund as at 30th June 1973	£2519	£2519	
Add: Legacy received during year	£100		
Funds from Penicuik Ornithological Society 172			
	272		
	<u>2791</u>		
Accumulated unexpended income as at			
30th June 1973	£684	542	
Deduct: Excess of Expenditure over Income 124		(142)	
	560	684	
Add: Grant made in 1972 refunded	250	—	
	810	684	
	<u>£3601</u>	<u>£3203</u>	
Made up of:			
Investments at cost as below	£3011	£3011	
Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd., Deposit Account	718	94	
Due by Club's General Funds	242	198	
	3971	3303	
Deduct: Grants allocated but not yet paid	370	100	
	<u>£3601</u>	<u>£3203</u>	
Investments as at 30th June 1974			
	Market Value	At cost	At cost
1952 Units of Equities Investments			
Trust for Charities	£1623	£1000	£1000
£1140 5% Exchequer Stock 1976/78	932	1000	1000
£440 8½% Conver. Unsecured Loan Stock			
1993/98 British Printing Corporation	198	441	441
500 St Andrew Trust Ltd., Ordinary 25p	320	570	570
	<u>£3073</u>	<u>£3011</u>	<u>£3011</u>

HOUSE FABRIC FUND

Summary of Accounts for year to 30th June 1974

	Year to 30/6/74	Year to 30/6/73
RECEIPTS—		
Balance as at 30th June 1973	£40	£33
Rent from Mr and Mrs George Waterston	—	150
Year's rent from British Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled	140	140
Rent from Squadron Leader Harry Greig (12.11.73 to 15.6.74)	130	—
Grants from S.O.C Revenue Account	500	—
Miscellaneous Interest	5	4
	<u>£815</u>	<u>£327</u>
EXPENDITURE—		
Repairs and Maintenance	£456	£35
Property Burdens	£506	
Less contributions from Tenants	<u>192</u>	
	314	237
Insurance	33	12
Miscellaneous	—	3
	<u>£803</u>	<u>£287</u>
On deposit with Edinburgh Building Society	£127	
Less Rent payment received in advance	£35	
Balance due to Morton, Fraser & Milligan, WS.	<u>80</u>	
	115	40
	<u>£815</u>	<u>£327</u>

EDINBURGH, 11th November 1974.—I have audited the foregoing Revenue Accounts for the year ended 30th June 1974, and the Balance Sheets as at that date. I have accepted as correct Subscriptions and other receipts shown as received in the Books and the value placed on the Bookshop Stock. Subject to this I certify that in my opinion the foregoing accounts are correctly stated and sufficiently vouched.

(Signed) ARTHUR WALKER,
Chartered Accountant.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

Your Council submits the following Report for the year 1973/74 :

Membership At the end of the session the Club had 2651 members, a net increase of 91 during the year; 410 new members joined and four members transferred to Life Membership. A table of membership for the past six years is given below :

	30/6/69	30/6/70	30/6/71	30/6/72	30/6/73	30/6/74
Ordinary	1771	1849	1889	2054	2230	2312
Junior	274	286	282	298	312	317
Life	6	9	10	14	14	18
Honorary	5	5	5	5	4	4
	2056	2149	2186	2371	2560	2651
Increase	107	93	37	185	189	91

The number of Deeds of Covenant rose from 464 to 482, representing 574 members, enabling the Club to reclaim £689 of tax.

Honorary Member At a Council meeting in June, Seton Gordon, whose first book *Birds of the Loch and Mountain* was published in 1907, was elected an Honorary Member in recognition of his services to Scottish ornithology over a great many years.

Deaths It is with deep regret that Council records the death during the year of Professor M. F. M. Meiklejohn, a past President, and Henry Boase, an Honorary Member. Obituaries have been published in *Scottish Birds*.

Honours Council has great pleasure in recording the award of an Honorary Degree by Dundee University to our President, now Dr George Waterston.

Business of Council Five meetings of Council were held during the year and the Management Committee met three times. There were also meetings of the Research and Management Committees.

Secretarial staff In May 1974 Squadron Leader Greig intimated his resignation as Editor and Bookshop Manager. David Bates, who hails from Cheshire, was appointed in his place and took over in August. He is an ornithologist who has visited Scotland on a number of occasions and he was formerly assistant editor of the *Cheshire Bird Report*.

Mrs Winkworth, who worked part time as a clerical assistant, left the Club in May after one year's service. Due to the greatly increased Bookshop sales it became necessary to appoint a full-time clerical assistant, and Mrs Christine Dunsire, a member of the Club for four years, joined the staff in May.

Value Added Tax A claim to the Commissioners of Customs and Excise that the Club should not pay V.A.T. on subscriptions was successful.

Endowment Fund Five grants were approved by Council during the year. £120 was given to the University of East Anglia Shetland Expedition 1974, which continued the studies of the Skua and Puffin populations started in 1973; of the seven members, three are members of the Club. £60 was given to R. W. Furness to enable him to continue research started in 1973 on the Great Skua populations on Foula. Up to £100 was granted to the Fair Isle Bird Observatory Trust for printing an index to the *Fair Isle Bird Observatory Bulletins* and Annual Reports. £54 was approved to cover the Club's outstanding share of legal fees for the Petition against the original Order setting up the Cromarty Firth Port

Authority. £50 was granted to Norman Hammond towards his expedition to census seabirds in Orkney in an area particularly vulnerable in the event of an oil spillage in northern waters. All applications for grants came from Club members.

During the year the Fund received a legacy of £100 from the late Miss B. L. C. Johnston of Edinburgh. The Fund also received £170 from the Penicuik Ornithological Society which had been wound up. In addition the Club was advised of two other legacies, each of £250, from the late Henry Boase of Dundee and the late Andrew Rankine of Ayr.

Subscriptions At a Special General Meeting of the Club in April 1974 increases to the membership rates were approved. The adult rate is now £3; family membership, to include all nominated children under 18, is £4.50; and junior membership, for those under 21 or students under 25, is £1. Those entitled to draw the state old age pension may pay £2 (single) or £3 (joint).

21 Regent Terrace After the Waterstons vacated the flat in November 1973 it was occupied for some months by Squadron Leader Greig. The Secretary and his family took over the tenancy at the beginning of July 1974.

Conservation issues The Club gave full support to the Petition made by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Scottish Wildlife Trust against the Provisional Order submitted by McDermott, Scotland to set up a Harbour Authority at Arderseir, Inverness-shire, since there were insufficient safeguards for the protection of wildlife and the environment. As a result of this Petition the Provisional Order was withdrawn and a new one promoted by the parent company, Oceanic Contractors Incorporated. A Petition against the new Provisional Order was lodged by the same parties; the outcome is still awaited.

Council considered, however, that the Club did not have the resources to meet the potentially heavy legal costs of the many Petitions to which it might be asked to lend its name. It was agreed that in future if the Club was to support such Petitions its contributions should normally be by way of expert evidence, in terms of the policy on conservation and the environment adopted at the 1972 Annual General Meeting; and that the conservation bodies, such as the RSPB and SWT, would normally meet the legal costs.

Club representation The Club continued to be represented on the British Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation by Sir Landsborough Thomson and Dr George Waterston, and on the Duck Working Group of the International Wildfowl Research Bureau by Dr R. S. Bailey.

Annual Conference The Twenty-sixth Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting, held in Dunblane, were attended by about 350 members and guests. On the Saturday morning Professor A. S. King, Head of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy, University of Liverpool, spoke on 'The structural and functional aspects of flight—or what you need to be a bird'; he was followed by Professor George Dunnet, Department of Zoology, University of Aberdeen, on 'The impact of the oil industry on Scotland's coasts and birds'. On the Sunday morning D. I. M. Wallace spoke on 'An ornithological survey of Iranian Baluchistan'. Chris Mylne showed some new film on Scottish birds of prey, together with some historic film on the Golden Eagle taken by the late H. A. Gilbert, kindly loaned by his son Mr E. Gilbert. Dr Bryan Nelson showed a film about Boobies on Christmas Island.

During the year Council decided that, owing to the very great increase in prices quoted by the management of the Dunblane Hydro, the location of the Conference had to be changed. After consideration it was decided to hold the 27th Conference and the Annual General Meeting at the University of Stirling during the last weekend in January 1975. The

choice of date was determined by the availability of facilities at the University and the need to avoid the dates of other ornithological conferences.

Branches The usual full programme of winter lectures was given in all Branches, while both summer and winter excursions were arranged by Branches themselves. The Stirling Branch organised another weekend visit in Argyll, and the Dumfries Branch again arranged the very successful annual weekend to the Solway goose grounds, for which Council is most grateful.

Fieldwork The Research Committee submitted to Council a Report on Boundaries for Local Bird Reports. This was adopted and published in *Scot. Birds* 7: 385-387. Council adopted as official Club Enquiries both the Habitat Register and the 1975 National Survey of Rookeries organised by the British Trust for Ornithology. A progress report on the other Club Enquiries was published in *Scot. Birds* 8: 40. In addition to these, members again helped during the year with other projects including Wildfowl Counts (Wildfowl Trust), Beached Bird Survey (RSPB), Estuaries Survey (BTO) and Common Bird Census (BTO).

"Scottish Birds" During the year four numbers of the journal were published, including the 1972 Scottish Bird Report, and also an Index to Volume 7.

Tom Delaney handed over the editorship of the journal to Squadron Leader Greig after publication of the final number of Volume 7. Council acknowledges with gratitude the work done by Tom Delaney during his three years as Editor.

Library Council records its thanks to the Royal Society for a grant of £200 for the purchase of back numbers of journals for the Reference Library and for binding. Council is very pleased to record the bequest of the late Professor M. F. M. Meiklejohn, who left all his ornithological books to the Library. Other members have made generous gifts of books, journals and reprints for which Council is most grateful.

Bookshop Book sales continued to increase and were thirty percent greater than last year, necessitating the employment of a full-time clerical assistant. Council is again most grateful to the British Trust for Ornithology for allowing the Club to arrange a book display at its annual conference in December.

"Scottish Birds" Appeal Fund Another very successful raffle was held and £429 raised for the Fund.

Club Projector The Club does not possess its own projector and has relied on the goodwill of members when one is required. Council is most grateful to Mrs Maxwell Hamilton and Mrs Peirse-Duncombe who arranged a coffee morning in Edinburgh in March 1974 at which £53 was raised towards the cost of a projector.

Scottish Centre The Library and offices were visited by many people from home and abroad during the year and many postal enquiries regarding birdwatching areas were received. Informal discussion groups met regularly in the Centre during the winter, and during the year meetings of the Fair Isle Bird Observatory Trust, the Isle of May Bird Observatory and Field Station Committee and the Aberlady Bay Nature Reserve Biological Committee were held.

Acknowledgments Council wishes to thank all those who have helped the Club in many ways during the year, and most gratefully acknowledges the work carried out by many members to give enjoyment to their fellow members.

For the Council,

GEORGE WATERSTON, President.

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLUB

The Thirty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the University of Stirling on Saturday 25th January 1975 at 5.45 p.m. In the absence through illness of the President, Dr George Waterston, Andrew T. Macmillan, Vice-President of the Club, presided over an attendance of about 120 members.

Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Dr D. A. Bannerman, W. Brotherston, Miss M. H. E. Cuninghame, Lt Col J. P. Grant, Dr I. D. Pennie and Dr and Mrs George Waterston.

Minutes The Minutes of the Thirty-Seventh Annual General Meeting, held in Dunblane on 27th October 1973, and of the Special General Meeting held in Edinburgh on 9th April 1974, were approved and signed.

Report of Council The Report of Council for Session 37, presented by the Chairman, was adopted.

Accounts The Accounts for the year ended 30th June 1974, presented by the Hon. Treasurer, were approved.

Appointment of Auditor Arthur Walker C.A. was re-elected Auditor for the ensuing year.

Election of Members of Council In the absence of any other nominations, Council's recommendation for the election of Council Members was approved, namely J. K. R. Melrose and Miss V. M. Thom to succeed R. H. Dennis and Miss M. P. Macmillan who were due to retire by rotation.

The Chairman announced Council's decision to co-opt W. R. Brackenridge as the Young Member to succeed R. L. Swann who was due to retire after serving for two years. He thanked all the retiring members for their service to the Club.

Constitution The Meeting unanimously approved the following amendment to the Constitution, as recommended by Council:

4. MANAGEMENT AND OFFICIALS (g) Annual General Meeting. In the sentence "The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting in October each year to receive the Report of Council, Statement of Accounts, and to elect the Council and Office Bearers" the words 'in October each year' shall be deleted.

"Scottish Birds" The Chairman said that members would be aware that the autumn number of the journal had not yet been published and Council was seriously concerned about this. He explained the editorial and production problems that had led to this delay. The autumn number should be ready by mid-February and would be followed by the 1973 Scottish Bird Report. To catch up with publication a combined Spring/Summer number would be published in summer 1975.

Rookery Survey Dr M. E. Castle, Scottish Organizer of the BTO 1975 National Survey of Rookeries, explained the purpose of the Survey and said that a list of County Organizers would be sent to all members with the next number of *Scottish Birds*. He asked all who would like to help to contact their nearest organizer as soon as possible for details.

Vote of Thanks The Meeting closed with a warm vote of thanks to the Vice-President, in particular for so ably taking over the Chair for the whole of the Conference at such short notice, proposed by R. H. Dennis.

COUNCIL AND OFFICIALS OF THE CLUB FOR SESSION 38

Hon. Presidents : David A. Bannerman, O.B.E., LL.D., Sc.D., F.R.S.E.; Sir Charles G. Connell, W.S.; Sir Arthur B. Duncan; W. J. Egging, C.B.E., B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.E.

President : George Waterston, O.B.E., LL.D., F.R.S.E.

Vice-President : Andrew T. Macmillan, C.A.

Hon. Treasurer : Maxwell K. Hamilton, C.A.

Hon. Treasurer House Fabric Fund : D. G. Andrew, W.S.

Secretary and Treasurer : Major A. D. Peirse-Duncombe.

Deputy Secretary and Librarian : Mrs George Waterston.

Manager, Bird Bookshop : D. J. Bates.

Membership Secretary : Mrs R. D. Smillie.

Editor of "Scottish Birds" : D. J. Bates.

Business Editor of "Scottish Birds" : Major A. D. Peirse-Duncombe.

Council : J. H. Ballantyne, J. Edelsten, F. D. Hamilton, J. K. R. Melrose, J. Mitchell, Dr I. Newton, N. Picozzi, H. Robb, Miss V. M. Thom, B. S. Turner. **Young Members** co-opted for 1974/75 : W. R. Brackenridge, T. C. Johnson-Ferguson.

Branch Representatives to Council : N. Picozzi (Aberdeen); Dr M. E. Castle (Ayr); R. T. Smith (Dumfries); B. Pounder (Dundee); C. K. Mylne (Edinburgh); Dr I. T. Draper (Glasgow); R. H. Dennis (Inverness); Miss G. L. C. Falconer (St Andrews); A. B. Mitchell (Stirling).

BRANCH AND GROUP OFFICE BEARERS

Aberdeen : Chairman, D. P. Willis; Vice-Chairman, A. Duncan; Secretary, Miss F. J. Greig; Committee, J. Chapman, J. Dunbar, A. G. Knox.

Ayr : Chairman, Dr M. E. Castle; Vice-Chairman, J. K. R. Melrose; Secretary, R. M. Ramage; Committee, Miss R. E. Beckett, Dr R. Hissett, R. H. Hogg, J. Miller.

Dumfries : Chairman, B. S. Turner; Vice-Chairman, J. Skilling; Secretary, W. Austin; Committee, Dr N. E. Armstrong, J. McCubbin, T. Nisbet, R. T. Smith.

Dundee : Chairman, B. Pounder; Vice-Chairman, P. J. N. Clark; Secretary, Mrs A. Noltie; Committee, Dr D. G. Adamson, Mrs W. G. Amedro, N. K. Atkinson, Dr D. M. Shepherd.

Edinburgh : Chairman, C. K. Mylne; Vice-Chairman, J. M. S. Arnott; Secretary, Mrs D. R. Langslow; Committee, I. V. Balfour-Paul, W. A. Craw, J. B. Murray, Mrs A. D. Peirse-Duncombe.

Glasgow : Chairman, Dr I. T. Draper; Vice-Chairman, D. L. Clugston; Secretary, Mrs I. T. Draper; Committee, D. N. Brooks, Miss K. M. Calver, R. W. Forrester, R. M. C. Lambie.

Inverness : Chairman, R. H. Dennis; Vice-Chairman, Rev. J. M. Crook; Secretary, M. I. Harvey; Committee, Miss J. Banks, Miss P. R. Forbes, Mrs W. Morrison, W. G. Prest.

St Andrews : Chairman, Miss G. L. C. Falconer; Vice-Chairman, I. G. Cumming; Secretary, Miss M. M. Spires; Committee, Miss M. H. E. Cuninghame, Miss J. McFarlane, Miss D. E. Rowling, J. S. Wiffen.

Stirling : Chairman, K. P. Anderson; Vice-Chairman, P. Clark; Secretary, Dr D. M. Bryant; Committee, T. D. H. Merrie, A. B. Mitchell, Miss M. M. Riley, H. Robb. **Young Member :** G. Shaw.

SCOTTISH BIRDS RECORDS COMMITTEE

Chairman : D. G. Andrew.

Committee : A. G. S. Bryson, Sir Arthur B. Duncan, Dr W. J. Eggeling, A. T. Macmillan, Dr I. D. Pennie, Kenneth Williamson, Dr George Waterston, Prof. V. C. Wynne-Edwards.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

M. K. Hamilton (Convenor), D. G. Andrew, Dr I. T. Draper, A. T. Macmillan, H. Robb, Dr George Waterston.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Dr George Waterston (Convenor), Ritchie Seath (Hon. Librarian), A. T. Macmillan, Dr I. D. Pennie.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

A. T. Macmillan (Chairman), R. H. Dennis, Dr I. Newton.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

A. T. Macmillan (Chairman), D. G. Andrew, T. Delaney, R. H. Dennis.

CLUB REPRESENTATION

British Section, International Council for Bird Preservation : Sir Landsborough Thomson, Dr George Waterston.

International Wildfowl Research Bureau, Duck Working Group : Dr R. S. Bailey.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Duncan Anderson, Seton Gordon, P. W. G. Gunn, Sir Landsborough Thomson.

SUMMER EXCURSIONS

Due to the late publication of *Scottish Birds* it has not been possible to give notice in the journal of Branch summer excursions, normally printed in the spring number. In April a list of all the excursions arranged by Branches was distributed to members of the Club living on the mainland of Scotland. A copy can be sent to any member, on application to the Club Secretary.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

At a meeting in March, Council decided to hold the next Annual Conference and AGM at Stirling University from 23rd-25th January 1976. Full details will be sent to members in the autumn.

When making this decision Council took into account the many advantages and excellent Conference facilities of Stirling University, found by members who attended this year, as well as the problems caused by the distance between the Conference and living accommodation, and also the time of year at which the Conference was held. However, since a number of members would prefer a return to an autumn Conference, which is not possible at Stirling University, the Secretary is investigating the possibility of another location for the future. An announcement about this will be made in due course, but if any member knows of a location which is sited centrally in Scotland, can cater for up to 400 for a Conference and 300 for the Annual Dinner, at a reasonable cost, he is asked to contact the Club Secretary.

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Ducks, Geese and Swans. <i>Merne</i>	£1.75
University of Dundee North-east Greenland Expedition 1972	£1.00
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1. General notes (not of sufficient importance to be published on their own as Short Notes) should be sent to the appropriate local recorders for inclusion in their summary for the annual Scottish Bird Report, not to the editor. A list of local recorders is published from time to time, but in cases of doubt the editor will be glad to forward notes to the right person.
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.
3. All other material should be sent to the editor, D. J. Bates, 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 5BT. Attention to the following points greatly simplifies the work of producing the journal and is much appreciated. Contributions should be on one side of the paper only. Papers, especially, should be typed in duplicate if possible, with double spacing and wide margins. 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*. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh and London.
6. English and scientific names should follow *A Species List of British and Irish Birds* (B.T.O. Guide 13). Initial capitals are used for English names of species (for example, Song Thrush, Long-tailed Duck) but not group names (for example, thrushes, diving ducks). Scientific names should be used sparingly (see editorial *Scottish Birds* 2: 1-3). When used they should follow the English name, underlined to indicate italics and with no surrounding brackets.
7. Dates should normally be in the form "1st January 1974", with no commas round the year. Old fashioned conventions should be avoided—e.g. use Arabic numerals rather than Roman.
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.

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 £3.00, or £1.00 in the case of Members under twenty one years of age or Students under 25, who satisfy Council of their status as such at the times at which their subscriptions fall due. The Life subscription is £75. Family Membership is available to married couples and their nominated children under 18 at an Annual subscription of £4.50, or a Life subscription of £112.50. 'Scottish Birds' is issued free to Members but Family Members will receive only one copy between them. Subscriptions are payable on 1st October annually.

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

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

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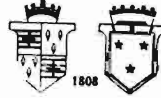
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