

SCOTTISH BIRDS

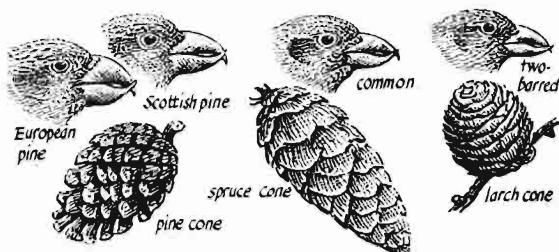


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Volume 8 No. 8

WINTER 1975

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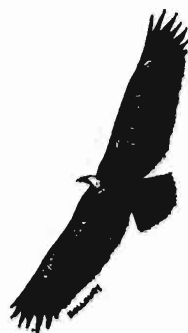
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SCOTTISH BIRDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB



Vol. 8 No. 8

Winter 1975

Edited by D. J. Bates

Editorial

Scottish Birds From time to time we are asked for second-hand copies of *Scottish Birds*, either bound or loose. Members who have no further use for their copies can help the Club and are asked to hand them in to 21 Regent Terrace or to their Branch Secretary. The revenue from sales of second-hand journals is put towards the cost of reprinting early numbers which are out of print, thus enabling complete sets of the earlier volumes to be purchased.

Current literature Recent material of Scottish interest includes :

- Ecological studies of the Rook (*Corvus frugilegus* L.) in north-east Scotland: damage and its control. C. J. Feare, 1974. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 11: 897-914.
- Ecological studies of the Rook (*Corvus frugilegus* L.) in north-east Scotland: food intake and feeding behaviour. C. J. Feare, G. M. Dunnet and I. J. Patterson, 1974. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 11: 867-896.
- Notes on raptorial birds on Islay in 1974. J. Graeme Robertson, 1974. *Western Naturalist* 3: 19-22.
- Breeding birds of Castle Semple and Barr Lochs, Renfrewshire. Dr J. A. Gibson, 1974. *Western Naturalist* 3: 59-72.
- Status of the Kestrel on the eastern Borders. H. F. Church, 1975. *Bird Study* 22: 92.
- Communal roosting of Robins in Aberdeenshire. Robert L. Swann, 1975. *Bird Study* 22: 93-98.
- Summer food and feeding habits of the Greenshank. Desmond Nethersole-Thompson, 1975. *British Birds* 68: 243-245. (Study in Highlands).
- Birds of Orkney. David Lea and Dr W. R. P. Bourne, 1975. *British Birds* 68: 261-283.
- Golden Eagle eating Fulmars. David M. Hawker, 1975. *British Birds* 68: 293. (Record from Eigg).
- Scottish Buzzard in Sweden? D. Weir and N. Picozzi, 1975. *BTO News* 72: 3.

Elusive Redwings. Frank and Eppie Bartlett, 1975. *BTO News* 72: 5-6. (Study of breeding in Highlands).

Changes in the Carrion/Hooded Crow hybrid zone and the possible importance of climate. A. Cook, 1975. *Bird Study* 22: 165-168. (Scottish study).

Angus Wildlife Review 1974. N. K. Atkinson and A. B. Ritchie (eds.), 1975. Dundee Museum, Albert Square, Dundee DD1 1DA, price 10p. (Includes Angus and South Kincardine Bird Report).

A study of the Carrion/Hooded Crow in north-east Scotland. N. Picozzi, 1975. *British Birds* 68: 409-419.

Notice

Field Course - Biological Recording

Tutor: Dr F. H. Perring - 21st-28th July 1976

This course, at the Kindrogan Field Centre, is offered in collaboration with the Biological Recording in Scotland Committee (B.R.I.S.C.). It is designed for those with some working knowledge of field natural history who wish to acquire an appreciation of the technique and skills necessary to take part in the various national and local biological recording schemes in order to be able to participate in and/or promote recording locally. It is intended that the following topics will be among those included:

- (a) Habitat recording—surveys of hedgerow, dry-stone wall, verge and freshwater habitats and general field-by-field surveys.
- (b) Site/species recording.
- (c) National mapping schemes.

Full details of this course may be obtained from The Warden, Kindrogan Field Centre, Enochdhu, Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH10 7PG.

Biological Recording in Scotland Committee (B.R.I.S.C.)

This is a working party which was set up in April 1975 to promote biological recording in Scotland. It does this by encouraging amateur and professional naturalists to become recorders by providing advice for them and promoting training courses on recording techniques and species identification. It is also investigating the practicabilities of establishing record centres in Scotland.

The committee consists of the following people:

- Mr Ian Bonner, Nature Conservancy Council.
- Dr Dietrich Burkel, Glasgow Museum.
- Mr David Heppell, Royal Scottish Museum.
- Mr Ted Pelham-Clinton, Royal Scottish Museum.
- Mr Adam Ritchie, Dundee Museum.
- Dr Alastair Somerville, Scottish Wildlife Trust.

Advice on recording can be sought from B.R.I.S.C. who at the same time welcome any views and comments from people.

Biological Recording in Scotland Committee,
c/o 8 Dublin Street, Edinburgh EH1 3PP.

Scottish Bird Report 1974

Compiled by ROY H. DENNIS

(Plates 28-31)

This is the seventh 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, 7: 324-385 and 8: 211-279. It is a concise summary of data collected on all species known to have occurred in Scotland in 1974. 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 and Rintoul's *The Birds of Scotland* (1953) and previous reports.

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* (8: 363-377), the *Grampian Bird Report*, the *Perth Bird Report* 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 and it is encouraging to see an increase in local bird reports.

In the species list 302 species are mentioned (the first time that 300 have been recorded in one year), 34 being represented by only one individual of each species. At least twelve 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.

1974 was an excellent year for rare birds and no less than four (possibly five) new birds were added to the Scottish List. Little Shearwater and Laughing Gull were identified on Islay; the shearwater is from the Atlantic islands and the gull is from North America. Rufous Turtle Dove and Baltimore Oriole visited Fair Isle, vagrants from Asia and North America respectively. Lastly, a male Chestnut Bunting was found on

Foula; this brightly coloured bunting, which breeds in east Asia and winters in south-east Asia, has not previously been recorded in the British Isles and the BOU Records Committee are examining the escape problem.

Other rare species included four White-billed Divers, Black-browed Albatross, Black Stork, two Surf Scoters, four Steller's Eiders, Lesser White-fronted Goose, Kentish Plover, Hudsonian Whimbrel, two Lesser Yellowlegs, Baird's Sandpiper, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Pratincole, Caspian Tern, Roller, Black-throated Thrush, Siberian Stonechat, Dusky Warbler, Olive-backed Pipit and no fewer than eight Yellow-breasted Buntings.

The record of a pair of Golden Orioles feeding two young in Fife is a new breeding record for Scotland. Leach's Petrel was proved to nest in Shetland while Gannets built three nests at Fair Isle. Three broods of Goldeneyes were seen in Inverness-shire; the Osprey situation was similar to 1973 with ten successful pairs rearing 20-21 young while the pair of Snowy Owls in Shetland had a difficult season. More Wrynecks were heard singing, one pair visited a nest box but none were proved to breed; at least two pairs of Fieldfares were successful but Redwing nests were scarce. Proved breeding of Lesser Whitethroats at two sites in south-east Scotland are the first for at least seven years. Snow Bunting numbers were high. There were tantalizing summer records of Red-necked Grebe, a displaying Pectoral Sandpiper, two summer plumaged Sanderlings on a mountain, a Long-tailed Skua on another mountain range and a male Lapland Bunting. A Nuthatch was again recorded near Dundee but no proof of nesting has ever been obtained (in fact it is difficult to know whether proof has ever been obtained in Scotland). The Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers recorded in 1968 and 1970 seemed to have disappeared or kept out of sight and sound !

The weather pattern was similar to recent years with rather mild winters, which may have contributed to an increase of wintering Greenshanks and Blackcaps. The spring was cold and late and the summer rather changeable. There was a strong autumn passage of Spotted Redshanks and Ruffs but Curlew Sandpipers were scarce. Wrynecks occurred in good numbers at both seasons; there were large numbers of Fieldfares, Robins and Bramblings on late spring passage but Redwing and Blackbird numbers were on the low side on both migrations. A Waxwing irruption occurred in the autumn and there were heavy falls of Snow Buntings in November.

North Sea oil activities increased during 1974 with the first production platforms being placed in position in the North Sea and undersea pipelines being laid to the Forties and Frigg

fields. Drilling rigs were plentiful in the North Sea; there were reports of big numbers of bird migrants at some of them but little reliable information has been received—with the right weather conditions a couple of days on a rig could provide most exciting bird-watching.

Onshore developments started or in operation, mainly in greenfield sites, included oil terminals at Sullom Voe in Shetland, Flotta in Orkney, and Hound Point in the Firth of Forth, oil rig yards at Nigg and Ardersier in the Moray and Cromarty Firths, Arnish Point near Stornoway, Loch Kishorn in Wester Ross and Ardyne Point in Argyll. Major changes were in progress at Peterhead Bay and the nearby power station, while further up the coast were the St Fergus gas terminal development and the Ministry of Defence radio station beside Loch of Strathbeg.

These developments throughout the north resulted in an increase of quarries for gravel and sand, major road improvements and an increase in water extraction from lochs. Fortunately, no major oil spills were reported but smaller spills from two distilleries in the Cromarty Firth resulted in many swans being oiled, some of which died or had to be destroyed. Large numbers of geese (at least 600 Greylags) died in Coupar Angus and Madderty, in Perthshire, in November/December as a result of feeding on dressed winter wheat and numbers of gulls were found dead on the Fife coast in late summer but no cause of death was established. Gull control programmes were continued on the Isle of May and the Forth islands.

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 transcription 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 surnames 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 BTO 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 Keith Brockie (Whooper Swan, Turnstone), W. R. Brackenridge (Lesser Yellowlegs), John Busby (Sooty Shearwater, Smew, Snowy Owl, Chough, Wren, Twite, House Sparrow) and Donald Watson (Eider, Lesser Whitethroat, Great Grey Shrike).

The photographs are by D. Coutts, R. H. Hogg, Dr P. G. Hopkins, L. Robertson and W. Wyper.

I would like to thank them and everyone else who has contributed to the 1974 report. My special thanks go to the local recorders for their considerable efforts in collecting and collating the records.

Local Recorders in 1974

1. **Shetland (except Fair Isle)** R. J. Tulloch, Lüssetter House, Mid Yell, Shetland (minor change of address).
2. **Fair Isle** R. A. Broad, Bird Observatory, Fair Isle, Shetland.
3. **Orkney** D. Lea, Easter Sower, Orphir, Orkney KW17 2RE.
4. **Outer Hebrides (except St Kilda)** Dr P. G. Hopkins, 31 Glentroot Village, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire.
5. **St Kilda** Dr I. D. 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, 18 Morven Road, Inverness IV2 4BU.
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** A. G. Knox, Zoology Department, Aberdeen University, Tillydrone Avenue, Aberdeen AB9 2TN, and W. Murray, Culterty Field Station, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire AB4 0AA.
12. **South Kincardineshire, Angus** G. M. Crighton, 23 Church Street, Brechin, Angus.

13. Perthshire R. L. McMillan, 44 Durley Dene Crescent, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire.
14. Kinross-shire Miss B. H. Moore, Vane Farm, Kinross.
15. Isle of May J. M. S. Arnott, East Redford House, Redford Road, Edinburgh EH13 0AS.
16. Fife D. W. Oliver, East Cottage, Balass, Cupar, Fife.
17. Clackmannanshire, East Stirlingshire Dr C. J. Henty, 3 The Broich, Alva, Clackmannanshire.
18. West Lothian, Forth islands (except May), Midlothian R. W. J. Smith, 33 Hunter Terrace, Loanhead, Midlothian.
19. East Lothian, Berwickshire K. S. Macgregor, 16 Merchiston Avenue, Edinburgh EH10 4NY.
20. Peeblesshire, Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire A. J. Smith, Glenview, Selkirk TD7 4LX.
21. Argyllshire, Inner Hebrides, Skye M. J. P. Gregory, Duiletter, Kilmory Road, Lochgilphead, Argyllshire PA31 8NL.
22. Dunbartonshire, West Stirlingshire, Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, Arran, Bute R. W. Forrester, 19 Woodside Avenue, Lenzie, Dunbartonshire G66 4NG (see changes below).
23. Dumfriesshire D. Skilling, 86 Auchenkeld Avenue, Heathhall, Dumfries, and R. T. Smith, Applegarthtown, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.
24. Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtownshire A. D. Watson, Barone, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Change of Local Recorder

Ron Forrester handed over responsibility for the Clyde area to Iain Gibson in 1975 and we would like to thank him most sincerely for all his good work towards the Scottish Bird Report.

1975

Dunbartonshire, West Stirlingshire, Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, Arran, Bute I. P. Gibson, Arcadia, The Glen, Howwood, Renfrewshire.

Key to observers' initials

More than 700 observers contributed records for 1974 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 summarized 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. Once again I ask forgiveness for any mistakes of initials, but the compilation of the initials key is one of the most time consuming parts of the report.

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 J. Crighton (12)
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 R. Furness
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 R. J. Miller (22)
 A. Mitchell
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 P. W. Sandeman
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 J. Scott (JSc)
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 D. Shand (6)
 P. Shand (6)
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 G. Shaw
 Mrs L. Shaw (22)
 P. R. Shaw
 R. Shaw
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 D. Shirra (DSh)
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 J. L. Simpson
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 J. Skilling
 R. Skilling (15/23)
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 I. Smith
 R. Smith (18)
 R. T. Smith
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 J. Spriggs (1)
 Mrs V. Spriggs
 D. Stalker (22)
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 D. M. Stark (6)
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 D. M. Stead
 L. Steele
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 H. Young
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Species List

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*. Summer floods following spring drought again affected breeding success as did human disturbance: O Heb, no young from 6 checked sites (PGH); Caith, 7 prs checked, 2 successful with 3 young (PMC *et al*); NW Suth, 11 sites checked, only one young seen (RHD); Ross, 18-20 prs checked, 5 successfully reared 8 young (ENH *et al*); Inv, 9 sites checked, 3 successfully reared 4 young (RHD *et al*); Perth, 5 occupied sites but only one known to be successful (SL, IMcK, RLMcM); Stir, pr on loch throughout May (AM, GS), pr nested in W Stir for 1st time but eggs lost in flood (JAB, GS, JW-M); Ayr pr reared 1 young (AGS); Galloway, pr with 2 young—first record of successful hatch in region (per ADW).

Shet, 2 Whalsay 16 Jan (BM), 1 Fetlar 10 Sep (RJT); Ork, 1 Hoy 17 Feb (DL), 1 Inganess Bay 15 Nov (RHH), 2 Houton 25 Nov (CJB *et al*); O Heb, 2 West Loch Tarbert 9 Jan (RHD), max count 25 Branahuie 28 Sep (RMcI); W Ross, peak counts 49 Gruinard Bay 12 Aug, 38 on 18th (DWMcA), 24 Gairloch Dec (ENH); Inv, 4 Alturlie Point 9 Feb (WMM); E Loth, max 5 Gosford-Gullane 18 Feb, 9 on 28 Mar, 6 on 1 Oct; Dunb, 1 Ardmore 17 Feb (CMW, JPW); Ayr, 7 Turnberry Bay 21 Apr (AB, RHH).

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. Winter and spring counts: Shet, 29 Quendale 21 Apr, 27 Colgrave Sound 24 Apr, 17 Whalsay 6 May, 20 Yell 19 May (RJT *et al*); Ork, 40 Westray 25 Feb, 66 around Wyre 15 Mar, 83 Bring Deeps, Scapa Flow, 4 May (DL); O Heb, 6 Tiumpan Head 10 Apr (PGH); Caith, 6 Thurso 2 Jan (SAMM); W Ross, 9 Gruinard Bay 30 Apr (DCH); Midl, 2 Musselburgh Feb (LLJV); E Loth, 9 Aberlady 29 Mar, 7 Tynninghame 6 Mar; Arg, 35 West Loch Tarbert-Islay crossing 29 Jan (DMB); Renf, 1 Gourock 14 Apr (HG); Ayr, max 4 Turnberry 21 Apr (AB, RHH), last 3 Kennedy's Pass 21 May (RHH); Wig, 13 Luce Bay 16 Feb (GS) and 5 Terally Bay 10 Feb (RHH).

Summer: migrants late to depart, e.g. 11 in summer plumage Scallastle Bay, Mull 19 May (RFC) and 16 Gigha-Tayinloan crossing 19 May (E. F. B. Spragge). Probably more summering records than usual, as far south as Angus. Inland singles, L Lansaichte, Suth, 8 July (DMcD); W Ross loch 26 July (ENH); Inv, L Ashie 4 Aug (P. Vandome), L Duntelchaig 15 Aug (M. Porteous).

Autumn: Shet, peak count 79 in Yell/Unst/Fetlar sound 7 Dec (RJT); Fair Isle, singles 6 Sep and 15 Dec (RAB); Ork, first Hoy 4 Oct (DL); O Heb, max 6 West Loch Tarbert; Aber/Kinc, from 3 Sep Girdle Ness (AGK); Isle of May, one 24 Oct (JH, RSH); E Loth, 4 Tynninghame 15 Dec; Ayr, 4 Turnberry 3 Nov (RHH, JKRM).

***White-billed Diver** *Gavia adamsii*. Four records: One L Fleet, Suth, 24 Mar (NJP, VW); summer plumage adult Yell-Fetlar sound, Shet, 17 May to 9 June (RJT, DC *et al*), another adult Hascosay, Shet, 11 June (RJT, MPH); one Aberdeen 21 Oct (AGK).

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*. A successful breeding season: Shet, 39 prs Unst—18 young reared (GB), 20 prs Fetlar—8 young reared (RSPB), 13 prs Whalsay—only 1 young reared (JHS), 16 prs south Mainland—11 young reared (MJS), 10 prs Foula—5 young reared (BEG); Ork, 21 prs Mainland—19 young reared (CJB), c19 prs Hoy—13 prs with young July (MASB); Caith, successful season (PMC); Suth/Ross, 11 prs checked reared 13 young (RHD, ENH *et al*); single prs bred Renf and Galloway but neither successful.

Peak counts and migration: Fair Isle, scattered records 7 May-22 Sep (RAB); E Ross, 8 Chanonry Ness 24 Feb (DWMcA), 21 on 3 Nov (RHD);

Moray, 21 Findhorn 13 Jan (RAFKOS), 10 Lossiemouth 4 Dec (MC); Aber 83+ off Aberdeen 27 Feb (MH), large increase Aberdeen-Newburgh mid Oct (AGK); Angus, 4 Lunan Bay 6 Sep (GMC); Midl, 5 Musselburgh 5 Jan, absent 4 May-30 Sep, 4 on 24-29 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, up to 40 Gullane Bay in winter months; Arg, 12 Gigha-West Loch Tarbert 8 Apr (TCS); Ayr, 10 Turnberry 19 Dec (RHH); Wig, 7 flew S in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Mull of Galloway 15 Sep (RHH); Kirk, 4 Carrick Pt 1 Nov (WJ, KJ). Inland singles: L Leven, Kinr, 13 Jan (AA); L Cote, W Loth, 13 Oct (IBM); Cobbinshaw, Midl, 19 Oct (LLJV); Torwoodlee Pond, Selk, 18 Feb (1st since 1901) (AJS); Rowbank Res 20 Jan-5 Feb (HG, KRRS) and Barr Loch, Renf, 7 Mar (PB); Lochinch, Wig, 28 Feb (RHH).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*. Aber, 1 pr with 3 young L Davan 27 July (JTH); Perth, a better season, e.g. 19 on Stormont Loch 14 July (RC), 6 ad + 9 juvs Lake of Menteith 5 Aug (DW); Midl, normal breeding numbers but many failures due to falling water levels (RWJS); Selk, only successful pr at Lindean Res, second attempt raised 2 young (AJS); W Stir, 4 prs, 5 young seen (TPD, JM *et al*); Lan, 2 prs Renf, 16 prs, 5 of 11 prs at Barr Loch/Castle Sempole were successful (PB, HG); Ayr, 10 prs (WRB); Dumf, usual numbers Lochmaben but poor success (RTS, NEA); Kirk, L Ken pairs unsuccessful (ADW), 3 juvs at Woodhall Loch 6 Sep (LAU).

Counts and migration: Shet, 1 Catfirth 26 Oct (FH); Ork, 2 Ingeshowe Bay 20 Mar (MC), 2 off Burray 19 Oct (CJB); Aber, 2 Don 16 Apr (MH), 1 Sand Loch 12 May (MH); Angus, 17 Lunan Bay 18 July (GMC); Perth, 2 Kingoodie 25 Mar (EJM), 5 Seaside 24 July increased to 32 on 25 Aug, falling off Sep (JK, RLMcM); Fife, 10-15 St Andrews 9 Oct and 6 Nov (TWD); E Stir, max 126 Bo'ness 16 Feb and 151 on 22 Sep (DMB); Midl, 160 Seafield 20 Jan and 265 on 26 Nov (JHB, AWGJ), 45 Musselburgh 9 Feb, last 6 on 31 May, first 17 on 24 Aug increased to 105 on 24 Nov, down to 30 by 27 Dec (LLJV); E Loth, 27 Gosford-Gullane 10 Sep; Peeb, return to inland lochs—Portmore 17 Mar (JHB); Arg, 1 L Indaall, Islay, 27 Jan-3 Apr (CGB *et al*); Dunb, 8 Ardmore 17 Feb (CMW, PPW, MA), 12+ on 19 Nov (SMDA); Lan, 1 Hamilton Jan (RGN); Ayr, 4 Troon 11 Sep (ASH); Kirk, 2 Lower L Ken 2 Jan (ADW); Wig, 45 L Ryan 15 Sep, 18 on 31 Oct, 21 on 16 Nov (RCD, GS).

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps griseigena*. Winter-spring: as usual most in E Loth where peaks Gullane/Gosford 15 on 9 Feb, 33 on 18 Feb (many observers); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 12 Jan-14 Apr (LLJV); Angus, 1 West Haven 16-23 Mar (TMC); Ork, 1 Gaitnip, Holm 12 Apr (CJB); Arg, 1 West L Tarbert 26 Jan (DMB, DRW); Ayr, 1 Turnberry 9 Mar (WRB, RHH, IHL).

Summer records: one in summer plumage at a Perth loch 28 Apr (RLMcM), nearby on 17-31 May (MM) and near Dunkeld 8 June (B. D. Harding); 1 Carluke, Lan, 16 June (DCS); 2 Musselburgh, Midl, 13 June (LLJV).

Autumn records: Shet, Firth's Voe 6 Nov (DC); Fair Isle, 1 on 1 Nov (RAB); Angus, 1 Lunan Bay 8-15 Aug (GMC), 2 West Haven 7 Oct (TMC); Fife, 1 Shell Bay 29 Sep (DW); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 24 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 31 Gullane/Gosford 22 Aug, 23 on 15 Sep, 12 on 26 Oct (KSMcG *et al*); Dunb, 1 Ardmore 10 Oct (CMW, JPW, DSh); Wig, 1 L Ryan 10 Oct (RHH).

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*. Breeding: census found 57-62 prs in Caith, Inv, Moray, Aber and Perth. Caith, 2 prs with 3 and 5 young 30 June, at least 4 probably survived (SAMM, PMC); Inv, 47-51 prs on 19 lochs, at least 16 young from 18-20 prs in north, 29 young from 28-30 prs south of Great Glen, 1 pr with 1-2 young Strathspey (RHD, MIH *et al*); Moray, 5-6 prs on one loch reared 3 young (RHD); Aber, 1 pr

reared 1 young on loch last used in early 1960's (AW); Perth, pr L of Lowes Apr-June but did not nest (MD), pr at other site reared 2 young (BJG, JK, RLMcM) : a better year.

Winter-spring: Shet, max 31 Tresta/Bixter Voes 13 Feb (PKK), last Fetlar 26 Apr; Ork, max 7 east Scapa Flow 12 Feb (DL); Angus, 1 West Haven 7 Apr (TMC); Midl, peaks Musselburgh 5 on 30 Jan, 8 on 17 Feb, 12 on 22 Mar (DLC, LLJV); E Loth, present Gosford/Gullane Jan-Apr, max 65 on 17 Feb; Arg, 7 Islay 27 Jan (DMB).

Migration and autumn-winter counts: Shet, 2 Tresta 27 Aug (IS) increasing to 16 in Oct (FH); Fair Isle, one 24 Sep (RAB); Ork, 6 L of Stenness 17 Oct (DL), 9 Inganess Bay 15 Nov (RHH), 20 Scapa Flow mid Dec (DL); Caith, 3 L Scarmclate 17 Nov (PMC); Suth, 5 Embo 16 Oct (RHD); Fife, 2 Cameron Res 31 Aug (RHH); E Loth, 12 Gosford/Gullane 13 Oct, 10 on 17 Nov (DRL et al); Peeb, 1 Fruid Res 26 Oct (LAU); Arg, 15 Loch na Keal, Mull, 13 Oct (RFC); Dunb, 1 Ardmore 17-23 Nov (SMDA); Wig, 1 L Ryan 22-29 Sep, 2 on 7 Nov (RCD, IHL), 1 L Elrig 26 Oct (RCD).

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*. At eastern of two main colonies in Central Lowlands, 1 pr on 11 Apr, 2 prs on 13th, about 6 prs present, poor breeding season, only 2 juvs seen; at other colony 10 prs reared 7+ young, also 3 non-breeders; possibly one pair bred at site in between; one pair in Highlands but no proof of breeding (anon.).

Winter records and migrants: Caith, 1 L Scarmclate 17 Nov (PMC); Perth, 1 White Moss Loch 14 Sep (JK); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 30 Jan (DLC), 2 Rosslynlea Res 3 Aug (RWJS); E Loth, 1 Tynningame 13 Jan (RWJS); singles Gullane 13 Jan (GLS), 28 Sep and 12 Oct (DRL, HKL); Wig, small wintering flock as usual L Ryan, first of autumn 14 Sep, 5 on 10 Oct and 7 on 26 Nov (RCD, RHH, GS).

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*. Breeding reports all suggest good numbers with some increase in population. Counts and migration: Shet, absent 22 Apr-19 Oct, max 4 Hillwell/Spiggie 13 Mar; Inv, 26 L Flemington 11 Sep (G. Riddle); Moray, 5 Findhorn 15 Dec (RAFKOS); Aber, 4 Don est 22 Oct (RBH); Midl, max 8 Musselburgh 17 Feb, 7 on 2 Nov (LLJV).

***Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophris*.** Adult in Gannet colony Hermaness, Unst, 10 June (S. Albon, B. Britton)-7 Aug (DC, MS). Almost certainly same bird as adult 21 July-4 Aug 1972 at same site; it was not recorded in 1973.

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Breeding reports: Shet, first eggs 14 May, many colonies show increases (MPH); Fair Isle, first eggs 16 May (RAB); Ork, 124 prs Swona (KH); Suth, 6 prs Muie cliffs, Rogart (RHD); Kinross, present Benarty Mar-Aug, possibly 2 prs nested (AA); E Loth, Tantallon Castle colony increased to 350/400 sites (DRL, HKL); Wig, increase Mull of Galloway to 38 prs (RCD). Dark-phase birds: Shet, St Ninian's Isle 24 Feb, 2 Unst Apr, Grutness 4 June, several Whalsay Mar-Apr and 1 nested (BM), 2 nested Noss (ACMcL); Fair Isle, 1 nested, singles seen 5 days Feb and Mar, 23-24 Sep, 14 Oct (RAB); Ork, Costa Head 9 Jan (DL), 1 nested Rackwick (CJB); O Heb, nested Dun Othail (WAJC) and N Rona (PGH); Suth, 1 Handa (CJE).

Counts and inland records: Suth, 1 Badanloch 5 July (RHD); E Ross, 2 L Achonachie 20 Apr (RHD); Perth, 1 dead L Watson, Doune, 12 Apr (GS); Stir, 2 Kincardine Bridge 25 May, 17 on 14 Aug (DRW); Dunb, 1 Torrinch, L Lomond, 26 May (TPD); Renf, 2 Cloch Pt 25 Aug (HG) is 3rd Renf record; 50+ N per hour Turnberry, Ayr 7 Sep (IHL).

***Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*.** One flew SE past Tarbat Ness E Ross, 1 Sep (RHD)

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. Breeding reports : Shet, 1st Fetlar 30 Apr, max 150 on 15 July (RSPB), 20 off Foula 15 July (IS); Ork, 50 off Rackwick, Hoy 23 June (CJB); Inv, 50 off L Nevis 19 Aug (ADKR), 1,000-1,200 prs Canna (RWS *et al*).

Passage : O Heb, first Tiumpán Head 5 Feb (WM), 228S and 6N Tiumpán Head in 3 hrs 10 Apr (PGH); Suth, 6 Handa 29 July (CJE); Ross, 14 Rosemarkie 21 June, 18 on 31 Aug (RHD); Moray, 12 Culbin 8 Sep (RAFKOS); Aber/Kinc, 1st Girdle Ness 8 May (RBH), fewer than usual autumn, 200, possibly 600, Girdle Ness 3 Sep (AGK); Angus, 100+ Usan 6 June (GMC); Isle of May, max 14 on 25 Sep; Fife, 29 Apr-Oct, 8E Culross 22 June (DMB); Midl, 296 Leith 6 June, 191 on 7th (IB), 35W and 57E on 23 Sep (DJB); E Loth, 17 May-3 Oct, max 11 Aberlady 8 July (RGN), 10 Tynninghame 17 May (GLS); Ber, 19 Eyemouth 17 Aug (TD); Ayr, 40 Troon 1 July (ASH), 100 Ailsa Craig 5 July (JPh), 420+N per hour Turnberry 7 Sep and 250+N per hour on 20 Sep (IHL), 60+S/hr Doonfoot 8 Sep (IHL). Inland : 1 Plockton, W Ross early Sep (PG); 1 dead (Peregrine kill) Aboyne, Aber, early Sep (JO); 1S Colinton, Midl, 18 Mar (R. Watt); Dunb, 1 L Lomond 7 July (EJM); 1 Cloch Pt, Renf, 25 Aug (HG).

***Little Shearwater** *Puffinus assimilis*. One flew past Frenchman's Rocks, Islay, 30 June (KV), a new species for Scotland.

***Great Shearwater** *Puffinus gravis*. Two Fair Isle 21 Sep (T. and W. N. Loseby, P. J. Roberts).

Large shearwaters (Great/Cory's) : 2 Skerries, Shet, 22 Sep (ISR); 1N Girdle Ness, N Kinc, 31 Aug (AGK).



Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*. Rather scarce : Shet, fewer, 18 Aug-22 Sep, max 4 Sumburgh Head 18 Aug (NLS); Fair Isle, few 10 Aug-27 Sep, max 15 on 28-29 Aug (RAB); Ork, 2 North Ronaldsay 2 Oct (DL); O Heb, 18S Griminish Pt, N Uist, 16 July (PGH), 26S Rubha Ardvule, S Uist, 21 July (RHH), 9INE Butt of Lewis 6 Aug, 89W on 7th (RHH); Ross, 23N Tarbat Ness 1 Sep (RHD), 6 Chanonry Ness 31 Aug (RHD), 2 Uig, Skye, 12 Sep (PME); Aber/Kinc, one 10 June (MD) is very early, max 5 Aberdeen 30 Sep (DRW); Angus, from 18 Aug, max 6 West Haven 1 Sep (TMC); Isle of May, singles 25 Sep, 13 Oct, 28 Oct; Fife, few from 23 Aug, max 6 Fife Ness 1 Sep (DWO); Arg, 1 Coll 25 Sep (RFC), 45 Colonsay 4 Sep and 30 Tiree 5 Sep (AK); Ayr, 4N Turnberry 7 Sep and one 20 Sep (IHL).

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Breeding reports: Shet, evidence of small breeding numbers West Linga, Sandwick, Wetter and Hunder Holms (BM, JHS), first Fetlar 30 Apr (RSPB); Fair Isle, usual records 13 July-27 Sep (RAB); Ork, breeding proved Switha, Green Holms, Faray Holm, Rusk Holm and Auskerry (CJB, DL, ADKR), birds at night Copinsay (MB, ADKR) and Hoy (CJB, ADKR); Caith, 1 ashore Stroma 19 June (PMC, RHD); W Ross, 305 ringed Isle Ristol 10-11 Aug (ARM *et al*).

At sea: O Heb, 6 Little Bernera 15 Aug (PGH), 2 Rubha Ardvule 21 July (RHH); Arg, 80E off Tiree 5 Sep (AK); Wig, 1-3 Corsewall Pt 21 Sep (IHL).

Leach's Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*. Ad found on hatching egg Foula 30 July is first confirmed report for Shet (8: 321-3) (ARM). Migrants: O Heb, 1 Rubha Ardvule 21 July (RHH), 1 Sound of Harris 30 July (RHH); Arg, 1 Frenchman's Rocks, Islay, 8 Sep (KV); Ayr, 1S Ballantrae 7 Nov (RHH, IHL); Wig, 5 Corsewall Point 21 Sep (IHL).

Gannet *Sula bassana*. Breeding reports: 8,093 adults Noss, Shet (8,181 in 1970); Fair Isle, formation of colony at Dronger continued, 4 ashore 26 Apr, max 70 on 21 May and 101 on 5 June; 3 large nests were built but no eggs laid, last ashore 2 Aug (RAB); Ayr, 8-10,000 prs Ailsa Craig (SW).

Counts and migration: Caith, 1,500N/hr Noss Head 24 Mar (GGB), 1,000-1,200E/hr Dunnet Head 10 Apr (SL); Suth, 170+ Embo 26 Oct (DMcD); Ross, 50 Tain Bay 27 Jan (J. Cullen), 240 Chanony Ness 20 Oct (EB); Inv, 50 Longman 2 Jan (JMC), 178 (169 juveniles) Whiteness Head 13 Oct (RHD); Moray, 315 Findhorn 13 Jan (RAFKOS); Ayr, 200S/hr Turberry 20 Sep (IHL). Inland: 1 L Achray, Perth, 26 May (HR); 1 Rowardennan, L Lomond, W Stir, 6-7 June (IWGB, HDS); 1 Barr Loch, Renf, 11 July (PB)

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Breeding counts: Shet, decrease, Westerwick 6 prs (35 prs in 1969), Vailla none (28 prs 1970) (MPH); Ork, 265 nests Calf of Eday (DL), 14† Horse of Copinsay (MASB); Forth, 206 nests Lamb (LLJV), 22 nests Craighleith 15 June (RWJS); Ayr, 23 prs Currarie Port, 51 young 14 July (RWF, RAJ); 50 prs Portandea cliffs 23 Apr (RHH).

Migration and peak counts: Fair Isle, autumn passage from 20 Aug, max 50 on 27 Aug, 30 on 6th and 20 Sep (RAB); Inv, 430 Kessock Ferry 8 Feb (JAL, WMM); E Ross, peak Craigie Howe roost 150 on 20 Jan, 229 on 15 Dec (MKMcD-D); Aber, 50 arrived from NW Strathbeg 3 Sep (JD); Perth, max 327 Kingoodie/Invergowrie 5 Mar, 417 on 12 Apr (EJM), 10 Marlee Loch 17 Feb (JW), 10 Lake of Menteith 2 Mar (DRW); Kinross, max 30 L Leven Jan-Mar (BHM); Fife, 382 Tay Rail Bridge 30 Jan (EJM); Stir, 67 Skinflats 3 Mar (DRW); Renf, 148 Port Glasgow-Erskine 17 Nov (HG); Dumf, 102 Caerlaverock 14 Sep (RHB, LTC).

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Breeding: Shet, first eggs Sumburgh 20 Mar (PKK), colony Papa Stour 119 prs (250 prs in 1969), Vailla 91 prs (53 prs in 1970) (MPH); Fair Isle, first eggs 4 Apr, first broods smaller than usual, unringed albino present summer (RAB); Suth, possible decrease Handa—400 prs (CJE); Ross, 17 prs Rosemarkie-Eathie colony 24 Aug (MR); Forth, slight increase, 27 nests Fidra, 255 Lamb, 225 Craighleith, 4 Carr Craig, one Inchkeith (1st record there) (RWJS); Ayr, c200 Ailsa Craig (WRB), 40 prs Ballantrae-L Ryan (IHL); Wig, 76 prs Mull of Galloway (similar 1969) (RCD).

Counts: Inv, max 51 Corpach 11 Oct (JASN); Aberdeen beach, increase to several 100 mid Oct (AGK); Angus, 530 Gaylet Pot roost 11 Mar (NKA); Perth, singles Kingoodie 6th and 14 Feb (EJM); Arg, 106 Campbeltown Loch 18 Dec (EJM).

Heron *Ardea cinerea*. Breeding : Ork, 1 pr reared 1 young W mainland (CJB); O Heb, new colony 5 nests Balallan, Lewis, (PGH), 10 nests L Keose (PGH); Inv, 18 prs Lynchat (RL); Angus, 32 nests Dun Estate 1 May (NKA); Perth, 39 nests Lake of Menteith (JM, HR); 20+ prs Bridge of Earn (RLMcM); reports of increases in most southern counties; Ayr, 14 prs Kelburn (WRB), 13-16 prs Beith (WW); Lan, 10 nests Hamilton (HSCH); 10 prs Arran (MHD).

Migration and counts : Shet, peaks 6 Hillwell 28 July, 16 Skerries 19 Oct (ISR); Fair Isle, peaks 6 on 26 July, 6 on 17 Aug, 8 on 14 Sep, 6 on 29 Sep-4 Oct (RAB); O Heb, 15 Stornoway 30 Oct (PGH); Inv, 38 Corpach 5 Nov (JASN); Arg, 33 Campbeltown Loch 28 Sep (EJM); Ayr, 25 Dalry 16 Nov (HG), 25 Bogside 28 Sep (RHH, IHL).

***Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*. One Loch of Strathbeg, Aber, 22-29 May (JD).

***Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*. Two records : 1 Faldonside, Selk, end March (Mr Redpath); 1 found dead New Galloway, Kirk, 11 Nov (per ADW).

***Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*. One Valley Strand, North Uist, O Heb 26-30 Aug (J. O. B. Rossetti)—3rd record for Scotland.

***Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia*. Two records : 1 Eastpark, Caerlaverock, Dumf, 9-11 May (RMB, LTC); 1 Strathbeg, Aber, 15-20 May (JD).

*†**Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus* spp. A noticeable increase (Ch=Chilean *P. chilensis*) : Ork, 1 Ch Carness 14-30 Jan (when found dead) (DL *et al*); Caith, 2 Ch L Heilen 19 June (GGB), 2 L of Mey 20 June-end July (PMC, SL *et al*); Inv, 2 Ch Whiteness Head 1 July (RHD *et al*); Aber, 1 Greater *P. ruber* 16-21 Apr, 2 Ch 11-28 June and 3 until 31 Oct (JD), 3 over Ythan 4 Nov (per GMD); Angus, 2 Duns Dish 19 May-early June (GMC); Kinross, 1 Greater Balado Pond 8-31 Mar (AMA, BHM); Fife, 1 Ch Fife Ness early Sep (RLMcM), then at Eden Estuary to 23 Sep, 2-31 Dec (DWO); Midl, 1 Ch Musselburgh 1 Jan (RHH), 2 Ch Gladhouse 3 July (GLS); Ber, 1 Ch Dowlaw 31 Mar-20 Apr (KSMcG *et al*); Renf, 1 Ch Longhaugh Pt 27 Apr-19 May; Dunb, 1 Ch Milton 20 May-mid June (SMDA); 1 Ch Wigtown Merse 12 Jan-10 Feb (RCD), Mar-Sep River Cree, Kirk (MMcL).

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. Peak counts and migration : Shet, 80 Colsay 7 Feb; Fair Isle, autumn passage 13 Aug-12 Nov, max 9 in Oct-Nov (RAB); Ork, 224 L of Sabiston 18 Nov, 186 on 20 Dec (MC); O Heb, 100 L Stiapavat 13 Jan (RHD); Caith, 450 L Watten 13 Jan, 600 L Calder 20 Jan (SL), 300 L of Mey 18 Aug (SAMM); E Ross, 299 Dingwall 13 Jan (DWMcA), 385 Redcastle 18 Dec (EB); Inv, 159 Longman 15 Nov (MR), 278 Allanfearn-Alturlie 16 Oct (JAL), 350 Insh Feb, 400+ Oct (RL); Aber, 3-400 L Davan 26 Jan (RSB), 650 L of Strathbeg late Aug (JD), 480 L of Skene 15 Dec (RSB); Angus, 882 Dundee 4 Feb (EJM); Perth, 1150 on 27 Jan, 640 on 19 Oct (EJM *et al*), 700 Carsebreck 24 Nov (DRW), c2,000 Port Allen-Invergowie 13 Oct (RLMcM); Kinr, L Leven 1,100 Jan, 1,700 Sep, 1,800 Oct, 900 Nov (AA); Clack, 421 Tullibody Inch 30 June (GS), 268 Alloa 15 Dec (GS); Midl, 930 Moorfoot Reservoirs Jan-Feb, 300 on 25 Aug increased to 1,250 on 20 Oct (RWJS *et al*); E Loth, 221 Aberlady 19 Jan (DRL, HKL); Ber, 450 Whitadder 15 Dec (AWGJ); Arg, 104 Mull 15 Dec (RFC), 166 Machrihanish 11 Aug (EJM); Dunb, 300 Milngavie Res 23 Feb (AJ); Renf, 650 Rowbank Res 22 Dec (HG), 400 Barr Loch Dec (PB); Ayr, 500 Chapeltonan-Turnberry 3 Jan (WRB, IHL), 490 Doonfoot 22 Sep (IHL), 520 Barassie 12 Oct (HG); Dumf, 1,217 Caerlaverock 14 Sep (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 4-500 L Urr 10 Oct (ADW).

Teal *Anas crecca*. Breeding reports : Shet, breeding proved Hillwell (FH) and 2 prs Unst (GB); Inv, first brood Insh 18 May (RL); Kinr, L Leven 2 prs bred from 6 prs on territory (AA); Dunb, 1 pr nested Endrick Mouth (HG); Renf, 2 prs nested Calder Down (HG).

Peak counts and migration : Shet, max 36 Papa Stour 24 Dec; Fair Isle, spring passage 15 Apr-15 May, max 15 on 27 Apr, autumn 20 Aug-3 Oct, max 15 on 1st and 16 Sep (RAB); Ork, 60 L of Skail and 56 L of Harray 13 Oct; O Heb, 30+ L Stiapavat 18 Nov (GW); Caith, 100 L of Mey 22 Jan (SL), 230 L Calder 17 Nov; Suth, 550 Skibo 16 Nov (DMcD); Ross, 300 Dalmore 15 Dec (ARM), 220 Munloch Bay Feb, 280 on 18 Nov (MKMcD-D); Inv, 489 South Beaully Firth 13 Jan (MIH), 234 Longman 16 Oct (JAL), 100+ Insh Apr, 125 Dec (RL); Aber, 600 Strathbeg Oct, 800 on 4 Dec (JD); Angus, 352 Lintrathen 18 Aug (EDVP); Fife, 170 Kilconquhar 16 Sep (DWO); Clack, 244 Tullibody Inch 10 Mar, 327 on 10 Nov (GS); Midl, 150 Moorfoot Reservoirs Jan/Feb, 200 Aug, 300 Sep, 450 on 3 Nov (RWJS); Arg, 84 Mull 15 Dec (RFC); Lan, 200 Possil Loch 15 Jan (TPD); Ayr, 220+ Blairbowie 12 Dec (RHH); Kirk, 340 L Ken 17 Nov (LAU, ADW).

Drake Green-winged Teal *A. c. carolinensis*: Eden estuary, Fife, 7 May (T. Backx); Balblair Forest, Culrain, E Ross, 7 June (T. H. Wall).

***Garganey** *Anas querquedula*. About 20 spring records 20 Mar-29 May, two in autumn. Shet 1 Sandwater 20 Apr (AG), ♂ Hillwell 19 May (NLS), ♂ Sandy Loch 29 May (DC); Aber, 1 Balmedie 1-3 May (RLS), 1 Meikle Loch 20 Sep (RHH); Perth, ♂ Thornhill 9 May (DMB, DRW); Midl, pr Musselburgh 20 Apr, ♀ on 7 May (AB, DM); Selk, pr Lindean Res 7-c21 Apr (KSMcG)—new county record; W Stir, 1 Buchlyvie 7 Apr (LSL, EHO); Dunb, 2 Endrick Mouth 7 Apr (EHO), 1 on 27 May (RKP); Renf, 2 Paisley Moss 18 May, one until 22nd (IPG, BZ); N Ayr pond, 2 on 9-26 Mar, 4 on 22 Mar (GF, SMcF, AMcL); Dumf, ♀ Eastpark 11 Oct (RHB, LTC).

Gadwall *Anas strepera*. No comments from main breeding sites; elsewhere, Perth, 7 prs nested one loch (RLMcM); Caith, ♀ and 9 young L of Mey 20 June (PMC), ♀ and 4 young Loch Sand (G. MacFarlane, R. Adams); Ayr, pr nested Culzean (GSR)—1st for county.

Counts : O Heb, 12 L Hallan 12 July (PGH); Fife, 103 Kilconquhar 16 Sep (DWO); Perth, 14 Strathallan 3 Nov (BJG), Kinross, 60 L Leven Oct (AA). Outside usual areas : Shet, more than usual, max 4 Hillwell 5 May (FH *et al*), 6 Whalsay 3 May (BM, JHS); Suth, 1 L Fleet 9 Mar (RHD); Ross, 1 Redcastle 29 Nov (RHD); Moray, pr Spynie 7 Apr, 1 on 17 Nov (AM); Aber, pr Meikle Loch late June (WRPB); E Loth, 3 Tynninghame 19 May (IAGB, RHH); Selkirk, 5 Tima Water 5 Oct (R. W. Pickford); Dunb, 1 Endrick Mouth 7 Jan (RKP); Lan, 1 Hamilton 17 Mar (HSCH, KCRH), one 21 Apr (DS); Renf, 1 Barr Loch 19-20 Sep (PB); Ayr, 1 Glenbuck 30 Dec (WRB); Wig/Kirk, more than usual, max 6 Castle Loch. Mochrum, 23 June (RHM); Dumf, 2 Lochmaben, 3 Sep, 3 on 9th (NEA, RTS), 2 Caerlaverock 16 Nov (JM).

Wigeon *Anas penelope*. Peak counts and migration : Shet, 100 Delting 11 Feb (DC), passage from 29 Aug, max 181 at L Brow 16 Sep (FH); Fair Isle, 40 on 10 Mar, passage 24 Aug-2 Oct, 15 on 13 Sep (RAB); Ork, 750 L of Harray 19 Mar, 630 on 20 Sep (DL), 500 L of Tankerness 21 Sep (CJB); O Heb, 120 L Stiapavat 13 Jan (RHD), 200 Melbost 13 Oct, 13 Dec (RMcI), 131+ Luskentyre 20 Nov (GW); Caith, 1,230 L Watten 13 Jan, 1,200 L Calder 20 Jan (PMC); Suth, 1,000 Dornoch 11 Sep (DMcD); Ross, 2,000 Alness Bay 13 Jan (ARM), 4,500 Edderton, 3,500 Tain and 3,500 Nigg Bay 14 Oct (CGH), 1,200 Munloch 15 Dec (MKMcD-D); Inv, 1,055 Beaully Firth 17 Nov (MIH), 820 Longman Bay 15 Sep, 1,594 on 17 Nov (MR), 502 Whiteness Head 16 Dec (RHD); Moray, 551 Findhorn 10 Feb (RAFKOS); Aber, 900 Strathbeg early Oct, 2,400 in Dec (JD), 1,000+ Meikle Loch 20 Sep (RHH); Angus, 2,000 Montrose Basin 16 Oct (GMC);

1,530 on Perth loch 27 Jan (EJM, AB), 450 Carsebreck 24 Nov (DRW); E Loth, 450 Tynninghame 13 Jan (RWJS); Arg, 131 Mull 15 Dec (RFC); Dunb, 632 Endrick 13 Jan, 565 on 15 Dec (JM); Renf, 600 Barr Loch Nov-Dec (PB); Ayr, 365 Irvine 17 Nov (GJC, DMcl); Dumf, 915 Caerlaverock 14 Sep (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 615 L Ken 24 Jan (ABD, LAU, ADW); Wig, 400 L Ryan 14 Sep, max 700 on 14 Dec (RCD).

***American Wigeon** *Anas americana*. Drake L Leven, Kinross, 20 Oct-9 Nov (AA, TOJ *et al*).

Pintail *Anas acuta*. Bred two sites west mainland Ork and on Sanday (DL); ♀ and brood Rannoch, Perth 11 June (GS).

Peak counts and migration : Shet, 1 Mar, influx late Apr, max 6 Unst 21 Apr, 6 Fetlar 26 Apr (RSPB), few autumn; Fair Isle, ♂ 29 Apr, ♂ 28-29 May, one 16 Sep (RAB); Ork, max 8 Stenness 10 Mar, 7 Papa Westray 8 Oct (DL), 6 Swona 8 Oct (KH); Caith, 5 L of Mey 17 Aug (SL); Ross, 280+ Nigg Bay 15 Dec (CGH), 47 Edderton 19 Dec (RHD); Inv, Longman peaks 40 on 7 Feb, 67 on 17 Nov is continued decrease but 99 Bunchrew-Lentran 10 Feb (MIH) is increase, 1 Kinlocheil 1 Dec (ADKR); Aber, 4 Rattray 29 Mar (JE), 6 Ellon, 2 Meikle Loch 10 Nov (MH, MD); Kinross, 10 L Leven Sep, 5 in Oct (AA, BHM, TOJ); Isle of May, one 30 Apr; Stir, 66 Grangemouth 9 Feb (DMB), 71 Skinflats 15 Dec (DRW); Clack, 17 Cambus 10 Mar (GS); Midl, 6 Musselburgh 23 Sep (GLS); Arg, 12 Ardnave, Islay, 16 Mar (DLC); Renf, 206 Longhaugh Pt 13 Jan (HG); Lan, 20 Merryton 29 Mar (RGN); Dumf, peak 1,200 Caerlaverock 16 Nov (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 1,946 Airds Pt-Carsethorn 14 Dec, 250 Cree 16 Nov, 100 Luce Bay 14 Dec, 87 Lower L Ken 24 Jan, 63 on 17 Nov (LAU, ADW *et al*).

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*. Shet, pr bred Hillwell 7 young on 24 July (DC)—3rd nesting record for Shet, a pr nested same place in 1953-4; small numbers bred Ork, O Heb, Caith, E Ross, Inv, Perth, Kinross, Fife, Midl, W Stir and Kirk.

Counts and migration : Shet, 1st Skerries 3 Apr (ISR), last 2 Spiggie 17 Nov (DPPE); Fair Isle, pr 22-23 May (RAB); Ork, 20 Collinness, Sanday, 3 Mar (DL); O Heb, 5 L Hallan 17 July (RHH); Caith, fewer than usual; 196 Perth loch 19 Oct, 100 on 3 Nov (EJM, RC, JC, LS), 84 Stormont Loch 1 Sep, 118 on 18th (JK); Kinr, 150 L Leven 15 Aug, 700 in Sep, 330 in Oct, 200+ Nov (AA, TOJ); Fife, 82 Kilconquhar 16 Sep (DWO); E Loth, more than usual; Ber, 30 Hirsell 20 Oct; Dunb, 22 Endrick Mouth 20 Oct (AGG); Lan, only 6 Possill Marsh Sep (TPD), continued big decrease at this site; Renf, 38 Barr Loch 6 Oct (HG); Ayr, 18 New Cumnock 14 Apr (WRB); Kirk, 29 L Ken 17 Nov (LAU, ADW), 41 Southwick-Airds Point 19 Oct.

†**Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*. No change Perth; ♀ Endrick Mouth Dunb, 13 Dec (RS) but some local escapes in spring.

*†**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina*. ♂ Bowdenmoor Res and Faldonside Loch, Rox Sep-Nov (AJS); ♀ Bothwell Bridge, Lan 1-14 Jan (KCRH, HSCH).

Scaup *Aythya marila*. No breeding records but scatter of summer records; Shet, pr Unst 1 Jun (JS, NLS), pr Foula 24 June-9 July (BEG), 1 Hillwell 24 July-6 Aug (DC); Fair Isle, ♀ 24-25 May, ♂ 4 July (RAB); Ork, ♂ Rousay 11 May (DL), ♂ Rusk Holm 27 July (ADKR); O Heb, ♂ Ard Kenneth 12 June (DT); Inv, 2 ♂ ♂ 1 ♀ L na Curra 13 May (RHD), 2 prs Corpach 14 May (JASN); Moray, 2 ♂ ♂ Spey Bay 12 July (RSPB); Clack, 3 ♂ ♂ Tullibody 21 July (GS); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 31 May, ♂ 19 July (LLJV); Arg, pr Ford 15 July (DMB).

Peak counts and migration : Shet, 13 Tingwall 10 Feb; Ork, 100 L of Harray 19 Feb, 380 on 19 Mar (DL); O Heb, 14 Branahuie 16 Jan (PGH);

Ross, 152 Edderton 19 Dec (RHD); Inv, ♀ Insh 8 Nov (RL); Moray, 16 Burchhead 15 Dec (RAFKOS); 12 Banff 11 Mar (MC); Aber, 14 Meikle Loch 3 Mar (PDR); Fife, 1,400 Methil 2 Jan (JHB); Midl, Seafeld-Musselburgh c20,000 Jan-mid Feb down to 10 on 7 May, 16 on 29 Aug, 62 on 25 Sep, 8,000 on 31 Oct, c20,000 in Dec (BC, AWGJ, LLJV, RWJS); 18 Duddingston 11 Oct (PH); Arg, 347 Islay 27 Jan (DRW); Renf, 65 Longhaugh Pt 10 Feb (HG); Ayr, 29 Barassie 15 Mar (WRB); 27 Doonfoot 2 Feb (WRB, IHL); Kirk, 250+ Carsethorn 20 Jan-2 Feb (AB, RHH, FO); 226 on 6 Apr, 116 on 16 May, 50+ 17 Sep, 58 on 16 Nov (ADW, AJW); Wig, 150 L Ryan 26 Jan (GS).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*. Population high and good breeding success reported most areas; new sites used in Ayr and Kirk, and probably bred Unst, Shet, for first time (GB).

Peak counts and migration: Shet, 250 Tingwall/Asta 18 Jan and 28 Dec; 160 Snarrafvee, Unst, 29 Dec (MS); 140 Clickhimin 6 Oct; Ork, 2,600 L of Harray 13 Jan, 2,060 on 13 Oct (DL), 186 L of Swannay 12 Oct (JM); Caith, 155 L Watten 13 Jan; Ross, 500 L Ussie 17 Feb (DWMcA); Inv, 100 L Insh Apr (RL); Aber, 1,600 Strathbeg mid Oct (JD), 350 L Skene 13 Oct (RSB); Kinr, 560 L Leven Feb, 800 in Mar, 880 in Sep (AA); Isle of May, singles 18 Sep, 23 Sep, 23-30 Oct are 7-9th records; Stir, 363 Airthrey 15 Jan, 168 on 21 Dec (CJH); Midl, 400 Duddingston Jan/Feb, 220 on 13 Mar (DRA); W Loth, 210 Linlithgow 13 Jan (CKM), 250 Bee-craigs 17 Feb (IBM); Lan, 230 Hamilton 2 Feb (RGN); Renf, 650 Barr Loch 14 Sep (PB); Ayr, 120 Kilbirnie loch 1 Feb (WRB).

Pochard *Aythya ferina*. Only reports of breeding: Perth, 22 prs at one site 14 Apr (RLMcM); Fife, bred; Midl, Duddingston bred, pr reared 2 young Threipmuir (DJBn).

Counts and migration: Shet, 94 Tingwall 3 Feb, 164 on 24 Feb (DC) (record Shet count), last 2 Unst 2 Apr, first 5 Sep, later 120 Brow 21 Dec; Ork, 2,380 L of Harray 19 Feb, 1,430 on 17 Nov (DL), 2,270 L of Boardhouse 18 Nov (MC), 700 L of Hundland 14 Sep (JM); O Heb, 81 L Gruinavat, Lewis 13 Jan (PGH); Caith, 91 L Stemster 3 Oct (PMC); W Ross, 22 L a'Chuillin 6 Mar (ENH); Inv, summer influx 78 L Ashie 17 Aug (RHD); Moray, 100 Spynie 29 Dec (AM); Aber, 540 Strathbeg mid Feb, 1,300 early Oct (JD), 210 Skene 20 Jan (RSB); Kinr, 800 L Leven Jan down to 320 in Mar, increase from 90+ on 25 Aug to 1,000+ Sep, 900+ Oct, only 50 in Nov (AA, TOJ); Isle of May, one 8 Sep (8th record) (DRL *et al*); Fife, 1,800 Methil 2 Jan (JHB); W Loth, 225 Linlithgow Jan (CKM); Midl, 8,000 Duddingston on 13 Jan, 4,500 on 17 Feb, 1,300 on 17 Mar, 77 on 16 Sep, 2,000 on 19 Oct, 8,600 mid Nov (DRA *et al*); Arg, 6 L Uisg, Mull, 15 Dec (RFC); Dunb, 180 Milngavie Res 3 Jan (PB); Renf, 450 Barr Loch 14 Sep (PB).

***Ferruginous Duck** *Aythya nyroca*. Ad ♂ Duddingston 2-7 Mar (DJBk), 27 Oct-23 Nov (DRA, PH) with huge Pochard flock and almost certainly same bird as 25 Feb-17 Mar 1973 (8: 224).

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*. Bred usual area E Inv, three broods recorded, brood/9 on 15 May, still 8 on 28 May, brood/5 on 19 May, down to 3 on 10 June, brood/5 on 28 May (RHD *et al*); summer records Shet (1), Suth (10), Inv (10+), Aber (2-3), Angus (4), Perth (7), Midl (2), Ayr (1) and Kirk (1).

Winter-spring: Fair Isle, 3 on 23 May (RAB); Ork, 230 L of Stenness (DL); Caith, 132 L Watten 13 Jan (PMC); Ross, 700 Invergordon 10 Feb (ARM); Inv, 368 Longman 23 Feb, 213 on 7 Apr (JMC, MR); Moray, 181 Findhorn 10 Mar (RAFKOS); Aber, 220 Skene 20 Jan (RSB); Perth, 270 Invergowrie 4 Mar (EJM), 100 Kercock 30 Jan (IMcK, SL); Kinr, 350 L Leven Mar (AA, TOJ); Isle of May, single 5-20 May, 3 June; Fife, 970 Kilconquhar 20 Apr (DWO); Clack, 190 Kincardine 16

Feb (DMB); Midl, 2,000 Seafield 20 Jan, 1,600 on 24 Feb, 1,000 on 16 Mar (JHB), 110 Musselburgh 3 May (LLJV, DJBk); Renf, 313 Erskine-Woodhall 10 Feb (HG); Ayr, 120 Doonfoot 26 Jan (WRB); Kirk, 55 L Ken 24 Jan, lower than usual (LAU, ADW); Wig, 64 L Ryan 10 Feb (RCD).

Autumn arrivals and counts : Shet, 1st 15 Sep, max 60 Spiggie 16 Nov; Caith, first 35 L Calder 13 Oct (SL); Ross, 14 Tarradale 25 Sep (EB); Inv, 30 Longman 16 Oct, 410 on 27 Dec (JAL), 100 Fort William 15-18 Dec (RHD, ADKR); Moray, 270 Burghead 26 Dec (RHD); Aber, 118 Strathbeg mid Oct (JD); Perth, 1st 13 Oct, 108 Kercock 28 Dec (RLMcM); Kinr, 6 L Leven 15 Sep, peak 90 in Nov (AA, TOJ); Clack, 222 Alloa 15 Dec (GS); Midl, 150 Musselburgh 17 Oct, 500 on 24 Nov (LLJV, DJBk); E Loth, 200+NW Tynninghame 3 Nov (DRL, HKL); Ayr, 310 Girvan 26 Dec (HG), 270 Turnberry Bay 19 Dec (RHH).

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*. Winter-spring : Shet, winter survey revealed c1100 (PKK), max concentration 230 Yell/Fetlar/Unst sounds 25 Feb (PKK), where increase to 560 on 20 Apr (RJT), last Whalsay 16 June (BM, JHS), Noss 19th (ACMcL) and Skerries 21-26 June (ISK); Fair Isle, last 30 May; Ork, winter survey revealed 1,600 Scapa Flow, 470 Westray-Papa Westray, 350 Sanday, 300 Finstown-Deerness, 1,950 Wyre sounds, last Copinsay 27 May (DL); O Heb, 150 Branahuie 5 May (RMcI); Suth, build-up L Fleet in April to 2,500 on 14 Apr (RHD), last 6 Balnakeil 9 May (DCH); Ross, 162 Invergordon 9 Feb (RHD); Moray, 7,000 off Findhorn 13 Jan (RAFKOS), 1,500 Spey Bay 17 Apr (RSPB); Aber, 126 Ythan 6 Jan (PRS), 415N, 35S Rattray 4 May (MD); Fife, 350 Methil 24 Mar (JHB); Midl, 50 Musselburgh 20 Jan, last 2 on 7 May; E Loth, 300 Gosford Bay 30 Apr, 200 on 7 May (FDH); Arg, 5 L Indaal, Islay, 27 Jan (DMB, DRW); Ayr, 5 Turnberry 3 Jan (WRB, IHL). Summer records : Ork, 2 ♀♀ Evie July-Aug (MC); O Heb, ♀ Branahuie 3-27 June (RMcI); Moray, ♂ Spey Bay 12 July (RSPB).

Autumn arrivals and counts : Shet, 3 Haroldswick 23 Sep (MS); Fair Isle, 16 Sep-6 Nov, max 8 on 13 Oct (RAB); Ork, from 2 Oct (DL); O Heb, 2 Broad Bay 15 Sep (WM), 159 Branahuie 19 Nov (GW); Suth, 120 L Fleet 16 Oct (RHD); Moray, 680 Burghead Bay 17 Nov, 3,115 on 15 Dec (RAFKOS); Aber, singles Ythan 8 Sep (LS) and 20 Sep (RHH); Perth, 1 L Rusky, Callander, 23 Nov (DT); Midl, 4 Musselburgh 14 Oct, 38 on 17th (AWGJ, LLJV), 1 Cobbinshaw 10 Nov (JSO); Ber, 51N in 1½ hrs Eyemouth 28 Sep (TD); Ayr, 3 Irvine 15 Oct (JLB); 1 Isle of Bute 13 Oct (BJC, JMT); Wig, 1 L Ryan 10 Oct, 4 on 16 Nov (RCD, RHH), singles inland L Magillie, Wig, 10-15 Oct, Souleseat Loch, Wig, 28 Nov (GS), Clatteringshaws Loch, Kirk, 7 Nov (TDP, ADP).

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*. Counts and migration : Shet, max 5 Bressay 24 Jan, 7 Sullom Voe 26 Feb (PKK), last 23 May (IS); Fair Isle, ♂ 22 Sep (RAB); Ork, 21 Echnaloch Bay 12 Feb, 80 Gairsay 15 Mar, first autumn, 7 Aug, 34 Echnaloch 3 Dec (DL); O Heb, 110 Broad Bay 25 Dec (RMcI); Suth, 150 Brora 25 May (DJB), ♂ Handa 30 June-9 July (CJE); Moray, 1,000 Findhorn-Burghead 13 Jan, 350 on 10 Feb, 316 on 13 Oct, 376 on 26 Dec (RAFKOS); E Loth, 600 Gullane Pt 18 Feb, 500 on 24th Mar, 200 10 May, 50 summered (IAGB, RHH, RGN); Arg, 6 West Loch Tarbert 26 Jan (DMB, DRW), 11 Tayinloan 23 Feb (TDHM); Ayr, ♂ Doonfoot 24 Jan (RHH).

***Surf Scoter** *Melanitta perspicillata*. Two records : ♂ L Fleet bar, Suth, 21 Mar-14 Apr (MH, DMcD *et al*); ♂ Carrick Pt, Kirk, 13 Nov (WJ, KJ)—first since 1971.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. Summer : Shet, breeding not proved but prs present Littlester, South Nesting, Girlsta and Spiggie; Caith, broods of 7 and 3 seen 6 July (G. MacFarlane, R. Adams), other pairs present : Inv, 2 ♀♀ seen Fort Augustus

hills June (AP), c15 prs on loch where 6 nests found on one island (RHD, MIH); Perth, pr at usual site 7 eggs 10 June, 4 large young 20 July (RHD); Arg, ♀ L Awe 15 July (DMB); Dunb, pr seen Inchmoan 25 May (ETI); 3 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀ Inchfad, L Lomond, W Stir (GA).

Counts and migrants: O Heb, 70 Broad Bay 25 Dec (RMCl); Suth, 1,200+ Embo 16 Oct (RHD); Moray, 14,000 Burghead-Findhorn 13 Jan, 2,000 Feb-Apr (RAFKOS), 260 on 18 Aug, 1,600 on 15 Sep (RAFKOS), 6,500 on 6 Nov (RHD); Midl, 70 Musselburgh 22 Mar (LLJV); E Loth, big increase, 2,000 Gullane Pt 18 Feb, 3,500 on 3 Mar, 6,000 on 10 May, 2,000 summered (RGN, IAGB, RHH, PV); Ayr, 16 Turnberry 19 Dec (RHH) Dumf, ♂ Carnsalloch 13 Jan (KB), pr Lochmaben 21 Apr (NEA, RTS); Kirk, 32 Southernness 9 Mar; Wig, 400 L Ryan 4 Nov (RCD) is high count for area.

***Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri*. Four birds: the drake first seen May 1972 at Vorrán Island, S Uist, was present throughout the year; 2 ♀♀ were also present on 13 Apr (D. Waring); immature ♂ Westray, Ork, 25 Oct (RHD), still present 14 Nov (RBH).



DM

Elder *Somateria mollissima*. Breeding: first eggs c/4 Fair Isle 8 May, ducklings on sea 2 June (RAB); Caith, 65⁺ prs Stroma, 35 broods June (PMC, RHD); Suth, first young Scourie 31 May (IDP); Inv, 27 ducklings Corpach 7 May is good (JASN); Ayr, 33 prs Horse Island (PB).

Counts: Shet, winter survey suggested population of 7,850 (PKK), concentrations 4,000 Yell/Unst/Fetlar sounds 25 Feb, 5,000 7 Dec (PKK, RJT), 390 Mousa Sound 14 Feb, 325 Toft, Yell, 12 Feb (PKK), moulting flocks 2,000+ Grif Skerry 4 July (BM), 3,000 Silwick 14 Aug (HW), 1,500 Sumburgh Head 8 Sep (WF), 600+ Hillswick 30 Aug (MHR); Fair Isle, peak 1,075 in Nov (RAB); Ork, winter peaks 1,320 Scapa Flow, 1,120 Wyre, 400 Westray (DL); O Heb, 360+ Broad Bay 16 Nov (GW); Suth, 2,500+ L Fleet bar 2 Jan (DMcD), 1,500 on 8 Apr (ARM), 2,500 on 4-10 Oct (RHD, ARM); Inv, 124 Corpach 20 Oct (JASN); Moray, 200 Covesea 3 Nov (AM); Aber, 1,250 Blackdog-Don 18 Mar (RLS), 1,200 on 6 Sep (AGK); Midl, 2,000 Musselburgh 17 Feb (RWJS), 2,500 on 2 Mar (RHH), 1,000+ on 27 Sep (LLJV); E Loth, 6,000 Gullane/North Berwick early Sep (JHB, S da P, DRL, HKL); Dunb, 1,100 Ardmore 13 Jan, 17 Nov (SMDA); Renf, 700 Woodhall 13 Oct (HG); Ayr, 880 Troon 19 June (ASH), 1,800 Turnberry 22 Aug (RHH), 750 Irvine 23 Oct (WRB).

***King Elder** *Somateria spectabilis*. Shet, ♂ Trondra/Clift Sound Jan-29 Apr (DS, JS, VS), a different ♂ Chenies 16 Mar (PKK, ARW), ♂ Quendale late Jan (ARW et al). ♂ Mousa Sound 16 Mar (PKK, ARW),

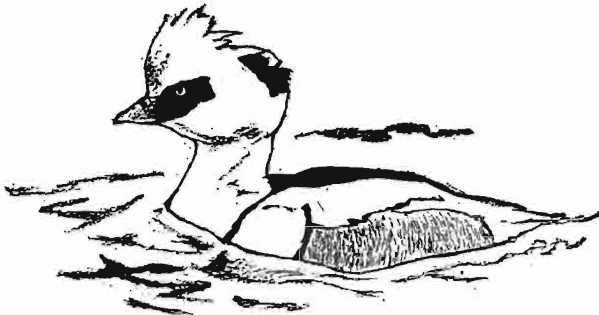
♂ North Fetlar 10 May-3 June(RJT), imm ♂ Toft 16 May-7 July (DC, RJT), ♀ also on 21 May-22 June (DC, NLS *et al*), ♂ Gutcher 10 Oct (AJG); Fair Isle, ♂ 2-4 June (RAB, GJB, B. Underwood), ♂ 18 Sep-6 Nov (RAB, F. A. Clements); Caith, ♂ Thurso 9 Mar (KMB, SL), imm ♂ Holborn Head 12 Oct (SL); Suth, ♂ Loch Fleet 1 Jan-23 June, 24 Nov-31 Dec (RHD, DMcd) and imm ♂ 20-22 April (DB, MD); Aber, ♂ Murcar 13 Oct (PME, M. Hickson); Fife, ♂ Culross 10 Mar-15 Dec (DMB, DRW); Arg, ♂ Innellan 5 June (L. Robertson); Ayr, ♂ Largs 16-26 Mar (KCL, WWW); Bute, ♂ Great Cumbrae 1 June (GS, LS). The increase continued to 19 different records although some almost certainly refer to the same bird, e.g. the three sightings in Clyde area. ♀♀ remain very rare and there are no records of breeding/hybridization, although ♂ at Innellan was photographed with ♀ Eider plus ducklings.

***Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis*. ♂ Unst, Shet, 16 May (GB).

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*. Peak counts and migration: Shet, winter survey suggested total population 210-290 (PKK), peak counts 23 Unst 2 Apr (GB), 20 Catfirth 31 Aug (IS), 25 Weisdale 31 Oct (RJT); Fair Isle, 7 records 4 Mar-27 June, from 12 Sep, max 6 on 29-30 Sep (RAB); Ork, 300 Scapa Flow winter (DL); O Heb, 23 L Leurbost 25 Feb (PGH); Suth, 325 L Fleet 15 Sep (WCW); Inv, 50+ Beaully Firth 29 Nov (RHD), 100 Arisaig 1 Dec (ADKR); Moray, 276 Findhorn 17 Nov (RAFKOS); Angus, 380 Kinnaber 14 July (NKA); Perth, 64 Kingoodie 10 Oct (EJM); Isle of May, 8 on 23 Sep; Stir, 500 Kincardine Bridge 17 Nov (DMB); Arg, 1500 Tayinloan 25 Aug (MJPG); Wig, 106 L Ryan 10 Oct (RCD).

Goosander *Mergus merganser*. Peak counts and migrants: Shet, singles Unst Jan (GB), Gruting Loch 24 Jan (IS), Whalsay 17-23 Mar (BM, JHS), Clumlie 13-20 Oct (FH), Clickhimin 1 Dec (DC), Scalloway 1 Dec (RD); Fair Isle, 16 July (K. J. Derrett), 24 Nov (RAB); Ork, ♀ Papa Westray 27 Feb, 1st for 9 years (DL); O Heb, 2 ♀♀ L Grimesta, Lewis 17 Feb (PGH); Caith, 6 L Watten 13 Jan; Suth, 3 Laxford 25 Dec (IDP); Ross/Inv, 800+ Beaully Firth 13 Jan (MIH), 500 on 9 Feb (EB), 130 moulters on 1 July, 535 on 29 Nov, 1,200+ on 25 Dec (RHD); Aber, 32 Strathbeg 23 Feb (MH), 26 L of Skene 10 Nov (RSB); Angus, 680 Dundee 7 Feb (EJM); Perth, 160 Invergowrie Bay 4 Mar (EJM); Kinr, last 5 on 13 May, first of autumn 6 on 28 Sep, max 28 on 3 Dec (TOJ); Peeb, 305 Portmore 23 Nov (RWJS); Ber, 57 Whiteadder Res 21 Sep (AWGJ); Arg, pr Ardnave, Islay, 18 Mar (DLC); Renf, 43 Balgray Res 23 Jan (HG); Kirk, 84 L Ken late summer (LAU).

***Smew** *Mergus albellus*. About 32 records in winter/spring to 20 Apr, 11 in autumn/winter from 6 Oct, most records in seven years. Shet, ♂ South Nesting/Sandwater 1 Jan-20 Apr (DC, IS), ♂ Benston 22 Dec (IS), 1 Hillwell 6 Oct (BM, JHS); Ork, singles Sanday 2 Mar (FC, DL),



Stenness 11 Apr (DL); Caith, ♂ L Watten 13 Jan (SL); Aber, ♂ Strathbeg 1 Mar-3 Apr, several Nov-Dec, max 3 on 25 Nov (JD), 1 Don 16 Apr (RBH); Perth, ♂ Lake of Menteith 17 Feb (HR)-2 Mar, when also 4 red-heads (DRW), ♂ L of Lowes 17 Feb-15 Apr (MD), 1 Carsebreck 24 Nov (DRW); Fife, pr Kirkcaldy 6 Mar (DER), 3 (2♂♂) on 19 Mar (DWO), ♂ Cameron Res Jan-14 Apr (PNJC); Clack, 2 Gartmorn Dam 3 Jan (DMB); Midl, 1 shot Threipmuir Nov; Peeb, 1 Portmore 23 Nov (PS)-28 Dec (RWJS, LLJV); Ber, ♂ Hirsell 15 Apr (IAGB); Selk, ♂ Faldonside 10 Feb (Mrs Linehan), ♂ Headshaw Loch 17 Feb (AJS), ♂ Lindean Res 24 Feb (AJS); Rox, 3 (2♂♂) Teviot by Roxburgh 13 Feb, ♂ Kelso 20 Mar (Mrs Fraser); W Stir/Dumb, singles Endrick mouth 27 Jan (AGG), 26 Feb (TW), 9-17 Mar (RDO *et al*) 2 on 23-24 Mar (JM); Renf, 1 Long Loch 23 Jan (HG), ♂ Daff Res 3 Mar (DC), ♂ L Thom 5 Mar (MB, VB); Ayr, ♂ Turnberry 3 Nov (RHH, JKRM); Kirk, 1 Carsethorn 20 Jan (IAGB, RHH), 1 Carlingwark Loch Nov (C. Hiron); Wig, ♂ L Ryan 12 Nov (ADP).

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. Very good breeding season L Leven, Kinr, where 137 ducklings 17 July (AA). Peak counts: O Heb, 24 Melbost 24 Feb (IMMcL); Ross, 190 Alness Bay 10 Feb, 105 Dalmore 10 Mar (ARM), 114 Tain 19 Dec (RHD), 220 Munloch 10 Mar (MKMcD-D); Inv, 98 Longman 10 Mar (JAL); Moray, 187 Findhorn 5 May (RAFKOS); Perth, 118 Kingoodie 25 Mar (EJM); Clack, 145 Alloa-Tullibody 30 June (GS); Stir, 1,020 Skinflats 10 Feb, 1,475 on 1 Dec (DRW); W Loth, 179 Rosebilly 26 May (BC); E Loth, 133 Aberlady 9 Mar (DRL, HKL), 135 Tynninghame 24 Mar (RWJS); Renf, 1,334 Longhaugh Pt 10 Feb (HG); Kirk, 577 Southwick-Airds Pt 6 Apr, part of total North Solway count of 1,294.

Inland records and migration: Shet, first 2 Hillwell 30 Jan; Fair Isle, 1 on 5 Jan (S. Thomson); Inv, 2 Insh 19 Apr, one 30 Apr (RL), singles Corpach 16 Mar, 15 May (JASN); Perth, 1 Barbush, Dunblane, 6 Apr (GS), 2 Lake of Menteith 9 May (DMB), 1 Stormont Loch 17 Sep (IMcK, SL); Midl, 1 Cobbinshaw 13 Jan (JSO), 4 Gladhouse 5 Jan, 1 on 26 Jan (LLJV); Arg, 3 Kingshouse, Glencoe, 19 May (TDHM); Lan, 2 Hamilton 24 Aug (RGN); 8 Logan Res 25 June (JB).

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*. Breeding: O Heb, 5 prs, 17 young L Orasay, Lewis, 7 July (PGH); Suth, usual moulting flock c250 Badanloch 2 July (RHD); Ross, 15 young L Maree 13 June (ENH); Inv, L Laggan feral flock 27 on 30 May (RSPB); Kinr, pr probably bred L Leven (AA); Ayr, 3 ad + 3 young L Goosey, Barrhill, 21 June, pr + 3 young L Braden (WRB); poor season for feral breeding Earlstown, Kirk but good in Dumf (LAU, RTS).

Winter-spring: Kirk, 997 Threave 3 Feb (DRW), departures 4-16 Apr (ADW); Ayr, 1,300 Blairbowie 23 Mar (WRB, IHL); Renf, 651 Barr Loch 7 Mar (PB); Arg, main pass N from 2 Apr (MJPG); Midl, 450 Moorfoots 16 Mar (WB); Kinr, 1,725 L Leven 27 Jan, 2,550 on 24 Feb, 292 on 1 Mar, 1,000 on 31 Mar, 850 on 14 Apr (AA, CJE, JES); Perth, main passage Apr, but 130 Glenalmond 7 May (MKMcG); Aber, 250 Auchlossan 19 Jan (RSB), last 4 Strathbeg 11 May (RHH); Moray, 2,000 Kinloss 2 Feb (RAFKOS); Ross, 430 Beauly Firth 5 Feb, 2,700 on 8 Apr (EB), 670 Munloch 16 Mar (MKMcD-D), 500 L Ussie 17 Feb (DWMcA); Caith, north passage 6-7 Apr (DG); O Heb, many N 10-26 Apr, max 200 Leurbost 10 Apr (PGH); poor spring passage Shet/Fair Isle.

Autumn national count on 9-10 Nov gave 66,720 in Scotland: 29,530 in Perth, 11,140 in Angus/Kinc, 5,170 in Aber, 3,700 in Kinr, a decrease of 6,000 on 1973 may have been due to counting difficulties; sample count of 1,400 birds gave 18.8% young, with mean brood size of 2.2, which is below average (MAO *et al*). Shet, passage from 18 Sep, max 58 Dunrossness 4 Dec (DC); Fair Isle, strong passage 19 Sep-20 Nov, max 71 on 4 Oct (RAB); Caith, high numbers stayed Nov-Dec, max 800-1,000 L Scarmclate 15 Dec (AFCMC, PMC); Ross, 300 Gairloch

24 Sep (ENH) 2,100+ L Eye 9 Nov (CGH), 56S Kessock 18 Sep (EB); Inv, first 50 Insh 18 Sep (RL), 150S Rhum 29 Sep (PC); Moray, 9 Findhorn 15 Sep (RAFKOS), 1800 Spynie 4 Nov is unusually high (CAG); Aber, 1st Strathbeg 19 Sep, 2,700 L Skene 10 Oct (RSB), twice usual max; Perth first arrivals 18-19 Sep (EDC, JMD), 600+ died Coupar Angus and Madderty Nov/Dec after feeding on dressed winter wheat (per RLMcM); Kinr, 50 L Leven 18 Sep, 250 on 4 Oct, 400 on 5th, 4,100 on 30th Oct (AA, JES); E Loth, 200 Quarryford Pond 15 Dec (AWGJ); Dunb/Stir, more than usual Endrick Mouth, 2,000 in Nov (EAM, RS); Kirk, 70 Threave 19 Sep (JMcN), most in early Oct, Nov-Dec numbers higher than usual, e.g. 8-10,000 Stranraer, Wig, 30 Nov-Dec (RCD).

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*. Only reports of European race *A. a. albifrons* were 6 (4 juvs) Fair Isle 4-10 Jan (GJB); 1 Brough, Caith, 26 Jan-2 Feb (PMC, DG, SL); 1 Strathbeg, Aber, 21-22 Mar (DIMW); 1 Tibbermore, Perth, 3 Apr, 22 Dec (JK, JNR).

Counts and migration for Greenland birds *A. a. flavirostris*: Shet, 1 Quendale 9 Jan (DC); Ork, max 74 Tankerness in winter (CJB); O Heb, 420N Leurbost 27 Apr (PGH); Caith, 40N Brough 20 Apr (DG), 1st of autumn 26 Harpsdale 8 Sep (SL), peaks 120 L Scarmclate 20 Nov (SL), 100 L Heilen 16 Nov (DG); Ross, 10 Longa 19 Feb, 17 Red Point 27 Dec (ENH), none seen L Eye; Inv, 1 L Garten 6 Mar-6 Apr (RHD); Moray, 9 Spynie 4 Nov (CAG); Aber, 30 Strathbeg 9 Feb, 38 on 23 Feb (RBH); Kinr, 2 L Leven 21 Apr, 1 on 24th (TOJ, KS), 2 on 9 Nov (DJB); Arg, 531 Tayinloan 26 Oct (EJM); Dunb/W Stir, 70+ Endrick Mouth 20 Oct (AGG), 95+ on 17 Nov (JM); Renf, 48 Barr Loch 3 Jan, 60 on 8 Mar, last 6 on 1 May (PB); Dumf, 2 Caerlaverock 8 Oct (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 340 L Ken 24 Jan, last 40N Dalry 13 Apr (LAU, ADW), 60+ L Ken 9 Oct (LAU), max 300 on 17 Nov is a further small decline, poor season for young (10%); Wig, earliest ever spring departure, last 180 Moor of Genoch 5 Apr (RCD), first Lochinch 9 Nov, 180 in Dec (RCD), 9 young in count of 100 (RCD).

***Lesser White-fronted Goose** *Anser erythropus*. Ad with 5 Pinkfeet Carnwath, Lan 6 Feb (KCRH, HSCH); first for Lan and first in Scotland for many years.

***Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*. 45 Castle Douglas, Kirk, 2 Jan (ADW, AJW), 60+ Gelston Lane 13 Jan (JSk); Perth, 1 Carse of Lecropt 3 Mar (DRW); Aber, 6 Strathbeg through Dec (JD); O Heb, 1 St Kilda 16-17 June (S. Murray); Fair Isle, singles 4-9 Jan, 12-20 Oct (RAB, GJB); Shet, 1 Virkie 1-7 Mar (ARW).

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*. Winter-spring: 2,415 L Leven, Kinr, 27 Jan, 4,800 on 24 Feb, 5,250 on 14 Apr, 2,000 on 25 Apr, last 200 on 5 May (AA, JES, TOJ *et al*); Midl, 4,000 Moorfoots 16 Mar (WB); Dumf, peak 5,000 Caerlaverock 18 Apr (RHB, LTC); Wig, 1,800 Wigtown Merse, 3 Apr (RCD); Perth, 500 Tibbermore 28 Apr, last 10 on 29 May (DJB); Aber, 3,050 Strathbeg 21 Apr (JD), last 11 May (MH, MID); Ross, 730+ Kilmuir 24 Mar (RHD), 1,300 Evanton 7 Apr (ARM); Suth, sparse passage 20 Apr-1 May (CJE); Caith, last 34E Reay 4 May (JMG); Ork, 1 Deerness 19 May; Fair Isle, 1 on 7-8 May.

Autumn: national count on 9-10 Nov gave 75,670 in Scotland, an increase of 7,000+ on 1973; peak areas being Perth 24,420, Aber 13,710 (a high count), Angus/Kinc 8,740, Kinr 7,250, Peeb 5,500; breeding success below average with 17.6% young in sample of 2,100, mean brood size 2.2 (MAO *et al*). Immigration early with 9 L Leven, Kinr, 23 Aug, 30 on 13 Sep, 50 on 16th, main arrival 18th (350), 19th (4,000), later peaks 5,400 on 13 Oct, 8,000 on 30 Oct (AA, TOJ, JES); Shet, no records; Fair Isle, scarce, 10 on 19 Sep, 15 on 20th, 2 on 22 Oct (RAB); Ork, 9 Evie 11 Sep (MC) only record; Inv, scarce Insh from 18 Sep (RL), large

passage south at Caol 29-30 Sep (ADKR); Aber, 300 Strathbeg 18 Sep, 6,000 on 20th (JD, RHH), 11,900 Meikle Loch 11 Nov (BJW *et al*); Angus, 1,000+S Lunan Bay 19 Sep (GMC); Perth, 32 Carsebreck 14 Sep (JK), 50 Forgandenny 17 Sep (BJG); Fife, 21 Tentsmuir 18 Sep (DWO, BD); Midl, 16 Gladhouse 12 Sep (RWJS), passage 20 Sep, 6,700 Moorfoots 6 Oct (WB); E Loth, 20 Aberlady 16 Sep, 500 on 26th, building up to 3,000 13 Dec (RGN, KSMcG); Arg, 18 Machrihanish 17 Sep (EJM); Dumf, 14 Caerlaverock 18 Sep, 2 leucistic on 6 Oct (RHB, LTC).

*†**Snow Goose** *Anser caerulescens*. Ork, 2 Deerness 1 Nov (DF, RF); Suth, 2 Mudale River 1 June (A. Nixon); Perth, 1 Coupar Angus 1 Oct (Mrs J. Grant); Arg, 1 blue-phase Lesser *A. c. caerulescens* Islay winter (CGB); Dunb, 1 L Lomond 24 Sep-1 Oct (TPD, RS, TW); Lan, 1 Quothquan 27 Feb and Pettinain 2 Mar (RE-H); Dumf, 1 wintered Eastpark (RHB, LTC).

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*. P=pale breasted *B. b. hrota*; D=dark breasted *B. b. bernicla*; others unspecified. Ork, 3 D Harray 13 Jan (DL); Ross, 1P summered with Canada Geese Beaully Firth 15 July-1 Sep (RHD); Moray, an amazing flock of 150 L Spynie 3 Nov (CAG); Angus, 7D flew S at West Haven 26 Jan, 4 D flew N 31 Mar (TMC); Perth, 1 P Blackford 26 Jan-17 Mar (DT), 1 P Carsebreck 5-24 Oct (DMB); Kinr, 1 L Leven 21 Apr (TOJ, KS); Arg, 2 wintered Islay (CGB); Ayr, 2 Doonfoot 11 Nov (JSc); Dumf, 1 P wintered Caerlaverock (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 1 P Bridge of Dee early Jan (DSW), 1 P Threave 3 Feb (DRW); Wig, 1 P Dunragit 17 Mar (RCD).

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*. Winter-spring: Fair Isle, 16 on 15 Apr (RAB); Ork, 1 Deerness 25 May (CJB); Moray, 1 Spynie 1 Feb (CAG); Aber, 2 Rattray 3 Feb-23 Mar (MD, MH); Perth, max 4 Blackford 26 Jan-31 Mar (DT); Kinr, 4 Bowhouse 8 Mar (TG, IG, BHM); Arg, 18 L na Keal, Mull, 23 Apr (RFC); Renf, 4 Rowbank Res 5 Feb (HG); 2 Foula, Shet, 2 July, possibly feral (BEG).

Autumn: immigration from 22 Sep: Fair Isle, 5 on 6 Oct, 108 on 7th (record total for isle), 5 on 21st and 24th, 7 on 25th Oct, 12 on 13 Nov (RAB); Ork, 3 Swona 20 Oct, increased to c250 on 30 Oct (KH); Caith, 40-50 L Heilen Nov-Dec is unusual (per PMC); Ross, 10 Tarradale 20 Oct (MIH); Aber, 8 Meikle Loch 12 Oct (NP), 14 Strathbeg 10 Nov (MD, MH); Perth, max 10 Blackford 22 Dec (JK); Kinr, 1 L Leven 22 Sep, 4 on 29th (AA, TOJ); 1 Isle of May 23 Oct (GLAP *et al*); E Loth, 16 Tynninghame 29 Sep (DRL, LLSV, RWJS); Dunb, 6 Endrick Mouth 20 Oct (AGG). No counts from main haunts.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*. Beaully Firth moulting flock of Yorkshire/English birds: 420 on 31 May (DWMcA), 704 (1 leucistic) on 15 July (RHD), departure in Aug, 550 on 5th, 250 on 28th 140 on 7 Sep (RHD, EB), at least one stayed to end of Dec (RHD). Caith moulting flock: 4 L Rangag 15 June (RHD), peaked at 26 in July/Aug (PMC), these birds are also apparently of English origin.

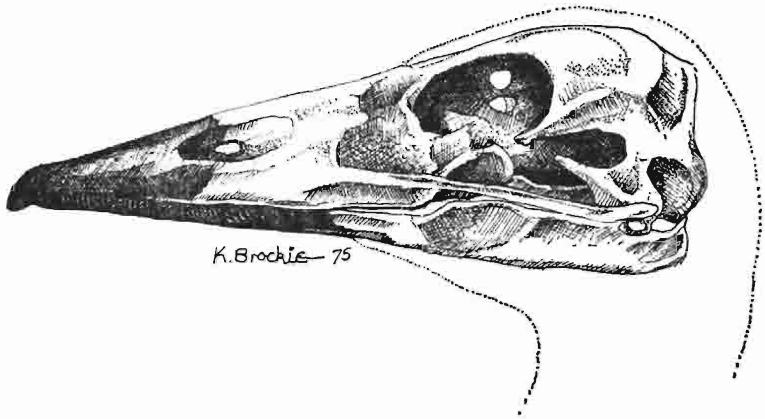
Sightings elsewhere probably referring to moult migration: W Loth, 3 Linlithgow early June (CBP); Isle of May, 1 on 2 June (BZ *et al*); Angus, 21 Montrose 6 June (DHE); Inv, 26N Carrbridge 31 May (J. E. Dale); Ross, 19 Munloch 2 June (RHD); Ork, 18 Orphir 14 June, departed next few days (WG *et al*) were possibly Caith flock overshooting, 1 North Ronaldsay mid-June, 2 Stronsay 1-7 July (per 'DL).

Return passage: Ork, 2 Stronsay 1-14 Oct (per DL); Angus, 28S West Haven 5 Sep (TMC); Perth, 12 Haughs of Kercock 15 Oct (RLMcM); Kinr, 1 L Leven 23 Aug, 5 on 24th, 28 on 9 Sep (AA, BHM, TOJ); Fife, 25 Glenrothes 8 Sep (DRW); W Loth, 28 Cramond 18 Sep (GLS); E Loth, 3 Drem 17-18 Aug (IAGB).

Other peak counts: Wig, 22 incl xGreylag hybrids Lochinch 10 July

(RCD); Dumf, max 111 Caerlaverock 8 Sep (RHB, LTC); Renf, 48 Rowbank Res 13 Feb (PB, HG), 55 on 1 Dec (DLC); Dunb, 29 Endrick Mouth 16 Nov (RS); Arg, 1 Bowmore, Islay, 27 Jan (DMB, DRW); Aber, 2N Collieston 12 Mar (MH), Strathbeg 16 Mar (JD); Inv, 3 Corpach 25 Feb (JASN).

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*. Peak counts : Ork, 169 L of Harray Sep (DL); O Heb, 175+ L Bee 3 Apr (WAJC), 340 on 13 June (DT), 1 Tolstachoalis Loch 20 June is possibly first for Lewis (WAJC, PGH); Ross, 126 Dalmore 20 Jan all to some extent oiled (ARM), many died or had to be destroyed; Inv, 84 L Flemington 14 Nov (MR); Moray, 64 Lossiemouth 14 Dec (RAFKOS); Kinr, moulting herd L Leven, 11 on 6 June increased to 56 in July (AA); Isle of May, 7 on 2 Sep, 2 on 3rd (IHB, DRL, DM, LLJV); Midl, 57 Musselburgh 6 May (AWJG, LLJV); E Loth, 87 Tynninghame 29 Dec (RWJS); Dunb, 65 Cardross 27 Sep (AJ); Renf, 47 winter Barr loch (PB); Wig, 32 L Ryan 14 Dec (RCD).



Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*. Winter counts and spring departure : Kirk, 98 L Auchenreoch 3 Feb (DRW), 63 Mains of Greenlaw 19 Mar (LAU), last records 14 Apr; Ayr, 66 Bogside 8 Mar (WRB); Lan, 86 Hamilton 6 Jan (KCRH, HSCH); Dunb, 63 Endrick Mouth 5 Feb (RKP); E Loth, 25-38 Drem Jan-mid Mar (KSMcG); Perth, 45 Drip Moss 1 Feb (DMB), stragglers to late May; Angus, 23 Craigo 3 Mar (JALC); Aber, last 2 Strathbeg 18 Apr (JD), 2 Deeside late May (AW); Inv, 175 Insh 15 Feb, last 2 on 25 Apr (RL), 54 Easter Lovat 14 Feb, last 5 L nam Faioileag 19 Apr (MIH); Ross, 52 Findon 27 Jan (ARM), 98 Evanton 10 Mar, 86 on 29 Mar (ARM, RHD); Caith, 75 Quintfall 28 Feb, last Dounreay 4 Apr (GGB); Shet, 50 Dunrossness Jan-late Feb, last 3 Spiggie 21 Apr. 13% juveniles in Scottish sample of 300 birds. No breeding records, c30 summering birds, south to Ber, max 10 ads Beauty/Inverness firths.

Autumn arrivals and counts : from 12 Sep, more from 18th; Shet, 4 Spiggie 12 Sep increased to 170 by 23 Nov (FH), 85 Easter Loch 22 Nov (ISp); Fair Isle, 5 on 20 Sep, small passage to 17 Nov (RAB); Ork, 25 L of Tankerness 21 Sep (CJB), 77 Lea Shun, Stronsay, 1 Oct, 63 L of Skail 13 Oct (DL); O Heb, 20 Coll, Lewis, 1 Oct (PGH), 50 Bragar, Lewis 18 Nov (GW); Caith, 54 L of Mey 22 Sep (SL); Suth, 32 Badnabay 25 Sep (IDP), 90 L Evelix 26 Dec (DMcD); Ross, 17 Mid Fearn Loch 18 Sep (RHD), 390 (88 juvs) Fearn 11 Nov (CGH), 77 Evanton 17 Nov (DWMcA), 75 Killearnan 26 Dec (RHD); Inv, 66 Insh 6 Dec (RL); Aber,

32 Strathbeg 19 Sep increased to 318 in Nov (JD), 10 Ythan 20 Sep (RHH); Perth, 49 Drip Moss 14 Dec (DRW); Kinr, 40 L Leven 28 Sep, 187 on 13 Oct, down to 9 by 30th (AA, BHM, TOJ, JES); Isle of May, 8 on 26 Sep (HG *et al*), 9 on 27 Oct (RSH, JH); Clack, 111 Menstrie 22 Dec (CJH); Midl, 18 Cobbinshaw 17 Oct (JSO); Ber, 100 Coldstream 18 Nov (WNB); Arg, 3 Tiree 25 Sep (RFC), 55 L Sween 6 Oct (MJPG); Lan, 41 Gadloch 10 Nov (BZ); Renf, 114 Stanley Res 4 Nov (RJM), 148 Black Cart, near Paisley 10 Nov (HG) probably same flock; Dumf, 4 Caerlaverock 26 Sep, 202 Glencaple 18 Dec (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 40 L Ken 6 Nov (RHH), Wig, 44 Moss of Cree 4 Dec (GS). Scottish sample of 694 birds gave 21% juveniles.

***Bewick's Swan** *Cygnus bewickii*. Winter-spring to 21 Mar; Ross, 3 (1 juv) Findon 23 Jan-5 Feb (MKMcD-D, RHD *et al*), 2 L Maree 21 Mar (ENH); Aber, 1 Birsemore 21 Feb (ED); Midl, 1 Cobbinshaw 3 Jan-20 Feb (BPR, GLS); E Loth, 4 (2 juvs) East Fenton/Aberlady Jan-Feb (GLS *et al*); Lan, 5 Merryton 10-16 Feb (KCRH, HSCH), 4 on 20th (RGN).

Autumn: Ross, 1 ad Mid Fearn 18 Sep (arrived from N with Whoopers) (RHD); Fife, 1 L Ore 27 Oct (DMB); Lan, 1 Gadloch 10-15 Nov (BZ), 2 White Loch, Carnwath, 16 Nov (JB, ND); Dumf, 3 Eastpark, Caerlaverock, 22 Oct, increasing to peak 7 on 5 Nov (RHB, LTC); Wig, 1 Wigtown Merse 12 Oct (RCD), 4 (2 juvs) New Galloway 1 Nov, 1 on 31 Dec (HSCH, KCCH).

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*. Breeding: Ork, pr reared 2 young (DL)—one of most successful pairs in Scot, in most other areas human persecution is a problem; Caith, poor year (PMC); Suth, 5 successful prs reared 7 young (GGB); W Inv, 5 prs reared 7 young, 2 prs failed (JCu, JR); N Arg, 2 prs reared 2 young, 4 prs failed (JR); S Arg, 16 prs with eggs, 10 prs reared 12 young (AGG, MJPG); Banff, 1 pr deserted; Perth, poor season, of sample 12 prs only 3 single young reared (BJG, RLMcM, MM, PWS); in SW, 1 young reared from 4 prs, at least 1 pr robbed. Above data refers to sample counts.

Sightings: Ork, singles Orphir early Oct and Rousay end Dec (DL); Clack/Stir, 1 Ochils 14 Sep (CJH); Midl, imm Moorfoots 26 Oct (LLJV); Rox, 1 Jedburgh 25 Nov (Mr Elliott); Peeb, 1 found dead Innerleithen autumn, ringed when young Galloway 1973 (NSRG); Ayr, 1 Ailsa Craig 16 Apr (SW).

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. Ork, 1 pr reared 2 young Hoy (CJB); good breeding reports O Heb, Caith, Suth, Black Isle; Perth, good year, e.g. 6 prs reared 18 young in north (RLMcM); Fife, scarce, no nesting reports (DWO); Bute, 18+ prs Arran (MHD); doing well S Ayr; Dumf/Wig, marked decline in upland forest areas noted (ADW).

Migrants: Ork, 1 Harray 18 Sep (CJB); Perth, autumn influx Perth area (JMD, LS, SL) and Dunblane-Gleneagles (MM, GS), 12 Blackford 12 Oct (DMB); Kinr, 1 East Brackley 26 Feb (RQB), 1 Glendevon 21 Sep (DMB); Stir, 2 Bridge of Allan Apr, Dec (GS); Midl/Peeb, 1 Pentlands Harbour Hill 28 Feb (BPR), Portmore 22 June (RWJS), Crosswood Res 27 Oct (RSO); W Loth, 1 Hound Point 13 Dec (GLS); E Loth/Ber, 8 sightings Jan-June and Dec; Lan, 1 Kelvingrove 29 Mar (AJ); Ayr, singles Ailsa Craig 2 Mar, 27 Sep and 15 Oct (SW); Wig, 1 Mull of Galloway 10 Oct (RHH).

***Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*. Singles: Fair Isle, 26 Apr, 6 May (RAB *et al*); Aber/N Kinc, Mar Lodge 31 Mar (JJCH), Glen Dye 4th and 18 Apr (NP); Strathbeg 7 May (JD); Midl, Blackness Castle 15 Sep (RS); E Loth, Gifford 18-24 Feb (IAGB, RHH); Peeb, West Linton 20 Feb (B. Marshall); Ayr, Middlefield Law, Muirkirk, 17 Feb (AMcl, RGN); Arran, Gleadath 10 Nov (MHD).

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. Reports of numbers and breeding suc-

cess were good throughout mainland from Caith to Borders. Migrants : Shet, singles Jan, Apr, Sep, Oct, Dec (3 areas), also 2 Kergord 15 Dec (DC, IS); Fair Isle, c10 between 26 Mar and 15 May, 1-2 on 11 days 1-24 Sep, 1 on 7 days 13-25 Oct (RAB); Ork, 1 Shapinsay 14 Sep (CJB), 1 Binscarth 16 Oct (DL); O Heb, 1 Sandwick, Lewis 19 Nov (GW).

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*. Information incomplete; nesting suspected in several areas; prs seen in at least 3 areas in north, flying young seen in one area and nesting suspected at others (per RHD); nesting also suspected in south.

Sightings of singles : Caith, Dounreay 1 May (GGB), Watten 31 Oct (DB, KB); Ardross, Ross, 8 Apr (HSCH); Dinnet, Aber, 1 Nov (DJ); Lochaber, W Inv, 19 Sep (ADKR); Perth, 20 Jan (M. A. Nelson, W. L. Sleigh); Ayr, Dipple shore 18 Aug (JKRM), Ballantrae 29 Sep (WRB, RHH, IHL, JKRM).

***Red Kite** *Milvus milvus*. Singles : Aberlady, E Loth, 15 May (RGN); Cockbridge, Aber, 12 June (DB, MN); Kelliemoor, Angus, late Aug (per NKA).

***Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*. Singles : Shet, Ollaberry 7 July, later died (DC), Skerries 3 Sep (ISR); Ork, Kirkwall 25 June (CJB); Aber, Deeside 13 June (NP); Inv, L Garten 17 July (LLJV); E Loth, Aberlady 4 Aug (RGN).

***Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*. Singles : Shet, ♀ Fetlar 31 Mar (RJT); Fair Isle, imm 11-15 May, died (RAB); O Heb, ♀ L Hallan, S Uist, 17 July (PGH); Inv, ♀ Insh 17-19 May (RHD, RL); Moray, ♀ Elgin 23 Apr (PME); N Kinc, Fetteresso 14 May, Fettercairn 4 June (NP); E Loth, ♀ Aberlady 3 May, 2 ♀♀ on 17 May (RGN); Arg, ♀ Gruinart Flats 2 June (D. Langford); Dumf, ♀ or imm Ruthwell 28 July (DMB). Eleven records compared to annual average of 6 (1968-1973); the preponderance of imm/♀ birds is noticeable.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. Breeding : Ork, 62 nests known, abnormally high failure rate (EB); most northern counties reported good numbers; Kirk/Wig, numbers as 1973 and success low (ADW).

Migration : Shet, ♂ Unst 2 Apr (ARW), singles Whalsay 6 May, Skerries 14-15 May, Unst 19 May, ♂ Walls 13 May (JHS, ISR, MS, BH), 1 Whalsay 24 Sep (MJS); Fair Isle, ♀ 3-6 May, 1-2 on 13-14 Oct, 1 on 24-25 Nov (RAB); Perth, singles on Tay estuary : Port Allen 13 Oct, Seaside 23 Oct, 1 Nov, 29 Dec (RLMcM *et al*); Kinr, Vane Farm 19 Nov (BHM); Fife, 1 Morton Lochs 3 Dec (AMMF); E Loth, 1 Dirleton 1 Aug (MWF), 1 Aberlady 27 Sep (RGN).

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*. From 14 known and regularly occupied sites 10 prs reared 20 (possibly 21) young. L Garten, Inv, ♂ arrived 9 Apr, ♀ on 13th, incubation from 28/29th, 3 young reared, last seen 1 Sep; eyrie No. 2, pr incubating from 8 May, one young reared; eyrie No. 3, pr on 6 Apr, 1 young reared from 3 eggs; eyrie No. 4, pr on 4 Apr, incubation from 24 Apr, 3 young reared; L of the Lowes, Perth, ♂ 6 Apr, ♀ on 9th, incubation from 21st, 2 young reared; No. 6, pr 16 Apr-22 Aug, did not breed or failed; No. 7, pr laid 3 eggs, 2 young reared; No. 8, pr arrived between 8-16 Apr, 2 eggs laid, 1 young, possibly 2, reared; No. 9, pr arrived 21 Apr, laid one egg but failed; No. 10, first on 3 Apr, pr on 5th, 2 young reared; No. 11, 1st on 2 Apr, pr on 3rd, 3 young reared; No. 12, 1st on 4th, nest branch snapped from tree in bad weather 14 May, 2 eggs broken; No. 13, pr present 6 May and apparently incubating but no young reared; No. 14, 1st on 20 Apr, 2 young reared from 3 eggs. As usual there were rumours of other pairs, and summer singles were recorded from Caith to Kirk; first arrival was seen at Inv loch on 20 Mar.

Migration—all singles : Shet, Spiggie 12-15 May (DC *et al*); Ork, Sandy

Loch, Hoy, 20 May (MASB), Rackwick 12 Aug (JC, SP); O Heb, Stornoway 31 Aug (WM); E Ross, Munlochy 9 Sep (RHD); Kinr, L Leven 18 Sep (TS); E Loth, Gosford Bay 14 Sep (IAGB, DLC); Peeb, Holylee 15-17 May (G. Scott); Arg, L Tallant, Islay, 3 May (R. Hodgkinson), Laggan River, Islay, 8 Oct (D. McGregor); Lan, Rigside 21-30 Sep (JB, ND); Ayr, Dalry 10 May (BCF); Dumf, L Ettrick late Aug (JFY), lower Nith late Aug (WA); Kirk, L Org 12 Apr (ADW).

Hobby *Falco subbuteo. Singles : Stenness, Ork, 3 June (EB, SG); Rat-tray, Aber, 23 Aug (CC); Fettercairn, N Kinc, 3 June (NP); St Serf's, Kinr, 20 Sep (TOJ); Kilconquhar, Fife, 24 Aug (PAL, IS); Calgary, Mull, Arg, 30 Aug (RFC).

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. Breeding reports : Shet, 4 prs bred, at least 2 young reared—an improvement (RJT *et al*); Fair Isle, still no breeding (RAB); Ork, 1 of 7 sites on Mainland definitely successful, at least 4 prs successful on islands (DL *et al*); most Highland counties report successful season; Aber, 5 nests checked, 10 young from 4 nests; Perth, 18 sites checked and 11 of them reared young (RLMcM, BJB, MM); Perth/Stir, 15 occupied territories checked in Trossachs/Lomond area, 7 prs successfully reared 19 young (JM *et al*); Arg, 5 prs checked, reared 12 young (MJPG); Ayr, 11 occupied sites, but only 4 successful, reared 11 young (AGS, RR, RHH *et al*); Galloway, a better year. Increased passage/winter sightings from most coastal areas.

Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus. One of the grey ("islandus") type Glen-tig-Dunnackburn, Ayr, 23 Feb (RHH).

*†**Lanner/Saker Falcon *Falco biarmicus/cherrug***. Singles reported Beinn Ratha, Caith, 7 July (PMC); Whiteness, Inv, 15 Sep (RHD); Kinc, Ban-chory in March and Kerloch 30 July (NP).

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. Breeding reports : Ork, 4 prs on 2,450 acres Birsay (KH), 3+ prs Hoy (MASB); Midl, bred Moorfoots and probably Bathgate Hills, W Loth; Galloway, 12-13 sites known, 5 broods fledged from 6 nests (ADW *et al*).

Migration and counts : Shet, last Skerries 15 May, max passage July-mid Oct, peak 5 Dunrossness 29 Sep; Fair Isle, few 20 Mar-20 May, 1 Sep-2 Nov, max 3 on 23-24th and 29 Sep and 22 Oct (RAB); O Heb, max 3 L Stiapavat, Lewis, 21 Nov (GW); Caith, 3 L Calder 13 Oct (SL); Aber, 1st autumn 7 Aug (JD); Kinr, singles Jan (1), Feb (3 days), Mar (2); Fife, only 2 records (DWO); usual winter/autumn records in south.

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. Breeding reports : Ork, a marked decrease since 1973, 3 prs on 2,450 acres Birsay (KH); Inv, scarce Lochaber (JCu); no change E Loth, Clyde; increase Dumf (ARH).

Migration : Shet, 11 records 5 Mar-25 May, 1 Sumburgh 25 June (MPH), passage 13 Aug-end Sep; stragglers to 11 Nov (RJT); Fair Isle, few 17 Mar-6 June, singles 3 dates June/July, passage from early Aug, heavier in Sep, max 5 on 2nd, fewer from mid Oct, stragglers to 29 Nov (RAB).

Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*. Shet, only 1 reported; Ork, numbers very low, moderate success (DL); Caith, good year (PMC); Suth, up to 10 Handa July/Aug (CJE); Kinr, max 10 on Vane Reserve 5 Nov (JES); Renf, 2 Johnstone early Apr (KRRS); Ayr, 1 Goldenberry Hill 15 Dec (JLB, RHH).

Ptarmigan *Lagopus mutus*. Caith, present Smean in summer (JMG); Banff, 4 Ben Rinnes 20 Jan (MC); Bute, 3 Caisteal Abhail, Arran, 20 Apr (HTMW) is only second record this century.

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*. Lek 18 ♂♂ Tulloch, Inv; Perth, 22 ♂♂ Glen Artney lek 17 Mar (MM), 22 ♂♂ Glen Sherup 12 May (CJH); Clack, max 58 Wood Hill 3 Feb (CJH); Stir, 26 Sheriffmuir 27 Sep (DMB); good

breeding season Apr, 20 ♂♂ Patna Jan-Feb (AGS); Renf, pr Kelly Glen 21 Apr (DC); Galloway, increasing (EJMD, HAL).

Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*. Little comment : ♂ L Gair, Arg, 22 Feb (TDHM); ♀ and brood Inchcailloch, W Stir (JHT).

†**Red-legged Partridge** *Alectoris rufa*. Caith, 100 released Sandside in summer, 13 seen 13 Dec (EWEM); E Ross, 1 Delyn 9 Feb (RHD); Aber, 2 Durris 7 May (NP) is new area; Perth, present at usual sites, also Coupar Angus, Aberfeldy and Dunblane (EMH *et al*); W Stir, 27 released Carbeth Aug 1973, 11 present in Jan and 4 prs in breeding season, at least 1 pr bred (JRW); xChukar *A. chukar* hybrids reported Dumf and Kirk (RTS, DS, ADW).

Partridge *Perdix perdix*. A much improved year : Caith, successful year (PMC); E Ross, Inv, good year (RHD), brood/14 Insh 9 July (RL); Aber/N Kinc, increase numbers and distribution (NP); Perth, good year, max 34 Tibbermore 27 Jan (EJM); Midl, numbers very high, late chicks Gladhouse 31 Aug (RWJS); E Loth, most for many years (KSMcG); Borders, good year (AJS); Ayr/Renf, slow increase, but covey 20 Johnstone, Renf, 10 Feb is largest seen in 10 years (HG); Dumf, increase noted (RTS).

***Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*. Breeding record : unsuccessful nest with eggs found Newburgh, Aber, (RLS) is first proved breeding since 1970. Singles : Fair Isle, 2 June (RAB); Lochcote, W Loth, 18 May (RWJS); Machrihanish, Arg, 3 Aug (EJM); ad ♀ found dead Garlieston, Wig, 27 June (RHM, ADW).

*†**Bob-white Quail** *Colinus virginianus*. 1 calling Dunblane, Perth, 9 July, 2 heard 17 July (GS, DRW)—released game birds.

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*. Shet, 3 (2 ♂♂) Kergord 11 Apr (IS); Ork, a scatter of records, max 15 Melseiter, Hoy, 18 Nov (DL).

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*. Caith, 1 Braemore June (JMG); Perth, 1 Scone Aug (JMD); Peeb, pr Cardrona Forest 20 May where they are breeding successfully (AJS); Kirk, population c250 Kirroughtree Forest, mostly in 15-30 year old Scots Pine and Lorch plantations, Palmure Valley, some also Creetown, and Penninghame, Wig (DSW).

†**Silver Pheasant** *Lophura nycthemera*. Pair Cassencarie, Creetown, Kirk, Apr (DSW).

†**Reeves's Pheasant** *Syrnaticus reevesii*. Still present Kinveachy Forest, Inv, and probably breeding in wild (per RHD).

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. Breeding records patchy but proved : Inv, chicks L Alvie 28 May (DJB); Perth, adults and young heard Seaside 29 July (RLMcM, DWO); Ayr, bred L Maybole (RHH) and probably New Cumnock and L Martnaham (WRB, IHL); Renf, several prs Aird Meadows/Barr Loch, but only nest known was robbed (PB, DLC); W Stir, pr with young Crom Mhin 15 May (GS, LS); Dumf, ad and young Lochmaben 18 Aug (NEA, RTS).

Migration and counts : Shet, Jan-June, Oct-Dec, max 3 Whalsay 16-20 Mar (JHS); Fair Isle, 4 sightings Jan and Mar-May, passage from 9 Sep, max 4 on 13-19 Nov (RAB); Ork, singles Orphir 10 Jan (EB), Rousay 12 May (DL), Kirkwall, 27-31 Dec (CJB); Aber, first of autumn 22 Aug, 7 in Dec (JD); Perth, 8 Kingoodie 21 Feb, 5 on 25 Mar (EJM); Arg, 2 Machrihanish 28 Sep (EJM); Kirk, 3 L Ken 6 Nov (RHH).

***Spotted Crake** *Porzana porzana*. Shet, singles calling Brig, Dunrossness, 11 June (DC, IS), Fetlar 13-16 June (RSPB); Fair Isle, one 18-19 Sep, 30 Sep-1 Oct (RAB); Inv, 1 calling Insh 20 June-9 July (RL); Aber, 1 calling Dinnet 29 Apr, 2 on 6 May (AGK), one 16 May; Perth, 1, possibly 2, calling Kinloch Rannoch June-July (RLMcM, RMR); Arg, 1 calling Glen Lonan 1-2 July (P. Ellicott).

Corncrake *Crex crex*. Shet, no proved breeding, calling birds (6) at 5 sites; Ork, 5 prs Mo Ness/Quoys area, Hoy (MASB), present other areas; O Heb, 25 calling birds located Lewis, 3 in Harris (PGH); Caith, 8-9 calling Reay (EWEM); Suth, fewer Scourie (IDP); 9 calling ♂♂ in Kinlochberrie/Durness area (DLC); Inv, 9 prs Canna (14 prs in 1973) (RLS *et al*); usual scatter of calling birds most counties to Borders, but poor season SW. None Renf; only 6 lower Stinchar Valley, Ayr (RHH); only single records Dumf and Kirk (NEA, RTS, ADW).

Migration : 22 Apr, Canna, Inv (RLS); 27 Apr, Noss, Shet (MASB); 29 Apr, Stornoway, O Heb (PGH); Shet, singles 21 May, 26 Oct (ISR); Fair Isle, only records singles 8-12 May and 9 Sep (RAB); Aber, 1 Strathbeg 11 May (JD); Isle of May, one 7-8 May (PNJC *et al*).

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*. Shet, pr bred Tingwall, 2 young 8 Aug (AO); Angus, first young seen 22 Mar (NKA); Kinr, 100 prs nested St Serf's (AA); Inv, 1 pr summered, possibly nested, island in L Linnhe (JASN).

Migration and counts : Shet, about 10 records Jan-May, none autumn (RJT); Fair Isle, about 10 records 8 Mar-24 May, singles 10 Sep, 13-14 Sep, 22 Oct, 27 Nov-24 Dec (RAB); Ork, 2 Muckle Green Holm 14 Sep (CJB); Perth, 50 Invergowrie Quarry Feb/Mar (EJM); Kinr, 60 Burleigh Oct (TG, BHM); Renf, 68 Barr Loch 23 July (PB); Lan, 60 Daiziel 14 Dec (RGN).

Coot *Fulica atra*. Shet, 1 pr nested successfully Sandwater (IS); increase in breeding pairs Ross/Inv (RHD, MH *et al*).

Migration and peak counts : Shet, Mar-May, max 5 Hillwell 20 Apr-19 May (PKK), 5 records 16 Oct-Dec; Fair Isle, singles 15 Mar, 15 Apr (RAB); Ork, peak 50 L of Harray 13 Jan (DL); O Heb, 1 Grimersta, Lewis 17-20 Apr (PGH, WAJC); Caith, 180-200 L Scarmclate 15 Dec (AFCMC, PMC); Moray, 51 Cran Loch 10 Nov (RAFKOS); Aber, peak 1,350 Strathbeg mid Oct (JD); Perth, 260 Carsebreck 18 Oct (DRW); Kinr, 400 L Leven Sep-Oct (AA); Fife, 16 on sea Methil 2 Jan (JHB); Stir, 206 Airthrey 15 Jan (CJH); W Loth, 600 Linlithgow 13 Jan, 250 on 17 Feb; Renf, 730 Barr Loch 6 Oct (HG); Dumf, 504 Castle Loch, Lochmaben 17 Sep (NEA, RTS).

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*. Breeding and return to territories : Ayr, above average success; Peeb, 1st 15 Feb (CMM); Midl and Fife, continued increase; Kinr, 1st 3 Vane 23 Jan, 10 on 2 Feb (CJE); Perth, 1st inland 31 Jan, increase to 140 on 3 Feb (RLMcM); Inv, 6 Insh 18 Feb, poor breeding season (RL); Ork, display from 12 Feb, still increasing (DL); Fair Isle, population slightly down, first complete clutch 26 Apr (RAB).

Peak counts and migration : Ork, 140 St Andrews 26 Oct (CJB); O Heb, 428 Seilebost 9 Jan (RHD); Caith, 306 Scrabster Dec (PMC); Suth, 700+ L Fleet 20 Oct (DMcD); Ross, 550 Alness 10 Feb (ARM), 800 Udale Bay 9 Feb (ARM), 500+ on 17 Oct (JAL); Inv, 494 Longman 15 Nov (MR), 730+ Whiteness Head 29 July, increasing to 1,640 on 15 Sep (RHD); Aber, 633 Ythan 13 Aug (MJ); Angus, 2,215 Montrose Basin 26 Aug (MN); Midl, 1,700 Musselburgh 12 Jan, 1,500 on 16 Nov and 14 Dec (AWGJ, LLJV); E Loth, 1,500 Gosford Bay 12 Oct (AB), 650 Tynninghame 13 Oct (RWJS); Dunb, 1,150 Ardmores 15 Dec (SMDA); Renf, 1,460 Erskine 17 Nov (HG); Ayr, 955 Seamill-Ardrossan 13 Jan (BB); Dumf/Kirk, 23,099 inner N Solway 14 Sep (JM); Kirk, 5,440 Airds Pt-Southwick 9 Mar, 16,738 on 14 Sep, 1,140 Urr estuary 14 Dec (per ADW).

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. High numbers and good breeding season reported Perth, Midl, Ayr, Renf and Kirk; continued decline reported Fife and Dumf.

Migration and peak counts : Wig, 3,500 Luce Bay 1 Sep (RCD), inland from 26 Jan (JSK); Ayr, 5,000 Irvine 14 Sep (GJC, DMcI), 2,000 Doonfoot

13 Jan (WRB), 2,000+ New Cumnock 22 Aug (RHH); Renf, 3,545 Woodhall-Eskine 15 Dec (HG); Lan, 8,000+ Hamilton Nov-Dec (DS); Arg, 1,163 Machrihanish 1 Sep (EJM); W Loth, 1,000 Broxburn 16 Feb (BC); Stir, 1,400 Airth 15 Sep, 1,392 Skinflats 15 Sep (DRW); Clack, 2,500 Alloa-Kincardine 17 Nov (GS); Perth, 960 Tibbermore 27 Jan (AB, EJM), 1,000+ Blackford 16 Feb (DT), 1,950 Tibbermore 19 Oct (RC, JC, EJM), 1,000+ Haughs of Kercock 28 Dec (RLMcM); Aber, 1,800 Strathbeg 3 Sep (JD), 2,250 Ythan 10 Sep (MJ); Inv, 13 Insh 25 Jan, 110 on 18 Feb, 600 on 10 Mar (RL); Ross, 910 Beaully Firth 25 Sep (EB); Caith, 200 Sordale 1 Sep (SAMM), 1,000 L of Mey 13 Aug (SL), 1,000 Durran 8 Sep (SL); Fair Isle, spring passage 17 Feb-May, max 7-18 Mar, when 200 on 8-yth, autumn from 1 Aug, max 31 on 2 Oct (RAB).

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. Breeding: 64+ prs Unst, Shet, (GB); 7 prs Fair Isle (9 prs in 1973) (RAB); Angus, 26 prs St Cyrus but only 12 young flew (NKA); Perth, survey revealed 48+ prs (RLMcM *et al*); Kinr, 1 pr bred Vane Lagoon for first time (TOJ); Ayr, 6-7 prs Ballantrae (15 prs in 1973) (WRB).

Peak counts and migration: Shet, 100+ Virkie 1 Sep, 80 Scatsta 23 Aug; Fair Isle, passage early Aug-9 Oct, max 60 on 5 Sep (RAB); Caith, 120 Thurso 2 Jan (GHF); Ross, 80 Alness Bay 13 Jan (ARM); Inv, 70 Whiteness 15 Sep (RHD); Moray, 400 Findhorn 30 May (RHD); Aber, spring peak Ythan 100 on 4 June (MJ); Angus, 360 Montrose Basin 23 May (MN); Fife, 106 Tentsmuir 29 May (AJB); Stir, marked spring peak 200 Skinflats 19 May (DMB)—the five records Moray-Stir all suggest spring passage of northern stock; Midl, 127 Musselburgh 16 Sep (LLJV); Arg, 160 Machrihanish 1 Sep (EJM); Ayr, 300 Seamill-Ardrossan 10 Feb (BB), 300 Barassie 19 Aug (ABJ, RHH); Kirk, 250 Airds Point-Southwick 14 Sep; Wig, 140 Luce Bay 22 Aug (RCD).

***Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*. Immature Gladhouse, Midl, 14-16 July (GLS *et al*).

***Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*. 1 at mouth of Craigmill Burn, Angus, 8 Sep (TMC); second for Scotland.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. Winter-spring: Kirk, 23 Carsethorn-Southernness 9 Mar, 9 on 6 Apr, 14 on 4 May (JSK *et al*); Ayr, a few, max 3 Doonfoot 18 Apr (RTW); E Loth, 109 Aberlady 6 Apr, 75 on 24 Apr (RGN), 40 Tynninghame Jan-Mar (RWJS); Stir, peak 38 Skinflats 24 Feb (DRW); Fife, 300 Tentsmuir 6 Feb (DWO); Perth, 1 Kingoodie 25 Mar (EJM); Aber, 22 Ythan 9 Feb, few into May (MJ); Moray, 13 Culbin 7 Apr (RAFKOS); O Heb, 1 Melbost 7 Feb-21 Mar, 2 on 24 Mar (PGH, IMMCL, RMCl); Ork, 1 Westray 25 Jan (DL); Shet, 1 Virkie 16-17 Jan (DC, IS), 1 Whalsay 21 Jan (JB). Summering records: 20-30 summered Aberlady, E Loth; 2 Endrick Mouth, Dunb, 1 June (DG, JM, DS); 1 Luce Bay, Wig 9 June (IHL).

Autumn passage and counts: Shet, singles Scatsta 23 Aug (HW), Papa Stour 25-26 Dec (PKK), Whalsay 18 Sep, 2 on 19th (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, singles 21 Aug and 16 Nov (RAB); Ork, 1 Orphir 30 July (EB), 4 Westray 9 Oct (DL), 2 Rendall 22 Sep (MC); Caith, 1 John o' Groats 17 Sep (PMC); Inv, peak 37 Whiteness 15 Sep (RHD), 3 Longman 18 Sep (JMC); Moray, 8 Culbin 18 Aug, 19 Findhorn 13 Oct (RAFKOS); Aber, 1st Strathbeg 26 Aug (JD), Ythan 15 Sep-31 Oct, max 7 on 20-26 Sep (MJ); Angus, 36 Montrose Basin 16 Oct (GMC); Perth, peak 7 Kingoodie 10 Oct (EJM); Stir, 16 Skinflats 28 Sep (DRW); W Loth, 8 Cramond 18 Sep (GLS); Midl, 4 Musselburgh 25 Sep and 24 Nov (LLJV), inland, 1 Gladhouse 14 Sep (EMS), 2 Cobbinsshaw 17 Sep, 1 on 21st (GLS, JSO); E Loth, 120 Aberlady 1 Oct (RGN); Arg, 1 L na Keal, Mull, 23 Aug (RFC), 5 Machrihanish 15 Sep (EJM); Lan, 2 Carstairs 26-30 Sep (JB, ND); Renf, 1 Longhaugh 13 Oct (HG); Ayr, 11 Irvine 28 Sep (RHH, IHL); Dumf, 55 Caerlaverock

19 Oct (RHB, LTC); Kirk, 123 Southernness-Carsethorn 14 Sep, 73 on 16 Nov (JSk *et al*); Wig, 6 Piltanton 10-12 Oct (RCD).

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*. Winter-spring counts and passage: Shet, 400 Sumburgh 5 May; Fair Isle, more than usual 18 Apr-23 May, peaks 130 on 3 May, 100 on 5th (RAB); Ork, 1,000 Swartmill, Westray, 25 Jan (DL); Inv, 200 Insh 14 Mar (RL); Banff, c2,000 Whitehills 26 Jan (AFWS); W Loth, 2,500 Broxburn 18 Feb (BC), 2,000 Gorebridge 8 Feb (LY); Ayr, 2,500 Doonfoot 13 Jan (IHL); Wig, 2,500 Moor of Genoch Jan-Feb (RCD).

Autumn: Shet, 440 Unst mid July (GB); Fair Isle, main passage 9 Aug-16 Oct, peaks 150 on 16 Sep, 120 on 20th (RAB); O Heb, 500+ Melbost 13 Oct (RMCl); Moray, 500 Lossiemouth 1 Dec (AM); Aber, Ythan from 21 July, 703 on 8 Aug, 1,150 on 13th, max 3,100 on 10 Sep (MJ); Angus, 200 Carmylie 22 Aug increased to 500 on 3 Oct (NKA), 1,300 Montrose 5 Nov (MN); Perth, 600 Seaside 2 Nov (BJG, RLMcM); Stir, 444 Skinflats 21 July (DRW); Clack, 700 Tullibody 17 Nov (GS); Midl, 1,500 Middleton Sep (WB), 1,000 Newcraighall 24 Nov (MWF), 2,200 Bonnyrigg 8 Dec (JHB); Arg, 318 Machrihanish 26 Sep (EJM); Lan, 8,000+ Hamilton Nov-Dec (DS); Ayr, 5,500 Irvine-Barassie 1 Dec (RHH); Dumf, autumn peak 3,000 Heathhall (DS); Wig, 2,500 Castle Kennedy early Nov, 2,100 L Ryan mid Dec (RCD).

Dotterel *Eudromius morinellus*. Breeding reports sketchy: Inv, usual numbers but poor success, probably due to bad weather in June; Banff, 13 (11 ♀ ♀) seen one mountain 26 May (JE); Perth, 2 prs in west of county 19 May (TCJ-F), 2 prs bred S of main areas (BJG); Shet, 1 pr suitable nesting area 10 July (DL, CH) is interesting.

Migration: more than usual Shet, singles Sumburgh 24 Aug (RJM), Hermaness 26 Aug (JKB, DAB), Papa Stour 10 Sep (PKK); Fair Isle, 26 Aug (GJB); St Kilda 29 Aug-2 Sep (PL, AJW); Isle of May 16 Aug (TG, BHM); Fife, 3 Leuchars 10 May (DWO); Midl, 1 Moorfoots 9 June (WB); E Loth, 4 Aberlady 17 May (RGN); Arg, 8SSE Skerrols, Islay, 12 Sep (KV), 6 Machrihanish 15 Sep (EJM); Dumf, Caerlaverock 14 Sep (RHB); Galloway, noted 4 places on spring passage, pr 14 May, ♂ 14 May (MM), 4 (including at least 1 pr) 19 May (HAL), one 23 May (GAP).



Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*. Summer: Shet, remained 6 localities Jun but no suggestion of nesting; Ork, ♀ held territory Papa Westray June-early July (GI), ♀ and juv Swartmill, Westray, 24 July (ADKR) but no proof of breeding; I Badanloch island, Suth, 5 July (EB, RHD *et al*), various summer coastal records.

Peak counts and migration : Shet, 80 Whalsay 9 Aug, 200 Papa Stour 25 Dec (PKK); Fair Isle, last 8 June, 1st 13 July, 40 on 27 July (RAB); Caith, 80 Thurso 7 Sep (SL); Moray, 203 Burghead 15 Dec (RAFKOS); Aber, 86 Ythan 7 May (MJ), 530 Rosehearty 1 Dec (MH); Angus, 76 Montrose 10 May (MN); Midl, 95 Musselburgh 9 Mar, 350 on 3 May, 30 on 24 Aug, 185 on 16 Sep (LLJV), inland singles Apr, Aug (2), Sep; E Loth, 250 Inchmickery 21 Aug (DRL), 247 Gosford 9 Feb, 114 on 12 Oct (AB); Ayr, 200 Maiden's 12 Feb (RHH), 318 Seamill-Ardrossan 15 Sep (BB), 253 Prestwick 15 Dec (BCF); Kirk, 254 Aird's Point-Southwick 9 Mar; Wig, 100 Luce Bay mid Dec (RCD).

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. Breeding reports : Ork, 19 prs on 2,450 acres Birsay Moors (KH); Suth, 21 prs Handa (CJE); Kinr, 20 prs L Leven (AA).

Peak counts and migration : Shet, Skerries, 14 Feb-12 June, 29 Aug-31 Dec, max 13 on 13 Oct (ISR), 60 Hillwell 6 Oct; Fair Isle, influx 25 on 27 Apr, passage from end Aug, max 25 on 22 Sep (RAB); O Heb, 100+ L Stiapavat 18 Mar, 150+ L Hallan 14 July (PGH); Aber, 92 Corby 20 Oct (PME, RBH); Perth, 52 Ashfield 11 Sep (RLMcM); Clack, 57 Kincardine-Alloa 13 Oct (GS); Midl, 80 Gladhouse 3 Aug (RWJS); Ayr, 107 Doonfoot 16 Feb (IHL), 100 New Cumnock 31 Aug (IHL), 73 Irvine 14 Sep (GJC, DMcl).

***Great Snipe** *Gallinago media*. One Skerries, Shet 10-15 Sep (ISR, SR).

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*. Winter counts and spring passage : Shet, 2 Whalsay 20 Mar, 1 Skerries 13-14 May (JHS, ISR); Fair Isle, 5 singles 27 Feb-12 May (RAB); Caith, 3 L Heilen 3 Jan (GHF); Perth, 6 Kingoodie 21 Feb (EJM), 1 Glen Artney 14 Apr (DMB); Renf, max 14 Barr Loch/Aird Meadows 14 Mar (PB), last on 21 Apr (DLC), 3 Balgray res 16 Apr (HG); Kirk, last L Skerrow 21 Apr (JSk).

Autumn-winter from 1 Sep : Shet, 1st Skerries 8 Sep (ISR), max 4 Whalsay 13 Nov; Fair Isle, 1st on 1 Sep, peaks 4 on 16th and 25 Sep, 2 Oct and 24-28 Nov (RAB); Aber, 10 Corby 20 Oct (PME, RBH), 3 Rosehearty 1 Dec (MH); Isle of May, one 12 Oct; Midl, 1 Gladhouse 17 Sep (DGA), 3 Cobbinshaw 19 Oct (RWJS).

Woodcock *Scopax rusticola*. Continued scarce on passage : Shet, few Skerries 8 Mar-13 May, singles 3 places Oct-Nov; Fair Isle, small passage 19 Mar-11 June, mainly late Apr-early May, max 8 on 27 Apr and 3 May, 1st of autumn 7 Oct, max 35+ on 1 Nov, 25+ on 4th (RAB); Ayr, 5 Ailsa Craig 27 Mar, one 28-29th (JPh).

Adults carrying young reported Black Isle, Perth, Midl, Dumf and Kirk.

Curlew *Numenius arquata*. Breeding reports : Ork, 139 prs on 2,450 acres Birsay Moor (KH); Caith, first song Harpsdale 16 Mar (SL); Ayr, above average success (AGS), good numbers Renf, Arran (HG, MHD); Kirk, continued decrease (ADW).

Winter counts and spring migration : Ayr, 400 Doonfoot 1 Jan (WRB); Dunb, 250 Ardmoores 10 Mar (SMDA); Midl, 300 Fala 16 Mar (WB); Kinr, 122 Vane 22 Jan (CJE); Perth, 300 Meikleour 2 Mar (MJPG, RLMcM), 640 Kingoodie 3 Feb (EJM); Inv, 1st 2 Insh 25 Feb, max 100+ on 18 Mar (RL), 216 Longman 10 Mar (MR); Ross, 350 Beaully Firth 8 Apr (EB); Suth, peak 31 Handa 14 Apr (CJE); Caith, 250 L of Mey (PMC); Fair Isle, records from 5 Jan, mainly 17 Mar-end May, max 20 on 21st and 25 Apr, 40 on 26 Apr; Shet, peak 30 Skerries 18 Apr (ISR).

Autumn and winter : Shet, from 3 July, max 150 Haroldswick 25 Aug; Fair Isle, peaks 40 on 14 Aug, 60 on 21 Aug (RAB); O Heb, 200+ L Stiapavat 21 Nov (GW); Ross, 500 Alness 18 Aug (ARM), 250 Urquhart 15 Sep (DWMcA); Inv, passage from 3 July Inverness (MR), 400 Lentrans 15 July (RHD); Moray, 300 Lossiemouth 4 Dec (MC); Angus, 2,000 Montrose late

Aug (MN); Kinr, 400 L Leven 3 Aug, 300 on 29 Aug increased to 2,000 late Sep, then down to 200-400 (AA); Stir, 400 Grangemouth 31 Aug (DRW), 407 Skinflats 15 Dec (DRW); Midl, 200 Musselburgh 25 Sep (LLJV); Arg, 1,590 Machrihanish 1 Sep (EJM); Ayr, 800 Hunterston 27 July (JLB), 1,250 Troon 17 Aug (ASH), 450 Irvine 18 Aug (GJC, DMcl), 550 Blairbowie 24 Nov (RHH); Wig, 1,000 Wigtown Merse 14 Sep (RCD).

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. Breeding reports: Shet, 65+ prs on territory Unst (GB); Fair Isle, pr bred, 4 eggs on 12 June, hatched 1/2 July, 1 chick reared (RAB); Ork, 2 prs bred successfully Eday (DL); 2-3 prs bred Scot mainland site (RHD), about 5 young seen (CGH). Winter: 1 lame bird Carluith, Kirk 24 Feb and 9 Mar (DSW).

Arrivals and passage from 31 Mar, mainly early May: Galloway, 14 Apr-2 June, max 9 L Ryan 2 June (RCD *et al*); Ayr, 3 Troon 17 May (ASH); Renf, 1 Barr Loch 1 May (PB, HG); W Stir, 4 Endrick Mouth 18 May (MPG, JM); E Loth, 1 Tantallon 8 June (TCS); Midl, 1-2 Musselburgh 7-31 May (LLJV); Kinr, 1 L Leven 22 Apr (TOJ); Angus, 5 Kinnaber 14 May (NKA); Aber, 1st Rattray 28 Apr (JD, RBH); Inv, 1 Kiltarlity 31 Mar (DWMcA); O Heb, 1 North Rona 15 June (PGH); Ork, 1st Sandwick 4 May (CJB); Fair Isle, 23 Apr-mid June, max 10 on 15 May, 13 on 16th (RAB); Shet, first Unst 27 Apr, Whalsay 30 Apr, Fetlar 9 May.

Autumn: Shet, peaks 7 Skerries 12 July (ISR), 8 Foula 15 Aug (BEG), late ones Haroldswick 12 Oct, Whalsay 17 Oct; Fair Isle, 15 Aug-26 Sep, max 7 on 15 Aug, 8 on 26th, 9 on 2 Sep (RAB); Ork, last Shapinsay 19 Sep (CJB); Caith, 7 Reay 8 Sep (EWEM); Inv, 11 Longman 24 Aug (ARM), 8 on 12 Sep (JMC); Moray, 10 Speymouth 26 Aug (MC); Aber, 8 Strathbeg 22 Aug (JD), 7 Don est 28 Aug, last Drums 20 Oct (AGK, SW); Isle of May, 19 Aug-7 Oct, max 8 on 20 Sep; Fife, 26 Eden 30 Aug (DWO); Midl, 4 Musselburgh 24 Aug (LLJV); E Loth, 11 Tynninghame 24 Aug (RHH, GLS), 12 Aberlady 1 Sep, 10 on 7 Sep (DLC, RGN); Arg, 11 Machrihanish 16 Aug (EJM); Ayr, 3 Barassie 28 July (WRB); Galloway, 8 Aug-19 Oct, max 7 Luce Bay 1 Sep (RCD), singles Southernness, Kirk 19 Oct, Carluith, Kirk 20 Oct (DSW).

Hudsonian Whimbrel *N. p. hudsonicus*. Example of North American race at Skerries, Shet, 25 July-8 Aug (ISR, SR *et al*). Second for Scotland and third for Britain and Ireland.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*. 1 pr reared 2 young usual site Shet, departed 27 July; Ork, pr on territory but not proved to breed (DL).

Winter counts and spring passage: Kirk, 8 Carsethorn 20 Jan, 27 on 6 Apr (AB); 187 Inner North Solway, Dumf/Kirk 7 Mar (JM); Renf, 2 Barr Loch 30 Apr-6 May (JB, PB, ND); Dunb, 5 Endrick Mouth 11-15 Apr (AGG, DS); Selk, 8 Hare Moss 12 Apr (DBMcG) is new county record; E Loth, 4 Aberlady 18 May (RGN); Midl, 3 Musselburgh 18 Apr, 4 on 13 June; E Stir, 5 Skinflats 24 Feb, 3 on 23 Mar (DMB, DRW); Fife, 80 Eden est 24 Feb (DT); Perth, 1 Atholl 27 May (JK), 1 Thornhill 13 June (DW); Inv, 1 Boat of Garten 18 June (R. B. Tozer); Ross, peak 6 Dalmore 7 Apr (ARM); Suth, 1 L Naver 7 July (ADKR); Fair Isle, 2 on 27 Apr, singles 20-22 May and 13 June (RAB); Shet, 4 Hillwell 21 Apr, 4 singles to 2 June.

Autumn passage and counts: Shet, 1 Sandwater 5 Sep (IS); Ork, 3 Rousay 5 Sep (CJB); Suth, 2 Kyle of Tongue 21 Aug (GGB); Ross, peak 7 Dalmore 13 Oct (ARM); Moray, 4 Culbin 18 Aug (RAFKOS); Angus, 4 Montrose 11 July (GMC); Fife, 80 Eden estuary 25 Aug-8 Sep, 112 on 28 Sep (AB), 125 on 3 Nov (DMB), 35 on 7 Dec (DT), 10 Culross 6 Aug (DMB); Midl, 4 Musselburgh 2 Nov; E Loth, 5 Aberlady 15 Aug (RGN), 8 Tynninghame 12 July (GLS); Arg, 23 Machrihanish 21 July (EJM); Wig, 8 Luce Bay 20 Aug (RCD); Kirk, 17 Aird's Pt-Southwick 16 Nov.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Peak counts: Ork, 260 Sanday

2 Mar, 120 in June (DL), 100 Tankerness 19 Jan (CJB); O Heb, 46 Melbost 3 Feb (IMMcL); Suth, 50 Kyle of Tongue 16 Nov (GGB); Ross, 800 Dalmore 13 Jan (ARM), 800 Ardjachie Pt 19 Dec (RHD), 1,500 Udale Bay 17 Oct (JAL), 430 Kilmuir 30 Mar (MKMcD-D); Inv, 456 Beaully Firth 13 Jan (MIH), 252 Whiteness 2 June, 800 on 29 July, 657 on 26 Aug (RHD); Perth, 726 Kingoodie 21 Feb (EJM); Clack, 504 Upper Forth 13 Oct (DMB); Midl, 900 Musselburgh 9 Feb, 750 on 9 Mar, 850 on 27 Dec (LLJV); E Loth, 1,000 Aberlady 16 Feb (DRL, HKL), 600 end July, 1100 on 31 Oct (RGN); Dunb, 7 Endrick Mouth 4 May (DG, DS); Ayr, 250 Hunterston 16 Aug (TJGW); Kirk, 2,000 Southernness 26 Jan (JSK), 1,500 on 14 Dec.

Migration : Fair Isle, singles 3 May, 12-14 May, singles 14 days 19 Aug-19 Sep, 3 on 22-23 Aug (RAB); Shet, autumn passage from 28 Aug, peaks 28 Unst 28 Aug (GB), 31 Virkie 1 Sep (FH).

***Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*. Spring passage quite heavy : Shet, singles Quendale 28 Apr, 4 May (IS, DC), Unst 30 Apr (GB), Skerries 10-11 May, 13th, 14th, 28th (ISR), Whalsay 12 May (JHS), Fetlar 4 May, 17th-19th, 4 on 18 May (RSPB); Fair Isle, one 18 Apr, 1-3 on 29 Apr-8 May, singles 11th and 15 May (RAB); Aber/Kinc, Don est 21 Apr (PDR), Fettercairn 1 May (DB, MN), Strathbeg 1-2 May (JD), Banchory 4 May (BJS); Angus, 2 Usan 30 Apr (TMC); Isle of May, 27 Apr (BGG et al); Dunb, Endrick Mouth 20 Apr (RHG, DG, JM).

Autumn migration : Shet, Fetlar 9 Aug, 17th, Foula 12 Aug, 15th, South Nesting 12 Aug (IS), Unst 15 Aug (GB), Tingwall 21 Aug (IS), Sae Water 23 Aug (HW), Whalsay 29 Aug (BM); Fair Isle, 1-2 on 10 days 9-26 Aug, 4 on 24 Aug, one 25 Sep (RAB); Ross, 1 North Kessock 11 Oct (CEMcD-D); Inv, 2 Inverness 18 Aug (PME), 1 Tulloch 2-9 Aug (AP); Aber, Strathbeg 5 Aug (JD), Dinnet 14 Aug (JTH), Rattray 23 Aug (CC); Angus, Kin-naber 13 Aug, 8 Sep (GMC); Isle of May, 9 Aug (BHM, TG), 1 Sep, 4th (DRL et al); Fife, Fife Ness 1 Sep (DWO), Morton Lochs 8 Sep (AB, RHH); Stir, Skinflats 18 Aug (DRW); Midl, Gladhouse 13 Aug-6 Sep (RWJS, GLS), Cobbinshaw 27 Sep, 2 on 29 Sep-22 Oct (DRL, GLS), Harperrig 30 June (JSO); E Loth, Aberlady 6 July (AB, RGN), 9-13 Aug, Drem 11 Sep, Tynninghame 16 Aug, 17 Oct (GLS); Rox, Alemoor 21 July (TD); Arg, Machrihanish 11-16 Aug (EJM); Lan, Wilderness Quarry 8 July-15 Sep, 2 on 3 Aug, 7th, 6 Sep, 9th (TPD, BZ), Hillend res 13 Oct (JSO), 2 Bothwell Bridge 30 Aug-2 Sep (RGN, DS); Ayr, New Cumnock 22-29 Aug, 3 on 30th, 4 on 31st (WRB, IHL); 2 Shewalton 31 Aug, one 14-15 Sep (WRB, IHL), Springside 5 Dec (AB, RHH); Dumf, some winter; Wig, Moor of Genoch 15 Aug (RCD).

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*. Breeding sites : E Inv, 2 displaying from 19 May (RHD, RL), nest/4 eggs 2 July (RL); Caith, 2 singles 1-2 June (PMC, E. R. Bullard); no reports from other sites.

Spring passage : Shet, Whalsay 14 May (BM), Sandwater 25 May (IS); Fair Isle, 4 May, 1-2 on 7-8th, one 11th, 2 on 13th, one 16th, 31 May-4 June (RAB); Aber, Strathbeg 25 May (JD); Angus, Montrose Basin 5 May (GMC); Perth, Thornhill 17 June (DMB, DRW); Midl, Cobbinshaw 20 June (GLS); E Loth, Drem 18-20 May. Autumn passage : Shet, Whalsay 10 Aug (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, 18 Aug, 24-28 Sep (RAB); Ork, Evie 16-21 Aug (MC), Stronsay 1 Oct (DL); Suth, Dornoch 13 Aug (DMcD); Moray, Findhorn 1 Sep (RAFKOS); Aber, Strathbeg 21-22 Aug, 2 Sep (JD), Pittenheath 15-16 Oct (DIMW); Fife, Morton Lochs 25 Aug (AB), Cameron res 31 Aug (RHH); Midl, Gladhouse 14-16 July, 10 Aug (RWJS); E Loth, Drem 6-12 July (RHH, GLS), 6 Tantallon 20 July (S da P); Lan, Bothwell Bridge 9 Aug (RGN), Wilderness Quarry 5 July (TPD); Ayr, New Cumnock 23 Aug-8 Sep (WRB, RHH, IHL); Kirk, Lower L Ken Sep (per NH), L Milton 13 Oct (TN).



PLATE 28 (a) Two species rarely photographed together in Britain—Chough mobbing Golden Eagle. Argyll, 1974. *Photograph by W. Wyper*

(b) ♂ King Eider, Innellan, Argyll, 5th June 1974. A ♀ Common Eider and ducklings were nearby (page 414). *Photograph by L. Robertson*





PLATE 29. First-year Glaucous Gull. Note massive bill with sharply defined dark outer third, typical of first year.

Photograph by D. Coultis



PLATE 50 (a and b) First-winter Iceland Gull, Ayr, 25th February 1974 (page 440). A more slender bill than Glaucous and even the accompanying Herring Gulls; at least a third of bill dark without sharp contrast. *Photographs by R. H. Hogg*

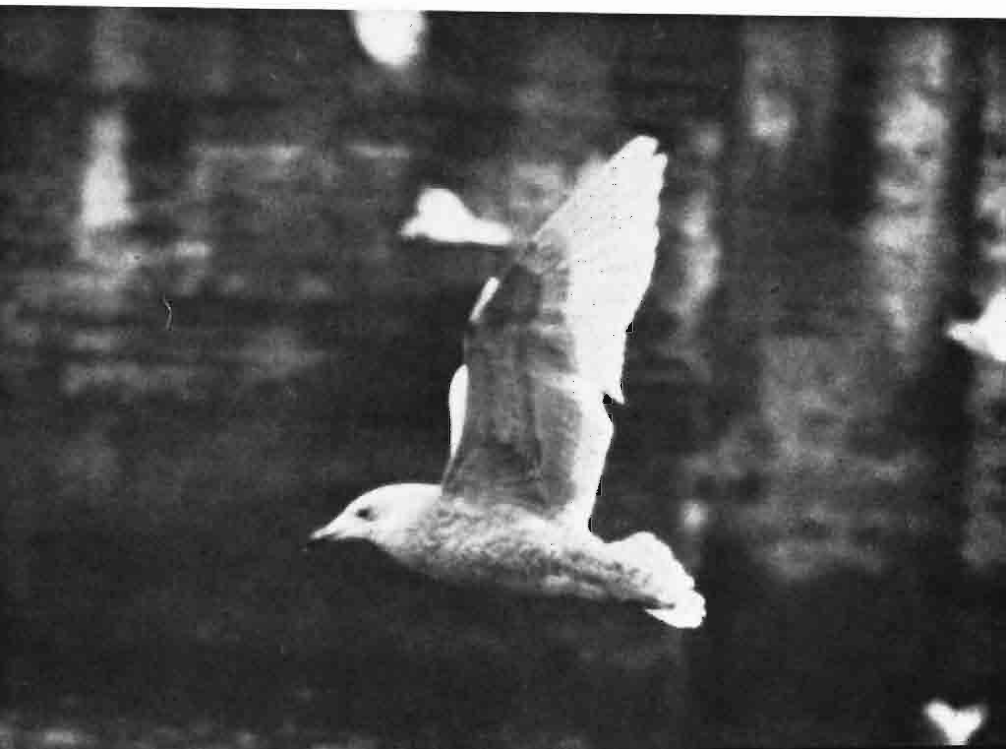




PLATE 31 (a and b) ♂ Snowy Owl, Outer Hebrides, 1974 (page 444).

Photographs by P. G. Hopkins

(c) Juvenile Black Tern, Belston Loch, Ayr, 14th September 1974 (page 441). Note the dark shoulder patch in front of the wing.

Photograph by R. H. Hogg



Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*. Shet, at least 5 prs nested (IS *et al*); Ork, 3-4 prs nesting (DL, CJB, MASB); Kinr, decrease in numbers L Leven; above average success Ayr (AGS).

Spring arrivals: 31 Mar Ronachan, Arg (DRL); 15 Apr, Lochindorb, Moray (RSPR); 18 Apr, Doonfoot, Ayr (RTW); 19 Apr, Canna, Inv (ADKR, RLS), L Laide, Inv (MIH); 20 Apr, 2 Glendevon, Perth (GS); more 21-22 Apr and many early May.

Migration and counts: Shet, 1st on 11 May, 3 Noss 28 July, last Weisdale 11 Sep; Fair Isle, 22 Apr-18 June, max 5 on 20 May, 15 July-23 Sep, max 3 on 1 Sep (RAB); Inverness, 12 on 18 July (JMC); Aber, last 28 Sep; Angus, 50 Kinnaber 26 July (NKA); Perth, stragglers, 2 Perth 5 Oct (LS), Kingoodie 6th and 19 Oct (RC, JC, EJM); Kinr, 10 L Leven 16-17 Aug (TOJ); Stir, 4 inland 1 Sep (GS); Midl, 6 Musselburgh 19 July (LLJV); E Loth, 6 Aberlady 16 May, 9 West Barns (AB); Arg, 26 Machrihanish 11 Aug (EJM); Lan, 6 Hamilton 24 Aug (RGN); Kirk, last Carse-thorn 16 Sep (AJW).

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Peak counts: O Heb, 300 Melbost 6 Mar (PGH); Caith, 150 Castlehill 14 Oct (SL); Ross, 400 Dalmore 10 Mar, 700 on 9 Sep (ARM), 600 Udale 27 Jan (ARM); Inv, 556 Beaulry Firth 10 Feb (MIH), 600 Longman 15 Sep, 1,000 on 15 Nov (MR); Aber, 852 Ythan 11 Apr, 1,000 on 27 Aug-4 Oct (MJ); Angus, 3,140 Montrose 30 Aug (MN), 5,600 Dundee 15 Oct (EJM); Perth, 6,900 Kingoodie-Port Allen 13 Oct (EJM, RC); Stir, 1,050 Skinflats 24 Feb, 1,465 on 15 Dec (DRW); Midl, 550 Musselburgh 9 Mar (LLJV); E Loth, 500 Inchmickery 21 Aug (DRL); Dunb, 1,000 Cardross-Ardmore Pt 2 Feb (AJ); Renf, 4,430 Woodhall-Erskine 7 Apr, 9,638 on 13 Oct (HG); Ayr, 600 Irvine 14 Sep (GJC, DMCI); Kirk, 1,247 Aird's Pt-Southwick 6 Apr, 3,140 on 14 Sep; Wig, 700 Wigtown Merse 10 Feb (RCD).

Passage: Shet, 24 July-mid Sep, peaks 50 Skerries 8 Sep, 50 Whalsay 8 Aug, 70 Grutness 7 Sep (JKB, JHS, ISR); Fair Isle, 25 on 19 Apr, 65 on 13 Aug, 45 on 23 Aug (RAB); Suth, 52 Handa 18 Aug (CJE); Arg, 305 Mull 16 Aug (RFC).

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*. Winter-spring records: Dumf, Caerlaverock 18 Apr (LTC); E Loth, singles Aberlady 23 Mar-7 May, 2 on 20 Apr, singles 14th and 27 June (GLS *et al*); Midl, 2 Crosswood 10 May (JSO), Musselburgh 3rd and 18 May (GLS, LLJV); Clack, Cambus 15 Apr (CJH); Stir, Skinflats 24 May (AB); Fife, 1 wintered Culross (DMB); Perth, Kingoodie 24 Apr (RC); Angus, 1 North Esk mouth 16 June (NKA); Inv, Insh 22 Apr (RL); Fair Isle, 12-14 May (RAB); Shet, Haroldswick 18 May (MS). Summer: summer plumage Upper L Ken, Kirk, 17-18 June (ADW *et al*) and Harperrig, Midl, 30 June (JSO).

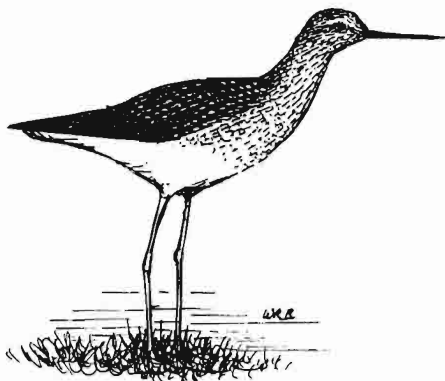
Very heavy autumn passage:

Summary of autumn records from 3 July:

	July	Aug		Sep		Oct	Nov
		1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Shet-Inv)	—	7	4	19	10	6	—
East (Moray-Stir)	—	2	22	88	67	34	2
South-east (Lothians)	2	1	3	10	6	—	—
South-west (Arg-Solway)	—	1	9	14	5	1	3

Noteworthy records include: Shet, unprecedented influx, max 1-4 Sandwater 9-18 Sep (IS), 4 Bixter 12 Sep (IS); Fair Isle, 9 Aug-11 Sep, max 3 on 10 Aug (RAB); Moray, 10 Findhorn 15 Sep (RAFKOS); Aber, 25 Ythan 1 Sep (GMD), 15 on 10 Sep (MJ); Angus, 6 Montrose 20 Sep (MN); Perth, 16 Seaside 9 Sep (JK, RLMcM); Fife, very high numbers, Morton

Lochs 23 Aug-12 Oct, peaks 21 on 20 Sep, 34 on 22nd, 38 on 28th, 30+ on 1 Oct (PNJC, AB, TB), 12 Wormit 26 Sep (DWO), 1 wintered Culross (DMB); Midl, 3 Gladhouse 13 Sep (GLS); E Loth, 1st Aberlady 3 July, 4 on 14-15 Sep (GLS, RGN, LLJV); Arg, 1 Islay 4 Nov (H. Miles); Lan, 3 Merryton 15 Sep (RN); Ayr, 3 New Cumnock 23 Aug, late one Irvine 5 Dec (RHH, WRB, JKRM); Dumf, 9 on 1 Sep (RMB).



***Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*.** Two records: 1 Carse of Delnies, Inv/Nairn, 15 Sep (RHD, MIH, ARM, DWMcA); 1 Springside, Irvine, Ayr, 28-30 Nov (GJC, WRB, RHH, JKRM). 5th and 6th records for Scotland.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. About 50 wintered, mainly SW and Moray Firth, max 5 Hunterston, Ayr (WRB), 15 Woodhall, Renf (HG, IPG), 11 Alness Bay, Ross (ARM). There has been a noticeable increase in wintering birds, presumably due to mild winters, 50 compared to 1973 (30), 1972 (25), 1971 (16), 1970 (12) and 1969 (6).

Spring passage and arrivals: arrived NW Suth 27 Mar (IDP); W Ross 31 Mar (ENH, JAW); Shet, more than usual; Fair Isle, few 27 Apr-29 May; Aber, 3 Ythan 1 May (MJ); Renf, 2 Balgray 16 Apr (HG).

Autumn migration and counts: Shet, Aug-6 Oct; Fair Isle, 7 Aug-6 Sep; Ork, 27 July-4 Sep; Ross, 15 Tarradale 5 Aug and 5 Sep (RHD), 4 Munloch 15 Dec (MKMcD-D); Inv, 18 Lentrans 5 July (RHD); Aber, from 16 July, 35 Ythan 22 Aug (MJ), 1 Banchory 7-21 Dec (BJS); Angus, 13 Montrose 18 Aug (MN); Fife, 12 Eden est 5 Oct (RHH); E Loth, 7 Aberlady 16 Aug and 9 Sep, 12 Tynninghame 15 Sep (RWJS, GLS *et al*); Dunb, 4 Endrick Mouth 2 July (RKP); Lan, 5 Merryton 24 Aug (RGN); Bute, 3 Ettrick Bay 11 Oct (BJC, JMT); Renf, 26 Woodhall 18 Aug, 29 on 13 Oct (HG), Ayr, 4 Irvine 14 Sep (IH); Kirk, 6 Carsethorn 17 Sep (ADW, AJW); Wig, 7 Piltanton 30 July, 5 on 21 Oct (RCD, GS).

Knot *Calidris canutus*. Winter counts (rather low): Ross, 300 Dalmore 13 Jan (ARM); Banff, 950 Buckpool 10 Feb (JE); Stir, 9,300 Skinflats 2 Feb (DRW); Midl, 1,050 Musselburgh 9 Mar (AWGJ, LLJV); E Loth, 2,000 Aberlady 16 Feb (RGN, DRL); Ayr, 1,000 Irvine 5 Jan (GLC, DMcI), 800 Barassie 13-21 Jan (ABJ, HG); Kirk, 2,450 Aird's Pt-Southwick 9 Mar.

Spring passage: Shet, 8 Unst 11-13 May (GB), 2 Whalsay 16 May (JHS, BM); Fair Isle, one 3-5 May (RAB); Inv, 30NW Canna 23 Apr (RLS, ADKR); Aber, 300NW Strathbeg 4 May (JD). Summer records: 138 Whiteness, Inv 2 June (RHD), 50 Longman 11 June (GJL).

Autumn-winter, mainly from mid July: Shet, numbers low, max 18 Virkie 29 Aug; Fair Isle, max 10 on 11 Sep (RAB); Ross, 500 Pollo, 400

Alness, 400 Dalmore 19 Dec (RHD); Aber, from 22 July, max 115 Ythan 4 Oct (MJ); Perth, 42 Kingoodie 9 Oct (RC, EJM); Midl, 15 Musselburgh 16 Sep, 250 on 12 Oct, 2,000 on 26th Oct (AWGJ, LLJV); W Loth, 800 Cramond 5 Nov-Dec (GLS); Dumf/Galloway, 9,454 Inner North Solway 14 Dec (JM), 7,500 of them Aird's Pt-Southwick.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. Winter-spring counts: Kirk, 23 Southernness 9 Mar; Ayr, 85 Turnberry 28 Mar (RHH), 75 Troon 5 May (ASH), 51 Prestwick 13 Jan (BCF); E Loth, 70 Aberlady 25 Apr, 56 on 13 May (RGN, DRL, HKL); Midl, 28 Leith 20 Jan, 16 Mar (JHB, GLS); Angus, 35 Arbroath 10 May (NKA); Banff, 250 Portessie 10 Feb (JE), 83 Banff 11 Mar (MC); Moray, 100 Lossiemouth 27 Jan (AM), 130 Burghead 22 Apr (RSPB); Suth, 50+ Dornoch 9 Feb (DMcD); Caith, 50 Harrow 27 Jan (SL), last 16 May; O Heb, 150 Melbost 27 Feb (PGH), 80 Stornoway 17 Feb (WM), last 16 May; Ork, 26 Copinsay late May/early June (MASB); Fair Isle, influx 27 Apr-10 May, peak 50 on 27th, up to 6 on 26 May, last one 20 June (RAB); Shet, 120 Whalsay 31 Jan, still 20 on 22 May, 5 Sound Gruney 23 May (RJT).

Autumn: Shet, from 4 July, 80 Whalsay 15 Dec; Ork, 114 Evie Bay 1 Dec (MC); Caith, 65 Sandside 22 Dec (EWEM); Angus, 41 Arbroath 22 July (NKA); Isle of May, peak 200 on 5 Sep; Midl, 3 Musselburgh 19 July (LLJV), 25 Inchmickery 21 Aug (DRL); Ayr, 81 Seamill-Ardrossan 15 Dec (AM, BB); Kirk, 19 Southernness 16 Nov.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*. 9 spring records (12-13 birds): Shet, 2-3 Whalsay 20 May, one 24-25 Jun (BM, JHS); Suth, Tongue 10 May (S. P. W. Corbett); Aber, 3 Strathbeg 17 May (JD); Midl, Musselburgh 10 May, 21 June (GLS, LLJV); E Loth, Tynninghame 19 May, 19 June (RWJS, GLS); Ayr, Doonfoot 10-12 May (AG, IHL).

Autumn: about 200 birds from 17 July, mainly from mid August, mainly north and east:

Summary of autumn records: 17 July-12 Oct

	July	Aug		Sep		Oct
		1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30	
North (Shet-O Heb-Inv)	3	14	34	17	10	—
East (Moray-Stir)	3	1	21	37	23	1
South-east (Lothians)	—	—	3	24	10	2
South-west (Arg-Solway)	—	—	3	5	—	1

Noteworthy records and peaks include: Shet, 2 Fetlar 17 July, one 18-19th (RSPB), 10 Aug-16 Sep, max 4-7 Whalsay 26 Aug-9 Sep (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, 1-3 on 26 Aug-5 Sep (RAB); Ork, 1 Westray 27 July (ADKR); O Heb, 9 Melbost 14 Aug (PGH), 3 Back, Lewis 18 Aug (DJ); Caith, 3 singles 15 Aug-5 Sep (PMC); Inv, 9 Whiteness 27 Aug, 10 on 15 Sep (RHD); Moray, 3 Findhorn 21 July (RAFKOS); Aber, from 25 Aug, max 13 Don 6 Sep, 7 Meikle Loch 25 Aug (AGK, SW); Angus, 6 Montrose 12 Sep (GMC); Perth, 1 Seaside 20 Aug (RLMcM, JK); Fife, Eden est 5 Aug-12 Sep, max 24 on 8 Sep, 13 on 15 Sep (DWO, AB, AJB); Stir, 1 Skinflats 15 Sep (DRW); W Loth/Midl, from 29 Aug, max 7 Gladhouse 6 Sep (RWJS, GLS); E Loth, Aberlady 1 Sep-4 Oct, max 14 on 7-12 Sep (FDH *et al*); Arg, Islay, 1 Machir Bay 29 Aug-3 Sep, 2 on 9th (KV); Ayr, poor year, singles Barassie 19 Aug, 12 Oct (IHL, HG), Maiden's Harbour 13 Sep (RHH); Lan, 1 Hillend 8 Sep (JSO); Wig, 1 Luce Bay 25 Aug (RCD).

***Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*. N Scot site: 1-2 prs on territory from 23 May (RHD) but no proof of breeding; 2 at a loch in E Inv 22 June (W. D. Forshaw).

Migrants: Dunb, Endrick Mouth 14 July (DS); Arg, Machrihanish 9 July

(EJM); E Loth, Drem 18 May (AB, GLS), 2 on 12-13 July (GLS), Aberlady 1-2 Sep (MWF, RGN); Midl, Gladhouse 13-14 Sep (GLS *et al*); Inv, Boat of Garten 22 May (RHD, AP); O Heb, St Kilda 21-26 July (S. Murray).

***Baird's Sandpiper** *Calidris bairdii*. One Gladhouse, Midl, 14-17 Sep (AB, GLS, RWJS, LLJV); 3rd Scottish record.

***Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*. Three records: 1 displaying Caith loch 28-29 May (D. Britton) is particularly interesting and followed the first summer record (Caith, June 1973—8: 72-3). Singles Strathbeg, Aber, 17 Sep (JD) and North Berwick, E Loth, 16 Aug-1 Sep (DEA, KSMcG *et al*).

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. Breeding reports: nested Endrick Mouth, Dunb, (JM, RKP), also coast E Loth after absence of some years; now very scarce Galloway and no proof of breeding in 1974 (ADW).

Peak counts: Ross, 400 Dalmore 13 Jan (ARM), 600 Avoch 20 Jan (EB), 500 Udale 17 Oct (JAL); Inv, 1,000 Lentrán 10 Mar (MIH), 680 Whiteness 16 Dec (RHD); Aber, 736 Ythan 21 Oct (MJ); Angus, 1,565 Montrose 24 Sep (MN), 4,000 Dundee 14 Oct (EJM); Perth, 2,900 Kingoodie 3 Feb, 4,500 Port Allen-Invergowrie 15 Oct (EJM, RC, RLMcM); Stir, 4,900 Skinflats 2 Feb, 1,260 on 17 Nov (DRW); Midl, 2,500 Musselburgh 12 Jan, 1,700 on 11 Nov (LLJV); E Loth, 1,600 Inchmickery 11 May (DRL), 2,350 Aberlady 19 Jan, 1,225 on 7 May (DRL, HKL), 800 Tynninghame Jan-Mar (RWJS); Renf, 5,435 Erskine-Woodhall 10 Feb, 5,522 on 16 Nov (HG); Ayr, 1,800 Barassie 21 Jan (HG), 1,000 Irvine 5 Jan (GJC, DMcl), 1,070 Hunterston 12 Jan (TJGW); Kirk, 4,685 Airds Point-Southwick 6 Apr, part of Inner North Solway total of 13,563 on 6 Apr; Wig, 1,000 Cree mid Dec.

Migration: Shet, main passage from 21 Apr, last 31 Oct; Fair Isle, autumn from 23 July, max 50 on 5 Sep (RAB); Suth, 30 Handa 26 Aug (CJE); Aber, Don est from 18 July, peaks 135 on 1 Sep, 300 on 7th, down to 15 by 13 Oct (AGK, SW), Ythan from 10 July; inland peaks, Midl, 16 Cobbinshaw 25 Aug, 30 Gladhouse 16 Sep (RWJS, LLJV); Lan, 12 Hamilton 15 Nov (DS); Dunb, 30 River Fruin, L Lomond, 15 Sep (SMDA).

***Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*. Winter: 1 L Stiapavat, O Heb 13 Jan (RHD). No spring records and poor autumn passage: O Heb, 3 Vatisker, Back, 15 Aug (DJ); Moray, Findhorn 21 July, 18 Aug (RAFKOS); Angus, Montrose 17 Aug (GMC), 16 Sep (MN); Fife, 3 Eden est 7 Sep (RHH), Tentsmuir 18 Sep (DWO); E Loth, Tynninghame 16 Aug, 4 on 15 Sep, one 20th (GLS, RWJS, LLJV), 2 Aberlady 26 Sep (AB); Arg, 3 Machrihanish 15 Sep (EJM); Lan, Carstairs 27 Sep (JB, ND); Ayr, 3 Barassie 15 Sep (IHL); Dumf, 3 Powfoot 14 Sep (JM).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*. Winter counts: Aber, 60 Don 6 Mar (PDR); Fife, 300 Tentsmuir 6 Feb (DWO).

Spring passage: Ayr, 18 Turnberry 13 May (RHH), 58 Troon 15 May (ASH); Dunb, 3 Endrick Mouth 18 May (MPG, JM); Midl, 3 Musselburgh 16 May, 4 on 17th, 1 Gladhouse 14 June (LLJV); O Heb, few May-June, e.g. 4 Valtos 5 June (DT); Shet, Noss 6 May, Unst 13 May, 2 on 14th, 4 Whalsay 9 June. Two in full summer plumage Cairngorms, Inv, 9 June (M. A. Blick *et al*) is very interesting (cf 2 NW Suth 15 June 1973).

Autumn: Shet, 22 July-6 Oct, max 25 Virkie 21 Aug, 12 Melby 7 Sep; Fair Isle, 28 July-27 Sep, max 7 on 2 Sep (RAB); Ork, 1 Swona 6 July (KH), more from 28 July; Inv, from 29 July, 4 Whiteness (RHD), 8 Rhum 16 Aug (PC); Aber/Kinc, from 21 July, max 30 Stonehaven 22 July (MD), 64 Don 28 Sep (AGK); E Loth, Aberlady 17 July-23 Nov, max 40 on 17 Aug, 2 Sep (RGN, GLS), 20 Tynninghame 19 June, 40 on 16 Aug (GLS);

Arg, 83 Machrihanish 26 Aug (EJM); Ayr, 63 Barassie 25 Aug (ASH); Wig, 2 L Ryan 11 Aug (GS).

***Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis*. Three records: E Loth, Aberlady Bay 11-15 May (W. Thom, RGN), Fair Isle, 8 Sep (RAB *et al*) and Arg, Machrihanish 7-16 Sep (EJM, C. Whyte). The spring record is exceptional and only 5th ever in British Isles.

***Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Limicola falcinellus*. One at mouth of River North Esk, Angus/Kinc, 25 May (NKA)—5th Scottish record and first since 1967.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*. Winter counts and spring passage: Wig, 1-3 Lochans-Stoneykirk 11 Feb-6 Apr (RCD, GS), 1 West Freugh 10 Mar (RHH); Dumf, 3 Caerlaverock 24 Mar, 4 on 18 Apr (RHB, LTC); Ayr, L o' the Lowes 18 May (WRB, IHL); Dunb, Endrick Mouth 24 June (RHB, JM); E Loth, Aberlady Jan-Mar, May-June, max 18 on 3 Mar (RGN *et al*), Tynninghame 22 June (LLJV); Fife, 3 Eden est 8 Apr (PNJC, DWO), 9 Rosyth 27 Apr (MJB), Lochore 9 May (DMB); Perth, 2 Kingoodie 25 Mar, 4 on 12 Apr (EJM); Aber, 12 Rattray/Strathbeg 28 Apr-6 May (RBH *et al*); Moray, Findhorn 21 Apr (RAFKOS); Shet, Unst 6 May (iSp), Sum-burgh 28 May (RAR).

Very strong autumn passage, mainly early Sep, with some exceptional flocks; the following summary shows minimum numbers of birds involved; some reports, 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)	—	44	87	210+	92	29	1
East (Moray-Stir)	1	23	30	210+	72	4	1
South-east (Lothians)	5	4	44	54	9	15	41
South-west (Arg-Solway)	1	4	24	155	44	6	9

Peak counts and noteworthy records include: Shet, from 2 Aug, many parties, max 20 Whalsay 1 Sep, 22 Skerries 2 Sep, 34 Fetlar and 50+ Fleck 8 Sep, last Skerries 19 Oct; Fair Isle, 2nd Aug-28 Sep, 14 on 10 Aug, 15 on 15th, 15 on 31st, 45 on 2 Sep, 32 on 15th; Ork, 22 Aug-9 Oct, max 20 North Ronaldsay 2 Oct (DL); O Heb, 5 Stornoway 19-24 Sep (RMcl, PGH); Moray, 15 Findhorn 2 Sep (RAFKOS); Aber, 16 Don est 25 Aug, 55 on 7 Sep (AGK), 13 Fedderate res 1 Sep (JE), 15 Ythan 29 Sep (LS); Fife, many late Aug-Sep, max 35 Eden est 11 Sep (MN, KB), 42 on 26 Sep (DWO); W Loth, 41 Linlithgow 16-17 Nov (RHH); Midl, 30 Gladhouse 31 Aug (RWJS); E Loth, Aberlady peaks 28 on 11 Sep, 15 on 19-31 Oct, 15 on 22 Dec; Arg, 1 Inverscaddle Bay 8 Sep (ADKR), 4 Machrihanish 9 Sep (EJM); Lan, 14 Bothwell Bridge 2 Sep (DS); Ayr, 51 Springside 8 Sep, 45 on 10th (GJC, WRB); Dumf, 26 Caerlaverock 1 Sep (RHB, L'C), 21 Lockerbie 12 Sep (NEA, RTS); Wig, 24 West Freugh 15 Sep (RHH).

***Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*. Eight records—the most in 7 years: Shet, Virkie 27-28 Apr (DC, JS, VS); Ork, 2 Ouse, Westray, 8 May (JS, NS); Inv, 2 Allanfearn Bay mid-late May (per RHD); Fife, Eden est 24 Apr (1B), 5 Aug (DWO); Dunb, Endrick Mouth 1-2 June (DG *et al*)—first for Dunb and Clyde.

***Grey Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicarius*. Only one record: 1 flying S Frenchman's Rocks, Islay, Arg, 29 Sep (KV).

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*. Breeding reports: Shet, 1st Fetlar 16 May, increase at one site, max 22 Fetlar and last 11 Aug (RSPB); O Heb, a poor year, perhaps 4 sites, no details.

Migrants : Hillwell, Shet, 2 June (DC); Endrick Mouth, Dunb, 9 June (TPD *et al.*). Phalarope, probably Red-necked, Findhorn, Moray, 22 Aug (RHD).

***Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor*. One Hillwell, Shet, 27 Sep-8 Oct (B. Bland *et al.*).

***Stone Curlew** *Burhinus oedicephalus*. Two records—Fair Isle, 23 May (A. Brown); Duns Dish, Angus, 16 Sep (E. Mitchell).

***Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola*. One Belmont, Unst, Shet, 2 July (GB)—8th Scottish record and 1st Shet this century.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*. Breeding reports—counts of some sites : Shet, 2,500 prs Foula (BEG), 650+ prs Hermaness, 425 prs rest of Unst (GB), 260+ prs Noss (PKK), 40 prs Lerwick-Bigton, 9 prs Mousa (MJS); Fair Isle, 17 prs, 1 eggs 13 May (RAB); Ork, 482 prs; O Heb, 15 prs Gress, prs at new sites North Tolsta and L Orasay (IMMcL, WAJC, PGH); Suth, 7 prs bred Handa (CJE).

Arrivals and migration : Shet, 1 Bard, Bressay late Jan (per JHS), arrival from 17 Mar (RJT), last Cunningsburgh 6 Nov (WF); Fair Isle, 2 on 27 Mar, last 2 on 28 Oct (RAB); Ork, 1 Scapa Flow 8 Jan (DL), 6 Apr-17 Oct (CJB, KH); O Heb, 1st Gress 31 Mar (IMMcL); Caith, 28 Apr-5 Oct; Suth, 1 Badanloch 6 July (RHD); Ross, 6 Tarbat Ness 1 Sep, 11 Tarradale 7 Sep, last Beaully Firth 29 Nov (RHD); Inv, last Longman 17 Nov (RHD); Aber/Kinc, one 10 June, 25 Aug-14 Oct, 5N Girdle Ness 4 Oct (MD, MH); Angus, 7 Usan 15 Aug (MN); Midl, 1 Musselburgh 2 Jan (BC), 1 Grantown 6 Apr (DT), last Cramond, W Loth 29 Oct (GLS); E Loth, 6NW Tynninghame 29 Sep (RWJS, LLJV); Arg, singles Frenchman's Rocks, Islay, 17th and 22 Sep (KV); Ayr, 1 Turnberry 20 Sep (IHL); Dumf, 2 Ruthwell 28 July (DMB).

***Pomarine Skua** *Stercorarius pomarinus*. Winter : 1 Lerwick, Shet, 6 Jan (DC); 1 Invergordon, Ross 9 Feb (RHD); Inv, 1 Bunchrew 10 Feb (MLH), 2 Longman 7 Feb (JAL, WMM), 2 Alturlie 9 Feb (WMM); Arg, 1 Tarbert 26 Jan (DMB, DRW).

Spring-summer : 1 Fair Isle 3 May (RAB); Arg, 1 Coll 29 June (RWJS, LLJV), 1 Treshnish Isles 26 July (RFC).

Autumn : Caith, Thurso 11 Aug (SAMB), Duncansby Head 14 Sep (PMC); Ross, 4 Tarradale 7 Sep (RHD *et al.*), Corgrain 29 Nov (RHD), 1 Uig, Skye, 19 Sep (PME); Aber, Ythan 20 Sep (RHH); Kinc, Girdle Ness 3 Sep (AGK); Angus, 2 West Haven 7 Sep (TMC), 1 Bell Rock 1 Nov (MN); Isle of May, 7 Sep (JHB *et al.*); Fife Ness 1 Sep (RLMcM), 2 on 7 Sep (DW), Leven 7 Sep (AB), 3 on 5 Oct (AB, RHH); W Loth, Cramond 5 Oct (LD), Midl, 2 Seafeld 26-28 Oct (GLS); E Loth, 8NW Tynninghame 29 Sep (RWJS, LLJV).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*. Breeding reports : Shet, c180 prs Foula (BEG), 193 prs Unst (GB), 56 prs Lerwick-Bigton (MJS), 44 prs Noss where hatching success 1.5 young per pr (PKK); Ork, 622 prs censused (CJB *et al.*); Caith, 35-40 prs censused (PMC *et al.*).

Winter : 1 Longman, Inv, 7 Feb (WMM); 1 Musselburgh, Midl, 18 Jan (DLC); E Loth, 1 Gullane 6 Jan, 2 Feb (LLJV).

Arrivals and passage : Shet, 1st Fetlar 16 Apr, last Hascosay 23 Sep (RJT); Fair Isle, 17 Apr increased to 59 on 30th, 120 by 8 May, last ashore 19 Sep, late one 3 Oct (RAB); Ork, 16 Apr-8 Oct; Ross, 4 Tarbat Ness 7 Oct (ARM), 11 Tarradale 7 Sep (RHD); Inv, 1 L Morlich 14 Sep (W. N. Bringham); Moray, last 2 Culbin 17 Nov (RAFKOS); Aber, max 30 in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Collieston 25 Sep (AGK, SW), last Balmedie 11 Nov (RBH); Angus, 20 West Haven 21 Aug, 25 on 28 Aug (TMC); Isle of May, 6 Aug-4 Oct, peak 15 on 23 Sep; Stir, 5W Skinflats 18 Aug (DRW); Firth of Forth

scarcer in autumn : Midl, max 25 Inchmickery 21 Aug (DRL), 6 Leith 23 Sep (IB, DJB); W Loth, 5-7 Cramond 17 Sep (GLS); E Loth, 40NW Tynninghame 29 Sep (RWJS, LLJV); singles as usual Clyde-Solway.

***Long-tailed Skua** *Stercorarius longicaudus*. Singles : Fair Isle, 5 June, another 23-29 June (RAB); Ork, Evie 5 July (CJB); Ross/Inv, Tarradale 7 Sep (RHD *et al*); Midl, Musselburgh 7 Sep (N. R. Herbert). A most interesting record was one on high ground in N Perth 18 June (DWO) (8 : 383-385).

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. Breeding counts : Shet, 125 prs Vailla (49 prs 1970), 393 prs Papa Stour (146 prs 1969) (MPH); Ork, 450 prs Copinsay, 70 prs Papa Westray, 142 prs Faray (NH), 68 prs on 2,750 acres Birsay Moor (KH); Suth pr bred inland L Loyal 23 June (DW).

Counts : Shet, 4,000 Skerries 9 Dec (ISR); Fair Isle, 1,000 on 17 Sep, 2,500 on 27-28 Oct (RAB); Inv, 400 Longman 12 Dec (EIY); 80 (80% juvs) down Great Glen in 4 hrs 15 Sep (ADKR).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. Breeding counts : Shet, 354 prs Unst, 200 prs Sumburgh Head (MPH); Ork, 700 prs Birsay Moor (KH); Perth, c2,500 prs Flanders Moss colony (DRW).

Winter numbers now quite high, especially SW, Dumf/Kirk 20; Ayr, 15; Renf, 29, smaller numbers elsewhere central belt.

Arrivals : mid Mar in SW, e.g. Ayr, 30 Doonfoot 7 Mar, 77 on 14th (IHL, RHH), 400 Troon 9 Mar (ASH); Midl, 35 Newhaven by 16 Mar (LLJV); late Mar in north, Inv 22nd, O Heb 24th, Shet 24th.

Scandinavian birds *L. f. fuscus* : Shet, 4 Whalsay 10 Apr (BM), 1 Skerries 18 Apr (ISR); Moray, 2 Spey Bay 20 Apr (RSPB).

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Shet, increases include Fitful Head 229 prs (79 prs in 1969), Horse of Burravoe 131 prs (76 prs in 1970) (MPH); Isle of May and Firth of Forth cull programme continued; Ayr, 500 prs Horse Island (PB); Wig, Mull of Galloway 147 prs (44% increase on 1969) (RCD).

Counts : Shet, 12,000 Skerries 9 Dec (ISR); Fair Isle, 3,000 on 24 Dec (RAB); O Heb, 1,500 Stornoway 8 Nov (PGH); Inv, 5,000 Longman 25 Jan, 9,000 on 15 Nov (MR); 6,000- Ayr Harbour 14 Feb (WRB), 3,000 Troon 9 Mar (ASH); Renf, 3,000 Balgray res Dec (HG).

Albino birds : Ayr 25 Feb (RHH); Longman, Inv, 13 Jan, 24 Aug-Dec (MR *et al*); O Heb, Stornoway 12 Feb-14 Apr, 6 Aug-Dec (RMcI); Holm, Ork, summer, probably breeding (CJB). The albino recorded regularly on RNVR Carrick in Glasgow from Feb 1964 to Dec 1973 was not reported in 1974.

Common Gull *Larus canus*. Breeding : Shet, 565 prs Unst (GB); Fair Isle, 1 pr reared 2 young (RAB); Ork, 280 prs on 2,750 acres Birsay Moor (KH), increase in egg collecting noted (DL); Ross, pr nested in barley field N Kessock (MKMcD-D); increase noted Great Cumbrae, Bute (FD *et al*); Kirk, decrease L Skerrow (ADW).

Counts and passage : Fair Isle, spring passage mainly 7 Apr-end May, peaks 250 on 27 Apr, 200 on 3 May, return from 11 July, peaks 450 on 28 Aug, 700 on 29th (RAB); Ork, very large numbers winter (DL); Caith, 2,000 Dale Farm 2 Feb (SL); Ross, c10,000 Alness 17 Nov (ARM), 5,000 Tarradale 17 Oct (RHD); Inv, very large numbers in Beauly and Moray Firths feeding on sprats (RHD); Kinr, 400 St Serf's 16 Sep, increased to 2,000 in Dec (AA, TOJ); Arg, 2,500- Machrihanish 14 Sep (EJM); Ayr, 2,500 Doonfoot 24 Dec (WRB), 3,000 Troon 19 Nov (ASH).

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*. Present all months and numbers high.

Summary of records (individuals per 2-month periods)

	Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-June	July-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
North						
(Shet-E Inv)	21	22	14	7	50+	90+
West (W Inv-Clyde, O Heb, I Heb)	11	11	6	4	3	11
East						
(Moray-Stir)	17	18	3	1	12	8
South (South of Clyde/Forth)	13	10	2	—	2	7

Noteworthy records include: Shet, 17 Skerries 30 Sep, 23 on 9 Dec (ISR); O Heb, 4 Branahuie 8 Jan (RHD); Suth, 3 Golspie 9 Mar (RHD); Inv, 4 Mallaig 1 Dec (ADKR); Aber, 5 Fraserburgh Jan-Feb, 3 on 5 Oct (MD, MH); 4 Ayr harbour 6 Mar (RHH *et al*), 3 Irvine 8 Dec (AB, DLC, RWF).

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoideus*. About 60 individuals recorded: Shet, Tingwall 20 Jan, Lerwick 16 Feb, 13 Mar, Nov and Dec, 2 on 24 Dec, Garth's Loch 30 Nov, Scalloway 1st and 20 Dec (DC, FH, RJ, IS); Fair Isle, 16-17 Feb, 6 May, 11 Oct, 29 Oct, 19 Dec (RAB); Ork, Kirkwall 14 Jan (DL); O Heb, Branahuie 10 June (DT); Caith, Thurso 13 Jan-24 Feb, Scrabster 30 Jan, 23 Mar (PMC, GGB), Wick 25 June (3), 15 July-7 Aug, 14 Dec (KB, DS, SL); Ross, Udale 15 Mar (RHD); Inv, Mallaig 1 Dec (ADKR), Inverness 2 May (JMC); Moray, Lossiemouth 17 Mar (MC); Aber/Kinc, 21 bird/days Jan-May, mainly Girdle Ness/Don, 2 Fraserburgh 2 Feb (MH), 1 Girdle Ness 14 Dec (PDR, BJW); Angus, West Haven 19 Jan (TMC), Tay Bridge 26 Feb (EJM); Midl, Leith 17 Jan, 28 Feb, 16 Mar, Duddingston 27 Feb (AB, GLS, LLJV); Arg, 2 Oban 25 Mar (J. Philips), 1 West L Tarbert 14 Mar (R. McNaughton); Ayr, 31 Jan-3 Feb, another 3-14 Feb and another 25 Feb-8 Mar (WRB *et al*), Troon 3 Feb (RGC); Renf, Paisley Moss 10 Apr (HG); Dumf, Lochmaben 21 Jan, 13 Feb, 30 Mar (NEA, RTS), Lockerbie 12 Feb-10 Apr (MFC), Annan Jan-Apr (MJW), Dumfries Nov (WA *et al*) also on Kirk side of river.

***Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla*. One Cnoc na bearach, L Skerrols, Islay, Arg, 21 Apr (KV)—new Scottish bird.

Little Gull *Larus minutus*. Regular Angus/Fife but few reports received; peaks: Fife, 150 Kilconquhar 23 Aug (PAL), 72 Tentsmuir 3 June (TB); Angus/Kinc, 4 Kinnaber 5 June (NKA), 160 West Haven 8 Sep (TMC). Elsewhere: Shet, Whalsay 15 June (BM, ISR), 30 Sep-1 Oct (JHS, JLS); O Heb, 4 Butt of Lewis 6 Aug (R. H. Hogg); Caith, Wick 13 Jan (DC, PS), 3 May (DS), 21 Sep (KB, DS); Moray, Lossiemouth 20 Apr (AM); Aber/Kinc, Netherly 28-30 June (MD), Strathbeg 6 Aug (JD), Stonehaven 12 Oct (MD); Perth, 1st (2) Invergowrie/Kingoodie 15 Feb, peak 17 on 4 Mar, 7 on 25 Mar (EJM); Stir, Grangemouth 24 June (DRW); Midl, Musselburgh 18 Jan (GLS), 6 May, 17-20th (2); 31 May, 6 on 12 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, 3 Port Seton 25 Sep (GLS), 3 Tynninghame 3 Nov (DRL, HKL, LLJV); Renf, Barr Loch 23 June, 17 July (RGC); Ayr and Doonfoot 26 Jan-5 Feb (IHL, RHH, WRB), 8 Mar (AGS), 22 May (RHH), Kennedy's Pass 21 May (RHH), Doonfoot 29 Dec (RHH); Dumf, Lochmaben 1-6 June, 6-15 Sep (NEA, RTS, JS); Wig, Sandhead 3 Apr (RCD).

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. Breeding: Shet, Norwick, Unst, colony down to 40 prs (GB); new site O Heb; increase Caith; Midl, 150 prs bred N Esk res (BPR); Peeb, 10% successful by July, 1,000s of eggs sent to London included 3 blue and 1 yellow (CMM); Kirk, Dalry colony failed (FD).

Counts and passage : Fair Isle, spring peaks 60 on 19 Apr, 40 on 27 Apr, return peak 22 July when 40 (including 1st juvs) (RAB); Caith, 500 Castlehill 23-29 Jan (PMC); Inv, first 50 *Rothiemurchus* 24 Mar (RHD); Clack, 848 *Alloa-Kincardine* 21 July (GS); Ayr, 2,500 *Doonfoot* 1 Jan (WRB); 4,000 *Barassie* 13 Jan (ABJ).

***Sabine's Gull** *Larus sabini*. Immature Whalsay, Shet, 12 Oct (JHS).

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Breeding : Shet, Sumburgh 1,778 nests (550 in 1967) but Papa Stour 226 nests (749 in 1969) (MPH); Fair Isle, continued increase, 1st eggs 8 May (RAB); Ork, 1st ashore *Yetta* Geo 14 Mar, peak 1,079 on 22 May, last 10 Aug (EY, MM); Caith, 5,000 prs *Stroma* (RHD, PMC); Inv, 741 nests *Canna* (599 in 1973) (RLS); Ayr, 2,400 prs *Ailsa Craig* (JPh); Wig, 441 prs *Mull of Galloway* is only 6% up on 1969 count (RCD).

Passage and counts : Fair Isle, 1,000 on 6 Oct (RAB); Ork, 9-10,000 feeding round *Auskerry* 18 July (ADKR), 3,000N/hr *Westray* 28 July (DL); Suth, 2,000 moulters *Helmsdale* 2 July (RHD); Ross, 1,000 *Alness Bay* 13 Jan (ARM), 300 *Tarradale* 7 Sep (RHD); Inv, 700 *Corpach* 17 Mar (JASN); Angus, 700E *Tay Bridge* 26 Feb (EJM); Perth, 300+ *Invergowrie* 29 Jan (EJM); Stir, 122 *Kincardine Bridge* 10 Mar (DRW); Midl, 400+W in 2 hrs *Seafeld* 28 Oct (GLS); Fife/W Loth, 3,-4,000 flew high to west in 3 hrs, *Forth Rail Bridge* 29 Oct (GLS) (8 : 324-325); E Loth, 3,000NW in 3 hrs *Tynninghame* 29 Sep (RWJS, LLJV); 1,000+ *Whiting Bay, Arran* 22 Sep (MHD); Dumf, 122 *Annan* 13 Mar (NEA, RTS).

***Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*. 23 birds in spring, 4 May-17 June; Wig, 7 *Soulsat Loch* 18 May (M. Digney); Dumf, 6 *Nith est* 4 May (RHB, LTC), 2 *Lochmaben* 10 May (NEA, RTS), 2 *Auldirth* 17 June (JFY); Arg, 2 *L Gruinart, Islay*, 27 May (M. Glover); Berw, *Coldstream* 18 May (IB); W Loth, *Linlithgow* 11-13 May (CBP); Ork, *L Harray* 18 May (KW *et al*), *Copinsay* 22 May (MASB, DL).

Autumn, over 50 birds 9 Aug-29 Sep : O Heb, 2 *Lochmaddy* 17 Sep (PME); Aber/Kinc, *Meikle Loch* 9 Aug (PRS, LS), 3 *Strathbeg* 2 Sep, singles 3-6 Sep (JD), *Don est* 6 Sep (AGK), 5 *Gourdon* 16 Sep (JACC); Angus, *Usan* 8 Sep (GMC); Kinr, 4 *L Leven* 20 Sep (AA, TOJ); Fife, 2 *Kingsbarns* 15 Sep (DT), *Fife Ness* 24 Aug (PAL); Stir, 2 *Skinflats* 15 Sep, one 21st (DMB, DRW); W Loth, *Cramond* 18 Sep (GLS); Midl, *Gladhouse* 10 Aug (RWJS), 13 Sep (GLS), *Musselburgh* 14 Sep (DLC); E Loth, *Aberlady* 19 Aug (AB), 2 *North Berwick* 25 Aug (DJB), *Aberlady* 8 Sep (RGN), 3 *Peffer Sands* 15 Sep (EL, RWJS), 9 *Tynninghame* 20 Sep (GLS), 12 on 21st, one 29th (LLJV); Ayr, *Belston Loch* 8-23 Sep (WRB, IHL, AGS); Dumf, 3 *Lochmaben* 15 Sep (DS, JS); Kirk, *Carlingwark* 12 Sep (LAU); Wig, *L Magillie* 9 Sep (GS).

***Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*. One *Strathbeg, Aber*, 13 Aug (JD) —4th Scottish record.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. Fair Isle, 6+ prs reared 13 chicks (RAB) (1 pr 1970 and 1972, 2 prs in 1973); Shet, 35 prs *Unst* (GB); Ork, 10 prs *Fara* (CJB, DL), 3 prs *Flotta* (DL); Caith, 50 prs *Stroma* (RHD); Inv, 250 prs *Whiteness*, good success (RHD); Kinc, 80 prs *St Cyrus* (NKA); Fife, failed *Tentsmuir*; Forth, 750 prs *Inchmickery* (RSPB), 60 prs *Leith Docks*, 70 prs *St Baldreds Boat* (GLS); E Loth, colonies robbed; Wig, good numbers *Genoch Rocks* (GS), but decreased to 10 prs *Ardwell* (IHL).

Arrivals and passage : 8 Apr, 3 *West Haven, Angus* (TMC); 15 Apr, 1 'comic' *Burghead, Moray* (RSPB); 24 Apr, *Lower Dee, Aber* (BJS), 4 *Ythan* (PDR). Late records : 8 Oct, 2 *Stonehaven, Kinc* (MD); 12 Oct, 2 *Musselburgh, Midl* (AB, LLJV); 13 Oct, *Cambus, Clack* (DRW); 20 Oct, *Gullane, E Loth* (LLJV).

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*. Breeding counts : Shet, *Unst* 1,200 prs (GB), *Papa Stour* 1,000 prs (MPH); Ork, *Papa Westray* 8,500 prs, *Westray*

6,250 prs (NH *et al*), Swona 2,000 prs (KH); Caith, 1,200 prs Stroma (RHD); Kinc, 70 prs St Cyrus (NKA); Fife, poor year; Forth, 1 pr Leith, 10 prs St Baldred's Boat (GLS); Ayr, 87 prs Horse Island (PB).

Arrivals : 11 Apr, 4 Evie Bay, Ork (MC); 27 Apr, 10 Gladhouse, Midl (RWJS); 28 Apr, Melbost, O Heb, many on 15 May (PGH); Shet, hundreds Whalsay 8-9 May, 1,000 on 11th (BM, JHS). Last reports : 23 Sep, 2 Turnberry, Ayr (RHH); 25 Sep, Coll, Arg (PFC); 13 Oct, Whiteness, Inv (RHD).

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*. Only reports of breeding are : 80 prs Inchmickery, Forth (RSPB); 11 prs Horse Island, Ayr, but failed (PB).

Other records : Ayr, 1 pr Ballantrae (WRB, IHL); E Loth, few records; Midl, 2 Musselburgh 7 June (IB); Fife, few summer; Angus/Kinc, 4 West Haven 13 May (TMC), 1 St Cyrus 5 July (NKA); Shet, 1 Whalsay 24-28 June (TB, BM, JHS) is a new Shet record.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*. Breeding reports : 158+ prs nested St Cyrus, Kinc, is most encouraging, first 2 on 22 Apr (NKA); Fife, 16 prs Tentsmuir but no success (DWO); E Loth, c20 prs Aberlady but much egg collecting (RGN); Ayr, 6-8 prs Ballantrae with some success (WRB, AGS, IHL); Wig, only site, down to 1 pr from 5 prs in 1973 (IHL); nesting at various smaller colonies north to O Heb and Caith.

Migrants : 1st Tynninghame, E Loth, 21 Apr (BZ); 1 Crosskirk, Caith, 22 Sep (DMS); 9 Seaside, Perth, 26 July (LS, RLMcM); 2 Kirkcaldy, Fife, 21 Aug (JLI); 1 Annan, Dumf, 25 Aug (NEA, RTS).

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*. Breeding status : Ork, 16 prs Sanday, 30-40 prs North Ronaldsay, 'good number' Stronsay, 1 pr Swona (DL); Caith, 131 nests Stroma June (PMC, RHD); E Ross, c270 prs nested successfully Morrich More (RHD *et al*); Aber, usual Ythan; Forth, 450 prs Inchmickery (RSPB). None nested Fife, E Loth mainland, Ayr or Wig.

Arrivals, departures and passage 31 Mar-27 Oct; Shet, single Haroldswick, Unst, 13 June (MS), Whalsay 15 Sep, another 16th (JHS); Ork, 1st 16 Apr, last 23 Sep (DL); O Heb, 1 Balranald 27 July, 1 Tiumpnan Head 12 Aug (RHH); Suth, 3 Handa 29 June (CJE); Inv, 72 Whiteness 6 May (RHD); Moray, 1st Findhorn 31 Mar (RAFKOS); Kinc, 1st Girdle Ness 2 Apr (AGK), last Stonehaven 8 Oct (MD); Perth, 1 Invergowrie 13 July (RC); Kinc, 1 L Leven 10 Aug (AA); Midl, 175 Musselburgh 16 Sep, last 2 on 17 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, last Tynninghame 27 Oct; Arg, peak 20 Machrihanish 17 Sep (EJM); Ayr, 1 Bennane Head 31 Mar (HG, KRRS), 20 Troon 16 Sep (WRB).

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Breeding : Fair Isle, 1st ashore 6 Feb, many 17 Feb, and continuous mid Mar (RAB); Caith, 400 prs Stroma (RHD); Suth, good season Handa (CJE); Firth of Forth, continued increase, Inchkeith 12 prs, Lamb 11 nests, Craigeith 46 prs, Fidra 1 nest (new site) (RWJS); Ayr, 1,000 prs Ailsa Craig, 1st ashore 6 Mar (WRB, SW); Wig, 269 prs Mull of Galloway June, 78% increase on 1969 (RCD).

Ross, 500 off Nigg Bay 9 Feb (RHD); Moray, 205 Burghead 13 Jan (RAFKOS); Stir, Skinflats 23 Mar (DMB), 5 May (DRW); Dunb, 2 Ardmore 10 Feb (SMDA).

Little Auk *Plautus alle*. Good numbers in north : Shet, 14 Yell Sound 7 Jan, 100 on 14th (RJT, BM), reports from other sites in Jan, max 10 Skerries 19th (ISR), some off Fetlar mid Oct (NP), 6 Skerries 27 Nov (DC); Fair Isle, 1,000s seen on crossing 17 Jan, 2 on 2 Feb, 2 on 5 Nov, 21-26 Nov (RAB); Ork, Harray 18 Jan, Scapa 15 Feb, Birsay 30 Oct (DL, KM); O Heb, 1 dead Branahuie 8 Jan, 1S Tiumpnan Head 11 Jan (RHD); Caith, 4 Thurso Bay 26 Jan (SL); Moray, Lossiemouth 26 Dec (AM); Angus, Usan 26 Jan (AB), 1S Westhaven 24 Mar (TMC); E Loth, Dirleton 6 Mar; Bute, Holy Island 5 Feb (MHD); Lan, 1 inland Merryton 15 Dec (RGN); Kirk, Carrick Point 30 Oct (WJ, KJ).

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Autumn return to ledges Fair Isle 7 Oct (RAB), Noup, Westray, Ork, 9 Oct (DL). Caith, 5,000 prs Stroma (PMC, RHD); Firth of Forth, 400 prs Lamb, 1,000 birds Craigeith 15 June DRL *et al*); Ayr, 4-5,000 prs Ailsa Craig (WRB), 1st ashore 6 Mar (SW); Perth, 1 found dead Invergowrie 18 Mar (EJM).

Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*. Breeding counts: Ork, 85 Switha, 90 Swona (KH), 140 Papa Westray, 120 Corn Holm (DL); Caith, 40-50 prs Stroma (RHD, PMC); Ayr, 4-5 prs S of Ballantrae (IHL), 12 Bennane Head 2 May (RHH); Wig, Kirk, usual nesting, 2 prs Meikle Ross 3 Mar (J. Ball).

Shet, an unprecedented build-up in Colgrave Sound from 22 Mar, 500 on 5-18 Apr, 1,100 on 25-27 Apr, still several hundred 3 June (RJT); Ross, Kessock 12 Feb, Chanonry Ness 23 Feb (MKMcD-D); Inv, 4 Corpach 15 May, 5 on 28 June (JASN); Aber, 12N Rattray 23 Feb (MH), 4 Scotstown Head 24 Feb (PDR); Fife, St Andrews 8 Dec (TWD); E Loth, Inchkeith 4 June (RSPB), Aberlady 4 Jan (RHH), 22 Sep (LLJV), Gosford 22 Nov (GLS); Renf, Port Glasgow 7 Apr (HG).

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*. Breeding: Caith, possible increase (PMC); Inv, 1,800 Canna, double number seen 1973 (RLS, ADKR); Firth of Forth islands, continued increase (RWJS *et al*).

Shet, 1st Colgrave 14 Jan (RJT), 20 Sumburgh 27 Mar (PKK), albino S Nesting, last Skerries 12 Sep and 10 Dec (ISR); Fair Isle, 1st 23 Mar, ashore 3 Apr, many 10th, last ashore 26 Aug, offshore 25 Sep (RAB); O Heb, 12S Tiupan Head in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr 11 Jan (RHD); Caith, 1 dead L Meadie 5 July (R. Adams); E Loth, more offshore in summer; Ayr, 2 Ailsa Craig 8 June (WRB, IHL).

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*. Fair Isle, singles 18-23 Apr, 3-13 May (RAB); Perth, 132 Kingoodie 3 Feb, 170+ on 4 Mar, 132 Castle Huntly (EJM); Stir, 70 Airthrey 10 Dec (DMB); Midl, still increasing, 40 Edgelaw 2 Mar (LLJV); Dunb, increase to 3 prs Gartlea (ICC).

Rock Dove *Columba livia*. Shet, max 200+ St Ninian's Isle, 300 Virkie 14 Nov (ISR); Fair Isle, max 57 on 23 Sep, 60 on 30 Oct (RAB).

Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*. Breeding: Ork, 5 prs in heather on 2,750 acres Birsay, 3 prs L of Banks in *Juncus* and *Phragmites* (DL, CJB, KH); Rox, nest with well incubated eggs Wells 30 Jan (A. Buckham).

Migration: Shet, Feb and May, Sep-Oct, max 4 Fetlar 15 May; Fair Isle, Feb-Nov, max 8 on 27 Apr (RAB); Suth, singles Handa 2nd and 9 May, 14-15 June (CJE).

***Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*.** Winter: 1 overwintered Inverness with Collared Doves, last seen 30 Mar (JMC).

Migration: Shet, Whalsay 10 May, Fetlar 18 May, 2 Unst 31 May, Sound 18-19 June, Kergord 30 June, 6 records 16 Aug-14 Sep, 10 records 2-27 Oct, max 5 Tolob 5-6 Oct, last Whalsay 27 Oct (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, singles 17 days 18 May-30 June, 2 on 20 May, 1st and 6 June, singles 5 days 23-29 Aug, 1-2 most days 7-27 Sep, one 2-4 Oct (RAB); Ork, 2 St Margaret's Hope 3 Aug (DL); O Heb, Leverburgh 26 July (RHM), St Kilda 2 Sep (PL, AJW), Dell, Lewis, 19 Sep (PGH); Suth, Bettyhill 16 June (GGB); Ross, Torridon 4 June (JAW), Dallachie 23-25 Sep (CGH); Inv, Strathfarrar 22 June (RHD, MIH), Insh 25 May (RL), Canna 27 June (RLS, ADKR); Isle of May, 13 May (JMSA, IB-P, JHBM); E Loth, West Barns 19 May; Ber, Hirsell 18 May (AB); Arg, Octofad, Islay, 30 June (K. Payne); Dunb, Helensburgh 8-15 Oct (JMHW); Ayr, Castlehill 1 June (WRB), Sandyford 26 June (RHH); Dumf, Caerlaverock 4 June (RHB).

***Rufous Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis*.** One (first-year bird) Fair Isle 31 Oct-1 Nov (GJB, RAB)—a new bird for Scotland.

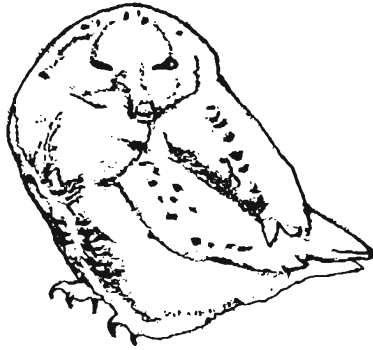
Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. Peak counts and migration : Shet, 3 Skerries 3 June, 5 Fetlar 15 June (ISR, RSPB); Fair Isle, 11 Apr-6 Sep, peaks 5 on 27 Apr, 10 on 22 May, 12 on 31 May, 18 on 18 June (RAB); Ork, 3 Copinsay 1 June, one 20-21 June (KH); O Heb, 2 North Rona 17 June (PGH, JAL); Perth, 200+ Perth Harbour Oct (RLMcM), 300+ Lecropt 22 Dec (GS), groups flying N Drumochter Pass 9 June (BJG); Isle of May, 4 on 14 May (JMSA *et al*); Fife, 200 Strathkinness mid-Mar (DWO); E Loth, 100 Aberlady 23 Nov (GLS); Ayr, 2 Horse Island 21 June (PB), singles Ailsa Craig 25 Apr, 8 July (JPh, SW).

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. Breeding reports : Shet, young reared Tresta, probably also Kergord (IS); Clack, fewer than 1973 Ochil slopes (CJH); S Ayr, slight increase (RHH), above average central Ayr (WRB).

Arrivals : 3 Apr, Caerlaverock, Dumf (RHB, PGH) was earliest in 7 years; 14 Apr, Crossaig, Arg (MJPG), 17 Apr, L Grennoch 17 Apr (MM), fairly widespread 19-24th Kirk; 18 Apr, Muir of Ord, E Ross (DCH); more first records 21-23rd, and end of month in north. Passage : Shet, from 11 May, max 3 Skerries 15 May (ISR); Fair Isle, 12 May-13 June max 3 on 24 May (RAB); Ork, 1 Sanday 22 May (CJB); Midl, 5 Loganlea res 12 May (BPR).

Autumn : Shet, 9 birds 10 Aug-2 Sep; Fair Isle, 2 on 2 Sep (RAB); Ork, 1 Kirkwall 3-11 Sep (CJB); Aber, singles Strathbeg 13th, 28-29 Aug (JD); Kinr, last Vane 19 Aug (TOJ).

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*. Breeding status : numbers high in most areas and road casualties reported several counties. Several reports single birds Aberlady/Longniddry, E Loth; 1 Campbeltown, Arg, 1 Sep (EJM); 1 Ailsa Craig, Ayr 8 Sep (SW); 6 between Castle Douglas-Dalry, Kirk 5 Feb (JSk).



***Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca*. Shet, Fetlar, 3 present Jan-Mar, pr bred, 5 eggs from 24 May, all hatched but 3 chicks died, 2 fledged but 1 died end of July, remaining chick damaged in barbed wire fence 16 Aug, taken into care and released 19 Sep, young ♀ laid 1 egg but deserted, 3-4 to Dec (RSPB); ♀ Unst 6th and 18 May (ISp), 24-29 May (GB), Hamnavoe 30 May (DC), 2 Foula May (BEG), Norwick 6 June (MS), Collafirth 22 July (DC), Ronas Hill 28 July-mid Aug (FD, IS). Fair Isle, imm ♀ 17-20 May (RAB, T. Nisbet); Ork, 2 Papa Westray 5 Nov (GI); O Heb, pr Apr-12 May (RMcl, PGH), ♂ May-July, Oct-Nov (WAJC *et al*), pr another area 17 Sep (PGH); Banff, ♀ Cabrach 24-26 Nov (MC, JE).

***Little Owl** *Athene noctua*. Dumf, 1 Caerlaverock 3 Mar (RHB, LTC) is only report; none seen Midl.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*. Breeding reports : no change Inv, Lochaber, Ayr; good season Renf; 1 Ailsa Craig, Ayr 8 Oct (SW).

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*. Breeding status : Shet, none found; O Heb, prs nested 2 sites Lewis (PGH); Suth, nest c/6 Strathy 7 Apr (GGB); Banff, 5 prs bred within 3 miles of Aberchirder (MC).

Migrants : Shet, 5 records 4 Apr-30 May, 6 records 11 Sep-28 Nov, 4 Scalloway in Nov (FH); Fair Isle, singles 8th and 11 Mar, 1-2 daily 6-11 May, singles 14 days 5 Oct-3 Dec (RAB); Ork, 1 Hoy 17 May (DL), max winter roost 5 Kirkwall (CJB); Isle of May, singles 21-22 Oct, 1 Nov (RSH, JH, JHBM, JMSA).

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. Breeding : Ork, 6 prs nested on 2,750 acres Birsay Moors (KH); Caith, numbers a little higher (PMC); Clack, increase Ochils (CJH).

Migrants and counts : Shet, more than usual autumn, 6 sightings Skerries 12 Sep-28 Nov (ISR); Fair Isle, few 19 Mar-July and 5 Sep-24 Dec, max 14 on 15 Nov (RAB); Inv, 1 Rhum 30 Oct (PC); Aber, 1E out to sea Rattray 3 Mar (PDR *et al*); Kinr, 5 Cleish 13 Jan (BHM); Midl, 7 Harperrig-Cobbinslaw 6 Oct (LLJV); E Loth, 7 Aberlady 16 Nov (RGN); Ayr, Ailsa Craig 9 Sep, 8 Oct (SW); Kirk, 7 Lorg Glen 19 Oct (LAU).

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*. Breeding status : Kirk, some still nesting, 2 ♂♂ and probable juvenile 6 Aug (AJW, ADW), still present 28 Aug; Arran, 2 seen and 4 heard Brodick Castle 22 June (RHH), 3 prs Whiting Bay (MHD), prs nested Corrie and Kildonan (MHD); Arg, 1 singing Kildalton, Islay, 25 June (CGB).

Winter : an unprecedented record L na Keal, Mull, 15 Jan (A. E. Sutcliffe), presumably due to mild winter; first acceptable British record in winter (Dec-Mar). Migration : none in North Isles; ♀ Dunure, Ayr, 30 May (JKRM).

Swift *Apus apus*. Arrival a little late : 1 May, singles Balgray res, Renf (HG); Cupar, Fife (DWO); Bettyhill, Suth (GGB); 4 May, 3 Balloch, Dunb (CMW, JPW); 8 May, 2 Castle Douglas, Kirk (JSk); 9 May, Dumf, Borders, Stir and Aber, followed on 10th by more Dumf and 1st records Midl, Perth and Kinr.

Migration and counts : Shet, poor year, 13 records 12 May-3 July, 15 between 3 Aug-14 Sep, max 5 on 3-4 Sep; Fair Isle, 16 May-22 Sep, max 6 on 10 Aug, 7 on 11th and 17 Sep (RAB); Ork, few 11 May-14 Sep, max 3 Green Holms 14 Sep (DL); O Heb, 1 North Rona 18-19 June (PGH); Inv, 1,000 Insh 5 Aug, 500+ 21 Aug, last 5 on 5 Sep (RL); Caith, 3 Noss Head 14 Sep (SL), 1 Castletown 16 Sep; Aber, last 5 Strathbeg 17 Sep (JD); Kinr, 1,000 Vane 10 June (BHM); Fife Ness passage in off sea 3 Sep (KB); E Loth, 1,200 Aberlady 8 July (RGN); Arg, only 2 records Mull, 31 May, 6 Aug (RFC), 62 Campbeltown 22 July (EJM); Renf, 200+ Rowbank res 28 July (KRRS).

***Alpine Swift** *Apus melba*. One St Kilda 12-16 May (L. J. Brown, Mrs J. Brown, J. Wilkie).

Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*. Breeding reports : Perth, first for many years nested Bridge of Allan (GS, DRW), and probably bred Perth (SL, RLMcM), Lochearnhead (PWS), more sightings elsewhere; Borders continued increase; increase Clyde area; Renf, 1 pr, possibly 2 attempted to breed (PB, HG); more Ayr but no proof of successful nesting; Dumf, still high numbers; Kirk, increase continued (ADW).

Elsewhere : Shet, 1 Skerries 8 Aug (SR), 1 Scalloway 13 Aug (RJ), 1st since 1971; O Heb, 1 Stornoway/Melbost 12 Sep-2 Dec (RGW, DJW *et al*); Moray, 1 Forres 15 Sep (per ISS); Aber, Stoneywood 12-13 Sep (BP), Ythan 31 Oct-31 Dec (WM); Angus, 2 Brechin and 2 Montrose 6 Sep (GMC); Fife, 1 St Andrews 24 Feb (DT); scattered sightings Forth/E Loth; Arg, 1 Tobermory 13 Nov (RFC).

***Roller** *Coracias garrulus*. One Grange, Banff, 29 May-3 June (JE *et al*).

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*. 7 in spring, one autumn. Shet, Whalsay 15-18 May (BM, JHS), Wester Quarff 18-19 May (DC, IS), Hascosay 22 June (per RJT); Suth, Bighouse, Melvich, early Oct (per PMC); Ross, Evanton 26-27 May (CGH), Coulin July (per ENH); Perth, Abernethy 11-14 Apr (A. Coventry, I. Maclachlan); Fife, Kirkcaldy 14 Apr (JLI).

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*. Dumf, some decrease (ARH, RTS); Ayr, 1 Hunterston Mar-Aug (JLB *et al*); Renf, 1 Muirsheil 22 Apr (HG); Dunb, 1 pr nested Hawcraig (per HG), 3 other singles; W Stir, singles 6 areas—a noticeable increase Clyde records (RWF); Borders fewer; E Loth, few; Midl/W Loth, increase; Clack, 7 in 3 km of Ochil slopes 23 Mar (DRW); Fife, continued increase, now very common Tentsmuir (DWO); Perth, now seen throughout county but proved breeding scarce, family Methven 28 July (MM); Angus, bred Redmyre (DMS); Aber/Kinc, new areas, 2 juvs Mar Lodge 24 Aug (RR), Finzean 1 Nov (JSA), Glen Dye Nov, 2 Dec (NP); Inv, singles Insh 1st and 19 May (RL), 2 Feshie Bridge 30 Sep (RAFKOS), 1 Glen More 6 Oct (TDHM).

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*. Migration: noticeable autumn influx of Scandinavian birds *D. m. major*: Shet, ♀ Lerwick 15 June, ♀ Skerries 9-10 Aug, singles Fetlar and Bressay 1 Sep, Yell and Papa Stour 5 Sep, more from 8th, with 16 on 13th, 10 on 14th, few on 15th-16th, some to 14 Nov (RJT *et al*); Fair Isle, 2 on 9-11 Aug, singles 9-12 Sep, 14th, 25th, 2 on 2 Oct, 8-9th, one 21 Oct (RAB); Ork, Kirkwall 15 Sep (AA), N Ronaldsay 28 Sep, 1st and 7 Oct (JMBK), Burray early Oct (PG), Kirkwall 9 Oct (CJB); Caith, 1 Castletown 1 Sep (DMS), 1 Dunnet 8 Nov (PMC).

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*. Summer: E Ross, 1 pr occupied nest box in garden but ♂ found dead on lawn and no eggs laid (RHD *et al*); singing birds Inv, L Garten 15-22 May (RSPB), Dunachton 23 May (NP), Kinveachy 1 June (J. E. Dale), Cannich June (Mrs A. McCorriston); Perth, Aberfoyle 14 July (AM); E Ross, Strathpeffer late June (WAS).

Migration: strong passage spring and autumn: Shet, about 18 birds 29 Apr-1 June, mainly 29 Apr-3 May and 8-13 May, max 5 Skerries 30 Apr (ISR *et al*), over 30 birds 29 Aug-20 Sep, mainly 31 Aug-4 Sep and 14 Sep, peaks 4 Skerries, 3 Fetlar, 5 Whalsay 2 Sep (ISR, RSPB, BM, JHS), 3 Skerries 14 Sep (ISR); Fair Isle, 29 Apr (3)-5 June, peaks 6 on 30 Apr, 8 on 3 May, 9 on 6th, 7 on 12 May, autumn from 28 Aug to 17 Sep, peaks 5 on 31 Aug, 14 on 1 Sep, 20 on 2nd, down to 6 on 3rd, 4 new 13-14th, late ones 28 Sep (2), 17 Oct, 22 individuals ringed, most ever (RAB); Ork, Hoy 9 May (MASB), Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL), Eday 3 Sep (RL), Orphir, St Ola and Shapinsay Sep, 3 North Ronaldsay end Sep-early Oct (per DL); St Kilda 1 Sep, 4-5 on 2nd, 2 on 3rd (PL, AJW); Caith, Harpsdale 2 Sep (SL); Aber/Kinc, Nigg 2 May (NH), Old Aberdeen 31 Aug (RM), Greg Ness 6 Sep (RSB); Angus, Gannochy 3 Sep (JC); Isle of May, 28 Apr-6 May, peak 6 on 30th, 30 Aug-29 Sep, peak 7 on 2nd (per JMJA); Fife Ness, 2 on 29 Apr, one 30th (DWO), 2 on 2 May (AJB), 2 on 4th (AB), one 31 Aug (DWO); Kirk, Kendoon 3 Sep (IW); Midl, Loganlea res 16 Sep (BPR); E Loth, Dirleton 29 Aug (MWF), Aberlady 4 Sep (RGN, MWF).

***Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella cinerea*. Three records: Shet, Skerries (grey eastern type) 11-19 Nov (ISR, SR); Fair Isle, 11-15 May (GJB), 11-15 Oct (GJB, RAB, DRW *et al*).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. Breeding reports: Shet, 1 pr nested Skerries for 1st time (ISR); Fair Isle, population higher than usual (RAB).

Migration: Shet, spring influx from 20 Feb, peak 90 Skerries and 100s Whalsay 17 Mar (ISR, BM); Fair Isle, from 16 Feb, peaks 100 on 19 Feb, 300 on 8 Mar, 600 on 17-18 Mar (RAB); Inv, 1st Insh 11 Feb, increase 22-26 Feb (RL); Perth, 600+W per hr Kingoodie 4 Mar (EJM); Clack, 500

Kennetpans 13 Jan (GS); Ayr, 300+ per hr Seamill 21 Oct (DC), 100N per hr Doonfoot 6 Nov (IHL); Wig, 200NW per hr Corsewall Point 29 Sep (IHL), 1,000N per hr on 10 Oct (RHH).

***Shorelark** *Eremophila alpestris*. Scarce, 9 records: Shet, 2 Fetlar 4 May (RSPB), 2 Skerries 5 May, 3 on 9-14 May (ISR), 1 Unst 17 May (GB); Fair Isle, singles 23rd and 29 May (RAB); E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 13 Oct (AB).

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. Breeding status: Kirk, late, numbers low, young still being fed 30 Sep New Galloway (LAU); Ayr, decrease, pr feeding young New Cumnock 5 Oct (WRB); Midl, numbers average; Aber, numbers down in many places; Lochaber, numbers low; Ork, small number bred; Shet, 2 prs nested.

Arrivals rather late and slow to build up: 1 Apr Cupar, Fife (DWO); 4 Apr L of Wasdale, Ork (CWI); 8 Apr Irvine, Ayr (PH), 10 Doonfoot, Ayr (WRB); 13 Apr Brechin, Angus (GMC) and L Eil, Inv (JCu), most places 15th-20th. Migration: Isle of May, from 22 Apr, max 20 on 20 May; Aber/Kinc, many 3-4 May, 11 May, 200N per hr Girdle Ness 19 May (RLS); Caith, main arrival 1st week May; Fair Isle, 25 Apr-21 July, mainly 6 May-14 June, peaks 40 on 22nd, 30 on 30-31st (RAB); Shet, from 27 Apr, mainly 11-23 May, max 25 Whalsay 15 May, 40 Unst 31 May.

Counts, return passage, last dates to 24 Nov: Shet, low numbers to 6 Oct, max 8 Fetlar 4 Sep (RSPB), late ones Tingwall 6 Nov, 2 Lerwick 17 Nov; Fair Isle, 5 Aug-14 Sep, max 3, but 4 on 15 Oct (RAB); O Heb, 30S Stornoway 6 Sep (PGH); Caith, 9 Wick 17 Oct (KB, DS), last on 20 Oct (EWEM); Suth, Skelbo 24 Nov (RHD); Inv, 500 Insh 26 Aug, last 18 on 8 Oct (RL), last Kessock 1 Nov (JMC); Moray, Speymouth 5 Nov (RAS); Aber, 2 Don est 16 Nov, 1 Balmedie 17 Nov (PME, PF); Perth, 3,000 Tay reed beds late Aug (RLMcM), 3 Invergowrie 5 Nov (RC); Fife Ness 400 on 3 Sep (KB); Midl, 200S Fala 1 Sep (WB), 1 Balerno 8 Nov (DJBn); Ayr, Dunure 19 Nov (JKRM).

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. Breeding status: 1 pr nested Stornoway, is new record for O Heb (WAJC); numbers up to normal Caith and Perth, down Fife, Ayr and possibly E Loth.

Arrivals and spring passage: 12 Apr Alloway, Ayr (IHL); 21 Apr Peebles (per AJS); 25 Apr Cupar, Fife (DWO); 26 Apr, Glencorse, Midl (BPR); 29 Apr, 10 Dalry, Kirk (ADW); late in arriving, 5-10 May north to Inv, 11 May North Isles; Kinc, 24N Girdle Ness 19 May (MD); Ork, 12 May-4 June, max 5 South Ronaldsay 18 May (CJB); Fair Isle, 11 May-25 June, peaks 25 on 16 May, 40 on 20-22nd, 20-40 on 2-5 June (RAB); Shet, 11 May-30 June, max 10 Unst 17 May, 27 South Mainland 18 May.

Return passage, last dates to 21 Nov: Shet, 10 Lerwick 3 Sep, 4 other singles to 5 Oct; Fair Isle, few 5 Aug-28 Sep, max 10 on 5 Sep (RAB); Inv, 100 Insh 26 Aug, last 20 on 23 Sep (RL); Banff, Portsoy 3 Nov (JE); Aber, last Aberdeen 29 Oct (TBS), Don est 3 Nov (PF); Kinr, 50 L Leven 28 Aug (TOJ); Isle of May, 10 Aug-21 Sep, max 36 on 20 Sep; Fife, 2 St Andrews 4 Nov (TWD); Midl, feeding young Dalkeith 5 Oct (JC), last Edinburgh 4 Nov (DJB); E Loth, 2 Longniddry 17 Nov (AB *et al*); Rox, 2 Newtown St Boswells 21 Nov (C. Melville); Arg, 1 Machrihanish 19 Nov (EJM); Kirk, very large numbers New Galloway 25 Sep, last 5 Nov (KCRH).

A hybrid House Martin x Swallow was at Fair Isle 8 June (RAB).

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. Breeding status: low numbers Inv (RL, RHD); poor season Fife (DWO); Clack, 1 colony extinct (15-20 prs in 1972) (CJH); E Loth, numbers down (KSMcG); Borders and Dumf, numbers down (AJS, RTS, DS); Ayr, probable reduction in numbers (WRB); Renf, none found (HG).

Arrivals and passage : 27 Mar, 4 Lochmaben, Dumf (RTS); 30 Mar Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); 31 Mar, 3 Forgardenny, Perth, 31 Mar (DWO), 20 at L of Lowes 1 Apr (MD); no more until 9 Apr Fife; 10 Apr, Glenurquhart, Inv (I. C. Monro); first birds most counties 13-20 April but slow to arrive and scarce till May; Fair Isle, 1-4 daily 13-22 May (RAB); Shet, 4 Fetlar 9 May (RSPB), otherwise small numbers.

Return passage and last dates : Shet, singles Skerries 10 Aug (ISR), Bressay 1 Sep; Fair Isle, singles 24th and 31 Aug, 11 Sep (RAB); Inv, 200 Insh 24 Aug, last 10 on 20 Sep (RL); Perth, 1,000+ Tay reed beds early Aug (RLMcM), 13 Dunblane 17 Sep (DRW); Isle of May, 2-29 Sep, max 17 on 4th; E Loth, Longniddry 10 Nov (DLC); Ayr, 100+ New Cumnock 23 Aug (WRB); Kirk, last New Galloway 26 Sep (KCRH).

***Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*. Fife, ♀ seen 3 June, pair feeding 2 fledged young 17 July (anon) where ♂ singing 1973 (see Additions p. 467) is first proved breeding for Scotland. Migrants : Fair Isle, 29 May (RAB); North Ronaldsay, Ork, 20 May (KW).

Raven *Corvus corax*. Shet, 1st eggs Skerries 24 Mar (ISR), pr again nested Kergord trees (IS); Fair Isle, at least 2 prs nested, max 27 on 28 Sep, 11 on 29th (RAB); Ork, 23 prs mainland, winter roost 100 (CJB); O Heb, roost 80 Stormoway woods 22 Apr (RMcl); Ross, 2 Redfield 6 Feb (MKMcD-D), 3 Coulmore 30 Nov (EB); Moray, 1 Forres 12 Sep (RAFKOS); Perth, Glendevon 12 Aug (GS), 24 Blackwood 17 Aug (RLMcM); Isle of May, 18 Mar; Clack, probably bred Craig Leith (CJH); Ayr, 11 Glen Tig 23 Feb (RHH), N Ayr pr had 2 clutches taken (HG); Dumf and Kirk, decline continues (WM, ADW).

Crow *Corvus corone*. Carrion Crow *C. c. corone*. Migration and counts : Shet, more than usual Apr, May, Aug, max 5 Fetlar 9-15 May (ISR); Fair Isle, singles Feb, Mar, Apr, then influx of hybrids in May, max 13 on 6th, 40 on 7-18 May (RAB), last 7 June, one 25 Oct (RAB); Ork, ♀ nested with Hooded Crow west Mainland is first breeding record, singles 7 Sep, 26 Oct, 4 Swona 12 Oct (DL, KH); Clack, 100 Menstrie 2 Nov (CJH); W Loth, 250 Cramond Nov (KS); E Loth, 50 in off sea North Berwick 4 Oct (DEA); Peeb, 87 Portmore 1 Dec (M. Fraser); Kirk, 200+ Woodhall Loch 12 Sep (GS).

Hooded Crow *C. c. cornix*. Perth, 2 Invergowrie 28 Oct (RC), 1 Errol 26 Dec (LS); Isle of May, 75 on 13 Oct, 80 on 14th is most unusual (MFC *et al*); few winter Fife, E Loth, Borders, singles Piltanton, Wig 14 Aug (GS); Rusko, Kirk 12 Sep (GSh).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. Passage : Fair Isle, 1-6 on 8 Mar-1 Apr, stragglers Feb, Apr, Nov-Dec (RAB); Suth, 2 Scourie 31 Jan, one 9 Mar (IDP), 2 Kinlochbervie 27-29 Sep (IDP).

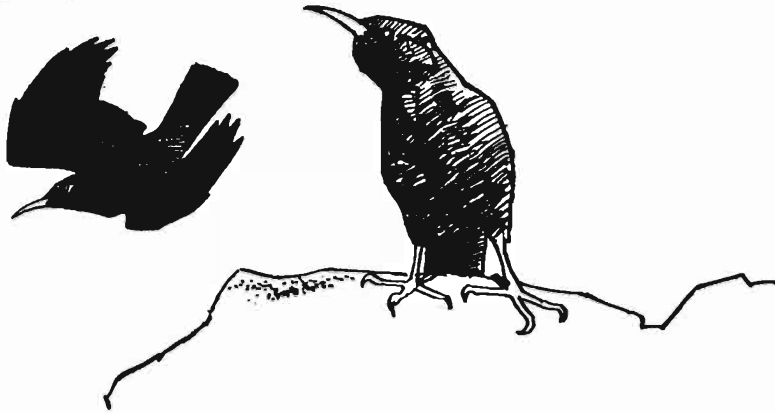
Renf, 8-10,000 Eaglesham roost (HQ).

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. Breeding reports : Shet, 10 Weisdale 9 Feb, 4 Noss Apr-June but no young seen; Ork, bred 10 different sites Mainland (CJB); increase Alloway, Ayr (IHL).

Counts and passage : Shet, 1 Skerries 19-26 Mar, 2 on 3-8 Apr (ISR), singles Whalsay 9 May, Unst 11 May; Fair Isle, one 3 Apr, 2 on 9th, one 16th, 29th, 4 on 30 Apr, 1-5 May (2), one to 7 May, 5 on 19 Nov (RAB); Isle of May, 48 on 13 Oct, 31 on 14 Oct (MEB *et al*); 1,000+ Arrau 15 Aug-30 Sep (MHD).

Magpie *Pica pica*. Usual scatter of records, most common in Forth-Clyde; Caith, 2 Rumster 3 Mar (PMC); Ross, 1 L Eye 6 Jan (CGH); Stir, max 12 Logie 2 Feb (GS) E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 3-11 Nov (LLJV); increase Ayr/Renf, one Inversnaid, W Stir, 1 July and 27 Nov is northward extension (JAB); singles Arran 3rd and 17 Aug (MHD).

Jay *Garrulus glandarius*. Probably increasing Kirk (ADW); Dunb, peak 11 Endrick Mouth 22 Sep (TPD); Aber/Kinc, 1 Keig 4 Feb, 5 Apr (AGK, JRDM), Braemar and Linn of Dee (RR); Inv, 2 Gairloch, Lochaber, Apr (per JR).



Chough *Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*. Arg, 21 mainland 30 Mar is better than usual (BZ, WW), 91 in different parts Islay 16 Mar (RHH) and 40+ The Oa 8 Apr (TCS).

Great Tit *Parus major*. Good numbers Arran, Renf and Ayr; O Heb, at least 1 pr bred Stornoway woods (RHH, PGH). Migrants: Shet, Kergord 9 Oct-22 Dec (IS *et al*), Mid Yell 12 Oct-31 Dec (RJT); Ork, Stromness 17 Jan (WS); Caith, 2 Thurso 1 Jan (PMC).

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. Good numbers in Clyde, max 48 Barr Loch Sep (PB); Inv, pr bred Canna—1st record (RLS); Aber, 1 Rattray Head 19 Oct (MH); Ork, 1 Kirkwall 11-27 Jan (CJB).

Coal Tit *Parus ater*. Good numbers Clyde; Inv, good season Lochaber (JCu), numbers still low Speyside.

Crested Tit *Parus cristatus*. High numbers and good season Strath-spy and Moray coast (RHD), 1 pr bred Lossiemouth (AM); Aber, 1-5 Drumochty Forest 30 Jan (JJCH), Glen Quoich 17 Mar (RR), 2-3 heard Glen Tanar 5 May (MAMcD); Ross, 2 Monadh Mor 27 Feb (MKMcD-D), 2 Inchbae 21 Feb (EB) and 2 Morangie 3 Mar (JC); Suth, 2-3 L Migdale 25 July (JHL).

Marsh Tit *Parus palustris*. Ber, 3 records of family parties 15-23 June (RHH, LLJV); Rox, several reports; Selk, one report (per AJS); Dumf, 1 Langholm 20 Jan (1st county record) (per RTS, DS).

Willow Tit *Parus montanus*. Widespread and common Dumf, Kirk and E Wig, 2 Forrest Glen 1 Aug (ADW, AJW), 2 Carrick Shore 15 Sep (GSh); Ayr, 3 Glen Afton 18 June (WRB); W Stir, 2 Lennox Forest 3 May, one 30 July (ITD, MMD). Marsh/Willow Tit: 1 Cairnsmore, Islay, 15 Nov (M. Hedley).

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*. Numbers high Renf, Arran and Ayr, where 50 Rozelle 26 Jan (WRB) and 1 Ailsa Craig 17 Aug (SW); doing well Borders and Mid; Caith, 30 Thurso 1 Nov (AFCMC, JMW), 20-30 Stirkoke 19 Oct-24 Nov (DS, JMG); Ork, 1 Westray 27 June (NH).

***Nuthatch** *Sitta europaea*. One Invergowrie, Perth 7 Mar (EJM) is only record.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. Numbers probably higher than usual : O Heb, 4 Stornoway 8 Aug (RHH), at least 1-2 throughout year (PGH).



Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*. Population remains high throughout country : Kinr, 20 prs on territory Vane Reserve (11 in 1973) (TOJ); Ork, 26 prs on 2,750 acres Birsay Moors (KH), influx North Ronaldsay 18 Sep-9 Oct (9 ringed) (JMBK); Fair Isle, 38 territories (RAB); Shet, Skerries 1-2 many days 20 Feb-4 Apr, 4 Aug-16 Nov, 17 Dec (ISR).

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*. Midl, 33 prs South Esk systems, 17 nests found, 14 successful fledged 3.7 young per nest (DRL); Perth, poor success Bridge of Allan (GS); Aber, 1 Fraserburgh 22 Oct (PGHE); Ork, pr Hoy through summer but breeding not proved (MASB).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. Counts : 50+ Sandhead, Wig, 1 Oct (RCD); Perth, 50E Bridge of Allan 8 Aug (GS), 40 Kinloch Rannoch 17 Aug (RLMcM); Inv, 60 Laggan Bridge 6 Aug (PGH). Migration : Fair Isle, singles 28 Feb, 23 Mar-1 Apr, 28-29 Apr, 1-2 on 7-10 May, one 15 May, singles 25 Aug, 28-31st, 2 on 6 Sep, singles 6-7th and 12-13 Oct (RAB); Shet, singles Skerries and Lerwick 2 Mar (NLS, DC), Whalsay 13th and 17-18 Mar (BM, JHS), Unst 24 Mar (ET).

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. Two proved breeding records : Shet, birds scolding at Kergord 9 June but breeding not proved; Ork, pr feeding 2 young Westray mid June (NH); Caith, 1 holding territory Braemore 14 May but no proof of breeding (JMG); Ross, pr feeding at least one young Achnasheen 11 July (E. R. G. Kidd); Midl, ♂ singing Moorfoots 13-15 June, 2 miles away on 17th (LY); Dunb, pr apparently holding territory Gartlea early May but left after week (ICC).

Winter counts and spring passage : Rox, 2,000 Lilliesleaf 13 Apr (TDo); E. Loth, 3,000 Coldingham 7 May (RHH); Midl, 1,500 Gorebridge 8 Feb (LY), 1,000 Threipmuir 1-18 Apr (DJBk), 500 Portmore (Peeb) 4 May (RWJS); Fife, 600 Fife Ness 30 May, 500 on 4 May (DWO, RWS, AB), last 19-20 May (EJM), 1,000 Peat Inn 1 May (DWO); Isle of May, peak 3,000+ on 30 Apr, last 20 May; Perth, heavy passage late Apr; Aber, large flocks on coast 4 May, last Cruden Bay 18 May (PME, RBH); Banff, 300 Aberchirder 22 Apr (MC) Inv, 50 Insh 6 May (RL), last Boat of Garten 23 May (RHD); Suth, last Crask 20-21 May (DJB); Caith, 200 Noss Head 5 May (JMG); Ork, last 3 Sanday 14 May (CJB); Fair Isle, strong passage 27 Apr-8 May, 1,500 on 27th, 29th (150), 2nd (250), 3rd (3,000), up to 50 to mid month, last on 2 June (RAB); Shet, main passage 1st week May, max 180 Whalsay, later peaks 90 Skerries, 79 Whalsay 11-12 May, stragglers to 29 June.

Autumn migration : Shet, first few 25 Aug, more from 12 Sep, flocks from Oct, rather small numbers, max 100 Wester Skeld 5 Oct, 100 Scalloway 11 Oct; Fair Isle, singles from 9 Aug, daily from 29 Aug, up to 40 mid Sep, mainly from 28th, but numbers rather low, peaks 600 on 9 Oct, 600 on 5 Nov (RAB); Ork, 2 Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL); Caith, 1 L Calder 19 Aug, influx from 3 Oct, max 500 Harpsdale 18 Oct (PMC, AFCMC, SL); Inv, strong passage up Great Glen, Fort William 3 Oct (ADKR); Moray, 1,000 Urquhart 6 Nov (RAS); Angus, 1st 10 Glen Esk 20 Sep (GMC); Perth, 850 Lecropt 27 Oct (GS), 1,000+ Seaside 2 Nov (BJG, RLMcM); Isle of May, first 29 Aug, max 220 on 13 Oct; Fife Ness, 2 on 23 Sep, max 200 on 18 Oct is low (DWO); Midl, 750 Cobbinshaw 29 Sep (JSO), 1,500 Middleton 13 Oct (WB); Selk, 8 Clovenfords 15 Sep (KMCK); Arg, 400 Mull 4 Oct (RFC); Clyde numbers low; Kirk, 1 Drigmorn 10 Sep (DSW), many 3 Oct and main arrival Wig 17 Oct.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. Counts and passage : Shet, recorded all months, mainly 27 Apr-22 May, max 25 Skerries, light passage Aug-Nov; Fair Isle, main passage 27 Apr-8 May, max 75 on 3-4 May, light return passage, max 9 on 28 Sep, 10 on 2 Oct (RAB); Caith, 6 Noss Head 5 May (JMG); Inv, return to Insh 26 Feb (RL), 10 back Rothiemurchus 3 Mar (RHD); Aber, small fall Strathbeg 13 Sep (JD); Fife Ness, 20 on 29 Apr (DWO); Stir, 60 Logie 21 Sep (GS); Midl, return to Gladhouse 23 Feb (RWJS); Renf, 47 Lochwinnoch 18 Aug (PB); Wig, 20 Mull of Galloway on 28 Feb (IHL, RHH).

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*. Breeding status : Shet, summering birds Ker-gord and Baltasound; Suth, pr nesting 16 June (GGB), 2 (1 found dead) 23 May (DJB), 1 singing 24 June, another singing near previous nest site 25 June (PTC); E Ross, 1 pr nested and reared 3 young (FB); W Ross, 13 prs at one site 20 June (ENH); N Inv, song two sites but no proof of nesting (MIH *et al*), L Laggan 1 in song 30 May (DM); Banff, 1 singing at previous nest site 14 Apr (JE); Perth, song at Rannoch 12 May, another pr summered, but no proof of breeding (RLMcM). Number of nesting pairs certainly down on past years and W Ross record is most at one site.

Spring passage and counts : Ayr, last Rozelle 12 June (IHL); E Loth, last Aberlady 10 May (RGN); Isle of May, peak 300 on 30 Apr, last 11 May; Kinc, last Girdle Ness 8 May (RBH, MH); Inv, last 5 Insh 6 May (RL); Caith, 10 Noss Head 5 May (JMG); Ork, last 13 May (DL); Fair Isle, few Jan-Mar, peaks 50 on 17 Mar, 40 on 18 Mar, 100 on 27 Apr, 50 on 3-4 May, last on 13 June (RAB); Shet, peaks 103 Whalsay, 40 Skerries 16-19 Mar, smaller numbers into May (BM, ISR). Numbers low throughout country but passage late.

Autumn migration : Shet, numbers low 21 Sep-25 Nov, max 75 Ker-gord 3 Oct, 55 Whalsay and Skerries 17 Oct; Fair Isle, 1 Sep-end Dec, passage from 19 Sep, peaks 500 on 28 Sep, 1,000 on 2 Oct, 120 on 4th, 300 on 6th, 100 on 25-26 Oct (RAB); O Heb, 200+ Achmore, Lewis, 18 Oct (JS); Caith, fewer, max 50 Scrabster 11 Dec (PMC); Inv, 20 Balnain 30 Sep (I. C. Monro), 100 Insh 28 Sep, 150 on 4th and 22 Oct, 200 on 24 Oct (RL), 2 Lochaber 16 Sep (JCu); Aber, 1,400 Strathbeg 2 Oct (JD); Isle of May, 1st 25 Sep, peak 200 on 7 Oct; Fife Ness, one 23 Sep, max 300 on 18 Oct (DWO); Midl, 200 Cousland Nov (JHB); Arg, 87 Mull 30 Sep (RFC), 2 Machrihanish 12 Sep (EJM); Clyde, fewer than usual, max 150 Calder Glen, Renf 30 Sep (HG), 150 Rozelle, Ayr, 3 Oct (IHL). Numbers lower than usual all these areas and winter population low.

***Black-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis*.** A ♀ Tolob, Shet, 5-6 Oct (A. D. J. Cook, C. J. Mackenzie-Grieve, DC *et al*), third Scottish record; the last was a ♂ Fair Isle 1957-58.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*. Shet, 1 Ronas Hill 7 July but no proof of nesting (CH); Ork, pr Hoy July but no proof of nesting (MASB). Arrivals and migration from 23 Mar: Shet, 27 Apr-15 May, max 12 Unst 30 Apr (GB), 13 Skerries 2 May, 18 on 15th (ISR); Fair Isle, 2 on 26 Mar, one 29th, more from 18 Apr, strong passage 27 Apr-12 May, max 40 on 29th, 90 on 3 May, stragglers 27 May-19 June; Ork, 2 Eday 7 May (CJB); O Heb, ♂ St Kilda 6 May (MPH); Caith, 1st on 4 Apr, 5 Noss Head 5 May (JMG), 8 Reay 26 May (GMCL); Aber/Kinc, 1st Glen Dye 29 Mar, most 25-26 Apr (NP), 15 Rattray 1-4 May, 6 Girdle Ness 1 May (PDR, RLS); Isle of May, 26 Mar-25 May, max 20 on 30 Apr; Fife Ness, 2 on 29 Apr, 9+ on 2 May, 8 on 4th (DWO, AJB); Midl, 1st Moorfoots 23 Mar (LLJV); E Loth, marked passage 29 Apr-7 May; Ayr, 1 Ailsa Craig 27-28 Mar (JPh); Dumf, 1st 23 Mar (RJM).

Autumn migration, low numbers: Shet, singles Skerries 17 Sep, Whalsay 13 Nov (ISR, BM); Fair Isle, singles 9th, 23rd, 25th and 27 Sep, 2nd and 19 Oct (ISR); Isle of May, one 4-5 Oct; Fife Ness, one 1 Sep (DWO).

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. Breeding: Kinr, 13 prs bred Vane (10 prs in 1973) (TOJ); Peebles, nest and eggs 27 Feb (CMM); Renf, 28 prs on 145 acres farmland Elderslie (KRRS).

Migration—numbers continued low: Shet, peaks 50 Skerries, 50+ Whalsay 17 Mar, 50 Kergord 5 Oct, 50 Skerries 4 Dec, 160 Whalsay 25 Nov; Fair Isle, peaks 60 on 17 Mar, 80 on 27 Apr, 40 on 6 May, last 5 June, first 17 Aug, return passage 2 Oct, max 50 on 13th and 22 Oct, 500 on 5 Nov, 250 on 23rd, 600 on 24-25th (RAB); Caith, wintering numbers low; Aber, 25 Rattray 18 Oct (MH); Fife Ness, peaks 40 on 29-30 Apr, 100 on 18 Oct (DWO); E Loth, big influx 3 Oct (DEA), mid Nov (LLJV).

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Breeding reports: As usual in north; numbers continued low Fife and Renf; good season Ayr.

Spring migration, arrivals from 17 Mar: Kirk, ♂ Craigdews 21 Mar, many 30th (ABD, ADW); Dumf, Moniave 22 Mar (JH); Ayr, 2 Prestwick 25 Mar (WRB), 1 Ailsa Craig 26 Mar, 30 on 27th (JPh); E Loth, North Berwick 26 Mar (DEA); Midl, Heriot 23 Mar (RH); Fife, ♂ 30 Mar but none 1st week Apr (DWO); Isle of May, peak 100 on 1-2 May; Kinc/Aber, Glen Dye 17 Mar (MM), main arrival 25-26 Apr (NP); Ross, Shieldaig 24 Mar (JAW); Caith, Thurso 28 Mar, main arrival 13-25 Apr (PMC); O Heb, L Orasay 25 Mar (IMMcL); Fair Isle, 24 Mar, 2 on 26th, slow to build up to 40 on 17 Apr, 100 on 18th (RAB); Shet, Skerries 25 Mar, max 50 on 30 Apr (ISR). Northern birds *O. o. leucorroha* noted: Shet, Whalsay and Skerries 30 Apr, 1st 18th-22nd May; Fair Isle, 1 May-9 June; Aberlady, E Loth, 7th and 19th May (RHH); Ayr, 2 Doonfoot 5-8 May (WRB, IHL), New Cumnock 11 May (IHL).

Autumn migration, last dates to 6 Nov: Shet, last Skerries 15th and 19 Oct (ISR); Fair Isle, passage of Northern birds 24 Aug-28 Aug, 14-23 Sep, last 20 Oct (RAB); Ork, 20 Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL), last 19 Oct (CJB); O Heb, main departure 2nd week Sep, last Leurbost 2 Nov (PGH); Ross, last Redfield, Black Isle 6 Nov (CEMcD-D); Aber/Kinc, poor passage, 20 Girdle Ness 7 Sep (AGK); Perth, Invergowrie 13 Oct (RLMcM); Isle of May, peak 50 on 14 Oct; Fife Ness, 20+ on 1 Sep (KB); Arg, passage Machrihanish 30 July-18 Aug (ESM); Ayr, last Doonfoot 10 Oct (WRB).

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Breeding status: Ork, small population increasing, 7 prs on 1,800 acre Hobbister reserve (DL); Caith, increased numbers bred (PMC); Suth, 2 prs reared 16 young Handa (CJE), highest population for years Dornoch (DMcD); W Ross, high numbers, e.g. 16 ♂♂ on telephone wires 6 miles of Glen Torridon 14 Apr (DCH); Inv, 12 sites Strathspey, nesting proved at 4, are first proved breeding since

1961 (RSPB, RHD); Aber/Kinc, dramatic increase last 3 years Lower Deeside (NP); Perth, numbers high, especially Ochils and Highlands (CJH, RLMcM); Midl, still increasing, 4 Edinburgh prs produced 45 young (DRL); E Loth, bred and now more common than in past 25 years (KSMcG); Clyde, high numbers and good season, increased inland Ayr; 10 prs Renf (2 prs in 1973) (HG); increase Dumf and Galloway (RTS, ADW).

Migration: Shet, about 25 records compared to only 9 in 5 years 1969-73, most in Mar, also Apr (2), May (3), June (1) Sep (1), Oct (4); Fair Isle, small passage 3 Mar-18 Apr, singles 11-14 May, 18-19 May, singles 5th, 13th, 15 Sep, 16-27 Sep, 21 Nov (RAB); Fife Ness, 12 on 1 Sep (KB, DWO).

Siberian Stonechat *S. t. maura*. One Skerries, Shet, 16 Oct was considered to belong to this eastern race (ISR).

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. Breeding status: numbers lower Renf, Midl and none found usual sites Caith, but 2 prs grid reference NH65 Black Isle where none 1973 (MKMcD-D).

Arrivals and passage: 7 Apr, ♂ Lunan Water, Angus (DIMW); 12 Apr, 1 Wick (DS); 27 Apr Erskine, Renf (HG); most 1st week May; E Loth, peak 8 Aberlady 13 May (RGN); Isle of May, 1-20 May, max 3; poor spring passage E coast; Fair Isle, 29 Apr-23 May, max 20 on 13 May, stragglers to 13 June; Shet, 30 Apr-22 May, max 9 Whalsay 12th, 9 Skerries 19th (JHS, ISR), stragglers to 3 June.

Autumn migration stronger: Shet, 10 Aug-2 Oct, max 21 Skerries 2 Sep, 55 Whalsay 4 Sep (ISR, BM, JHS); Fair Isle, 13 Aug-11 Oct, max 45 on 1 Sep, 30-40 to 7th, 55 on 8th, late influx 20 on 28 Sep (RAB); Ork, 4 Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL); Caith, 6 Noss Head 13 Sep, 4 on 14th (JMG, SL, DS); Inverness, last on 8 Oct (JMC); Aber, 6 Strathbeg 13 Sep (JD); Isle of May, 3 Aug-28 Sep, peak 15 on 16 Sep; Fife Ness, 31 Aug-23 Sep, max 6 on 1-2nd, 16 on 3rd (KB, DWO); Dumf, 20 Caerlaverock 20 Aug (RHB, LTC); Wig, Mull Farm 30 Sep (LAU).

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Breeding reports: decrease noted Kirk, Ayr, Renf, W Stir, Arran (absent), Arg, Borders, Midl, Perth, Kinr, Strathspey, Lochaber, Caith; possibly a few more E Loth but number still low.

Arrivals from 15 Apr, passage: Shet, from 15 Apr, more from 4 May, but numbers low, max 9 Whalsay, 5 Skerries on 12th, last 20 May; Fair Isle, low numbers 30 Apr-31 May, max 10-12 on 6-12th (RAB); Inv, 2 Garten 27 Apr (RSPB); Kinr, Vane Farm 23 Apr (TOJ); Isle of May, 28 Apr-18 May max 2; Fife Ness, 29 Apr (DWO); Kirk, Glenlee 24 Apr (KCRH).

Autumn: Shet, 31 Aug-19 Sep, max 6, 3 Skerries 2 Oct, 4 on 7th, last 10th (ISR); Fair Isle, 25 Aug-16 Oct, 8 on 1-5 Sep, 7 on 16th, 16 on 2 Oct (RAB); Ork, singles Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL), North Ronaldsay early Oct (JMBK); Caith, 2 Stirkoze 19 Oct (KB, DS); Isle of May, 27 Aug-14 Oct, peak 6 on 30 Aug; Fife Ness, 2 on 3 Sep (DWO).

***Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*. 30-40 birds in spring 24 Mar-29 May, 5 in autumn 2 Sep-25 Nov: Shet, 2 Sumburgh 25 Mar (PKK), 2 Fetlar 2 May (RSPB), ♂ Whalsay 11 May (JB), Skerries 16 May, 19-22 Oct (ISR), Foula 2 Sep (BEG); Fair Isle, singles 24-25th, 29 Mar, 7th, 10-12th, 17-18th, 29 Apr, 21-22nd, 24-26th and 28-29 May, 2 on 22 Nov, one to 25th (RAB); Caith, Reay 16 May (EWEM); Aber, Old Aberdeen 27 Mar (JJCH, MHe), Strathbeg 17 May (JD); Kinc, Kinnaber 11 May (DHE); Isle of May, 1-3 daily 24 Mar-2 Apr (NKA, DLB, MN), singles 6-7 Apr (JLI), 18-19 Apr (JACC), 14th and 17 May (IB-P, JMSA, JHBM), 11 Oct (GS et al); E Loth, Aberlady 28-29 Apr (RGN, AB); Ayr, Ailsa Craig 27 Mar (Jph), Patna 30 Mar (AG).

***Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*. One Isle of May 12 May (JMSA, IB-P, JHBM).

***Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia*. Four records : Shet, Whalsay 14-20 May (JB, BM, JHS), Skerries 17 May (ISR); Fair Isle, 21-22 May (RAB *et al*), 15 June (GJB, RAB *et al*).

***Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*. Spring passage 11 May-14 June, 6 autumn records 14 Sep-15 Oct : Shet, 24 records 14-20 May, Skerries peaks 5 on 15th, 6 on 16th, 5 on 18th, one 2nd June, singles Unst and Noss 15th, 2 Whalsay 16-17th, singles Noss 17th, Fetlar 17-18th, Mid-Walls 19th, autumn singles Whalsay 18 Sep, Papa Stour Sep, Skerries 12-15 Oct; Fair Isle, one 11-13 May, 14-16th (2), 17th (10), down to 3 on 20th, singles 23rd, 27th, 29th, 3 on 30th, one dead 3 June, autumn singles 14th and 29 Sep, 2 Oct (RAB); Ork, ♀ Spurness, Sanday, 14 June (DL); Aber, Rattray 18 May (PDR); Isle of May, ♂ 18 May (JMSA).

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. Migration : Shet, 13 Mar-15 May, max 150 Skerries, 80 Whalsay and 34 Unst 29-30 Apr, small autumn passage 6 Sep-mid Nov, max 20 on 14 Sep; Fair Isle, 17 Mar-end May, low numbers early (max 10) but massive influx end Apr, 40 on 29th, 350+ on 30th (87 ringed and one Dutch ringed bird caught), 100-150 daily to 7 May, 308 Robins ringed in Apr/May; very scarce autumn 29 Aug-25 Nov, max only 3 in late Sep (RAB); Isle of May, 30-50 on 28 Apr-4 May, autumn peak 12 on 6 Sep; Fife Ness, peaks 20 on 29-30 Apr, 30 on 18 Oct (DWO).

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Breeding reports low : Kirk, decrease (AJW); S Ayr, large decrease (RHH); Renf, decrease (HG); Dunb, numbers low (JM); Arran, absent (MHD); Arg, fewer (MJPG); E Loth, about average (KSMcG); none Lochaber (JCu).

Arrivals : 17 Apr Caerlaverock, Dumf (RHB, LTC); 21 Apr Aberchirder, Banff (MC); 23 Apr Gartlea, Dunb (ICC), mainly 1st week May. Migration —low numbers : Shet, singles Skerries 2nd, 12th, 15th and 17-18th May (ISR), Lerwick 10 May (NLS), Whalsay 14 May, 15th (2) (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, 2 on 11 May, 6 on 12th, 2 on 13th, singles 14-15th, 18-19 May, 2 trapped 3-4 Sep (RAB); O Heb, 1 Leurbost 29 Aug (PGH); Isle of May, singles 2-11 May (HDS, PNJC).

***Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. Two spring records : Skerries 31 May (ISR), Fetlar 15 June (RSPB).

Autumn : Shet, Skerries 1 Sep, 2nd (4), 3rd (2), 4-5th, 6th (2), singles 10th, 14th, 16th and 19 Sep, 2 Oct (ISR), singles Whalsay 1 Sep, 3rd and 13th (BM, JHS), one Fetlar 4 Sep (RSPB); Fair Isle, 23 Aug, 31 Aug-2 Sep, 5th, 16-20th, 23-30 Sep (RAB).

Single unstreaked *Acrocephalus* warblers, thought to be Reeds, Whalsay 11 Sep, Fair Isle, 30 Aug, 8 Sep, 13-14th, 21st, 23 Sep.

***Marsh Warbler** *Acrocephalus palustris*. Fair Isle, singles 11 June (ringed), 15th June, 5 July (ringed) (RAB).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Breeding status : Numbers up to average most areas, but probably fewer Borders and Galloway.

Arrivals : 1 May, Hart Loch, Ayr (RHH), 2 Duddingston, Midl (LLJV) and Kilconquhar, Fife (DWO); most areas 1st week May. Spring passage : Fair Isle, 3 May-13 June, mainly 11-23rd, max 8 on 19th (RAB); Shet, 10-20 May, max 3 Skerries 17-19th, 3 Whalsay 12-13th, singles Noss 1 June, Skerries 3 June.

Autumn : Shet, singles Foula 17th and 31 Aug (BEG); Fair Isle, singles 20th, 23 Aug, 1-2nd, 10 Sep, 1-2 daily 14-20th, one 28-29 Sep (RAB); Ork, 1 Evie 17 Sep (MC); Inv, last 5 Insh 5 Sep (RL); Perth, last Seaside 9 Sep (JK, RLMcM); Isle of May, one 17 Aug; Fife, last Guardbridge 28 Sep (PNJC).

***Aquatic Warbler** *Acrocephalus paludicola*. One Fair Isle 15 Sep, found dead 23rd (RAB).

***Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*. Recorded 1-10 June and 9 Aug-15 Sep (5-6 in spring, about 13 autumn); Shet, Skerries 1-2 June, 2 on 3 June, 2 on 9 Aug, singles 10-12th, 31 Aug, 15 Sep (ISR), Bigton 2nd and 6 June (DC, IS), one singing Halligarth, Unst 7-10 June (GB), Fetlar 3-4 Sep (RSPB); Fair Isle, singles 2-4 June, 29 Aug, 31 Aug, 4 Sep (RAB); Kinc, Girdle Ness 3 Sep (AGK); Isle of May, 30-31 Aug (GLS), 3 on 1 Sep, one 2-5 Sep (JHB, DRL, DM); Fife Ness, 1 Sep (KB).

Icterine/Melodious Warbler *H. polyglotta*: one North Ronaldsay, Ork 20 May (KW).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. Breeding status: Shet, 1 pr bred Scalloway (RD *et al*), 1st for many years; Renf, noted increase, at least 50 prs in county (HG); usual records elsewhere.

Arrivals and migration: Erskine, Renf, 27 Apr (HG); Arg, ♂ song Tobermory 27 Apr (RFC); Selkirk, arrived 22 Apr (AJS); Isle of May, 28 Apr-17 June; Perth, Kingoodie 14 Apr (EJM); Caith, Wick 6 May, small passage 18-25 May (KB); Fair Isle, 30 Apr-19 June, max 5 on 20 May; Shet, 17 Apr-19 June, mainly 10-22 May, but small numbers.

Autumn passage: Shet, 30 Aug-mid Nov, max 6 Skerries, 6 Whalsay, 5 Fetlar and 7 mainland 14 Sep, 8 Skerries 18 Oct; Fair Isle, from 30 Aug, peaks 10-12 on 14-16 Sep, up to 8 daily 28 Sep-3 Oct, 12-15 on 8-9 Oct, 30 on 17th, 14 on 4 Nov, 10-15 on several days 11-21 Nov is high for so late in season (RAB); Ork, 19 ringed North Ronaldsay 18 Sep-9 Oct (JMBK); Caith, 6 Thurso 6 Nov (PMC, SL); Isle of May, 30 Aug-22 Oct, peak 10 on 11 Oct.

A noticeable increase in winter records, presumably due to mild winters and late migration:

Summary of winter records

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec
North (Shet-O Heb-Inv)	—	—	—	80+	12+
Central (Moray-Clack, Arg)	—	—	1	18	19
South (Clyde-Forth to Borders)	3	1	—	18	9

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*. Recorded 9 Aug-2 Oct, numbers lower than usual: Shet, only 21 individuals, 1st Skerries 9 Aug, Foula 19 Aug (ISR, BEG), peak 14 Sep when 2 Fetlar, 2 Whalsay and 1 Skerries, last Skerries 24 Sep; Fair Isle, low numbers, only 7 ringed, 1-2 daily 19-28 Aug, 4-5 on 29 Aug-2 Sep, 3-4th (2), 5th (4), 1-3 daily to 13th (5), 14th (2), singles 17th and 20th, 27th (3), 28th (2), last 2 Oct (RAB); Ork, Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL), North Ronaldsay late Sep (JMBK); St Kilda May, 30 Aug (2) (GLS), 7 Sep (JHB *et al*); Fife Ness, 2 on 1 Sep (DWO), 1-2 Sep, 2 on 3rd (PL, AJW); Isle of May, 30 Aug (2) (GLS), 7 Sep (JHB *et al*); Fife Ness, 2 on 1 Sep (DWO), one 8 Sep (AB, RHH).

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. Breeding status: Usual numbers Clyde, 1st Hamilton, Lan, 4 May (RGN); good numbers Perth (MM, CMcG), pr L Rannoch June (GS); E Ross, 1 singing Carbisdale late July (JHL).

Spring migration: Shet, 1 Whalsay 1 May, passage 12-19 May, max 10, last 17 June; Fair Isle, 11 May-28 June, max 8 on 3 June (RAB); Aber/Kinc, singles Girdle Ness 10 May (RBH), Strathbeg 30 May (JD); Fife Ness, 29 Apr (DWO); Isle of May, 13-28 May, 2 on 13th.

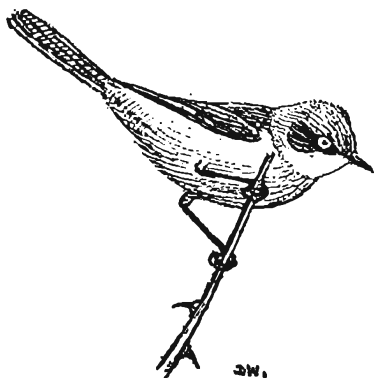
Return passage: Shet, 9 Aug-23 Oct, mainly 26 Aug-19 Sep, peaks 38 Whalsay, 22 Skerries, 21 Fetlar 3 Sep, 16 Whalsay, 25 Weisdale 14 Sep; Fair Isle, 12 Aug-19 Oct, mainly 25 Aug-2 Oct, peaks 25 on 31 Aug, 50 on 1st, 35 on 8 Sep, stragglers 24 Oct, 4th, 11th and 13 Nov (RAB); Ork, 11

ringed North Ronaldsay 18 Sep-9 Oct (JMBK), 1 Swona 11-15 Oct (KH); Caith, Thurso 7 Nov (PMC, JMG, SL); Suth, Scourie 15 Sep (IDP); Inverness, 16 Oct-1 Nov (JMC); Isle of May, 21 Aug-14 Oct, peaks 18 on 30 Aug, 35 on 1 Sep; Fife Ness, last 5 Oct (RHH); E Loth, Longniddry 23 Nov (DRL, HKL). The Nov records are much later than usual.

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. Breeding status : 1 pr nested Scalloway, 1st record Shet (WA, IS), singing Kergord 26-28 June; slight improvement on 1973 reported Ross, Perth, Fife, Midl, Borders, Ayr, Renf, Gallo-way, but no change Caith, E Loth and W Stir; good numbers Mull.

Arrivals and spring passage : rather late most areas, but 1st Mull 21 Apr (RFC); Isle of May, 11 May-6 June, max 4 on 20 May (NJG); Inverness, 1 May (RHD); Ork, Flotta 4 May (DL); Fair Isle, 8-22 May, max 6-8 on 16-20th, 1-3 daily 30 May-6 June, few to 19 June (RAB); Shet, 12-19 May small numbers, stragglers to 3 July Foula.

Autumn migration : Shet, Whalsay 11 Aug, small numbers 29 Aug-15 Sep, last Skerries 21 Sep, 7-9 Oct (ISR); Fair Isle, 10th, 30-31 Aug, 3-4 on 1-2 Sep, peak 8 on 8th, few to 19th, stragglers 25-29th and 1-9 Oct (RAB); Aber, last Rattray 6 Oct (CC); Isle of May, 21-28 Sep, mainly singles, one 18 Oct (DGB, MEB); Arg, last Mull 15 Sep (RFC); Kirk, 5 Carrick 12-15 Sep (GSh).



Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*. Ber, pr feeding young Coldingham 23 June (LLJV); Midl, 5 caught and ringed Cousland 25 June, one with brood patch, 2 juvs on 3 Aug, probably at least 1 pr bred (DRL). First proved breeding records in Scotland in at least 7 years; ♂ singing Islay 26 May (R. Dawson); ♂ singing Braemore, Caith, 6 June (JMG, PMC).

Spring migration from 29 Apr : Shet, from 8 May, most 11-23rd, max 4 Skerries 16th, 6 Whalsay 12th, 5 on 16th, stragglers to 15 June; Fair Isle, 29 Apr-19 June, 2-3 many days, peak 5-8 on 13-21 May, 6 on 31 May (RAB); Ork, 2 Kirkwall 15 May (CJB), Hoy 18 May (MASB), 2 Deerness 19 May (RB, DL); Aber/Kinc, at least 15 birds 10-18 May, peak 6 on 11th and 13th, 4 Balmedie 11th (RLS); Isle of May, 3-20 May, max 10 on 10th; Fife Ness, 29 Apr-1 May, 12-13 May (DWO, DMB, TH); Ber, 2 St Abbs 11 May (LLJV); Kirk, Bennan 19 May (ADW).

Return passage: Shet, scattered records from 26 Aug (Foula) to 14 Oct (Skerries), mainly 1-4th and 10-16 Sep; Fair Isle, 17 Aug-21 Oct, mainly 30 Aug-14 Sep, max 12 on 2-6 Sep (RAB); Ork, Copinsay 1 Sep (CJB, DL), 5 North Ronaldsay 18 Sep-9 Oct (JMBK), 2 Papa Westray 8 Oct (DL); Caith, Wick 23 Oct (KB); Aber, Don est 14 Oct (RBH), Strathbeg 3 Sep

(JD); Isle of May, 2 Sep-17 Oct, max 4 on 8 Oct; Fife Ness, 1 Sep, 5-6 Oct, 9th, 13 Oct (2) (DWO, MWF *et al*); E Loth, Aberlady 12-14 Sep (RGN, RLS), 23 Nov (DRL *et al*) is very late.

***Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans*. A ♀ trapped Fair Isle 16 May (GJB, RAB *et al*).

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. No changes breeding status. Arrivals: 26 Mar, Harestane Moss, Aber (JJCH, MHe); 4 Apr Kilwinning, Ayr (WRB); 5th singles Logan, Wig (TVT), Crummy Burn, Kirk (LAU), Caerlaverock, Dumf (LTC) and Doonfoot, Ayr (PH); 6 Apr Scone, Perth (EDC); most first records from 11th-22 Apr, with main arrivals 20-25 Apr. Spring passage: Shet, 30 Apr-12 June, mainly 30 Apr and 12-13 May, 20 Skerries both occasions (ISR), 13 Whalsay 30 Apr; Fair Isle, 27 Apr-21 June, mainly 29 Apr-24 May, max 20 on 12 May, 10 on 1-2 June (RAB); O Heb, 6 Stornoway 26 Apr (PGH); Isle of May, 18 Apr-8 June, max 30 on 30 May.

Autumn migration: Shet, 9 Aug-16 Sep, max 25 Whalsay 2-3 Sep, 13 on 14 Sep, stragglers to 29 Sep; Fair Isle, 9 Aug-8 Sep, max only 10 on best days 23 Aug-8 Sep, trickle 11 Sep-13 Oct (RAB); Inv, 75 Insh 12 Aug, last 2 on 10 Sep (RL); Angus, 200 Craigmill Den 18 Aug (TMC); Perth, 200+ Allan/Forth confluence 25 July (GS), 2 Scone 28 Sep (EDC); Isle of May, 1 Aug-14 Oct, max 120 on 25 Sep; Fife Ness, last 5 Oct (RHH); New Galloway, last 26 Sep (KCRH).

***Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides*. Three records: Shet, Whalsay 14-19 Sep (BM, JHS *et al*); Fair Isle, 14 Sep (B. Bland, RAB *et al*); Isle of May, 15-19 Sep (NGC, JADH *et al*); all were ringed.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. Breeding status: above average Ayr (WRB); in north, singing birds Inv (2), Ross (6), Suth (5) and Caith (1).

Arrivals: 23 Mar Castlehill woods (PH) and Doonfoot, Ayr (IHL); 24 Mar Rozelle, Ayr (WRB); 27 Mar New Abbey, Kirk (L. Colley), also 2 Willow/Chiffs Newburgh and 4 Harestane Moss, Aber; 29-31 Mar, more sightings, including 4 New Abbey 30 Mar; mostly from 3-8 Apr.

Spring migration: Shet, Unst 26 Mar, Sound 31st, small numbers to 22 May, stragglers to 19 June, one summered Whalsay (BM); Fair Isle, 27 Mar-23 May, max 5 on 30 Apr, 6 on 1 May (RAB); Isle of May, 11 Apr-20 May, max 3 on 3 May; Fife Ness, 3 on 1 May (DWO).

Autumn migration: Shet, 30 Aug-mid Nov, mainly Oct, peaks 7 Skerries 9-10 Oct, 10 Whalsay 14th, 21st and 31 Oct; Fair Isle, 29 Aug, few Sep, daily Oct-5 Nov, max 16 on 9 Oct, late straggler 24 Nov, 4 Dec (RAB); Ork, influx Kirkwall 5 Nov (CJB); Caith, small passage 23 Oct-5 Dec, max 7 Thurso 5 Nov (JMG, PMC, SL); Ross, 1-2 Maryburgh 25-27 Oct (HDS); Aber, Strathbeg 1 Nov (JD), Old Aberdeen 20-21 Nov (MH); Isle of May, 7 Sep-1 Nov, peak 8 on 11 Oct.

Winter records: Hillhead, Lan, 14 Feb (JB); Thurso 5 Dec (PMC); Ork, 2+ Kirkwall throughout Dec (CJB), 2 wintered Binscarth (LH); Shet, singles remained Kergord and Lerwick into 1975.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. No comment on breeding numbers. Arrivals: 27-28 Apr Bridge of Allan (GS, PWS); 28 Apr Inchcailloch, W Stir (WRB, BCF, RHH); 4 May L Earn, Perth (MM); mostly 5-10 May. Spring migration: Shet, singles Whalsay 30 Apr, 4th, 15-19 May (BM, JHS), Unst 15 May (GB), Whiteness 19 May (IS), Sound 18 May, Aith 31 May (DC), Skerries 1 June (ISR); Fair Isle, 13 May, 1st, 2nd and 6 June (RAB); O Heb, Stornoway 14 June (IMMcL, RMcI), North Rona 22 June (PGH); Isle of May, 5 July (AH *et al*).

Autumn passage: Shet, singles Noss 12-13 Aug, Foula 18 Aug (AJG), Fetlar 24 Aug (DMP), Whalsay 2nd, 9 Sep, Lunning 2 Sep, Whiteness 2-5th, 11-13 Sep (AI), Lerwick 5 Sep (DC)—more than usual; Fair Isle, 31 Aug, 1 Sep (2), 4th and 8 Sep (RAB).

***Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis*. One Skerries, Shet, 18 Aug (ISR).

***Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*. About 11 birds 23 Sep-31 Oct is lowest since 1969-70: Shet, Sumburgh 27 Sep (FH); Fair Isle, 23 Sep, 4 Oct, 7 Oct, 31 Oct (RAB); Ork, 1 North Ronaldsay 27 Sep (JMBK); O Heb, Lionel (dead) 1 Oct, Leurbost 27 Oct (PGH); Isle of May, 1-2 Oct, 8th, 9th (2), 10-11 Oct (GLAP *et al*).

***Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*. One Fair Isle 13 Oct, ringed on 14th (GJB, RAB *et al*)—3rd Scottish record.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. Breeding status: Ork, pr bred Binscarth (LH), singing birds Hoy (DL).

Migration: Shet, 17 Mar-15 Apr, max 20 Skerries 24 Mar, 17 Whalsay 2 Apr, smaller numbers 28 Apr-11 May, autumn from 29 Aug, mainly from 13-15 Sep, when 13 Skerries, 12 Scalloway 6 Oct; Fair Isle, 27 Feb-end May, max 17 on 23 Mar, 12 on 13 Apr, autumn from 30 Aug, max 35 on 28 Sep, 200 on 2 Oct, last 6 Nov (RAB); Ork, 60 ringed North Ronaldsay 18 Sep-9 Oct (JMBK); Aber, autumn max 6 Collieston 5 Oct (PME); Isle of May, 22 Mar-11 May, max 15 on 29 Apr, 14 Aug-26 Oct, max 120 on 25 Sep; Fife Ness, peaks 8 on 8 Apr, 20 on 18 Oct (DWO); Ayr, 45-50 Ailsa Craig 1 Apr (JPH).

***Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*. Two records: Cruden Bay, Aber, 11 May (RBH); Wick, Caith, 7-22 Nov (DB, KB, PMC).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Arrivals: 2 May Strathmiglo, Fife (KB); 3 May Wells, Rox (A. Buckham); 14 May 6 Dalmellington, Ayr (RHH), 1 Alloway, Ayr (WRB) increased to 25+ Rozelle, Ayr 16 May (IHL). Most first reports 14-22 May. Passage: Shet, 30 Apr-18 June, 1st Skerries (ISR), max 8 Skerries, 6 Whalsay 1 June (ISR, JHS), autumn 26 Aug, mainly 31 Aug-5 Sep, when 5 Skerries, Whalsay and Fetlar, last Catfirth 5 Oct; Fair Isle, 5 May-13 June, max 15 on 20 May and 3 June, autumn 13 Aug-27 Sep, nearly all 31st-12th, peak 8 on 2 Sep (RAB); Isle of May, 29 Apr-5 June, peak 3 on 2 June, 16 Aug-28 Sep, peak 4 on 6 Sep; Dunb, last Endrick Mouth 22 Sep (TPD).

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. Breeding status: Ayr, down to one pr Ness Glen (RHH); Renf, pr present but did not breed (PB); W Stir, 2 prs L Lomond nested (DLC, WJIC), more Inversnaid; prs nested Hirsell, Ber, Selkirk and Roslin Glen, Midl (CMM, AB, RHH, LLJV); Perth, 5 prs bred Trossachs (HR), 2 prs Killiecrankie (MM); Stir, 1+ pr Bridge of Allan (PWS); none reported Highlands; not a good year.

Spring migration: Shet, small numbers 29 Apr-18 June, mainly 11-23 May; Fair Isle, scarce, 6 May-7 June, max 3; Isle of May, 29 Apr-8 May, max 2 on 29-30 Apr; first Ayr, Glen Afton 4 May (RHH); Dumf, 1st 1 May (ARM).

Autumn passage: Shet, 28 Aug-6 Oct, most 1-5 Sep, 7 Whalsay, 5 Mainland, 8 Foula, another influx 14 Sep, max 5 Whalsay, last 3 Scalloway 6 Oct; Fair Isle, small passage 29 Aug-2 Oct, max 10 on 29 Aug, 10 on 12-13 Sep (RAB); Ork, 4 Copinsay 31 Aug-1 Sep (CJB, DL), few singles, 3 North Ronaldsay between 18 Sep and 9 Oct; O Heb, Tolsta 24 Nov (PGH); Caith, 6 Noss Head 13 Sep (JMG); Suth, Scourie 4 Sep (IDP); Isle of May, 18 Aug-3 Oct, peak 25 on 1 Sep; Fife Ness, 31 Aug-23 Sep, max 3 on 31 Aug (DWO).

***Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*. 8 records in autumn: Shet, singles Lerwick 1 Sep (RRT), Whalsay 17 Sep, 8 Oct (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, 14-16 Sep (RAB); Ork, 2 ringed North Ronaldsay 18 Sep, 4 Oct (JMBK), 1 Firth 29 Sep (WH); Arg, 1 Easter Ellister, Islay, 1 Nov (J. Dawson).

Dunneck *Prunella modularis*. Breeding reports: Ork, pr with young in nest Kirkwall early Nov (LH); 18 prs on 145 acres farmland Elderslie, Renf (KRRS).

Migration : Shet, 17 Mar-21 Apr, max 6 Skerries 26 Mar, 8 on 3 Apr (ISR), more 29 Apr-20 May, peaks 15 Skerries and 6 Whalsay 30 Apr, 5 Fetlar and 5 Noss 4 May, last 27 May, scarce autumn, singles Whalsay 14 Sep, Skerries 14-16 Sep, mainland 8th and 12 Sep, last Tolob 5 Oct; Fair Isle, good spring passage 17 Mar-27 May, mainly 26 Mar-2 Apr, max 25 on 26th, 12 Apr-23 May, peaks 20 on 29th, 50-60 on 30 Apr-6 May, autumn scarce, 1-2 daily 14-22 Sep, singles 10 Oct and 13 Nov (RAB); Fife Ness, peak 30 on 29 Apr (DWO).

***Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. 4 singles: Shet, Skerries 13-14 Sep, 17 Sep (ISR); Fair Isle, 28 Sep-1 Oct, 4-9 Oct (RAB).

***Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*. Three records: Shet, Skerries 14-17 May, 26 May (ISR, SR); St Kilda, O Heb 8 May (MPH).

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. Migration : Shet, 19 Mar-5 June, max 35 Skerries 15 May, autumn Skerries 18 Aug-19 Oct, max 50 on 7 Sep (ISR); Fair Isle, 1st 5 Mar, many by 26th, passage 3-21 Apr, 3-5 May, late influxes 38 on 6 Nov (RAB); Ross, 500+ Tarradale 6 Oct (MKMcD-D); Inv, first 2 Insh 25 Mar, peak 125 on 30 Aug (RL); Kinc, passage Girdle Ness 30 Apr, 3 May, 6 Sep (AGK); Isle of May, peaks 350 on 4-5 May, 30 on 9 Sep; Clack, 250 Blackdevonmouth 8 Sep (GS); Ayr, 100+N per hr Doonfoot 24 Mar (IHL); Wig 70N per hr Corsewall Point 29 Sep (IHL).

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Breeding reports suggest increase Dumf and Borders.

Arrivals : 10 Apr Dalry, Kirk (ADW); 15 Apr Paisley Glen, Renf (HG); 19 Apr Dunkeld, Perth (MM); more 21st to 28th (1st in north), main arrivals rather late in May. Spring passage : Shet, 29 Apr-22 May, peaks 30 Whalsay 12 May (BM, JHS), 17 Skerries 15 May (ISR), stragglers to 12 June; Fair Isle, 29-22 May, peaks 14 on 30 Apr, 30 on 4 May, 20-25 on 8-9th, stragglers to 9 June (RAB); Isle of May, 2-20 May, max on 3rd.

Autumn migration : Shet, 29 Aug-18 Sep, peak 6 Skerries and 4 Whalsay 2 Sep, 7 Whalsay 24 Sep, 1 Skerries 19 Oct-2 Nov (very late) (ISR); Fair Isle, 18 Aug-26 Sep, max 60 on 1 Sep, good numbers to 6th (RAB); Inv, late record Insh 3 Oct (RL); Angus, 15 Montrose 26 Aug (MN), 6 West Haven 5 Sep (TMC); Isle of May, 23 Aug-2 Oct, max 4.

***Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni*. One ringed Fair Isle 24 Nov, present to 26 Nov (GJB, RAB)—4th record for Scotland and Fair Isle.

Rock Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*. Shet, 26 prs Noss (ACMcL); Fair Isle, flying young 31 May is early (RAB); Ork, 7 prs on 2½ miles of coast Hob-bister reserve (CJB); Perth, 1 Kingoodie Feb, 2 on 4 Mar (EJM).

Water Pipit *A. s. spinoletta*. 1 Doonfoot, Ayr 16-23 Feb (WRB, IHL).

Pied/White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. Pied Wagtail *M. a. yarrellii*. Ork, increasing as breeder (DL); none Shet.

White Wagtail *M. a. alba*. Shet, 2 prs nested Kergord reared 6 young (IS).

Pied Wagtail migration : Shet, small numbers 22 Mar-16 May Skerries, Whalsay and Lerwick, singles Unst and Whalsay to 9 June; Fair Isle, from 10 Mar (2), 4 on 26 Mar, to 2 Apr, few to 7 June, autumn singles 6-8th, 21-28 Oct (RAB); O Heb, 1st on 10 Mar.

Counts : 300+ Tay reed beds, Perth, Sep-Oct (RLMcM); 300 Bridge of Allan, Stir 31 Jan (GS); 180 Machrihanish, Arg, 1 Sep (EJM).

White Wagtail migration : Shet, 1st Skerries 24 Mar, mainly 23 Apr-20 May, last 21 June (ISR); Fair Isle, 26 Mar-31 May, max 10 daily 29 Apr-4 May, autumn 13 Aug-30 Sep, max 54 on 19-20th, new arrivals 15 on 8 Sep, 40 on 12th (RAB); O Heb, 6 Lusentyre 6 May (PGH); Caith, 2 Sandside 13 Mar (EWEM), 6 Reay 23 Apr (PMC); Inv, 2 Cairn Lochain plateau 19 Aug (RHD); Aber, 9 Apr-9 May, max 4 Don est 22 Apr (MH);

E Loth, 3 Aberlady 2 May (RGN); Ayr, peak 10 Turnberry 1 May (RHH), 8 Doonfoot 11 Apr (IHL); Dumb, 11 Cardross 19 May (HG); 15 Doonfoot 20 Sep (IHL); Wig, max 11 Mull of Galloway 29 Sep (IHL); usual scatter of records elsewhere.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. Breeding status: Ork, pr reared 4 young Firth, second clutch failed (LH, EB) 1st for many years; O Heb, pr nested successfully Stornoway (RMcl, WM) 1st for many years; Midl, 15 prs South Esk river system, of 10 nests found 6 successfully reared 17 young (DRL); good population most areas.

Migration: Shet, Skerries 31 May, Lerwick 1 Oct, 15 Oct, 12-14 Nov, 2 on 22 Nov, one wintered (DC, PKK, PN); Fair Isle, singles 21-27 Mar, 20th and 31 May (RAB); Inv, 1st Insh 26 Mar, max 10 on 14 July, last 29 Sep (RL); Isle of May, one 28 Mar-4 Apr, 4 on 23 Sep, 24th, 25-28th (2); Arg, 17 Machrihanish 16 Aug (EJM); Ayr, 16S Alloway 12 Sep (IHL).

***Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*. Two records Fair Isle: 2-4 Sep (J. K. Bowers, RAB *et al*), 2-10 Oct (RAB, H. Nash *et al*).

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. Yellow Wagtail *M. f. flavissima*. Breeding records: Ayr, 2 prs nested Stewarton-Fenwick (DLC), 1 pr Shewalton (WRB); Lan, single pairs Merryton (DS), Carstairs (JB, ND); Rox, pr bred successfully Melrose (Mrs Walker); Ber, pr collecting food Coldstream 15 June but flying across Tweed to feed young in England! (LLJV).

Migration: Fair Isle, ♂ 2 Sep (RAB); Suth, ♂ Strathy 18 May (GGB); Aber, Meikle Loch 3 May (PDR), 2 Blackdog 25 May (RLS); Angus, 1 Montrose 8 Sep (GMC); Isle of May, 1 Sep (JHB *et al*); Fife Ness, 18 May (EJM); Clack, Menstrie 13 May (DRW); Stir, Skinflats 17 May (DRW); Midl, Lasswade 25 Apr (EMS); E Loth, 1-3 Aberlady 12 July-21 Sep (AB, RGN); Arg, 2 Tobermory 14 Sep (RFC); Ayr, New Cumnock 22 Aug, 4 on 23-27 Aug (RHH, WRB); Dumf, Caerlaverock 5 Apr, 29 July (4), (LTC), Heathhall 20 Aug (KB).

Blue-headed Wagtail *M. f. flava*. Shet, Whalsay 12-14 May (BM, JHS), Skerries 14-15 May (ISR), Unst 8 May (RJT); Fair Isle, 21 May, 31 May, 4 Sep (RAB); Midl, Gladhouse 10 Aug (RWJS).

Grey-headed Wagtail *M. f. thunbergi*. Shet, Unst 7th and 30 May (GB), Skerries 17-20 May (ISR); Fair Isle, 11-16 May, 2 on 1 June (RAB).

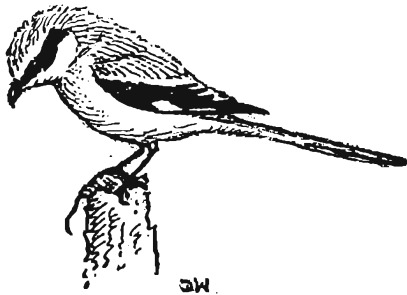
Black-headed Wagtail *M. f. feldégg*. ♂ Fair Isle 3-8 May (RAB), 7th Scottish and 9th British record.

Unspecified *M. flava* wagtails: Shet, 2 in spring, 2 autumn; Fair Isle, 18-21 May, 28 Aug-10 Oct, max 9 on 2-3 Sep (RAB); Midl, Gladhouse 16 Sep (RWJS); E Loth, 3-4 North Berwick 14 Aug (DJB).

Waxwing *Bombicilla garrulus*. About 36 birds in Jan-Mar, large autumn invasion. Dumfries, 1 on 12 Jan (WA); Rox, Darnick 1 Jan; 4 Peebles 20 Jan (CMM); Perth, 1 Glen Almond 13 Jan, 3 Scone 12 Jan (EDC); Aberdeen, 6 on 4th and 27 Jan (PRS), 1 on 4-5 Feb; Moray, 2 Lossiemouth and 6 Elgin 6 Jan (NS, CAG), 1 Forres 18 Jan (JB); 6 Inverness 13 Jan, occasional to last one 28 Mar (JM); Ross, 2 Munlochey Jan, 1 Kinlochewe 5 Jan (EB).

Autumn invasion: early one Carrick shore, Kirk, 12 Sep (GSh), next one Rousay, Ork 8 Oct (KH). Irruption from 12 Oct: Shet, from 12 Oct, 23 Whalsay 21 Oct, then many reports to 8 Nov, last 24 Nov; Fair Isle, 23 Oct-24 Nov, max 8 on 5 Nov (RAB); Ork, max 26 Kirkwall 31 Oct (CJB); O Heb, 24 Oct-10 Nov, max 10 Stornoway 10 Nov (PGH *et al*); Caith, 23 Oct-Dec, max 25 Bower in main passage 2-24 Nov (PMC); Suth, 18 Nov-1 Dec, max 8 Golspie 22-30 Nov (MH); Ross, 23 Oct-15 Dec, max 90 Dingwall early Nov (ARM), 40 Munlochey (R. A. Dennis); Inv, 31 Oct-end Dec, max 40-50 Glenfeshie 8 Nov (C. J. Northeast), 121 Tulloch,

Strathspey, 30 Dec (J. Ratray); Banff/Moray, 29 Oct-15 Dec, max 24 Elgin 12 Nov (RAFKOS); Aber/Kinc, 21 Oct-25 Dec, max 30 Aberdeen 4th and 7 Nov (PF, RBH), 42 on 12 Nov (LS); Angus/Perth, from 4 Nov, max 170 Invergowrie/Kingoodie 2 Dec (WGA), 90+ Bridge of Allan 30 Nov (DRW); Fife, max 185 Guardbridge Nov (AJB); Midl, 23 Oct-Dec, max 50 Blackford 28 Nov, 75 in Dec (DRL, LLJV); E Loth from 25 Oct, max 200 Longniddry 16-17 Nov, decrease to last 26 Nov (AB *et al*); Borders from 2 Nov, max 24 Selkirk 6 Nov (J. Forsyth); Arg 27 Oct-18 Nov, max 8 Lochgilphead 6-15 Nov (MJPG); Clyde from 4 Nov, max 26+ Kelvingrove 26 Nov (EC); Dumf, 1 Nov-31 Dec, max 211 Locharbriggs 31 Dec (MM); Galloway, main influx from 5 Nov, max 7 Dalry 18 Nov (LAU).



Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*. About 34 birds Jan-16 May, and about 50-55 in autumn from 13 Sep. Three late spring records: Midl, 1 Threipmuir 5 May (AHS), 1 Currie 26 Apr-16 May (WGM), Kirk, 1 Carsphairn 2 May (IW). Four early autumn records: Shet, 1 Fetlar 13-14 Sep, 1 Skerries 14-17 Sep (RSPB, ISR); Suth, 1 Strathnaver 22 Sep (GGB); Aber, 1 Benachie 30 Sep (JR). Summary of other records giving monthly totals of individuals in each area:

	Jan/Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov/Dec
Shet	—	—	6	—	—
Fair Isle	—	1	1	5	4
Ork	—	—	2	3	—
O Heb	—	—	—	1	—
Suth/Ross	—	—	—	1	2
Inv	3	1	1	—	2
Aber/Kinc	2	—	2	3	3
Perth/Angus	1	1	—	1	5
Isle of May	—	1	1	2	—
Loth/Borders	2	1	2	2	3
Arg/Clyde	1	—	—	1	3
Gall/Dumf	2	3	—	3	5

***Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor*. Four records: Shet, Fetlar 14-15 June (M. G. Robinson *et al*), Unst 19 June (GB); Fair Isle, 24-28 June (RAB); Arg, Salen, Mull, 5 Sep (RFC *et al*).

***Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*. Four records: Shet, Fetlar 18 May (C. Carson, R. Thorne); Fair Isle, 19-21 May (RAB *et al*), immature 30 Aug (RAB, IGB *et al*); Orphir, Ork, 9-16 June (A. MacNair, DL *et al*).

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*. Spring migration: Shet, Skerries 17-18 May, Fetlar 17 May, more 31 May-6 June, up to 4 Skerries, 2 Whalsay, 2 Noss, 2 Mainland, few to 14th; Fair Isle, strong passage 31 May (5)-20 June, peaks 6 on 1 June, 7 on 2nd, 8 on 4th (RAB); Ork, ♀ Orphir

5 June (DL), ♂ Deerness 14 June (CJB); Aber, Cruden Bay 11 May (RBH), ♂ Huntly 2 June (M. Nicoll); Isle of May, 1 June, 2 on 16 June (HG, ND *et al*); E Loth, ♂ Aberlady 16 June, ♀ 20th (RGN).

Autumn passage : Shet, 11 records 1-28 Sep, max 3 Fetlar (RSPB); Fair Isle, 31 Aug-21 Sep, peaks 5 on 1 Sep, 9 on 2-3rd, 4-5 to 9th, 3-4 to 18th, late one 2 Oct (RAB); Ork, Orphir 27 Sep (DL); Caith, Dorrery 1 Aug (G. McNicol); Aber, New Deer 13 Aug (TH, PH), Logie Buchan 21 Sep (RHH); Isle of May, 30 Aug, 31st (2), 1 Sep (GLS); Fife Ness, juv 31 Aug, 2 ads 1 Sep (DWO); Midl, Gladhouse 16 Sep (AB, GLS); E Loth, Aberlady 13-15 Oct (RGN, IAGB).

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Roost counts : 2,000 Trossary, S Uist, O Heb, 13 July (PGH); 10, -15,000 Bower, Caith, Oct-Nov (SL, SAMM); 26,000 Tay Bridge, Angus, 26 Feb (EJM); 20,000 Kinross House Sep-Dec (AA); 4,000 Machrihanish, Arg, Sep (EJM); 12,000 Maybole, Ayr (RHH).

***Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*. Two records : Ad Methlick, Aber, 17 June (Mr and Mrs T. Hodd); Ad St Kilda 18-19 June (S. Murray).

***Baltimore Oriole** *Icterus galbula*. An immature Fair Isle 19-20 Sep (A. R. Dean, P. Hyde, J. Ridley, RAB *et al*)—the first Scottish record of this North American icterid.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. Perth, pr bred successfully in town, feeding fledged young 8 Aug (RLMcM), first proved breeding for some time in county; ♂ Invergowrie 16 Feb, pr 1 Mar (EJM), singles Coupar Angus 4 Jan, Strathallan 25 Nov (BJG); Stir, 1 Bridge of Allan 30 Apr (GS); W Loth, 1 Cramond 14 Apr (DC); Midl, 1 Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh 6 Apr (DT); E Loth, 2 Longniddry 19 May (AB, RHH); Ber, 2 Hirsell 18 May, one 20 Oct; Ayr, 2 Martnaham 25 Apr (BMK), one to 26 May (IHL), only 3rd record for Ayr. Migrants : 1 Norwick, Shet 3-19 Apr (per MS); Fair Isle ♀ 20-21 May, dead 22nd (RAB).

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. Counts : 300 Gartmorn, Clack, 3 Jan (DMB); 120 Sorn, Ayr, 30 Dec (WRB); 300 Ardmore, Dunb, 15 Dec (SMDA). Migration : Shet, 1 Whalsay 25-27 Jan, Kergord 19 Feb (LM), Skerries 3 Apr, 21 May, Whalsay 1-3 May, 4th (2); Fair Isle, ♀ 11 Apr, 1-2 daily 30 Apr-5 May(RAB); Ork, 1 Burray early Oct (PG).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. Breeding reports : prs bred S Caith (DMS) and Lochaber (JASN); good reports elsewhere.

Peak counts : 50 Cardross-Ardmore, Dunb 27 Sep (AJ), 4 Endrick Mouth early Mar (RS); 40 Barr Loch, Renf 14 Sep (AJ); Arg, 36 Carradale 2 Aug (EJM); E Loth, 60 Aberlady 23 Sep (RGN); Perth, 60 Viewlands 28 Nov (JG); Angus, 50+ Elliot 20 Oct (NKA); Aber, 50 Torphins early Nov (VCW-E); 25 Inverness 13 Oct (EIV).

Migrants : 1 Sumburgh, Shet 13 Sep (per RAB); O Heb, 2 Stornoway 14 Nov (WAJC), 20 on 4-9 Dec (PGH).

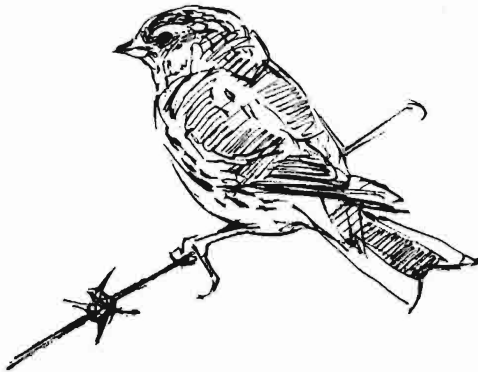
Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. Breeding reports : numbers high Ross and Inv, suggestion of increase Renf.

Quite large numbers winter in Moray Firth area and peanut feeding widespread, 234 ringed by HRG; Perth, 100 Invertrossachs 12 Sep (RLMcM); Dunb, 40 Dumbarton Muir 27 Mar (AMcl); Kirk, 60 Kenmure early Nov (GAF).

Migration : Shet, singles Unst 9 Apr, Fetlar 12 May, Skerries 14 May, large passage from 2 Sep, many 13th, max 120 Skerries, 35 Whalsay, 35 Unst, 15 Fetlar, most gone 15th, more 16th with 50 Skerries and 60 Whalsay, last 5 Oct; Fair Isle, singles 30 Apr, 4 May, large influx in Sep, 40 on 1st, 60 on 4th, all gone 5th, few to 12th, 45 on 13th, 180 on 16th, 130 on 17th, down to 10 on 18th, few to 25 Sep, one to 10 Nov (RAB); Isle of May, singles 30 Mar, 7 Apr, autumn 8 Sep-12 Oct, peak 9 on 14 Oct.

Linnet *Acanthis cannabina*. Counts : Caith, 40 Halkirk 26 Sep (SL); Aber, 1,000 Meikle Loch 15 Dec (AGK, MD, PDR); Perth, 200+ North Muirton 30 Sep (RLMcM); E Loth, 500-700 Longniddry roost Aug-Oct (DRL, HKL); Arg, 200+ Machrihanish 6 Aug (EJM); Ayr, 250 Dipple 9 May (IHL); Wig, 200 Moor of Genoch 21 Sep, 200 Drummore 20 Oct (RCD).

Migration : Shet, Skerries 3-7 Apr (ISR), spring passage 6-23 May, max 7 Sumburgh 11th, 4 still on 19th (NLS, JS, VS), autumn 3 Hermaness 27 Aug (DAB, JKB); Fair Isle, 15 Apr-29 May, max 5-6 on 30 Apr-1 May, summer stragglers, autumn singles 24 Sep, 7-10 Oct (RAB); O Heb, 2 Eorpie, Lewis, 18 Nov (GW); Isle of May, 18 Mar-19 May, peak 20 on 28 Mar, 1 July-26 Oct, max 18 on 13 Oct.



Twite *Acanthis flavirostris*. Counts : O Heb, 500-700 Eorpie-Ness, Lewis 13 Jan (RHD); Caith, 500 West Dunnet 6 Oct (AFCMC, PMC); Suth, 200 Coldbackie 9 Nov (GGB), 200 Dornoch 7 Dec (DMcD); Ross, 100 Longa 18 Feb (ENH); Inv, 200 Insh 29 Sep (RL); Angus, 50 Glen Clova 3 May (GMC); Clack, 80 Blackdevonmouth 17 Nov (GS); Stir, 30 Grange-mouth 9 Feb (DMB); E Loth, 18 Aberlady Dec (RGN); Arg, 20 Rhum mid Aug (PC); Ayr, 130 Turnberry 23 Feb, 250+ on 14 Dec (RHH), 250 Ballantrae 27 Jan (IHL); Wig, 55 Sandhead 3 Nov (RCD).

Passage : Fair Isle, increase to 45 on 16 Apr, 70 on 17 Apr, autumn flocks 200+ mid Sept-mid Oct, down to 110 early Nov, 10-30 in Dec (RAB); Isle of May, 10 on 26 Oct (JH, RSH), 40 on 14-29 Dec (NKA et al); E Loth, small number Aberlady Jan-8 Mar, 17 Oct-Dec (GLS).

Redpoll *Acanthis flammea*. Breeding reports average, but scarce Lochaber, Inv (JCu).

Counts : W Ross, 100 Gairloch Nov-Dec (EHH); Inv, 100 Insh Feb, 300 Nov-Dec (RL); Perth, 100 Strathallan 21 Oct (BJG); E Loth, 400 Aberlady 1 Oct (RGN); Dumb, 40 Ardmore 17 Nov (TPD).

Migration : Mealy Redpolls *A. f. flammea*. Fair Isle, small autumn passage 23 Sep-14 Oct, no more than 3 daily (RAB); few Shet; Inv, 1 Insh 22 Feb, 2 on 23 Feb (RL); Aber, Foveran 14 Oct (MAMcD); Fife Ness, 2 on 5 Oct (RHH); Ayr, Doonfoot 26 Jan (RHH, IHL).

Some autumn Greenland birds *A. f. rostrata* : Shet, Skerries 26-27 Mar (ISR), Whalsay 2 Oct (BM, JHS); O Heb, 2 Eorpie 18-21 Nov (GW), 7 Stornoway 8 Aug (WM, IMMcl, RHH), 7 Leurboost 31 Dec (PGH).

Small movement of Redpolls on passage elsewhere.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. Increase Lochaber, Inv (JCu); counts 20+ Scone, Perth, 20 Jan (WGA); 17 Alloway, Ayr, 5 Jan (IHL); 20 Highlandman's Wood, Dunb, 22 Dec (CMW, HY).

Migrants of northern origin *P. p. pyrrhula*. Shet, ♂ Scalloway 3 Dec, ♀ Skerries 22-23 Oct, another ♀ on 29 Oct (ISR *et al*); Fair Isle, ♀ 8-9 Nov (J. A. Stout); Ork, Finstown Feb (JS); Caith, 2 Reay 8 Oct (GMcL)—Ork and Caith records possibly northern birds.

***Scarlet Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*. Four in spring; about 23-25 in autumn: Shet, singles Skerries 3-23 Apr, 18 May (ISR), Bigton 2 June (DC), 1 Skerries 29 Aug, 2 new ones 31 Aug-1 Sep, singles 10th, 27-28th, 29th (2), 30 Sep (ISR), Sumburgh 31 Aug (DAB, JKB), ♂ Sumburgh 1 Sep (DC), Foula 30 Aug (BEG), Whalsay 1 Sep, 3 on 2nd, one to 5th (BM, JHS), Unst 13-14 Sep (ISp); Fair Isle, 15-16 June, 29 Aug, 10 Sep, 11-14th (2), 15-17th, 21-22nd, 23rd (5), 24-25th (2), 26th (3), 27th (6)—at least 10 in autumn (RAB); Ork, Copinsay 1 Sep (DL), Eday 3 Sep (RL), North Ronaldsay 28 Sep (JMBK).

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*. Breeding reports *L. c. scotica*: Strathspey average, poor year Lochaber (JCu); Aber, large numbers bred Deeside (AGK); Suth, bred successfully Migdale (DMcD) and Black Isle, Ross (MKMc-D).

Continental birds *L. c. curvirostra* nested Glen Dye and possibly Finzean, Kinc (AGK).

No large flocks reported, max 30+ Scree, Kirk 13 Jan (JSk). No irruption of Scandinavian birds—only reports outwith usual areas: Shet, 1 Foula Aug (BEG), Sound 1st Sep (DC), Skerries 10-13 Sep (ISR); 3 Tongue, N Suth 9 Nov (GGB); 3 Threipmuir, Midl 12 July (BC); 5 Ness Glen, Ayr 15 June (WRB, ASH, IHL).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Counts: 700 Arpafeelie, Ross, 25 Jan, 500 Nov-Dec (MKMcD-D); Aber, 3-400 Dyce 29 Jan (AGK); 1,500 Bridge of Cally, Perth, 13 Jan (RLMcM, MM), 500+ Tibbermore 30 Jan (EJM); 3,500 Gruline, Mull, 12 Jan (RFC); Dunb, 2,000+ Glen Fruin 9 Dec (CMW, HY); Ayr, 600 Straiton 26 Dec (RHH).

Migration: Shet, 17 Mar-20 Apr, 27 Apr-19 May, max 20 Whalsay and Fetlar 2 May, fewer in autumn 25 Aug-28 Nov, max 12 Kergord 12 Sep-3 Nov; Fair Isle, 17 Mar-23 May, mainly 26 Apr-20 May when 25-30 on 30 Apr-5 May, small numbers autumn 14-26 Sep, max 5, 5 singles Oct (RAB).

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. Winter counts: Dumf, 100+ Lochmaben 4 Mar (NEA, RTS); Ayr, 200+ Bogton Loch 12 Jan (RHH); Lan, 50 Carnwath 30 Jan-6 Feb (HSCH, KCRH); Arg, 150 Gruline, Mull 12 Jan (RFC); Rox, 200 Oxnarn 10 Feb (D. Cottee); Midl, 200 Portmore 17 Feb (JHB); Angus, 800 Glen Lethnot Jan (WG).

Spring migration: Shet, 3 Apr-5 May, mainly 25 Apr-2 May, when 100 Whalsay and 40 Skerries 2 May (ISR, BM, JHS), 34 Unst 1 May (MS), late one Skerries 31 May-2 June; Fair Isle, 10 Apr-24 May, mainly from 27 Apr (25), 3-4 May (170), fewer thereafter, late one 27 June (RAB); Ork, ♂ sang 3 days early June Binscarth (LH); Caith, 12 Stirkoke 5 May (KB, DS); Inv, big arrival 7-14 Apr, when peak 700+ in roost at L Malloch 14 Apr (MM, RHD, RL), many singing but none stayed, ♂ song Glenurquhart 16-27 May (I. C. Monro); Aber, last Cruden Bay 11 May (RBH); Isle of May 25 Mar-18 May, peak 25 on 4 May.

Return passage: Shet, low numbers from 5 Oct, max 70 Kergord 27 Oct; Fair Isle, sparse passage from 28 Sep, max 2 Oct (26), 17 Oct (30) (RAB); O Heb, max 6 Leurbost 6 Oct (PGH); Perth, 50 Glenalmond 7 Nov (JI); Isle of May, 1-23 Oct, peak 12 on 20 Oct; E Loth, more than usual Aberlady, 18 on 27 Oct increased to 135 on 2 Nov (RGN); Dumf, scarce, max 20 Solwaybank 3 Oct (BJ-F).

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*. Numbers remain low and decreasing; Shet, song 7 places but no proved breeding. Counts : 35 Sanday, Ork 3 Mar (AC, DL); O Heb, 12 Eorpie 13 Jan (RHD); Midl, 50 Duddingston 24 Jan (IB). Migrants : Fair Isle, 1 Apr, 17-18th, 27-29 Apr, 28 May (RAB).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. Breeding reports : Ork, 1 pr nested Firth; fewer Caith (PMC); increase to 8 prs Vane, Kinr (5 prs in 1973) (TOJ); good numbers Ayr (AGS); scarcer Renf (HG) but 25 prs on 145 acres farmland Elderslie (KRRS).

Migrants : Shet, Skerries 24 Mar, 26th (5), 27th (3), 28 Mar-2 Apr (2), 3-4th (5) (ISR), 1 Whalsay 3 Apr, another 28 Apr (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, 28 Mar, 3-6 Apr (1-2), 30 Apr, 1-3 May, 14-15th, 19th, 21 May, 21 Oct, 4th and 27-30 Nov (RAB); Isle of May 26 Mar, 7-8th and 11 May.

***Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila*. Adult ♂ Foula 9-14 July (R. Furness, BEG); first time this east Siberian bunting has been recorded in British Isles; possibility of escape being considered by BOU Records Committee.

***Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala*. Two records : Fair Isle, ♀ 6-7 Oct (RAB *et al*); Arg, ♂ in song Isle of Seil 21 June (Mr and Mrs D. Richmond).

*† **Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps*. Nine records : Fair Isle, ♂ 1-2 June, ♂ 14 Aug, ♂ 25 Aug (RAB); Ork, ♂ Copinsay 8-11 Aug (KH); Caith, ♂ Skirza Head 20 Mar (G. Berry); Perth, ♂ Dunblane 12 June (AM, TDHM); Arg, ♂ Calgary 18 May (R. E. Thomas); Inv, juv ♂ Rhum mid Aug (PC).

***Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*. 8 records is double usual annual total; Shet, Skerries one 12 Sep, 2 on 13th, one 14th (ISR, SR, RJT); Fair Isle, 4 individuals : one 29 Aug-3 Sep, one 10-17 Sep joined by another 16-17 Sep, one 23-25 Sep (RAB); Isle of May, one 31 Aug-5 Sep (GLS), another 2-5 Sep (JHB, DRL, DM, LLJV).

***Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*. About 20 records : Shet, Skerries 12 May, 14th (2), 15-18th, 20 May, 29 Aug, 13-14 Sep (ISR, SR *et al*), Whalsay two 15 May, 4 Sep, 5th (2) (BM, JHS); Fair Isle, singles 9-15 May, 2 on 13th, 3 on 2-3 Sep, 4th (2), 5th (5), decreased to 2 on 7th, one 11th (RAB).

***Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*. Seven records in spring is most ever; none autumn. Shet, ♂ Whalsay 13 May (BM), ♂ Skerries 16 May (ISR, SR), 1 Whalsay 20-21 May (JHS); Fair Isle, ♀ 10-14 May, ♂ 15-16 May, another ♂ 17-22 May (RAB *et al*); Isle of May, 18 May (J. A. Morgan).

***Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*. Two records : Fair Isle, 10-13 Oct (RAB *et al*); Isle of May, 11-12 Oct (MFC, TI, DSK).

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. Migration : Fair Isle, small passage from 17 Mar, mainly 26 Apr-20 May, peaks 25 on 30 Apr increasing to 40 on 5 May, scarce autumn 15 Sep-8 Nov, max 3 (RAB); Shet, main passage 30 Apr-22 May, peak 20 Skerries, 26 Whalsay, 9 Mainland 11 May, 13 Fetlar 15 May, scarce autumn.

***Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*. Spring passage Fair Isle 12 Mar, 21st, 26-28th Mar, 3 Apr, 1-2 daily 30 Apr-5 May (RAB). Summer : ad ♂ in breeding plumage Ben Alisky, Caith, 30 June (AFCMC, SL) is very interesting.

Autumn : Shet, Papa Stour 8 Sep (PKK), 3 Whalsay 21 Sep (BM, JHS), Skerries 29-30 Sep (ISR); Fair Isle, 15 Sep, 18th (2), 1-5 daily 25 Sep-18 Oct, max 10 on 12-13 Oct, one 24-26 Oct, 2 on 4 Nov (RAB); St Kilda 3 on 26 Aug-2 Sep (PL, AJW); Moray, Culbin 6 Oct (RAFKOS); Aber, 4 Forvie 23 Oct (PRS); Isle of May, 2 on 13 Sep (JADH *et al*); Arg, 2 Ardnacross, Mull 5 Sep (RFC), 2 Ardnave, Islay, 15 Oct (per CGB).

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Breeding status: Suth, pr nested, 5 eggs 13 June (DLC, J. Mullins), ♂ on another mountain 30 May (D. Britton); 4-6 prs Cairngorms but little information received, 4 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀ present 17 June, nest 6 eggs found (DLC); Lochaber, 2 ♂♂ and ♀ at 1973 site in June but breeding not proved (JCu); ♂ singing Ben Nevis 15 June-28 July (D. A. Skinner); Perth, pr at NW mountain last week May (G. N. Cope).

Winter counts: Shet, 200 Mid-Yell 13 Feb (RJT); O Heb, 150 Eorpie 13 Jan (RHD); Angus, 500 Glen Clova Jan (NP); Midl, 40 Musselburgh 6 Jan-16 Feb (LLJV). Spring passage: 5 Mull of Galloway, Wig 10 Mar (RHH); E Loth, last Aberlady 24 Apr (IAGB); Suth, 1 Handa 11 June (CJE); Fair Isle, rather scarce to 11 May, late one 25th (RAB); Shet, most gone by 21 Apr, stragglers to 5 June.

Autumn passage: Shet, an early juv Foula 7 Aug (BEG), next Papa Stour 8 Sep, daily from 22nd, max 300 Sumburgh 11-14 Nov; Fair Isle, rapid early build up from 4 on 7 Sep to 80 on 9th and 100 on 12th, larger influxes later 350 on 25th and 29th Oct, 800 on 30th, 100 on 6 Nov increased to 1,500 on 7th and a staggering 3,000+ on 8th, 800 stayed to 18th (RAB); Ork, 1st 45 Evie 5 Sep (SG); O Heb, 400 Butt of Lewis 18 Nov (GW); Caith, max 500 Thurso 26 Dec (JMG); Suth, max 200 Dornoch 22 Dec (BL); Moray, 200 Findhorn 1 Nov (RAFKOS); Aber/Kinc, 1st Girdle Ness 12 Sep (DB), 600 Rattray Dec (JD); Midl, 100 Harperrig 22 Dec (JSO); E Loth, 1st Aberlady 14 Sep (IAGB).

*†**Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina amoena*. Three records: ♂ Achfary, Suth, late May (per IDP); ♀ trapped Fair Isle 20-22 May, definitely cage-bird (RAB); ♂ Sumburgh, Shet 5 Sep.

*†**Varied Bunting** *Passerina versicolor*. ♂ trapped Fair Isle 8-17 Oct, undoubtedly an escaped cage-bird (RAB).



House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. Dumf, slow decline reported; Inv, 12 on 27 Aug were 1st at Whiteness oilrig yard (RHD).

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*. Bred Ork-O Heb south; more E Loth, fewer Dumf nest boxes (RTS). Counts: 80+ Muirton Perth, 10 Feb (RLMcM), 75 Errol 30 Nov (LS); 22 Stornoway, O Heb, 6 Aug (RHH).

Passage: Shet, Skerries 16 May, 19th (25), 20-21st (30) down to 27th (2), 1 on 2 June, 5 on 5th (ISR), 2 Noss 30 Apr, 2 Sumburgh 19 May, 1 Foula 5 Aug; Fair Isle, 18 Mar, few Apr-early May, then influx from 11 May, 13th (17), 17th (37), only 1 remained 23rd, small numbers in June, max 7 on 14th, small numbers 19 Aug-29 Sep and 4-14 Oct, max 7 on 9 Oct, some to 12 Nov (RAB); Ork, 6 Sanday 13 May (CJB), 2 Copinsay 30 May-3 June (MASB); Inv, 1 Rhum 15 Oct (per PC).

Additions and corrections to earlier reports

1972 Addition

Grey-headed Wagtail ♂ L Eyre, Skye, 24 June (D. Britton).

1973 Additions

Pheasant ♀ and 15 young Fidra, E Loth, July (RWJS).

Red-necked Phalarope O Heb, single pairs at two sites, one reared 3 young.

Golden Oriole Fife, ♂ in song in May (near 1974 breeding site) (anon).

Redwing Shet, pr feeding 4 young in nest N Unst 20 July (G. Catley).

Arctic Warbler One Gulberwick, Shet, 22 Sep (NLS, JS, VS).

Dunnock Fair Isle, old nest and four eggs found in winter; first ever nesting attempt (GJB).

1972 Correction

House Sparrow Entry on page 279 of 1973 *Scottish Bird Report* should read Foula not Handa.

1973 Correction

Hen Harrier line 7, page 232; for "2 forest pairs reared 7 young each" read "2 forest pairs reared a total of 7 young".

Request for Information

Carrion/Hooded Crows and hybrids A project investigating the genetics of Carrion and Hooded Crows and their hybrids is being started at the Zoology Department, Oxford. They wish to collect small blood samples from broods produced by hybrid pairs and mixed pairs, together with blood from pure broods in nearby areas for control purposes. Such samples would be most easily obtained from chicks just prior to fledging and the investigators would be most grateful to receive any information about the nest locations of mixed Crow pairs. Information on sites used in 1975 would be valuable, but it is hoped in particular that some observers may be able to inform them about such pairs, together with their probable hatching/fledging dates, as early as possible in the 1976 breeding season so that suitable collecting trips can be arranged.

Any information, with grid references to sites please, would be gratefully received by Mr P. J. Bacon, Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology, Department of Zoology, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PS.

The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

WEEKEND EXCURSION IN ARGYLL

The Stirling Branch has arranged a winter weekend in Argyll. Following the success of the Garvellach's trip in June 1975, it has been decided to take some self-catering cottages rather than the hotel used previously. The excursion will be from the evening of Friday 5th March 1976 until Sunday afternoon 7th March, and will be based near Ford. Those attending will be expected to provide their own bedding and food. Applications and further information can be obtained from the Branch Secretary, D. M. Bryant, c/o Department of Biology, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA. Unfortunately the number of places will be very limited. Please send s.a.e.

GLASGOW BRANCH SOCIAL EVENING

The Glasgow Branch will hold a buffet supper and social evening on Friday 19th March 1976 at 7.15 p.m. in the Hillhead Refectory, Glasgow University. Tickets, price £2 per person, include a glass of sherry and a glass of wine. Tickets may be obtained by post, enclosing a cheque, or booked by phone, from the Secretary, Mrs M. Draper, Otter's Holt, 37 Drumbrock Road, Strathblane, Glasgow G63 9DG (tel. Blanefield 70545).

AYR BRANCH SOCIAL EVENING

The Branch will be holding a Social Evening, taking the form of a Wine and Cheese Party, at the Wallace Tower Rooms, High Street, Ayr at 7.30 for 8 p.m. on Wednesday 17th March 1976. There will be competitions and a raffle. Tickets, price £1.50 per person, will be available up to 28th February 1976 on application with remittance to Miss R. Beckett, 30 Maybole Road, Ayr. Please enclose s.a.e. for confirmation of booking.

DRY ROT - 21 REGENT TERRACE

In the last number of the journal members were told of the dry rot discovered in our headquarters at 21 Regent Terrace in Edinburgh. At the time of going to press, in mid-December, members had donated over £160 towards the cost of repairs, and a 'Bring and Buy' coffee morning in Edinburgh raised just over £100. These donations are most gratefully received.

It is understood that members in some branches intend to organize events to raise funds for the Club, and it is hoped that encouragement and support will be given to them by other members. All contributions will be very welcome, however small. These, and any individual donation, should be sent to the Club Secretary and will be acknowledged.

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, Thurso and Wigtown at which lectures by prominent ornithologists are given and films exhibited. Expeditions are organised throughout the year 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.

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

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

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

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

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

S.O.C.

BIRD BOOKSHOP



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Birds of the African Bush. Fennessey & Brown	£6.95
Bird Life (Australia). Rowley	£5.25
Duck Wings: a Study of Duck Production. <i>Boyd, Harrison and Allison</i>	50p
Window into a Nest (Blue Tits). <i>Flanagan & Morris</i>	£3.25
Threatened Birds of Europe. Hudson	£4.95
Birdwatching. Saunders	60p
Second Bird Watchers' Book. Gooders (ed.)	£3.95
Wildlife Begins at Home. Soper	£2.95
The Book of Birds: Five Centuries of Bird Illustration. Lysaght	£20.00

Bargains

At the Turn of the Tide. Perry	£1.75
Gamebirds of Southern Africa. Clancey	£1.50
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The Naturalist in Scotland. Knowlton	£4.50
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Fair Isle Bird Observatory Reports to 1974	50p
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The Cairngorms. Nethersole-Thompson & Watson	£3.50
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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

1. General notes (not of sufficient importance to be published on their own as Short Notes) should be sent to the appropriate local recorders for inclusion in their summary for the annual Scottish Bird Report, not to the editor. A list of local recorders is published from time to time, but in cases of doubt the editor will be glad to forward notes to the right person.
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 offprints of the paper. Extra 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.

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