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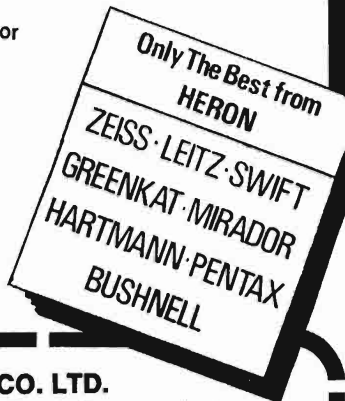
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Volume 9 No. 4

Winter 1976

Edited by D. J. Bates

Scottish Bird Report 1975

Compiled by ROY H. DENNIS

(Plates 17-20)

This is the eighth in the new series of annual reports on the birds of Scotland; the previous ones were published in *Scot. Birds* volumes 5-8. It is a concise summary of data collected on all species known to have occurred in Scotland in 1975. 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 very 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 areas are better covered than elsewhere, but there are pockets of good cover in most regions. For some areas more information is published and greater detail given in local reports such as the *Fair Isle Bird Observatory Report*, the *Shetland Bird Report*, the *Isle of May Report* (9: 93-102), the *North-east Scotland Bird Report*, the *Perthshire 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 references on regional ornithology.

In the species list 312 species are mentioned, the most ever in one year, 40 being represented by only one individual of each species. At least seven 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.

1975 was a most exciting year for rare birds and the amazing total of six new birds were added to the Scottish List. In spring, a Terek Sandpiper arrived at Whalsay in Shetland, while from the other direction a North American Hermit

Thrush was found at Fair Isle. In autumn, Fair Isle added two more new species to the British List with two Tennessee Warblers from North America in September and a Siberian Ruby-throat in October. A Bobolink was identified at Out Skerries in Shetland and lastly, also from North America was a Pied-billed Grebe at Carlingwark Loch in Kirkcudbrightshire.

There were good arrivals in the autumn from across the North Atlantic and from the east, especially in October. Rare species included Night Heron, Blue-winged Teal, eight Surf Scoters, two Red and two Black Kites, Kentish and Lesser Golden Plovers, Long-billed Dowitcher, Great Snipe, Upland Sandpiper, Black-winged Stilt, Laughing, Ross's and two Bonaparte's Gulls, Caspian Tern, two Pallas's Sandgrouse, Dusky and White's Thrushes, Red-flanked Bluetail, four Lanceolated and four Pallas's Warblers, Collared Flycatcher, Pechora Pipit and Parrot Crossbill.

The record of a pair of Spotted Sandpipers, from North America, nesting in the Highland Region was new for Europe. Leach's Petrels were found in higher numbers at Foula, while Gannets nested successfully on Fair Isle. Three to five broods of Goldeneyes were hatched in Inverness-shire but Ospreys had a disappointing year with only seven pairs rearing 16 young. The Snowy Owls reared four young but a second female was unsuccessful. A Glaucous Gull was found breeding with a Herring Gull in Shetland and they produced hybrid young; a Long-tailed Skua was found freshly dead on high ground in summer. A pair of Wrynecks bred successfully and reared at least six young; others were heard in song. The spring was cold and long, with periods of snow even in June; later it was hot.

Both ends of the year were relatively mild and unusually high numbers of Blackcaps and Chiffchaffs wintered. A surprising arrival of Spoonbills occurred in spring and there were more Rough-legged Buzzards than usual. Bean Goose numbers were better but Greylags and Pinkfeet showed a further decrease in numbers due to poor breeding success. There was a strong influx of Buff-breasted Sandpipers into the UK in autumn, eight were found in Scotland; later, good numbers of Long-eared Owls arrived from Scandinavia along with another irruption of Waxwings.

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 subject to acceptance. Records of species not on that list but regarded as rare in Scotland have required adequate supporting evidence before publication. We appeal to observers to submit descriptions of rare or unusual species to the local recorder as soon as possible, pref-

erably on an unusual-record form, obtainable free from the local recorder.

This year for the first time we have dropped observers' initials from species entries with the exception of those rare birds where there are ten records or less. This decision was not lightly taken and was agreed at the meeting of local recorders; it eases the compilation of the report very considerably and we hope that observers are not too disappointed. 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 important errors and omissions.

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 qualifications such as near and about. Because of continued uncertainty about the use of regional and district localities, we have chosen to continue with the county names for the time being. References in the form (5: 218) are to volumes and pages of *Scottish Birds*. The sequence and names of species follow *BTO Guide 13: A Species List of British and Irish Birds* (1971) as far as possible. An asterisk * indicates that all known records are given. Most scientific names are omitted to save space.

The sketches that illustrate the text were drawn by W. R. Brackenridge (Stonechat), Keith Brockie (Arctic Terns, Wry-neck tail-feather, Dipper), John Busby (Honey Buzzard, Lesser Redpoll), Crispin Fisher (Teal, Grey Wagtail, Greenfinch), R. H. Hogg (Gyr Falcon, Buff-breasted Sandpiper) and Donald Watson (Oystercatcher, Turnstone, Black Guillemot).

The photographs are by N. K. Atkinson, R. A. Broad, D. Coutts and B. Zonfrillo.

I would like to thank them and everyone else who has contributed or helped with the 1975 report. My special thanks go to the local recorders for their considerable efforts in collecting and collating the records.

Local recorders in 1975

Shetland (except Fair Isle) R. J. Tulloch, Lussetter House, Mid Yell, Shetland.

Fair Isle R. A. Broad, Bird Observatory, Fair Isle, Shetland.

Orkney D. Lea, Easter Sower, Orphir, Orkney KW17 2RE.

Outer Hebrides (except St Kilda) Dr P. G. Hopkins, 31 Glentrool Village, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire (see changes below).

St Kilda Dr I. D. Pennie, Varkasaig, Scourie, Sutherland.

Caitness Mrs P. M. Collett, Sandyquoy, East Gills, Scrabster, Caitness KW14 7UH.

Sutherland, Ross-shire (except Black Isle) D. Macdonald, Elmbank, Dornoch, Sutherland.

Inverness-shire (within 18 miles of Inverness) Ross-shire (Black Isle only) Dr Maeve Rusk, 18 Morvern Road, Inverness IV2 4BU (see changes below).

Inverness-shire (mainland more than 18 miles from Inverness) R. H. Dennis, Landberg, North Kessock, Inverness IV1 1XD.

Nairnshire, Morayshire, Banffshire J. Edelsten, 14 South High Street, Portsoy, Banffshire AB4 2NT.

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.

South Kincardineshire, Angus N. K. Atkinson, Barrack Street Museum, Dundee and G. M. Crighton, 23 Church Street, Brechin, Angus.

Perthshire R. L. McMillan, 44 Durley Dene Crescent, Kintillo, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire.

Kinross-shire Mrs B. H. Gray (Miss B. H. Moore), Vane Farm, Kinross.

Isle of May J. M. S. Arnott, East Redford House, Redford Road, Edinburgh EH13 0AS.

Fife D. W. Oliver, East Cottage, Balass, Cupar, Fife.

Clackmannanshire, East Stirlingshire Dr C. J. Henty, 3 The Broich, Alva, Clackmannanshire.

West Lothian, Forth islands (except May) Midlothian R. W. J. Smith, 33 Hunter Terrace, Loanhead, Midlothian.

East Lothian, Berwickshire K. S. Macgregor, 16 Merchiston Avenue, Edinburgh EH10 4NY

Peeblesshire Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire A. J. Smith, Glenview, Selkirk TD7 4LX.

Argyllshire, Inner Hebrides, Skye M. J. P. Gregory, Duiletter, Kilmory Road, Lochgilphead, Argyllshire PA31 8NL.

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

Dumfriesshire D. Skilling, 86 Auchenkeld Avenue, Heathhall, Dumfries, and R. T. Smith, Applegarthtown, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.

Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtownshire A. D. Watson, Barone, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Changes of local recorders

We welcome Norman Atkinson as co-recorder for South Kincardineshire and Angus. Both he and George Crighton now compile the area's records for the *Angus Wildlife Review*.

Two recorders retired at the end of 1975 and we would like to thank Dr Maeve Rusk and Dr Peter Hopkins most sincerely for all their good work towards the Scottish Bird Report. The new recorders are W. A. J. Cunningham (who we welcome back) and M. I. Harvey.

1976

Outer Hebrides (except St Kilda) W. A. J. Cunningham, Aros, 10 Barony Square, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.

Inverness-shire (within 18 miles of Inverness) Ross-shire (Black Isle only) M. I. Harvey, Clach Bhan, Loancheim, Kiltarlity, Inverness-shire

List of observers

More than 800 observers contributed records for 1975 to the local records and we are extremely grateful to them. Not all contributors are mentioned in this list, since in many cases records were summarized before submission to me.

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Species List

Black-throated Diver Breeding success influenced by low water levels in spring, flooding in June, and human disturbance. Sample census: Caith, 6 prs checked, 1 successful with 1 young; Suth, 13 prs checked, 4 reared 4 young; Ross, 15 prs checked, 4 reared 5 young; Inv, 11 prs checked, 3 reared 5 young; Perth, 6 prs checked, 3 young reared; Arg, 7 prs checked, all failed; Ayr, pr reared 1 young after 1st nest robbed; Galloway, none bred. Despite poor breeding success throughout Scotland, pr near Fort Augustus, Inv, reared 2 young—the 4th occasion in last 5 years.

Shet, 1 N Roe 5 Aug; Ork, 1 Holm Sound 4 Mar, 3 Waulkmill Bay 4 May, 1-4 Echnaloch Bay 2-17 Sep, 1 Graemsay 9 Oct; O Heb, 10 Branahue Banks 4 Mar, 11 on 11 July; Suth, 10 Fleet Bar 23 Feb; Ross, 6 Applecross 8 Feb, 13SE Tarbat Ness 7 Sep, 7 Chanonry Ness 24 Feb; Moray, 12 Burghead-Culbin 19 Jan; Aber, 9 Forvie 2 Sep; Midl, 1 Musselburgh 1 Oct, 3 Nov; E Loth, max 14 Gosford mid Mar; Ayr, 10 Turnberry Bay 23 Feb, 5+ Dipple 8 Nov; Wig, several S Crammog Head 28 Sep. Records, especially E coast S from Golspie, suggest increasing nos. remaining to winter.

Great Northern Diver Winter-spring: Shet, 200-400 wintered, peaks 37 Whalsay 10 Feb, 23 Fetlar 3 May; Ork, 450+ wintered, including 200 Scapa Flow and 160 N of Gairsay 27 Feb; O Heb, 18 L Aulasay and 14 Vacasay, N Uist, 15-22 Feb, 25 Broad Bay 4 May; Caith, 20 Dunnet Bay 4 May; Suth, 21 L Eriboll 5 May; Skye, 7 Broadford 15 Apr; E Loth, 12 Tynninghame 30 Jan; Arg, 91 Sound of Gigha 23 Apr, 219 divers, mainly this sp, N in 3 hrs Frenchman's Rocks, Islay, 4 May, 13 L na Keal, Mull, 7 May; Ayr, 5 Turnberry Bay 23 Feb; Wig, 23 Luce Bay 20 Jan.

Summer: late departure, good nos. summered coasts Shet-Arg; inland singles L Migdale, Suth, 2 June and W Ross loch 29 Aug.

Autumn: first Fair Isle 11 Sep; Moray, 1 Burghead 13 Sep; Isle of May, 1 on 15 Oct; Midl, 1 Musselburgh 30 Sep; Wig, 2 Chapel Rossan Bay 2 Nov, 2 Drummore 2 Nov.

Red-throated Diver Generally good year but breeding success varied from area to area. Samples: Shet, 49 prs checked reared 18 young; Ork, 23 prs checked Mainland reared 18 young; Caith, c12 prs checked reared 4 young; Suth/Ross, good year, 2 prs reared 3 young Handa, 1 pr with young Tain; Inv, 9 prs checked Rhum reared 5 young; Arg, 10 prs checked reared 4 young, 4 prs Coll reared 4 young; Renf, pr laid but robbed; Galloway, nil; Aber, pr summered L Muick; Banff, 1 L Builg 5 May.

Counts and passage: Shet, main return from 2 Feb, fresh water dates 5 Feb-26 Oct; Ork, 29 Jan-15 Nov; Suth, 17 Dornoch 1 Jan; Ross, 20 Chanonry Ness 8 Nov; Moray, 97 Burghead-Culbin 19 Jan; 18 Burghead 10 Oct; Aber, 18 summering offshore Forvie 23 July, 320 Ythan-Cruden Bay 12 Oct, 250 off 1½ mile beach S of Ythan 13 Dec; Midl, 10 Musselburgh 2 Oct; E Loth, more than usual Feb-Apr, 40-85 Gullane Mar, 57 on 12 Apr, 14 Tynninghame 10 Apr; Arg, 26 Sound of Gigha 17 Apr; Dunb, 3 Cardross 27 Jan, 3 Ardmore 2 Feb; Arran, 4 King's Cave 6 Dec; Ayr, 7 Prestwick 2 Feb; Wig, 30 divers, mainly this sp, S per hour Crammog Head 28 Sep. Inland singles: L Loriston, Aber, 1 Nov; L Leven, Kinr, 17 Jan-26 Feb (found dead).

Great Crested Grebe Moray, 1 L Spynie 13 Apr but no breeding; Aber, c9 ads summer but no young; Perth, 84 ads (same as 1965 but 3 new sites); Angus, 10 ads and 10 young Monikie 17 Sep; Fife, poor year, but

increase Lindores to 16-17 ads 9 Aug; W Loth, breeding excellent Linlithgow where 14 juvs; Selk/Rox, 6 prs; Clyde, 90-100 ads 31 May-1 June, 30+ young reared; Galloway, c37 ads on 13 sites, slightly more than 1973, success low.

Counts and migration : Shet, 1 Grutness 20 Apr; Ork, 1 Holm Sound 5 Nov; Suth, 2 Dornoch 1 Jan, 1 Golspie 25 Jan; Aber, peak 4 Murcar 11 Oct; Perth, 20 Seaside 15 Aug; Kinr, L Leven peaks 20 on 21 Jan, 18 on 7 Sep, 25 on 8 Nov; Fife, 14 Largo Bay 21 Dec; Stir, 108 Grangemouth 9 Mar, 83 on 2 Oct; Midl, 73 Musselburgh 23 Feb, 100 on 2-8 Mar, 47 on 11 Sep, 99 on 16 Oct, 405 Seafeld 11 Jan, 100 on 8 Mar, 123 Cramond-Granton 14 Feb, 230 Leith-Musselburgh 22 Dec; E Loth, 23 Gullane 19 Sep; Arg, 1 L Indaal, Islay, 9 and 29 Jan; Dunb, 23 Ardmore 19 Oct; Renf, 18 Lochwinnoch 26 Feb, 38 on 25 Aug; Wig, 117 L Ryan 28 Sep, 89 on 22 Nov, more than usual.

Red-necked Grebe Winter-spring : mainly S shore Firth of Forth, peaks 40 Gosford-Gullane, E Loth, 9 Mar, some into Apr; Midl, 5 Seafeld 18 Jan; elsewhere, 1 Dildawn, Kirk, 10 Feb-9 Mar; Dunb, 2 Ardmore Point 2 Feb; Arg, 1 Bruichladdich 2 Mar (1st for Islay); Moray, 1 Findhorn 19 Jan; O Heb, 1 L Eynort, S Uist 15-22 Feb; Ork, 1 Wyre Sound 1 Mar, 1 Water Sound 4 Apr.

Summer : 1 L Duntelchaig, Inv, 9-11 Aug; ad summered Perth and ad displaying Carluke, Lan, 25 May. Recent records suggest possibility of breeding in future.

Autumn : Ork, 1 Scapa Bay 16-19 Sep, 1 Echnaloch Bay 18 Oct; Aber, 1 off the Don 8 Sep, Murcar 4 Oct; Angus, 1 Lunan Bay 2 Sep; Isle of May, 1 on 14-17 Oct; Midl, 6 Musselburgh 4 Aug, 2 on 8 Oct, 1 on 30 Nov; E Loth, from July, 50 Gosford last week Aug; Dunb, 2 Ardmore Point 9 Nov, 1 on 13 and 20 Dec.

Slavonian Grebe 56-59 prs in Caith, Inv, Moray and Perth : Caith, pr with 2 young 6 July; Inv, 51-53 prs: 19 prs in north of which 9 prs reared 13 young, 31-33 prs on 6 lochs south of Great Glen reared 10+, and probably c20, young, pr Strathspey failed; Moray, 4 prs on 1 loch reared 2-3 young; Perth, pr reared 2 young, also pr L of Lowes did not breed.

Winter-spring : Shet, 71+ wintered, peaks 25 Sullom Voe 3 Mar, 29 Tresta/Bixter Voes 7 Feb, 37 on 18 Mar, last 2 Uyeasound 7 June; Ork, c60 wintered Scapa Flow, 14 Stronsay 11-12 Mar, last Waulkmill Bay 31 May; Suth, 14 Embo 1 Jan, last Durness 6 May; Inv, return to lochs 6 on 9 Feb; Banff, 1 on 3 May; Kinr, 1 L Leven 16 Jan; Midl, 6 Musselburgh 15 Feb; E Loth, 10-40 Gosford-Gullane, max 60+ on 9 Mar; Arg, 8 Tayinloan 15 Feb, 4 Islay 1 Feb; Dunb, 1 Ardmore 2 Feb; Ayr, 2 Hunterston 28 Mar; Wig, 2 L Ryan 4 Jan, 1 Feb; Kirk, 1 Brighthouse Bay 7 Mar.

Migration and autumn counts : Shet, 3 Tingwall 29 Sep, 18 Tresta-Bixter Voes 30 Sep; Suth, 4 Dornoch 12 Oct; Aber, 1 Strathbeg 18 Aug, 5 Rattray 25 Oct; Fife, 1 L Gelly 19-21 Dec; Arg, 7 L na Keal, Mull, 6 Oct; Dunb, 1 Endrick Mouth 1-9 Nov; Lan, 1 Carmunnock 1-7 Sep; Wig, 3 L Ryan 16 Nov, 5 on 22 Nov.

Black-necked Grebe At E of 2 main colonies C Lowlands, 1st 7 birds 16 Mar, max 18 on 28 Mar, 10 on 29 Mar but probably only 2 prs bred and 1 chick seen 11 Aug; at other colony 8+ prs on 26 May but success not known; pr reared 1 young at loch in between.

Counts and migrants : Suth, 1 Dornoch 1 Jan and 9 Feb, 1 Embo 23 Feb; Moray, 1 Culbin 19 Jan; Aber, 1 Meikle L 3-5 May, 1 L of Strathbeg 27-28 Aug; Fife, 1 Cameron res 14 Sep and 12 Oct, 1 St Andrews 8 Nov; E Loth, 1 Gosford 19 Jan, 19 Feb, 7 Oct, 1 Gullane 19 Dec, 1 Whiteadder res 12 Oct; Rox, 1 Alemeer Loch 31 Aug; Wig, peaks L Ryan 8 on 4 Jan, 6 on 8 Mar, 6 on 28 Sep, 9 on 22 Nov, 2 Chapel Rossan Bay 2 Nov.

Little Grebe Breeding population remains high and good breeding season. Caith, 11 ads L Watanan 4 May.

Counts and migration : Shet, absent 30 Mar-21 Sep, max 3 Boddam 14 Dec; Fair Isle, 1 on 19-20 Oct; Ork, 2 North Ronaldsay 18 Feb; Inv, 25 L Flemington 5 Sep; Midl, 6 Musselburgh 15 Feb, 5 on 22 Nov; Lan, 19 Hamilton Low Parks 13 Dec.

***Pied-billed Grebe** One Carlingwark Loch, Kirk, 1 Oct to at least 8 Oct (LAU, ADW *et al*), 1st Scottish record of this American species.

***Black-browed Albatross** Ad Hermaness, Shet, 16 Mar-18 Aug (DJF, RJT *et al*)—the usual bird in the Gannet colony. Ad Hoy Sound, Ork, 21 Aug (GB), date suggests S movement of Shet bird.

Fulmar Breeding : Shet, 18,000 breeding prs plus 5,000 site holders Foula, 1st eggs 16 May; Fair Isle, complete census 25,648 occupied sites (16,264 in 1969)—continued marked increase, 1st eggs 17 May; Ork, 1st eggs Sanday 14 May, 43 sites Sule Skerry; Kinr, 1st at inland colony 18 Feb, peak 11 on 1 May, last on 12 Aug; Firth of Forth, 45 prs Craigeleith is well down, 396 sites Inchkeith; Inv, 586 sites Canna is stable. Blue-phase birds breeding Fair Isle, Vidlin, Noss and Noness, Shet.

Counts and inland records : Angus, 2W Tay Rail Bridge 6 Sep; Perth/Stir, 1 Killearn, W Stir, 11 Apr, 1 Lake of Menteith 20 Apr, 1 Kincardine Bridge 25 May; Renf, 1S Inverkip 22 Sep. Blue-phase birds : Shet, 8 off-shore Mar-Jan and Nov; Fair Isle, 12 from 6 Feb (2)-21 Sep (2); Ork, 6 from 27 Jan-6 May; Kinc, Cove 3 May.

***Cory's Shearwater** One Machrihanish, Arg, 14 Aug (EJM).

Manx Shearwater Breeding : Shet, max evening count 100 Fetlar 19 June, newly fledged chick Unst 14 Sep; Ork, colony proved breeding N Hoy, max raft 300 on 4 July.

Passage and counts : Shet, Foula 8 Mar-26 Nov; Fair Isle, 12 Aug-13 Sep, max 7 on 18 Aug; Ross, 12 Priest Island 21 July, 7 Chanonry Ness 6 Sep; Aber/Kinc, 21 May-22 Sep, max 14N Girdleness 21 May; Angus, 3 on 17 Apr, 17 on 10 May; Fife, good spring passage, max 240N per hr on 16 June; Midl, 9W Musselburgh 27 Apr, 55W on 7 May, 78 on 14 June; E Loth, max 115 in 3 hrs Gullane 8 June; Ber, 28 Eyemouth 25 July; Ayr, 1,100N in 3 hrs Troon 24 July, 161N in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Turnberry Point 1 Sep, 150+ Dunure 3 Sep; Wig, 30N per hr Corsewall Point 30 Aug, c500 on 13 Sep.

***Great Shearwater** Two SE Stornoway, O Heb, 5 July (GRH, PSH), 1N Girdleness, Kinc, 29 Sep (PME).

Large shearwater (Great/Cory's) : 1N Girdleness 29 Sep (PME).

Sooty Shearwater Low nos. 1 July-28 Oct. Shet, 35 from 24 Aug-20 Sep, max 23 Grutness-Fair Isle 5 Sep; Fair Isle, 17 Aug-4 Oct, mainly 13-16 Sep, max 30 on 16th, other peaks 20 on 4 Sep, 20 on 26th, last on crossing to Shetland 28 Oct; Ork, 1 Pentland Firth 1 July, few Aug-1 Oct; O Heb, 71S Scalpay, Harris, 17 July, small group Stornoway-Ullapool 11 Oct; Suth, 30W in 3 hrs Strathy Point 10 Sep, 20W in 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs Achinver 14 Sep; Inv, 60SW Rhum 5 Sep; Aber/Kinc, 5 Aug-29 Sep, 9N in hr Girdleness 15 Sep; Isle of May, 30 on 15 Sep; Fife Ness, max 6 on 15 Sep; E Loth, 1 Gullane 2 July—only record; Arg, 159S in 4 hrs Frenchman's Rocks, Islay 8 Sep, 36 Mull-Tiree 27 Aug; Ayr, 1N Troon 12 Sep, 3N Turnberry Point 1 Sep; Wig, 1S Corsewall Point 13 Sep.

Storm Petrel Breeding : Shet, 1st Fetlar 24 May; Ork, new small colony Eynhallow, 596 ringed Sule Skerry mid July; W Ross, 1,100 ringed Priest Island and colony estimated 10,000 pairs.

Other records : Shet, singles Scalloway 1 and 3 Oct, Greenhead 19 Oct, newly fledged young on Yell Sound Ferry 5 Nov; Fair Isle, singles (with down) at lighthouse 3rd, 12th and 14 Oct; Suth, max 11 Handa 22 Aug; Fife, 1 Burntisland 28 Nov, died; Skye, 1 Portree 10 Nov; Arg, 10 Mull-

Tiree 27 Aug, 2 Machrihanish 28 Feb; Ayr, 1 off Ailsa Craig 7 June, 1S Turnberry Point 31 Aug, 4N on 1 Sep.

Leach's Petrel Foula, 54 caught, 3 controls from 1974, young in same nest as 1975, 6-7 occupied burrows located; Fair Isle, singles ashore at night 4th, 9th (3), 11th, 30 Aug and 1 (with down) at lighthouse 26 Oct; Ork, 28 ringed Sule Skerry 17-24 July but breeding not proved; O Heb, possible increase W end Eilean More, Flannans.

Migrants: Shet, 1 Scalloway 3 Oct, 1 Greenhead 15 Oct; 1 Inverness Harbour 2 June; Ayr, 1N Turnberry Point 31 Aug, 1N on 1 Sep, 1 Irvine 4 Oct.

Gannet Breeding: Fair Isle, new colony and successful breeding; first ashore 11 Apr (10), 35 ashore on 12 May, 8 large nests, 1 egg seen and 9 smaller nests, max 80 ashore on 14 June, 5 prs laid eggs, 4 chicks hatched and 3 flew, last still present 24 Sep. 2 ads ashore Bearasay, Flannans, 28 June and occasional birds sitting ashore Copinsay, Ork Apr-Aug.

Counts and migrants: Suth, 136 Embo 12 Oct; Ross, 67 Chanonry Ness 8 Nov; Inv, 1 River Beaully 19 Sep; Kinc, max 1,500N per hr Girdleness 10 Oct; Arg, 1,200W per hr Southend 4 Sep; Wig, 700 per hr Kirkmaiden 28 Sep.

Cormorant Shet, 444 nests all colonies except Ramna Stacks; Angus, 2-3 prs nested S of Auchmithie—1st proved for county; Ayr, 90-100 prs Ballantrae-Finnarts Point; Wig, 367 prs Castle Loch, Mochrum (287 in 1974).

Migration and counts: Ross, 350+ Munlochy tree roost Feb; Moray, 115 Speymouth 30 Nov; Perth, 50 tree roost Earn Mouth 10 Apr; Kinr, L Leven peaks 60 Jan-Mar, 70 on 16 Nov, 120 on 7 Dec; Stir, 687 Upper Forth 9 Feb; Midl, 1,200 Inchgarvie winter, 1,550 in Firth of Forth; Renf/Dunb, 280 Upper Clyde 21 Dec, 140 Ardmore 28 Oct.

Shag Breeding: Fair Isle, 1st eggs 19 Mar, broods smaller than usual, census 1,491 nests; Shet, 1st eggs 3 Apr; Ork, 542 nests Sule Skerry; Suth, c285 prs Handa, one-third decrease; Isle of May, 676 prs, down 31% on 1974; Forth, still increasing Inner Forth, but 7% decrease Outer Forth; Inv, 912 nests Canna, slight increase; Ayr, 20 prs at S Ayr colonies 28 Mar.

Counts: Shet, max 600 Sumburgh 9 Feb, 1,050 Hascosay 6 Feb, 960 Yell Sound 8 Jan; Suth, 770 Stoer 8 Aug; Aber, 70S per min Peterhead, 110S per min Scotstown and 250W per hr Roseheartly 21 Jan; Angus, 200 Usan 16 Aug; Stir, 1 Kincardine Bridge 23 Mar; Arg, 210 Tangy 17 Aug; Arran, 110 Blackwaterfoot 9 Nov; Dunb, 1 Ardmore 27 Jan.

Heron Breeding: Ork, pr bred W Mainland cliff, 2+ prs bred Hoy; O Heb, max 15 prs Locheport, N Uist; Caith, 2 prs bred in N; Ross, 25 prs Munlochy; Fife, 15 nests N Dunwood 18 Apr but after windblow and felling only 4 nests reared young; Perth, 33+ prs Bridge of Earn and 20 prs Dunning, 40+ prs Lake of Menteith; W Stir, 38 prs Gartfairn Wood; Ayr, 21 occupied nests Monkwood and 16 nests Fairlie 20 Apr; Kirk, 13 prs Kirroughtree. Generally a continued increase in population throughout country.

Migration and counts: Fair Isle, peaks 7 on 16 Aug and 10 on 12-13 Sep; Shet, 24 Bressay 24 Feb; Kinr, 16 L Leven 22 Oct; Arg, 34 Campbelltown Loch 1 Jan; Renf, 30 Lunderston Bay 14 Feb; Ayr, 21 Bogside Flats 25 Aug; Arran, 23 Kyles of Bute 22 Sep.

***Little Egret** One Kinnaber, Kinc, 4 June (PJD).

***Night Heron** Ad Newburgh, Aber, 3-8 May (MAM *et al*), only the 4th record of a presumably wild bird this century.

***Bittern** One Lilliesleaf, Rox, 11 Dec (Mr Coltsman).

***White Stork** Singles (mainland records almost certainly same individ-

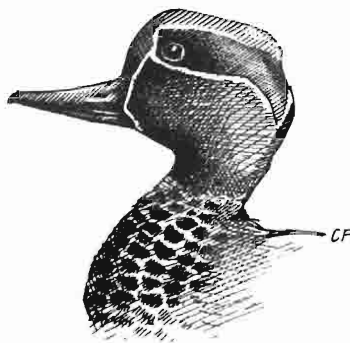
ual): Suth, Dalchork, Lairg 21-23 Apr (A. Lockhart); Ross, Nigg 24 Apr (per CGH); Inv, Ardersier 28 Apr (Mrs Job), Insh Marshes 3 May (DNW); Nairn, Auldearn 27 Apr (J. Ellingham); Moray, Birnie 7-10 May (CAG et al); Aber, Fintray 11-20 June (per AGK); Fair Isle, 25 May (GJB).

***Spoonbill** Fourteen compared to total of 16 in last 6 years. Marked arrival in late May/early June. Shet, 3W Foula 7 June; Ork, 1 Lyness 10-13 June; Caith, 1 sub-ad L Scarmclate 21-28 June; Suth, 1 imm L Fleet 7-31 Dec; Inv, 1 Longman 23 May (a ringed bird); Aber, ad L of Strathbeg 15 May and 14 June, imm 17-19 May, 31 May (colour ringed as juv S Flevoland, Holland 1974); Angus, 3 Kinnordy 8 June (note Foula record); Firth of Forth, 1 Inchcolm 6-7 June; Arg, 1 Tayvallich 28 Oct.

†***Flamingo** sp. After a record year in 1974, only records: 3 Chilean *P. chilensis* L of Strathbeg, Aber, 27 Apr and one 7 May-21 Sep—same birds as last year? (JD).

Mallard Breeding: good year Caith; poor season L Leven, Kinr, 3 nests with eggs 13 Mar, 15 broods, 67 ducklings 5 July, most 5 weeks old, rest 10 days; Inv, 1st eggs L Insh 14 Mar.

Counts and migration: Shet, 70 Clickhimin 27 Sep; Fair Isle, max 12 on 20 Oct, 16 on crossing to Shet 30 Sep; Caith, 200 L Scarmclate 17 Aug; Ross, 410 Beaully Firth 25 Dec; Inv, Longman peaks 172 on 12 Jan, 190 on 14 Dec, 350 Insh Marshes 29 Jan, 450 on 16 Dec; Moray, 600 Burghead 27 Nov; Aber, 1,800 Strathbeg 21 Nov, 700 Skene 11 Jan, 680 on 23 Nov, 1,150 Meikle 14 Dec; Perth, 760 Carsebreck 2 Jan, 1,059 on 18 Jan, 960 Invergowrie-Seaside 29 Dec; Kinr, max 1,200 L Leven Sep; Clack, 505 Tullibody 2 Mar; Midl, 800 Moorfoot reservoirs Jan, 610 on 31 Aug, 1,080 on 26 Oct; Rox, 193 Alemoor res 17 Aug; Renf, 397 Lochwinnoch 12 Jan, 879 on 13 Sep, 700 on 19 Oct, 317 Langbank-Longhaugh 21 Dec; Lan, 393 Hamilton 13 Dec; Ayr, 320 Barassie-Troon 18 June, 347 on 10 Oct, 775 on 21 Dec, 450 Doonfoot 7 Sep; Kirk, 350 L Ken 13 Oct, 507 Airds Point-Southwick Burn 20 Sep.



Teal Breeding: Shet, successful Hillwell and Sandwater; Angus, pr bred Newtyle; Kinr, 2-3 prs nested L Leven; Renf, c6 prs nested Lochwinnoch.

Counts and migration: Shet, 40 Hillwell 24 Aug; Fair Isle, 10 Apr-7 June max 7 on 22 Apr, 9 Aug-26 Oct, max 24 on 20 Sep, 11 on 9 Oct; Ork, 260 N Ronaldsay late Sep, 115 Bay of Suckquoy 21 Sep; Caith, 300 L Calder 19 Jan, 380 on 16 Nov; Ross, 650 Dalmore 15 Dec, 350 Tarradale 31 Aug, 400 Munloch 12 Oct; Inv, 223 S Beaully Firth 12 Jan, 150 Insh Marshes 26 Mar; Aber, 114 Don est 7 Nov, 111 on 29 Nov, 780 Skene 23 Nov, 400 Strathbeg 25 Aug, 400 Cotehill 4 Oct; Angus, 300 Dun's Dish 26 Aug; Perth, 140 Meikleour 18 Jan, 500+ Mugdrum Island 25 Aug; Kinr, 450

L Leven Sep; Clack, 449 Tullibody Inch 23 Mar; Midl, 220 Moorfoot reservoirs 20 Sep; E Loth, 370 Tynninghame 7 Sep; Rox, 188 Alemoor res 30 Aug; Renf, 135 Lochwinnoch 12 Oct; Lan, 206 Possil Marsh 1 Jan; Ayr, 275 Blairbowie 30 Nov; Dumf, 800 East Park 6 Oct; Kirk, 540 L Ken 13 Oct; Wig, 200 L Connell 11 Oct.

Green-winged Teal *A. c. carolinensis* ♂ Unifirth, Shet, 15 Nov, into 1976 (PKK *et al*).

***Garganey** Sixteen in spring 22 Mar-7 June, 1 summer and 2 autumn. Shet, single ♂♂ Easter Loch 9 May, Saxa Vord 11 May, Hillwell 12 May, Strand Loch 12 May; Fair Isle, ♂ 25 May; O Heb, ♀ L Hallam 16 July; Aber, pr Strathbeg 26-27 Apr, singles 7 May, 7 June; Angus, pr Glen Esk 28 May; Midl, 1 Gladhouse 23-30 Aug; Rox, 1 Alemoor res 18 Aug-12 Sep; Dunb, ♂ Endrick Mouth 17 June; Lan, pr Wilderness Quarry 22 Mar; Ayr, pr Taiglum Burn, Ochiltree, 20 Apr.

***Blue-winged Teal** Drake Tarradale, E Ross, 31 Aug (RHD)—9th Scottish record.

Gadwall Breeding: O Heb, 3 prs bred Balranald; Perth, 4 prs at 1 site, 1 at another 10 Apr; usual Kinr-Fife.

Counts and migration: Shet, 3 Hillwell 5 Oct; Fair Isle, 1 on 24 Sep-3 Oct; Ork, small nos. but 38 on L of Skail 29 Sep down to 17 on 4 Oct; Caith, 1 L of Mey 10 July; Suth, 1 Tongue 2 July; Ross, 2 L Gowan 29 July; Moray, pr Spynie 3 May, 18 June and 14 Dec; Aber, 20 records, max 6 Strathbeg 3 Jan, 3 on 29 Sep; Perth, 9 Methven Moss 1 Mar; Kinr, max 20 L Leven Aug, 32 in Sep and 50 in Oct; Isle of May, 1 on 20 Apr (1st record); Fife, peaks only 8 Cameron res 7 Sep and 9 Kilconquhar 16 Sep; Clack, pr Marchglen 19-27 Apr; Stir, 2 Grangemouth 12 Oct, 2 Kincardine Bridge 2 Mar; Midl, pr Duddingston 13 Apr; E Loth, pr Gosford 30 Mar; Dunb, pr Endrick Mouth 10-16 Mar; W Stir, pr L Ardinging 27 Dec; Lan, 2 Hamilton 8 Nov, few singles.

Wigeon Breeding: Ork, nested 4-5 islands; O Heb, pr bred S Balallan; Inv, 10-15 prs Insh marshes, 1st young 31 May; Kinr, poor season L Leven.

Counts and migration: Shet, max 57 Papa Stour 19 Jan, most gone early Mar, few summered, 3 Skerries 31 Aug, max 78 Kirkigarth-Bardister 20 Oct; Fair Isle, autumn 9 Aug-27 Oct, exceptional 90 on 20 Sep, 15 on 24 Sep and 21 Oct; Ork, 600 Tankerness 12 Jan, 1,370 Harray 21 Feb; O Heb, 300 Melbost est 24 Oct; Caith, 1,300 L Watten 12 Jan, 600 L Calder 19 Jan; Suth, 700 L Fleet 24 Dec; Ross, 2,500 Alness 12 Jan, 3,000 on 30 Mar, 1,070 Dingwall 12 Oct, 1,000 Munloch 12 Jan, 970 on 17 Dec, 608 Udale 14 Sep; Inv, 506 Longman 2 Feb, 2,212 on 16 Nov; Moray, 1,200 Findhorn 15 Nov; Aber, 2,200 Strathbeg Nov, 1,200 Meikle 14 Dec; Angus, 2,000 Montrose Basin 22 Oct; Perth, 500 Mugdrum 27 Aug; Kinr, 1,000+ L Leven Jan, 900 in Dec; Fife, 510 Torry Bay 23 Nov; Midl, 220 Moorfoot reservoirs Jan-Feb; E Loth, 520 Tynninghame 21 Dec; Rox, 200 Alemoor res 10 Sep; Dunb, 540 Endrick Mouth 16 Feb; Renf, 543 Lochwinnoch 12 Jan; Kirk, 850 L Ken 17 Mar, 720 on 15 Dec, autumn arrival 30 on 30 Aug, 3,500 Orchardton Bay 22 Nov, 2,500 on 20 Sep, 1,500 on 20 Dec; Wig, 1,200 L Ryan 14 Dec, noticeable increase in coastal nos.

***American Wigeon** Three ♂♂: L Milton, Kirk, 16-26 Mar (MM, TN *et al*), 13 Apr (D. Britton); Bowden Res, Rox, 25-28 Feb (Mrs M. Little, Mrs A. Spiers); L Leven, Kinr, 21 Feb (latter subject to acceptance by Rareities Committee).

Pintail Breeding: Ork, 4 prs bred 2 sites Mainland, 5+ broods Stronsay, 9 ♂♂ late May and 56 (mainly juvs) on 1 Oct, ♂ Sanday summer; prs in other areas but no proof of breeding.

Counts and migration: Shet, few winter, small influx May, max 9 Hillwell 7 June, 3 Foula 2 June; Fair Isle, singles 4 Sep, 13 Sep, 10 Nov; O Heb, pr Benbecula 19 May; Caith, max 4 L Heilen 24 Apr; Ross, 6 L Eye

16 Mar; Inv, 56 Beaully Firth, 29 Mar, 45 Longman 12 Jan, pr L Linnhe 18 Apr; Aber, 6 Meikle 5 Oct, 5 Forvie 11 Oct; Angus, 40 Montrose Basin Jan, 20 on 11 Sep; Perth, 9 Invergowrie Nov-Dec; Clack, 50 Tullibody Inch 9 Mar; Stir, 70 Skinflats 13 Jan; Fife, 34 Eden est 16 Nov; Midl, 2 Musselburgh 18 Jan; E Loth, 10 Aberlady 25 Oct; Rox, 2 Ale Moor 31 Aug; Dunb, 5 Endrick Mouth 31 May; Renf, 116 Longhaugh Point 8 Feb, 77 on 21 Dec; small nos. Lan and Ayr, max 25-30 Bothwell Bridge Feb; Dumf, 1,000 E Park, Caerlaverock 20 Aug, 2,200 on 17 Oct; Kirk, 945 Kirkbean Burn-Airds Point 15 Mar, 2,200 on 22 Nov, 1,850 on 20 Dec, 183 L Ken 2 Feb, 106 on 17 Mar; Wig, 300 Cree est Sep-Dec, 290 Luce Bay 20 Dec.

Shoveler Shet, pr bred Sandwater, 9 eggs 3 June, 9 young 19 June; small nos. bred Ork, Caith and O Heb; Midl, 4 prs Gladhouse, 1 ♀ died on eggs.

Counts and migration: Shet, small increase Apr-June; Ork, max 8 N Ronaldsay Oct-Dec; Moray, 3 Spynie 16 Apr; Aber, Strathbeg 8 Mar-19 Nov, peaks 17 in Oct and 12 on 11 Nov; Perth, 196 at Perth loch 13 Oct; Kinr, L Leven monthly counts July (30), Aug (300), Sep (280), Oct (210), Nov (160), Dec (43); Isle of May, 11 on 26 Aug; Stir, 9 Grangemouth 10 Aug; Midl, 12 Moorfoot reservoirs Sep-Oct; E Loth, 12 Tynninghame 21 Sep; Rox, 6 Ale Moor in Oct; Arg, 4 L Indaal, Islay, Feb and late Sep; Dunb, 50+ Endrick Mouth end Oct-mid Nov, 70 on 7 Nov; Renf, 34 Barr Loch 9 Nov, 27 on 29 Dec; Ayr, 11 Doonfoot 5 Jan, 27 on 23 Dec, 20 New Cumnock 20 Aug; Dumf, 420 Caerlaverock 4 Nov; Kirk, 22 Auchencairn Bay 25 May, 50 L Ken 13 Oct, 28 L Auchentreoch 17 Feb, 53 Drumburn 20 Dec, 47 Cree est 22 Nov.

***Mandarin Duck** No change Perth; Caith, ♂ Scotland's Haven 6 Apr; Fife, 3 Newport 11-12 Nov; Midl, 2 ♂♂ Blackford Pond 16 Nov; Dunb, ♀ Endrick Mouth 23 Nov.

†***Red-crested Pochard** Drake Faldonside Loch, Rox/Selk, 16 Jan-May, 16 Nov-Dec (AJS, J. Dorward).

Scap Winter-spring: Shet, spring peak 8 Brow 11 May; Fair Isle, few May, max 3 on 1st; Ork, peaks 110 L of Harray 21 Feb, 108 Rousay 16 Feb; O Heb, 63 L Eaval, N Uist, 15-22 Feb; Inv, ♀ Insh 21 Jan; Aber, 6 Strathbeg 21 May; Perth, 1 Carsebreck 5th and 26 Jan; Midl, peak 9,650 Seafield-Musselburgh 6 Jan; Arg, 1,300 L Indaal Feb; Renf, 132 West Ferry 8 Feb; Ayr, 11 Prestwick 19 Jan, 7 Troon 12 Apr, pr Turnberry 13 May; Kirk, 86 Carsethorn 1 Feb, 60 on 2 Mar, ♀ Earlstown L 5 May; Wig, 50 L Ryan 15 Mar.

Summer: good scatter of records: Shet (6), Ork (1), Caith (1), O Heb (6), Suth (4), Ross (1), Arg (1), Kirk (1) but no suggestion of nesting. Also up to 9 Musselburgh, Midl, 10 July.

Autumn: Shet, from 21 Sep, small passage Oct, max 20 L Spiggie 26 Oct; Fair Isle, ♀ 2-3 Oct; Ork, 220 L of Harray 13 Dec; Ross, 2 Tarradale 14 Sep; Inv, 2 Insh 29 Sep; Moray, 9 Findhorn 2 Oct; Aber, max 11 Ythan 25 Oct; Angus, 135 Arbroath cliffs 22 Oct; Kinr, 4 L Leven 15 Aug; Fife, 1,779 Largo Bay 21 Dec is further increase; Midl, 7,875 Musselburgh-Seafield 24 Nov, 10,800 on 31 Dec; Ayr, 27 Prestwick 19 Oct; Kirk, 40 Cree est 26 Oct; Wig, 72 L Ryan 11 Nov.

Tufted Duck Breeding varied: Shet, increase of proved breeding to 14+ prs, 1st proved breeding Unst; Aber, poor season L Skene due to low water level; Kinr, poor season L Leven; Midl, good season Moorfoot reservoirs; Renf, only 4 prs bred Lochwinnoch and very few young; Kirk, a better season, e.g. 3 broods Woodhall L where no young seen 1974.

Counts and migration: Shet, 200 Snarravoe 12 Jan, 100 Spiggie 4 Jan, late peaks 124 Dun 5 Mar, 45 Fetlar 12 Apr, influx mid Sep, 210 Spiggie 26 Oct; Fair Isle, usual scatter 18 Apr-11 Oct; Ork, 1,150 L of Harray 12 Jan, 1,950 on 10 Nov, 1,250 L of Bosquoy 12 Oct, 500 L of Skail 4 Oct, 450 L of Swannay 7 Dec; Caith, 200 L Watten 12 Jan, 250 L Scarmclate

14 Dec; Suth, 202 L Evelix 14 Dec; Inv, 66 Insh 6 May, 66 Inverness est 10 Feb; Aber, 200 Strathbeg 1 Jan, big increase to 1,200 on 15 Aug, peak 1,500 in Oct, 410 Skene 12 Oct; Perth, 295 Bertna L 14 Dec; Kinr, monthly counts L Leven Mar (700), July (1,200), Aug (peak 2,000) Sep (1,000) decreasing to Dec (450); Fife, 420 Largo Bay 21 Dec; Stir, 282 Airthrey 20 Jan; Midl, 425 Moorfoot reservoirs 23 Aug down to 90 end Dec, 74 Mus-selburgh 11 Sep is unusual; Renf, 483 Lochwinnoch 6 Jan, 920 on 12 Oct; Lan, 166 Gadloch 16 Feb; Kirk, 265 L Milton 16 Mar; Wig, 115 Souleseat L 14 Dec, 70 on sea L Ryan 5 Feb, 72 on 11 Nov.

Pochard Only reports of breeding: Ork, ♀ B/2 W Mainland, ♀ B/4 Harray 12 Jul; Angus, brood Glen Esk, brood L Shandra 14 June; Perth, probably bred as usual; Midl, bred Duddingston and Threipmuir.

Counts and migration: Shet, 180 Brow 18 Jan (highest ever), few summer, main arrival Oct, 50 Clumlie 25 Oct; Fair Isle, ♂ 8-16 Oct; Ork, important winter area, 1,860 L of Boardhouse 11 Jan, 1,000 on 13 Oct, 1,350 on 20 Nov, 1,350 L of Skail 4 Oct, 1,250 L of Bosquoy 12 Oct, 2,300 L of Harray 10 Nov, 3,400 mid Dec; O Heb, 50 L Mor, Benbecula 15-22 Feb; Caith, 40 L Rangag 18 Sep, max 320 on 5 Nov; Ross, 133 Fearn 14 Nov; Inv, 148 L Ashie 26 Aug; Aber, mainly mid Aug-mid Oct, 2,200 Strathbeg Oct; Perth, 140 Carsebreck 18 Jan; Kinr, monthly counts L Leven 1,000 Feb, 50 Aug increasing to 800-1,000 Sep, 1,600 in Oct then decrease; Fife, 250 on sea Largo Bay 21 Dec; Midl, 4,000 Duddingston 8 Jan, 5,000 on 18 Jan, 337 on 1 Oct increased to 2,000 on 11th, 3,500 on 17th, 5,000 on 2 Nov and peak 7,000 on 16 Nov, on sea (same flock) max counted 3,500 Leith 21 Nov; Arg, 82 L nan Gad 21 Dec; Renf, 430 Lochwinnoch 6 Jan, 243 on 7 Aug, max 1,260 on 18 Nov; Lan, 208 Hamilton 13 Dec; Kirk, lower than usual, max only 12 L Ken 20 Jan.

Goldeneye Bred as usual E Inv, 3+ ♀♀ nested successfully in nest-boxes, possibly up to 5 prs, 1st B/10 on water 21 May when 7 ♀/imms on same loch, ♂♂ apparently roost on coast; no suspected nesting elsewhere but summer records: Shet (4); Ork (2); O Heb (2); Suth, 16 Kyle of Tongue (moulting) 20 June; Ross (3); Perth (8); Aber (13+); Midl (1); Lan (1); Kirk (1).

Winter-spring: Shet, max 57 Dun 9 Feb, most gone mid Mar, few to 25 Mar; Ork, 160 L of Tankerness 15 Feb, 190 L of Stennes 5 Feb, last 8 L of Skail 25 May; Caith, 100 Castlehill 26 Jan; Ross, 500+ Invergordon 2 Mar; Inverness, 255 on 17 Mar, 180 on 12 Apr, last 25 on 8 May, 64 L Eil 28 Mar; Moray, 494 Burghead 19 Jan; Aber, 551 Don est 11 Feb; Perth, 130 Invergowie 20 Feb; Kinr, 210 L Leven Feb, 170 Mar; Clack, 124 Alloa 2 Mar; Midl, 4,054 off Edinburgh 7 Jan; Arg, 50 Bowmore, Islay, 1 Mar; Dunb/Renf, fewer than usual, 320 upper Clyde 12 Jan, 74 Lochwinnoch 6 Jan, last 6 on 26 Apr; Ayr, 500 Turnberry-Dipple 21 Feb; Kirk, 94 L Ken 17 Mar.

Autumn: Shet, first 2 Unst 6 Oct, max 40 Spiggie Nov; Fair Isle, 1 on 18 Aug, passage from 10 Oct; Caith, 2 L Calder 14 Sep; Ross, 17 Tarradale 31 Aug; Inverness, 10 on 6 Oct increased to 641 on 16 Nov; Aber, influx Strathbeg from 29 Sep, max 500 on 24 Nov; Midl, arrival Moorfoot reservoirs 4 Oct, 24 on 12th and 58 on 26th; Renf, 1st 12 Lochwinnoch 19 Oct; Wig, 54 L Ryan 14 Dec.

Long-tailed Duck Winter-spring: Shet, max 150 Sullom-Yell 8 Jan, decrease Apr-May, still 24 Spiggie 25 May; Fair Isle, scarce; Ork, 2,400 Scapa Flow Feb and Ork population estimated 5,400, last 6 L of Harray 25 May; O Heb, 70 Broad Bay 24 Feb, 73 Rubha Ardvule, S Uist, 15-22 Feb; Caith, 11 Dunnet Bay 4 May; Suth, 250 Balnakeil Bay 6 May, still 35 on 17th; 3,000+ Fleet Bar 23 Apr, 620 on 5 May; Moray, 1,574 Burghead-Culbin 19 Jan; Aber, 70NW in 20 mins Strathbeg 22 May; Angus, 8 Lunan Bay 24 Apr; Fife, 350+ Largo Bay 28 Mar, last 2 on 10 May;

Midl, 260 Musselburgh-Leith 20 Apr, last 4 on 12 May; E Loth, 163 Gosford 16 Apr; Arg, 12 Tayinloan 25 Apr; Ayr, few Jan-Apr; Wig, pr L Ryan 9 Feb, one 2 Mar.

Summer: Shet, singles Lerwick 8 July, Braewick 3-18 Aug, Clickhimin 11 Aug, pr Spiggie 4 June; O Heb, 3 Broad Bay 7 July, ♂ Taransay 9-11 July; Caith, 1 Sandside Bay 9-10 June; E Loth, 2 Aberlady 13 July; Ayr, ♀ Meikle Craigs 8 June-18 Sep (injured).

Autumn arrivals and counts: Shet, 1st 2 Unst 25 Sep; Fair Isle, 1st 17 Sep; Ork, 12 Scapa Bay 6 Oct; O Heb, 1st 11 Oct; Caith, 50 Sandside 6 Oct; Suth, 150 Embo-Dornoch 12 Oct, increasing to 2,820 on 31 Oct and 4,000+ on 24 Nov, 20 Chanonry Ness 7 Oct; Inv, ♂ Spey Dam 9-10 Nov, 3 Rhum 29 Sep; Moray, 8 Findhorn 5 Oct, 1,100 Burghead-Findhorn 14 Oct, 5,000 on 5th and 28 Dec, 1,100 Spey Bay 23 Nov; Aber, 110 Ythan 22 Nov; Isle of May, 2 on 23 Sep; Fife, 34 Largo Bay 21 Dec; Midl, 1st 2 off Edinburgh 8 Oct, 191 on 14 Nov; Ayr, 1 inland Creoch L 16 Nov-14 Dec; Wig, 1 L Ryan 2 Nov.

Velvet Scoter Shet, max 16 Sullom Voe Feb-Mar, 14 on 17 Dec, 3 ♂♂ Ronas Voe 23 July; Fair Isle, ♂ 20 May, ♂ 10-11 Oct, 2 on 4 Nov; Ork, c350 wintering; Caith, 3 singles 6 Oct-29 Nov; Suth, ♂ Handa 14 Aug, 150 Embo 5 May, 12 Oct; Moray, 500 Spey Bay 3 May, 500 Burghead 10 Oct, 800 on 23 Oct and 2,500 on 27 Oct; Aber, 200 Murcar 23 Sep, down to 3 by 11 Oct, 90 Drums 18 Oct; Midl, 100 Joppa-Musselburgh Jan-Mar; E Loth, 120 Gullane 8 Oct; Arg, 14 Tayinloan 23 Apr; Kirk, 1 Carsethorn 11 Sep.

***Surf Scoter** 8 compared to total of 5 in last 7 years: Shet, ♂ Ronas Voe 20-25 May (CMA, DC, IS); Suth, 2 ♂♂ Fleet Bar 1 Jan to at least 28 Mar, 5 Nov-31 Dec (RHD, ARM *et al*); Ross, pr Tarbat Ness 19 Jan (DWMcA, HEMcA); Moray, ♂ Burghead Bay 26 Oct (NE, BE); Aber, ♂ Murcar 23 Sep-6 Oct (PME *et al*); Fife, ♂, St Andrews 14-18 Dec (AJB, IGC *et al*). Like King Eiders ♂♂ predominate and this is not just due to the difficulty of identification.

Common Scoter Breeding: Shet, 5+ prs Yell, only 1 proved to breed, C/5 on 29 June, pr may have bred W Mainland; Caith, c20 ♀♀ on hill lochs but no young seen; Inv, N site not visited, ♀ B/3 Fort Augustus 7 July; Perth, usual site ♀ B/6 on 21 June and 5 young on 18 July; Dunb/Stir, several records L Lomond area 13-17 May suggest c6 prs but no proof of breeding. Summer records reported various areas and influx May-June, e.g. 50 at 15 localities Shet.

Counts and migrants: Shet, above average nos, 15 Fetlar 7 Feb, last 2 Spiggie 6 Oct; Fair Isle, more than usual 3 Jan-9 May (7 birds) and 5 July-21 Oct (6 birds); Ork, 50 Sound of Eday 27 Jan, 16 Hoy 14 July; O Heb, 50 Broad Bay 1 Jan; Suth, 1,300+ Dornoch 25 Aug, 1,800 Fleet Bar 18 Nov; Ross, 45 Rosemarkie 4 Sep; Moray, 1,500 Lossiemouth 2 Feb, 2,800 Spey Bay 23 Nov, 4,880 Burghead 10 Oct, 7,000 Burghead-Culbin 14 Oct; Aber, 200 Blackdog 26 Sep decreased to 12 on 15 Oct; Angus, N passage Arbroath 13-23 Oct; Midl, 1,500 (89% ♀♀) Joppa Jan-Mar, 250 Musselburgh 25 Apr; E Loth, 320 Gullane 19 Jan, 1,100 on 31 May (summering flock); Arg, 194 Tayinloan 24 Apr; Ayr, 45 Gales in winter, max 55 on 14 Apr, 27 Dipple 2 Mar; Wig, max only 30 L Ryan 21 Oct.

***Steller's Eider** Ad ♂ S Uist, O Heb, since May 1972 remained throughout 1975, usually Vorrnan Island-Peninerine.

Eider Breeding: Shet, 1st young 21 May but most from 10 June; Fair Isle, 1st eggs 16 May; Ork, fledging success better than usual; Fife, disastrous season due to Foxes; Forth, 100+ nests Inchkeith, 172 prs Fidra; Inv, 50 ♀♀ with broods Canna, good season; Arran, 96 nests Holy Isle (no change), only 4 young reared, thought to be due to predation by Mink.

Counts : Shet, survey Feb-Mar suggests wintering population c9,500, max 942 Burra/Trondra, 650 Weisdale 16 Apr, moult flock max 1,013 Hillswick, 2,000 Silwick, 1,387 Sumburgh, 6,000 Yell/Unst/Fetlar 23 Oct; Fair Isle, max 904 on 6 Nov; Ork, 2,000 wintered Scapa Flow, Ork total c5,400; Suth, 450 L Fleet 23 Feb, 1,950 on 12 Oct; Ross, 700+ Ardnaskan, L Carron, 8 Feb; Inv, 193 L Eil 22 Nov; Aber, 1,800 Ythan 25 Oct, 1,800 Murcar 2 Oct, 1,000 Rattray 6 Apr; Angus, 350 Elliot 9 July; Midl, 3,939 Musselburgh-Leith 25 Feb, 2,917 on 13 Oct; E Loth, 2,400 Gullane-N Berwick 26 Apr, 1,500 ♂♂ moulting Dirleton 31 May, 6,000 Gullane Sep; Ayr, 1,400 ♂♂ Troon 10 June, 1,300 Dipple 4 Aug; Dunb, 2,000 Ardmore 1 Jan, 1,600 on 19 Oct; Wig, max L Ryan only 27 on 24 May.

***King Eider** Shet, ad ♂ Sullom Voe 8 Jan-13 Mar, imm ♂ Toft 29 Apr, ad ♂ Hascosay 18-31 Dec; Fair Isle, ad ♂ 3 Apr, ♂ 8 Sep-2 Oct, imm ♂ 4 Nov; Ork, ♂ Long Hope 8 Feb; O Heb, ♂ Pabbay 28-30 May (subject to acceptance); Suth, ♂ L Fleet area 1 Jan-28 Mar, 3 ♂♂ 29 Mar-19 Apr, 2 ♂♂ to 4 June, ♂ 31 Oct-31 Dec; Aber, ♀ Murcar 23 Sep-2 Oct, ♂ 4-11 Oct; Fife, ♂ throughout year Culross; Bute, ♂ Great Cumbrae 22 Apr, 19-20 June, ♂ Little Cumbrae 21 May. Fewer in Shet but elsewhere the increase in numbers continues; ♀♀ continue very rare and there has been no suggestion of breeding.

Red-breasted Merganser Breeding : Shet, 1st young 25 June; Kirk, pr Earlstown 1 May and 7 young there 2 Aug, 1st proved breeding Glenkens.

Counts and migration : Shet, max 62 Sullom 5 Feb; Fair Isle, more than usual, max 10 on 24 Sep; Ork, 340 Scapa Flow winter; O Heb, ♀ Flannans 25 June; Ross, 125 Dingwall 12 Jan; Inv, 206 Beauly Firth 12 Jan; Moray, 110 Findhorn 21 Sep; Aber, 200S in hr Forvie 17 Sep; Angus, 300 Montrose 26 Aug; Fife, 550 Tentsmuir 2 Nov; Stir, 285 Upper Forth Feb, 270 on 8 Nov; Midl, 405 Musselburgh 4 Mar; E Loth, 180 Gosford 24 Aug; Arg, 1,400 Tayinloan 12 June; Ayr, 70 Meikle Craigs 30 May; Wig, 185 L Ryan 29 Sep is low.

Goosander Breeding : Suth, pr Borgie Forest 23 Mar; Ayr, 2+ prs bred Straiton; Kirk, good season, pr River Cree, Kirk/Wig, in spring, but still no proof of breeding in Wig.

Counts and migrants : Shet, ♂ Gluss 15 Feb, pr Sandwater 26-27 Feb, pr Haggriester 2 Apr, ♀ Spiggie 24 May-15 June and ♂♂ 4 areas 19 May-16 June; O Heb, 1 Benbecula 15-22 Feb; Inv/Ross, 1,200 Beauly Firth 7 Jan, 840+ on 7 Feb, 400 on 16 Mar, 160 moulting Longman 3 Sep, 150 Beauly Firth 27 Oct; Moray, 32 Spynie 7 Dec; Aber, 50 Skene 11 Jan, 51 Strathbeg 26 May, 53 Skene 6 Dec; Perth, max 25 Mugdrum 30 Mar; Kinr, max 103 L Leven Dec; Midl, 42 Moorfoot reservoirs 22 Nov; E Loth/Ber, 28 Whiteadder res 14 Sep; Rox, 36 Yetholm 24 Feb; Dunb, 20 Ardlui 19 Nov; Renf, 29 Balgray res 12 Jan; Ayr, 20 Kilbirnie L 23 Feb; Kirk, 101 L Ken 21 Aug, 66 Woodhall L 30 Sep, 86 L Auchenroch 16 Mar.

***Smew** About 32 to 11 May, 16 from 29 Oct, slightly up on 1974—most records in 8 years. Records refer to 'redheads' unless stated : Shet, ♂ S Nesting Jan-6 Apr, 1 Benston 29 Oct-16 Nov, ♂ also on 16th, 1 Hillwell 20 Dec; O Heb, 1 L Ordaill, Lewis 8 Feb, 2 ♂♂ Vorrans Island 15-22 Feb; Caith, 3 (2 ♂♂) Sinclair's Bay 14 Jan; Aber, pr Strathbeg 1-12 Jan, ♂ 9-16 Feb, one 18 Feb, 2-3 (1 ♂) 8-31, 1 on 14 Nov, ♀ 22 Nov-6 Dec; Angus, 1 Monikie 3 Feb-22 Mar, 6 Dec, ♂ on 29 Nov, ♂ W Haven 31 Dec; Perth, 1 Kinardochoy 27 Apr-11 May, ♂ Dunkeld 26 Feb-23 Mar, 1 Carsebreck 5 Jan, 3 on 18 Jan, one 24 Dec, ♂ L Ard 2 Feb; Fife, 1 Kilconquhar 22 Mar, ♂ Cameron res 19 Feb, 2 on 18 Nov, ♂ on 29 Dec; Midl, 1 Portmore 15 Feb-26 Apr, singles Gladhouse and Portmore 22 Nov, 1 to end Dec Portmore, plus ♂ on 6 Dec; Selk/Rox, ♂ Lindean 11 Jan-17 Apr, 3 ♂♂ on 2 Mar, ♂ Hoselaw L 16 Mar, 2 Yetholm 23 Feb; Dunb, 1 Endrick Mouth 31 Dec; Renf, ♂ L Thom 14-16 Mar; Dumf, 2 Kirk L, Lochmaben,

12 Jan, 1 to 22 Jan; Kirk, ♂ Earlstown L 5-23 Jan, 1 Netherhall 23 Feb; 1 Woodhall L 3 Apr.

Shelduck Counts: O Heb, 110 N Uist 15-22 Feb; Angus, 60+ Ninewells 4 Mar; Kinr, 187 (129 young) L Leven July; Stir, 2,071 Grangemouth 12 Jan, interesting record of 15-35 moulting ads 10 Aug (9: 124-5); Clack, 127 Tullibody Inch 12 Oct; E Loth, 141 Aberlady 27 Feb; Dunb/Renf, 876 Ardoch 1 Jan, 987 Erskine-Langbank 8 Feb, 824 Upper Clyde 21 Dec; Ayr, 252 Turnberry-Dipple 21 Feb; Dumf, 850 Caerlaverock 5 Oct; Kirk/Wig, 480 Aird's Point-Southwick Burn and 435 Urr-L Ryan 26 Apr, 1,161 Aird's Point-Southwick Burn 15 Mar.

Migrants and inland stragglers: Fair Isle, 7 records 19 Feb-25 May, 2 on 4 Oct, 1 on 4 Nov; Ork, 3 N Ronaldsay 27 Sep-14 Oct; Aber, 1st 10 back Strathbeg 13 Nov; Perth, 1 L of Menteith 16 Feb, 2 Stormont L 13 Oct; W Loth, 3 Beecraigs res 16 Feb; Clyde, various inland waters, e.g. max 123 Endrick Mouth 26 May; Dumf, 10W overland Lochmaben 31 Aug.

Greylag Goose Breeding: Caith, successful season for broods; Suth, good season, moulting flock 280 Badanloch 4 July (ringing recoveries from 1974 indicate Suth breeders wintering Caith); Inv, 60 feral L Laggan 26 June; Dunb/W Stir, 35 feral Endrick Mouth; Galloway, 144 feral ads and 30 young Castle L, Mochrum, 13 June.

Winter-spring: Kirk/Wig, max 1,100 L Arthur 18 Mar, 1,550 Soulseat L 5 Feb, departures 16 Apr; Ayr, 640+ Blairbowie 6 Feb, passage N 13-16 Apr, max 700N Bute 15 Apr; Kinr, 3,800 L Leven 15 Jan, 5,000 on 9 Feb, 2,800 on 9 Mar, 1,250 on 12 Apr; Perth, still 160 L of Menteith 3 May; Aber, 4,000 Strathbeg 1-3 Jan, last 12 on 15 May, 1,500 Ythan 15 Mar; Moray, 875 Duffus 13 Apr; Inv, 950N Inverness 15 Apr, 650 L Garten 1 Mar; Ross, 1,350 Tarradale 28 Feb; Suth, 1,000NW Golspie 14 Apr, 800N L Loyal 26 Apr; Caith, 750 L Scarmclate 2 Feb; O Heb, 200N Stornoway 16 Apr; Ork, 228 L of Harray 16 Mar. Main departure 13-16 Apr. Summering many areas e.g. 13 L Leven.

Autumn national count 8-9 Nov 60,000; 12,200 Perth; 11,440 Aber; 6,240 Ross; 5,000 in Caith. Decrease 2nd year running, lowest total since 1969; sample of 1,811 gave 7.6% young, mean brood size 1.51, 2nd worst breeding season since monitoring began in 1958. Unusually high numbers in N. Sht, 1st 15 Spiggie 27 Sep, heavy passage 5 Oct when 200 Foula; Fair Isle, from 12 Sep, max 26 on 17 Oct, 50 on 3 Nov; Caith, 2,000 L Heilen 4 Nov; Ross, 1,500 Black Isle and 500+ oiled (many died) Udale Bay early Nov; Inv, 860 Broomhill 8 Nov is high for Strathspey; Moray, 700 Spynie 12 Oct; Aber, 1st 14 Sep, mainly from 21 Sep, 9,500 Strathbeg 10 Nov; Perth, 1st 19 Blackford 14 Sep; Kinr, 500 arrived L Leven 30 Sep, 1000+ on 12 Oct, peak 4,000 on 11 Nov; Kirk, 400+ L Ken 8 Oct, peak 1,200 on 17 Nov.

White-fronted Goose Only reports of European race *A. a. albifrons*: 3 Ythan, Aber, 10 Mar. Counts and migration of Greenland birds *A. a. flavirostris*: Sht, 9 Haroldswick 27 Apr, 4 Ramnageo 27-30 Apr; Fair Isle, one 2-24 May, 8 on 4 Oct, 11 on 5th, 45 on 31 Oct; Ork, 77 Tankerness 15 Feb, 70 Eynhallow 28 Feb; O Heb, 300N Stornoway 12 Apr, 200N on 3 May; Caith, 350 L Heilen 18 Jan, 100 Broubster 23 Feb, 50N L of Mey 24 Apr, 23N Thurso 26 Apr, 115 Dale 10 Nov; Ross, 17 Red Point 3 Nov, 70 Fearn 24 Nov; Aber, max 4 Ythan 14-15 Mar; Perth, more than usual, max 11 Methven Moss 27 Mar, 8 on 24 Oct; Arg, 500 Tayinloan 17 Feb, 400 Machrihanish 12 Feb; Dunb, 97 Endrick Mouth 3 Jan, 100 on 8 Mar, 1st 138 on 9 Nov; Kirk/Wig, 300 Genoch 19 Mar (only 9% juv), early departure 100N Dalry evening 17 Apr, 150N New Galloway evening 17 Apr, 1st 4 L Ken 2 Oct, 60 on 20 Oct, max 300 on 15 Dec, 100 Moor of Genoch 11 Nov.

***Bean Goose** Kirk, 65 Gelston 20 Jan, 45 Hightae 25 Jan, 60 nearby

29 Dec; Dumf, 3 Caerlaverock 12 Mar; Aber, small wintering flock Strathbeg, 5 on 2 Jan, 9 on 14 Feb, 12 Apr, 3 on 18 Apr, 6 on 18 Oct; Fair Isle, one 28 Mar-3 Apr, 4 on 7 Oct.

Pink-footed Goose Winter-spring: Kirk/Wig, 2,000 Southernness Jan-Apr, 2,000 Cree est 19 Mar, 1,200 on 26 Apr; Lan, 800+ Thankerton 11 Jan; Clack, 140W Alva 26 Apr, 100W 3 May; Kinr, 3,500 on 15 Jan, 2,200 on 9 Feb, 4,300 on 9 Mar, 5,000 on 12 Apr, 40 on 14 May; Aber, 3,500 Strathbeg 1 Jan, 2,000 Ythan 15 Mar, last 25 May; Inv, 75N Insh 18 Apr; Ross, spring peak 800 Tarradale 10 Apr, 1,000N Tore 22 Apr, 400N 25 Apr, 400 Evanton 30 Mar; Caith, 249 Dale 11 Apr, passage 24 Apr; Ork, late 3 Sanday 28 May; Fair Isle, more than usual, max 7 on 1-6 May, 19 on 20-23rd, 16 on 26 May; Shet, singles Whalsay 27 Apr-4 May, Fetlar 4 May. Summering birds: 3 Badanloch, Suth; 2 Beaully Firth, Inv; 1 L Tummel, Perth; 9 L Leven, Kinr.

Autumn national count 8-9 Nov 58,000 (UK total 73,000), 18,000 less than 1974 due to poor breeding and more wintering in England; peak areas: Aber 16,830, Perth 11,760, Angus/Kinr 10,520, Kinr 5,600. Sample of 1,577 gave 5.6% young, mean brood size 1.43. Shet, 50 Foula Oct; Fair Isle, from 15 Sep, max 14, except 32 on 22 Sep, 24 on 24 Oct; Ross, 156SE Tore 21 Sep, more 22nd; Inv, 50S Insh 21 Sep; Moray, 600SW Findhorn 21 Sep; Aber, 1,500 Strathbeg 15 Sep were 1st, big passage S on 21 Sep, peaks 8,200 Slains 25 Oct, 10,100 Meikle 9 Nov, 6,500 Strathbeg 10 Nov; Angus, 52 Fotheringham 16 Sep; Perth, first 13 Sep; Kinr, 1st 70 L Leven 12 Sep, 500 on 14th, 6,000 on 1 Oct; Fife, 5,000 Cameron res 16 Oct; Midl, 120 Fala 14 Sep, 4,000 on 26th, down to 1,300 on 11 Oct, peak 17,000 on 18 Oct then big decrease; E Loth, 1st 14 Sep, more than usual Aberlady, 3,500 Nov-Dec; Arg, 2 Ford 27 Aug; Dumf, 10S 14 Sep; Kirk, 2,500 Southernness 20 Dec.

*†**Bar-headed Goose** *Anser indicus* Singles Eshaness, Shet, 20 June (E. M. Raynor); Copinsay, Ork, 23-29 May.

***Snow Goose** Suth, ad Lesser *A. c. caerulescens* summering with Greylags Badanloch 5 July (RHD *et al*); Ross, juv Greater *A. c. atlanticus* L Eye 18 Nov-31 Dec (RHD *et al*) 1st for many years and considered a wild migrant; Aber, Meikle 6 Apr (TPM, AW); Perth, one 10 Feb (JHW); Kinr, 1 L Leven 30 Apr (TOJ); Arg, blue phase Lesser Islay Feb and Nov (CGB), 2 (1 blue) 5-12 Aug (RD); Kirk/Wig, 1 Lochinch 25 Aug, 1 Logan 18 Oct (GS).

***Brent Goose** P = Pale-bellied *B. b. hrota*; D = Dark-bellied *B. b. bernicla*; others unspecified. Ork, 9D Newark Bay 28 Apr-7 May; O Heb, 2 Balranald 16 Apr; Moray, 4P Lossiemouth 28 Sep; Aber, single P Strathbeg 27 Mar, 25 Sep, 7-28 Oct, 6 Nov, 2P on 6 Dec; Kinr, 1 L Leven 26 Jan; Fife, 3P Eden 9 Oct; W Loth, 5P Dalmeny 3 Oct, 1P 21st; E Loth, 1 Tynninghame 14 Feb, 5 Aberlady 16-18 Sep, 25P North Berwick 3 Oct, 1P Aberlady mid Oct-Nov; Arg, 1 Southend 28 Sep, 39 Islay 15 Apr, 60 on 17th, 36 on 1 Nov; Dumf, 1P Caerlaverock Jan-Feb, 1D 10 Feb, 3P Nov-Dec; Kirk, 1P Southernness 12 Mar.

Barnacle Goose Winter-spring: Shet, 5 Foula 9 June; Fair Isle, 6 on 30 Apr; Ork, 296 Scapa Flow islands 19 Mar, 17 Brough of Birsay 3 May; O Heb, 1,000 Balranald 28 Apr, N passage 16 Apr-4 May; Caith, 50 L Heilen Jan-17 Feb; Suth, 90 Durness 12 Apr, 52 Eilean Hoan 5 May; Aber, 5 Strathbeg 13 Feb-25 Apr; Perth, peaks Blackford 10 on 19 Feb, Methven Moss 31 on 31 Mar, Arg, 20,200 Islay. Summer: 1 L Shin, Suth, 31 May; 3 Beaully Firth Aug-Sep.

Autumn immigration from 22 Sep: Shet, 30 Foula Oct; Fair Isle, 1st 3 on 8 Oct, max 19 on 5 Nov; Aber, 2 Strathbeg 22 Sep, increased to 38 on 21 Oct, down to 18 on 9 Nov, 10 Murcar 4 Oct; Angus, 4 Lintrathen

5 Oct; Isle of May, 18 on 6 Oct (best ever); Kinr, 9 L Leven 6-7 Oct, 13 on 12th; Midl, 13W Musselburgh 4 Oct, 24W Joppa 6 Oct, 13SW Cobbinshaw 5 Oct; E Loth, 36 Dirlerton 6 Oct, 19 Tynninghame 5-7 Oct, 43 Gullane 7 Oct; Dumf, 5 Caerlaverock 30 Sep, peak count 6,050 on 21 Oct, sample gave 20% juvenile, mean brood size 2.2.

Canada Goose Beaully Firth moulting flock of Yorkshire/English birds peak 800, 1st 56 on 2 June, 600 ringed 6 July, 250 by 3 Aug, last 3 Oct. Caith moulting flock: 7 L Rangag 4 June, peak 23 on 20 June. Probable moult migrants: Shet, 1 Foula 27 July; Ork, 7 Stenness 19 July; Suth, 1 Kyle of Tongue 29 July, 1 Melvich 29 Aug; Inverness, 50S 30 July, 5 L Laggan 3 June, 9 on 17 July, 25 L Linnhe 17 Aug, 2 Insh 13 Aug, 1 to 31st; Aber, 40N Forvie 5 May; Angus, 16 Montrose 17-24 June, 13 Elliot 18 June, 24 Montrose 4 Sep; Kinr, 18 L Leven 18-19 Aug; Perth, 37 Mugdrum 25 Aug; Midl, 7 Gladhouse 17 Aug; E Loth, 18 Aberlady 22 Aug, 17 Tynninghame 11 Sep.

Wig/Kirk, 50 Lochinch 25 Aug, breeders spreading e.g. 2 new areas Dairy/L Ken, hybrid x Greylags breeding Stranraer; Dumf, increase maintained, up to 88 Kinmount in winter; Renf/Ayr, good breeding season, e.g. 55 Rowbank 9 Nov; Dunb, max 50 Endrick Mouth 8 Oct; Arg, max 44 Colonsay 20 July, 2 small birds Tayinloan 28 Dec; Perth, breeds several areas, winters Stanley/Meikleour where 83 mid Oct, 60+ on 24 Nov, some with Beaully Firth rings; Inv, 100-200 L Ruthven Oct-Nov, still 100 end Dec.

Mute Swan Shet, juv seen many areas Jan-Dec; Ork, max 224 L of Harray/Stenness 13 Dec; O Heb, max 140 L Bee 24 July; Ross, 118 Mid-Fearn 12 Oct; Aber, max 367 moulting Strathbeg July, 417 in Nov; Isle of May, 4 on 9 June, 6 on 14 July, 3 on 19 Sep. Breeding success generally poor, although pr on Beaully Firth reared 7 young.

Whooper Swan Winter-spring: Kirk/Wig, 160+ Greenlaw 14-23 Feb; Lan, 82 Hamilton-Merryton 11 Jan, last on 26 Apr, 65 Gadloch 15 Feb, 84 Summerston 1 Jan, last 43 on 17 Mar; Dunb, 65 Endrick Mouth 26 Jan; E Loth, 44 Drem 10 Feb; Clack, 50 Menstrie 26 Jan, 42 South Alloa 18 Feb; Perth, 43 Lecropt 1 Feb; Angus, 30 Glen Clova 16 Apr; Aber, 131 Cairnbulg 2 Mar, 70NW Ythan 9 Jan, last 20 Strathbeg 23 Apr; Inv, 174 Insh 4 Feb, 143 L Garten 1 Mar; Ross, 88 Beaully Firth 16 Mar, 130 Evanton 12 Jan, last 150 Invergordon 2-3 May; Caith, 373 L Calder Jan, last 11 Strath 30 Mar; O Heb, 30 Balranald 16 Apr; Fair Isle, 8 on 29 Mar, 5 on 7 Apr; Shet, max 47 Spiggie area Jan.

Summering birds (some late migrants and some injured): Shet (6); Ork (3); O Heb (6); Caith (5); Suth (2), also 4 L Hope 23 May, 4 L Assynt 27 May; Inv (6); Aber (2); Perth (3); Clack (1); Renf/Lan (4); Kirk (1); but no suggestion of breeding.

Autumn: Shet, 1st 9 Spiggie 23 Sep, max 154 on 15 Nov; Fair Isle, 1st 13 on 23 Sep, max 23 on 1 Oct; Ork, 71 Stronsay 1 Oct, 200 Shapinsay Oct-Nov; Caith, 40 L Heilen 28 Sep, 300 on 8 Oct; Suth/Ross, first 13 L Earacha 26 Sep, 344 L Eye 16 Nov; Inv, 1st Insh 26 Sep, max 100 on 29 Dec, 11 Rhum 25 Sep; Aber, 1st 2 Strathbeg 15 Sep, 103 on 29th, max 440 on 14 Nov; Kinr, 2 L Leven 27 Sep, 60 on 30th, 242 on 17 Oct; Fife, 42 Cameron res 6 Nov; Midl, 60 Cobbinshaw 7 Dec; E Loth, 6 Tynninghame 28 Sep; Ber, 19 St Abbs 11 Oct; Renf, 52 Barr Loch 13 Dec, 53 Stanley res 9 Nov; Dumf, 1st 3 E Park 15 Aug, 52 Glencaple 3 Dec; Kirk, 1st 9 New Galloway 30 Sep, max 91 Greenlaw 11 Dec. Sample of 863 gave 7.5% juveniles—a poor breeding season (cf. grey geese).

Bewick's Swan Winter-spring to 24 Apr, more than usual: Caith, 1 Castletown 24 Apr; Ross, 1 Tarradale 28 Feb; Aber, 5 Skene 12 Jan; E Loth, 1 Drem Jan-Feb, 2 on 7 Mar, 4 Tynninghame 13 Apr; Dunb/Lan, 3 (1 ringed Slimbridge) Summerston 4-11 Jan, singles 1-3 Jan, 17 Mar,

1 Gadloch 9 Mar; Ayr, 1 L Muck 2-5 Jan; Dumf, 12 E Park on 2 Feb; Kirk, 2-6 L Ken Jan-Feb, 2 Greenlaw Feb-Mar, 34 Auchencairn Bay 23 Feb; Wig, 18 Moss of Cree 13 Jan, 8 on 12 Jan, 6 on 21st, 2 Kirkcolm 2 Mar.

Autumn: Aber, 1S Strathbeg 8 Dec, 1 Ythan 8-10 Dec; Kinr, 5 L Leven 30 Nov, 10 on 4 Dec, 12 on 14th, 10 on 16th; Arg, 22 Islay 30 Oct; Renf, 3 Inchinnan 14 Dec; Dumf, 1st E Park 23 Oct, 19 on 28 Dec, 2 Heathhall 9 Dec; Kirk/Wig, 6 Greenlaw 10 Nov, 7 on 22nd, 3 Creetown 12 Nov, 3 Moss of Cree 18 Nov, 11 Cree est 20 Dec.

Golden Eagle Ork, pr reared 2 young, 1 Rousay winter, 1 Rendall 29 Apr; O Heb, 2 new sites N Uist, 15 sites known occupied Lewis/Harris; N Caith, pr successful; N Suth, poor season; W Ross, average season; Inv, 4 prs Rhum, only 1 chick; Aber, poorer than usual, only 7 young reared, 3 failed to hatch, 2 probably robbed; Angus, 4 prs successful but 1 regular site failed; Perth, 10 prs in study area only produced 2 single young; Clack, imm Craigleith 11 Oct; Midl, ad Moorfoots 1 Nov; S Arg, 18 prs with eggs, 9 reared 11 young; Ayr, pr 8 July and imm near Muirkirk 24 May; in SW, usual nos. but only 1 pr successful, reared 1 young. Poisoned baits used especially in E, Suth-Perth; alarming nos. killed.

Buzzard Breeding: Inv, suggestion of non-breeding Kiltarlity due to weather, 11 nests Glen Urquhart produced 18 young; Canna, 6 prs but only 2 nested—scarcity of Rabbits; Renf, pr nested Muirshiel Park, 1st time since 1970; Kirk, low ground population doing well.

Migrants: Shet, singles Unst 9 June, Saxa Vord 21-22 June; Kinr, 1 E Brackley 7 Feb; Fife, 1 Culross 13 Sep; small nos. Midl/E Loth; Peeb/Selkirk, 4 singles.

***Rough-legged Buzzard** Twelve records (13 birds): Shet, Scalloway 3 June; Fair Isle 31 May, 11 June; Ork, Lyde 29-30 Apr, Cottasgarth 15 May; W Ross, Gairloch 14 May; Aber, Strathdon 15 Mar, 2 Braemar 6 Apr; Perth, Glenalmond 20 Jan; Arg, Islay 15 Jan, 14 Mar; Kirk, Rhinns of Kells 24 May. Most in 8 years.

Sparrowhawk Breeding reports all suggest high numbers throughout country, several observers report 'commoner than Kestrel' and one 'numbers embarassingly high'. Ork, 2 juvs Hoy 26 July suggest possible nesting.

Migrants: Shet, singles Apr, June, Aug, Oct (2), Nov, and 3 Kergord 18 Jan; Fair Isle, 20 Apr-4 June (4 records), 20 Sep-14 Nov, max 3 on 3 Oct; Ork, singles Feb, Apr (3), May and July; Inv, 2 Rhum Dec.

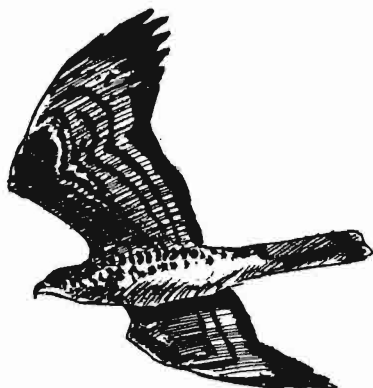
Goshawk Certainly breeding, probably in double figures, but difficult to prove. Observed 6+ areas in N, bred one, displaying in 2 more, 1st-summer bird caught in crow trap and released; more sightings mid Scotland, Arg-E coast, 8+ areas and display at one; some records in S. Singles outwith usual areas: Caith, 1 Geise 16 Feb; Fife, 1 Cupar late Aug-early Sep; 1 Stirling 12 Oct; Midl, 1 Gladhouse 29 Aug; Arg, 1 Islay 8 Sep; Ayr, 1 Rozelle 1 Mar; Arran, imm ♂ 15 Mar, one 25 May. 1st-year ♀ shot Glen Lethnot, Angus, 8 Dec.

***Red Kite** Two records: 1 Strathbeg Aber, 6-7 June (JD); 1 shot on Pheasant shoot Kirk mid-Oct had been ringed in Wales, summer 1975; this disgraceful incident came to light through investigation by DSM.

***Black Kite** Two records: 1 Eday, Ork, 3 May (RDL); 1 Unst, Shet, 11 June (F. J. Walker *et al*); 1st since 1970.

*†**White-tailed Eagle** Reintroduction: 3 1975 chicks (all ♀♀) released Sep-Oct Rhum, Inv; 1 later found dead under wires Morvern, Arg, other 2 remained winter on island (NCC).

***Honey Buzzard** Six birds: Shet, 2 Unst 23 June (RAFKOS); Moray,



1 nr Elgin 17 Aug (NS); Inv, 1 L Garten 15 June (T. A. Guyatt) stayed for month (RSPB); Aber, 1 Deeside autumn (MM); Arg, 1 Machrihanish 18 Sep (EJM).

***Marsh Harrier** Continued high nos, c13 records (most in 8 years); Shet, ♀ West Yell 20 Apr; Inv, 1 Longman Bay 7 June, ♀ Insh 13 June (several days); Moray, imm ♂ L Spynie 5 May; Aber, singles Strathbeg 20 June, 17-24 Sep; Angus/Kinc, 1 Kinnaber summer, ♀ Montrose Basin 14th and 21 Aug, 4 Sep; Perth, imm ♂ Lecropt 3 July and 8 Aug; Midl, ♂ Cobbinshaw 8 June; E Loth, 1 Aberlady 13 Mar, another 20-21 May; Dumf, imm ♂ River Nith opposite Kirkton 19 Apr.

Hen Harrier Breeding nos. and success as usual throughout extensive range, though reduced to 3 prs in Carradale, Arg, now that plantations are maturing; in SW suggestion that some prs did not nest or failed early.

Migration: single ring-tails Yell and Unst, Shet, 15 Nov, Fair Isle 24 Aug; 1 Tentsmuir Fife, 7 Oct; single ♂♂ Kinr 24 Jan and 22 Aug; 4 records E Loth; ♂ Hermitage Hill, Rox, 3 Sep. Winter records widespread.

Osprey Disappointing season: of 14 known and regular sites only 7 successful, 16 young reared. Many probably not in breeding condition after bad weather impeded both migration and, after arrival, fishing; one 6 year-old found dying and emaciated. L Garten, Inv, ♀ arrived 10 Apr, ♂ 17th, another 18th, pr present all summer, failed to breed; nest No. 2, pr from 12 Apr, 3 eggs laid but stolen by egg-collectors; No. 3, 1st 5 Apr, 2 young reared; No. 4, 1st c5 Apr, 2 young reared; L of Lowes, Perth, ♂ 6-16 Apr, ♀ 17 Apr, another ♂ 19th, pr present all summer, failed to breed; No. 6, pr present all summer, failed to breed; No. 7, pr laid 3 eggs, 3 young reared; No. 8, 1st by 12 Apr, 3 eggs laid, 2 young reared; No. 9, moved to new nest site, 3 young reared; No. 10, pr present most of summer, failed to breed; No. 11, pr present, 2 young reared; No. 12, pr present but failed to breed; No. 13, pr laid 3 eggs, 2 young reared; No. 14, new site, eggs laid but broken. As usual summer singles and reports of possible nesting various areas.

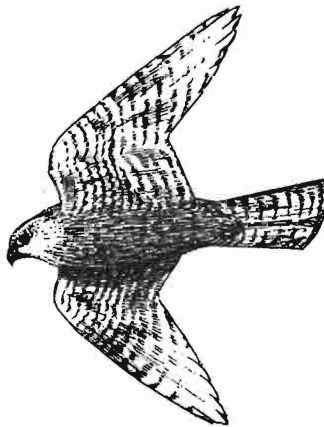
Migration—all singles: Shet, Uyeasound-Gutcher 6-10 June; Fair Isle, 26-27 May; Ork, Orphir 25 June-4 July, Sanday 28 July; Caith, Dunbeath 28 June; Suth, L Stack 2 June, Merkland 4 May, Strathnaver late May, Strath Halladale 22 June; Aber, Strathbeg 30 June, Ythan 13 July, Meikle 25 July; Fife, Tentsmuir 25 May; Rox, Rutherford 9 Apr; Selk, Shielswood L 17 Sep, L of the Lowes 9 Nov (very late); Arg, Islay 28-30 Sep,

West L Tarbert 18 Oct; Dumf, 1 Penpont 9 June; Kirk, 15 May, 4 June and 2 July.

***Hobby** Six singles: Fetlar, Shet, 6 June (MCR *et al*); Fair Isle, 9 June (B. Bland); Angus/Kinc, mouth of North Esk 26 July (PJD); Fife, Tentsmuir 7 June (KB, MN); E Loth, Aberlady 17-25 May (RGN *et al*); Kirk, Clatteringshaws 6 July (MM).

Peregrine Breeding: Shet, activity at 7 sites, 2+ prs successful; Highlands breeding nos. good, success varied; Aber, poor; Perth, good in some areas, e.g. 19 young from 6 prs, bird found dead of dieldrin poisoning; Arg, breeding success seemed good; Dunb/W Stir, Arran and Galloway all reported lower success than 1974. It is not possible to give data as species is at risk from egg and chick collectors.

Other records: Fair Isle, additional ♂♂ 11 Apr; 3rd and 18 May, 2 extra birds 1-14 Oct; Shet, 2 died contaminated with Fulmar oil; Isle of May, 6 Oct; increased winter sightings in SE.



***Gyr Falcon** One pale bird caught at oil rig 130 miles NE of Aberdeen 5 Jan, died later at Aberdeen (R. Baxter).

Merlin Breeding as usual from Shet south; Dumf, gradual increase; Kirk, poor year, no success at 4 known sites, may have been due to cold weather at egg-laying.

Migration and counts: Shet, arrivals from 15 Apr Foula, suggestion of passage 27 Aug-18 Nov; Fair Isle, passage mainly 10 Apr-9 May, 19 Aug-Dec, max 3 on 1 Sep, 3 on 26 Sep; Isle of May, passage 6-21 Oct, max 2; good numbers reported in winter.

***Red-footed Falcon** Two records: imm ♂ Strathbeg, Aber, 20 June (JD); ♂ Belhaven, Dunbar, E Loth, 4 July (TCS).

Kestrel Breeding: Ork, nos. still lower than 1973; Inv/E Ross, nos. seemed low; Midl, 40+ prs nesting Edinburgh; E Loth, nos. less than usual; Ayr, nos. high in vole plague areas New Cumnock-Dalmellington; Kirk/Wig, good season in vole infested areas, e.g. 30 High Water of Ken Valley, Smittons-Lorg 9 Aug.

Migration: Shet, 21 records 3 Apr-18 June, 19 records 3 Aug-24 Oct; Fair Isle, few 22 Apr-15 June, 30 July-10 Nov, max 4 on 20 Aug; Aber, 1SE at oil rig 99 miles NE of Aberdeen 13 Apr; Kinc, 1 off sea Girdleness 4 Sep; Isle of May, 23 July-31 Oct, max 6 on 6 Oct; Fife Ness 6 on 6 Oct.

Red Grouse Shet, reported from 10 areas, 1st young 1 July; Ork, good year; O Heb, slight increase W and Central Lewis; Suth, pr reared 6 young Handa; Midl, poor season; Renf, best season for years; Kirk, good season Grobdale.

Ptarmigan Caith, 2 broods Morven; Aber, 1 Bennachie 10-11 Jan is well outside usual range; Arran, small nos. winter but still no evidence of breeding.

Black Grouse W Ross, ♂ Achnasheen May; Dunb, 8 ♂♂ Duncryne Hill 24 Dec; some suggestion of local increases and decreases in various areas.

Capercaillie Little comment: Fife, nos. present Tentsmuir; Dunb/W Stir, young Torrinch 4 June, B/5 Inchcailloch 31 May.

†**Red-legged Partridge** (Hybridizes with Chukar *Alectoris chukar* and Rock Partridge *A. graeca*) Caith, max 20 Sandside 6 Feb; Suth, 2 Rosehall 27 Apr; Ross, ?Chukar L Eye 31 May; Moray, introduced Pitgavenie; Aber, Skene population may be self-sustaining, 2 of 13 on 1 June were hybrids; Angus, some survivors, e.g. ♀ with young Edzell 13 Aug; Perth, various reports; Fife, pr Balerno 11 Apr; Dunb, records Glen Fruin, where 150 released, 10 Rosdhu; W Stir, present Balfon; Galloway report of hybrids.

Partridge Breeding: good season noted Caith, Aber, Kinr, Midl, E Loth, Dunb, W Stir, Lan and Dumf. Poor in Fife and declining Peebles.

High counts: 28 Scone, Perth, 23 Nov; 30 Vane, Kinr, 7 Nov; 40 Alloa, Clack, 8 Nov; 35 Niddrie, Midl, 11 Oct; 30 Summerston, Dunb, 3 Jan; 30 Balglass, W Stir, 11 Aug.

***Quail** No breeding record. Mostly singles: Fair Isle, 17 May (RAB); Midl, pr Cousland 17-22 May (JHB), 1 Gorebridge 4 Aug (R & C Dunsire); Rox, Hoselaw L 9 Aug (AWGJ); Dunb, Endrick Mouth 7 June (TPD); Lan, Gadloch 7 June; Bute, Greenan 30 June (JLB); Dumf, Bellholm Kirkton 19 Apr, 11 May (MM).

Pheasant Shet, 1-2 Kergord Jan-Apr, pr Muness, recent releases; Caith, definite increase; O Heb, ♂ Back, Lewis, 30 Sep.

Golden Pheasant Continues to thrive Kirroughtree and Penninghame, Kirk/Wig.

Silver Pheasant *Lophura nycthemera* Female between Castle Douglas and Kirkcudbright 25 Jan.

***Crane** Arg, 1 Bunessan, Mull, 9-12 May (H. Cook, J. Rusk).

Water Rail Breeding: Inv, present Insh 7 Mar-26 Aug, max 5 in June; Perth, bred Seaside and numbers may be high; Renf, 3 prs bred Lochwinnoch; Ayr, 1-2 prs bred Heart L, Maybole.

Migration and counts: Shet, few winter, 2 in spring, small influx Nov; Fair Isle, spring as usual, strong autumn passage 20 Sep-16 Nov, max 5 on 2 Oct, 4 on 14 Oct, 17 ringed in autumn; usual scattered records Ork south; max 7 New Cumnock, Ayr, 24 Aug.

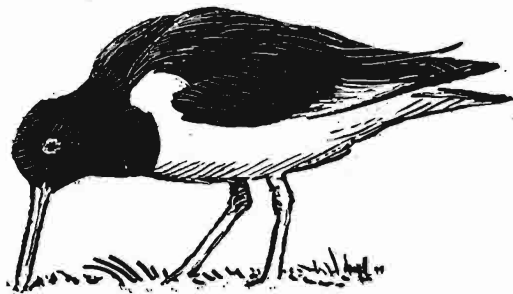
***Spotted Crane** No records at possible breeding sites; 5 singles: Fair Isle, 9 May, 16-20 Aug, 2 Oct (RAB); Tarradale, E Ross, 4 Sep (PME); St Abbs, Ber, 10 May (DRL, RWJS, LLJV).

Corncrake Breeding: Ork, apparently still declining, especially Mainland and S isles; O Heb, 43 sites Lewis and Harris; Suth, fewer in NW; Inv, 10-12 prs Canna; Arg, widely distributed Coll, young seen Treshnish Is, fewer Islay; Ayr, better than 1974, max 8 Pinwherry-Ballantrae June. Calling birds Moray (1), Aber (1), Angus/Kinc (2), Perth (1), Peeb (1), Dunb (2), Lan (1), Kirk (2).

Migration from 3 May, all singles: Fair Isle, 6-7th, 8 May, 15-27th, 28 Sep; Ork, Westray 3 May; O Heb, Balranald 3 May; Aber/Kinc, Girdleness 4 Sep, Rickarton (dead) 9 Sep; Kirk, Dalry 3 May.

Moorhen Shet, bred 5 sites and possibly 2 others; Renf, 2 prs failed Paisley Moss when pond dried up for first time in at least 12 years, 1 ad died incubating. Counts and migration: Fair Isle, one 2 Mar, few 17 Apr-6 May, singles 3rd, 16 Oct, 3 Nov; Perth, 55+ Errol 20 Dec.

Coot Counts and migration: Shet, 4 singles Feb-Apr, 3 Nov-Dec, 1 Hillwell Jan-Dec; Fair Isle, one 22-30 Apr; Ork, 100 L of Bosquoy 11 Nov; Caith, 180 L Scarmclate 12 Jan, 280 on 14 Dec; Inv, 80 Insh 24 Nov; Aber, 1,100 Strathbeg 15 Sep (sudden influx); Perth, 300+ Carsebreck 2 Jan, 253 L of Menteith 15 Jan; Kinr, 550 L Leven Sep, 350 Oct; Stir, 144 Airthrey 1 Jan; Renf, 181 Lochwinnoch 7 Aug, 700 on 19 Oct; Ayr, 130 L of the Lowes 28 Sep.



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Oystercatcher Breeding: Shet, 1st young 28 May; Fair Isle, 1st 1 Feb, most end Feb, 1st eggs 3 May; Ork, 1st eggs c/4 4 May; Inv, 1st 2 inland Insh 14 Feb, 104 on 3 Mar; Aber, 1st inland Fintray 25 Jan; Perth, 2 inland Carsebreck 2 Jan; E Loth, 2 nests mainland; Peebles, 1st 12 Feb; Kirk, 1st Carlingwark L 16 Jan.

Counts and migration: Fair Isle, 60N 4 Mar; O Heb, 250 Melbost, Lewis, 24 Jan; Caith, 268 Castle of Mey 6 Dec; Suth, 800 L Fleet 21 Dec; Ross, 450 Alness 30 Mar, 943 Udale 14 Sep; Inv, 1,486 Whiteness 31 July, 1,750 on 5 Sep; Moray, 760 Findhorn 21 Sep, 450 Lossiemouth 21 July; Aber, 610 Ythan 4 Aug; Kinc, 801 Girdleness 5 Feb; Angus, 1,200 Montrose 31 Jan, 300 on 25 Mar, 896 on 10 July, 2,140 on 11 Aug; Perth, 463 Invergowrie 29 Dec; Fife, winter peak 3,500+ Tentsmuir; Midl, 1,580 Musselburgh 11 Jan, 2,700 on 25 Apr, 1,600 on 20 Aug, 1,800 on 22 Oct, 40S Gladhouse 9 Aug, 38S on 23 Aug; E Loth, 1,350 Aberlady 12 Jan, 1,200 Gosford 20 Dec; Arg, 587 Kildalloig Bay 3 Aug; Dunb, 2,000 Ardmore 1 Jan, 2 Feb, 2,200 on 19 Oct; Renf/Dunb, 4,263 Upper Clyde 21 Dec, max 2,400 Newshot; Ayr, 1,061 Ardrossan-Seamill 12 Jan, 1,050 Turnberry-Dipple 12 Jan, 1,080 on 21 Dec; Dumf, 6,600 Caerlaverock 22 Nov; Kirk/Wig, 10,212 Aird's Pt-Southwick Burn 20 Sep, 11,046 on 22 Nov (lower than 1974), 4,896 Urr-L Ryan 1 Feb, 4,921 on 20 Dec (higher than 1974).

Lapwing Breeding: good year O Heb, Caith, Perth, Midl; poor in Fife and slight decrease Ayr.

Migration and counts: Shet, max 200 Belmont 9 Nov, peak passage Skerries 28 on 14 Sep; Fair Isle, spring max 47 on 22 Feb, 50 on 22 May, main autumn passage 20-25 Sep (max 75) 30 Sep-6 Oct (max 120) and 45 on 21-25 Oct; Ork, 1,600 Scapa Flow Jan-early Mar; O Heb, 800 Baleshare 15-22 Feb; Caith, 500 Stemster 23 Feb, 1,500 Canisbay and 500 Harpsdale 24 Oct; Ross, 700 Dalmore 12 Oct; Inv, 750 Beaully Firth 12 Jan, 700 Insh 8 Mar; Aber, 1,000 Ythan 3 Jan, 2,446 on 25 Sep, 1,300 Strathbeg 28 Dec, strong passage at oil rig 95 miles NE of Aberdeen 4 Mar; Perth, 1,200 Tibbermore (50% juvs) 17 July, 900 (70% juvs) 23 July, 2,500+

Seaside-Mugdrum 25 Aug, 1,614 Lecropt 18 Feb; Kinr, 1,500 L Leven 15 Jan, 3,000 on 6 Feb; Clack, 2,080 Tullibody Inch 12 Oct, 1,300 Menstrie 12 Oct; Arg, 1,050 Machrihanish 1 Sep; Renf, 2,000 Barr Loch 7 Aug, 5,500 Erskine-Woodhall 8 Feb, 4,550 on 21 Dec; Lan, 4,000 Hamilton 11 Jan; Ayr, 4,600 Bogside 12 Jan, 4,000 on 2 Feb, 2,500 on 23 Aug-5 Oct, 1,800 Beith 18 Sep; Wig/Kirk, 3,000 Luce Bay 19 Sep, 2,500 L Ryan 19 Sep, 4,000 Moor of Genoch 5 Oct.

Ringed Plover Breeding: Shet, 1st egg 3 May, 43+ prs Fetlar; Fair Isle, 8 prs; Aber, 15 prs St Fergus; Kinc, 23 prs St Cyrus, fewer young than 1974; Fife Ness, 1st egg 30 Mar; Dunb, 1st nest c/4 Endrick Mouth 13 Apr; Kirk, 2 separate young Clatteringshaws 26 June.

Counts and migration: Shet, 35 Virkie 25 Aug, 110 on 26th; Fair Isle, main passage 28 Aug-13 Sep, max 70 on 29th; Ork, 130 Scapa Bay 18 Oct; O Heb, high nos. winter Uists, e.g. 350 Benbecula, 210 Baleshare, 200 Gualann 15-22 Feb, 300 Rubha Ardvule 29 July, 4 Flannans 21-28 June; Caith, 120 Sandside 7 Aug; Aber, 335 Ythan 26 May; Angus, 521 Montrose 23 May; Stir, 250 Upper Forth 7 Sep; E Loth, 240 Tynninghame 25 May; Ayr, 146 Ardrossan-Seamill 12 Jan, 209 Prestwick 12 Jan, 350 Barassie 25 Aug; Kirk/Wig, 637 Aird's Pt-Southwick Burn and 438 Urr-L Ryan 20 Sep.

***Little Ringed Plover** 1 flying inland Dipple Shore, Ayr, 5 Aug (WRB).

***Kentish Plover** Culbin Bar, Moray, 12 June (RHD, P Conder)—4th Scottish record.

Grey Plover Winter-spring: Kirk, continued increase, 200+ Southerness 2 Jan, 220 on 28 Feb; Arg, 6 Bridgend, Islay, 3 Mar; E Loth, 100 Aberlady Jan-Mar; Ork, 5 Sanday 29 May; Fair Isle, one 7 May; Shet, singles Unst 11 May, Papa Stour 9 June.

Autumn-winter: more than usual most areas; Shet, from 25 Aug, max 3 Virkie 13-14th and 28 Sep; Fair Isle, singles 9 Sep-26 Oct, 2 on 20-27 Sep; Ork, 6 Toab 22 Sep, 7 Stronsay 1 Oct, 45 Deer Sound 2 Nov; O Heb, 1st Melbost 21 Aug; Caith, from 14 Sep, max 6 Ackergill 5 Oct; Suth, from 27 Aug, 18 L Fleet 24 Nov, 6 on 29 Dec; Inv, 11 Lentrann 30 Oct, 12 Whiteness 31 July; Aber, 1st 4 Ythan 13 Aug, 23 on 11-14 Sep, 27 Rattray 26 Oct; Angus, 1st Montrose 11 Aug, 20 on 18 Sep, 40 on 17 Oct; Perth, 3 Invergowie 10 Nov; Isle of May, one 6 Oct; Fife, 200 Eden est autumn, 70 Culross 2 Nov; Stir, 145 Upper Forth 2 Oct; E Loth, 90 Aberlady 19 Sep; Arg, 8 L Gilp 23 Sep, 5 Machrihanish 23 Sep; Renf, 8 W Ferry 19 Oct; Ayr, 13 Hunterston 6 Oct, 17 Bogside 5 Oct; Kirk, 80 Aird's Pt-Southwick Burn 22 Nov, 120 on 20 Dec. Inland singles: Lochmaben, Dumf 11 Dec; Midl, Gladhouse 18 Sep, Cobbinshaw 19 Sep-12 Oct.

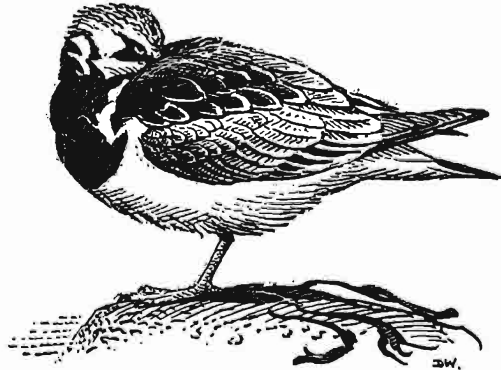
Golden Plover Breeding: Shet, 62 prs Fetlar, 190 prs Yell, 1st young 25 May; Ork, 8 prs on 2,700 acres W Mainland moors; Kirk, good season Grobdale.

Counts and migration: Shet, 200N Haroldswick 1 May; Fair Isle, large arrival 75 on 7 May, passage 10 Aug-18 Oct, peaks 56 on 3 Sep, 45 on 27 Sep; Ork, Northern birds *P. a. altifrons* mid Apr; O Heb, 500 Melbost 1 May; Caith, 500 Westfield 28 Mar; Inv, return 250 Insh 8 Mar, 200 Rhum 7 Mar; Banff, 1,000 on 21 Dec; Aber, 1,000 Strathbeg 1 Feb, 3,029 Ythan 11 Sep; Perth, Northern flocks 100 Tibbermore 24 Mar, 150 Paddockmuir 30 Mar; Kinr, 600 Ardgairney Mar; Stir, 882 Upper Forth Jan; W Loth, 6,000 Queensferry Dec; Midl, 160 Northern's Gladhouse 15 Mar; E Loth, 800 Aberlady 7 Dec; Arg, 490 Machrihanish 29 Sep; Lan, 3,500 Hamilton 11 Jan; Lan, 1,100[±] Gadloch 30 Nov; Ayr, 3,000 Bogside 12 Jan, 2 Feb, 1,700 on 19 Oct, 1,200 Maidens 8 Nov; Wig, 7,000 L Ryan 19 Oct, 7,000 Baldoon 25 Oct, 5-6,000 Lochinch 8 Nov—max nearly 3 times higher than in recent years.

***Lesser Golden Plover** 1 with Golden Plovers E Park, Dumf, 23 Nov-31 Dec (AB, RHH *et al*); 1st in Scotland since 1956 and 3rd record.

Dotterel Breeding: Grampians, nos. high, good fledging, 31 chicks ringed (1 recovered Algeria 5 Sep); E Grampians, nos. high but poor success (probably due to snow); prs on outlying hills Inv, Perth; pr nested unsuccessfully in S (new area); some bred SW.

Migrants: Shet, 3 on 23-28 May; Fair Isle, 2N on 21 May, 3 on 26-31 May; Midl, 1 Pentlands 23 Aug; E Loth, 1 Aberlady 26 May, 4 on 30 May; Arg, 12 Machrihanish 4 May.



Turnstone Summer: Shet, 2 alarming Mainland 1 June; Ork, display and song 2 areas 9-10 June; usual scatter coastal records, also remains at Peregrine kill Ballater, Aber, June.

Counts and migration: Fair Isle, return from 9 July max 60 on 27 Aug, 78 on 5 Oct; Ork, last Copinsay 14 May, return 2 Aug; O Heb, 320 Barranald 15-22 Feb; Suth, 150 Brora 30 Aug; Banff, 250 Buckpool 1 Mar; Kinc, 205 Girdleness 4 Oct, 220 on 19 Nov; Angus, 19 Montrose 10 July, 172 Arbroath 24 Aug; Isle of May, 1st 12 July, max 404 on 17 Sep; Stir, 172 Upper Forth Feb; Midl, 296 Musselburgh 25 Apr; E Loth, 1,070 Gullane-Tynninghame 25 Dec; Rox, 1 Ale Moor 17 Aug; Arg, 1st 5 Tayinloan 12 July; Renf, 115 Gourrock-Inverkip; Ayr, 283 Turnberry-Dipple 29 Mar; Kirk, 239 Airds Pt-Southwick Burn 20 Dec.

***Long-billed Dowitcher** One Thurso, Caith, 11 Oct-20 Nov (VH, JMG *et al*); only 3rd Scottish record, specifically identified, subject to acceptance by Rarities Committee.

Snipe Breeding: Shet, 1st display 3 Mar; Fair Isle, 3 prs nested; Dunb, 1st display Gartlea 9 Jan.

Counts and migration: Fair Isle, spring, 30 on 14 Apr, 28 on 20 Apr, autumn from mid Aug, max 45 on 20 Sep and 40 on 27 Oct; Aber, 55 Corby 25 Oct; Angus, 40 Lurgies 8 Aug and 45 on 10 Sep; Isle of May, 2 Aug-23 Oct; Perth, 50 Balbeggie 5 Oct; Midl, Gladhouse, 40 on 13 and 20 July, 80 on 3-9 Aug; Renf, heavier than usual autumn passage, up to 100 regularly Paisley Moss, max 110 on 28 Oct, 122 Erskine Saltmarsh 24 Nov; Lan, Possil Marsh 8 Oct; Ayr, 120 New Cumnock 24 Aug, 120 Bogside Flats 30 Aug, 150 on 6 Oct.

***Great Snipe** One L nam Faoleag, nr Drumnadrochit, Inv, 29 Apr (JAL, MIH).

Jack Snipe Winter-spring: Shet, singles Whalsay and Lerwick Jan-3 Mar; Fair Isle, singles 30 Mar, 6-7 May; Ork, 1 Firth 9 Feb; Angus, 1 Kinnaber 6 Apr; Aber, 3 Corby 26 Feb, 1 Strathbeg 2 Mar; Midl, 2 Cobbinshaw 28 Mar; Peeb, 1 Drumelzier 7 Feb; Dunb, 2 displaying Endrick

Mouth 21 May is very interesting; Renf, high peak of 20 Paisley Moss 4 Mar; Lan, 4 Carmunnock 8 Feb-9 Mar; Ayr, 2 Pow Burn 2 Feb, 3 Springside 23 Feb.

Autumn-winter from 14 July; Shet, from 18 Aug, max 4 Whalsay 13 Nov; Fair Isle, more than usual, 7 Sep-end Nov, mainly 26 Sep-10 Oct, up to 12 daily 1-3 Oct; Ork, 2 Stronsay 14 July, few later; Moray, 10+ Findhorn 15-30 Oct; Inv, 1 Insh 29 Oct; Aber, 8 Corby 25 Oct; Fife, 3 Largo Bay 21 Dec; Midl, 6 Cobbinshaw 11 Oct; Renf, passage late, 1st 7 Oct, max 12 Paisley Moss 28 Oct, 6 on 14 Dec; Lan, 4 Possil Marsh 19 Nov; Ayr, 7 Springside 20 Dec.

Woodcock Breeding: Inv/Moray, nos. high, good season, 1st display flights 3 Mar; good nos. N Ayr/W Renf and Glenkens, Kirk/E Wig, 1st chicks 1 May.

Migration: after 6 years of scarcity, a better passage spring and autumn Fair Isle, peak 25 on 17 Apr, autumn 3 Oct-30 Nov, main arrivals 20-24 Oct, max 50+ on 21-22nd and 8-13 Nov with 100+ on 10th; Shet, small spring passage, unusual summer records Unst 7 June and Fetlar 7-8 July, few autumn from 22 Oct; Ork, small nos. include 1 Sule Skerry mid-July; Isle of May, 1 on 17 Apr, 2 on 19 Apr, passage 9-24 Oct, max 9 on 22nd.

***Upland Sandpiper** One Fair Isle 25 Sep, 2nd for island (5 Oct 1970) and 3rd Scottish record (RAB *et al.*).

Curlew Breeding: Shet 2-3 prs nested Whalsay; Fair Isle, 1 pr nested, only 4th record; Ork, 1st eggs Eday 28 Apr; Angus, poor season; Arran, good season.

Winter-spring: Ayr, 950 Turnberry-Dipple 12 Jan, 712 Troon 2 Feb; Dunb, 500 Ardmore 23 Feb; Peeb, 1st 12 Meldons 21 Feb; Inv, 1st Insh 24 Feb, up to 100+ by 11 Mar; O Heb, 175 Traig Leathan, N Uist, 15-22 Feb; Ork, 3,700 wintered Scapa Flow; Fair Isle, daily from 29 Mar, max 30 on 15 Apr; Shet, 221 Sullom Voe 15 Feb.

Autumn-winter: Shet, 13 Whalsay 12 July, 100 by 12 Aug; Fair Isle, start of passage, 40 on 8 July, 27 on 9th; Ork, 3,000 Deer Sound 2 Nov; Caith, 321 Cross Kirk 6 Dec; Aber, peak Strathbeg 1,000 on 23 July; Ross, 350 Nigg 17 Aug; Angus, 25 Montrose 22 June, 830 by 10 July, 1,000 (max) on 11th Aug; Kinr, 160 Vane 3 Aug, 300 by 9th, 1,000 by end Aug; Arg, 1,300 Machrihanish 25 July; Ayr, 2,310 Meikle Craigs 25 Aug, 1,600 on 21 Sep; Kirk/Wig, 4,737 Urr-L Ryan 20 Sep (higher than 1974).

Whimbrel Breeding: Shet, counts include 34 prs Fetlar, 8-9 prs Whalsay, 6 prs Yell, 10 prs Dun, flying young 16 July; Ork, 2 prs Eday; O Heb, breeding reported several areas; 2-3 prs Scottish mainland site, some young seen.

Spring passage: very early record Unst, Shet 1 Mar; next Kintyre, Arg, 12 Apr; Dumf, 3 Templeland 21 May; Ayr, 2 Turnberry 20 Apr, 11 Meikle Craigs 10-11 May, 13N Dunure 12 May; Dunb, 3 Endrick Mouth 11 May; Arg, 12 Peniver 6 May; Midl, 3 Musselburgh 7 May; Isle of May, 2 on 19 Apr, last 18 May; Aber/Kinc, 3 Girdleness 23 Apr; Suth, 12 Eriboll 30 May; O Heb, 21 Balranald 11 May; Ork, 2 Copinsay 27 Apr; Fair Isle, 26 Apr-20 June, 6-10 on many days; Shet, singles Whalsay 16th and 24 Apr, regular from 30 Apr.

Autumn passage, counts higher than usual: Shet, exodus from 6 Aug, last 3 on 18 Sep; Fair Isle, mainly 22 Aug-15 Sep, max 7 on 31st, last single 26 Sep; Ork, max 14 Copinsay 7 Aug, last 8 Sep; Caith, from 15 July, max 5S and 4E Thurso 26 Aug; Suth, 26 Handa 26 Aug; Inv, 20 Longman 27 Aug; Moray, 30 Speymouth and 20 Banff 7 Aug; Aber, 100+ Ythan 4-8 Aug is exceptional, 18 Strathbeg 22 July, 20 Meikle 27 July, last 26 Sep; Angus, 3 Usan 6 July; Isle of May 9 Aug-7 Oct, max 4 on 25 Aug; Fife Ness 28 July-8 Oct, max 14 on 29 July; Mdl, 5 Seafield 20 July; E Loth, 18 Tynninghame 1 Aug; Ayr, rather few 17 July-29 Aug.

Winter : 3 Garheugh Port, Luce Bay, Wig, 27 Dec (J. Cudworth *et al*).

Black-tailed Godwit Breeding : Shet, pr on usual territory but success unknown; Ork, 2 prs bred in separate localities, well grown young at 1 site on 17 Aug and 1 young just able to fly at other on 23 July.

Winter-spring : Dumf, 31 E Park 21 Apr; Dunb, max 16+ Endrick Mouth 2nd and 9 Apr; Arg, 3 Islay May; Midl, spring max 7 Musselburgh 28 Feb; Stir, 6 Skinflats Jan; Fife, 78 Eden est 28 Mar, 4 Culross 12 Jan; Angus/Kinc, 3 Dun's Dish 29 Apr, 1 St Cyrus 7 June; Aber, 10 Ythan 29 Apr-3 May, 5 Auchmacoy 3-9 May, 6 on 10th; Inv, 10 L Mhor 27 Apr; Ross, 4 Dalmore 23 Mar; O Heb, 5 Bairnald 2 May; Ork, 1 Sule Skerry 12 May; Fair Isle, 5 on 5 May, 1 to 7th (only records); Shet, 14 Eshaness 2nd Apr, 7 Skerries 12 May.

Autumn-winter : Shet, 4 singles 22 July-25 Aug, 2 Fetlar 4 Aug, 2 Yell 15 Aug; Ork, 5 Deer Sound 3 Aug; Caith, 1-3 Wick 19 Aug-21 Sep; Ross, 6 Dalmore 28 Sep; small nos. July-Sep E Ross south; Kinr, 1 Levenmouth 11 Aug; Fife, 90 Eden est 15 Sep, 120+ on 29 Nov; E Loth, 7 Aberlady end July; Arg, up to 20 Machrihanish 14 July-12 Aug; Ayr, 5 Bogside 18 Sep; Kirk, max 15 Carsethorn 20 Sep and 12 on 20 Dec (possibly main flock not counted, otherwise many fewer than usual).

Bar-tailed Godwit Peak counts : Ork, 150 Tankerness 15 Feb, 200+ Sanday all summer, 490+ on 25 Sep, 250 Deer Sound 2 Nov; O Heb, 160 Valley Strand, N Uist, Sep, 500 Ardivachair, S Uist, 5 May, 310 Benbecula 15-22 Feb; Ross, 220 Dalmore 21 Sep, 1,000 Udale 4 Sep, 400 Munloch 3 Feb; Inv, 480 Whiteness 2 Apr, 534 on 3 May, 640 on 31 July, 1,100 on 5 Sep; Moray, 200 Burghead 26 Oct; Angus, 120 Montrose 25 Feb; Perth, 322 Invergowrie-Kingoodie 12 Jan, 242 on 6 Apr; Midl, 850 Musselburgh 11 Jan, 400 on 20 Sep; Stir, 540 Upper Forth 7 Sep; E Loth, 800-900 wintered Aberlady, 1,500 on 21 Sep; Arg, 200 Bridgend, Islay, 1 Mar; Ayr, 115 Hunterston 5 Mar; Kirk, 2,100 Southernness 20 Dec.

Migration : Fair Isle, 2 on 3 May, below average in autumn, up to 3 on 26-30 Aug; Inv, 1 Tulloch moor 16 Apr; Midl, 3 West Cairn Hill 10 July.

Green Sandpiper Winter singles : Ross, Redfield, Black Isle, 13 Feb; Rox, Wells 19 Mar; Dunb, Summerston 20 Jan; Lan, Wilderness Quarry 16 Mar; Dumf, Kingholm Jan-Feb.

Spring passage : Shet, singles Clumlie 14 Apr, Unst 20 Apr, Fetlar 27 May, Foula 11-12th and 29 May; Fair Isle, 19-22 Apr, 1-2 on 5-6 May, one 16-18 May, Ork, 1 Orphir 12 May; Aber, 2 Meikle 11 May; Angus, 1 Elliot 9 May; Isle of May, 1 on 8 May; Lan, 1 Corehouse 22 Apr.

Autumn-winter : Shet, 5 singles 22 Aug-21 Sep, 2 Foula 14 Aug; Fair Isle, 5 singles 15 July-20 Sep; Ork, 5 singles 11 July-10 Aug; Caith, 4 Wick 6 Aug, singles to 29 Aug; Moray, 1 Glenlatterach 13 July; Aber, 7 singles 23 July-3 Sep; Angus/Kinc, 1 Kinnaird 19 Aug; Perth, 1 Dunblane 13 Aug, 1 Glenalmond 25 Aug; Isle of May, 11-15 Aug, max 3; Midl, 1st Crosswood 6 July, Gladhouse 3 Aug-6 Sep, peaks 4 on 14th and 23 Aug, several others, e.g. last 2 Cobbinshaw 14 Nov; E Loth, 6 singles Aberlady, Drem and Tynninghame 10 July-16 Nov, 3 Drem 6 Aug, 3 Aberlady early Aug; Rox, 1 Bowden Burn 25 Dec; Arg, singles Islay 9th, 17th, 21 Aug, 11 Sep; Dunb, 1 Endrick Mouth 6 Aug; Renf, 2 singles Aug, 3 Gryfes res 27 Aug; Ayr, 5 singles 30 Aug-18 Sep, 2 Oldhall 17 Aug; Dumf, 2 Thornhill 8 Aug, 1 Langholm 17 Aug, 3 Shawholm 21 Aug; Kirk, 1 Ken Bridge 27 June, 3 on 11 Aug, 1 Tarffwater 27 Aug, 2 Carlingwark L 18 Oct, 1 Barholm 25 Oct.

***Wood Sandpiper Breeding** : Caith, 2 sites known, song flight early June at one and bird still present mid-July, nest c/4 found at other on 24 June; Suth, 1 song flighting near Lairg 31 May and pr in N 13 June; E Inv, 2+ prs probably nested at main site, 3 displaying at once, display from 22 May, nest and young seen 22 June.

Migrants: singles unless stated: Shet, Hillwell 14-17 May, Garths L 25 May, Tingwall 30 May; Fair Isle, 9-12 May, 2 on 26th May, 28 May, 6 June, 16 Aug, 28-29 Aug; Ork, E Mainland 15th and 21 Sep; O Heb, Gress Moor 24 May, Balranald 10-13 June, 4 July, 6-7 Aug; Caith, Wick 6 May, 15 Sep, 21 Sep; Ross, Red Point 1 June; Aber, 4 Meikle 11 May, 31 May, Ythan 11-12 Aug; Angus, Arbroath 8 May; Kinr, Levenmouth 1 June; Stir, Grangemouth 10 Aug; Midl, Gladhouse 14 July, 2 on 13 Aug, 14 Aug; E Loth, E Fortune 17 May; Rox, Alemoor 12-16 Aug; Dumb, Endrick Mouth 24 May; Dumf, E Park 10-11 June.

Common Sandpiper Breeding: Shet, 9 Mainland sites, 1 Unst, 1st chick 10 June; Ork, prs nested Hoy and Orphir; Perth, poor season, lower nos. than last 2 years Sherrifmuir; Arran, increase, 14 prs.

Spring arrivals: 10 Apr, Trantlemore, Suth; 14 Apr Aberlady, E Loth; 16 Apr, R Ken, Kirk, and Elliot, Angus; 19 Apr, Inv, Arg, Ayr and Kirk; most first arrivals 20-27 Apr.

Migration and counts: Shet, 1st 30 Apr, last Bressay 3 Oct; Fair Isle, 20 Apr (early), daily 9-16 May, max 5 on 17th, last 27 June, 6 on 6 Aug, few to 20 Sep; Inv, Clachnaharry 21 July-5 Sep, max 15 on 1 Aug, 8 Whiteness 31 July, 25 Insh 16 June, last 3 on 21 Aug; Aber, 20 Apr-23 Sep, max 5 Meikle 11 May; Perth, 25 Earn Mouth 16 July; Angus/Kinc, 18 Montrose 10 July, c30 St Cyrus early July, last 28 Sep; Isle of May, 1 on 11 May, 6 Aug-29 Sep, max 2; Midl, 6 Gladhouse 20 Apr, 12 Musselburgh 6 Aug; E Loth, last Tynninghame 3 Oct; Arg, 11 Machrihanish 14 Aug; Lan, 12 Hamilton 13 Sep; Renf, 11 Woodhall 10 Aug; Ayr, 1 Hunterston 1 Nov; Wig, 7 Luce Bay 20 Sep.

***Spotted Sandpiper** Pair nested unsuccessfully Highland region, 15 June-3 July, c/4 eggs (2 fertile) failed to hatch (G. E. Wilson, RHD *et al*). There is only one previous Scottish record (30 Oct 1971) and this is the first recorded breeding in Europe and the Palaearctic region.

Redshank Counts and migration: Shet, 100 E Voe, Scalloway, 5 Oct; Fair Isle, 30 on 7 May, return from 3 July, 36 on 8 July, 80 on 13 Aug, 60 on 18 Aug; Ork, 750 Scapa Flow Feb; O Heb, 100 Melbost est 25 Mar; Caith, 180 Thurso Dec; Suth, 200 Brora 30 Aug; Ross, 600 Dalmore and 600 Alness 12 Jan, 460 Udale 14 Sep; Inv, 765 Longman 4 May; Moray, 1,000 Findhorn 17 Aug; Aber, 892 Ythan 20 Apr, 1,137 on 22 July, 1,034 on 15 Sep; Angus, 140 inland St Vigeans 17 Jan, 1,600 Montrose 31 Jan, 2,065 on 25 Mar, 85 by 23 May, 1,950 on 11 Aug; Perth, 2,434 Kin-goodie 7 Oct; Midl, 420 Musselburgh 15 Feb; Dumb/Renf, 6,500 upper Clyde Jan-Mar, 5,450 on 10 Aug, peak 7,450 on 19 Oct, max 6,500 Bowling 30 Mar, 4,750 Langbank 19 Oct; Ayr, 600 Turnberry-Dipple 2 Feb, 760 on 21 Dec; Kirk/Wig, 2,699 Aird's Pt-Southwick Burn and 1,844 L Ryan-Urr 20 Sep.

Spotted Redshank Winter-spring: Kirk, 1 Carsethorn 22 Feb; Renf, 1 Erskine 27 Apr; Ayr, 2 Knockshinnoch 9 May, 1 Barassie 18 June; E Loth, 1 Aberlady 7 Mar-3 May, 2 on 15 Mar, 1 on 14 June, 1 Tynninghame 20 June; Fife, 1 wintered Culross; Angus/Kinc, 1 Montrose 30 Mar, 29 June, 1 St Cyrus 7 June; O Heb, 1 Vatisker, Lewis 1 Apr; Shet, singles Whalsay 21 Apr, Sumburgh 6 May, Strand 8-9 May, Fetlar 25 May and Strand 31 May.

Small autumn passage from 8 July:

	July	Aug		Sep		Oct	Nov
		1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (Shet-Inv)	2	2	1	3	1	—	—
East (Moray-Stir)	2	2	13	7	2	2	2
South-east (Loth-Borders)	—	6	3	—	1	2	1
South-west (Arg-Ayr)	4	4	7+	3+	3	1	—

Peaks and noteworthy records from 8 July: Perth, 3 Invergowrie 22 Aug and 5 Sep; Fife, 1 wintered Culross; Midl, 3 Crosswood 13 Aug; Rox, 1 Alemoor 12-14 Aug; Arg, 1 L Riddon 5 Sep; Renf, 1 Langbank 5 Dec; Ayr, 3 Bogside 23 Aug; no records Solway.

***Lesser Yellowlegs** One Wick River, Caith, 20 Sep (SL), 7th Scottish record.

Greenshank Breeding: O Heb, 14 prs on territory Lewis, fewer N Uist; Caith, good season; Arg, bird in song W of Furnace 29 May.

Winter: as last year c50 Jan-Mar, mainly Moray Firth S to Clyde and Solway—max 8 Alness, Ross, 6 Inverness and 15 Clyde; up to 90 O Heb/ E Ross S to Solway in Dec, mainly Moray Firth, Clyde and Solway.

Peak counts and migration: Shet, 12 May-2 Oct, c8 in spring and c15 autumn; Fair Isle, scarce, singles 16 Apr, 7th and 18 May, 10-11 Aug, 11 Sep, 15 Sep; Ork, 19 July-25 Sep, max 10 L of Banks 26 Aug; O Heb, 6 Luskenyire, Harris 28 Sep; Caith, inland 13 Apr; Suth, 12 Badnabay 4 May; Ross, 14 Redcastle 9 Aug; Aber, 12 July-5 Nov, max 21 Ythan 4 Aug, 23 on 9 Sep; Angus/Kinc, 7 Montrose 10 July, 8 on 19 Sep; Perth, 8+ Mugdrum 25 Aug; Kinc, 2 Vane 2 Nov; Fife, from 11 July, 16 Eden 7 Sep; Stir, Grangemouth 10 Aug-2 Oct, max 12 on 23 Aug; E Loth, 9 Tynninghame 15 Aug; Rox, 4 Alemoor 12 Aug; Renf, 20 Woodhall 19 Oct; Ayr, 9 Bogside 10 Sep, 8 Shewalton 30 Aug; Kirk, singles R Ken 29 Apr, 13 Aug; Kirk/Wig, 12 Fleet 20 Sep, 11 Cree est 22 Nov.

***Terek Sandpiper** One Whalsay, Shet, 20-21 June (WA, BM, JHS *et al*), is 1st Scottish record (plate 17a).

Knot Winter: O Heb, 73 Baleshare, N Uist, 15-22 Feb; Ross, 1,000 Munloch 6 Jan, 800 on 3 Feb; Angus, 1,100 Montrose 26 Jan; Fife, 4,500 Longannet 8 Feb; Midl, 400 Musselburgh 15 Feb (low); Stir, 7,160 Upper Forth Jan; E Loth, 1,000 Aberlady Jan (low); Ayr, 379 Troon-Barassie 11 Feb; Kirk/Wig, 6,000 Southernness-Borran Pt 1 Feb.

Migration: Shet, 2 summered Whalsay, peak passage 15-25 Aug, max 25 Whalsay 17th; Fair Isle from 10th July, mainly from 11 Aug, 40 on 21st and 25 Aug; Ork, max Colli Ness, Sanday, 23 July; O Heb, 14 Balranald 25 July; Caith, marked passage 4-31 Aug, max 130 Castlehill 24 Aug; Inv, last 85 Whiteness 31 May, 300 Longman 3 Sep; Moray, 450 Burghead 18 Sep; Aber, last 4 Ythan 26 May, autumn from 12 July, max 217 Ythan 1 Sep; Angus, 20 Montrose 10 July, 750 on 16 Dec; Perth, max 7 Invergowrie 20 Aug; Renf, 150 Longbank 21 Sep; Ayr, from 20 July, max 70+ Hunterston 6 Oct. Inland: 1 Balgray res, Renf, 17 Aug, 7 on 26 Aug; 1 Loch o' the Lowes, Ayr, 9 May; 1 Gladhouse, Midl, 14 Aug.

Purple Sandpiper Shet, 100 Whalsay 17 Jan, 1 Mar, last 31 May, return 2 Fetlar 7 Aug, Fair Isle last 7 June, return 15 July, max 60; Ork, last Copinsay 25 May, 2 back on 27 July; O Heb, 120 Culla, Benbecula 15-22 Feb; Caith, last 2 Sandside 23 May; Suth, 55 Brora 28 Dec; Banff, 250 Portessie 1 Mar; Kinc, last 20 Girdleness 30 Apr, 6 on 17 Sep and max 180 on 4 Dec; Angus, 61 Arbroath 24 Aug; Isle of May, max 322 on 17 Sep is highest ever; Forth, 30 Inchmickery 5 May, 24 Leith, M'dl, 14 July, 526 Gullane-Tynninghame, E Loth, 25 Dec; Dunb, 1 Ardmore 28 Oct; Ayr, 88 Turnberry 3 Jan, 10 Prestwick 13 May; Kirk, 23 Southernness 15 Mar.

Little Stint Five in spring: 1 Heads of Ayr 11 May; 1 Aberlady, E Loth, 12 Apr; 1 Tentsmuir, Fife, 6-8 June; 2 St Cyrus, Kinc, 8-10 June, one sang during night.

Autumn, c300 from 4 July: Shet, 1st Tangwick 17 Aug, largest influx for several years, max 20-25 Virkie 23 Aug, 10 Hillwell on 24th, last Unst 4 Oct; Fair Isle, 1-2 most days 15-30 Aug; Ork, 1 Orphir 12 Sep; O Heb, 1 Ruhba Ardrule 29 July; Caith, 11 between 17th and 31 Aug, max 4 Murkle 27th; Suth, 3 Kyle of Tongue 6 Sep, 1 Dornoch 27 Aug; Moray 4 Lossiemouth 7 Sep; Banff, 2 on 30 Sep; Aber/Kinc, 30 July-3 Nov,

most Sep, max 6 Skene 24 Aug, 7 Don est 12 Sep; Angus/Kinc, 1 St Cyrus 4-6 July, 1 Montrose 19 Aug, 4 on 18 Sep; Perth, 3 Seaside 20 Sep; Fife, from 30 Aug, max 19+ Eden est 7 Sep, last 2 on 28th; Clack, 1 Kennetpans 27 July; Stir, peak 25+ Grangemouth 6 Sep; Midl, 4 Musselburgh 28 July, 13 on 1 Aug, inland max 5 Gladhouse 30 Aug, 6 Cobbinshaw 17 Sep, 6 Harperrig 17 Sep; E Loth, from 12 July, peaks 20 Aberlady 20 Sep, 7 Tynninghame 7 Sep, last 11 Oct; Rox, 2 Alemoor 30 Aug-3 Sep; Renf, max 3 Balgray 26 Aug; Ayr, 1st Bogside 18 Aug, max 10 on 25th, last 3 on 18 Sep, 4 Hunterston 3 Sep, 5 Meikle Craigs 18 Sep.

***Temminck's Stint** Summer: Inv, 5+ (2 1st-year) at 1 site 14 June-July, 3 displayed but no proof of breeding; no birds at usual N Scot site.

Migrants: many more than usual: Kinc, 1 St Cyrus 31 May; Aber, 1 Auchmacoy 13 May, Strathbeg 26 May, Meikle 29 May, 18th, 20th and 25 July, 3 on 26 Aug; Fair Isle, 1 on 13-16 Sep; Shet, 1 Whalsay 19-21 May, 1 on 15 June, 1 Fetlar 6 June.

***Baird's Sandpiper** One Aberlady Bay, E Loth, 11-12 Aug (MWF, RGN, GLS); 4th Scottish record.

***Pectoral Sandpiper** Five records: singles Fair Isle 23 May; Handa, Suth, 25-28 July (DM); L Hallam, S Uist, O Heb, 16 July (GRH); Cobbinshaw, Midl, 11-14 Oct (TB, RWJS, LLJV *et al*); Dipple shore, Ayr, 3 Aug (JKRM).

Dunlin Breeding: Shet 43 prs Fetlar, 1st flying young 16 July; Ork, 10-15 prs Loons, Birsay; E Loth, bred on coast; Dunb, 2 prs Endrick Mouth, young seen 7 July; Kirk/Wig, reported 3 areas, max 3 prs Mochrum 13 June.

Counts: Ork, 750 Scapa beach 22 Nov; Suth, 900 Brora 21 Dec; Ross, 750 Dingwall 16 Feb, 700 Munloch 5 Apr; Inv, 1,000 Beaully Firth 12 Jan, 520 Whiteness 12 Jan; Moray, 1,500 Findhorn 22 Oct; Aber, 444 Ythan 5 Feb, 500 in Oct-Nov; Angus, 2,000+ Montrose 25 Feb, 1,860 on 17 Oct, 2,510 on 16 Dec; Perth, 1,560 Invergowrie-Seaside 29 Dec; Kinr, 120 L Leven 9 Feb; Stir, 8,280 Upper Forth Jan; Midl, 1,750 Musselburgh 11 Jan, 1,650 on 22 Nov, 2,350 Seafeld 18 Jan; E Loth, 1,300 Aberlady 15 Feb; Dunb/Renf, 5,700 upper Clyde Jan-Feb, 6,000 on 21 Nov, 7,477 on 21 Dec included 5,700 Langbank, 4,000 Cardross 21 Nov; Ayr, 1,300 Troon-Barassie 21 Dec; Wig/Kirk, 5,602 Aird's Pt-Southwick Burn 20 Dec, 3,099 Urr-L Ryan 22 Nov including 1,866 Cree est.

Migration: Shet, usual July-Aug, early Oct movement max 200 Virkie 4 Oct; Fair Isle, 27 Apr-9 June, max 16 on 20 May, fewer autumn than last 2 years, 9 July-26 Oct, max 26 on 15 Aug; Aber, passage nos. lower and more spread out, from 22 July; Perth, first 2 Glenfarg 25 July; Midl, poor inland passage, max 16 Cobbinshaw 11 Oct; Rox, 7 Alemoor 1 June.

Curlew Sandpiper Spring: 2 Sandside, Caith 7-12 June; 1 Strathbeg, Aber 14 June. Good autumn passage mainly from mid-Aug, although 1 early migrant N Ronaldsay, Ork, 21 July.

	Aug		Sep		Oct	Nov
	1-14	15-31	1-14	15-30		
North (O Heb-Shet-Inv)	1	19	15	2	1	1
East (Moray-Stir)	1	46	115+	13+	16	1
South-east (Loth-Borders)	—	25	24	10	4	—
South-west (Arg-Solway)	—	18+	46+	14	4+	3

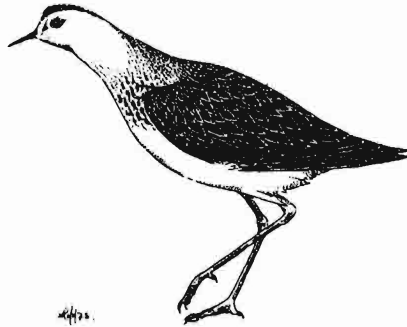
Counts and noteworthy records: Shet, max 7 Virkie 24 Aug, 5 Skerries 25-28 Aug; Suth, 4 Dornoch 3 Sep; Ross, 1 Findon 22 Nov; Aber/Kinc, 8 Meikle 26 Aug, 45 Girdleness 4 Sep; Angus, 10 Montrose 8 Sep; Perth, good autumn, peak 19 Invergowrie/Kingoodie 13 Sep; Fife, 15 Fife Ness 30 Aug, 30+ Eden est 7 Sep, 1 Culross 2 Nov; Stir, 43 Grangemouth

7 Sep; Midl, 12 Musselburgh 13 Sep; E Loth, 12 Aberlady end Aug is lower than usual; Rox, 3 Ale Moor 15-16 Aug; Arg, 1 Machrihanish 1-6 Sep; Renf/Dunb/Ayr, good nos. 17 Erskine 9 Sep, 11+ Barassie 2 Sep, 8+ Meikle Craigs 8 Sep, 2 Bowling 8 Nov, 1 Ardmore 9 Nov; Wig, 2 Luce Bay 20 Sep only reported Solway.

Sanderling Winter: O Heb, 800 Howmore, S Uist, 15-22 Feb, 190 Balranald 15-22 Feb; Aber, 75 Balmedie 22 Feb.

Spring: Kirk, 6 Southernness 24 May; Ayr, 51 Barassie 21 May; Angus, passage Elliot 28 on 19 May, 32 on 21st, 14 on 9 June, last 19th; Caith, 5 Sandside 13 June, 6 on 10 June; O Heb, 4 Melbost 10 June; Shet, 31 May-21 June, max 5 Unst 13 June, 5 Fetlar 7 June.

Autumn: Shet, from 20 July, max 45 Virkie 23 July; Fair Isle from 22 July, max 6 on 6 Sep; Ork, from 20 July, max 60 N Ronaldsay 26 Sep, 40 Stronsay 1 Oct; Caith, 18 Ackergill 23 July; Suth, 17 Balnakeil 30 July; Inv, 4 Whiteness 31 July, 12 on 5 Sep; Aber, 30 Peterhead 4 Aug, 50 Murcar 28 Sep; Midl, from 26 July, max 12 Harperrig 24 Aug; E Loth, 58 Tynninghame 16 July, 110 Aberlady 6 Sep; Arg, 1st 7 Tayinloan 12 July, 120 Gott Bay, Tiree, 18 Oct; Ayr, 1st 3 Hunterston and 65 Barassie 20 July.



***Buff-breasted Sandpiper** Exceptional autumn arrival in UK, included 8 in Scotland: Shet, 1 Sumburgh 30 Sep (C. D. R. Heard, Mr and Mrs J. Woodland); Inv, 1 Longman 3-4 Sep (RHD, PME *et al*); Fife, 1 Tentsmuir 7 Sep (AB, RHH); Midl, 2 Musselburgh 4-7 Sep (AB, GLS, LLJV), another 16-17 Sep (GLS, LLJV); E Loth, 1 Aberlady 3 Sep (MWF, AMP); Lan, 1 Strathclyde L, Hamilton 13 Sep (RN).

Ruff Winter-spring: Wig, 3 Stoneykirk 4 Jan; Renf, 1 L Thom 17 May; Arg, pr displaying Machrihanish 18 May; E Loth, 18 Aberlady 16 Feb; Fife, 1 Culross 6 Apr; Angus/Kinc, 1 Kinnaber 11 May, 2 Dun's Dish 29 May; Aber/Kinc, more than usual, 5 Balmedie 17 Feb, 5 Rosehearty 2 Mar, 14 Ythan 23 Apr, 11 on 24 May; Ross, 1 Conon Islands 4 June; Caith, pr L of Mey 6-7 June; Ork, 2 Papa Westray 10 Jan; Fair Isle, 2 on 27 May; Shet, more than usual, c10 from 7 May-9 June, max 4 Strand 7 June.

Autumn, fewer than last 2 years: Shet, from 2 July, peaks 7 Tangwick 18 July, 7 Hillwell 24 Aug, 7 Unst 2 Oct, last 24 Oct; Fair Isle 7 Aug-7 Oct, max 5 on 6 Oct; Ork, only 3 singles 9 July-1 Oct; O Heb, 2 Balranald 25 July; Caith, 3 Wick 15 Aug, 17 by 19 Aug, few to 23 Oct; Suth, 3 Dornoch 29-30 Aug; Ross, 2 Tarradale 19 Aug-5 Sep; Moray, 3 Spynie 19 Oct; Aber, good nos., max 18 Meikle 13 Aug, 20 on 27th, 12 Skene 24 Aug; Angus, 14 Dun's Dish 26 Aug, 20 on 9 Sep; Perth 10+ Seaside 27 Aug; Fife, 26 July-7 Oct, 15 Eden est 2 Oct, 18+ Rosyth 8 Aug, winter

20 Cultness 7 Dec; Stir, max 9 Skinflats 23 Aug; Midl, 1st 2 July, 8 Gladhouse 17 Sep; E Loth, peak 10 Aberlady 2 Sep, wintering 18 early Nov; Rox, 1 Alemoor 30 Aug; Arg, singles Knapdale 21 Aug, Islay 19 Sep; Renf/Lan/Ayr, from 7 Aug, max 9 Balgray res 30 Aug, 5 New Cumnock 24 Aug; Dumf, max 13 Caerlaverock; Wig, 1 L Ryan 1 Oct.

***Avocet** Only 1 record, Toab, Ork, 6 July (HB).

***Black-winged Stilt** One Musselburgh, Midl, 15 July (Dr M. D. L. Findlay) is first since 1958.

***Grey Phalarope** Three records: singles N Ronaldsay, Ork, 21 July (RP); ad ♀ Kinnaber, Kinc, 19 May (NKA, PJD); Waterfoot, Annan, Dumf, 23 Nov (DJI).

Red-necked Phalarope Breeding: Shet, 1st 2 Fetlar 20 May, 13-14 prs Fetlar and perhaps 6 prs at 3 other localities, last 1 on 18 Aug; Ork, pr Stronsay, and ♀ in July, but no proof of breeding; O Heb, no young reported Balranald.

Migrants: Shet, 2 ♀♀ Foula 23 May, 3 Grutness 25 May, 1 Snarraness 16 Sep; Ork, 1 Papa Westray 23 May, 3 N Ronaldsay 21 July; O Heb, Lewis, 1 Garynahine 1 June, 1 N Lochs 10 June and 2 Barvas 25 June.

***Wilson's Phalarope** One ♀ in summer plumage Strand Loch, Shet, 9 May (FH, MH et al), 8th Scottish record.

Great Skua Breeding: Shet, population 5,000+ prs, includes 3,000 ± 300 prs Foula, where also 2,000 non-breeders, 1st eggs 17 May; O Heb, 13 nests N Lewis, some robbed; Caith, 1 pr with 2 eggs Dunnet 21 June, failed later; Suth, 8 prs reared 9+ young Handa.

Arrivals, migration and counts: Shet, 1 Clickhimin 17 Mar, 1st ashore Foula 28 Mar, main arrival 13-16 Apr, last Yell 11 Nov, Foula 10 Dec; Fair Isle, 31 May-14 Nov; Ork, 1 Orphir 20 Feb, 1st 2 Apr, 1st 17 Oct; Caith, 1 inland L Ruard 1 June, 1 L Calder 14 Sep; Ross, 4N Tarbat Ness 17 Aug, 9 Chanonry Ness 6 Sep, last 8 Nov; Inv, 11 Kessock 6 Sep, 1 L Garten 22 Apr; Moray, 13W Lossiemouth 14 Sep; Aber/Kinc, 1N Don est 11 Jan, autumn 21 July-16 Nov, max 11 Girdleness 12 Sep, 10 on 22 Sep, 2 inland Meikle 5 Aug; Angus, 3 Usan 25 May; E Loth, more than usual, max 6 Gullane 13 Sep, 7 on 19th, 14 Tynninghame 28 Sep; Arg, 3 Palnabraid 7 Sep, 10S on 28 Sep; Dunb, 1 Ardmore 27 Jan; Ayr, 1 Portencross 2 Feb.

***Pomarine Skua** Spring-summer: Shet, 1 Whalsay 17 May, 1 Scatness 15 June; Fair Isle, one 2 July; Ork, 1 Eday 12 May; O Heb, 2 off S Uist 10 July; Suth, 1N Brora 5 May, 1 Handa 8 July; Kirk, 1 Southerness 24 May.

Autumn: Shet, 1 Hermaness 20 Aug, 1 Skerries 12 Sep; O Heb, 1 Barra 4 Aug, 1 Sound of Harris 24 Sep; Suth, 1 Dornoch 31 Oct, 1 Chanonry Ness 23 Sep, 1 Kessock 21 Oct; Aber/Kinc, singles N Girdleness 4th, 28th and 29 Sep, 1 Collieston 5 Aug; E Loth, 1 Barns Ness 12 Sep, 1 Gullane 13 Sep, 1 Tynninghame 28 Sep, 3 on 16 Nov; Arg, 2 Islay 10 Sep.

Arctic Skua Breeding: Shet, population well over 1,400 prs, max 280 Foula, 326 Yell, 1st flying young 16 July; Fair Isle, 1st eggs 16 May; Ork, 1 pr bred N Ronaldsay (1st); O Heb, decrease Lewis, 12 prs N Uist; Caith, slight increase; Arg, 20 birds Jura colony May/June.

Arrivals and passage: Shet, 1st 3 Bressay Sound 19 Apr, most from 1 May, delayed dispersal, e.g. 25 off Whalsay 31 Aug, last Yell 29 Sep; Fair Isle, 1st 16 Apr, 63 on 2 May, last 30 Sep; Ork, 1st Eday 20 Apr, last 1 Oct; Suth, 2 Badanloch 5 July; Ross, 5 Tarbat Ness 17 Aug, 6 Chanonry Ness 6 Sep; Moray, 8W Speymouth 16 Aug; Aber/Kinc, 1 inland Braemar 24 May, recorded 13 May-8 Oct, max 16 Girdleness 4 Sep, 16 on 22nd; Angus, last Arbroath 16 Oct; Isle of May, 13 Aug-22 Oct, max 7 on 30 Aug; Stir, 5W Skinflats 18 Aug suggest overland passage to Clyde,

as do some other Forth records; Midl, very scarce; E Loth, 1 Gullane 14 May, autumn max 7 Tynninghame 30 Aug, 8 on 14 Sep, 19 Barns Ness 12 Sep, 37 Gullane 13 Sep; Arg, passage S Kintyre from 12 July, max 12S Balnabraid 28 Sep, 23S Sound of Jura 14 Aug; Ayr, 1 summered Troon, 3 Meikle Craigs 25 Aug, last Seamill 1 Oct; Dumf, 1 Waterfoot 25 May; Kirk, singles Carsethorn 25 May, Corsewall Point 30 Aug, Southernness 11 Sep.

***Long-tailed Skua** Eleven birds: Shet, 1 Fetlar 25 May, 1 N of Unst 28 Oct; Fair Isle, 1 2nd-yr bird in colony 21 June, ad on 3 Aug, ad on crossing to Shet 19 Sep; Ork, ad Eday 13 May, ad displaying in Arctic Skua colony Hoy 8 July; Ross, ad Chanonry Ness 30 May, 2 Morrich More 19 July; Moray, ad dead on road (beside hare carcass) Grantown-on-Spey moors 4 June.

Great Black-backed Gull Breeding: Fair Isle, 141 prs bred (55 prs in 1969); Wig, 6 prs Castle L, Mochrum, 13 June.

Counts: Fair Isle, 1,000 early Nov; Inv, 300 Longman 4 Mar; Angus/Kinc, 500+ Kinnaber June-July; E Loth, 540 Aberlady 24 Sep.

Lesser Black-backed Gull Breeding: Fair Isle, 42 prs (30 prs 1969); Aber, increase W end Correen Hills colony.

Arrivals and counts: Dumf, 63 Waterfoot 25 May; few wintering Clyde, max 5 Kilcreggan, Dunb, 21 Dec, 21 Hamilton, Lan, 8 Nov; arrivals 18 Doonfoot, Ayr, 16 Feb, 55 on 1 Mar, 108 on 10th, 800 Barcraigs res, Renf, 24 Aug; E Loth, 1st Aberlady 7 Mar; Perth, 41 Tibbermore 13 Apr, 51 Madderty 2 May; Inv, 1st 4 Insh 26 Mar; Fair Isle, 31 Mar-28 Sep; Shet, 3-4 Virkie 22 Mar.

Scandinavian race *L. f. fuscus*: 1 Granton, Midl, 9 Mar.

Herring Gull Breeding: Fair Isle, 486 prs (315 prs 1969), 1st eggs 9 May; Suth, 210 prs Handa; culls continued Isle of May and Firth of Forth; Ayr, 617 prs Horse Island.

Large nos. died in late summer, apparently due to outbreak of botulism: Midl/E Loth, 1,500-2,000 dead; Fife, many; Moray Firth, 50+; Clyde, 260+ Helensburgh, Lochgoil res, Troon and Holy Isle.

Counts: Fair Isle, bad weather roosts 3,000+ on 2-5 Nov, 8,000 on 16 Nov and 2,000 early Dec; Inv, 3,000 Longman Mar-Apr; Dunb, 5,000 Midross 26 Dec; Ayr/Renf, 12,000 Barcraigs res Nov-Dec.

Single albinos: O Heb, Stornoway all year; Suth, summered Rhiconich; Inv, Longman Jan-Feb, 25 July-Dec; Midl, Granton 7 Mar.

Common Gull Breeding: Fair Isle, 2 prs reared 3 young; Ork, 1st eggs 3 May; Inv, poor season Kiltarlity; Aber, increase W end Correen Hills; Renf, 200 prs L Thom failed due to persecution; Kirk/Wig, small nos. max 10 prs Castle L, Mochrum.

Counts and passage: Shet, 1,300 Whalsay 14 Apr, 800 on 18th; Fair Isle, 300 on 14 Apr, 450 on 17th, exceptional 1,500 on 18th, return from 5 July, peaks 300 on 5 Aug, 400 on 6 Sep; Inv, 2,000 Beaully Firth 12 Jan; Angus, 100NE in 2 hrs Montrose 13 Apr; Kinr, 30 roosting St Serf's 25 Aug increased to 6,000 by 30 Sep and 20,000 in Dec; Isle of May, 300 on 6 Apr; Dunb, 4,000 Milngavie res 27 Dec.

Glaucous Gull Breeding: An adult mated to a Herring Gull bred successfully in Shet, 1st record for U.K.

Noteworthy records include: Shet, max 5 Burra 8 Feb, 5 Unst 27 Nov; Fair Isle, 10+ on 16 Nov, 35+ ads 27 Dec; Suth, 6 Golspie 27-28 Mar; Aber, 6 Fraserburgh 23 Feb, 8 on 1 Mar, 7 on 17 Dec; Ayr, 5 Troon 22 Apr-3 May. Inland: Aber/Kinc, Corby 2 Mar, 16 Sep, Banchory-Devenick 1 Nov; Suth, Morvich 6 Dec.



PLATES 17-20: Scottish Bird Report 1975.

PLATE 17 (a) Terek Sandpiper, Whalsay, Shetland, 20-21st June; first Scottish record.
(b) Immature Ross's Gull, Scalloway, Shetland, 19-29th January; fourth Scottish record.

Photographs by D. Coult





PLATE 18 (a) Dusky Thrush. Firth, Shetland, 6-13th November; third Scottish and fifth British record. *Photograph by D. Coultts*
(b) Arctic Warbler. Isle of May, 6th September. *Photograph by B. Zonrillo*





PLATE 19 (a) Tennessee Warbler: one of the two first British examples on Fair Isle in September.

(b) First-year ♂ Siberian Rubythroat, Fair Isle, 9-11th October; first British record.

Photographs by R. A. Broad





PLATE 20 (a) Lanceolated Warbler, Fair Isle, 11th October; one of four there within four days.

Photograph by R. A. Broad

(b) and (c) Rustic Bunting, Isle of May, 30th September-6th October.

Photographs by N. K. Atkinson



Counts: present all months and numbers remain high. Summary of records (estimated individuals per 2-month period):

	Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
North (Shet-E Inv)	50+	34+	26+	8	17	75+
West (W Inv-Clyde, O Heb-I Heb)	8	17	6	3	3	4
East (Moray-Stir)	13+	18+	3	2	8	12
South (S of Clyde/ Forth)	12+	12+	11	5	8	9

Iceland Gull About 70 individuals: Shet, Jan (4 individuals), Feb (3), Mar (6), Apr (4), singles Fleck 25 May, Unst 24 June, Nov (2), Dec (4); Fair Isle, singles 27 Jan, 20 May; Ork, 1 Skaill 1st and 7 June; O Heb, a few records max 2 Stornoway 23-24 May, 2 Tigharry 15-22 Feb; Caith, 1-2 Wick and Thurso Jan-May, Oct-Dec; Suth, 1 Golspie 27 Mar, 17 June; Ross, 1 Crowlin 2 Apr; Inverness 1-2 Jan-24 May, 1 in Dec; Banff, 1 on 3 May; Aber, Jan (2), Feb (2), Mar (4), Apr (4), May (1), Nov (1), Dec (2); Fife, 1 Largo Bay 14 Aug; Isle of May, 1 on 19 Aug; Midl, 1 Granton 26 Jan-21 Apr, another 7 Mar, 1 Seafield 8 Jan, 1 Duddingston 12 Mar; Arg, singles Islay 24 Apr, 5 May, 26 July, 8 Aug, 1 Campbeltown 27 Mar-11 May; Renf, 1 Paisley 16 Oct; Lan, 1 Bellgrove 16 Apr; Ayr, 1 Roost 20 July, 1 on 29 Nov, 1 Doonfoot 23 Mar; Dumf, 1 Waterfoot 9 Sep.

***Mediterranean Gull** Two: 1st yr bird Girdleness, Kinc, 28 Apr (RBH); ad Campbeltown, Arg, 19 July-5 Sep (EJM *et al*); 4th and 5th Scottish records.

***Laughing Gull** Ad Fair Isle 13 Sep (RAB, D. J. Buckler, DRW *et al*), 2nd Scottish record of this North American species.

***Bonaparte's Gull** Two Islay, Arg: ad L Indaal 26-27 June (KV, AV); ad Claggain Bay 12 Sep (L. Catlin, KV), 5th and 6th Scottish records.

Little Gull Numbers lower than usual regular Fife and Angus; peaks: Fife, 16 Kilconquhar 7 July, 42 on 23rd, 40 on 27th, 66 on 11 Aug, max 100 on 28 Aug; Angus/Kinc, last 7 Buddon Burn 28 Apr, 18 back 17 July, 80 (3 juvs) 10 Aug, 7 St Cyrus 21 May, 5 Elliot 9 July. Elsewhere: Caith, singles Wick 2nd, 10-17 Apr; Inv, 1 Insh 15-18 May; Moray, 1 Lossiemouth 16 Feb, 1 Findhorn 21 Sep; Aber/Kinc, Meikle 13 July-10 Sep, max 3 on 5 Sep, Strathbeg 18 Aug-21 Sep, max 4 on 4 Sep, singles Don est 8 Sep, Girdleness 11 Sep, 22 Oct; Perth, 1 Deanston Farm 21-24 Nov; Isle of May, 2 on 16 Sep, 2 on 27th, one 6 Oct, 5 on 22 Oct; Stir, 1 Boness 21 Jan, 1 Grangemouth 20 July; Midl, 1 Musselburgh 9 Sep; E Loth, 1 Seacliff 27 Apr, 2 Aberlady 8 June, 1 dead 16 Aug, 2 dead Dirleton 21 Aug; Selk, 1 Abbotsford Ferry 26 May; Renf, 1 Barr Loch 30-31 July; Ayr, 1 Bogside 10 May; Dumf, 1 Castle Loch 21 Apr; Kirk, 1 Carlingwark L 25-27 May.

Black-headed Gull Breeding: Shet, fledged young 3 July; Angus, only 24 prs Dun's Dish; Kinr, 8,000 prs L Leven; Kirk/Wig, 6,000 prs L Moan, decrease Lower L Ken.

Counts and passage: Fair Isle, peaks 25 on 30 Apr, 34 on 20 July, 50 on 26 Oct; Ayr, 7,000 winter roost Doonfoot, 9,000 Barrassie 26 Dec.

***Sabine's Gull** Immature L Insh, Inv, 8 Sep (RL); inland records are exceptional.

***Ross's Gull** Immature Scalloway, Shet, 19-29 Jan (DC, RACJ *et al*), 4th Scottish record (plate 17b).

Kittiwake Breeding: Shet, 5,000 prs Foula; Fair Isle, 17,000+ prs (12,121 prs in 1969), 1st egg 3 May; Ork, 1,150 prs Sule Skerry; Suth, 13,000 prs Handa; Isle of May, increase to 3,870 prs; Ayr, 2,100 prs Ailsa Craig.

Counts and passage : Inv, 280 Corpach 7 Mar, 500 on 9 Apr, 1 Insh 18 Feb; Aber, 2,000 Strathbeg Aug, 5,000 mid Sept; Kinr, 1 L Leven 4 Jan, 2 on 6th; Arg, 6,000S in 1½ hrs Machrihanish 23 Sep; Arran, 700 Whiting Bay 17 Sep; Wig, 250 off Mull of Galloway and 175 Luce Bay 2 Nov.

***Black Tern** 13 in spring, 20 May-13 June; Dumf, 2 E Park 26 May; Fife, 1 Shelly Point 13 June; Aber, 8 Meikle L 20 May; Ork, 2 Graemshall L 7 June.

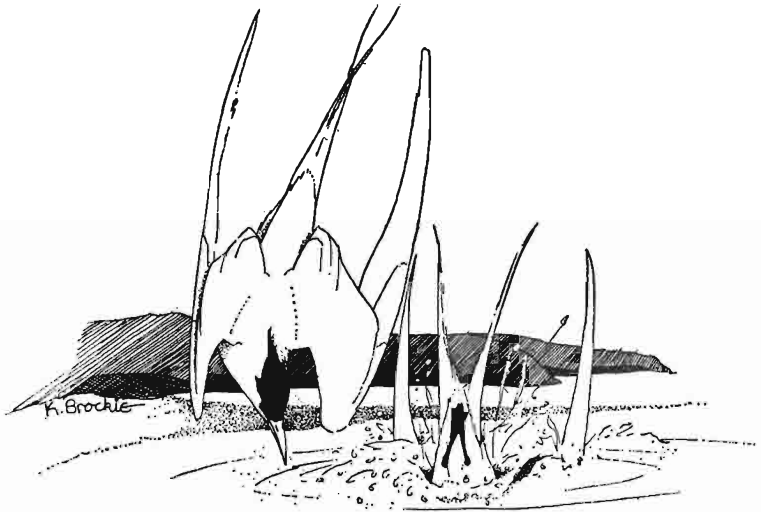
27+ in autumn : Aber, singles Meikle L 17 Aug, 3-23 Sep, 1 Strathbeg 21-22 Aug, 23rd (2), 25th (3), 27th (5), 28th (3); Angus/Kinc, 1 St Cyrus 6 July, 1 Kinnaber 7 Aug; Kinr, 6 L Leven 10 Aug, 1 on 14 Sep; Isle of May, one 5 Oct (1st since 1967); Fife, 1 Carnbee res 23 Aug; Midl, 1 Musselburgh 25 July; E Loth, singles Aberlady 28 July, 15 Aug, 17th, 1 Sep, Tynninghame 15th, 24 Aug, 11 Oct; Ayr, 1 Bogside Flats 20 Aug; Dumf, 1 Waterfoot 6 Sep.

***White-winged Black Tern** 1 Meikle L, Aber, 25 May (CJS, MAMcD *et al*), 12th Scottish record.

***Caspian Tern** 1 Ythan, Aber, 25 June (AHC), 5th Scottish record.

Common Tern Breeding : Fair Isle, 7 prs reared 11 young; Inv, 200 prs Whiteness but poor success; Moray, Speymouth poor season, only 235 prs 18 June; Kinc, 48 prs St Cyrus in pea field but poor success; Fife and Kinr, poor season; Midl, 75 prs bred Leith Docks, 727 prs Inchmickery; Ayr, 86 prs Horse Island; Arran, 50 prs Pladda, many young; Wig, 50 prs Castle L. Mochrum.

Arrivals and passage : 3 'commics' Sound of Mull, Arg, 3 Apr; 4 Southerness, Kirk, 26 Apr; mostly 1st week May; Ayr, 3 Troon 3 May; Midl, 3 Musselburgh 3 May, last 4 Oct, 30S Gladhouse 9 Aug; Fife, last 'commic' Dalgety Bay 2 Nov; Perth, 2 Tummel Bridge 27 Apr; Aber, 3 Dinnet 3 May, last 3 Oct, 2,400 'commics' Strathbeg Aug; Inv, 1,400 Whiteness 3 July; Fair Isle, 16 May-18 Sep, late one 18 Oct; Shet, 1st Fetlar 1 May, last 2 Dun 5 Oct.



Arctic Tern Breeding : Shet, 1,545 prs Fetlar, 6,000 prs Foula; Ork, 1,750 prs Rousay is an increase; Kinc, only 32 prs St Cyrus; Arg, 120 prs Tayinloan; Ayr, 54 prs Horse Island.

Counts and passage: 1st Balranald, O Heb, 26 Apr; 1st Copinsay, Ork, 27 Apr; Shet, 4 Whalsay 29 Apr, last singles Yell 1 Oct, Dun 5 Oct; Fair Isle, last 24 Sep; Ork, last Stronsay 1 Oct; Angus, 385 Buddon 7 July; Arg, 300 Campbeltown 12 Aug; Arran, 74 Machrie 3 Aug.

***Roseate Tern Breeding:** Firth of Forth, 61 prs bred Inchmickery; Fife, pr Tentsmuir did not lay; Angus, 1 pr failed.

Other records: Aber, 2 Ythan 16 May, 1 Strathbeg 26 May; Kinc, 1 St Cyrus 6 May; Fife, few summer records; Midl, 1 Inchkeith 28 June, 1 Seafeld 16 May, 3 on 2 June, 1 on 16 Aug; E Loth, up to 4 Aberlady June/July, 1 Tynninghame 18 May; Arg, 3 in summer Tayinloan, 2 Is'ay 25 May, 5 on 2 June, 1 Colonsay 17 June; Ayr, 3 Horse Island 20 June, 1 Barassie 2 Sep; Arran, 1 Whiting Bay 14 July.

Little Tern Breeding: O Heb, c50 prs N Uist; Suth, 10 prs Brora, 3-4 prs nested new site L Fleet; Kinc/Angus, 83 prs St Cyrus only reared 7 young, 25 prs nested 3 sites Angus; Fife, Tentsmuir colony failed; E Loth, increase to record 33 nests Aberlady; Wig, only 3 prs is further decrease.

Counts: Shet, 1 Lerwick 15 May (only 4th record); Suth, 1 Handa 12 June; Kinc, 3 Girdleness 29 Apr, 2 St Cyrus 23 Apr, last 28 July; Perth, 4 Seaside 8 Aug, 1 Invergowrie 23 Aug; Isle of May, one 21 June; Stir, 6 Grangemouth 20 July, 2 on 6 Sep; Midl, 1st 2 Seafeld 30 Apr; E Loth, 1st Gosford 21 Apr; Ayr, 6 Ballantrae 30 Apr, last 2 Doonfoot 5 Aug.

Sandwich Tern Breeding: Ork, 60 prs N Ronaldsay, 60 prs Stronsay, 14 prs Pentland Skerries; Ross, 200 prs Morrish More, good season, 20 prs new site Ardjackie Point 20 July; Firth of Forth, 657 prs Inchmickery (450 in 1974); Ayr, 57 prs Horse Island, 2 prs Ballantrae reared 1 young.

Arrivals, departures and passage: 8 Mar-21 Oct; Shet, few, 14 June-19 Aug, max 3 Haroldswick 30 June; Fair Isle, 2 on 2 June; Ork, 16 Apr-9 Oct; O Heb, 2 Balranald 19 Aug; Suth, 3 Handa 15 June; Ross, 154N Tarbat Ness 17 Aug; Inv, 1,050 Whiteness 31 July, 120 on 5 Sep; Moray, 140 Findhorn 21 Sep, last 11 on 2 Oct; Aber, 5 Aberdeen 10 Apr, last Blackdog 16 Oct; 4 Perth 11 Aug; Isle of May, 13 May-19 Oct; Fife Ness, 1 on 31 Mar; Midl, last Musselburgh 21 Oct; E Loth, 1st N Berwick 8 Mar, 1 Tynninghame 4 Apr; Arg, max 70 Campbeltown 23 Aug; Ayr, 150 Meikle Craigs 14 Aug, 140 Hunterston 2 Sep, 1 Barrassie 10 Oct. Inland: 2 Kiltarity, Inv, 9 July; Dunb, 2 Endrick Mouth 13 May, 1 Cumbernauld 30 July.

Razorbill Breeding: Fair Isle, possibly 2,500 prs (1,100 prs in 1969), 1st eggs 30 Apr; Shet, 6,000 prs Foula; Ork, 54 birds Pentland Skerries; O Heb, big reduction Flannans; Inv, 400 prs Canna; Isle of May, 525 prs; Ayr, 3,000-4,000 birds Ailsa Craig 7 June.

Counts: Ross, max 6 Chanonry Point 22 Jan-15 Feb; Dunb, 2 Ardmore 2-3 Feb.

Little Auk Rather scarce: Shet, few Jan-Feb, max 5 S Nesting 23 Feb, 1 Fetlar 4 May, 1 Dale of Walls 7 Oct, very few Nov-Dec; Fair Isle, very few Jan-Feb, 100s on crossing 18 Nov; Ork, 2 Scapa Flow 7 Feb, few others; O Heb, 1 Tarbert 5 Jan; Caith, 1 Dunnet Head 26-28 Dec; Ross, 1 Tarbat Ness 22 Feb; Moray, singles Lossiemouth 8 Feb, 7 Oct; Aber, 1 Rattray 6 Apr; Fife, 1 St Andrews 8 Feb; W Loth, 1 Dalmeny 15 Mar; Arg, 1 dead Coll 26 Feb, 1 dead Machrihanish 27 Apr.

Guillemot Breeding: Shet, 30,000 birds Foula, poor season; Fair Isle, 19,200 birds, 1st eggs 30 Apr, average success; Firth of Forth, 500 prs Lamb, 20 Fidra.

Counts: Fair Isle, 1st 400 ashore 18 Oct; O Heb, counts of bridled birds 11.8% Lewis, 18.8% Flannans; Ayr, winter max 12 Prestwick 2 Feb; Wig, 950S per hr Corsewall Point 27 Sep, 1,520S per hr 28th, 200S per hr 30 Oct.



Black Guillemot Breeding: Shet, c120 prs Foula; Banff, probably breeding, 6 Crovie Head 29 June, 2 Stocked Head and 2 Troup Head 30 June.

Counts: Shet, build up Colgrave Sound from 50 on 10 Jan to 100S in Apr, 800-900+ on 27 Apr, still 350 on 1 June, 430 Gruting Voe 19 Sep; Suth, 49 Point of Stoer 3 Aug; Moray, 6 Burghead 21 Sep; Fife, singles St Andrews 14 Mar, 21 Apr, 2 on 18 Dec; E Loth, 1 Gullane 8-12 July; Arg, 40 Sound of Gigha 23 Apr; Dunb, 5 Kilcreggan 2 Feb.

Puffin Breeding: Shet, 25,000 Foula; Fair Isle, 1st ashore 28 Mar (2), most from 4 Apr, 1st eggs 30 Apr, last ashore 25 Aug; Ork, 10 ashore Hoy 31 Mar; Ork, 47,000 prs Sule Skerry; Caith, suggested improvement Dunnet and Duncansby; Inv, 1,400 Canna, slightly down; Forth islands, max 1,100 Craighleith June.

Other records: Shet, 2 Yell Sound 5 Feb; Wig, 4 Mull of Galloway 30 June.

***Pallas's Sandgrouse** Two Isle of May 11 May (JMSA, IB-P, JHBM); 2nd Scottish record this century.

Stock Dove Counts: 95 Urquhart, Moray, 30 Nov; 40 Kingoodie, Perth, 27 Nov; 30SW Airthrey, Stir, 8 Nov. **Migrants:** Shet, singles Whalsay 3rd and 27 Oct;; Fair Isle, one 2 Oct.

Rock Dove Counts: Shet, 100 Scarvister 16 Sep-6 Oct; Fair Isle, max 40 Feb, 60+ Dec; Arg, 100 Gribun, Mull, 14 Dec, 200+ Bruichladdich, Islay, 1 Mar.

Woodpigeon Counts: Shet, 50 Kergord 21 Sep; Aber, 1,200 Kemnay 6 Dec, 1,000 Strathbeg 5 Dec, 3,200 on 10th; E Loth, 2,000 Dirleton 31 Mar; Ayr, 500+ Glenmuir, Cumnock, 12 Jan.

Migration: Shet, mainly May-June, 5 Whalsay 13 May; Fair Isle, 17 Apr-29 May, max 15 on 6th and 18 May, few autumn; Ork, 1 Sule Skerry 12 May; Suth, max 5 Handa 9 June; Wig, 75 off to Isle of Man from Mull of Galloway 2 Nov.

Turtle Dove Spring from 25 Apr; Shet, 1 Fetlar 1 May, 1 Kergord 19 May, about 27 birds 29 May-2 July, mostly mid June, max 3 Fetlar 12th, 4 on 30 June, 1 Twatt 12 July, 3 Whalsay 21 July, 5 autumn singles 15 Sep-18 Oct; Fair Isle, small nos. 17 May-23 July, max 4 on 8 June, autumn singles 11-13th, 18 Sep, 12 Oct; Ork, 1 Copinsay 1 May, 2 N Ronaldsay mid June; O Heb, 1 Flannans 21 June; Caith, 1 Sandside 1 June; Inv, 1 Rhum 9 June, 1 Revack 23 June; Perth, 1 Rannoch 21 June; Fife Ness, one 10 Oct; W Loth, 2 Balhomey 27 June; E Loth, singles Aberlady 25 Apr, 5-8 Aug, Dirleton 1 Oct; Arg, 1 L Ba 21 June; Dumf, 1 E Park 29 May.

Collared Dove Breeding: Most areas still report increase and spreading, but some suggestion of levelling-off; mating 1 Jan Castle Douglas, Kirk. **Peak counts:** Shet, 35 Halligarth 23-27 June; Ross, 150 Invergordon 18 Jan; Perth harbour 150+ on 16 Mar; Ayr, 180 Rozelle Nov-Dec.

Migration: Shet, 30 Apr-late June, max 13 Foula 11 June; Fair Isle, mainly 4 May-17 July, influxes 15 on 18 May, 18 on 26th, 27 on 8 June,

last of autumn 26 Oct; O Heb, 3 Flannan Isles 21 June. A bird at Fair Isle 20 Sep showed characters of hybrid Collared x Turtle Dove.

Cuckoo Breeding: young birds suggesting successful nesting Shet and Ork; Aber, bred Collieston where unusual; nos. high Perth, Dunb and Ayr.

Arrivals: 3 Apr, Fort William, Inv; 13 Apr, Gadloch, Lan; 15 Apr, N Uist, O Heb; 16 Apr, Dalry, Kirk; 17 Apr, Tarras, Dumf; most 1st records 21-28 Apr; main arrival 2nd week May. Fair Isle, scarce in spring, max 4 on 25 May.

Autumn: Shet, 4 Aug-Sep, very late one Kergord 20-27 Oct; Fair Isle, 1-3 on 7-12 Aug, 1 on 3-5 Sep; Inv, last Insh 30 Aug.

Barn Owl High nos. throughout range: Inv, singles Insh 5 Feb, Alvie 17-26 May; Perth, 1 on crag at 1,200' Kinloch Rannoch 7 June; E Loth, 3 Port Seton 10 Nov; Arg, 1 Gruinart, Islay, 20 Oct, 2 L Tallart, Islay 23 Oct; Arran, 10+ prs; Kirk, nest 13 eggs Barstobrick, did not hatch.

***Snowy Owl** Shet, Fetlar 4 on 6 Feb, pr + 3 ♀♀ in Apr, ♂ mated bigamously for 3rd consecutive year: younger ♀ (ringed, probably Fetlar-reared and unsuccessful 1973-4 bird) laid 6 eggs usual area from 14 May, 4 fledged, older ♀ (possibly successful 1973-4 bird) laid 2-3 eggs new site from c31 May, probably deserted after neglect by ♂, ♂ + 2 ♀♀ through Aug, ♀ on 27 Sep. Unst, 1 Lund 13 Mar, ♂ Stourhoull 8 May, 1 Hermaness 12 May, 1 Burrafirth 6 June, ♀ Lund 10-21 June, 9 July, 14-15 Aug, 1 Helliers Water 26-31 Oct, 1 N Roe 2 Feb, 1 Whalsay 19-20 Apr, 1 Foula late May, 1 Ronas Hill 16 July; Ork, 1 Harray 24 Aug; O Heb, ♂ St Kilda 26 May, ♂ Lewis 11 Feb, pr Stornoway 13 Apr, ♂ Callanish July, imm ♀ Balranald 30 Apr ♂ South Uist 25 May, ♂ found long dead Brue, Lewis, 1 Feb had been ringed Fair Isle 9 June 1972.

***Little Owl** Midl, bred usual area, young seen and heard (WB); Dumf, present but no reports of breeding.

Tawny Owl Breeding: Caith, increasing; Suth, scarcer Dornoch; Inv, poor breeding season Kiltarlity; doing well S Ayr.

Long-eared Owl Breeding: Shet, 1 pr bred Mainland; O Heb, 2 broods Lewis; poor season Aberdeen and Strathmiglo, Fife; Kirk, pr reared young in nest box Dalry.

Migration and counts: strong autumn influx: Shet, max 9 Veensgarth 9 Jan, 1st autumn Uyeasound 16 Oct, then good nos., max 7 Halligarth Nov-Dec, 4 Uyeasound Dec, 8 Scalloway 1 Dec, 6 Veensgarth 20 Dec; Fair Isle, strong autumn passage, mainly 9-26 Oct, 9 ringed, and 5-23 Nov, max 6 on 12 Nov; Ork, 5 Binscarth 15 May, various winter roosts, max 20 Berstane Wood; Caith, 1 Noss Head 25 Oct; Isle of May, one 23 Apr.

Short-eared Owl Breeding: Caith, slight increase; Angus, 1 pr nested lowland moor; Perth, good numbers Ochils; good nos. Midl, Borders, Ayr, Kirk, Wig.

Migrants and counts: Shet, singles Apr, May (4), June (2+), Sep (2), Oct; Fair Isle, spring max 3 on 20 Apr and 13 May, autumn max 4 on 25-29 Oct; 1 at oil rig 95 miles NE of Aberdeen 15 Apr; Fife, 5 Crail 7 Oct; Kirk, up to 15 Smittons in Sep.

***Nightjar Breeding:** Kirk, 1+ pr usual area July-Aug; Arran, 4+ churring Brodick 9-14 June; Arg, heard Lochgilphead and Machrihanish, June; Perth, 1 Bridge of Allan 9 July; Moray, 1 churring Forres 25 June. No migrants reported—a poor year.

Swift Arrival: 30 Apr, singles Canonbie and Lochmaben, Dumf, and 2 Lindores, Fife; 1 May, Duddingston, Midl, and Airthrey, Stirling; 2 May, Hawick, Rox. More 1st records 4 May in S, 7-13th N to Inv/Aber, main arrivals in S from 9-15th.

Migration and counts : Shet, mainly 7-23 June, max 19 Unst 22nd, last 2 Lerwick 17 Sep; Fair Isle, 19 May-18 Sep, max 40 on 8 June; Ork, max 20 S Ronaldsay 10 July; Caith, 110W Reay 29 July; Isle of May, 1 June-9 Sep, max 17 on 22 June; Kinr, max 1,000 Vane Bay 2 June; E Loth, last Longniddry 11 Sep; Arg, 29S Tobermory 15 July; Ayr, 50+ on 31 Aug; Wig, last Mull of Galloway 30 Aug. Late records : Fair Isle 25-26 Oct; Aber, Peterhead 7 Oct, Strathbeg and Balmedie 25 Oct; Fife Ness 1 Nov; Ber, Eyemouth 2 Nov.

Kingfisher Breeding : nos. continue high in Dumf, Kirk, Wig, Ayr and Clyde; bred Perth, Kinross, probably also E Loth and other areas in C and SE. Increase sightings all areas N to Arg-Aber, c5 records Aber; singles Garmouth, Moray, 9 Nov; Banavie, Inv, 12 Dec; Dunbeath, Caith, 18 May; Scapa, Ork, 10 May.

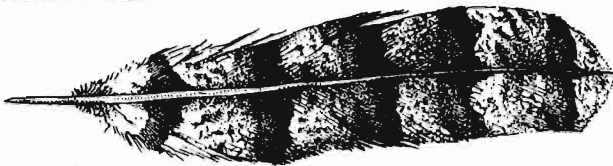
***Roller** Two birds : Ae Forest, Dumf, 18 June (MM, DM); Auckengill, Caith, 5-7 Sep (GGB, AFCMC, AFA).

***Hoopoe** Singles, 6 in spring, 3 in autumn : Shet, Hascosay 10 June (BH); Fair Isle, 24 Oct-4 Nov (RAB *et al*); Ork, Stronsay 20 Apr (per WG), Ritquoy, Birsay, 24-25 Apr (AJ); Banff, Portsoy 9 May (JE), Drybridge 22 May (JMH); E Loth, Aberlady 1-10 Sep (AB, FDH *et al*); Arg, Iona 28 Aug (D. S. Ross); Dumf, Closeburn 25 Apr-3 May (JFY).

Green Woodpecker Dumf, increase noted one hill area; Border, nos. still low; E Loth, bred 2 areas; Ber, 1 St Abbs 11-18 Oct; Midl, continued increase, bred 2+ areas; Fife, Kinr, Perth and Angus continued increase and spread; Aber/N Kinr, proved breeding Brathens, reports from Glen Derry, Mar, Glen Tanar, Glen Dye, Torphins and Parkhill, singles Gight 17 Mar and Stonehaven 2 Nov; Inv, 1 Insh 4 Feb.

Great Spotted Woodpecker Bred usual areas, suggested increase Midl and Kirk.

Migration : small scale influx of Scandinavian birds *D. m. major* : Shet, singles Scalloway 25 Aug, Fetlar 27th and Kergord 30th, Skerries 15 Sep, Foula 21st, 5-7 in Oct; Fair Isle, one 25 Aug, one 10 Oct, 2 on 22nd and 26 Oct, 1 on 28 and 29th, 1 on 1st and 3-4 Nov; Ork, 1 Toab 30 Aug; Isle of May, one 7-8 Sep.



Wryneck
tail f.

***Wryneck Breeding** : Inv, pr nested Laggan Bridge, found 12 June, 6 young flew 17 July (W. Forsythe *et al*), 2 calling Coylum Bridge 13 June; singles singing Achilty, E Ross, 1 June, Braemar, Aber, 9 June, Strathyre, Perth, 28 June.

Migration : Shet, scarce, singles Bigton 12 May, Spiggie 17th, Whalsay 18th, Unst 23rd, Sellafirth 17-18 June, Whalsay 1 Sep, Skerries 20 Sep; Fair Isle, one 5 May, 4 on 8th, 6 on 9th, 1 by 15th, 5 on 16th, 1 by 19th, 1-2 on 25-29 May, 1 on 28 Aug, 1-2 on 1-6 Sep, 3 on 12th, 2 on 18th, singles 19th and 15 Oct; Ork, 1 Rendall 8 May; Suth, 1 Altnaharra 6 May; W Ross, 1 Badachro 12 Sep; Aber, 1 Strathbeg 9 May, 1 Newburgh 11 May; Isle of May, 8-15 May, max 4, singles 30 Aug, 9 Oct, 20 Oct; Fife Ness, 10-11 May; E Loth, 2 Barns Ness 10 May, 1 on 12th; Ber, 2 St Abbs 10-11 May; Dumf, 1 dead Langholm 27 Sep.

***Short-toed Lark** Seven birds : Shet, Whalsay 4-5 Oct (JHS, BM), 19-20 Oct (JHS); Fair Isle, 20-26 Apr, 4-9 May, 21-27 Sep, 2 on 8-9 Oct, 1 to 14th (RAB, PJR *et al*).

Skylark Migration and counts : Shet, main passage from 19 Feb, most 14 Mar-14 Apr, max 250 Weisdale 15 Mar; Fair Isle, 1st 10 Feb (60), large passage 20-22 Feb, 600+ on 22nd; O Heb, 400 Baleshare, Uist, 15-22 Feb; E Ross, 600 Redfield, Black Isle, mid Feb; Angus, 120S per hr Arbroath 17 Oct; Perth, peaks Glenalmond 150+ on 17 Feb, 250+ on 20 Mar; Fife Ness, heavy passage S 29 Sep; Wig, 400 Wigtown Merse 12 Jan, good passage towards Ireland at Crammog Head 28 Nov.

***Shore Lark** One record Highlands June (JJCH); Shet, 1 Walls 8 Mar (BH); Fair Isle, 2 on 18-20 Apr, 3 on 4 May, 2 on 5-10th, one 11th, one 25 Oct (RAB *et al*).

Swallow Breeding : Dumf, 3 white young in brood of 4; Ayr, nos. rather low but good season; Arran, fewer, late nest 2 young Brodick 23 Sep; Arg, some sites unoccupied Mull; Border, nos. down and late in cold spring; Midl/W Loth, census of 10 farms showed 12 prs with 67 young hatched compared to 15 prs and 112 young in 1974, decrease also noted Moorfoots and Gladhouse (where none bred); Fife, slow to arrive, but nos. good; Perth, late breeding season; Inv, late and poor season Glen Urquhart, none bred Canna; Ork, a few more than usual; Shet, bred Foula, Cunningsburgh and Sumburgh (2).

Spring migration : Generally late and slow to build up; 7 Apr, 1 N Berwick, E Loth; 16 Apr, 1st records Kirk (2), Ayr (3), Fife, Isle of May, Kinross, Perth and N Uist, O Heb; 17 Apr, Dumf, Arg, Midl, Stir, Angus and Inv; N to Shet by 20th; Isle of May, max 16 on 21 May; O Heb, 2 Flannans 24 June; Fair Isle from 20 Apr, peaks 40 on 17 May, 30 on 18th, 12 on 25th; Shet, peaks 16-19 May, 25-28th, 6-7 June, max 20 Hillwell 10 May, 10 Unst 22 June.

Autumn and counts : Shet, last Sandwater 16 Oct; Fair Isle, small nos. 24 Aug-11 Sep, 30 Sep-5 Oct, last 18 Oct; Inv, 500 Insh 22 July, last 10 on 3 Nov; Moray, 17 Elgin 5 Oct, 2 Burghead 2 Nov; Aber, passage S on coast 2nd, 3rd, 10 Sep, 5 Oct, last 2 Strathbeg 26 Oct; Angus, 200 Montrose 6 Aug, 3S Arbroath 17 Oct; Perth, peak Tay estuary roost 4,000 late Aug, 500-1,000 Inchyra 25 Sep, 1S Gaick 19 Oct, 1 Invergowrie 25 Oct; Kinr, 3,000+ Lethangie 28 Aug; Isle of May 100 on 30 July and 10 Sep, last 18 Oct; Stir, last 6 Airthrey 13 Oct; W Loth, 1 Cramond 5 Nov; E Loth/Ber, 500 Dirleton 28 Sep, last St Abbs 26 Oct; Arg, 2 Gruinart, Islay, 22 Oct, 1 Campbelltown 14 Nov; Dunb, 1,000 Old Kilpatrick 3 Sep; Arran, 1 Brodick 27 Oct; Ayr, 1 Turnberry 8 Nov; Kirk/Wig, 1,000+ Sandend 6-7 Sep, 5 Stranraer 31 Oct, 2 New Galloway 1 Nov, 1 Ardwell 11 Dec.

House Martin Breeding : Shet, 2 prs built nests Lerwick, 1 pr fledged young; O Heb, pr nest-building Stornoway 20 May, 7 flying young 7 Aug; E Ross, bred 1st time Coulmore; Angus, quickly colonized new housing schemes N Montrose; Perth, increased at farm colonies; E Loth, 100 nests in cliffs Tantallon; Borders, scarcer; Arran, good nos.; Ayr and Dumf, nos. low; Wig, 10 prs cliff colony Mull of Galloway.

Arrivals : 17 Apr, 1 New Cumnock, Ayr; 18 Apr, Langholm, Dumf; 19 Apr, Colvend, Kirk; N to Aber (23rd), Shet (24th). Spring migration : Shet, mainly from 16 May, max 10 Lerwick 20 May, 15-20 Walls 7 June; Fair Isle, 6 May-22 July, peaks 10 on 17 May, 40-50 on 6-8 June; O Heb, 1 Flannans 21 June.

Autumn : Shet, max 6 Quendale 30 Aug, 4 Skerries 27 Aug, last Fitful Head 3 Oct; Fair Isle, up to 5 on 30 Sep-5 Oct; Ork, 3 Kirkwall 7 Oct; W Ross, last 2 Kyle 9 Oct; E Ross, 1 Fortrose 1 Nov; Inv, 50 Insh 22 Aug, last 25 Sep; Aber, 1 Newtonhill 24 Oct; Kinr, 60 Vane 13 Aug; Isle of May 24 Aug-18 Oct, max 14 on 27 Aug; Fife, 1 Crail 6 Nov; E Loth, 1 N Ber-

wick 17 Oct; Ayr, 2 Turnberry 8 Nov, 1 Alloway 21 Nov; Kirk/Wig, 1 Dalry 25 Oct, 2 Stranraer 27 Oct.

Sand Martin Breeding: Caith, 2 prs prospecting new site Scrabster; E Ross, 220 nests Logieside 21 June; Inv, poor season Glen Urquhart; Angus, 200 prs Arrat's Mill; Perth, good nos. and breeding success; Midl, 300% increase at sandpits; Borders and Dumf, scarcer; W Stir, 600+ prs Drumbeg quarry; Ayr, successful season.

Spring, late to arrive: 14 Apr, 1 Dunblane, Perth; 15 Apr, Perth; 16 Apr, Dumf (many), E Loth, Kinross, Fife and Inv (8 Insh); more 1st reports 17-19th, many from 20th. Ork, 1 N Ronaldsay 21 Apr; Fair Isle, few 25 Apr-9 June, max 4 on 6 May, 5 on 17th; Shet, scarce, 1 Whalsay 5 May, 1 Unst 7 June, 2 Walls 24 June.

Autumn: Shet, 2 Benston 3 Aug, 1 Foula 7 Aug, 1 Lerwick 1 Oct; Fair Isle, 1-2 on 31 July-4 Aug, 1 on 3rd and 11 Sep; Inv, 400+ Insh 22 Aug, last 10 on 26 Sep; Perth 8,000 at roosts Earn Mouth 17 July, 500 by 26 July, last Dunblane 18 Sep; Isle of May, 3 on 24 Aug, 4 on 26th; Ayr, 100 Belston L 20 Aug.

***Golden Oriole** Three records: E Loth, ♂ in song Aberlady 7 June (RGN, B. Broadley); Ork, 1 Rackwick early May (AT *et al*), 1 Rousay 27 May (RR).

Raven Shet, max 40-50 Fitful 9 June; Ork, 3 fledged young Mainland 25 Apr is early; Caith, nos. down; Suth, 30+ Strathbrora 25 Dec; Perth, 34 Glen Lednock 5 Oct, 51 on 26 Dec; Clack, pr nested but no young seen; Midl, pr nest building; Borders, nest with 3 young reported; Arg, 100+ winter roost Bridgend, Islay; Dumf, decrease; Kirk, another poor season, continued decrease, 6 young died in nest when adults disappeared, 7 Cairnsmore of Fleet 27 May.

Crow Carrion Crow *C. c. corone*. Shet, few 23 Mar-7 June, max 3 Skerries 20 May; Fair Isle, one 12 Mar, passage in May, max 17 on 12th, 13 on 13th, 1-2 daily 15-25 Oct; Ork, c6 birds 7 Apr-early June; Arg, 2 Carsaig, Mull, 7 Apr.

Hooded Crow *C. c. cornix*. Shet, 200 Clickhimin 17 Jan, 150 Weisdale 29 Sep; O Heb, 150 Balallan 17 Apr; usual small nos. in winter in SE, Angus-Borders, max 3 Aberlady, E Loth.

Rook Breeding census completed, counts of nests included Ork 950, Stornoway, O Heb, 198, Caith, 5,024, Angus 8,409, N Perth 5,434, Kinr 1,499, Peeb 4,662, Dunb 2,848, Stir 5,660, Renf 3,480, Lan 13,250, Ayr 19,360, Bute 780; full details to appear in *Scot. Birds*.

Migration: Shet, 6 Whalsay 1 May; Fair Isle 6 Apr-6 May, max 8 on 30 Apr, 10 on 2 May.

Jackdaw Shet, max 6 Kergord 2 Feb, probably bred, 6 Noss may also have bred, migrants Unst 11 May, Foula 8 June, Whalsay 16 May, 11 Oct and 12 Nov; Fair Isle 2 on 14-15 Apr, one 24th, one 25 May, 3 on 3 June; Stir, 650 Sheriffmuir 16 Jan; Renf, 500+ Castle Semple L roost winter; 1,000+ wintered Arran.

Maggie Usual distribution of breeders; max 15 Alva, Clacks, 18 Mar; 5 prs Girvan, Ayr, is improvement; 10 Lockerbie, Dumf, winter; outside usual areas: 1 Islay, Arg, 18 Jan; 1 Affric Lodge, Inv, 1 Apr; Suth, 2 Kinloch 12 May, 1 L Stack 29 Sep, 1 Syre 12 Nov; Caith, 2 Rumster 23 Feb, 20 Apr, 3 Berriedale 19 Oct; 1 Mull of Galloway, Wig, 27 Nov.

Jay Good season reported Penninghame, Wig, up to 15 together, increased Stranraer; more than usual Glenkens, Kirk, Oct-Nov; small influx Borders autumn, 2 Selkirk 28 Oct, 2 Galashiels 28 Oct, 2 Wells, Rox 13 Nov; bred N to Deeside; Suth, 1 Borigie Forest 3 July.

Chough Arg, numbers maintained Islay, e.g. 20+ Machir Bay 24 Oct, 10 mainland site Apr, 1 pr+ reared young Colonsay.

Great Tit Breeding: population high and good season Arran and Renf; S Perth, poor breeding season low ground but very good in high ground oak woods.

Migrants: Shet, (probably Continental *P. m. major*) 1 Kergord 1-13 Jan, 1 Mid Yell 1 Jan-3 Apr, 1 Sound 16 Apr, 28 Oct, 1 Grutness 28 Oct-31 Dec, 1 Lerwick 2 Nov-31 Dec, 1 Scalloway 6 Nov (6-7 in one year is unusual); Ork, 5 Balfour, Shapinsay, 14 Apr, 1 Copinsay 14 Apr; O Heb, winter influx to 40 Stornoway woods 29 Jan.

Blue Tit Good nos. throughout, breeding success very good some areas (e.g. high ground oak wood S Perth); 3 prs Stornoway woods, O Heb, 2 Feb; Perth, 100+ Powgarie 29 Dec feeding *Phragmites* beds; Angus, 50 Kellie Den 13 Nov, 50 Letham Grange 26 Nov; Renf, pr nested in old Kingfisher nest hole Busby.

Coal Tit Little information except common; 1 Noss Head, Caith, 26 Oct was migrant.

Crested Tit Good nos. main areas; Moray, a few Monahoudie Moss, 4 Spynie, 20 Oct; E Ross, pr bred Monadh Mor, 3 young seen 8 July; Aber, 1 Glen Quoich 17 Mar—3rd year in succession recorded in Deeside but no breeding reports.

Marsh Tit Ber, 2 Hirsell 15 Mar, 3 May, 2-3 St Abbs Oct; Selk, pr Howden Glen 26 Mar is furthest NW in Selk to date.

Willow Tit Possibly increasing Kirk, small nos. E Wig were only reports from SW breeding range. None elsewhere.

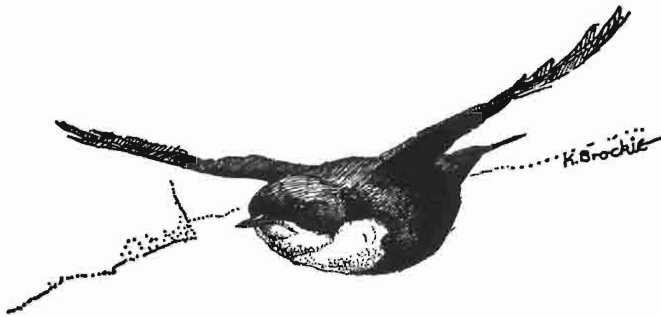
Long-tailed Tit Nos. continue high; successful season Kirk, Ayr, Dunb, Arran, Borders and Fife. Counts: Arg, 40 Saddell 1 July; Perth, 40 Knoch, Crieff, Dec; Caith, 20 Stirkoke 30 Oct. Migrants: 4 Eday, Ork, 28 Oct.

***Nuthatch** Two records: 1 Yetholm, Rox, Apr (Major Gibbes); 1 Dalmally, Arg, 22 June (C. Campbell).

Treecreeper Population generally high. Some evidence of dispersal or migration: Inv, 1 Canna 9 July is 1st summer record; Isle of May, one 16-17 Apr (4th spring record); Suth, 1 Handa 3 July (1st record); Shet, 1 Scalloway 3 Oct, 1 Whalsay 25 Oct.

Wren Nos. remained very high throughout country; 1-2 prs Ailsa Craig, Ayr, 7 June; Suth, 5 prs Handa; Ork, 2 prs N Ronaldsay Apr, and later used nest found, apparently new breeding record; Fair Isle, 38 sites occupied.

Migration: Shet, Skerries 24th, 31 Aug, 1-2 on 9 days Sep; Fair Isle, singles (probably Scandinavian *T. t. troglodytes*) 11 May, 17 May; Aber, 10 Foveran 11 Oct.



Dipper Midl, slight increase S Esk waters, more 2nd broods produced than 1974, 84 young from 22 successful 1st broods, 45 from 13 2nd broods;

Perth, poor success Glenalmond; Angus, good breeding season but continued decline lowland burns around Arbroath, 2 prs on 3 burns compared to 12 prs in 1971; Caith, fewer than usual; O Heb, 16+ prs nested Lewis.

Mistle Thrush Breeding population increased Borders and Dumf; nos. high Midl, Renf, Arran and Angus. Counts : 50 Insh, Inv, 25 Sep; 55 Glenalmond, Perth, 2 Sep; 50 Saddell, Arg, 25 Aug; 60+ Langholm, Dumf, 26 Sep; 70+ Blackmark, Kirk 1 Oct.

Migration : Shet, singles Whalsay 14th, 15th and 19 Apr, Foula 6-15 Apr, Lerwick 6 May and Unst 2 July; Fair Isle, 6 singles between 22 Feb and 18 May, one 15-16 Oct, and one 19 Oct; Ork, 1 Copinsay 23 Apr, 2 Deerness 23 Oct.

Fieldfare No proved breeding record but one scolding near Logie-Coldstone, Aber, 29 June. Summer singles : Aber, Strathbeg 21 June, Corbie Hill 1 July, Rickarton 3 July; pr Mull, Arg, until 30 May; few Ork included juv Eday 23 July, but no proof of breeding; Fair Isle to 5 June; Shet, 4 singles June.

Winter-spring : Kirk, last 60 Carsfad 22 Apr; Clyde, small passage mid Apr, max 400 Crosshill, Ayr, 16 Apr; Peeb, last 150 on 1 Apr; Midl, 500 Newlandrig 24 Apr; Fife, 500 Devilla 9 Mar, 200 Fife Ness 19 Apr; Isle of May 14 Apr-19 May, max 500 on 19 Apr; Perth, 700+ Sherriffmuir and 760 Kinbuck 18 Apr; Angus, 150 Glen Ogil 27 Apr; Suth, 200 Trantlemore 26 Apr; Ork; big passage Apr, mainly from 16th when 60 Copinsay, 1,000 Harray and 3,000 N Ronaldsay 18-22 Apr; Fair Isle, few to mid Apr, 45 on 14th, increased to 200 on 15th, 1,300 on 18th, 5,000+ on 20th, most gone by 24th, last 5 June; Shet, big arrival 14 Apr, when 1,600 Whalsay, more 18th when 2,000 Whalsay and 500 Sandwick, 600 Bressay and 500 Unst 20th, most gone by 26th.

Autumn migration : Shet, 1st Unst 1 Aug, small nos. Aug until Sep, mainly mid Oct-Nov, max 200 Unst late Oct; Fair Isle, 1st 6 Aug, small nos. until early Oct, peaks 1,500+ 16 Oct, 1,500+ 21-23rd, 1,300 on 8-9 Nov; Ork, 1st Evie 13 Sep, mainly mid Oct, peak N Ronaldsay 20th, Kirkwall 21st; Caith, 1 Reay 9 Aug, mainly 14 Oct, max 600 Stemster 26 Oct; Ross, 1 Tarbat Ness 17 Aug, mainly from 14 Oct, max 500 Munloch 27 Oct; Inv, 18 Insh 19 Sep, 100s Rhum end Sep; Moray, 1 Grantown 3 Sep; Aber, 3,000 Skene 18 Oct; Perth, large nos., max 3,000 Doune 20 Oct, 3,000 Seaside 25 Oct, 2,000+ Blackford 26 Oct; Isle of May, 1st 28 Aug, max 250 on 20 Oct; Stir/Clack, 1st Airthrey 20W 10 Oct, 1,500 Clackmannan 25 Oct; Midl, 1,000W Newlandrig 11 Oct, 700+SW Almondwell 25 Oct; E Loth, 1 Dirleton 10 Aug, influx 1,000 Longniddry 25 Oct, 5,000 fed on Sea Buckthorn berries Gullane-N Berwick Nov-Dec; Arg, 400 Mull of Kintyre 16 Oct; Renf, 550 Muirshiel 13 Oct; Ayr from 10 Oct, mainly mid Oct, peak 1500 Ayr-Cumnock 26 Dec; Dumf, 200+ Langholm 14 Sep; Kirk/Wig, first 2 Backhill of Bush 3 Sep, 12 Kirkcowan 4 Sep, large nos. from 10 Oct.

Song Thrush Breeding birds back Kiltarlity, Inv, 20 Feb, Gladhouse, Midl, 22 Feb; Peebles, scarcer, only 5 out of 15 nests successful.

Migration : Shet, usual scatter, peak 16 Whalsay 19 Apr, last 14 June, 1st 20 Sep, max 60 Skerries 1 Oct, 57 Whalsay 2nd and 30 Bressay 3 Oct; Fair Isle, mainly 14-22 Apr (max 30 on 22nd) and 8-17 May (max 50 on 9th), from 8 Aug, influx 400 on 30 Sep, peak 750 on 1 Oct; Isle of May, peak 35 on 8 May, last 17 May, from 1 July, max 200 on 9 Oct; E Loth, peaks 8 Sep and 25 Oct; Ayr, peaks 9th, 11th and 27-28 Oct.

Redwing Breeding : Shet, up to 6 singing at 2 localities June, pr and 2 newly fledged young 5 Aug; Ork, pr bred successfully (first record), another pr but breeding not proved; Suth, 1 pr bred, 3 singing ♂♂ at separate sites; W Ross, 3 prs reared young, 7 other singing ♂♂; E Ross, ♂

in song 1 June; Inv, 4 prs bred, 7 other singing ♂♂; Aber, 2 prs bred and one other adult seen; Perth, ♂ singing Rannoch.

Winter counts and spring passage: Ayr, 80 Rozelle early Apr, scarce; W Loth, 100 Rosebery 12 Jan; Isle of May, max 150 on 19 Apr, last 7 May; Angus, 75 Letham Grange 17 Jan; Inv, 200 Rhum 15-18 Apr; Fair Isle, scarce in spring, mainly 14-17 Apr (max 50) and 20-22nd (max 100), last 16 June; Shet, mainly mid Apr, peaks 250 Whalsay 14th, more 18-19th, 120 Unst 20th, most gone 22nd.

Autumn: Shet, 1st 2 on 10 Sep, mainly from 26th, peaks 300 Kergord 11 Oct, 300+ Whalsay 22 Oct; Fair Isle, 1st 18 Sep, mainly from 26th, peaks 700 on 9 Oct, 2,500+ on 11th, 1,000 on 15th, 1,200 on 22nd, 600 (Icelandic *T. i. coburni*) on 5 Nov; O Heb, 3 Butt of Lewis 28 Sep; Caith, 1st 5 Oct, mainly 8-18th; Ross, 2 Redfield 8 Oct, peak 240 on 26th; Angus, 1st Arbroath 15 Sep; Perth, 1st Glenalmond 22 Sep, max 1,000 Thornhill 25 Oct, 500 Flanders Moss 20 Oct, 500+ Lecropt 26 Oct, roost 4,000 Glenalmond 30 Oct; Isle of May, from 27 Sep, max 500 on 19 Oct; Fife Ness, 2 on 29 Sep, 100 on 9 Oct; Clack, 200 Cambus 12 Oct; W Loth, 3 Beecraigs 14 Sep; E Loth, influx Longniddry 25 Oct; Arg, 450 Mull of Oa, Islay, 24 Oct, 600 Mull of Kintyre 16 Oct; Ayr, 2 Rozelle 30 Sep, main passage from 8 Oct, 1,500S in hr Rozelle 9 Oct, 530E in 15 mins 11 Oct, 1,000 Ayr-Cumnock 26 Dec; Kirk/Wig, 1st 25 Dalry 9 Oct, many from 10th, large nos. Drummorie 1 Nov.

***Dusky Thrush** *T. n. eunomus*. 1 Firth, Shet, 6-13 Nov (DC, BPW *et al*), 3rd Scottish and 5th British record.

Ring Ouzel Breeding: Ork, 2 ♂♂ singing Hoy, juv seen 2 Aug; Midl, 1st Moorfoots 12 Apr, 4 out of 5 prs successful, feeding young by 24 May, Pentland study area 6 out of 15 nests failed at nestling stage.

Arrivals and migration: Shet, 15 Apr-19 May, scarce, max 3 Sumburgh 22 Apr, 3 Skerries 11 May; Fair Isle, 15 Apr-9 June, max 17 on 9 May, 11 on 11th; Ork, peaks 3 Copinsay 23 Apr and 9 May, 1 Sule Skerry 8 May; Ross, 1 Achnasheen 16 Mar; Aber, 1st Braemar 16 Apr, coastal max 4 Cruden Bay 9-11 May; Isle of May, 17 Apr-15 May, max 25 on 8 May; Fife, ♂ Crail 19 Apr; E Loth, 6 Aberlady 20 Apr; Ayr, 1 Carrick Forest 31 Mar; Dumf, 1st Langholm 10 Apr.

Autumn passage: Shet, scarce 30 Sep-1 Nov, max 4 Whalsay 15 Oct; Fair Isle, 3 on 30 Sep, 7 on 1 Oct, 1 by 8th, one 23rd; Suth, 4 L Naver 19 Oct; Perth, 2 Spittal of Glenshee 12 Oct; Isle of May, 1-2 on 29 Sep-1 Oct; Arg, 1 Islay 27 Oct; Renf, 1 Muirshiel 10 Oct; Dumf, few Penpont 18 Sep and Langholm 26th; Kirk, 2 Blackmark 1 Oct.

Blackbird Breeding: Arran, high nos. reared; Arg, ♀ brooding 3 eggs Machrihanish 1 Jan, later deserted; Peebles, poor season in cold spring, 3 out of 18 nests successful; Ross, late brood Coulmore 25 July.

Migration—high spring peak: Shet, big influx mid Apr, 1,400 Whalsay 14th, 100s Mainland 15th, 100 Noss 16th, most gone by 21 Apr, 50 Kergord 23 Sep, 60 Whalsay 22 Oct; Fair Isle, up to 50 wintered, 100 on 14 Apr increased to 1,000 on 20th, most gone by 26th, 1st 18 Aug, mainly from 28 Sep, peaks 150 on 11 Oct, 200 on 15th, 500 on 22-23rd, 200 on 12 Nov; Ork, peaks 100+ Copinsay 16 Apr, 115 Pentland Skerries 19 Apr; Isle of May, peak 400 on 18 Apr, absent 27 Apr-26 Sep, max 200 on 9 Oct, 19-21 Oct; Fife Ness, 70 on 9 Oct; Wig, movement Mull of Galloway late Oct and late Dec.

***American Robin** One St Kilda 14 Jan-15 Feb (C. Brown *et al*).

***White's Thrush** One Whalsay, Shet, 11 Oct (JHS), 10th Scottish record.

***Hermit Thrush** *Hylocichla guttata*. One Fair Isle 2 June (RAB, PJR, S. Rumsey *et al*)—1st British record of this North American thrush.

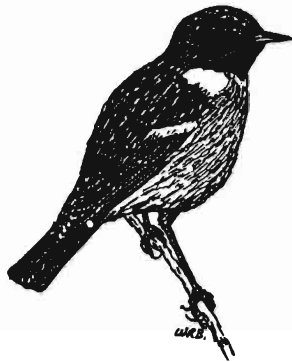
Wheatear Breeding: 1st young flying Shet 23 June and Fair Isle 26

June; Angus, pr bred Buddon for 1st time; numbers still low Fife, E Loth; Borders and Renf.

Spring migration, arrivals from 19 Mar, generally late; Kirk, 1 Clatteringshaw 10 Apr, late to arrive; Dumf, 1st Ewes 12 Apr; Ayr, 1 Doonfoot 23 Mar, next 2 Ballantrae and 2 Bracken Bay 13 Apr; Arg, 1 Machrihanish 9 Apr; E Loth, heavy passage 10 May when 10 Barns Ness; Fife Ness, 2 on 11 Apr; Isle of May, 12 Apr-16 June, high peak 350 on 8 May; Kinr, 2 Vane 23 Mar; Angus, 1 Elliot 5 Apr; Aber/N Kinc, 19 Apr-6 June, mainly 9-21 May, max 39 Drums 11 May; Inv, 3 Rhum 10 Apr; Ross, 1 Gairloch 28 Mar; O Heb, 1 Bayble, Lewis, 19 Mar; Ork, from 10 Apr, main arrival from 19th; Fair Isle, late, 1st 12 Apr, influx 40 on 20th; Shet, 1st 9 Apr, most from 20th.

Northern birds *O. o. leucorrhoa* : 2 Girdleness, Kinc, 16 May; 2 Aberlady, E Loth, 24 May; Dumf, 6 Priestsides 22 Apr, 1 Caerlaverock 2 May; Kirk, several Cairnsmore of Carsphairn 22 May; probables Endrick Mouth, Dunb, 17 May, Doonfoot, Ayr, 7 May, 2 Heads of Ayr 12 May, 2 Ballantrae 22 May.

Autumn migration, last dates to 16 Nov : Shet, more late records than usual, 6 Whalsay 31 Oct-12 Nov; Fair Isle, peaks 150 on 3 Sep, 80 on 18th, last 29 Oct; Ork, last 3 on 18 Oct; Ross, 1 Ashfield 25 Oct; Aber, last Newburgh 16 Oct; Isle of May, 2 July-19 Oct, max 25 on 7 Sep; Fife Ness, 2 last week Oct; E Loth, last Aberlady 25 Oct; Arg, peak 26 Machrihanish 8 Aug; Dunb, last Ardmore 21st and 25 Oct; Ayr, 1 Seamill 22 Oct; Kirk, last Cairnsmore of Fleet 22 Oct.



Stonechat Breeding : Shet, pr feeding juv Dales Voe 11 Sep (3rd ever record), also juvs Fetlar 6-7 July, Sandness early July and Toft 11 July were possibly bred locally; Caith, excellent season, many broods; Suth, very good Dornoch area and abundant W Ross/W Suth; E Ross, pr with young Coulmore (new area); Aber, continued increase inland, e.g. pr and young Glen Tanar 11 July; Angus, 24 prs located; Perth, increased; increases noted Lothians and Borders, e.g. pr Moorfoot valley (1st for 25 years), Edinburgh area : 15 nests containing 80 eggs produced 67 fledged young, only 1 pr reared 3rd brood; similar situation Clyde and Galloway areas. Population throughout country very high.

Counts and migration : 42 (17 prs) on 8 miles coast road Barsalloch, Wig, 7 Nov; Angus, 3-6 Arbroath cliffs 14-18 Oct; Caith, 15 Reay 13 Aug; Fair Isle, passage 22 Feb-20 Apr, high peaks 5 on 26 Feb, 15 (highest record) 2 Mar, 7 on 12 Mar, few in May 2 (♂ + juv) 6 July (shows early

movement of juvs), singles 10th, 18-20th and 24 Oct; Shet, 33- is noticeable increase, max 4 Sumburgh 26 Feb-3 Mar.

Siberian Stonechat : 1 Fair Isle 10-17 Oct referable to one of the eastern forms, probably *S. t. maura*.

Whinchat Breeding : average nos. Ayr : 7 prs with young Arran; Borders, fewer; O Heb, 8 prs Lewis and Harris; Ork, pr suspected but not proved breeding Hoy.

Arrivals and passage : 13 Apr, 2 L Mannoeh, Kirk; 14 Apr, 1st Isle of May; 18 Apr, 1st Insh, Inv; 22 Apr, 1 Clatequoy, Caith. Most 1st arrivals last week Apr, main passage 2nd week May; Isle of May, max 40 on 8 May, last 7 June; Aber coast, 30 Apr-17 May, max 8 Drum 11 May; Ork, peak 6 Copinsay 9 May; Fair Isle, 1-2 from 29 Apr, peaks 30 on 9-14 May, 11 on 16th, last 11 June; Shet, 8 Skerries 9 May, 10 on 11th, last 2 Whalsay 6 June.

Autumn : Shet, 1st Whalsay 10 Aug, small influx 20-25 Sep, max 11 Whalsay 25th, more from 30th, 20 Skerries 1 Oct, 24 Whalsay 3 Oct, last 17th; Fair Isle, 10 Aug-27 Oct, peak 30 on 30 Sep-2 Oct; Ork, 9 Sep-2 Oct, max 7 Stronsay 1 Oct; Caith, last L Buidhe 3 Oct, Thurso 15 Oct; Ross, 1 Ashfield 25 Oct; Inv, last Insh 27 Oct; Fife, 14 Kingsbarns 31 Aug; Ber, last St Abbs 19 Oct; Arg, last Campbeltown 11 Nov.

***Red-flanked Bluetail** Immature Isle of May 14 Oct (IB-P, JHBM, GLS), 3rd Scottish and 6th British record.

Redstart Breeding : Kirk, rather low; Ayr, still low; Dunb, 4 prs in 5.3 hectares Yew wood Inchlonaig; E Loth, still low; Midl, possible increase; Perth, better numbers and success; Inv, still low.

Arrivals from 4 Apr, but mainly early May; Kirk, 1st Forrest Glen 25 Apr; Dumf, 1st Penpont 4 Apr; Ayr, 1st 3 on 26 Apr; E Loth/Ber, passage 10-13 May, max 8 St Abbs and 5 Bass 10th; Fife Ness, 6 on 10 May; Isle of May, 8-19 May, high max 110 on 8th; Angus, 9 Elliot 9 May; Aber, good spring passage 4 May-3 June, most 9-11th, max 30 Strathbeg 9th; O Heb, 1 Back 20 May; Ork, 1 Pentland Skerries 19 Apr, next Copinsay 6 May, where 23+ on 9th, last Birsay 15 June; Fair Isle, ♂ 19 Apr, 2 ♂♂ 20th, daily from 2 May, peaks 12 on 8th, 50 on 9th, last 12 June; Shet, 1 Whalsay 19 Apr, 1 Bressay 28th, influx 6-21 May, max 4 Whalsay 13th.

Autumn : Shet, 12 Sep-25 Oct, peaks 19 Whalsay and 14 Unst 2 Oct; Fair Isle, 6 Aug-18 Oct, mainly from 18 Sep, peaks 35 on 30 Sep, 60 on 1 Oct; Ork, few 1-5 Oct, max 3 Stronsay 1st; Caith, passage Wick 1-5 Oct; Aber/N Kinc, few 30 Sep-19 Oct; Angus, 1 Arbroath 16 Oct, 1 Montrose 6 Nov; Isle of May, 13 Sep-21 Oct, max 5 on 16 Oct.

Black Redstart Two in winter, 60-70+ in spring 15 Mar-29 June, 1 summer, 17+ in autumn 5 Oct-7 Nov : Shet, nearly 30 between 13 Apr and 8 June, peaks 3 Whalsay 19 Apr, 4 on 20th, 8+ on 21st, 4 on 22nd, 4 Skerries 14 May, singles Walls 5 Oct, Scalloway 29 Oct, 6 individuals Whalsay 14 Oct-1 Nov; Fair Isle, one 28 Mar, 2 on 18 Apr, 8 on 20-21st, another peak 4 on 8 May, last 26 May, one 29 June, singles 7 and 22 Oct; Ork, 2 N Ronaldsay 22 Apr, 1 Copinsay 23 Apr, 2-10 May, 3 Sule Skerry 8 May; Caith, 1 Scrabster 26 Oct; Aber, 1 Strathbeg 9 May; Angus, 1 Scurdyness 17 Apr; Isle of May, singles 15-17 Mar, 25-26th, 30th, 14 Apr, 18th (2), 20 Apr, 21 Oct, 22 Oct (2); Fife, ♂ Crail 1 Jan-19 Mar, singles Dalgety Bay 3 May, Fife Ness 10 May; E Loth, 2 Drem 25 Oct; Arg, ♂ Craignure, Mull, 5-6 Aug; Ayr, 1 Dunure 5-7 Nov; Wig, ♀ Stranraer 16 Jan; Kirk, ♂ Carsluith 1 Nov, ♀ redstart sp. Southerness 8 Nov.

***Nightingale** Three : Fair Isle 16 May (found 2 weeks dead), 9 June (RAB *et al*); Isle of May, 27 May (AWC, NJG, FS).

***Thrush Nightingale** Two : St Kilda 29-30 May (MPH *et al*); Isle of May, 31 May-6 June (HG, MPH, MS).

Bluethroat White-spotted Bluethroat *L. s. cyanecula*. Three records is exceptional (1st since 1970): ♂ Orton, Moray, 20 Mar is also very early (Mrs P. V. Upton); ♂ Whalsay, Shet, 20-22 Apr; ♂ Fair Isle 21-22 Apr.

Red-spotted *L. s. svecica* spring passage 8 May-12 June, few autumn 26 Sep-4 Oct: Shet, 1 Strand, 2 Skerries 9 May, 8 Skerries 11th, 2 on 13th, 3 on 14th, singles Noss 11th, Whalsay 12th, Virkie 14th, Spiggie 18th, Fetlar 26th, 1 Skerries 1 Oct; Fair Isle, ♂ 8 May, 17 on 9th, nos. high to 17th, 1-2 until 4 June, injured ♂ 21 June-15 Aug, 3 on 26 Sep, 1-2 to 4 Oct; Ork, 1 Copinsay 12 June, 1 Stronsay 1 Oct; Aber, ♂ Collieston 11 May; Isle of May, 3 on 8 May, one 12 May; Arg, ♀ Ugadale, Kintyre, 29 May; Dumf, ♂ found dead Parkgate 28 May.

***Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope*. First-year ♂ ringed Fair Isle 9-11 Oct, 1st British record of this Siberian species (RAB, ARL, PJR *et al*). (plate 19b).

Robin Passage and counts: Shet, some overwintered, spring peaks 40 Whalsay 20-21 Apr, 20 Mainland 20th, stragglers to 17 May, 1st 21 Sep, peaks 8 Skerries 1 Oct, 12 Whalsay 2 Oct; Fair Isle, main spring passage 16 Apr-28 May, max 50 on 20-21st Apr, otherwise less than 6, autumn from 17 Sep, max 10 on 30 Sep, 18 on 1 Oct; Ork, passage mid Apr, max 15 Pentland Skerries 19 Apr; Aber, passage Drums 19 Apr; Rife Ness, influx 20 on 9 Oct; Dumf, influx Caerlaverock 14 Oct; Kirk, 1 at 2,333 ft Cairnsmore of Fleet 27 June.

Grasshopper Warbler Breeding nos. low: Ayr, still low; Renf, continued decrease, only 3 prs Lochwinnoch reserve (14 prs in 1973); Dunb, improvement Endrick Mouth; Arg, Borders, E Loth and Midl nos. down; Perth, 7 Goodie Water 4 May; Inv, 7-8 Insh June; only single reports Aber, Ross, Suth and Caith.

Arrivals: 22 Apr, 1 Dalry, Kirk; 23 Apr, 1 Lochmaben, Dumf, mainly 1st week May; Ork, 1 Stromness 7 May; no records O Heb, Shet or Fair Isle reflects scarcity.

***Lanceolated Warbler** Four Fair Isle is exceptional: 3 on 11 Oct (2 trapped), the unringed bird present 13-14th, another unringed on 14th (RAB, S. G. Cook, ARL *et al*) (plate 20a).

***Reed Warbler** No spring records. Fair Isle, singles (all considered of this species) 5 Aug, 11th, 14th, 16th, 18th (2), 23rd, 24th, 5th and 7 Sep; Shet, singles Sumburgh 13 Aug, Fetlar 14th and 23-24 Aug, Skerries 24 Aug and 1 Oct. 1 Reed/Marsh Warbler Fetlar 9-10 June.

***Marsh Warbler** Fair Isle, singles trapped 2nd and 8 June, another in song 16-17 June (RAB *et al*).

Sedge Warbler Breeding: Ayr, increase in S; Rox/Peeb, scarce; E Loth/Midl, numbers well up, e.g. 28 in song Gladhouse 17 May (most ever), 20+ prs Cousland (4 prs 1974); Perth, prs nesting in unusual habitats suggest increase; Angus, 100 prs on Lunan between Letham and Inverkeilor; Inv, good nos. Insh, 4 prs Canna; Suth, pr bred Handa (1st record); Caith, improvement; O Heb, increase Lewis and Uists, 4 prs Balranald.

Arrivals and migration: 27 Apr, 1st Gelston, Kirk, and 4 Maybole, Ayr, mainly 1st week May; Shet, none; Fair Isle, scarce, 3 in spring 18-19th, 23 May and 7-8 June, 1-2 on 28 Aug-5 Sep, very late one 11 Nov; O Heb, 20 May-11 Aug; E Ross, last Tarradale 2 Sep; Aber, 4-17 May (max 6 Strathbeg 5th) and 30 Aug-19 Sep; Angus, last Lurgies 10 Sep; Perth, last Balnepburn 10 Oct; Isle of May, 16-31 May, max only 2, singles 27 Aug-23 Sep; Clack, 6 Cambus 14 Sep; Midl, 2 Duddingston 1 May; 1 Selkirk 30 Apr; Arg, last Machrihanish 27 Sep; Dunb, 50 Midross 10 Aug, last 20 Sep; Renf, 77 Lochwinnoch 23 July; Wig, 60 Airds Moss 2 July.

***Aquatic Warbler** Two immes Fair Isle, 9-10th and 18 Aug (RAB, PJR, D. Willis *et al*).

***Icterine Warbler** One spring, Fair Isle 11 June; 14 autumn 6 Aug-9 Oct : Shet, singles Whalsay 6-7 Aug, 10 Aug, Toab 28 Sep; Fair Isle, 9-10 Aug, 13th (2), 26-27th, 3-6 Sep, 2-3rd and 8 Oct; Isle of May, 13 Aug and 18-21 Sep; Fife, Kilonquhar 14 Sep, Fife Ness 9 Oct.

Blackcap Breeding: Ayr, slight decrease Rozelle, good season Maybole; Ber, E Loth and Midl, gradual increase, now twice as common as Garden Warbler in E Loth.

Migration: confused by wintering birds; Shet, few 22 Apr-27 June, from 30 Aug, max 10 Skerries 20 Sep, 20 on 1 Oct, 15 on 6 Nov, 19 Whalsay 2 Oct; Fair Isle, few 19 Apr-21 June, max 4 on 20 Apr, strong passage autumn, 31 Aug-14 Nov, peak 10 on 29 Sep, 70 on 30 Sep, high to 3 Oct, 20 on 9th, 10 on 1st and 10 Nov; Ork, autumn passage from 27 Sep, 48 ringed N Ronaldsay 4-23 Oct; O Heb, 2 Back, Lewis 9 May; Caith, passage 27 Sep-15 Nov, max 6 Wick 1 Oct and 6 Reay 25 Oct; Aber, max 5 Fraserburgh 26 Oct; Isle of May, 1-2 from 1 May-4 June, 30 Aug-30 Oct, max 15 on 11 Oct and 22 Oct.

Major increase in wintering records on 1974, especially in early months, reflecting mild winters:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec
North (Shet-Inv)	11	10	4	50+	13
Central (Moray-Clack, Arg)	19	10	7	10	7
South (Clyde-Forth to Border)	12	22	20	4	3

Barred Warbler Good nos. 8 Aug-15 Nov : Shet, ad Foula 10 Aug, almost daily to 21 Sep, 13 Skerries, 12 Whalsay in this period, peaks 3 Whalsay 20 Aug, 3 Skerries 24 Aug, late records Skerries 1 Oct, Whalsay 24 Oct; Fair Isle, 8 Aug-27 Sep, up to 8 many days 18 Aug-7 Sep, 1 on 30 Sep, 4 on 1 Oct, 2 on 9th, 4 on 10th, one to 12th, 25 ringed; Ork, singles ringed N Ronaldsay 14 and 16 Oct, one of them found dead Papa Westray late Nov; Caith, 1 Wick 27 Sep, ad Wick 15 Nov (very late); Suth, 2 Talmine 4 Sep, 1 Achinver 6-10 Sep, 1 W Strathan 6 Sep; Aber, 1 Don est 2-3 Sep; Isle of May, passage 14 Aug-14 Oct, max 8 on 31 Aug.

Garden Warbler Breeding: Arg, breeding some areas not recorded in *Atlas*, e.g. 2 prs Colonsay; Selk, Peeb, E Loth and Midl continued decrease; Ork, singing birds Binscarth 28 May, Rackwick 15 June and Finstown 20 July but no proof of breeding.

Spring migration: Kirk, 1st Garroch 6 May; Arg, 1st Saddell 1 May; Isle of May, 1-2 between 16 May-9 June; Ork, 2 Pentland Skerries 19 Apr; Fair Isle, small nos. 9 May-22 June, max 5 on 8 June; Shet, 1 Unst 21 Apr, few 14 May-25 June.

Return passage: Shet, from 6 Aug, peaks 4 Skerries 1 Oct, 10 Whalsay 2 Oct, late 1 Quendale 1 Nov; Fair Isle, small passage 6 Aug-17 Oct, max 12 on 18 Aug and 12 Sep; Ork, few 10 Aug-24 Oct; Caith, 2 Stirkoke 4 Oct, 2 Dunbeath 12 Nov; Aber, last Drums 15 Oct; Isle of May, 9 Aug-23 Oct, max 16 on 30 Aug.

Whitethroat Breeding: further improvement Dumf, Ayr, Renf, Arran, Rox, Arg, E Loth, Fife, Angus, Inv, E Ross; decrease Cousland, Midl, and Mull, Arg.

Arrivals and spring passage rather late: 26 Apr, 1 Gatehouse and 6 Mochrum, Wig, and Dalton, Dumf; mostly 1st week May. Ber, 4 St Abbs 12 May; Isle of May, 8 May-9 June, 4 on 7 June; Aber, 1st Auchmacoy 2 May; Fair Isle, 9 May-13 June, peaks only 5 on 9th and 12 May, 6 on 16 May; Shet, few singles 2 May-20 June, 2 Fetlar 31 May.

Autumn: Shet, very few 25 Aug-2 Oct (Whalsay); Fair Isle, 10 Aug-11 Oct, few, max 4 on 1 Oct; Ork, 1 Copinsay 15-18 Aug, 1 Stronsay 1 Oct; Caith, 2 Wick 1 Oct; Isle of May, very few 19 Aug-23 Oct; Fife Ness, last 17 Oct; Ber, last St Abbs 12 Oct.

Lesser Whitethroat Breeding : pr again nested Cousland, Midl, c/4 on 11 May.

Migration, generally scarce : Shet, c10 spring 2 May-8 June, 6 autumn 9 Aug-3 Oct; Fair Isle, 6-19 May, max 7 on 9th, 1-4 daily 26 May-6 June and 10-14 June, singles several days 24 Aug-28 Sep, 4 on 30 Sep, 2 on 9 Oct, one 11th; Ork, singles Stronsay 1 Oct, N Ronaldsday 15 Oct; Suth, 1 Dalchork 31 May; Banff, 1 Troup 11 May; Aber/N Kinc, singles Girdleness and Strathbeg 9 May, Cruden Bay 11th, Old Aberdeen 12 May-3 June, Strathbeg 31 Aug; Isle of May, 1-2 from 5 May-10 June, 1-3 from 9-13 Oct; E Loth, 1 Aberlady 15 Aug; Ber, 1 St Abbs 10th and 12 May, 3 on 12 Oct, 1 Coldingham 17 May; Arg, 1 Islay 27 May.

***Subalpine Warbler** Three ringed Fair Isle : ♂ 9 May, ♀ 8 June, ♂ 8-10 June.

Willow Warbler Breeding : several summered Kergord, Shet, 2 in song 9 June, breeding not proved.

Arrivals : early 1 in song Duchrae, Kirk, 16 Mar; next records 6 Apr, Langholm, Dumf; 12 Apr, L Garten, Inv; 16 Apr, Dalbeattie, Kirk; 17 Apr, Star and Kirkcaldy, Fife; most 1st records 19-25th. Spring passage : Shet, 18 Apr-7 June, mainly 9-19 May, max 10 Whalsay 11th; Fair Isle, scarce, 20 Apr-21 June, max 10 on 14th and 17 May; Aber/N Kinc, 19 Apr-16 May; Isle of May, 19 Apr-7 June, max 250 on 8 May; E Loth, 20 Bass Rock, 10 May; Ber, 25+ St Abbs 10 May; Renf/Ayr, large influx 23 Apr; Wig/Kirk, big arrival 21-24 Apr.

Return passage : Shet, 5 Aug-12 Oct, peaks 12 Skerries 30 Aug, 10 on 1 Oct; Fair Isle, 7 Aug-3 Oct, mainly 13 Aug-12 Sep, peaks 35 on 18th, 100 on 30 Aug, few to 17 Oct; Caith, peak 12 Reay 13 Aug, last 7 Oct; Aber, last Drums 15 Oct; Isle of May, 8 July-13 Oct, max 40 on 30 Aug.

Chiffchaff Breeding : Ayr, slight decrease Culzean and Troon; Midl, slow increase; singing birds in North : Aber (1), Inv (4), Ross (6), Suth (2), Caith (3, probably bred).

Winter (Jan-Apr) : singles (records in brackets probably Chiffchaff) Shet, Lerwick 2 Jan-2 Mar, Kergord 29 Jan; Ork, 2 Binscarth 1 Jan-20 Apr, Orphir 1 Jan-5 Apr, Kirkwall 19 Jan; Caith, Wick 13 Jan-13 Feb; Moray, 1 Burghead 19 Jan, 2 apparently *P. c. tristis* Elgin 16 Jan-6 Apr (9: 164-6); Aber, Parkhill 2nd week Jan; Fife, (one) Largo Bay 2 Feb; Midl, E Howgate 6 Feb; Rox, (one) Kelso 2 Feb; Lan, Stepps 16 Mar; Ayr, Prestwick 26 Jan; Dumfries 2 Feb; 17 records is exceptional.

Migration : Shet, 1st 3 Whalsay 15 Apr, mainly 8-17 May, few summered, return from 24 Aug, mainly 11 Oct-1 Nov, max 7 Mainland 12 Oct, 6 Whalsay 15th; Fair Isle, 1st 22 Mar, small passage 18 Apr-18 May, max 6 on 6th, 8th and 12 May, few to 17 June, return from 18 Aug, mainly 8-28 Oct, 15 on several days, 30 on 11th; Ork, small influx Oct and 4 Nov; Caith, few 18 Oct-16 Nov, max 3 Reay 18th; Ross, 1st Monadh Mor 6 Apr; Aber, 22 Apr-16 May, mainly 9-12 May, 4 Sep-18 Oct; Isle of May, 6 Apr-5 June, max 6 on 18 Apr, 29 Sep-23 Oct, max 6 on 10th; Fife Ness, 6 on 9 Oct; Ber, 12 St Abbs 12-19 Oct; Arg, 5 Islay Nov; Ayr, 1st Rozelle 29 Mar otherwise late; Kirk, 1st Dalry 7 Apr.

Dec singles : Dipple, Ayr, 13th; Ralston, Renf, 29th; Islay, Arg, 5th; Stornoway, O Heb, 16-27th; Papa Westray, Ork, *tristis* found dead 26th and 27th; Fair Isle, 1st-31st; Shet, Lerwick 4th, Whalsay 10th and Scalloway 22nd.

Wood Warbler Breeding : no change except absent Aber.

Arrivals and migration : 29 Apr, Selkirk; 3 May, L of Menteith, Perth, and Fort William, Inv; most 4-11 May; Shet, 1 Virkie 14 May, 9 birds 8 Aug-17 Sep; Fair Isle, singles 6 May, 17 June, c8 17 Aug-7 Sep, max 3 on 18th; Ork, 1 Woodwick 3 May; O Heb, 1 Back 8 May, 2 Stornoway 22

May; Aber, 6 Cruden Bay 9 May, few coastal to 11th; Isle of May, singles 20 July, 15 Aug.

Arctic Warbler One Isle of May 6 Sep (PNJC, DWO, HDS *et al*) (plate 18b).

***Yellow-browed Warbler** About 40 birds 21 Sep-10 Nov, singles unless stated: Shet, Foula 21 Sep, Swinnister 26 Sep, Skerries 1 Oct, Mid Yell 3 Oct, Whalsay 2 on 30 Sep, 1-2 Oct, 2 on 3 Oct, 11th, 14 Oct; Fair Isle, 5 on 30 Sep, one to 4 Oct, 2 on 10th, 3 on 11th, 2 on 12-18th, 21-22 Oct, 10 Nov; Ork, Kirkwall 11-12 Oct, another 12th, Skail 21 Oct; Caith, Wick 2 Oct, 11th, Stirkoke 11 Oct; Isle of May, 2 on 9 Oct, 12th, 13th; Fife Ness, 2 on 9 Oct, 10th; Ber, 6 St Abbs 11 Oct, 4 on 12th, 18th.

***Pallas's Warbler** Four (1 inland) is exceptional, 3rd to 6th Scottish records: Singles Fair Isle 10-11 Oct (RAB, ARL, BM *et al*); Killichonan, Perth, 15 Oct (WDC); Isle of May 21-22 Oct (MWF, SRDdP *et al*) and Strand, Shet, 26-28 Oct (AG, DC *et al*).

Goldcrest Breeding: Ayr, increase Castlehill woods; Renf, Muirshiel 20 prs (only 7 prs in 1972); Arran increase; Arg, completed nest Tayinloan 3 Mar; Midl and Fife, nos. high; Ork, at least 1 pr bred Binscarth, failed Stronsay, singing 2 sites Hoy; Shet, 4 summered Kergord.

Migration: Shet, mainly 18-20 Apr, max 40 Kergord 20th, autumn mainly 9-27 Oct, max 100 Kergord 12th, 37 on 15th, last 15 Nov; Fair Isle, 6 Apr-20 May, max 30 on 22 Apr, 4 Sep-14 Nov, mainly 8 Oct-14 Nov, peaks 35 on 9 Oct, 30 on 14th, 200 on 16th; Ork, peaks 25+ Copinsay 23 Apr, influx mid Oct, max 20 Papdale 24 Oct; Caith, passage 13 Oct-9 Nov, max 20 Stirkoke 14 Oct; Aber, main influx 15 Oct, when 20 Cruden Bay and 40 Drums; Angus, max 30 Letham Grange 20 Nov; Fife Ness, 15 Sep-2 Nov, max 40 on 2 Oct; Isle of May, 12-28 Apr, max 70 on 18th, 24 Aug-30 Oct, max 200 on 20-21st; Ber, 80 St Abbs 11 Oct.

***Firecrest** Three singles: Isle of May 18-21 Apr (JAS *et al*); Foveran 11 May (MAMcD) and Newburgh, Aber, 7 Nov (CJS).

Spotted Flycatcher Breeding: 2+ prs bred Binscarth, Ork; excellent breeding season from 10 prs Elliot valley, Angus; brood recently fledged Dalry, Kirk, 29 Aug.

Arrivals: 1 May, Banff and Harestone, Aber; 3 May, Maryhill, Lan; 7 May, 2 Vane, Kinr; generally rather late in month. Migration: Shet, very scarce, 25 May-8 June, max 3 Fetlar 31 May, 3 birds 24 Sep-2 Oct, very late one Boddam 1 Nov; Fair Isle, small nos. 8 May-14 June, max 5 on 17 May, 7 on 6 June, few 6 Sep-11 Oct; Ork, few in spring, last N Ronaldsay 6 Oct; Caith, last Noss 14 Oct; Isle of May, 1-2 on 27 May-20 June, 27 Aug-23 Sep, max 3 on 29 Aug; Arg, 1 Balnabraid 1 Oct; Kirk, last New Galloway 29 Sep-1 Oct.

Pied Flycatcher Breeding, good year: Kirk, rather scarce; Dumf, 19 prs Penpont; Ayr, nos. low; W Stir, 2+ prs nested; Rox, 2 prs Rule Water; Perth, 19+ prs Trossachs and 82+ young reared in boxes, pr nested Ardeonaig, 3 prs Glen Falloch; Inv, pr nested Drumadrochit; ? ♂ seen or heard Arg (1); Inv (6), Caith (1), also ♀ E Ross.

Arrivals and spring passage: 24 Apr, Langholm and Penpont, Dumf; 27 Apr, 2 Garroch, Kirk, and Selkirk; mostly early May; E Loth, 6 Bass Rock 10 May; Fife Ness, max 5 on 10 May; Isle of May, 8-15 May, max 20 on 8th; Angus, passage 9-14 May, max 4 Elliot 9th; Aber/N Kinc, influx 45+ 9-18 May, max 7 Cruden Bay and 6 Strathbeg 9th; Moray and Caith, influx 9-17 May; Ork, 3 May-15 June, mainly 9th-10th, when 6 on Copinsay; Fair Isle, 8-19 May, max 15 on 9th and 17th, some to 8 June; Shet, scarce, 9 May-8 June, c16 birds.

Autumn: Shet, 9 Aug-16 Oct, scarce, max 4 Skerries 20 Sep, 4 Kergord 21st, Whalsay 30th; Fair Isle, 5 Aug-11 Oct, max 8 on 18th Aug, 25 on 30 Sep; Caith, Wick 1-6 Oct, max 3 on 5th; Isle of May, 5 Aug-8 Oct, max 40 on 7 Aug; Fife Ness, 3 on 9 Oct.

***Collared Flycatcher** Male Skerries, Shet, 13 May (ARL, WEO); 3rd Scottish and 7th British record.

***Red-breasted Flycatcher** Four in spring (5 May-15 June), c16 in autumn (20 Sep-17 Oct); spring : ♂ Forvie, Aber, 5 May; ♂ Fair Isle 17 May, another 5-6 June; ♀ Sumburgh, Shet, 15 June. Autumn : Shet, singles Skerries 20-21 Sep, Helendale 25 Sep, Whalsay 30 Sep-1 Oct, Kergord 11-12 Oct; Fair Isle, 2 on 30 Sep, another 1 Oct, one to 3rd, 2 on 10-11th, one 12th, 14th; Isle of May, 29 Sep, 2 on 10 Oct, one 11th; Fife Ness 29 Sep; Islay, Arg, 10-17 Oct.

Dunnock Migration : Shet, spring 10-28 Apr, max 30 Whalsay 20th, stragglers into June, few autumn 21 Sep-14 Nov, max 3 Whalsay 30 Sep-3 Oct; Fair Isle, low nos. spring 11 Mar-17 June, mainly 15 Apr-9 May, max 8 on 20-22nd, 6 on 30 Sep, few to 6 Oct; Isle of May, 1 Apr-30 May, max 8 on 6 Apr, 21 Sep-31 Oct, max 6 on 22 Oct.

***Richard's Pipit** Nine records, 3 Shet in spring is exceptional : singles Sumburgh 6 May (ARL), Hascosay 9 June (BHW, BLS) and Lamba Ness, Unst, 20-22 June (RAFKOS); autumn : singles, Whalsay, Shet, 15 Oct (JHS); Fair Isle, 21 Oct (ARL), 11-12 Nov (RAB); Deerness, Ork, 2 Nov (ADKR); Drums, Aber, 3 Oct (PME, RBH, BMH); Isle of May 29 Sep (NKA, DLB, MN).

Meadow Pipit Migration : Shet, mainly Apr, especially 17th, usual return passage, max 100 Skerries 25 Aug; Fair Isle, 1st real influx 40+ on 30 Mar, mainly after mid Apr; Caith, passage Brims 21-23 Apr; Inv, 40 Insh 29 Jan is unusual, present 26 Mar-4 Oct, present Drumnadrochit mid Mar-20 Sep; Angus, peak 40S per hr Arbroath 17 Oct; Isle of May, 1 Apr-21 May, max 500+ on 13 Apr, 21 Aug-31 Oct, max 800+ on 6 Oct; Fife, 2,000N per hr St Andrews 20 Apr; Midl, 325N in 80 mins Musselburgh 13 Apr; E Loth, 100s N Tynninghame 13 Apr; Wig, many 100s Crammog Head-Mull of Galloway 27 Sep.

Tree Pipit Arrivals : 21 Apr, Strathnaver, Suth (also Fair Isle migrant); 22 Apr, Barrhill, Ayr, and 2 Dirleton, E Loth; more 25th-26th but many later in May. Migration : Ber, 12 St Abbs 24 May; E Loth, 10 Bass Rock 10 May; Isle of May, 8 May-7 June, max 500+ on 8th, 1-2 from 21 Aug-7 Sep; Angus, 20 Elliot 9 May; Aber, 3-15 May, max 10 Cruden Bay 14th; Inv, Insh, 1st 2 on 28 Apr, max 25 on 26 May, last 24 Aug; Caith, 3 Achvarasdal 14 May; Fair Isle, 21 Apr-17 June, max 20 on 9th and 22 May, few 30 Aug-4 Sep, 18 Sep-26 Oct, max 4 on 1st; Shet, scarce, 12 May-21 June, max 7 Skerries 13 May, only autumn records 1 Swinnister 20 Sep, 3 on 27th.

***Pechora Pipit** One Fair Isle 10 Oct (RAB, S. G. D. Cook, ARL et al).

***Red-throated Pipit** At least 7 in spring, 4 in autumn is exceptional : 1 Tobermory, Mull, 7 May (RFC); Fair Isle, 2 on 24-25 May, 3 on 26th, 2 on 27th, singles 28th, 29th, 31st, 1 on 4 June, one 8-9th, 2 on 10th (6+ birds), 3 singles 8-12 Sep, 16-17th, 20-24th, 25-26th; Shet, 1 Skerries 14-18 Sep (DJF, CAH, TAW).

Rock Pipit Angus, 6 Montrose 22 Oct, 1st of autumn, increased to 20 by 16 Dec; Fair Isle, influx early Feb. Inland singles : Cobbinshaw, Midl, 4 Feb, 8-14 Nov; Stanley Dam, Renf, 28 Oct.

Scandinavian *A. s. littoralis* : 2 Fetlar 20 Apr.

Water Pipit *A. s. spinoletta* : 1 Thurso, Caith, 25 Apr; 2 Cobbinshaw 8 Nov-29 Dec, 3 on 14 Nov.

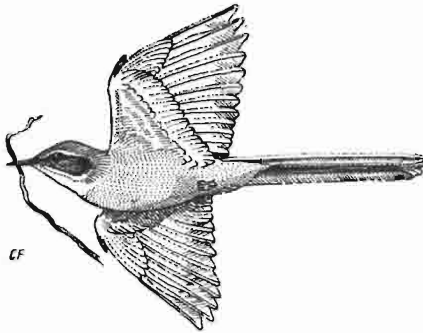
Pied/White Wagtail Pied Wagtail *M. a. yarrellii* breeding : poor season Inv, 1st broods failing due to June snowfall; O Heb, increase; Ork, continued increase; Shet, breeding prs Fetlar, Tingwall, Lerwick and Kergord.

White Wagtail *M. a. alba* breeding : Shet, pr reared 3 young Gutcher, pr Baltasound reared 4 young.

Pied Wagtail migration: Shet, 3 Mar-11 Oct, mainly 16-22 Apr; Fair Isle, few 10 Mar-late May, one 15 Oct; Ork, 1st 4 Mar; Caith, 1st 21 Jan; Inv, Insh 29 Jan-4 Oct, max 60+ on 12 Apr; Wig, 60S per hr Mull of Galloway 30 Aug.

Counts: 100 Glengolly, Caith 6 Sep; 100 Spynie, Moray, 16 Feb; 350 Aberdeen Station 22 Jan; 800 Perth roost 29 Mar, 250+ mid Nov-Dec; 250 Glenalmond 22 Sep, 200+ Balnepburn 26 Sep, 300+ Cairnie Pier 27 Sep; Dunb, 800 Old Kilpatrick 3 Sep; Kirk, 600 Cargenbridge winter.

White Wagtail migration: Shet, 13 Apr-mid May, Aug peaks 50 Whalsay 23 Aug, 20 Skerries 27th; Fair Isle, 15 Apr-23 May, max 9 on 21st, 17 Aug-4 Oct, most 17 Aug-11 Sep, max 45 on 29th; Inv, 20 Lochardil 27 Sep; Perth, passage Apr at roost; Aber, 5 Apr-25 May, max 10 Don est 28 Apr; E Loth, max 6 Tynninghame 27 Apr and 4 May; Arg, 11 Calgary, Mull, 4 May, 30 Tayinloan 25 Apr; Ayr, max 16 Doonfoot 6 Sep, 20 Troon 6 Sep; usual scatter of records elsewhere.



Grey Wagtail Breeding: poor season Dingwall, Ross; Angus, excellent nos. and success; Midl, more than 1974 S Esk; E Loth-Clyde, good nos.

Migration and counts: Shet, singles Clickhimin 1-17 Jan, Whalsay 30 Sep and 24 Oct; Fair Isle, singles 7 Apr, 30-31 Aug, 6 Sep; O Heb, 1 Balranald, N Uist, Aug; Suth, 2 Handa 15 Aug; Inv, Insh 5 on 8 Mar, max 20 on 19 June, last 23 Sep; Angus, passage Elliot from 25 June, max 16 on 29 July; Isle of May, one 11 Apr, 1-2 from 21 Aug-19 Oct; Midl, 20 Roslin 13 Sep.

***Citrine Wagtail Two:** Fair Isle 7-18 Sep (RAB, PJR *et al*); Whalsay 16 Sep (JHS), latter subject to acceptance.

Yellow Wagtail Yellow Wagtail *M. f. flavissima* breeding: bred Canonbie, Dumf; Irvine, Ayr; Kelso and Towford, Rox; 2 prs Grangemouth, Stir; usual scatter single birds (some singing) central and south.

Migration: Shet, four 26 May-27 June, one 18 Aug; Fair Isle, 1-2 on 19-24 Apr, 1-2 daily 29 Apr-9 May, singles 18-19 May, 5 June; Ork, 1 Copinsay 3-4 May; Caih, singles Greenland 14 Apr, Wick 17 Aug, Scrabster 19 Oct; Aber/Kinc, few 25 Apr-15 June, *M. flava* subsp., singly Strathbeg 20 Sep-9 Nov; Isle of May, 1 on 8 May, *M. flava* subsp. 8th and 17 May, 3 on 19th Sep; E Loth, 1st Drum 25 Apr; Ber, 4 Coldstream 18 May; Lan, 1st 2 ♂♂ Bothwell 27 Apr; Dumf, 1st Lochmaben 23 Apr, last 3 Caerlaverock 6 Oct.

Blue-headed Wagtail *M. f. flava*: Shet, Whalsay 20-21 Apr, Lerwick 8-25 June; Fair Isle, ♂ 11 June.

Grey-headed Wagtail *M. f. thunbergi*: Fair Isle, single ♂♂ 1 May, 9th and 11th, daily 25 May-4 June, max 5 ♂♂ 28-29th, ♂ 8 June; Aber, ♂ Newburgh 10 May, 3 ♂♂ on 11th, 1 ♂ St Fergus 15 June.

Waxwing Good nos. Jan-Mar following large invasion autumn 1974 : Kirk, max 6 Stronord 6-8 Feb; Dumf, max 40 Locharbriggs 1 Jan; Dunb, max 7 Helensburgh 27 Mar; 7 Selkirk 6 Feb; Midl, 30 Edinburgh Jan-Mar; Clack, max 30 Gartmorn 9 Jan; Fife, max 12 Kennet Pans 23 Feb; Perth, good nos. max 27 Lecropt 18 Feb; Angus, max 13 Dundee 26 Feb; Aber, max 29 Aberdeen 9 Feb; Inv, max 20 L Mallachie 29 Mar, 18 Drumna-drochit 28 Mar, 20 Inverness 25 Feb.

Spring migration : noticeable passage into May; Shet, 6 records 15 Apr-5 May, late singles Fetlar 3 June, Yell early June; Ork, 5 Kirkwall 18-22 Apr; O Heb, 1 Willow Glen 24 Apr; Caith, 1 Castletown 21 May; Inv, 1 Rhum 1-2 May, 40 Inverness 21 Apr, 12 on 3 May, 7 Balloch 10 May, last 15th, 56 Tulloch 25 Apr, last pr 18 May, ♂ Abernethy Forest 30 June; Moray, last Forres 8 May; Aber, last 8 Crimond 16 May; Angus, 18 Dundee 23-28 Apr; Selk, 20 Galashiels 15 Apr, pr displaying, ♂ feeding ♀, Gattonside, Rox, 1 Apr; Dumf, last 3 Canonbie 29 Apr.

Autumn, another strong invasion mainly Nov-Dec, earliest 30 Sep; Shet, 1 Whalsay 30 Sep, next 11 Oct, mainly from 16 Oct, max 25 Lerwick 14 Nov; Fair Isle, small nos. 12 Oct-14 Nov, max 9 on 22nd; Ork, 1st Kirkwall 16 Oct, max 30 Kirkwall 1 Nov; O Heb, max 10 Laxdale 7 Nov; Caith, 17 Thurso 17 Oct, mainly 2-11 Nov; Suth/Ross, from 19 Oct, max 12 Lochinver 20 Nov, 20S Kintradwell 4 Nov; Inv, 1st 29 Oct, max 20 Inverness 5 Nov, 72 Rothiemurchus 4 Dec; Moray, 51 Elgin 17 Nov, 46 Lossiemouth 25 Dec; Aber, 1st 22 Oct, 36 Old Aberdeen 24-25 Nov, 50+ 27 Dec; Angus, 4 Tannadice 22 Oct, max 37 Montrose 14 Nov; Perth, 4 Almondbank 22 Oct, max 50 Perth 28 Dec; Midl, max 30-40 Eskbank 8-9 Dec; E Loth, 1st Aberlady 4 Oct, max 16 Dirleton 28 Nov; Selkirk, max 20 Selkirk 10 Nov, 30 Galashiels 3 Dec; Arg, 18 Connel 26 Nov; Ayr, 16 Alloway mid-Nov; Dumf, 25 Kirtlebridge 15 Nov; Kirk, from 11 Nov, max 8 New Galloway 24 Nov.

Great Grey Shrike About 55 Jan-16 May, scarcer in autumn, c24 from 8 Oct; 3+ late spring : singles Fair Isle 1-5 May; Parkhill, Aber, 16 May and Cambo Ness, Fife, 10 May; noticeable spring passage, Shet, 10-23 Apr, max 2-3 Whalsay and 2-3 Unst 20th; Fair Isle, 1-2 daily 18-26 Apr; Ork, 3 birds 21-24 Apr. Autumn mainly Oct, some in Dec, only singles Glen Clova, Angus, 19th and Glen Afton, Ayr 20-27th.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov
Shet/FI/Ork	—	—	—	19	8	2
Caith-Inv	3	1	1	1	1	—
Aber	1	1	3	1	1	—
Perth/I of May/Fife	1	1	3	1	5	—
E Loth/Selk	—	1	—	2	—	—
Dunb/Stir/Ayr	2	3	2	—	3	1
Dumf/Kirk	2	10	2	3	2	3

***Woodchat Shrike** Immature Fair Isle 13-20 Aug (RAB, PJR, DW *et al*).

***Red-backed Shrike** Spring migration : Shet, singles Skerries 9 May, 17th and 25-28th, Unst 7 and 9 June, 2 Whalsay 8 June; Fair Isle, 2 on 18 May, 3 on 19th; singles 21st, 22nd, 25th 2 on 5-6 June, one 8th; Ork, 1 Orphir 29-30 May; Caith, ♂ Ackergill 27 June; Moray, ♂ Orton 22 June; Aber ♂ + ♀ Cove 20 June, ♂ Don est 24th; Isle of May, 2 on 26-27 May, 2 on 3 June, 3 on 4th, singles 7th, 10-11th; Ber, 1 St Abbs 11 June. Summer : 1 Uyeasound, Shet, 3 July.

Autumn : Fair Isle, 1-2 daily 9-27 Aug, 1 on 30 Sep-1 Oct; Shet, singles Whalsay 25-27 Sep and 3 Oct, Hillwell 4 Oct; Caith, ♂ Mey 14 Aug.

Starling Migration : Fair Isle, strong passage early Mar and mid Apr, peak 2,000+ on 14-15 Apr, 1,200 on 20th; Ork, 400 off sea Deerness 23 Oct; Aber, passage at oil rigs in North Sea 4 Mar, 12-15 Apr.

Counts : 1,500 Knab, Shet, 16 Apr; 2,000 Thurso, Caith, 4 Aug; 5,000 Leith Docks, Midl, winter; Arg, 6,000 Islay 11 Nov, 3,000 Machrihanish Dec; Renf, 14,000 Rowbank 24 Aug; Ayr, 8,000 Heart Loch, Maybole 9 Sep.

Albinos : Reswallie, Angus, and Inverness.

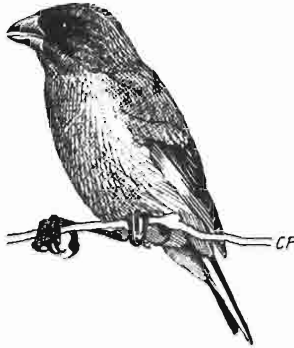
***Rose-coloured Starling** Six ads July-Aug : singles Fair Isle 28 July-16 Aug (RAB *et al*); Finstown, Ork, 17-26 July (DL, EJW *et al*); O Heb, Manish, Harris, 15 Aug (BT), Reef, Lewis, 12 Aug (AL); Insheigra, Suth, 14 July (CW, JW); Fort William, Inv, 28-29 Aug (R. M. Morrison).

***Tennessee Warbler** Two : Fair Isle, 1st 6-18 Sep, ringed 18th, another ringed 24 Sep (RAB, PJR, C. D. Heard, G. Walbridge *et al*); 1st and 2nd British records of this North American wood warbler (plate 19a).

***Bobolink** One Skerries, Shet, 18 Sep (CAH, IS, TAW *et al*); 1st Scottish and 4th British record of this North American icterid.

Hawfinch Breeding : records suggestive of breeding Hirsell, Ber; 3 sites E Loth-Midl; Perth, pr with 4 young Perth 28 June, probably bred Almond-bank and Strathallan, various other sightings.

Angus, 1 Reswallie 5 June; Aberdeen, 2 on 22 Jan; Inv, 2 Achdaluie 13 Sep; Fair Isle, one 14 May; Shet, singles Fetlar 3 May, Halligarth 13 May.



Greenfinch Migration : Shet, 2 Whalsay 20 Apr; Fair Isle, better year, 18 Apr-18 May, max 3 on 20-21 Apr, 7 on 30 Sep, 8 on 1 Oct, occasional to 18 Nov; Ork, 1 Hoy Aug; O Heb, 4 Leurbost 3 Jan; Suth, 1 Handa 19 Apr (1st record); Isle of May, 16 Mar-17 May, max 4 on 15 Apr, 10-29 Oct, max 5 on 20th.

Peak counts : 450 Forres, Moray, 17 Aug; 400 Seafield, Midl, end Feb; 500+ Gullane, E Loth, Nov-Dec; 500 Hartwood, Dumf 13 Mar.

Goldfinch Breeding : good nos. Ayr, Arran, Borders, E Loth, Midl and Fife; Arg, pr bred Tobermory, Mull; Aber, best breeding season yet, e.g. 10 prs Garlogie.

Counts : 50 Kingscross, Arran 14 Sep; E Loth, 100 Aberlady 31 Aug; Perth, 50+ Lower Glenalmond 9 Feb, 60+ Invergowrie 21 Oct; Aber/N Kinc, 45 Skateraw 4 Oct; Ross, 40 Munloch 2 Oct; Suth, 10+ Altnaharra 31 Aug; O Heb, 15 Stornoway 4 Jan.

Migration : Shet, singles Foula 4 June, Whalsay 23-26 Oct, Kergord 1 Nov (3 in year is unusual); Fair Isle one 22-26 Oct (5th ever); Suth, 1-4 Handa 5-12th Apr (1st record); Isle of May, singles 24 Apr, 6 May (2), 13th, 16th, 17th (2).

Siskin Breeding : nos. high N to Suth, presence L Maree islands, W Ross, 21 June is new.

Counts : 50 Carlingwark, Kirk, 26 Oct; Perth, 400+ Glenalmond 13 Feb, 500 Dunkeld 2 Jan; 100 Hazelhead, Aber, Sep; 250 Kinloch, Suth, 2 Nov; considerable nos. ringed Inv-Dingwall areas feeding at peanuts.

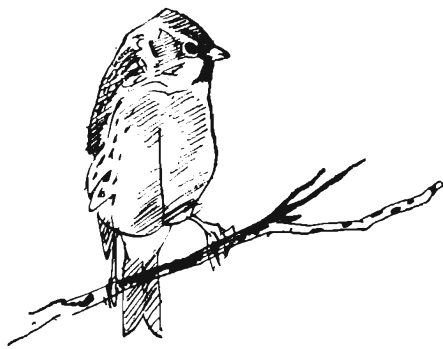
Migration : Shet, 14-23 Apr, max 20 Aith 20th, stragglers to 15 July, few 1 Oct-15 Nov, max 8 Voe 29 Oct; Fair Isle, small nos. 14-30 Apr, max 3, few 20 Sep-15 Nov, max 3; Ork, max 4 N Ronaldsay 21 Apr; Aber/N Kinc, passage 24 Oct-19 Nov, max 32S Stonehaven 12 Nov; Isle of May, 18 Sep-23 Oct, max 14 on 18 Sep.

Linnet Counts : Arg, 200+ Tiree 24 Oct, 300 Peninver 16 Aug; E Loth, 200 Longniddry 21 Aug-31 Oct is low; Midl, 200 Seafield end July; Perth, 300 Muirton 24 Feb; Nairn, 500 on 19 Jan; Ross, 260 Munloch 25 Mar.

Migration : more than usual in N; Shet, c30 18 Apr-25 June, max 7 Whalsay 30 Apr-4 May; Fair Isle, 7 on 20 Apr, few daily to 1 June, singles 5 days Oct; Ork, 6 Toab 15 Nov.

Twite Counts : Wig, 100+ L Ryan 16 Nov; Ayr, 200 Turnberry 1 Feb; Arg, 200 Tayinloan 3 Dec; E Loth, up to 10 Aberlady Nov-Dec; Stir, 50 Gargunock Hills 12 Oct; Perth, 100 Blackford 30 Apr is late for large flock; Angus, 130 Glen Clova 29 Nov; Aber, more than usual Nov-Dec, max 250 Gairnshiel 16 Nov; Suth, 400 Brora Sep; Fair Isle, 300 Sep-early Oct.

Passage : Fair Isle, 1st influx 22 Feb, emigration mid Oct; Isle of May 14 Mar-20 Apr, max 50 on 25-28 Mar.



Redpoll Breeding : Dunb, continued noticeable increase; Midl, increased, e.g. 50% up on 1974 Newlandrig; Inv, poor year Insh; Suth, pr bred Handa; Ork, pr bred successfully Hoy, with young 6 June (1st record), 2 prs on territory Balfour Castle 17 May.

Counts : Perth, 300+ Torrie Forest 21 Oct; Inv, 300 L an Eilein 29 Mar; Ross, 200 Rosemarkie 7 Dec.

Mealy Redpoll *A. f. flammea* : Shet, scattered records 16 Apr-2 July, max 8 Weisdale 30 Apr, 1st 6 Foula 6 Sep, mainly early Oct, massive influx from 11th, peaks 100 Yell 16th, 100 Whalsay 17th and 60 Unst 5 Nov, scarce after mid Nov; Fair Isle, very few in spring, 4 on 26 Sep-3 Oct, huge influx 9 Oct-21 Nov, 4 on 9th increased to 350 on 12th, 500 on 15th, 100-200 to 26th, 80 on 1 Nov possibly new arrivals as also 30-40 on 9-12th; Ork, many late Sep-Oct, max 100 Kirkwall; Caith, 6-8 Thurso 23 Oct; Ross, 20 Culbockie 17 Dec, 12 Arpafeelie 20 Dec; 2 Inverness 26 Dec; 3 Speymouth, Moray 30 Nov; 3 Don est, Aber 3 Nov, one 7 Nov; Angus, 1 Glen Clova 29 Nov; Isle of May, 2-23 Oct, max 70 on 22nd;

Fife, 3 Tentsmuir 26 Oct; Midl, 6 Blackford 20 Nov, 14 on 23rd; Lan, 15 Carmunnock 20 Dec.

Greenland Redpoll *A. f. rostrata* : 3 Fair Isle 11 Sep-3 Oct.

***Arctic Redpoll** Singles ringed Fair Isle 14-15 Nov (RAB) and N Ronaldsay, Ork, 15 Oct (JMBK). Sight records of birds showing characters of this species : Fair Isle, 2 on 9-10 Oct, 3 on 11-12th, one to 18 Oct; 3 Raggra, Caith, 16 Dec (PMC).

Bullfinch Breeding : increasing Arran; bred Smerral, Caith. Count : 32 at 1,000 ft in heather Sheriffmuir, Stir, 23 Feb.

Migration : strong influx Northern *P. p. pyrrhula* in North Isles : Shet, singles Lerwick 16th and 20 Apr, Unst 20 Apr, 3 Whalsay 20 Apr, 1 to 29th, 22+ 17-28 Oct, max 3 Kergord 17th, 6 Scalloway 24th, singles Kergord 9 Nov, Scalloway 1 Dec, 2 Foula 14 Nov; Fair Isle, 1st 14 Oct, 2 on 15th, daily 18-28th, max 14 on 22nd (very high total), late 3 on 8 Nov; Ork, 6 birds 19-27 Oct, 2 Kirkwall 15 Nov-Dec; Caith, 1 Reay 6 Dec.

***Scarlet Rosefinch** None in spring, c26 in autumn : Shet, 4 Skerries 24 Aug, 2 on 7 Sep, singles 8-9th, 12-14th (DJF, CAH, TAW), Fetlar 28 Aug (MCR, HP), Whalsay 3 Sep (JHS), Grutness 29 Sep-1 Oct (PR, JW), Uyeasound 26-28 Aug (IKS, ISp); Fair Isle, (13+), 13 Aug, 31st-6 Sep, 7th (4), 3 to 10th, 11th, 17-18th, 20th (2), one to 24th, 25-27th (2), 28th-30th, 10 Oct, 20-24th (RAB *et al*); Ork, Copinsay 4 Aug (GB, MASB).

Crossbill Breeding : Aber/N Kinc, Common Crossbills *L. c. curvirostra* bred Glen Dye, very good breeding year for Scottish Crossbill *L. c. scotica* Deeside; reasonable nos. in breeding season Suth/Ross S to Perth (better year), Arg, Dumf, Kirk; Inv, Crossbill subsp. family party newly out of nest Kiltarlity 25 Dec.

Migration (at least some Oct-Nov possibly Parrot Crossbills) : Shet, 1 Scalloway 3 Nov; Fair Isle, 4 on 21 June, one 22 Oct; O Heb, 2 Stornoway 22 Apr, Suth, several parties (two types) Borgie 26 Oct; Caith, 1 Skail 2 Nov; Moray, 3 WNW Burchhead 26 Oct; Aber, 3 Durris 12 Oct, 8 Hill of Fare 15 Nov; E Loth, 2 Tyninghame 10 Apr; Arg, 6 Glen Aros, Mull, 11 Oct; Dunb, 2 Wards 9 Oct.

***Parrot Crossbill** ♂ Grutness, Shet, 22 Oct, killed by cat (DC). [Midl, 15 birds arrived Gladhouse, Midl, 26 Oct, stayed to end of year, had heavy bills and thought to be this species.]

Chaffinch Bred Balallan and Morsgail, Lewis, O Heb, unusual away from Stornoway.

Max counts : 900 Glen Fruin, Dunb, 7 Dec; Midl, 1,000 Portmore 4 Jan; Kinr, 1,500+ Hilton of Aldie 7 Dec; Angus, 1,000 Glen Clova 29 Nov-29 Dec.

Migration : Shet, mainly 9-23 Apr, max 40 Whalsay 20-21st, stragglers to 8 June, 1st 21 Sep, peak only 8 Skerries 1 Oct; Fair Isle, nos low 13 Apr-16 May, max 35 on 15 Apr, 12 Sep-15 Nov, max 14 on 30 Sep, 15 on 1 Nov; Isle of May, 24 Mar-24 Apr, only 1-3, 8 Sep-24 Oct, max 4 on 24 Oct.

Brambling Winter counts, rather scarce : Ayr, 50 Castlehill 29 Jan; Peeb, max 50 Portmore 12 Jan; Perth, 200 L of Lowes 19 Jan, 75 Glenalmond 18 Jan; Caith, 60 Isauld 22 Feb.

Spring passage : Shet, good passage 12-23 Apr, peaks 150 Kergord 20th, 80 Whalsay 18th-20th, few into May, last Kergord 13 June; Fair Isle, 14 Apr-28 May, mainly mid Apr, max 130 on 21st; Angus, 200 Glen Clova 7 Apr; Isle of May, 17 Apr-13 May, max 50 on 19th; Inv, ♂ Abernethy Forest 5 June.

Autumn migration : Shet, early records from 16 Aug (Whalsay), small arrival 30 Sep-5 Oct, max 10 Whalsay, mid Oct influx, peaks 100 Whalsay 17th, 85 Kergord 20th, new arrival 1 Nov when 100 Grutness and 40

Strand; Fair Isle, 1st 20 Sep, mainly 2 Oct (30), influx mid Oct, 350 on 14-15th, 220 on 22nd, small numbers Nov; Ork, 20 Mainland 15 Oct, more mid-Nov, 120 Finstown 16th; Caith, from 17 Oct, 100 Shebster 6 Nov increased to 350 in Dec; Inv, 100 Drumnadrochit Dec; Angus, 300 Glen Clova 29 Nov-29 Dec; Kinr, 1 Vane 9 Sep; Isle of May, 1st 7 Sep, max 90 on 14 Oct; Midl, 2,000 Gladhouse area 9 Nov-Dec; E Loth, max 54 Aberlady 29 Oct; Kirk, 100-200 Dalry 7-14 Nov.

Corn Bunting Breeding : now absent West Kilbride, Ayr (5 prs in 1966) and Oronsay, Arg.

Counts and passage : 100 Whithorn, Wig, 18 Nov; 70 Drem, E Loth, 25 Jan; Isle of May, one 13 July; Aber, 130 Meikle 14 Dec; Ross, 50 Farness 20 Dec; Shet, migrants away from Mainland, Fetlar 4 May, Skerries 9 May, Whalsay 2 on 12 May, 4 on 25th, last 2 on 8 June; none Fair Isle.

Yellowhammer Breeding : more E Loth; pr bred Ork; Ross, still feeding young Black Isle 10 Sep. Counts : 50 Ardmores, Dumb, 29 Nov; 150 Dirleton, E Loth, Sep-Oct.

Migration : Shet, singles Eshaness 11 Apr, Whalsay ♀ 17 Apr, ♂ 18th, Unst 19th, Scalloway and Bressay 20th, Kergord 1 May, Fetlar 11 June; Fair Isle, 5 singles 16 Apr-28 May, 1 on 21 Oct, 6 on 22nd, some to 28th, singles 5th and 14-20 Nov; Ork, 2 N Ronaldsay 21 Oct; Isle of May, one 20 Oct, 3 on 22nd, one 23rd.

***Black-headed Bunting** ♂ Skerries, Shet, 22-29 Aug (DJF, BM *et al*).

*†**Red-headed Bunting** All ♂♂ : Shet, N Roe 13-17 July, Foula 19 July, Skerries 11-18 Sep; Fair Isle 5 Aug, 6-9th (2), 10th; Ork, Kirkwall 21 June, N Ronaldsay July; Suth, Handa 1 June; O Heb, Druidibeg 5 Aug; Ayr, Ailsa Craig 21 May.

***Yellow-breasted Bunting** Two Fair Isle : one 7-18 Sep, another 17-18th (RAB, P. Kennerley, G. Walbridge *et al*).

***Ortolan** Only 7 singles (5 in spring) : Shet, Whalsay 16 May (JHS, BM), Skerries 20 Sep (TAW); Fair Isle, 14-20 May, 27-29th (dead) (RAB *et al*); Isle of May, 8 May (IG *et al*), 13 May (JMSA *et al*), 7 Sep (PNJC *et al*).

***Rustic Bunting** Seven singles (5 in spring) : Shet, Skerries 27 May (RWA), ♂ Fetlar 27-28 May (B de K, MCR *et al*); Fair Isle, ♂ 26-29 May (GJB *et al*), ♂ 3-6 June (RAB, PJR, H. Nash *et al*), imm. 10-25 Oct (RAB, BM, PJR *et al*), ♂ 8 Nov (S. Thomson *et al*); Isle of May, 30 Sep-6 Oct (NKA, DLB, MN *et al*) (plate 20 b and c).

***Little Bunting** Seven birds (2 in spring) : Fair Isle, 4-5 May, 17 May, 29 Sep-1 Oct, 2 from 10-16th, 1 to 25 Oct, one 11-19 Nov (RAB, PJR *et al*); E Ross, 1 trapped at Reed Bunting reedbed roost Dingwall 16-17 Nov (ARM *et al*).

Reed Bunting Breeding : 1st proved breeding Rhum 16 June. Counts : 90 Barr Loch, Renf, 19 Oct; 40 Perth 14 Jan; Ork, 40 Skail 22 Sep.

Migration : Shet, light passage mid Apr, max 16 Whalsay 20th, few migrants 17-26 Oct, max 5 Whalsay 22nd; Fair Isle slight passage from 5 Apr, but 45 on 16 May, 15 on 17th, 30 Sep-28 Oct, max 4; Isle of May, max 70 on 8 May (highest ever).

Lapland Bunting Spring passage : Angus, ♂ Buddon 8 Apr; Fair Isle, singles 17th and 26 Apr, 6th (♂), 18-19 May (♂), 8 June (♀); Shet, ♂ Fetlar 10 June.

Autumn : Shet, 3 Skerries 1 Sep, one 14-15th, 3 on 17th, 1 Whalsay 17 Oct; Fair Isle, almost daily 2 Sep-10 Oct, 10-15 some days, 20 on 24 Sep, 1-3 on 17-27 Oct; Ork, 3 Finstown 1 Nov; Suth, 2 Strath Point 10 Sep; Moray, 2 Speymouth 18 Oct; Aber, 2 Forvie 7 Oct, 5S St Combs 13 Nov; Isle of May, one 10 Oct; Fife Ness, 3 on 1 Nov, 1 on 2nd.

Snow Bunting Breeding : Cairngorms at least 3 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, one

brood known to have fledged, b/5 on 3 July; Inv, pr on another mountain 1 June and 4 ♂♂ and 2 ♀♀ 6 June in W but not proved breeding; Angus, 1 singing ♂ late May; pr summered Fair Isle, no suggestion of nesting.

Winter-spring: Ayr, 40+ Dallegles 19 Jan; Arg, 90 L Lussa 30 Jan-3 Feb; E Loth, 70 Fenton Barns 25 Jan; Midl, peak 88 Musselburgh 18 Jan, last 2 on 13 Apr; Fife, 70 Crail 12 Jan; Angus, 200 Glen Clova Jan, last 2 Elliot 16 Apr; Aber, 250 Balmedie and 400 Don est 17 Feb; Moray, 300 Knockando 31 Jan; Ross, last Achnahaird 9-10 May; Inv, 250 Daviot 22 Jan; Caith, 2,000 Georgemas 16 Jan, 1,500 Janetstown 24 Feb, 650 on 14 Mar; O Heb, 400 Valley Strand 15-22 Feb, last 2 Balranald 4 May; Fair Isle/Shet, scatter of May-June records, e.g. 12 Gulberwick 2 June, 12 Unst 1 June.

Autumn migration: Shet, from 5 Sep (5 Unst), mainly Nov.; 1,000 S Mainland 16th and 30th; Fair Isle, from 6 Sep (20), peaks, 300 on 28 Oct, 400 on 5 Nov, 1,200 on 6th; Aber, 1st 20 Sep, 400 Don est 18 Dec; Isle of May, 1st 12-15 Sep; E Loth, 1st Aberlady 27 Sep.

*†Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena* ♂ Foula, Shet, 12-23 June (RF); 1 Quothquan, Lan, 19 July-19 Aug (RE-H).

House Sparrow Counts: Unst, Shet, census revealed 637 on 22 June; 90 Skerries 28 Aug.

Tree Sparrow Breeding: ♂ mating with ♀ House Sparrow Elgin, Moray, 13 June; nos. down Stornoway, O Heb.

Migration and counts: Shet, c12 10 May-29 July, max 3 Unst 22 June; Fair Isle, singles 7 Mar, 20-22 Apr, some May-June, max 11 on 19-22 May, stragglers to 5 Sep, 1-2 on 11-20 Nov; Aber, 50 Ythan 8 Feb; Isle of May, 26 May, 19 June, 12 Oct (28, highest ever).

Additions to 1973 report

Spotted Crake One Bridgend, Islay, Arg, 31 Dec (KV).

Nightingale ♂ in song L Skerrols, Islay, Arg, 28 Apr (KV).

Richard's Pipit One The Oa, Islay, Arg, 10 Sep (L. Catlin, KV).

Current Literature

Recent material of Scottish interest includes:

Ornithological interest of some Stewartry lochs. Joan E. Howie, 1975. Nature Conservancy Council. (May be borrowed from NCC Edinburgh, Balloch and Castle Douglas).

Angus Wildlife Review 1975. Norman K. Atkinson and Adam B. Ritchie (eds.) 1976. Dundee Museum, price 25p. (Includes Rook census and Angus and South Kincardine Bird Report).

Protein polymorphism in the egg albumen of Red Grouse (*L. lagopus scoticus*). B. A. Henderson, 1976. *Heredity* 36: 413-5. (Study at Ban-chory).

Production, dieback and grazing of Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) in relation to numbers of Red Grouse (*Lagopus l. scoticus*) and Mountain Hares (*Lepus timidus*) in north-east Scotland. Robert L. Moss and G. R. Miller, 1976. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 13: 369-377.

Shetland Bird Report 1975. B. Marshall and P. K. Kinnear (comps.) 1976. Shetland Bird Club. (Available from SOC Bird Bookshop price 90p plus order charge).

Identification from measurements of small petrel remains in gull and skua pellets. John A. Love, 1976. *Bird Study* 23: 162. (Data from Foula).

Breeding success of Red-throated Divers on Hascosay. Bryan L. Sage, 1976. *British Birds* 69: 409.

Orkney Bird Report 1975-76. David Lea (ed.), Easter Sower, Orphir, Orkney, KW17 2RE. (No price given.)

Notice and Requests for Information

Isle of May Bird Observatory Prospective visitors should note that the bookings secretary is now Mrs Rosemary Cowper, 9 Oxfangs Road, Edinburgh, EH10 7BG (telephone 031-445-2489).

Birds of St Kilda Dr M. P. Harris (Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Banchory, Kincardineshire, AB3 4BY) is updating the bird list published by Williamson and Boyd in their book *St Kilda Summer* and would like to receive any recent records that have not found their way to the SOC recorder (Dr I. Pennie) or himself.

Birds of the Western Isles. Mr W. A. J. Cunningham ("Aros", 10 Barony Square, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, PA87 2TQ) is compiling a book and would be glad to receive any unpublished records (St Kilda excepted, see above).

Exceptional seabird movements of autumn 1976 A paper on the recent large movements of seabirds, particularly shearwaters and skuas, is planned for *Scottish Birds*. While most Scottish records will already have been submitted for the Bird Report, it would be helpful if observers would also send details, including direction of movement, times of observation, weather etc., to Mr A. S. Dowsett, 'Heronsbrook', Foulis, Evanton, Ross and Cromarty. Records from the wider sea and coastal area of the North Sea and eastern North Atlantic would also be useful.

Goosanders Some 270 young Goosanders have been trapped and ringed in Northumberland in recent years. In 1976, in addition to ringing, a wing-tagging scheme was started. Details of sightings of ring-tagged Goosanders would be gratefully received and details of marking sent by return by E. R. Meek, 7 Shaftoe Way, Dinnington, Northumberland.

The Scottish Ornithologists' Club

TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

28th - 30th January 1977

PROGRAMME

Friday 28th January

- 4.30-9 p.m. Conference Office in MacRobert Centre, University of Stirling, open for members and their guests to register and collect name cards and Annual Dinner tickets.
- 6-7 p.m. Supper in MacRobert Centre restaurant.
- 6.15 p.m. Meeting of Council.
- 8.15-9.15 p.m. FILM AND SLIDE PROGRAMME in Lecture Theatre over Link Bridge (see 10 on plan).
- 9.15 p.m. to midnight Lounges in the MacRobert Centre open for informal discussion (late licence).

Saturday 29th January

- 8.45-9.15 a.m. Conference Office in the MacRobert Centre open for registration.
- 9.20 a.m. Official opening of the Conference by the President, Andrew T. Macmillan, in the MacRobert Theatre.
- 9.30-10.15 a.m. LECTURE, "Birds of Prey in Scotland" by Roy Dennis.
- 10.15-11 a.m. LECTURE, "The Conservation of the Golden Eagle" by Richard Balharry.
- 11-11.30 a.m. INTERVAL for coffee and biscuits.
- 11.30 a.m.-12.10 p.m. LECTURE, "Factors affecting Sparrowhawk populations" by Dr Ian Newton.
- 12.10-12.55 p.m. LECTURE "Migration of raptors in Europe and the Middle East" by Richard Porter.
- 1 p.m. INTERVAL for lunch.
- 2 p.m. Afternoon free for private excursions.
- 3 p.m. Meeting of Local Recorders in room beside Conference Office.
- 4 p.m. Tea.
- 5.30 p.m. 40th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLUB in Lecture Theatre over Link Bridge (see 10 on plan).
Business :
(1) Apologies for absence.
(2) Approval of Minutes of 39th Annual General Meeting of the Club held at Stirling University on 24th January 1976 (see *Scot. Birds* 9 : 80).
(3) Matters arising from Minutes.
(4) Report of Council for Session 39.
(5) Approval of accounts for Session 39.
(6) Appointment of Auditor.
(7) Election of new Members of Council. The Council recommends the following elections :
T. Irving and the Hon. D. N. Weir to succeed F. D. Hamilton and B. S. Turner who are due to retire by rotation.
(8) Any other business.
- 7 for 7.30 p.m. ANNUAL DINNER in the restaurant of the Pathfoot building (dress informal).

Sunday 30th January

- 9.30-11 a.m. A series of short lectures on ornithological research in Scotland will be given.
Dr Malcolm Castle will talk on the Scottish results of the BTO's 1975 National Survey of Rookeries.
Norman Atkinson will talk on "Little Terns"
and
John Love will talk on "The Return of the Sea Eagle to Rhum".
- 11-11.30 a.m. INTERVAL for coffee and biscuits.
- 11.30 a.m. FILM "The Shadow of the Falcon".
- 12.30 p.m. CLOSING remarks by the President.
(approx.)

- 1 p.m. LUNCH.
2 p.m. CONFERENCE disperses; informal private excursions.

Conference Office

Outwith the registration hours the Conference Office will be open during most of the weekend for members to see the exhibits. A wide selection of new books in the S.O.C. Bird Bookshop will be on display for purchase or orders, and paintings by wildlife artists will be displayed for sale in the same room. In addition to exhibits by various organisations, Messrs Charles Frank Ltd. will have their usual extensive selection of binoculars and telescopes.

Film and Slide Programme

The programme from 8.15 to 9.15 p.m. on Friday evening is intended to give members and guests an opportunity of showing 2" x 2" slides or 16 mm films. These must however be submitted beforehand to the Conference Film Committee and should be sent by 21st January at the latest to the Club Secretary, 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BT. The slides should be titled and sent with brief notes on what will be said about them, to enable the Committee to make a selection and to form a good programme.

INFORMATION

- (1) **Location** The Conference will be held in the University of Stirling, and members will be staying in the Murray Hall of Residence. The accommodation consists of single rooms, each with wash-hand basin, grouped round showers and bathrooms, etc. These residences are low rise buildings but have no lifts. There are no catering facilities, apart from coffee and tea making equipment, in the Halls. Soap and towels are provided. Apart from the Annual Dinner (see below) all meals will be taken in the MacRobert Centre restaurant and will be self-service.
- (2) **Reservations** Members intending to be present at any part of the Conference must complete the enclosed Booking Form and return it to the Club Secretary (not Stirling University) by Wednesday, 5th January 1977. The Conference charge for the whole weekend, excluding the Annual Dinner, will be £15.75 inclusive of V.A.T. There are no service charges.
- (3) **Annual Dinner** This will be held in the Pathfoot Building restaurant. **Tickets must be applied for in advance** whether staying at the University or elsewhere (see Booking Form). The supplementary charge for the Annual Dinner is £4.35 including V.A.T. (no service charge); two glasses of red or white wine are included.
- (4) **Other meals** Non-residents may obtain Friday evening supper and lunch on both days at £1.70 per meal including V.A.T. (see Booking Form), also morning coffee at 25p per day.
- (5) **Registration** Everyone attending the Conference must register at the Conference Office (for opening times see Programme). The Registration Fee will be £1.25 for those attending the whole Conference, or 75p if attending one day only. Members attending only the Annual General Meeting are not required to pay a Registration Fee.
- (6) **Information Sheets** If required in advance notes about the facilities at Stirling University, together with a plan of the buildings, will be sent to all those attending the Conference on receipt of an s.a.e. (see booking form).

- (7) **Car parking** There are ample car parks on the University campus; parking on the campus roads is forbidden. Neither the University nor the Club can accept liability for cars or property brought to the Conference.
- (8) **Camping** There is a camping and caravan park about 2 miles east of the rear entrance to the University on the A91. Details can be obtained from the Proprietor, Mr G. McKerracher, Witches Craig Farm, Blairlogie, Stirling FK9 5PX (tel. Stirling 4947) and with whom all bookings should be made. Members are not allowed to camp in the University grounds nor live in caravans or caravettes parked in the car parks or grounds.

NEW SECRETARY - STIRLING BRANCH

Members are asked to note that the new Secretary of the Stirling Branch is Mr A. B. Mitchell, 10 Kenilworth Court, Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire FK9 4EJ (tel. 078 683 2461).

INVERNESS BRANCH EXCURSIONS

Saturday 12th February 1977 CAIRNGORMS AND LOCH GARTEN. Leader: Roy Dennis. Meet South Kessock Ferry at 9 a.m. (Lunch and tea).

Saturday 9th April LOCH FLEET AND GOLSPIE. Leader: Donnie Macdonald. Meet South Kessock Ferry at 9 a.m. (Lunch and tea).

Saturday 14th May HANDA ISLAND. Leader: David McAllister. Meet South Kessock Ferry at 7.30 a.m. (Lunch and tea).

Sunday 12th June "THE HIGH TOPS". Leader: Roy Dennis. Meet South Kessock Ferry at 9 a.m. (Lunch and tea).

Names and further information from Mrs J. Morrison, 83 Dochfour Drive, Inverness IV1 5ED (tel. Inverness 32666). Please send s.a.e. if writing.

WEEKEND EXCURSION TO DUMFRIES

The annual weekend excursion to the Solway goose grounds has been arranged with the County Hotel, Dumfries, from Friday, 25th to Sunday 27th February 1977.

Accommodation: inclusive terms £16.30 (including service charge and V.A.T.) as follows: bed on Friday 27th; breakfast, packed lunch, dinner and bed on Saturday 28th; breakfast and packed lunch on Sunday 29th. Dinner on Friday night is £3.30 extra per person (including service charge and V.A.T.). A limited number of rooms with private bathrooms are available for the additional charge of £1.20 per night.

Members may bring guests and should book direct with the Manager, County Hotel, Dumfries (tel. 5401), notifying him that they are attending the Club excursion. Members should also advise the Hotel in advance if they require Dinner on the Friday night.

Those not staying at the County Hotel are invited to attend an informal meeting at the Hotel on Friday at 8.30 p.m., when details of the weekend excursions will be announced. An informal programme of slides will be shown on the Saturday evening. Members or guests who may have slides of interest are asked to bring them to the Hotel, and to contact the Club Secretary on the Friday evening to discuss their inclusion in the programme. A selection of books from the Bird Bookshop will be taken the Hotel for sale during both evenings. It is advisable to bring warm clothing, gum boots if possible, and thermos flasks for the excursions.

WEEKEND EXCURSION IN ARGYLL

The Stirling Branch is arranging a winter weekend in Argyll. Following the success of last year's self catering weekend in a cottage near Ford, it has been decided to hold the excursion in the same place. It will be from the evening of Friday 4th March until the afternoon of Sunday 6th March. Those attending require to provide their own bedding and food. The cost of the accommodation is likely to be approximately £3.00 per head for the weekend. Further information can be obtained from the branch secretary, A. B. Mitchell, 10 Kenilworth Court, Bridge of Allan, FK9 4EJ. The number of places will be limited. Please send s.a.e.

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 Thursday, 3rd March 1977. There will be competitions and a raffle. Tickets, price £1.75 per person, will be available up to 21st February 1977 on application **with remittance** to Miss R. Beckett, 30 Maybole Road, Ayr. Please enclose s.a.e. for confirmation of booking.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

An International Conference sponsored by the British Ornithologists' Union, British Trust for Ornithology, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Seabird Group, Scottish Ornithologists' Club and Wildfowl Trust will be held at the University of Aberdeen from 26th-28th March 1977.

The conference is entitled 'The changing sea-bird populations of the North Atlantic', and its purpose is to enable the many workers on sea-birds in Europe and on the eastern seaboard of North America to meet and find out about each others' current research. Members of the sponsoring societies, and others interested in the subject, are encouraged to attend, the number only being limited by the accommodation available.

The morning topics are:

Saturday: POPULATION ECOLOGY. Auks and gulls have been selected as the two groups to be covered.

Sunday: HUMAN INFLUENCES. Fisheries, oil developments and chemical pollution.

Monday: SURVEYS. Birds at sea and the use of aerial techniques.

Details of accommodation and costs, as well as booking forms, are available from Dr Amicia Melland, British Ornithologists' Union, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY. Although no elaborate field trips will be organized in connection with this conference, an expedition to a local, mainly seabird colony, may be arranged on the Tuesday.

Branch and Group News

Inverness

In May a group travelled to Troup Head, Banffshire. John Edelsten met us at Portsoy and kindly agreed to lead the party and give us the benefit of his local knowledge. The cliffs were packed with seabirds and the large colonies of Kittiwakes, Guillemots, Razorbills and Fulmars were very impressive. There were also some Puffins and a Great Skua.

The outing in June to the RSPB reserve at Insh Marches was led by the warden Russell Leavitt (who is also a member of the branch). During a most enjoyable tour of this fairly new reserve it was interesting to see the progress made during the year since our previous visit. The new observation hide is really excellent and provided the party with exciting close-up views of various waders and their chicks.

W. G. PREST

Stirling

Following the success of the Garvellachs trip in June 1975, a similar weekend excursion was arranged this year to an adjacent island. On the 19th June a boatload of local members was landed on the shore of Lunga, by Luing, Argyll. A variety of seabirds enlivened the outward journey, including a party of Sandwich Terns (what were they doing on the west coast in midsummer?) Saturday's weather was poor, but amply compensated by a bright sunny Sunday which allowed a full exploration of the island and completion of a census of breeding birds. The unexpected did not take the form of unusual species being recorded but instead in the absence of certain species widespread elsewhere. For example, Blackbirds were absent, but Song Thrushes were breeding. Similarly Meadow Pipits were frequent but the Skylark was not observed. A total of 49 species was agreed on the quay at Cuan Ferry on Sunday evening, as the tired participants prepared to make their way home after a successful outing.

D. M. BRYANT

Thurso

Three members and one RSPB visitor spent the damp but enjoyable weekend of 19-20th June on Stroma, censussing birds between, but mostly during, spells of heavy rain.

East and southeast winds for most of the autumn produced some exciting birding and an outing was made to the riverside at Wick and to Noss Head. Redstart and Blackcap were among the migrants seen, and a short seawatch produced Gannets, skuas and several Sooty Shearwaters.

Both the September and October meetings were members' nights. Discussion at the former included the final stages for registration of sites for the BTO Register, and plans to plant cover for migrants at one of the lighthouses. The evening was rounded off by a testing bird quiz devised by Eric and Helen Maugham. In October J. M. Gunn gave an interesting and informative talk on the early naturalists in Caithness, and lively discussion of the old county records ensued. This was followed by a number of members' slides covering a range of natural history subjects arranged in the form of a quiz by Pam Collett.

S. LAYBOURNE.

Current Notes

These notes include unchecked reports and are not intended as a permanent record, nor will they be indexed. Please send items of interest to local recorders for forwarding to the editor at the end of January, April, July and October.

Late reports from earlier in the year are of a **Ross's Gull** in the Monachs (O Heb) on 14 May, a **Long-tailed Skua** in the Shiants (O Heb) on 15 July, a **Subalpine Warbler** on Fair Isle on 1 June, **Aquatic Warblers** there on 19-20 Aug, and an **Arctic Warbler** on Whalsay (Shet) on 18 Aug.

As last year, 1976 was a vintage autumn for twitchers and migration fans. In this summary species are arranged more by migration pattern than systematic order. Three remarkable movements of shearwaters

and skuas occurred along the mainland east coast between late August and early October. Two big rushes of land birds came in late September and October—Fair Isle's October ringing total was more than twice normal for that month. Most birds arrived with east winds and poor visibility, and most rarities were eastern rather than southern or American.

In addition to those reported in the last issue, seabirds on 29 Aug included a **Cory's Shearwater** with hundreds of **Sooties** off Barns Ness (E Loth), a probable **Cory's** off the Isle of May, and 223 **Manx Shearwaters** off Girdleness (Kinc) with 2 **Great Shearwaters**. In Dunnet Bay and inland Caithness 200 **Fulmars** were wrecked between 1-10 Sep.

Another passage from 11-17 Sep brought a **Cory's Shearwater** to the Isle of May, a **Great Shearwater** to Tarbat Ness (E Ross) with 517+ **Sooties**, a **Great Skua** inland to Portmore (Peeb), 50 **Arctic Skuas** to Barns Ness and a **Long-tailed Skua** to Collieston (Aber).

During the last movement, mainly between 26 Sep-2 Oct, 9 blue-phase **Fulmars** passed Collieston in two days, 2 **Cory's Shearwaters** passed Brora and 2-3 were off Golspie (both Suth), and later one was seen from Duncansby Head (Caith) on 10 Oct. A **Great Shearwater** passed Brora and 7 were off Tarbat Ness on 26 Sep, 8 passed Collieston on 1 Oct, and the **Sooty Shearwater** peak was 430 in an hour at Brora on 26 Sep with 400+ at Golspie on the same day. In just over an hour on 2 Oct 110 **Pomarine Skuas** were counted from Collieston, and 80 **Arctic Skuas** passed Arbroath (Angus) on 26 Sep. **Long-tailed Skuas** were identified during this period at Collieston, Girdleness, Musselburgh (Midl) and Barns Ness, and another was at Musselburgh on 23 Oct.

Parties of **Quails** lingered at Middleton (Midl) and Duns (Ber) in early autumn. A **Mediterranean Gull** was recognized at Fraserburgh (Aber) on 26 Sep, a **Little Auk** was there on 18-19 Oct, and a **Sabine's Gull** on 28th, a **Spoonbill** visited Kippford in October, a **Bittern** turned up at New Galloway (both Kirk) and a **Ferruginous Duck** at Stobs upper reservoir (Rox) in November. **Barnacle Goose** passage was widely noted between 23-27 Sep, there were six records of **Brents** on the east coast in October, 13 in the Dunnet Bay party, and 6 **Bean Geese** were at Dudwick (Aber) on 9 Nov.

Some, perhaps all, of the rare waders that arrived in mid September were Americans: a **Stilt Sandpiper** at Scatness (Shet) from 11th, **Pectoral Sandpipers** at Meikle Loch (Aber), Ardmore (Dunb) and 2 at Irvine (Ayr), **Grey Phalaropes** at Fair Isle, Port Patrick (Wig) and possibly Barns Ness—another was on Hule Moss (Ber) on 24 Oct—a **Red-necked** on the Don (Aber) and a **Wilson's Phalarope** at Irvine on 23 Sep. A **Lesser Golden Plover** was at Caerlaverock (Dumf) again in late October and one was suspected at Drem (E Loth) in November. **Grey Plover** numbers were well above normal in many places, 41 **Greenshanks** were on the Clyde on 12 Sep, and 53 **Ruffs** at Cotehill (Aber) in October.

Coming to the first great rush of migrants, mainly 23 Sep-3 Oct, there were 2 **Buzzards** in Shetland, **Honey Buzzards** at Haddo (Aber), Balerno (Midl) and Bedrule (Rox), a **Marsh Harrier** at St Abbs Head (Ber), a few widespread **Hen Harriers**, an **Osprey** on Fair Isle, and **Gyr Falcons** on Out Skerries (Shet), Fair Isle and St Abbs. A **Red-footed Falcon** reached Whalsay on 10 Oct. A **Quail** was at New Cumnock (Ayr), a **Spotted Crane** on Out Skerries, a **Temminck's Stint** on the Don, 2 **Turtle Doves** in Shetland, a **Long-eared** and 6 **Short-eared Owls** on the Isle of May, and records of **Swifts** included 6 over Scalloway (Shet) on 2 Oct. **Hoopoes** were on Out Skerries, Fair Isle (2), Girdleness and Fife Ness, a **Great Spotted Woodpecker** at Scalloway, and several **Wrynecks** down the east coast. A **Short-toed Lark** was on Fair Isle, 26+ **Shore Larks** from Fair Isle (max 10) down to Tynninghame (F. Loth), and a **Golden Oriole** at Ler-

wick (Shet). **Song Thrushes** were numerous with 300+ on the Isle of May, so were **Redwings** in the north with 1,000 on Fair Isle, and 15+ **Ring Ouzels** were at St Abbs. A **Pied Wheatear** was trapped at the Don mouth between 26 Sep-7 Oct, and a **Siberian Stonechat** was on Fair Isle from 27-30 Sep. Falls of 20-30 **Redstarts** were widespread—60 on the Isle of May on 23 Sep—but **Black Redstarts** and **Bluetheats** were scarce. A **Thrush Nightingale** was trapped by ringers in pursuit of a **Radde's Warbler** on Whalsay on 3-4 Oct. **Robins** were numerous in the southeast with 250 on the Isle of May on 2 Oct. **Lanceolated Warblers** reached Fair Isle on 14th and 17 Sep and 6 Oct, and a **Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler** was trapped there between 20-24 Sep. Up to 30 definite or probable **Reed Warblers** were detected from Shetland to St Abbs in this period, but only 5 **Icterines**. A suspected **Olivaceous Warbler** on Out Skerries on 21 Sep may have been devoured by a cat! **Blackcaps** were common—100+ on Fair Isle and 150 on the Isle of May—but **Barred Warblers** scarce. A **Greenish Warbler** was identified among 50-100+ **Chiffchaffs** at St Abbs on 2 Oct, 2+ **Arctic Warblers** were in Shetland, and 14 **Yellow-browed Warblers** from Unst (Shet) to a Dirleton (E Loth) garden. A **Pallas's Warbler** at Grutness (Shet) on 27 Sep and a **Dusky Warbler** at St Abbs on 26th were the earliest ever, and the **Radde's Warbler** on Whalsay on 3-4 Oct was also early. **Goldcrests** were numerous during this phase, a **Firecrest** was on the Isle of May on 2 Oct, 23+ **Red-breasted Flycatchers** were found from Shetland to St Abbs between 17 Sep-3 Oct, and 100 **Dunnocks** were on the Isle of May on 30 Sep. Several **Richard's Pipits** reached Fair Isle, with 2 on Out Skerries, a **Pechora Pipit** was on Fair Isle from 17-25 Sep, 5 **Red-throated Pipits** between Out Skerries, Whalsay and Fair Isle, a **Citrine Wagtail** on Fair Isle, a few scattered **Yellow Wagtails**, 30+ **Great Grey Shrikes** from Shetland to St Abbs, mostly 2-3 Oct, but only a trickle thereafter, a **Woodchat** on the Isle of May, and 10 **Red-backed Shrikes** between Shetland, Aberdeen and Fife. **Starlings** reached 1200+ on the Isle of May on 26 Sep. **Mealy Redpolls** (1-2) were on Out Skerries at this time, but **Greenland Redpolls** were numerous on Fair Isle, max 60 on 17th Sep. **Scarlet Rosefinches** were scarce with 10+ in Shetland, but **Chaffinches** common, max 1,000 on the Isle of May, with some **Bramblings**. Nine **Ortolans** occurred in Shetland in early autumn with 3 **Yellow-breasted Buntings** and 2 of the latter on the Isle of May, 13+ **Little Buntings** were identified on Out Skerries and Fair Isle, and one in Stirkoke Woods (Caith) on 10 Oct, and a **Rustic Bunting** was on Whalsay on 11th. **Reed Buntings** were common—70 on the Isle of May on 3 Oct—and Fair Isle got the first British example of **Pallas's Reed Bunting** *Emberiza pallasii* from Siberia, diagnosed in the hand as the northern race *polaris*, from 29 Sep-11 Oct. **Lapland Buntings** were rather thin, max 17 on Fair Isle on 23 Sep.

The second rush of migrants, mainly 23-27 Oct, was not quite as rich in quality but was even greater in quantity and concentrated into a shorter period. It brought 2 more **Buzzards** to Shetland, **Marsh Harriers** to Fair Isle and Hamilton (Lan), 9+ **Hen Harriers** to the southeast, a **Gyr Falcon** to Hule Moss, 4 **Cranes** to Thurso from 24-30 Oct and 5 to Whitekirk (E Loth) from late Oct-16 Nov, **Spotted Crakes** to Shetland and Caithness (2), 2 **Corncrakes** to Shetland, 4 **Dotterels** to Fair Isle and one to Powfoot (Dumf), 2-3 **Temminck's Stints** and a **Broad-billed Sandpiper** to Whalsay in early November and a **Great Snipe** near the Cairnwell (Aber) on 31 Oct. Exceptional **Woodcock** numbers included 1,000+ on Fair Isle—in two days 140 were ready for the pot! A **Nightjar** there on 29 Oct was very late, **Swifts** were seen in three places in late October, when 3 **Wrynecks** were on the Isle of May, and one was killed by a cat at Torphins (Aber) on 4 Nov. Another influx of **Shore Larks** in November brought 12 to Rattray Head (Aber) and 43 to Tynningame. **Fieldfares** were scarce until November, **Song Thrushes** were numerous, max 1,500+ on the Isle of May on 18th and 23 Oct and 1,000+ on 27th, but **Redwings**,

which had hitherto been scarce, arrived in quantities that were usually described as "phenomenal". Fair Isle had 4,000 on 13 Oct, 10,000 passed Golspie in half an hour on 19th, 7,000 reached Fair Isle on 21st, and the southeast was reached on 23rd in a movement of 2,000 an hour for several hours in many places. There were more to come with 20,000+ on Fair Isle on 26th and 4,000+ on the Isle of May on 27th. The Fair Isle **Woodcock** and **Redwing** figures are perhaps greatly underestimated according to the only two observers present! **Ring Ouzels** and **Black-birds** were also involved: 80+ and 600+ respectively on Fair Isle. A **Red-flanked Bluetail** was seen at Fife Ness on 28 Oct. **Robins** were numerous with 1,000+ on the Isle of May and 600+ on Fair Isle on 27th; so were **Blackcaps**—145 were trapped on North Ronaldsay between 16-24th. Four **Pallas's Warblers** were found between 18-27 Oct, at Lerwick, Helendale (Shet), Ackergill (Caith) and the Isle of May, 2 **Firecrests** reached Shetland, and a very late **Pied Flycatcher** was at the Don on 7 Nov. **Dunnock** numbers were high again with 150 on Fair Isle and the Isle of May. An **Olive-backed Pipit** was on Fair Isle from 13-22 Oct. Only four reports of **Waxwings** were received: 5 at Hillhead (Aber) and 2 on the Don on 31 Oct, one in Lewis (O Heb) and 7 in New Galloway in early November. A very late **Red-backed Shrike** was in Seaton Park (Aber) from 29 Oct-3 Nov. A **Rose-coloured Starling** visited a Braemar bird-table from 24 Oct-5 Nov. Also in late October were 2 **Northern Bullfinches** and 400+ **Bramblings** on Fair Isle, an **Ortolan** at Reay (Caith), and a **Rustic Bunting** on North Ronaldsay.

First dates of some winter migrants were as follows: **Smew** Sandwater (Shet) and Musselburgh 9 Oct, **Greylag Goose** 20 Lewis 1 Sep, **Pink-footed Goose** Lothians 12 Sep (15,000 by 12 Oct), **Brent Goose** Dunnet Sands 1 Oct, **Barnacle Goose** Solway 14 Sep (7,000 in October), **Whooper Swan** Dundee (Angus) 31 Aug, **Jack Snipe** Fair Isle 13 Sep, **Little Auk** Whalsay 4 Oct, **Fieldfare** Fetlar 29 Aug, **Redwing** northeast Scotland 23 Sep, **Waxwing** Hillhead and the Don 31 Oct.

Last dates of some summer migrants were: **Corncrake** Burravoe (Shet) 6 Nov, **Dotterel** Fair Isle 6 Nov, **Black Tern** Dirleton 23 Oct, **Common Tern** Skeld (Shet) 30 Oct, **Common Tern** Musselburgh 24 Oct, **Sandwich Tern** Musselburgh 30 Oct, **Cuckoo** St Abbs 20 Sep, **Swift** Broughty Ferry (Angus) 31 Oct, **Wryneck** Torphins 4 Nov, **House Martin** North Berwick 27 Oct, **Wheatear** Fife Ness 7 Nov, **Whinchat** Fair Isle 25 Oct, **Redstart** Shetland early November, **Grasshopper Warbler** Fair Isle 14 Oct, **Reed Warbler** freshly dead Fair Isle 27 Oct, probable St Abbs 30th, **Garden Warbler** Fair Isle 26 Oct, **Whitethroat** Fair Isle 17 Oct, **Willow Warbler** Fair Isle 20 Oct, Aberlady late October, **Wood Warbler** Isle of May 2 Oct, **Pied Flycatcher** Don 7 Nov, **Yellow Wagtail** Isle of May 7 Oct, **Red-backed Shrike** Seaton Park 3 Nov.

S.O.C.

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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, New Galloway, St Andrews, Stirling, Thurso and the Wigtown District at which lectures by prominent ornithologists are given and films exhibited. Expeditions are organised in the summer to places of ornithological interest.

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

There are no entry fees for Membership. The Annual subscription is £3.00, or £1.00 in the case of Members under twenty one years of age or Students under 25, who satisfy Council of their status as such at the times at which their subscriptions fall due. The Life subscription is £75. Family Membership is available to married couples and their nominated children under 18 at an Annual subscription of £4.50, or a Life subscription of £112.50. 'Scottish Birds' is issued free to Members but Family Members will receive only one copy between them. Subscriptions are payable on 1st October annually.

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

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

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Inverness-shire
Tel. Aviemore 729**

HOUSE FOR SALE

SPINDRIFT, CARSETHORN, DUMFRIES

Detached six-apartment bungalow with kitchen, bathroom and large brick-built garage/workshop. The house is idyllically situated on the shore with magnificent views of the Lake District hills and a wide variety of waders, wild fowl, etc. Carsethorn is an unspoilt village and excellent centre for birdwatching both on the Solway shore and in the Galloway hills and lochs.

Further details can be obtained from Grierson, Moodie & Walker, 149 High Street, Dumfries. (Tel. 2409).

DORNOCH CASTLE HOTEL

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

'Ashley Courtenay' and 'Signpost' Recommended

Retaining the romance of a Castle and the homely charm of a country house combined with the amenities of a modern hotel, our guests receive a warm welcome and a first-class service.



Conveniently situated for the Dornoch Firth, Tain Bay, Ederton Sands, Skibo Estuary and Loch Fleet as well as many interesting moorland, mountain and forestry areas, Dornoch has much to offer the observer of wild life, even while enjoying excellent local golf.

A new wing of bedrooms with private bathrooms and extended public rooms greatly enhances the existing comfort of this hotel. Early and late season reductions offered for 1977.

Illustrated brochure of Hotel and tariff gladly sent on request with stamps to :

Resident Proprietors, IRENE and STUART THOMSON

Telephone : Dornoch 216



Scottish Field Studies Association

KINDROGAN FIELD CENTRE

Courses for Adults – 1977

Kindrogan provides accommodation, lecture rooms, laboratories and a library for visitors. Situated in the Southern Grampian Highlands, it affords excellent opportunities for all aspects of field studies in the Highlands.

The programme for 1977 offers a wide range of courses for adult amateurs and specialists, including :

**Birds
Mammals
Photography
Geology and Scenery
Mountain Flowers
Tayside**

**Archaeology
Water Plants
Painting
Fungi
Insects
Field Botany**

The normal weekly charge is £45.00

All applications, enquiries and requests for programmes should be addressed to The Warden, Kindrogan Field Centre, Enochdhu, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, PH10 7PG.

Telephone : Strathardle (025081) 286.

COLOUR SLIDES

We are now able to supply slides of most British Birds from our own collection, and from that of the R.S.P.B. Send 25p for sample slide and our lists covering these and birds of Africa—many fine studies and close-ups.

FOR HIRE

We have arranged to hire out slides of the R.S.P.B. These are in sets of 25 at 60p including postage & V.A.T. per night's hire. Birds are grouped according to their natural habitats.

W. COWEN

Penrith Rd., Keswick, Cumbria

ISLE of MULL

Looking across the Sound of Mull to the Morvern Hills beyond.

Comfortable Accommodation in a small guest house run with bird watchers in mind. Dinner, bed and breakfast. H&C and radiators in all guest bedrooms. Use of reference books.

S.A.E. please.

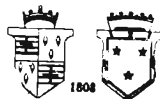
Open Easter until mid-Oct.

RICHARD & ELIZABETH
COOMBER,

*Staffa Cottages
Guest House,*

TOBERMORY,
ISLE OF MULL.

Tel. 2464



SUTHERLAND ARMS HOTEL

GOLSPIE
SUTHERLAND
SCOTLAND

Telephone : Golspie 216

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

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

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

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

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

Proprietor, Mrs F. HEXLEY
Garage & Lock-ups available

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

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FULLY MODERNISED SELF
CATERING
HOLIDAY COTTAGES
to let in GALLOWAY**

***Caldow Lodge,
Corsock,
Castle-Douglas,***

Kirkcudbrightshire,
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Tel. Corsock 286.

Amidst Moor, Marsh, Forest
and Lochs, glorious country-
side. Birdwatchers' paradise.

Off Season Lets.

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appreciated.

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Send stamp for details of
one and two-week holidays
April-November.

A series of week-end holidays
for the winter of 1976-77
is also being planned.

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SERVICES**

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**ORKNEY
FIELD
CENTRE**

**LINKS HOUSE, BIRSAY,
ORKNEY**

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Ideally situated on the Atlantic
shore with RSPB nesting cliffs
within a mile, wetland and moorland
within walking distance. 79 separate
sightings May-June this year. Hen
Harriers, Red-throated divers, Skuas,
Puffins and Twites abound.

Our aim is to provide a high
standard of food and comfort in a
remote and beautiful place.

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**ISLAND EXPLORATION
CENTRE**

Adventure Courses for boys
and girls aged 11-18, and
parents, in a fully equipped
Timber Cabin beside a lagoon
on a small uninhabited
offshore island.

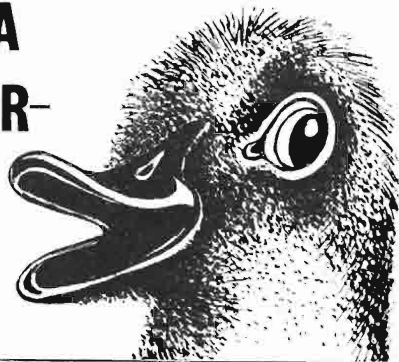
Otters, birds, seals, deer,
canoeing, climbing, fishing,
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20 wild islands within a five
mile radius.

Expert supervision, groups or
individuals, maximum 12.

Bothy accommodation on two
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**TORQUIL JOHNSON-FERGUSON,
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TAKE A GANDER-



at Mr Frank's
unusual
binocular
offer :

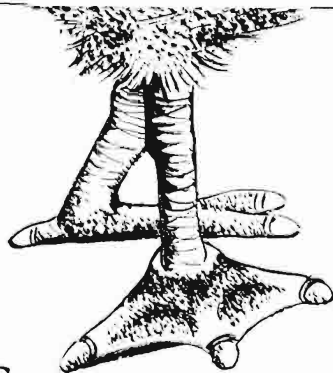
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10 x 50	5	25	5.5°	36 ozs.	7 ins.	£33.00
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