

BIRDS RECORDED IN 1962

The season turned out to be a most interesting one with many of the rarer Lundy visitors appearing. In all 137 species were recorded including one probable sub-species of Calandra Lark but as this may turn out to be a new record for Europe all details are being held over until the record has been confirmed or dismissed.

The interest and help of the Islanders, as well as the observations of visiting members, has been most valuable particularly on those occasions when single birds were concerned.

An extremely helpful visit was made by Kenneth Williamson, Migration Research Officer from the B.T.O., who offered some sound advice and pointed out a few of the irregularities in recording and running. At his suggestion a breeding census of the passerine birds will be the main project next year.

A small group came over from Jesus College, Oxford, and amongst other studies undertook a complete census of the sea-bird population and a particular study of the first flighting of young auks and their predators.

Before the main list of species I am including a few notes on the Winter of 1961 to 1962, taken from observations made by John Ogilvie.

The winter was outstanding for the very large numbers of birds on the Island during an exceptionally cold spell at the beginning of January. The ground was covered, with even Waders feeding at the bird table in the Hotel Garden. The predominant species were Lapwings, Curlew, Snipe, Redwing, Fieldfare and Starlings which stayed until about 5th January but many died and the Ravens were seen to peck many Lapwings to death as they sat exhausted on the ground.

An interesting record was of a White-fronted Goose which stayed with the tame geese in the Ducks' Pen from before Christmas into the New Year.

The Observatory was manned from 7th March until 29th November.

Great Northern Diver. One present off the East Side from 21st to 24th May.

Red Throated Diver. One off East Side on 23rd May. Two near the Island on the crossing of 30th August. (J. COLEMAN COOKE.)

Storm Petrel. One off-shore on 14th June and the remains of one were found at North End in the beginning of July. No evidence of breeding.

Manx Shearwater. The first ones were heard around the Terrace area on 22nd April and then regularly, although not in any great numbers, through May and June to mid-July at many points around the southern half of the Island. Flocks of up to fifty could be seen from East Side and over the Race on most evenings from mid-June onwards. Not recorded after 28th July and none were found on land apart from two that became stranded in South Light compound.

Fulmar Petrel. Birds were on the cliffs when the Observatory opened and breeding took place on Gannets' Rock and at Jenny's Cove. Not recorded after mid-September.

Gannet. Birds were seen in most months but most regularly during August and September and sometimes fishing quite close to the Island. The largest number recorded was twenty-five together on 27th May.

Cormorant. One or two from April to August from Surf Point around to Montague Steps. No nest was found. A flock of fifteen flying SW. across the South End on 29th August and five off East Side on 13th September were the only movements recorded.

Shag. Present all year but only in very small numbers after mid-September.

Heron. Single birds recorded 28th to 29th March, 30th April, 24th May, 10th August and two together on 13th November.

Mallard. Four pairs bred and a clutch was deserted. Some of the ducklings disappeared, presumed to be taken by gulls, and a few died from other causes but by the end of the year numbers up to twenty-five were recorded regularly.

Teal. A male and a female from 15th to 31st March, either singly or together but on 22nd there were two males and a female. A female was recorded until 11th April. Two on 20th August. Recorded from 10th September to the end of November, usually up to three birds but seven on 22nd and four on 23rd September.

Wigeon. A female lived with the Mallard in the Ducks' Pen from 13th October until the beginning of November when it moved out to Pondsburry. It was joined on 13th November by a male and a second female, thereafter only a male and female until 17th November.

Goose sp. Three grey geese in Middle Park on 28th October. They were not identified as they were far off against the light and immediately left the Island, heading NW. against a strong wind.

Whooper Swan. Two adult birds on Pondsburry on 25th November. They remained on the Island after the Observatory closed for some weeks.

Buzzard. One pair all the year. A nest with three eggs was found on 9th May on East Side cliffs. By 27th May only two eggs were left and the bird was not sitting. All the eggs had gone by 11th June.

Sparrow Hawk. Only one bird, usually hunting along East Side, between 3rd and 5th November.

Montagu's Harrier. A Harrier was seen in Tillage Field on 7th May by Mr Harman and later good views were obtained along East Side by most of the Islanders and visitors. It was a female bird and, was not seen after 12th May.

Hobby. A single record on 28th April near The Ugly. (M. and V. SQUIRES.)

Peregrine Falcon. No evidence of breeding. Single birds on a few dates in most months but two seen on 14th and 15th May and on 19th June. Three disturbed from Tibbett's Point on 7th June one of which may have been an immature bird.

Merlin. Three records of single birds. A male on 21st and a female on 24th April; a female on 20th September.

Kestrel. Possibly two pairs bred, in the Quarry area and beyond Halfway Wall. Recorded throughout the season with the highest numbers noted after the end of August, the most being seven on 5th September but often up to five.

Pheasant. Seen at all times along East Side and frequently feeding in Tillage Field. The most seen together was two males and four females. The species bred.

Water Rail. One or two in Millcombe stream until 20th April. The first Autumn bird was seen on 18th September and thereafter recorded in Millcombe or around the Farm and occasionally at Pondsburry. The most counted was five on 24th October.

Corncrake. Single birds recorded on 27th May, 13th June and 6th September.

Oystercatcher. Recorded until the end of August. About eight pairs bred. Small flocks of up to nine were recorded during the autumn, but nineteen on 28th October, and only very few in November.

Lapwing. Fairly large numbers in March, flocks varying from twelve to peaks of 100 on 12th, 120 on 24th and 130 on 26th. About twelve or fourteen pairs bred around the eastern half of Quarter Wall and the first nest was found on 14th April. None after the beginning of August until two on 10th September. From then only small flocks, mostly one to four but twelve on 16th September and eighteen on 13th and 14th October, until 24th October when thirty-one were present. Largest autumn numbers were sixty on 9th and sixty-three on 10th November.

Ringed Plover. A few during April ; three on 13th and one from 14th to 17th. Up to two first winter birds between 6th and 22nd September on the Landing Beach.

Golden Plover. A flock of varying size was present on the Airfield all March until 2nd April. Two on 7th March then twenty from 9th to 13th increasing to fifty-five from 15th to 17th, two on 18th building up to eighty by 24th and down to three by 2nd April. A few birds 10th to 24th April, but twenty-five on 14th. Single birds through May. One on 30th August then small numbers to end of season, largest numbers being four on 17th September, twelve on 18th October and six on 11th November.

Dotterel. Single birds. One on 29th April on the Airfield and on 12th September above the Terrace.

Turnstone. Seven on 23rd April, one on 14th July, two on 15th and 30th August, three on 7th and four on 9th and 13th September, singles on 4th and 12th November. Most of these birds were seen behind Rat Island and the species were almost certainly present more often and overlooked.

Snipe. Recorded in small numbers up to five through March and April until 4th May, but thirteen on 16th, forty-eight on 23rd, sixteen on 24th, fourteen on 26th and thirteen on 30th March, nine on 1st and seven on 10th and 11th April. Singles 14th, 17th and 23rd May. Recorded again from 27th July to end of season, in small numbers, with peaks of fifteen on 14th August and eleven on 26th October.

Jack Snipe. A single bird on 23rd, 26th and 30th March in Quarter Wall rushes. In the autumn three on 23rd and one on 25th September in Pondsburry.

Woodcock. Up to two recorded through March. In autumn, mostly single birds from 17th October to end of season, but two on 24th and three on 27th October.

Curlew. Recorded in every month. Twenty-four on 11th March and eight on 16th and 17th but otherwise only in small numbers up to six until the end of June. One pair strongly suspected of breeding on Pondsburry area but no nest or young were found. Numbers began building up from twenty-eight on 28th June to 120 on 11th and 12th July. A few flocks during August, thirty-two on 3rd, sixteen on 21st and forty-five on 26th and 27th. Thereafter only small numbers to the end of season, highest being fourteen on 11th and twenty-five on 12th September.

Whimbrel. Two on 17th April building up to fourteen by 28th and thirty-two by 3rd May and then in varying numbers until down to ten by 17th May and only a few birds until 2nd June. Sixteen again on 21st July, eight from 27th to 29th and then twenty on 3rd August. Only one or two birds through September and occasionally in October with a last record on 29th November.

Bar-tailed Godwit. Two with Whimbrel in Middle Park from 28th April to 3rd May.

Green Sandpiper. Two from 26th to 29th July then single birds on 14th, 23rd and 24th August and on 2nd September.

Wood Sandpiper. One from 1st to 8th September.

Common Sandpiper. One or two birds from 14th April to 4th May and five on 14th July decreasing to three by 18th. Singles on 21st and 27th August.

Redshank. Single birds on the following dates : 12th, 13th and 22nd April ; 8th and 12th May ; 13th and 14th July ; 28th October and 3rd November.

Spotted Redshank. Two on Pondsburry on 30th August.

Greenshank. Three on 14th and single birds on 15th, 18th, 26th and 31st August. A single bird flying over on 9th October.

Knot. A single bird at Pondsburry on 24th August.

Purple Sandpiper. A single bird on 28th August.

Little Stint. A single bird on Pondsbury and later Quarter Wall Pond on 13th October. It was remarkably tame.

Pectoral Sandpiper. One on the Island from 2nd to 8th September.

Dunlin. Four from 20th to 22nd March and two on 26th. Regular between 14th and 18th April, with fourteen on 16th, and from 27th April to 8th May with a maximum on 4th. One on 28th May. Up to seven during August and then every day from 2nd to 24th September with four from 15th to 17th. Last single birds on 24th and 31st October.

Ruff. A single bird at Pondsbury on 30th August and one on the Airfield 22nd and 23rd September.

Pratincole. On 26th April a strange bird was seen in the region of Quarter Wall by a group of students from Bristol University and R. Carden, assistant warden at that time. Both parties arrived at an independent identification of the bird as a Pratincole. Despite searching the bird was not seen again. (This record has not yet been passed by the rarities committee.)

Great Black-backed Gull. Recorded all year but with numbers decreasing from the end of August leaving only six at the end of season.

Lesser Black-backed Gull. Present until 25th September but with numbers decreasing after the end of August. Fifty-four still present on 16th September and down to seven by 24th.

Herring Gull. Present all year but with numbers decreasing after the end of August.

Common Gull. Two on 1st August over Landing Bay and two in South West Field on 20th September.

Black-headed Gull. Two on 22nd March. One immature from 14th to 17th April and single birds 29th May, 21st and 30th June, 4th and 9th July. Two on 3rd August, 15th and 20th September, three on 21st and twelve during a storm on 28th September.

Kittiwake. Present in March and last recorded on 24th August.

Common Arctic Tern. One on 20th May. One on 3rd and six on 16th September. A single on 23rd October. All were seen around the Landing Bay.

Razorbill. Recorded in March but no numbers on the ledges until 10th April. Many birds had left by the end of July and all had gone by the first fortnight of August.

Guillemot. A few birds were present in March and many of them were oiled. No numbers appeared on the ledges until 10th April. Many had left by the end of July and none were left after the first fortnight in August.

Puffin. The first ones were seen off North End on 12th April when twenty-five were counted and the last ones were recorded at the end of July.

Wood Pigeon. Numbers up to nine every day until 17th June, but up to sixteen from 19th to 22nd April and 6th to 8th May. Sixteen on 12th and eighteen on 16th June then seen irregularly until 10th September with largest numbers in mid-August when up to twenty-five were seen. Regular again from 10th September to 25th October, generally up to eight but up to fifteen during mid-September and seventeen on 13th October. Breeding took place along East Side but a deserted nest in the mouth of Terrace Trap was the only one found.

Turtle Dove. Single birds on 20th and 28th April and then almost daily at Benjamin's Chair between 1st and 12th May with a maximum of eight on 4th. Single birds 15th and 29th and two on 31st May and then every day from 4th to 17th June, usually up to nine birds but with sixteen on 7th. Single birds again towards the end of the month on 19th, 28th and 29th. Two on 10th July and single birds 30th August and 15th September.

Cuckoo. The first bird on 14th April and then three on 16th. Regular from 24th April until 19th June ; generally up to four birds but seven on 19th May and six on 9th June ; and again from 25th to 30th June with three on 27th and 28th. Two birds from 1st to 10th and one until 13th July. A juvenile towards the end of the month and one from 11th to 18th August.

Long-eared Owl. A lone bird was present around Millcombe from 25th to 27th May.

Short-eared Owl. Records of single birds only ; 10th and 11th March, 19th April and 20th May and in autumn 14th and 15th October and 25th November.

Nightjar. A single bird on 19th and 23rd May and one was heard 'churring' below the Hotel Garden an several evenings towards the end of the month.

Swift. First record, four birds seen on 21st April and thereafter regular until 6th July with the largest numbers being counted during the latter half of June with 100 on 29th. A few through July and August and a single bird on 4th and 5th September.

Alpine Swift. One was seen over Lighthouse Field on 25th April. It flew on slightly NW. and disappeared over West Side. (M. SQUIRES and J. OGILVIE.) (This record has not yet been accepted by the Rarities Committee.)

Hoopoe. Seen on three occasions including one on an unusual date. One in Millcombe on 26th April (J. LAMPREY and A. STRICK), the next was also in Millcombe, on 10th May (E. BELL). The third was by the Quarries on the evening of 29th August.

Great Spotted Woodpecker. One was first seen on 24th September (J. LAMPREY). It stayed and was seen or heard almost every day in any part of the Island where there was a tree or fence post for it to work on. On 21st October two woodpeckers were seen but it is certain that the second bird had been present for some time already. Then two until 6th November and thereafter just the one bird until 24th November. On being caught and ringed both proved to be first winter birds.

Skylark. About fifty pairs bred and resident numbers were recorded until the beginning of September when only a flock of twenty was present. Flocks of varying numbers up to fifty or sixty were present until the beginning of November and from 15th up to four were recorded almost daily.

Swallow. The first bird appeared on 9th April and then daily until 12th July. Peak movements were around 21st and 22nd April with birds passing through most of the day although numbers always seemed to be concentrated around midday. Returning birds had started to appear by the end of August but the largest numbers were between 13th and 24th September. Small numbers through October and the last records were two on 7th and one on 8th November. One pair bred in the Shipwright's Shed and brought off at least two young.

House Martin. The first record was of five on 21st April and then regularly until 27th June with peak numbers towards the end of April. Occasionally from July until 16th September and then largest autumn movement between 20th and 22nd September. Only occasionally during October with the last record being of twelve on 24th.

Sand Martin. The first birds were four on 3rd April and daily between 11th and 14th. Regular from 18th April until the end of May with heaviest numbers at the end of April. A light movement took place between 4th and 6th June and then twenty on 20th and 22nd July. Fairly regular on south passage from 22nd August until 24th September with largest numbers of 250 on 30th August and 200 on 22nd September.

Raven. Up to eight birds and occasionally nine recorded all season but ten on 27th and twelve on 28th May. The maximum seen was of fourteen together on 31st August. Two nests were found, one in Raven Gully and the other just south of Long Roost, but a third pair was probably breeding somewhere between Dead Cow Point and Jenny's Cove.

Carrion Crow. Up to 13th April about ten birds and from then until September up to fifteen were recorded daily. On 12th April a flock of sixteen came in from north and between 7th and 27th September numbers increased to a maximum of forty-three on 18th. The species bred.

Hooded Crow. A single bird along with Carrion Crows on 3rd and 4th and another on 27th April.

Rook. A single bird on 19th October.

Jackdaw. Two on 25th March, one on 9th and three on 22nd April. One on 10th and two on 11th and 24th May. Singles on 3rd June, 7th July, from 28th to 30th September and from 13th to 15th October.

Blue Tit. A single bird which had been present over the winter recorded until 13th April, usually to be found around Millcombe.

Wren. Present all year but no estimate of numbers made and no change in status noticed.

Mistle Thrush. Single birds from March until 10th July, but two on 30th March and three from 29th June to 1st July. Single birds again on 8th October, 7th and 22nd November.

Fieldfare. Present every day in March, twelve on 9th and fifteen on 24th. Up to three recorded frequently until 21st April then a single bird on 1st May and on 7th June. Regularly seen between 12th and 30th October, with eleven on 21st, and between 10th and 15th November, with fifteen on 10th. Present again on 25th until the end of season and with twenty-five on 27th and thirty-two on 28th November.

Song Thrush. Present all the season, about three or four pairs breeding in Millcombe and on the Terrace. There was a large movement on 11th March when an estimated 700 landed. A slight increase was noted towards the end of October with twenty on 24th and thirty on 25th then down to two by 30th.

Redwing. The first big movement was on 11th March when 2,000 were present and had left by 13th leaving a flock of twenty for the rest of the month until 30th when 100 were counted. Single birds until 19th April. In the autumn recorded from 12th October to the end of season, maximum numbers being seventy on 13th, seventy-five on 19th, 150 on 23rd October, and 100 on 27th November.

Ring Ouzel. Up to three birds from 13th April to 8th May with more around the beginning of May, six on 30th April, ten on 1st and eight on 4th May. A single bird 30th and 31st August then up to two birds between 14th and 24th September but with five on 22nd. Last records were three on 12th, two on 14th, and one on 17th October.

Blackbird. Present all season and about twenty-five to thirty pairs bred, mainly in Millcombe and along east side as far north as Gannet's Combe. The first movement was on 11th March when up to 1,000 were on the Island. A few light movements were noted during the autumn with peaks of fifty on 15th September, thirty-five on 13th and seventy on 24th October, fifty on 10th and 100 on 27th November.

American Robin. A single bird was seen on Castle Hill on 7th November but only for the one day. (This record has been accepted by the Rarities Committee.)

Wheatear. The first, a male, appeared on 16th March then a slow build up of numbers until fifty-four on 18th April, down to ten by 22nd followed by an increase to sixty on 31st and 100 by 1st May. Slight decreases until down to breeding birds by 1st June. Between four and six pairs bred. Autumn movement from the end of August to end of September with peaks of forty on 4th and seventy on 13th September. Up to four only until 15th and then a single bird on 26th October.

Stonechat. Recorded from 10th March until the end of season with possibly a slight increase in numbers towards the end of September. At least six pairs bred.

Whinchat. Up to two birds through May but with four on 1st and 25th, and then a single one on 22nd July. In autumn regular between 30th August and 25th September with a peak of twelve on 3rd and twenty-one on 4th September.

Redstart. The first one, a male, on 19th April and five on 20th then usually single birds to 27th May but with six on 23rd. One on 21st and two on 30th and 31st August. Fairly regularly seen between 14th and 25th September with thirteen on 22nd and twelve on 24th. Three on 4th and one on 12th October were the last records.

Black Redstart. A male on 17th April. None until two on 24th September and two between 8th and 29th October. A last one on 3rd November.

Robin. About four until 2nd May which was the last record until one appeared on 31st August. The most recorded was eight on 22nd September.

Grasshopper Warbler. Up to two birds daily between 21st April and 8th May but with six on 24th and 26th April. Five on 22nd September was only autumn record.

Reed Warbler. Only single birds on three occasions in the autumn, 31st August, and 14th and 22nd September.

Marsh Warbler. One was caught and ringed on 2nd September. (J. COLEMAN COOKE and P. GRIFFITHS.)

Sedge Warbler. The first one on 23rd April then regularly until 30th May with peak numbers being fifty on 2nd and sixty on 19th May. A single bird on 29th July possibly the same one that had been singing in Millcombe at the end of May. None bred. Only a few during the autumn ; one on 31st August, one on 20th and six on 22nd September.

Melodious Icterine Warbler. A Melodious Warbler was caught and ringed on 15th September and a similar unringed bird was in Millcombe from 21st to 24th September.

Blackcap. A male on 3rd May and two birds on 4th were the only spring records. A male from 18th to 21st September then three on 22nd and a female on 23rd. Recorded between 4th October and 14th November, the most being three on 8th and 22nd October.

Garden Warbler. Single birds on 24th and 27th April and 9th May with two on 4th May. During the autumn recorded between 31st August and 22nd September, usually single birds but two on 14th and 16th and three on 22nd September then three on 8th October.

Whitethroat. A single bird on 14th April and then recorded between 22nd April and 14th June with peak movements being 100 on 2nd and 150 on 19th May. One pair bred in the Millcombe area. Autumn records were between 30th August and 25th September, peaks being fifteen in 13th and nineteen on 22nd September. A final single bird on 8th October.

Lesser Whitethroat. Up to two birds between 27th April and 30th May. A single bird was caught at the Lighthouse on 24th September.

Willow Warbler and Chiffchaff. The first three birds were seen on 10th April and one caught proved to be Willow Warbler. The first Chiffchaff was heard on 12th. Numbers rose to forty by 13th then a two on 14th ; 200 on 18th, fifty on 19th, 150 on 20th, fifty on 21st, 100 on 22nd and fifty on 25th down to twenty by 30th. A hundred again on 2nd May down to twenty by 8th and thereafter only small fluctuations until the end of May. A lone Chiffchaff was singing in Millcombe until 1st July and another on the Terrace between 12th and 18th June but the species did not breed. There was a movement of

150 between 28th July and the beginning of August and then only small numbers recorded from 29th August to 25th September the most being fifty on 22nd September. A single bird, most probably a Chiffchaff, was present all October and November with three on 13th October. Working from records of song and ringing the proportion of Willow Warbler to Chiffchaff was in the region of three to two.

Yellow-browed Warbler. One was seen in the willows over Quarry Pond on 4th and 5th October and on 6th a similar, probably the same, bird appeared in Millcombe. (This record has been accepted by the Rarities Committee.)

Goldcrest. A single bird on 25th March and then almost daily from 5th to 13th April to a peak of fifty on 18th and through a steady decline to two on 4th May. Up to four birds between 18th and 25th September and usually up to six from 9th October to the end of season but between 20th and 27th October twelve were counted.

Firecrest. One was seen in Millcombe between 7th and 11th October but with two on 8th. A single bird appeared in the Bottom Garden on 6th November.

Spotted Flycatcher. Up to three birds from 26th April to 10th May and then an increase to fifteen on 22nd and thirty-five on 23rd May, decreasing to seven by 28th. A movement of twenty-five on 29th and then down to one pair, which bred in Millcombe area, by 5th June. The first autumn arrival was of fifteen on 29th and twenty by 30th August, fifteen again on 31st and then six birds until 21st September when there was an increase to twenty on 22nd. A steady decrease took place until there were two on 29th. The last records are of two on 9th and one on 10th October.

Pied Flycatcher. The first one, a female, on 20th April, four on 22nd then up to two until 7th May and two on 23rd. Returning birds started with twenty on 30th August decreasing to three by 12th September, up to fifteen on 13th and down to two on 21st, a rise to twelve on 22nd with only five by 28th and then single birds on 30th September, 4th, 9th and 27th October. An exceptionally late record was of a single bird on 4th and 6th November.

Red-breasted Flycatcher. A single bird in Millcombe from 8th to 10th October proved to be a first winter female when caught and ringed.

Dunnock. Recorded throughout the season with the indication of possible movement in mid-October when an unusual concentration of birds was noticed below Halfway Wall. At least twenty pairs bred, in Millcombe and along the East Side to the Terrace.

Meadow Pipit. Present all season with about fifty pairs breeding. Autumn movements took place during the second half of September, maximum numbers being 120 on 19th, 220 on 22nd, 132 on 24th, 300 on 28th and then only flocks of up to forty recorded. Very few birds were present after 20th October.

Tree Pipit. The first five noted on 20th April and ten on 22nd and 23rd, then a few records to the end of the month until six were counted on 1st May and three on 3rd, then singles on 9th and 26th. The first autumn bird on 7th September and then up to two between 16th and 21st with three on 22nd and four on 23rd September.

Rock Pipit. Present all season, always below the top of the Island. No estimate was made of numbers or breeding.

Pied Wagtail and White Wagtail. Pied Wagtail was recorded all season until 28th September and thereafter only a single bird but with seven on 9th October. No obvious movement until 30th August when numbers went up to thirty decreasing to four by 3rd September. Fifteen on 5th and thirty-seven on 6th, decreasing to eight by 11th and up to twenty from 13th to 15th September. About five pairs bred, in the Castle, Church Porch, around the farm and in Stonycroft area.

Definite White Wagtails were recorded as follows : single birds 11th, 22nd and 23rd March ; and 9th to 30th April but with four on 14th and a movement, when twelve were counted, on 22nd. A single bird again on 28th May.

Grey Wagtail. Single birds during the autumn on 30th August ; 9th, 22nd, 24th and 27th September, and 8th, 9th, 15th and 24th October.

Yellow Wagtail. Fairly regular in spring between 19th April and 12th May. Usually up to two birds but eight on 22nd April and seven on 3rd May. Single birds 22nd May, 13th June and 9th July. Regular in the autumn from 22nd August until 27th September. Generally up to three but nine to 31st August ; eleven on 1st and seven on 7th September.

Starling. Regular from the beginning of the season until 2nd April in flocks of up to sixty but with an increase of 2,000 over 11th and 12th March leaving only twelve by 14th. Then seventy-two on 16th, 118 on 20th and 260 by 24th down to 100 by 26th. During April only small flocks were recorded, twenty on 12th being the largest. At least two pairs bred and from mid-June to mid-July there were movements of juvenile flocks, usually staying a day or two : fifty on 17th, thirty between 19th and 25th, ten on 26th, then ninety 27th and 29th June ; 250 flying over on 6th July and sixty on 9th and 10th. Not seen again until 13th September with two, then one on 19th, eleven on 21st and two on 23rd. Regular from 3rd October to the end of season with visible movement on many days during the second half of October and early November, flocks leaving the south end of the Island. Peak numbers recorded were seventy on 3rd and 5th, and 1,000 on 21st October then 1,000 on 3rd, none between 5th and 11th, 250 on 12th, 155 on 22nd, 900 on 25th, and 450 on 28th November.

Greenfinch. Singles on 9th and 30th March then regular between 13th and 21st April with four on 13th and nine on 19th. In the autumn a single bird between 13th and 22nd October then up to two between 12th and 23rd November but with three on 13th.

Goldfinch. A single bird between 19th and 27th March and then up to three regularly between 18th April and 14th June but with four on 1st and 9th and a flock of ten, moving north, on 13th May. One on 2nd July. One between 13th and 24th October with four on 18th and 26th and five on 19th. Up to two between 11th and 22nd November but with three on 13th.

Siskin. The first ones, in the autumn, were in a flock of twenty-five which passed over on 7th October. A single on 18th, four on 23rd and 24th ; then singles on 27th and 30th and four on 6th November.

Linnet. The first ones were twenty on 10th April then up to 100 by 20th and by the end of the month breeding numbers were left. About twenty to twenty-five pairs bred. After 5th September numbers decreased to about forty by 10th, up to seventy on 20th and only ten by 29th. Only light movements during October ; fifteen on 4th, seventeen on 10th, twelve on 13th, and thirty-seven on 20th. Small numbers on a few occasions in November.

Redpoll. Single birds on 20th and 28th April and two on 9th May. In the autumn only two on 13th and 14th, and a single on 17th October.

Bullfinch. A male and a female were present around Millcombe between 26th March and 12th April when a second male appeared. After this only the female was seen until 23rd April.

Crossbill. A male was seen in Millcombe on 1st and 2nd July. Four birds were present on 8th and six by 10th with a peak of twenty-five over 12th and 13th. No more were seen until five were counted on 29th July, and a single on 31st.

Chaffinch. Flocks of up to sixty were present during March until 27th when twenty were recorded. About twelve pairs bred mainly in Millcombe and above the Beach Road. Numbers were low until mid-October when

200 on 18th were counted. After this there were regular movements until mid-November with peak days being 800 on 21st October, 300 on 3rd, 200 on 4th and fifty on 13th November.

Brambling. Two on 8th and singles on 10th, 22nd, and 23rd, and 26th March. A single bird from 13th October until 14th November but with two on 22nd October and 6th November. Last 29th November.

Yellowhammer. One in March with three on 9th and two on 12th, and occasionally in April. A single bird on 10th and 14th June and two on 30th August.

Red-headed Bunting. One seen by Benjamin's Chair on 3rd May (J. LAMPREY). One on 2nd September (M. SQUIRES) and another on 4th October. All were males.

Ortolan Bunting. Singles on 31st August and 1st September, two from 14th to 18th September and four on 26th, feeding in the Fowls' Run.

Reed Bunting. One from 30th March to 3rd April in the Ducks' Pen. Four on 12th and singles 19th and 20th April and on 1st May.

Lapland Bunting. Single birds recorded on 20th and 21st September, 15th (a female) and 19th October.

Snow Bunting. Two on 16th March and birds heard on 17th and 23rd. In the autumn the first one on 4th and 5th October then five between 8th and 10th, two on 12th and from 15th to 20th, one on 22nd. Five on 29th October and ten on 3rd November and then one between 12th and 16th, but with three on 13th, and one 22nd and 23rd November.

House Sparrow. A single bird on 14th and 18th April.

Tree Sparrow. Four birds were seen regularly all season but there were higher numbers after mid-August until 23rd October, sixteen being the most counted on several occasions. Four was the most seen in the latter part of the season. Two pairs bred in the walls of the Fowls' Run and both probably had two broods.

RINGING REPORT FOR 1962

Ringing was first started on 18th April and for most of the season only the Heligoland on the Terrace was in operation. Mist-nets were used from the beginning of September and were responsible for the majority of the autumn catches as only forty-six birds were taken from the Heligoland during that period !

At the suggestion of the Migration Research Officer from the B.T.O. the Terrace Trap is being brought forward by ten yards or so in order to minimise the 'escape' of birds over the present entrance. It is also hoped to build one or two more traps in the area and so to concentrate trapping in this part of the Island while mist-netting will be centred around Millcombe.

Three hundred and forty-three birds of thirty-five species were ringed during the season including three new species to the Observatory list : Great Spotted Woodpecker, Marsh Warbler and Red-breasted Flycatcher. One hundred and ninety-four birds were caught in the Terrace Trap, ninety-seven in mist-nets and thirty-five were caught at the South Light thanks to the patience of Eddie Bell. Two portable traps were constructed but met with no success, accounting for only one bird and a retrap. Ten Lapwing chicks and a brood of five Blackbirds were the only nestlings ringed.

RINGING TOTALS LIST 1962

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------|
| Manx Shearwater | ... | ... | 1 |
| Lapwing | ... | ... | 10 (all nestlings) |
| Cuckoo | ... | ... | 3 |
| Great Spotted Woodpecker | ... | ... | 2 |