

## BIRDS RECORDED IN 1965

**Manx Shearwater.** First seen on 4th April, then recorded until late in August, with a maximum of c.300 on the 8th.

**Fulmar.** A total of twenty-seven pairs, the largest colony being thirteen pairs on Gannet's Rock. The total is five pairs less than the thirty-two of 1962.

**Gannet.** First seen on 9th April, then in small numbers up to a maximum of thirty-five on 11th July.

**Cormorant.** Small numbers recorded during the season. No breeding records. Largest number recorded was twenty-five flying south on 19th September.

**Shag.** A count of fifty-three pairs compared with a total of sixty-two in 1962.

**Heron.** Singles on 2nd January, 24th and 25th March. Four flew in from the South on 5th July. Other records were two on 6th and 9th August, four on the 8th. During September two on the 1st.

**Mallard.** Present during the year in small numbers of up to ten.

**Scaup.** One female present on the Lighthouse Pond from 5th to 10th May. This is only the second record for the Observatory.

**Buzzard.** One or two seen during the year, and three together on 6th May. A pair attempted to breed, but no eggs were laid.

**Hobby.** One moving North on 16th April.

**Peregrine.** Single birds recorded on 28th, 29th March, 16th April, 12th May, and 1st, 8th and 16th August. Two together on 31st July, one juvenile male and a female. No breeding record.

**Merlin.** One female on 10th August.

**Kestrel.** A pair seen frequently, but not thought to have bred. A maximum of four birds seen on 18th and 27th August.

**Quail.** One calling during the night of 18th May.

**Teal.** Single birds recorded on 13th to 21st August, and 14th, 25th, 26th September. Two on 1st September.

**Pheasant.** Present in small numbers. At least two pairs bred. A maximum of ten seen together on 22nd September.

**Water Rail.** Single bird in Millcombe on 29th March, then up to three on 21st and 27th September.

**Moorhen.** One on the Terraces on 8th May, in Millcombe on 18th May, and on 30th August.

**Oystercatcher.** About ten pairs bred. The only movement noticed was ten moving South on 7th August.

**Lapwing.** About four pairs bred, usually between ten and thirty-five present during the rest of the year.

**Ringed Plover.** One or two between 28th April and 13th May. Single birds present on 13th and 26th July, 10th August, and 18th September.

**Golden Plover.** Up to four present from 23rd March to 20th May, and then from 27th August to 28th September numbers up to a maximum of thirty on 21st September.

**Turnstone.** Spring records on 16th April to 10th May, with a maximum of eighteen on 26th April. Single bird on 6th June.

**Snipe.** Present from opening of Observatory until 1st May. Maximum of twelve on 27th March. First autumn one on 15th July, then not until 9th August to 14th September, with a maximum of four.

**Jack Snipe.** Single birds recorded on 27th and 30th March, and 2nd April.

**Woodcock.** Two on 24th March.

**Curlew.** One pair attempted to breed, but the eggs were lost. Up to five usually present with a maximum of eighteen on 10th May, Passage during July with a maximum of forty-two on the 16th. Records of up to thirty-six during August and September.

**Whimbrel.** Spring passage from 20th April to 6th June, with a maximum of twenty-five from April 27th to 3rd May. A single bird on 1st July, two on 13th July, and then daily from 22nd July until the end of the season with a maximum of six on 30th July.

**Bar-tailed Godwit.** One on 9th and 10th May.

**Common Sandpiper.** Single birds on 24th April, 8th and 12th May, two on 1st May. Autumn movement first noted on 23rd July. Two on 24th July and singles on 14th and 29th August, and 25th September.

**Green Sandpiper.** One early bird on 3rd July, then singles on 23rd and 31st July, 10th, 13th and 26th August, and 3rd and 25th September.

**Wood Sandpiper.** Two early birds on 10th August.

**Redshank.** Single birds on 8th, 16th, 22nd and 31st August.

**Spotted Redshank.** One on 4th September.

**Greenshank.** Single birds on 31st July and 4th, 12th, 13th August and 2nd September.

**Purple Sandpiper.** Three on 19th April behind Rat Island.

**Dunlin.** Recorded from 29th April to 13th May during the spring, with a maximum of five on 2nd May. Autumn records from 8th August to 23rd September, with a maximum of five on 6th September.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper.** Two birds seen near the Airfield were identified as this species, and have been accepted by the Rare Birds Committee. First discovered by J. Martin and John Ogilvie, on 27th September, and remained for a few days. Only two other records of this vagrant from North America, in 1858 and 1959 when one was caught and ringed.

**Ruff.** One male in the Brick Field on 3rd to 5th April.

**(Grey Phalarope).** A phalarope seen in the Landing Bay by John Ogilvie is believed to have been of this species.

**Great Black-backed Gull.** No change noted in breeding population. Forty-seven pairs counted.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull.** Again, no change in breeding population. Seventy pairs counted.

**Herring Gull.** Approximately 1,190 pairs counted, much the same numbers as in 1962.

**Common Gull.** One on 13th April and three on 24th. One on 3rd and 5th May.

**Black-headed Gull.** Seen occasionally throughout the season from 1st April to 13th August, with a maximum of eight on 16th July.

**Kittiwake.** A count was made of 1,255 pairs, although it is not certain if this means *breeding* pairs. In 1962 a count of 760 breeding pairs was made.

**Sandwich Tern.** One on 21st April.

**Razorbill.** Recorded on 3rd April until 3rd August, with no apparent change in breeding population.

**Guillemot.** Recorded from 28th March to 29th July. No apparent change in breeding population.

**Puffin.** Recorded from 3rd April to 29th July. Twelve pairs at North End, five pairs at Jenny's Cove, three pairs at odd places on the West side, four pairs at Long Ruse, nine pairs at the Battery. This is a total of thirty-three pairs, and represents what is probably the lowest number of birds ever recorded on the island. One late bird recorded on 14th September.

**Stock Dove.** Single birds on 11th and 13th May.

**Wood Pigeon.** Present in small numbers of up to eighteen during the season, with one record of thirty on 28th September.

**Arctic Skua.** One on 20th August.

**Turtle Dove.** Spring passage from 1st May onwards with a maximum of thirty-two on 20th. First autumn migrant on 14th August and then ones and twos up to 27th September.

**Collared Dove.** Seen in small numbers of up to five from 6th May to 5th July.

**Cuckoo.** First seen on 28th April, and up to four present in mid-May but only occasionally during June and early July. Then one or two almost daily from 21st July to 30th August, and 23rd, 26th and 27th September.

**Short-eared Owl.** One on 11th September.

**Alpine Swift.** One on 28th September. This record has been accepted by the Rare Birds Committee.

**Swift.** First seen on 30th April, then a maximum spring number of twenty-five on 3rd June. Birds present in small numbers during the summer. A small passage of thirty-two birds in mid-July. Large movements of 160 plus moving South on 10th August, eighty-nine on 13th, and seventy-four on 13th. Then smaller numbers until 17th August. One bird on 19th September, and a late movement of c. twenty-five on 28th September.

**Hoopoe.** Single birds on 30th and 31st March, 1st and 2nd April, and 17th May.

**Wryneck.** One early migrant on 29th and 31st March. One on 6th and 7th April.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker.** One on 13th September.

**Sskylark.** Small increases in mid-March and early April with seventy-eight on 4th April. Increases in the autumn from 13th to 28th September, with a maximum of c.140 on the 20th.

**Swallow.** First seen on 28th March, spring maximum of 200 plus on 26th April and c.150 on 9th May. Only odd birds recorded during the summer. Autumn passage started on 8th August, and a maximum of c.300 was recorded on 16th September.

**House Martin.** First seen on 28th March, the earliest spring record. The main passage started on 26th April with a maximum of fifty-five on 20th May. Only occasional birds after June 16th, and few recorded during the autumn, with a maximum of c. thirty on 16th September.

**Sand Martin.** First seen on 28th March, then in small numbers of up to twenty during the spring. Autumn numbers starting in mid-July with a maximum of ninety on the 31st. Fifty were recorded on 30th August and sixty on 13th September.

**Golden Oriole.** Two male birds present from 13th to 20th May, then one female on 2nd and 10th June, and one male on 2nd July.

**Raven.** Four pairs bred. Maximum number of twenty recorded on 20th September.

**Carriion Crow.** Up to twenty-seven recorded on 29th May, recorded during the year. Small increases in the autumn of thirty-one on 20th August and thirty-eight on 27th September.

**Rook.** Recorded occasionally between 5th April and June, with up to three birds. One present from 5th July to 4th August with two on 17th July. One again present on 4th August and 1st, 27th and 28th September.

**Jackdaw.** Odd birds recorded from 10th February to 29th May but never more than three. A single bird on 20th and 21st September.

**Wren.** Up to eleven present during the year.

**Mistle Thrush.** Single bird on 22nd May.

**Fieldfare.** Two on 24th March, and singles on 15th April, 5th and 13th May. First autumn birds were singles on 13th and 16th September.

**Jay.** One on 26th September, the first record for Lundy.

**Song Thrush.** Up to nine present from 19th February to 28th April. Autumn numbers of up to two from 13th to 27th September.

**Redwing.** Up to three present until 16th April, and a late single on 5th May. The previous latest date for Lundy was 20th April.

**Ring Ouzel.** Seen from 27th March to 2nd May with a maximum of five on 30th March and 1st April. Autumn migrants recorded from 23rd August to 27th September with a maximum of nine on 14th September.

**Blackbird.** About five pairs bred, and not more than twenty birds recorded after 23rd March until the autumn migration when a maximum of twenty-four was recorded during September.

**Wheatear.** Present from 23rd March onwards. Up to fourteen at the end of March and up to twenty from 29th April to 5th May, with a maximum of twenty-four on 13th May. No definite breeding records. Autumn passage from 6th August with maximum of fifty plus on 8th August. Forty recorded on 27th September.

**Stonechat.** Two females on 30th March. One male on 3rd July. Small autumn movements of up to nine from 19th to 26th September.

**Whinchat.** One April 30th, and up to four 13th to 20th May. One 5th June. Autumn movement from 15th August to 25th September with a maximum of fourteen on 21st September.

**Redstart.** 31st March to 7th April, up to four. Eight on 22nd April, and then up to three from 29th April to 19th May. Autumn movement from 9th August with up to three seen for the rest of the season.

**Black Redstart.** One female on 27th March and 9th April and one male on 28th March, 17th and 23rd April. One female on 7th June.

**Robin.** Up to fourteen at the end of March. Two birds of the Continental Race caught on 31st March. About three pairs bred. Small autumn increase with a maximum of twenty-four on 16th September.

**Grasshopper Warbler.** Spring passage from 21st April to 20th May with a maximum of ten on 28th April. Autumn passage with ten on 30th July and a maximum of twenty-five on 23rd September.

**Reed Warbler.** Single bird on 20th to 25th September.

**Sedge Warbler.** First seen on 20th April with a maximum of c. forty on 11th May. Autumn passage started on 25th July with very large numbers recorded for the rest of the autumn, 130 on 30th July, 30 on 6th August and fifty on 23rd September.

**Blackcap.** One male on 29th March and then up to four from 23rd April to 27th May. First autumn birds noted on 19th August and a maximum of twenty on 23rd September.

**Garden Warbler.** Spring passage of up to three from 23rd April to 4th June. Autumn singles on 30th and 31st July, and then in ones or twos until 23rd September when thirty were recorded.

**Whitethroat.** Present from 29th April with a maximum of 100 plus on 11th May. Two pairs bred. Small autumn movements only were noticed with a maximum of thirty on 23rd September.

**Lesser Whitethroat.** Four on 11th and 12th May. One seen on 16th May.

**Willow Warbler.** Recorded from 30th March to 4th June. A maximum of thirteen on 26th April. Autumn passage from 27th July with a maximum of thirty-six on 19th August.

**Chiffchaff.** First seen on 23rd March with a maximum of six on 23rd April. One pair bred.

**Willow Warbler/Chiffchaff.** Maximum spring numbers of sixty on 20th and 22nd April, 100 on 23rd April. Autumn numbers with 120 on 30th July, c.150 on 15th August and c.180 on 23rd September.

**Wood Warbler.** Two on 13th and 14th May.

**Goldcrest.** Up to six seen until 18th April. Autumn passage of up to nine recorded from 1st to 27th September.

**Spotted Flycatcher.** Single bird on 29th April, and then none until 10th May, with a maximum of fifty-seven on 20th May. One late bird on 16th June. Autumn movement started with a single bird on 24th July, then recorded regularly from 30th July, with a maximum of fifty on 23rd September.

**Pied Flycatcher.** One female on 14th April, and single birds recorded from 29th April. Two on 14th and 20th May. Autumn passage started on 14th August with a maximum of thirteen on 14th September.

**Duncock.** Present all the year, with maximum numbers of eighteen on 8th April and thirteen on 25th September.

**Meadow Pipit.** Fairly small resident population of about thirty birds. A spring maximum of c.100 on 28th March. Autumn numbers increasing gradually from mid August to a maximum of c.300 on 18th September.

**Tree Pipit.** Single birds on 29th March and 21st April, and then from 4th to 20th May with a maximum of six on 13th May. One bird on 3rd and 7th June. Only small autumn numbers with first on 20th August, and one or two until 28th September.

**Rock Pipit.** Thirteen pairs bred.

**Pied Wagtail.** One pair bred, having two broods with two young fledged in each case. Maximum of seven on 29th April.

**White Wagtail.** 24th March to 22nd May, with a maximum of seven on 30th March.

**Pied/White Wagtail.** Maximum autumn numbers of twenty-three on 27th August.

**Grey Wagtail.** One or two seen during September.

**Yellow Wagtail.** Spring numbers in ones and two between 29th April and 27th May. Autumn migration from 1st September to the end of the season, with a maximum of eight on 21st.

**Red-backed Shrike.** One male on 13th June and one autumn record on 25th to 27th September.

**Starling.** c.160 birds still present on 24th March, numbers then falling to ten by the end of May. Juvenile flocks increasing again to about 100 by the end of June, c.200 on 22nd July and c.160 on 19th August. Maximum of c.500 on 22nd September.

**Greenfinch.** Odd birds present until 21st April, with a maximum of four on 23rd March. One on 13th May, and one on 26th September.

**Goldfinch.** 29th March to 19th May with a maximum of seven on 26th and 28th April.

**Linnet.** Three on 24th March, and then from 29th March onwards up to forty-five until 1st July, sixty plus, and 130 on 19th September.

**Redpoll.** Single records on 11th, 18th, 19th April, and 17th May.

**Bullfinch.** One male on 29th and 30th March. Female from 7th to 20th April with a male on 17th to 19th, and one male on 14th June.

**Chaffinch.** Present in small numbers up to thirty. About three pairs bred. Autumn numbers never more than twelve during July, August and September.

**Brambling.** One female on 29th March, and one male on 3rd to 6th April.

**Yellowhammer.** Two on 23rd March and one female on 6th April and 11th May.

**Corn Bunting.** One singing in the Brick Field on 29th April.

**Red-headed Bunting.** One male present from 4th July to 8th August at Quarter Wall, then Pondsburry, and eventually residing in the oats. Not seen again until 14th to 18th September although this could possibly have been a different bird.

**Ortolan Bunting.** 13th to 27th September with a maximum of six on the 25th.

**Reed Bunting.** Single male on 5th to 21st May.

**Lapland Bunting.** One on 13th and 14th September.

**Snow Bunting.** Two on 14th and 27th September.

**House Sparrow.** Three on 31st March to 2nd April.

#### BIRDS RECORDED IN 1966

One hundred and forty species were recorded during the year, including three new to the Lundy list.

**Great Northern Diver** (*Gavia immer*). One in the landing bay 20th-22nd October.

**Storm Petrel** (*Hydrobales pelagicus*). None were seen from the Island, but there were several records of birds seen on the crossing.

**Manx Shearwater** (*Procellaria puffinus*). First seen off-shore on March 13th and then more frequently as the spring progressed, with a maximum of two hundred plus off Puffin Slope in late May. The remains of several young birds were found near a Great Black-backed Gull's nest during August.

**Fulmar** (*Fulmaris glacialis*). Birds were on the cliffs when the Observatory opened and breeding took place at the usual Gannets' Rock and Jenny's Cove sites and also a new colony at Long Ruse. A blue bird was one of a pair on Gannets' which failed to breed.

**Gannet** (*Sula bassana*). Birds seen off-shore in all months with a maximum of one hundred plus off the Battery on 9th August. Juvenile birds seen swimming along the east side during the autumn were almost certainly part of the dispersal of young from Grassholm.

**Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carlo*). Very few spring and only three autumn records of this now lost breeding bird, with twenty-seven on 2nd October the highest number recorded.

**Shag** (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*). No significant change in numbers and the breeding season was a successful one including the rare occurrence of a nest with six eggs.

**Heron** (*Ardea cinerea*). Well recorded this year. Three on August 18th the most seen together.

**Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*). Regularly up to nine recorded and three pairs bred but with little success; only three of the twenty ducklings hatched reached the free flying stage.

**Teal** (*Anas crecca*). Two March 19th until April 3rd the only spring record. Regularly during the autumn with five on October 28th.