

BIRDS RECORDED IN 1969

Great Northern Diver (*Gavia immer*). A single bird offshore on 26th and 27th October.

Slavonian Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*). One on 27th October.

Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*). Heard regularly during May and on 26th about 1,000 were seen in Lundy Roads. In June, a number of night sorties were made and these showed that perhaps 100/150 birds were coming ashore. (See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Fulmar (*Fulmaris glacialis*). The count of 44 nests is the same number as in 1967. Seven were still at the cliffs on 12th September. (See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Gannet (*Sula bassana*). Occasionally seen in small numbers from May to July but not more than twenty at one time.

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*). Single birds were seen occasionally and six on 13th September.

Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*). At least 58 nests were counted. (See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Heron (*Ardea cinerea*). Two seen on 9th July were the only ones recorded.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). At least one pair bred, perhaps three.

Teal (*Anas crecca*). Up to four were frequently seen from 7th September.

Pochard (*Aythya ferina*). Three were recorded on 9th September and singles during September and October.

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*). A single bird, first seen in the tent field on 2nd October, stayed until 26th October.

Sparrow Hawk (*Accipiter nisus*). A single bird was seen on 22nd and 24th October.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). Singles were recorded on 16th and 21st October.

Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*). Regularly seen with a maximum of four in September.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). A single bird with jesses was on the island from 4th to 12th July. There is also a record of a single bird on 13th September.

Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*). Present in small numbers, four being seen in July and two females with two young in September.

Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*). The first autumn record was of one on 11th September and up to three were heard in October.

Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*). Small numbers were seen in all months and at least two nesting pairs were recorded but it is believed that others also nested.

Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*). Breeding as usual at the nesting area with fifty birds present in June.

Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*). In the spring one was seen at the airfield on 13th May and a single bird was found on 23rd July. From 10th September until the end of October, ones and twos were frequently seen.

Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*). Recorded during September and October but only in small numbers with a maximum of thirteen on 7th September.

Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*). There were singles only in September, on 10th and 12th, but six were seen on 23rd October.

Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*). Rather scarce, three were seen on 23th July and up to five on most days during September. Five were again seen on 20th October.

Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*). A single on 21st October and probably the same bird was again seen on 24th.

Curlew (*Numenius arquata*). One pair bred on the island. Principal numbers were, 7th July, forty, 15th September, eighteen and 20th October, four.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). Numbers passing through during May with a maximum of fifteen on 12th. During July, six to twelve were seen and three were recorded on 11th September.

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*). A single record of one on 15th September.

Redshank (*Tringa totanus*). Four were seen on 3rd July.

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*). A single bird was recorded on 17th September.

Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*). One autumn record of a single bird on 14th September.

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*). The only spring record was of two seen on 26th May; a single bird passed on 25th July and up to two were seen on most days in September.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*). A single autumn representative stayed from 11th to 17th September.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*). On 27th June, one was seen eating a Razorbill (*Alca torda*). 50 nests were counted.
(See the Report on the breeding status of sea-birds).

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*). The count of 99 nests shows a considerable increase in the breeding population.
(See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*). 2,399 nests shows a further increase in the nesting numbers (See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*). A single record of one at the airfield on 10th June.

Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*). 1,441 nests continues the increase previously recorded. (See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*). On spring passage, five were seen on 11th April.

Razorbill (*Alca torda*). 584 nests counted.

(See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

It should be noted that although there has been a serious decline in the numbers of this species breeding on Lundy in the last decade, there has been a corresponding remarkable increase in the breeding numbers on the mainland of North Devon in the Woody Bay area.

Guillemot (*Uria aalge*). 1,647 birds counted shows that a further decline in the resident numbers has taken place.

(See the Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

In a similar manner to the Razorbill (*Alca torda*) it should be noted that a remarkable increase in the breeding numbers of this species on the mainland of North Devon in the Woody Bay area coincides with the decline in the numbers resident on Lundy.

Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*). Perhaps 100 birds present during the breeding season and 41 nests counted.
(See also Report on the status of breeding sea-birds).

Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*). Up to seven in June, fourteen in July and up to twelve on most days in September.

Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*). Singles in spring, in May with four on 29th and up to five on most days in June with six on 3rd. Singles were recorded in early September and the last two on 18th.

Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*). Up to six in April and nine in May; on 3rd June, nineteen were counted and birds were heard calling in July.

Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*). The first one was heard on 26th April and one was recorded in the autumn on 9th September.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*). A single bird on 20th October.

Swift (*Apus apus*). Ones and twos in June and July with a count of twenty-four on 25th July. The last record was of two on 11th September.

Alpine Swift (*Apus melba*). One was seen on 15th and 16th May at Puffin slope and near Brazen Wood, at close range on both dates.

The record has been accepted by the Rarities Committee.

Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*). Plentiful in June and up to 40 recorded in September.

Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*). A single bird was seen on 26th April.

Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). Recorded from 7th April and very numerous in May. Two or three were seen during June. The autumn peak was reached on 8th September when 105 were counted and the last three were seen on 27th October.

House Martin (*Delichon urbica*). Eight were seen on 7th April and small numbers were recorded during May. Only small numbers passed through in the autumn with up to five seen on most days during September. One was still being recorded on 27th October.

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*). The first two were seen on 6th April, followed by only very small numbers. During September, up to six were being recorded on most days.

Raven (*Corvus corax*). Regularly seen and plentiful in June. Twelve on 7th September was the largest count.

Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*). Seventeen were counted on 7th April and very numerous during June. Eighteen were seen on 8th September.

Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*). Two were seen on 15th April.

Coal Tit (*Parus ater*). A single bird on 22nd and 23rd October.

Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*). Recorded each month with nine on 7th and 9th September.

Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*). A single record of one on 17th October.

Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*). A notable influx in late autumn. On 22nd October ten were seen but on 27th October the number rose to more than 150.

Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*). An autumn influx commencing with a single bird on 16th October rising to eight on 20th and no less than 300 on 21st October. This was the peak and numbers had fallen to about 100 by 27th October.

Ring Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*). Three were seen on spring passage on 7th April. In the autumn, one was seen on 7th September, seven on 9th and then singles until the last two on 18th September.

Blackbird (*Turdus merula*). Present all months and breeding recorded. A notable influx in the autumn, the numbers rising from thirty on most days of September and early October to over 100 on 21st October and over 150 on 27th.

Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*). Four were counted on 7th April and small numbers in May. On 7th September, a maximum of 28 falling to 15 on 18th September and up to nine during the early part of October. Eight were the last ones on 21st October.

Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata*). Up to five were regularly seen in October.

Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*). A single bird was seen on 24th July and another single on 6th September rising to a peak of sixteen on 18th September. In October, singles were recorded on 16th and 18th.

Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*). A single female appeared on 1st June and a male was seen at the Old Light on 26th June. During September up to six were regularly recorded and singles on 18th and 20th October. The last two were seen on 22nd October.

Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*). One female was observed on 7th April. A single bird was seen on 14th September. From 15th October to 31st, ones and twos were usually seen but on 22nd October no less than twelve were counted. Large numbers were passing through the mainland of Devon at this time.

Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*). Seen as usual each month but no influx was apparent.

Grasshopper Warbler (*Locustella naevia*). In the autumn, one was recorded on 7th September, three on 9th, then ones and twos from 15th to 18th. A single late bird appeared on 20th October.

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*). Recorded several times in May. In the autumn fourteen were counted on 7th September and twenty-four on the 9th, falling to three on 18th September.

Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*). Very numerous in the autumn. Starting from ones and twos in early September, five on 16th, rising to ten on 20th October and twenty on 21st and no less than 35 on 27th October.

Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*). Well recorded in the autumn, rising from one on 8th September to nine on 16th. Four were seen on 20th and 27th October.

Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*). Only two were recorded in May and June. Not very numerous in the autumn, the principal numbers being twelve on 7th September, a peak of 38 on 9th, fourteen on 11th and six on 18th September.

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca*). A single bird was seen on 8th and 9th September.

Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilis*). Recorded in April and May and on autumn passage in September. From 7th September when 140 Willow/Chiffchaffs were counted, the number rose to 610 by 9th but never exceeded 60 for the rest of the month.

Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*). Recorded in April in small numbers. Large numbers in autumn with the Willow Warblers in September and on 20th October, twenty, falling to twelve on 27th October.

Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*). One on 12th May was the only record.

Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*). Singles appeared on 22nd, 26th and 27th October.

Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*). In April, two were seen on 4th and six on the 7th. In the autumn, up to three were seen and on 20th October, six increased by an influx to twenty-five on 27th October.

Firecrest (*Regulus ignicapillus*). Appeared in late autumn, the first on 16th October was followed by two on 21st and three on 27th October.

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*). Up to five were frequently seen in June. In the autumn a most remarkable influx occurred, a very high count of 116 on 7th September being overshadowed by the 270 which appeared on 9th September, while in complete contrast only 30 could be found on the following day. A subsequent rise to 46 on 16th was followed by 25 on 18th September. A very late bird was seen on 18th October.

Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula hypoleuca*). In the autumn, four were present on 7th September and six on the 9th with ones and twos during the remainder of September and a late one on 22nd October.

Red-breasted Flycatcher (*Ficedula parva*). Singles were recorded from 20th to 24th October.

Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*). Resident, but not more than six were seen at one time.

Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*). During April, up to 35 were counted. An autumn influx brought the number up to 120 by 7th September and 150 on 12th October.

Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*). A single bird in spring plumage was well seen on 17th May. The record has been accepted by the Rarities Committee.

Rock Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*). Resident as usual and pairs with young were seen at the North-West point and at The Battery.

Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*). No movement noted and not more than six in September.

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*). Two appeared on 20th October, one staying to 21st.

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*). Single were recorded in June and July and from 8th to 12th September, followed by singles from 16th to 19th October.

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*). The first spring record was of a single bird on 8th April and one was seen on 2nd June. In the autumn movement, up to nine were regularly recorded during September.

Woodchat Shrike (*Lanius senator*). A single bird of this species was perhaps seen on 31st May.

Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*). Resident as usual with nests at Marisco Castle and at the Old Light. Early autumn flocks of up to 150 were counted during September.

Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*). One was seen on 17th and 20th October.

Greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*). Two were seen on 15th April, one on 15th October and two on 21st.

Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*). Several were seen during July, two on 7th October and seven on 21st.

Siskin (*Carduelis spinus*). A late autumn movement was very well recorded; two on 18th October, three on 20th, four on 22nd and no less than 50 on 27th October.

Linnet (*Acanthis cannabina*). On 8th July twenty were seen with at least one young. The autumn flock was up to 40 by the 7th September, 100 on 11th, 140 on 17th.

Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*). A single record of a male on 8th June.

Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*). Seven or eight were seen during the summer increasing to fourteen in September. The late autumn influx brought 60 on 20th October, no less than 250 on 22nd and 350 on 27th October.

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*). Four appeared on 17th October and two were seen 18th and 24th.

Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*). A single bird was seen on 4th June.

Red-headed Bunting (*Emberiza bruniceps*). A single bird was recorded many times during May, July and September.

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*). A spring bird was seen on 17th May, the first for the late autumn appeared on 20th October followed by two on 22nd and one on 26th.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). A single record of one on 6th May.

Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*). Two were seen on 7th June.