

Controls of Ringed Birds

<i>Species</i>	<i>Ring No.</i>	<i>Date ringed and age</i>	<i>Date controlled, place</i>
Max Shearwater	EF 07850	28.8.70 pullus	30.7.75 Skokholm, Pems.
Manx Shearwater	EF49980	10.9.71 pullus	6.7.75 Skokholm, Pems.
Manx Shearwater	FS 57609	31.8.72 pullus	30.7.75 Skokholm, Pems.
Manx Shearwater	EC 82595	5.9.65 pullus	31.7.75 Skokholm, Pems.
(re-ringed as EF 98163)			
Sedge Warbler	Paris 1516061	16.4.75 adult	18.5.75 Tangier, Morocco I.G.B.

The Bird Report for 1975 has been compiled from observations and records by the following observers who have made entries in the Log-book, from details and notes that have been sent to the Editorial Committee and from details given to the Rarities Committee.

R. Abrahams	Mary England
C.C. Baillie	Ruth Lawley
I.G. Black	R. Leslie
Linda V. Black	M.R. Macks
P.G.V. Bellers	J. Ogilvie
R.W. Britton	M. Rogers
D.N. Carstair	Win. Rogers
N.A. Clark	N.J. Scriven
M. Darlaston	Brian Searle
P. Darlaston	A.M. Taylor

Ornithological courses 1975

A total of four courses were held during the year. They were in pairs, one being in spring at the end of May to early June, and the other being at the end of August to early September.

The spring courses concentrated on showing people the species breeding on the island, particularly seabirds. Unfortunately the number of persons attending the courses was limited due to accommodation problems. The first week's course was housed in Old Light East and West, the second in Signal Cottage. A total of eight attended the first two courses.

Throughout these two courses the colonies of auks were observed, a late Purple Sandpiper was photographed, as were the now small groups of Puffins. The continuing migration of Swallows and Swifts was noted. On Monday, June 2nd, a great many Manx Shearwaters were seen in the evening circling the island for some considerable time. High in one of the old pines in Millcombe was a Goldcrest feeding young. THE bird we DIDN'T see was a Golden Oriole which was present for a few days. A Scarlet Rosefinch was trapped by Tony Taylor and was seen by some of the course members. On the last day a Melodious Warbler was seen in the wall leading up to Old Light from Tent Field.

By the time the autumn courses occurred The Barn was completed and we had the honour to be the first group to use it. A total of seventeen people attended these last two weeks. Apart from seeing a good selection of species, the weather was exceptionally fine and some very good swims were enjoyed at several places around the island. Whilst the weather was not as "helpful" as last year we did see a Buff-breasted Sandpiper from across the Atlantic on the penultimate day. Seals and basking sharks with huge shoals of mackerel added to the interest of this period. With increasing wader activity and many Gannets fishing around the island, as well as big movement of flycatchers, wagtails, and hirundines, it was generally an exciting time. As one person put it "not so much a course but more a way of life" seemed apt.

Similar courses are planned for 1976. These will again cover the Spring and Autumn periods except that the Autumn courses will start a little later. Regrettably the cost of attending will have to be increased to £45 per head per course. However by today's standards this must be good value even to the unconverted "Lundyphile".

R.W. Britton