

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF BIRDS, 1979

The sequence and nomenclature follow that of *A Species List of British and Irish Birds* (revised 1978 to follow the Voous sequence), published by the British Trust for Ornithology.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. One from 5th to 11th January, one on 2nd April and one seen many times from 20th October to 31st December with two on 25th and 26th October and 1st November.

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Thirty at Jenney's Cove on 21st January and ashore on ledges on 13th December.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*. Singles on 11th and 25th September on crossing were well described.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. On 12th April 400 were off North end, 100 on 21st June, 6000 on 2nd July, 8000 on 4th July and six on 29th September.

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. On 11th June eight were seen on crossing.

Gannet *Sula bassana*. The first thirty were seen on 11th April, up to 45 in July, 40 in August, 65 in September, twelve in October and up to five occasional in November and December.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Three on 26th March, four on 4th April, thirteen passed north on 6th April and eighteen passed north on 15th April, seven on 10th June, six on 15th August and sixteen on 4th September.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. No census taken.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. Singles on 19th March, 23rd May, 24th June, five on 4th July, singles on 2nd to 7th August and 21st to 27th November.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*. On 22nd December six passed north-west.

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*. One on 3rd February and one from 12th to 31st May.

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*. 12th and 13th February, one.

Teal *Anas crecca*. Singles on 7th and 23rd January and 3rd April also 20th May. Five appeared on 19th August, three on 26th and two on 31st August. Singles 1st, 29th and 30th September, three on 25th October.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. One drake 2nd to 6th January and 24th to 26th January with a single duck on 27th January. Seven appeared on 5th July and seven again on 4th August. Two on 19th October.

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*. A single drake on 7th April.

Tufted Duck *Anas fuligula*. Two possibles on 27th October.

Eider *Somateria mellissima*. Two ducks on 6th March and two drakes on 20th April.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. Singles on 6th August and 21st October.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*. Four appeared on 24th October.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. 6th August, one and 8th to 27th October, one.

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*. 21st and 25th May, one seen and well described.

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. One seen five times between 21st March and 26th April.

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. One only on 18th March.

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. At least one on almost every day with two on 2nd January and 30th March and 2nd July, five on 1st September and six on 8th October.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. One frequently seen from 30th March to 18th April, two on 23rd April and singles from 14th October to 2nd November.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*. Singles 4th June, 7th and 20th August and 14th September.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. Singles were seen in January, August, September, October and November.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. Two were frequently seen in January with three on 15th and 26th and two occasionally until 8th April. From 29th September up to three were occasionally recorded until the end of the year.

Corncrake *Crex crex*. One only on 7th September.

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*. No census taken but fourteen were recorded on 11th October.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius kiaticula*. One on 13th and 28th April. Three on 4th June, one from 27th August to 4th September and two on 5th with five on 10th September.

Dotterel *Charadrius merinellus*. One only on 4th September.

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*. Up to six in January but twenty-seven on 24th and 25th. Seven on 21st March, nine on 16th April. Singles appeared from 22nd August with four on 5th September, ten on 25th October and three on 31st December.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis aquatarela*. Singles on 14th April and 12th May.

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. Present all year, 27th January, 300, bred as usual in April.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*. One only on 6th September.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. One from 21st to 23rd January, two on 28th March and 17th April, two on 10th August.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. Singles on 30th April, 30th May, 8th August, 23rd and 27th August, 2nd to 5th September.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*. Singles on 5th April, 21st May and 24th November.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. 1st January, four, rising to thirteen on 31st January, a run of thirty on 23rd January, two on 30th March and 18th April, singles from 27th August to 21st September, up to ten during October and up to seven during November and December.

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*. Two on 1st January, three on 11th January, singles regular to 31st January and a single on 18th March. Three frequent in October, singles in November and 3rd December, three.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Singles on 30th April and 6th May. Two on 7th August and one on 2nd to 4th September.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. First one on 21st April, three on 22nd and twenty on 24th April with singles in early May.

Curlew *Numenius arquata*. Up to fourteen in January, singles in February and March, four on 19th June, seven on 25th June, increased to twenty-two on 4th July and twenty-three on 6th August. Fourteen were counted on 27th December.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*. A single on 5th and 6th September.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Singles only on 21st March and 16th July.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. Three on 26th August.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*. Singles on 5th July, 16th August and 5th September.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*. 29th August, one, 30th and 31st August and 1st and 2nd September, one.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*. Singles on 20th April, 15th May, 31st May, 21st July and 11th August.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*. One on 25th March, but five on 27th March. Singles on 10th August and 2nd September, five on 8th and 10th September.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*. One on 12th 13th April on crossing. 11th September, one on crossing.

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. Singles on 4th July and 4th August but an influx on 28th August of 43. On 2nd September down to one only again.

Common Gull *Larus canus*. An oiled adult appeared on 28th March. A single was recorded on 26th October.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. The single wintering bird was increased to two on 26th January. The first migrant appeared on 3rd March, two on 8th April, two on 5th June. A single on 24th November increased to two wintering on 13th and 20th December.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Some reduction in numbers.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. Some reduction in numbers.

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Bred as usual but no census taken.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. The first two appeared on 10th April.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*. One was identified on 30th August.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. The first chick was on the sea on 6th July. The numbers resident were estimated on 11th April to be 85% of last year's max. 150 were seen on 24th December and six oiled on 31st December.

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Up to thirty appeared in January and 150 on 11th April. 50 present on 24th December and one oiled on 31st.

Little Auk *Alle alle*. A single on 21st December.

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*. Six appeared at Battery on 1st April, 50 on 27th June, 50 on 3rd July, 40 north of Gannetts on 4th July, thirty on 3rd August, last twelve on 5th August.

Stock Dove *Columba conas*. Singles on 28th March, 16th and 25th April and 5th June.

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*. 14th February, three, 27th March, seventeen, 30th March, eleven, present all year and up to three during December.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. Five on 9th April, regular during June with up to twenty-seven and regular in August with up to eight.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*. The first four appeared on 11th May increasing to twenty-one on 30th, 21st June, ten, then singles on 4th and 28th August, 5th September, 7th and 11th October.

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. The first one on 29th April, two on 2nd and 7th May, three on 8th May and then singles regular until 1st July. One on 7th, 15th and 20th August.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. One on 8th and 9th May. One on 12th December.

Swift *Apus apus*. The first two appeared on 3rd May then almost every day increasing 40 on 8th May and then fluctuating with 150 on 18th June, singles in July, twenty on 4th August, up to six each day in September until 8th and then two very late on 1st October.

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*. One in spring on 8th May.

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*. At approximately 1700 hours on 28th September a group of Linnets *Carduelis cannabina*, Meadow Pipits, *Anthus pratensis*, and skylarks *Alauda arvensis* were seen feeding in the track 300 yards north of the High Street gate. Amongst them a different species was discernible and was identified as a Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*.

In comparison with the other species the bird was smaller than the skylarks, assuming more linnet-like proportions due to its compact build. In general appearance it was more like a meadow pipit although dumper and shorter-necked; it had a waddling gait.

The upperparts were greyish-brown, streaked similarly to a meadow pipit; the crown was darker brown than the rest of the head and a very pale supercilium was just discernible. The flanks were clear grey-white, breast off-white and lacked any streaking. The tail was short with white outer edges and a dark centre visible in flight.

The legs were not easily seen; the bill was quite short and horn yellow; eye small and dark. Flight note 'tsirrip' and a trill.

This was the second record of this species on Lundy.

RICHARD CAMPEY

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*. A single one on 10th October.

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. Present all year and 100 counted on 2nd February.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. An early one on 19th March was followed by up to thirteen by the end of March.

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. The first two on 30th March. In fog on 16th May three were picked up exhausted and only one of them survived. The weather produced 1500 on 24th May. Up to 50 during August followed by a weather movement of 1300 on 10th September. Two late migrants appeared on 1st November.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. No noticeable passage movements in spring or autumn but three were seen on 25th November and a later one on 4th December.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. The first one on 9th April and five on 13th April, two on 9th May, six on 12th May and singles on 10th and 11th June. The first autumn bird appeared on 22nd August and two on 28th August, two on 4th September, three on 5th and two on 29th September.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. On 4th March 150 passed north. Only a few in August and September but on 2nd October 150 came in from the sea.

Rock Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*. No counts were attempted.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. The first migrant passed on 13th April and singles on many days during May. One once again on 25th July and up to five during August. A movement through of 40 on 7th September and a late one from 5th to 11th October.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. One regularly seen from 27th February to 12th March, two on 18th April and singles 8th May and 2nd to 6th October.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. One on 14th March increased to twelve on 30th March with up to ten during April and May and up to six during June and July. Five usual during August, up to nine during September and up to three in October. One was seen on 31st December.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba*. Only apparent in spring, the first two on 18th April, one 20th to 22nd April up to four 1st to 9th May.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*. Present as usual and 14 trapped and ringed.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*. Present as usual and 13 trapped and ringed.

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. No passage movements, 28 were ringed.

Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*. One in the autumn on 24th October.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochrures*. One on 26th March, one from 14th to 18th April, One again on 24th October, two on 25th and three on 26th October,

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. The first migrant on 10th April, two on 11th, five on 14th and two on 18th April and then none until the first for the autumn on 28th August, two on 2nd and fifth September, up to four during October until the last one on 25th October.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. Migrants in May were four on 8th, one on 12th and one on 31st. The first autumn migrant was a single on 28th August followed by four on 2nd September, two on 4th, six on 5th September and singles on 9th and 10th October.

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Six on 25th February were the first, one on 30th March, four on 1st April, two on 8th and 9th April but no more until singles on 29th and 30th September, two on 4th October were of the Siberian race, four on 20th and three on 26th October.

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. The first five on 27th March, two on 29th March, four on 1st April, twenty-five on 10th April ended the spring migration. On 12th July three included two immature birds. Seven on 1st August, six on 3rd, ten on 6th, fifteen on 8th, 50 on 17th, thirty on 20th August were followed by five on 3rd September, including Greenland specimens, six on 29th and fifteen on 30th September, seven on 2nd October, five on 10th, one on 12th and one on 24th October.

Ring Ousel *Turdus torquatus*. The first two early migrants appeared on 13th March, a single on 29th March, five on 10th April, two on 20th April ending the spring movement. Autumn migration was all during October with one on 10th, three on 13th, two on 14th and 15th, one on 17th and two on 18th October.

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. Resident as usual and no great movements until an increase to 600 on 27th November.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. Seven present on 1st January increased to ten from 27th to 31st January. No spring or early autumn movements. Ten on 31st October increased to 50 on 21st November and twenty were counted on 7th December.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. No large scale movements this year. On 1st January, twenty-seven were counted and on 18th January, thirty and 3rd March about thirty. Ten were seen in December.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*. Some noticeable movements. On 1st January 40, 31st January, 100. On the night 22nd/23rd February a very large weather movement brought about 2000 to the south light and twelve were found dead. Thirty on 31st October, 50 on 2nd November, 60 on 21st November, ten on 9th December and 40 on 22nd November were the best of the later counts.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. Just a few, three on 28th January, one on 30th January and singles in March but then none until two on 13th October and three on 26th October with the last single on 2nd November.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Very few and only on spring passage. The first two on 18th April, one on 28th April, two on 7th May, three on 8th May and two on 12th May.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Late in passing this year and few in numbers. Five on 8th May, three on 15th and singles on 16th and 29th May. Singles in autumn on 11th, 26th and 27th August and 5th September.

Iceterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*. A late specimen appeared on 2nd October.

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*. Three singles came through, on 30th August, 5th September and 13th September.

Rüppell's Warbler *Sylvia rueppelli*. A male appeared on 1st June and stayed until 10th June, trapped on 4th June. It caused great excitement during its stay and on the day of the excursion, 4th June, it was watched by 90 observers.

At approximately 1900 hours on 1st June I was summoned to the east side path to the quarries to see a male Rüppell's Warbler *Sylvia rueppelli*. Although the light was beginning to fade the following notes were taken:-

No other bird was present for comparison but it seemed in build like a chunky Whitethroat. Black cap extending continuously down the nape and side of the face but not behind the eye or ear coverts and continuing down the throat to the chin. A prominent white moustachial stripe extending from the base of the bill to just inside black mask behind the ear coverts. Eye ring red, upperparts grey, wing feathers dark grey with light fringes, underparts uniform light grey, tail dark grey to black with white outer tail feathers; the white outers were not conspicuous. The tail was constantly being cocked while feeding. Legs were pinkish red.

This is the first record for Lundy and only the second for the British Isles and has been accepted by the Rarities Committee.

RICHARD CAMPEY

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*. Two spring records only, one on 13th May and one on 3rd June.

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. Only a few this year. Two on 13th May, three on 14th May, one on 11th June, two on 14th June were the spring records. Three on 22nd August, singles on 5th and 29th September were the only autumn records.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. One on 15th April and two on 13th May were the spring records. The first two autumn birds came in on 28th August, one on 5th September, twenty on 16th October, five on 17th and one on 20th October.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. One on 4th April and one on 15th April, two on 1st and five on 9th May were the only spring records. One on 5th and another on 29th September but moved through in numbers in October with thirty on 16th, 40 on 26th and three on 31st October. The last records were three on 2nd November and one on 27th November.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*. Two were trapped and ringed on 14th October. These are the first since 1968 and bring the total to seven. Full details and measurements were taken.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. One migrant on 1st May was the only record for the year.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. Two early migrants appeared on 3rd March, two on 11th and one on 27th and six on 30th March, up to ten regular during April and May, four on 22nd June and singles during July. Five on 10th August, five on 14th September, five on 1st and 10th October, ten on 14th, twenty on 16th, singles on 29th and 31st October. One on 27th November, two on 13th December, one wintering 28th to 31st December.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Quite a good spring migration. The first one on 3rd April, ten on 8th and twenty on 10th, 60 on 25th April, 60 on 5th May, 70 on 9th May with four during May, June and July. On the return thirty on 8th August, 80 on 11th August, 20th August, 40 and thirty on 30th August, 9th September, thirty but only ten on 17th September, eight on 5th October and the last two on 9th October.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. One in early January, three during March, six on 1st and 4th April. Autumn movement not until twenty on 6th October, sixteen on 20th and fifteen on 31st October. Up to five during November and up to four during December. 27 were trapped and ringed.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*. One on 1st April was the only spring bird. In autumn three on 6th October, three on 10th, five on 13th, three on 31st October, one on 24th and 25th November and up to three frequent during December. 11 were ringed.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Spring movements confined to May with the first four on 8th, four on 14th, fifteen on 15th, and fourteen on 19th May. Autumn migration began with the first one on 1st to 3rd August, two on 15th, fifteen on 20th, twenty on 27th, 60 on 27th and thirty on 28th August, singles many times in September followed by the last three on 5th October.

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. The first one on 5th May increased to four on 7th May followed by small numbers into early June. In August, one on 21st, two on 26th, eight on 28th August. In September, seven on 2nd increasing to ten on 5th to 9th and two on 29th September, singles in October on 2nd and 16th.

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. Usually two from 7th January to 31st and singles in February, March and April.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*. One on 23rd April, one on 31st May and one on 13th and 14th June.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*. One from 2nd to 5th September and one on 28th September.

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*. Singles on 5th, 7th and 13th September were all different birds.

Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*. Two possibles on 14th October.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. One on 6th March, one on 24th April, one on 31st October and two on 1st November.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. One on 2nd January, two on 30th March, five on 6th April, six on 7th, singles on 13th and 16th April.

Carrión Crow *Corvus corone*. Twenty-one on 24th January, twelve on 2nd April. Twelve on 30th September, seventeen on 12th December and nine on 13th December.

One Hooded Crow was seen on 26th April.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. On 4th March, 300 passed south-east at dusk. On 20th November 600 passed.

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus*. A fine specimen stayed from 15th May until 1st June. In the last century D'Urban & Mathew recorded this species as a regular visitor in spring but none have been recorded on Lundy since an adult male was observed from 18th to 26th June 1934. A description is in the Logbook.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. No counts taken.

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*. One on 7th June.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Present all year in small numbers but not more than ten until 2nd November 5000, 24th November 240. On 12th December twenty-five.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. Two for spring on 9th April, six for autumn on 26th October.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. Two on 9th January, twenty on 25th March, four on 12th April. In autumn 50 on 24th October, 31st October five, 2nd November 50, 27th November four, 24th November two, 12th December, three.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. One on 2nd January increased to ten on 30th January, two on 27th April, three on 5th June, four on 14th October, singles on 24th November and 12th December, two on 14th December and 28th December.

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. 40 on 17th October. 1st November seven and 2nd November twelve.

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*. Four on 27th January increased to 50 on 27th March and sixteen on 5th April. On 27th November ten and 12th December twenty.

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*. One on 6th October and a few on 13th October.

Scarlet Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*. One on 13th, 24th and 27th September and 7th October. At least two individuals involved.

Lapland Bunting *Calcarius lapponicus*. Two on 29th September, three on 30th September, singles on 2nd and 11th October, two on twelfth October. About the same number as in 1978.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Two on 16th March and singles until 10th April. One on 2nd December, four on 23rd November and one on 8th December.

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*. One only on 30th August.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. One only on 2nd November.

ESCAPES IN 1979

Ring-necked Parrakeet *Psittacula krameri manillensis*. One.

Red-headed Bunting *Emberiza bruniceps*. A male on 22nd April.

SHARKS

Basking Shark *Cetorhinus maximus*. On 6th July three were seen at North End.

BUTTERFLIES IN 1979

The following were recorded although no special attempt was made to find them all.

Small White *Pieris rapae*. Recorded from one on 26th April.

Peacock *Iachis io*. Recorded from 20th April to 27th August.

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*. Recorded from 15th June to 31st October with a peak of twenty on 5th August.

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*. Recorded in very small numbers from 25th July to 2nd October.

Speckled Wood *Parage aegeria*. One only on 4th September.

Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*. Recorded from 20th April to 20th October in small numbers.

Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*. Recorded from 7th July to 5th August on which day fifty were seen.

Ringlet *Aphantopus hyperantus*. Two on 6th July and two on 13th August.

Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*. One on 5th September.

Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*. Recorded from 30th August to 28th October.

Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*. Recorded from 30th August to 28th October.

Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*. One on 24th June, one on 26th and 27th August, singles on 4th, 7th, 10th and 16th September.

A Garden Tiger Moth *Arctia caja* was seen on 16th July.

A Dor Beetle *Geotrupes stercorarius* was seen on 2nd July.