SYSTEMATIC LIST OF BIRDS, 1988

By A.M.Taylor

The sequence and nomenclature follow those of *The 'British Birds' List of Birds of the Western Palearctic* (which follows the Voous sequence).

Note: "Lundy Rarities". These are species not classed as national rarities but very uncommon on the island (for further details see the island log book). Records of them are only included in this report if they have been fully documented, with satisfactory substantiating details in the log book or submitted to the report editor. Observers' names are included below for species which are national or Lundy rarities.

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica.* One was seen in the Landing Bay on 9th October (H.Butterworth, W.Morgan). There have been four previous accepted records, three in spring and one in late autumn.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. There were single birds present on 1st and 2nd January, 28th October and 11th and 12th November. Two were seen on 12th October.

Fulmar Fulmarus glacialis. Present, breeding. There were few records outside the breeding season, nine in Jenny's Cove on 19th November being the highest number.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. Presumed breeding. Recorded from 3rd April to 29th August. Maximum counts were at least 300 on 23rd and 31st May and at least 400 on 3rd June.

Storm Petrel Hydrobates pelagicus. The only report was of two on 24th May.

Gannet Sula bassana. After one on 2nd January there were regular records from mid April to late October and three in December. Peak numbers were twenty on 4th June, sixteen on 24th July, 50 on 24th September and 60 on 7th and 88 on 19th October.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Highest numbers in spring were eight on 2nd April, nine on 13th May and sixteen on 6th June (later than usual), with other records on eleven days between these dates. In autumn birds were seen on many days between 6th August and 28th October, including 33 on 31st August, 20 on 10th and 32 on 26th September and 26 on 13th October, as usual mainly in flocks moving south.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis.* Present, breeding. Recorded throughout the year but no complete counts made.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. One on 26th April was followed by one from 6th to 10th June and three on 14th June. After another single from 15th to 20th July there were three on 17th August, singles on four dates between 11th September and 26th October and six on 3rd October.

Teal Anas crecca. Two on 10th January and a drake on 17th April were followed by records of one or two birds daily from 4th to 10th October, a drake on 29th October, two birds on 6th November and two on 13th and 14th December.

Mallard Anas platyrhynchos. As in 1987, the presence of up to seventeen birds of domestic origin probably obscured some visiting wild individuals. Two on 31st July were considered wild.

Tufted Duck Aythya fuligula. A male flew south past the Landing Beach on 5th July (A.M.Jewels). This is the eleventh Lundy record, most previous ones having been in spring but with two in October and one other in early July.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. Seven flew south on 25th October and another fifteen the following day. Five were seen during the boat crossing on 11th November.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*. Five, including one male, flew southwest past Rat Island on 22nd October (M.Reid, D.N.Smith). There have only been three previous records, one in December 1938, a flock of four in October 1979 and one in May 1985.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. A female was reported on 7th April and a ring-tailed bird on 12th October.

Goshawk Accipiter gentilis. An adult male was seen over Millcombe on 22nd October (J.H.Morgan, D.N.Smith et al.). There have been two previous records, in May 1979 and October 1980.

Sparrowhawk Accipiter nisus. There were four spring records, on 11th and 19th April and 8th and 20th May. Then after one on 6th July there were reports on four days in August and twelve in September, including two birds on 26th September. In these two months, all reports in which the sex of the bird was recorded were of a female, so they may involve a single long-staying individual. There were sightings on nineteen days in October, including two birds between 20th and 27th and three on 25th. There were two also on 1st November.

Buzzard *Buteo buteo.* One was seen on eight days between 10th January and 4th February and one on 2nd to 4th May.

Rough-legged Buzzard Buteo lagopus. After only two previous Lundy records, involving one bird in November 1959 and two in October 1981, the 1988 reports were perhaps the most remarkable feature of Lundy's ornithological year. One was confirmed to be present on 15th and 18th July (A.M.Jewels, A.J.Parsons), after possible sightings on 3rd June and earlier in July. It remained elusive and the next reports were not until 29th August and 4th September but from mid September onwards it was seen on most days. A second bird was located on 10th October and they both remained to the end of the year. The first individual was considered to be an adult female, the second a juvenile male.

Kestrel Falco tinnunculus. After one on 10th March, there were reports of singles on four days in April and on 2nd and 14th May, 17th June and 22nd July. There were records on most days from 2nd August to the end of the year, with peaks of three on 17th August, five on 17th September, 1st October and 16th to 19th October and four on 3rd and 4th November. A single bird remained from 6th November onwards.

Merlin Falco columbarius. In spring, females were recorded on 29th and 30th March and 13th April. A female on 26th July was the earliest autumn bird ever reported. The bulk of the passage was between 20th September and 29th October, the peak being three on 12th October. Finally there was a male on 13th November.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo.* In spring there were singles on 10th to 13th April, 10th and 23rd May. The only other bird was on 8th October, over a month later than the majority of past autumn records.

Peregrine Falco peregrinus. At least one bird was reported in every month except December, with two on at least one day in each of the months February to June and up to four in September, three in October and two in November.

Quail Coturnix coturnix. One was seen feeding in the Castle Hill area on 24th April (A.M.Jewels). There were ten records between 1953 and 1976 but only one other since then, in May 1983. All previous reports have been in May or later.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus.* There were occasional records of a single bird from the beginning of the year to 6th April. The first autumn report was of one on 18th September and singles became regular from 2nd October onwards, with two on 21st and 25th October and 1st November.

Moorhen Gallinula chloropus. One was present from 30th March to 4th April.

Oystercatcher *Haemantopus ostralegus*. Presumed breeding. The first report was on 5th April and the last on 13th December. Counts included eleven on 19th April, fifteen on 20th July, nine on 28th September and 18th October.

Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula. There were reports on six days between 19th April and 12th June, including four on 21st May and two on 10th June. In autumn there were fifteen records between 28th August and 26th September, peak counts being four on 9th and 11th and six on 15th September. Later singles occurred on 13th and 23rd October.

Dotterel Charadrius morinellus. The only spring record was of three birds on 14th May. In autumn, singles were seen on 18th, 21st and 29th September.

Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria. After one on 11th February, spring movements started with two on 2nd April. There were then reports on six days from 17th to 25th April, peaking at fourteen on 21st. Up to four were seen on nine days in May and there was one on 7th June. Autumn passage started on 7th September and there were scattered records for the next two months, peak counts being eight on 9th and eleven on 26th September, eighteen on 9th October and seven on 5th November. Thereafter there were two on 19th November and one on 10th December. See Table 1.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. The only record was of one on 25th September: a typical date for this species.

Lapwing Vanellus vanellus. Breeding. There were reports of birds in all months except August and December. Occasional records early in the year included 30 on 25th February. Reports became regular from late March onwards with about 30 present in April. There were few counts later in the breeding season, the maximum being 26 on 8th June. There was only one in September, on 8th, and sixteen reports between 1st October and 26th November included seven on 12th and six on 23rd October and twelve on 1st November. Otherwise the majority of autumn records were of ones and twos.

Knot Calidris canutus. One on 20th August was followed by one on 2nd and two on 3rd September: typical dates for this species.

Sanderling Calidris alba. One was seen on 27th August, the peak time for this species.

Little Stint Calidris minuta. One was seen on 7th September, a day of south-easterly winds. The majority of past records have been in late September but some have been earlier, in August.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*. A juvenile was seen and heard by Halfway Wall on 9th September (P.A.T.Clabburn). This is the thirteenth Lundy record, the majority of past birds having also been in September.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. Reported on six days up to 14th March and four days between 5th September and 25th October. Eight on 2nd January and six on 25th October were both higher totals than ever recorded previously.

Dunlin Calidris alpina. Spring passage began with singles on 10th and 17th April but the bulk of the records were between 7th May and 12th June, with eighteen reports including six on 18th and eight on 23rd May. After one on 20th July, there were nine August records of singles and the main autumn passage came between 4th September and 2nd October with peaks of four on 13th and 16th September. Later there were two on 12th October and singles on 18th and 25th October, 19th November and 4th December.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus.* Single birds on 15th and 16th October were followed by two on 17th and a further one on 11th November.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. Recorded on most days in January, with peak numbers of sixteen on 9th and twelve on 19th. There were then more scattered records until 21st April, including seven on 20th March and four on 18th April. Late spring singles were seen on 8th and 28th May. After another isolated single on 15th July, the first autumn report was on 28th August, after which there were frequent records to the end of the year. Peak counts included six on 7th September, ten on 12th and 18th October, six on 11th November and eight on 23rd December. See Table 1.

Woodcock Scolopax rusticola. Singles or twos were seen on eight days to 26th February, and five on 6th February. There were further ones on 22nd March and 2nd April. The first autumn report was on 16th October, rising to four on 28th. A single was seen on six days through November, followed by two on 12th and 13th December.

Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa. A summer plumaged islandica male was present from 25th to 27th July.

Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica. One was seen on 8th and 9th September.

Whimbrel Numenius phaeopus. The first two arrived on 15th April and records were regular from 26th April to 21st May, peak numbers being fifteen on 28th April and

eight on 1st to 3rd May. One was present from 6th to 8th June. One or two were seen irregularly from 11th July to 4th August, followed by four on 7th August. There were reports on most days from 28th August to 18th September, mainly of singles but with two on 28th and 31st August and three on 11th September. See Table 1.

Curlew Numenius arquata. There were four January records including 32 on 2nd. Spring records were limited to eleven singles between 29th March and 27th May and three birds on 10th May. There were regular reports from 15th June to 26th October. Many involved single birds but there were eight on 19th and 32 on 27th June, twenty on 4th and 40 on 9th July, 90 on 7th August, 30 on 11th and 35 on 26th September, 29 on 1st, 40 on 13th and 39 on 18th October. There were scattered ones and twos to the end of the year, and ten birds on 26th November. See Table 1.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. A single was seen on 22nd June, then two on 15th and three on 17th August.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia.* A late spring bird was reported on 23rd May, then singles on 11th and 13th September and 17th October. One was seen flying north during the boat crossing on 22nd October.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*. An early spring bird was seen on 11th April. Further singles on 15th July, 17th and 21st August and 1st September were more typical.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*. Spring observations consisted of two on 18th and one on 21st April, three on 13th and one on 24th May. In autumn, one was present on 16th and 17th July, five on 31st July, one on 18th August, then one on 5th and two on 27th September.

Turnstone Arenaria interpres. There were eight records in January, including six birds on 14th and seven on 20th. These were followed by two on 15th February and three on 13th April. Autumn reports began with three on 7th and 28th August, remaining till 2nd September. Later in September there were six on 5th, singles on 10th and 12th and five on 26th. Finally there was one on 19th October.

Great Skua Stercorarius skua. One was seen on 24th September, six on the crossing on 8th October and one on 24th October. The general trend towards more frequent records in the '80s continues.

Black-headed Gull Larus ridibundus. One on 10th February and three on 20th March were the only records early in the year. Two on 13th June were followed by singles on four days to 6th July, one on 14th September and 13th, 15th and 19th October. Eleven flew south on 29th October. In November a first winter bird stayed for the first four days and three were seen on 25th.

Common Gull *Larus canus*. One was seen on 13th September, then a further single on 22nd October and four on the following day. Four flew south on 29th October.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. Breeding. Two were seen on 26th February. Then reported present from early April to the end of the year, with autumn counts including 100 on 6th October and 50 on 26th November.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Present, breeding. 200 were counted on 26th November.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. Present, breeding. The largest autumn count was 170 on 6th October.

Kittiwake Rissa tridactyla. Breeding. Counts early in the year included about 200 on 3rd and 500 on 26th January and 300 on 8th March. After mid August there were occasional records of small numbers to the end of the year and higher counts of 35 on 7th and 27 on 19th October. See Willcox, N., p.24 in this report, for details of census work.

Sandwich Tern Sterna sandvicensis. Two on 16th April were the only birds seen.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. Singles were seen on 18th May and 4th and 14th September.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*. One was reported on 12th October. In addition there was a Common or Arctic Tern on 7th October.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Breeding. Some birds were already visiting breeding ledges on 10th January. There were no records between 29th July and 7th October, after which a few single Guillemots and unidentified Guillemots or Razorbills were recorded until 18th October and one was seen on 1st November.

Razorbill Alca torda. Breeding. One was recorded from 2nd to 6th January. Unlike Guillemots, winter visits by this species are unusual. Birds were seen at breeding sites from early April to 27th July. Two were identified on 19th October and in December there was one on 30th and two on 31st.

Puffin Fratercula arctica. Birds were recorded between 3rd April and 24th July. Counts included nineteen at St. Matthew's Stone on 24th May and 11th June, 21 at Jenny's Cove on 10th June, four at the North End on 23rd June and a total of 37 on 27th June. One was recorded on 23rd October, a very unusual date for this species.

Stock Dove Columba oenas. Single birds were seen on 15th and 21st October.

Woodpigeon Columba palumbus. Birds were reported in every month, though only sporadically up to early April. Peak counts included six on 15th January and 30th March, eight on 9th June and sixteen on 21st August. There were only occasional ones and twos from mid September onwards. Attempted breeding was indicated by a predated egg found in July.

Collared Dove Streptopelia decaocto. Birds were present on most days from 29th March to 19th September. Numbers fluctuated greatly but peaks were ten on 14th and fifteen on 22nd April, 24 on 10th and 22 on 18th to 20th May, 30 on 13th June. Unfortunately from mid June onwards most observers recorded presence but not numbers of the species, so no clear picture emerges and it has not been possible to produce complete data in Table 1. However, there were nine present on 17th and 20th July, four from 27th August to 1st September and two on 18th September.

Turtle Dove Streptopelia turtur. There were reports almost every day from 16th May to 13th June, peak counts being six on 23rd and ten on 29th May, with up to three in June. Singles were seen on 26th and 28th June and 2nd July. The only autumn record was of one on 1st and 2nd October.

Cuckoo Cuculus canorus. There were four records of singles in April, on 10th, 13th 21st and 23rd, then further singles on thirteen days between 6th and 29th May, with three birds on 28th. Between 8th and 19th June up to four were present, followed by later singles on 29th June and 20th July.

Short-eared Owl Asio flammeus. Singles were seen on 4th, 18th, 26th and 30th October and two recorded on 18th and 25th November and 31st December. Unidentified owls were reported on 28th February and 23rd October, the latter calling among trees in Millcombe.

Swift Apus Apus. The first two were seen on 2nd May, with records almost daily from then until 27th May. Numbers were mostly in single figures but rose to 40 on 9th and 13th and twelve on 23rd. There were further reports on thirteen days in June, including ten on 4th, 7th and 8th. The seven July records were of up to three birds. In August, observations were restricted to the period between 6th and 12th, including over 50 on 9th. The last report was of three on 6th September. See Table 1.

Hoopoe Upupa epops. Singles were seen on 8th, 15th and 16th May, after none in the previous two years.

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla.* One was seen on 11th September, then one on 2nd October and daily from 5th to 19th October, with possibly two on 5th and 6th.

Short-toed Lark Calandrella brachydactyla. One was seen in the Quarter Wall Cottages area from 25th to 27th May (B. Gibbs, J. High). The record has been submitted to the B.B.Rarities Committee and if accepted will be the eighth for Lundy. The three previous spring birds all arrived in the last week of May, two of them also on 25th.

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*. One was seen and heard flying south down the East Side on 26th October (D.N.Smith). Since 1979 the only other record was on 28th October 1985. Previous to that, when the species was commoner on Lundy, late October was the peak time for autumn records.

Skylark Alauda arvensis. Breeding. There were two counts of 40 in early January and at least 200 on 24th. Thereafter there were no reports until early April and no figures given through the breeding season apart from at least twenty on 20th July. In autumn there were no counts recorded until mid October, when peak numbers were 60 on 12th, 80 on 16th, 70 on 19th and 24th and 77 on 27th. There was visible southward passage on 22nd and 24th. Birds were present throughout November and December, the occasional counts all being in the range fifteen to 25.

Sand Martin Riparia riparia. The first of the year were six on 27th March. The bulk of the spring records were between 2nd April and 25th May, including at least 500 on 2nd, 150 on 10th, 100 on 19th in April and 40 on 8th May. One or two were seen on three days in early June and six days in mid July, followed by five on 20th. After three singles in mid August and three birds on 29th, there were seventeen records throughout September, mainly referring to five or fewer birds but with fifteen on 5th, ten on 18th and twenty on 25th. There were none after 30th September. See Table 1.

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. After the first spring arrival on 27th March, birds were reported as present almost daily until 28th October but unfortunately from mid June to late August, and for parts of September, numbers were not recorded so the picture is incomplete. Major spring influxes included 100 on 11th and 150 on 17th April, 150 on 4th, 400 on 9th, 250 on 13th and 200 on 16th, 17th, 19th and 20th May. Thereafter there were about 50 on most days until 9th June when numbers declined to ten. The peak autumn movements were in late September, with 1500 on 18th and 1000 on 26th, 29th and 30th, October maxima were 600 on 3rd, 500 on 10th, 120 on 16th and 35 on 27th. There were records of a single late bird on 11th, 15th and 17th November. See Table 1.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. Breeding. After the first six on 10th April and 40 on 11th, numbers dwindled again and there were none from 24th to 30th April. Peak counts in May included 100 on 10th, 300 on 17th and 200 on 19th, with about 50 on most days from then until early June. As in the case of Swallows, summer reports were mainly of presence rather than numbers.

On 17th May one pair was found nest-building at the 1987 breeding site on the south cliffs of Rat Island and between 16th and 23rd July there were at least five adults, one nest with large young, a second, broken nest and traces of a third. On 28th August these nests remained in the same state with no birds present, so one brood is presumed to have fledged successfully. On the same day a nest with large young was found on the eastern Sentinel Rock, only about 3m above high water mark.

In autumn, peak counts included 60 on 7th, 30 on 16th, 50 on 25th and 100 on 30th September, 100 on 10th and 50 on 12th October. There were three records between 17th and 31st October and one bird on 18th November, the latest reported in any year except 1979 when there were three on 25th November and one on 3rd December. See Table 1.

Richard's Pipit Anthus novaeseelandiae. Two were seen in Southwest Field on 22nd September, one, mainly in the Church area, from 26th to 28th October and one, in various parts of the island, on 5th and 6th November.

Tawny Pipit Anthus campestris. One was seen in the St. Helen's Field and Southwest Field areas on 10th and 11th September (P.A.T.Clabburn, A.M.Jewels). Another was found on 11th October and there was at least one on the following day (R.J.Martin, I.D.Smith). After only four records prior to 1983, there have now been another four since then. All have been in autumn.

Tree Pipit Anthus trivialis. There were spring records on eleven days between 12th April and 22nd May, mainly of single birds but with two on 19th and 22nd April, four on 8th May and five on 13th May. After two on 28th and one on 31st August, there were up to four on eleven days of September and one or two on ten days to 27th October. See Table 2.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. Breeding. There were no counts early in the year apart from six on 26th February. Birds were reported present daily from the beginning of April to the end of the year but the only summer count was of at least 50 in the third quarter of July. There were 200 on 13th September and peak counts in October included 500 on 10th, 140 on 19th and 340 moving south on 24th.

Rock Pipit Anthus petrosus. Breeding. Present throughout the year. In July, at least five held territories south of Halfway Wall. The largest reported count was fifteen on 21st October.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. In April, the first spring bird arrived on 17th, followed by two on 18th and singles on a further four days. There were then five on 2nd May, one on 7th and at least two on 8th, one remaining a further three days. The last spring singles were on 24th and 25th May. Individuals on 2nd and 25th May showed the characteristics of *M. f. flava* (Blue-headed Wagtail). In autumn, singles were present on most days from 28th August to 2nd September and from 12th to 18th September. In October there were singles on 2nd, 14th, 15th, 17th and 19th and twos on 4th and 16th.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. In spring, individuals were seen on 28th March, 10th to 12th April and 21st May. There were autumn records on many days between 29th August and 31st October, the majority referring to lone birds but with peaks of six on 18th, five on 20th and four on 26th September and three on 13th and 15th October. See Table 2.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. Breeding. Occasional reports between 26th February and early April included four on 20th March. From 9th April to the end of October, birds were seen on most days. High spring counts included five on 11th and 13th and fourteen on 19th April, six on 19th and 21st and seven on 29th May and ten on 7th June. Juveniles were seen in late May, June and July. Numbers began to rise in late August and peaked at 30 on 9th and 12th September and 40 on 19th September. The highest counts in October were twelve on 10th and nine on 24th. One or two were seen occasionally until 22nd November. Some of the birds between 19th April and 31st May, 29th August and 23rd October were considered to be White Wagtails *M.a.alba*. See Table 2.

Wren Troglodytes troglodytes. Breeding. Present throughout the year. The only count was at least twenty in mid July.

Dunnock Prunella modularis. Breeding. Present throughout the year. At least twenty were present in mid July.

Robin Erithacus rubecula. Breeding. Present throughout the year. The only complete counts were in October, including at least 50 on 10th and 27 on 20th. These may have included migrant birds.

Black Redstart Phoenicurus ochruros. One bird was seen on 10th and 17th January. In spring there was one on 11th and three on 12th April, two on 8th and one on 21st May. In September, singles were seen on 15th and 27th to 29th, then one or two were seen on ten days to 17th October. The ten days from 19th to 28th October saw significant southward movements, highest numbers being seventeen on 20th, 23 on 23rd twelve on 24th and eleven on 28th. This is the time of peak passage in most years but the 1988 numbers were exceptional: the previous maximum count was fifteen on 28th October 1982. There were further singles on 2nd and 22nd November and 9th, 13th and 14th December.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus.* There were spring reports on 26 days between 10th April and 23rd May. All referred to one or two birds except for three on 14th and four on 18th April. In autumn there was one on 4th and two on 9th September, then records on most days from 16th September to 27th October. Again, most referred to one or two but there were seven on 21st and three on 29th September and eight on 1st October, five on 2nd and four until 5th. See Table 2.

Whinchat Saxicola rubetra. There were fourteen spring records, between 9th April and 21st May. Most were of single birds but there were two on 18th April and 10th and 12th May. The first autumn birds were singles on 20th and 28th August. Twenty-four further records were between 10th September and 24th October. Several of these up to 3rd October referred to three or four birds and there were five on 21st September and seven on 1st October. After 3rd, all reports were of one or two birds. See Table 2.

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Unusually, there were no records until the autumn. After singles on 22nd September and 2nd October, one on 15th October was followed by three on 16th, 17 and 20th, then one to 26th and two on 27th. Two were then seen on 11th November.

Wheatear Oenanthe oenanthe. Breeding. The first of the year was seen on 21st March. Records became regular from 26th onwards, reaching nine on 30th. April peaks included 40 on 2nd, 100 on 10th and 70 on 19th. In May the most seen was 80 on 8th. There were still a few birds thought to be migrants rather than breeders to the end of the month. Through June, July and most of August there were no counts apart from thirteen birds in the third week of July. Maximum counts through the autumn were seven on 28th August, 25 on 8th, 30 on 11th, 14th and 15th and thirteen on 26th September; then after a lull in early October, ten on 10th to 13th, seventeen on 17th and eight on 27th. One on 22nd and five on 24th October were considered to be Greenland birds O.o.leucorrhoa. The last record was on 31st October. See Table 2.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus.* Spring birds were scarce; all were in April, with one on 10th to 12th, two on 19th and one on 21st. In autumn there were singles on 15th and 16th September, then up to three between 27th and 30th. One on 3rd October was followed by daily occurrences between 12th and 27th, mostly of one or two birds but with five on 12th, four on 24th and six on 27th.

Blackbird *Turdus merula.* Breeding. Present throughout the year. Counts included 25 on 15th January, fifteen on 26th February and 50 in mid July. There was evidence of passage in mid October, with 150 on 10th and 12th, 200 on 15th and 100 on the next three days, then a further 200 on 6th November. Up to 50 were seen in December.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris.* After a few records in single figures in early January, numbers rose to 55 on 18th and about 30 remained till late February. After ten on 9th March there were occasional singles until 18th April, with six birds on 9th April. A late individual was reported on 4th May. After the first autumn bird on 19th September, records became regular from 9th October onwards. Peak numbers included 150 on 12th, 40 on 16th, 32 on 24th and 25 on 29th October, 40 on 4th and 50 on 17th November and 20 on 22nd December. See Table 2.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. Breeding. There were scattered records throughout January and February, all in single figures except for 40 on 15th January. There were no March reports but up to four, probably forming two breeding pairs, were present in April and May, and in early June at least one juvenile was seen. After no records for most of August, there were two on 31st, then scattered sightings of up to three between 11th September and 11th October. Thereafter, birds were reported regularly with passage over the next fortnight including twenty on 12th and 13th, 30 on 17th and 18th, 40 on 22nd, 37 on 24th and 30 on 26th. Up to ten apparently remained to the end of the year, but presence, rather than numbers, was reported on most days.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*. After ten through the first week of the year there was one on 14th and seven on 15th January, then up to three birds on six days in February and early March, before twenty on 9th March. The only later spring bird was one on 16th and 17th April. After the first autumn bird on 2nd October, there were daily records from 9th October to the end of the year, including peaks of 400 on 12th, 60 on 16th, 300 on 23rd, 186 on 26th and 120 on 29th October. In November and December, 50 were reported on five days; otherwise unrecorded numbers were apparently present through both months. See Table 2.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. One was present from 7th to 11th April, then up to three on six days between 12th and 27th October and two on 11th November.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. The first was seen on 15th April, followed by three on 18th, one or two on the next six days and one on 4th May. In autumn there were five on 28th August, one on 1st September, four on 10th and two on 11th.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. After the first three on 18th April, there were singles on five days in the rest of the month. There were fourteen May records including three on 5th and four on 8th and 12th. The last was on 28th. Autumn records were scarce, with two on 2nd August, six on 28th and two on 31st, followed by singles on 10th, 26th and 27th September.

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. The first two were seen on 14th May, with one on 15th and further singles on 8th and 29th June. In autumn there was one on 28th August, two on 3rd October and one on 17th and 18th October. An unidentified Reed or Marsh Warbler *A. palustris* was reported on 25th October.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*. One seen on 8th June is the first Lundy spring record of this species. In autumn there was one on 9th to 12th September, with a second on 10th, then singles on 25th and 29th September and 25th October.

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*. One was seen on 16th September. Unidentified *Hippolais* warblers were reported on 21st May and 30th September.

Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata.* One was seen at Quarter Wall and subsequently caught and ringed on 18th April (S.C.Brown, P.A.T.Clabburn et al.). This is the third Lundy record, the previous two having been in October 1951 and March 1963.

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans.* A male was caught and ringed in Millcombe on 22nd April (S.Brown, R.Skeats). A second male was singing on the Terraces from 15th to 20th May (A.P.Wilkinson, K.M.Wright). After the first Lundy record as recently as 1985, these two will, if accepted by the B.B.Rarities Committee, be the fourth and fifth, following the two in 1987.

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*. A female was seen on the Terraces on 8th June (P.Campbell, R.J.Campey et al.). The record has been submitted to the B.B.Rarities Committee and if accepted will be the second Lundy record, the first having been in May 1955.

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria.* Singles were seen on 20th September and 26th October. The second of these is the latest date for any Lundy record.

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*. Spring records involved singles on 30th April, 1st and 22nd May and 1st June and three on 8th May. Autumn passage was confined to mid September, with two on 15th, four on 16th and one on 18th and 19th.

Whitethroat Sylvia communis. In spring, birds were seen almost every day between 18th April and 25th May. The records involved up to three, apart from six on 8th May and four on 12th. There were later singles on 4th, 10th and 21st June, with a surprising six on 20th June. The first autumn birds were four on 28th and two on 31st August. In September there were two on 15th, four on 16th and singles on 18th and 19th: fewer than in the last few years. See Table 3.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin.* The only April record was of two on 10th. In May there were one or two on most days from 4th to 16th, then up to three between 21st and 24th and one on 30th. There was one on 10th and two on 20th June. After one on 17th August, birds were present on most days from 8th September to 27th October, peaks being fifteen on 20th and 21st September, twenty on 12th and 13th October and ten on 20th October. Singles from 11th to 14th November and 25th December were unprecedented, the previous latest being on 4th November 1982.

Blackcap Sylvia atricapilla. The first was seen on 2nd April. There were then birds on most days from 10th to 27th, including five on 11th and 21 on 18th. There were scattered singles from 1st to 26th May and four on 8th, two on 17th. The only June bird was one on 13th. In autumn, one was seen on 28th and 31st August and 2nd September, before records became regular from 9th September to 1st November. Peaks were fifteen on 21st and eight on 29th September, 150 on 12th, 50 on 13th and 20th and 53 on 26th October. In November, birds were seen on six days to 13th, including nine on 6th, two on 12th and 13th. See Table 3.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus.* One on 16th September was nine days earlier than the previous earliest date for the species. One was seen on 30th September and a different one the next day. Birds were then present on eight days from 12th to 23rd October, with three on 13th and two on 16th and 19th. The year's total was only exceeded in 1986.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. After one on 27th April there were two on 1st and 4th May, one on 11th June and two on 29th June. In autumn there were singles on 14th September and 1st October.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. Breeding. Two overwintering birds were seen on 21st and four on 28th January, followed by one on 23rd February. There were no January records until 1978 but since then there have only been four years without them. The first spring migrants were 36 that arrived on 30th March. April peaks included 170 on 2nd, 75 on 11th, 30 on 18th and 50 on 30th. In May there were twenty on 8th, twelve on 12th and 10 on 15th, with numbers in single figures thereafter until September, apart from eighteen on 2nd June, ten on 8th and fifteen on 20th June. A pair feeding recently fledged young was seen in Millcombe on 19th July. The first increase in numbers in September was to fifteen on 13th, with subsequent peaks of 50 on 19th and 30 on 29th and 30th. After the first five days of October, numbers were mainly in single figures apart from ten on 16th and between 22nd and 26th, with up to twelve. There were scattered records of one or two to 14th December, then one remaining to the end of the year. See Table 3.

Willow Warbler Phylloscopus trochilus. Thirty birds arrived on 2nd April. The main April arrivals included 500 on 10th and 11th, at least 100 on 18th to 20th and 22nd and 150 on 30th. Numbers then dwindled to ten on 6th May and were mainly below five for the rest of the month. Up to four remained into June, the last being seen on 17th. Birds started returning in July with two on 18th and eighteen on 20th, rising to twenty on 27th. For the first three days of August, 200 were seen. The only high numbers reported subsequently were 50 on 28th and 31st August, then 200 on 9th and 50 on 16th September. From 25th September to 9th October there were only scattered singles. A very late bird was reported on 11th November. The only previous November records were on 3rd in 1978 and 2nd in 1982. See Table 3.

Goldcrest Regulus regulus. After seven on 5th and two on 28th January, there were five on 9th March, then scattered records over the next fortnight, mainly of three or less but with twenty on 22nd. Birds were seen regularly between 30th March and 22nd April, with peaks of twenty on 31st March and 50 on 11th April, twenty remaining on the following two days. Singles on 31st April and 14th May completed a spring passage that was higher than in the previous few years, presumably as a result of good survival in the mild winter. The autumn numbers greatly exceeded those of any previous year except 1987. The first was present from 27th August onwards. Numbers gradually rose through September, to 60 on 13th, 150 on 16th and 26th, before the first major arrival of at least 1000 on 29th. There were 1000 again on 10th October and 1500 on 20th, with numbers over 50 on most of the days between. From 23rd onwards, numbers were below 50 and through November they were five or less in the first half, one or two in the second. Scattered singles remained until 15th December, with three on 13th. See Table 3.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus.* In spring, one was present from 14th to 21st April. In September there were singles on five days from 16th onwards, then two on 3rd October and reports on most days from 9th to 27th October, mainly of one or two but with three on 17th and four on 19th and 26th.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Breeding. The first arrived on 5th May and the main passage was over the next three weeks with peak counts of fifteen on 8th and 9th, 25 on 13th, 40 on 17th and 50 on 21st. Up to ten were still present until 9th June. Two pairs remained and bred successfully, one in lower Millcombe and one on the Terraces, so that at least thirteen birds were present in late July. From late August to 18th September, reports were of ten or less. On 19th to 21st there were about fifteen, after which numbers declined to five or less, apart from ten on 1st October and eight on 2nd. The last was seen on 15th October. See Table 3.

Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*. Single birds were seen on 2nd and 12th October.

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. In spring there were records on most days from 14th April to 15th June. Almost all referred to single males and at least in the later stages probably related to one individual, which stayed much later than usual. There was more than one between 18th and 23rd April, with four on 18th and 22nd. There were also two or three on four days in May and a pair on 6th June. A pair on 20th June was unprecedented. After three on 30th July there were no autumn records until 31st

August, with almost daily records then until the last on 5th October. The highest numbers were eight on 13th, 14th and 16th September and seven on 1st October. See Table 3.

Coal Tit *Parus ater.* From 5th to 30th October there were daily records, with peak counts ten on 10th, fifteen on 12th, 16th and 18th and eleven on 26th. Up to three were present in the first half of November and one was seen on four days through December. The exceptional nature of the autumn movement can be judged from the fact that 31 birds were caught and ringed, while the grand total for 1947-87 is only fourteen.

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus.* One was seen on 2nd and 5th January. In October there were up to three from 10th to 23rd, one remaining to 26th. Then in November one was seen on 1st, 12th and 19th.

Great Tit *Parus major*. The first arrived on 10th October and numbers rose to three from 13th to 19th. One remained to at least 28th, with a final observation on 6th November.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. One on 15th July was followed by singles on six days from 10th to 21st September, and from 1st to 9th October, with two on 2nd and four on 3rd. At least six individuals were involved in autumn, this being the number ringed.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*. A female was seen on 15th and 17th and from 23rd to 27th May. A male was also recorded on most days from 21st to 30th, then on 4th, 5th and 11th June.

Red-backed Shrike Lanius collurio. A female was seen on 20th June.

Woodchat Shrike Lanius senator. A juvenile was seen on 22nd September (L. Tollitt et al.).

Jackdaw *Corous monedula*. One was seen regularly from the start of the year to 1st March. There were then up to twelve from 26th to 30th March and up to 28 from 10th to 12th April. There were then scattered records until 21st May, mainly relating to two birds but including six on 26th April and eight on 21st May.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. Up to three were present from 30th March to 6th April, then one on 21st and two on 24th April.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone.* Breeding. Present throughout the year. Counts included sixteen on 17th April, fourteen on 28th August, 29 on 19th and 28th October and 31 on 28th. Numbers declined from twenty to fifteen through the first half of November and to ten by the end of the year. A Hooded Crow *C.c. cornix* was present from 5th to 10th June.

Raven *Corvus corax*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. There were at least eleven present in July and the highest count was fourteen on 19th October.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Spring counts included 100 on 12th April and there were 60 in the second half of July, 70 in late August. Passage in October was indicated by counts of 500 on 12th and 15th, 300 on 21st and 23rd and 440 on 28th. Subsequently there were 200 on 22nd November and 150 on 7th December.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. A count of 55 going to roost on 30th August probably represents the total island population of breeding birds and their young. There were about 30 through the second half of October and 40 on 19th November.

Red-eyed Vireo Vireo olivaceus. One was caught and ringed on the Terrace on 28th September (R.Bower, J.A.High, M.Rogers et al.) and a second in Millcombe on 1st October (J.M.B.King et al.). These records have been submitted to the B.B.Rarities Committee and if accepted will be the second and third of this North American species on Lundy, following one in 1985.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs.* Breeding. Present throughout the year. The only summer count was of at least ten birds in July. There were some days of heavy southward passage in October, with 2000 on 12th and 19th, 3500 on 22nd, 4000 on 23rd, 2500 on 26th and over 1000 on four other days in this period. There were about 100 on 2nd November and 30 on 30th.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla.* After one on 1st October there were regular records from 12th to 29th, mainly up to four but with heavy passage among the chaffinches from 22nd to 26th, including 43 on 23rd and 51 on 26th. Two were seen on 6th November and one on several days to 22nd November.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. Three were seen on 5th January, then one or two between 4th and 10th March and a single from 7th to 12th April. After the first autumn record on 10th October, numbers built up to a passage of 50 on 22nd, with subsequent peaks of 38 on 24th and 26 on 28th. Thereafter there were scattered records until 15th November, including twelve on 1st November. Two were present from 8th to 14th December. See Table 3.

Goldfinch Carduelis carduelis. Eight arrived on 10th April and smaller numbers remained to 20th, with one seen four more times to the end of the month. A further eight arrived on 5th May and one or two were seen until 23rd, then from five on 5th June one remained to 10th. In autumn, after three on 21st and six on 22nd September, there was a scattering of records from 3rd October to 26th November. Peaks included twelve on 10th, twenty on 22nd and 23 on 24th October. Most other reports were of one or two only. A final single was seen on 7th December. See Table 3.

Siskin Carduelis spinus. After the first on 10th September there were one or two on three further days until the first big arrival of 23 on 20th. Up to ten remained to the end of the month and there were scattered records of up to six before the main passage from 16th to 31st October. There were more than twenty on most days in this period, including 70 on 19th, 200 on 22nd, 150 on 23rd and 26th and at least 300 on 27th, a peak only exceeded in 1972. Birds were seen on most days from 5th to 19th November, with numbers in single figures apart from twenty on 12th.

Linnet Carduelis cannabina. Breeding. After scattered records of up to six from 21st March, numbers quickly rose in early April to 50 on 6th. At least 80 were reported on 29th May, 75 on 20th July and 100 on 27th August. September peaks were 300 on 1st and 14th and at least 200 on 16th. In October most reports were of about 50 or less, exceptions being 80 on 10th and 220 on 20th. Small, mainly unspecified numbers remained until 16th December.

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea.* A female, considered to be of the subspecies *C.f. cabaret*, was present on 9th and 10th May. Two were seen on 15th May. In autumn there were two from 29th September to 3rd October, considered to be of the Greenland race *C.f. rostrata*, four on 22nd and one on 24th October.

Scarlet Rosefinch Carpodacus erythrinus. One spring bird was seen on 11th June. In autumn there was one on eleven days between 12th September and 3rd October, with two on 21st and 25th September. There was a further single on 26th October.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula.* A pair was seen on 10th and 13th April, the female remaining to 19th, and two were seen again on 24th. In May a male was seen on 16th and a female on 20th. The only autumn bird was one on 10th October.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes.* In an exceptional autumn there were reports on seven days from 18th to 30th October, five of them referring to single birds but with nine on 25th and three on 26th. Previously there have never been more than two together, apart from the pair with three juveniles assumed to have bred on the island in summer 1927.

Lapland Bunting Calcarius lapponicus. One was present from 28th September to 3rd October. There were then two on 12th, one on 15th and 16th and three on 24th October, two remaining to 28th. Two were also seen on 12th November.

Snow Bunting Plectrophenax nivalis. Two were seen on 27th January and between 8th March and 14th April there were eight records, mainly of singles but with four on 8th and three on 27th March and two on 9th April. A female was seen on 20th May. This is the latest reported spring date, birds having occurred on 17th May in two previous years. There were autumn records almost every day from 26th September to 30th October. Numbers were three or less to 9th October, then rose to ten on 11th and 12th with eight or nine on most of the next eleven days. Three were seen on 19th November, one remaining to 26th November.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. There were two singles in the year, on 25th February and 11th September.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*. One was seen and heard in flight on several occasions, by observers with experience of the species, on 24th and 26th October but in the absence of detailed plumage descriptions the record cannot be regarded as substantiated.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. Five arrived on 10th October and one or two were seen on ten further days to 28th October. A final single was seen on 6th November.

LUNDY RARITIES: records rejected because they were undocumented or descriptions were inconclusive.

Sooty Shearwater Puffinus griseus. One on 8th September.

Canada Goose Branta canadensis. 30 on 5th September.

Brent Goose Branta bernicla. One on 19th and 20th October.

Osprey Pandion haliaetus. One on 9th April.

Water Pipit Anthus spinoletta. One on 17th April.

Nuthatch Sitta europaea. One on 6th October.

Jan Feb Nov Dec Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Golden Plover 0.1 0.2 1.1 2.7 0.2 1.2 0.5 0.1 1.5 0.3 1.5 2.8 0.6 0.7 0.9 0.2 Snipe 0.7 0.3 1.7 3.4 3.2 1.4 0.4 0.4 0.8 0.6 0.1 0.6 1.1 1.0 0.8 4.1 1.1 1.6 1.6 0.3 0.4 0.7 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 Whimbrel 3.2 0.7 0.1 0.5 0.4 0.9 0.3 3.9 0.3 0.3 0.4 0.7 Curlew 3.9 0.1 0.3 0.3 0.1 0.3 0.1 0.1 1.1 4.7 6.3 0.6 0.1 P P P 9.3 0.1 1.1 1.1 5.6 6.7 5.4 8.4 0.3 0.2 0.3 1.1 0.1 0.1 Collared Dove 11 8.5 P PP 0.2 1.1 5.3 2.6 6.9 14 15 PPP Swift 9.6 8.6 2.4 3.8 0.4 0.7 0.5 0.8 0.1 5.5 0.3 Sand Martin 3.1 1.7 2.8 0.7 69 42 13 8.9 4.9 0.8 0.3 0.1 1.2 0.2 0.4 Swallow P P P P P 1.6 12 53 27 140 130 56 23 6.5 2.6 13 160 440 170 90 7.7 0.3 House Martin 0.6 7.7 0.2 24 100 42 22 0.7 2.2 — breeding —— 2.3 9.6 6.4 32 14 8.5 0.6 0.1

TABLE 1: Waders, Collared Dove, Swift and Martins on Lundy, 1988.

(Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten-day periods, throughout the year. P = present: numbers unreported.)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tree Pipit Grey Wagtail Pied Wagtail Redstart Whinchat Wheatear		0.1	0.1 0.1 0.6 0.2		0.1 1.2 2.1 3.7	3.0 0.7 0.7	0.6 1.3 1.2	0.1 P P 2.9 0.1 0.1	0.5 0.4 1.3 0.3 1.7 1.3 4.3 12 5.6 0.3 0.7 1.6 0.4 1.5 1.3 4.3 13 3.3	0.7 1.4 0.9 4.6 2.7 3.1 3.1 1.0 0.5 1.7 0.6 0.5	0.4 0.1	
Fieldfare Song Thrush Redwing	1.5 11 8.2 2.7 4.3 0.4 4.7 0.8	0.4 0.1 1.1	1.0 0.1 0.1		Colors near protection	2.6 0.9 P		0.2	0.1 0.7 0.8	0.2 32 18 1.2 15 17 1.1 70 100	P P P P P P P P	P P P P P P P P

TABLE 2: Pipits, Wagtails, Chats and Thrushes on Lundy, 1988.

(Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten-day periods, throughout the year. P = present: numbers unreported.)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Whitethroat Garden Warbler Blackcap Chiffchaff Willow Warbler Goldcrest Spotted Flycatcher Pied Flycatcher Greenfinch	0.6 0.7 0.2 0.3	0.1	3.5 0.8 0.4 5.0 0.5	0.3 1.0 0.2 0.3 3.9 0.9 29 26 13 62 100 42 5.6 13 0.8 1.2 1.0 0.1 0.2 0.8 2.2 0.4	0.6 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.4 0.5 24 5.9 4.1 24 4.1 1.6 0.1 3.7 13 9.1 1.1 0.9 0.6	0.1 0.2 0.1 6.0 3.6 1.2 - 1.7 0.2 6.3 3.7 1.0 0.2 0.3	breedin 2.0 2.6 breeding 0.3 0.1		0.2 1.0 0.3 0.3 3.9 3.7 0.3 1.0 5.0 1.5 15 12 23 6.8 0.8 3.9 48 200 1.7 8.0 4.9 3.0 4.5 1.9	0.5 6.4 1.1 3.7 37 16 7.4 5.3 5.6 0.2 190 240 37 3.7 0.3 0.1 1.6 0.1 3.7 15	0.3 1.1 0.5 0.6 0.9 0.1 1.0 1.3 0.8 1.3 0.9 0.4 0.5 0.3	0.4 0.4

TABLE 3: Warblers, Flycatchers and Finches on Lundy, 1988.

(Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten-day periods, throughout the year. P = present: numbers unreported.)