

BIRDS ON LUNDY 1992

By

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REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The early months of the year were generally quiet, with little evidence of cold-weather movement of wildfowl and waders and low numbers of thrushes. A Black-throated Diver was seen in early January, in addition to the regular Great Northern Divers and a later Red-throated Diver.

March saw the arrival of small numbers of the earliest summer migrants, including, as expected, Sand Martins, Wheatears and Chiffchaffs. The end of the month also saw the return for the third year running of the Ancient Murrelet to Jenny's Cove.

The first major arrivals of the year were on 20th April, which brought larger numbers of hirundines, Chiffchaffs and Willow Warblers, as well as the first of the year's Cuckoos, Turtle Doves, Swifts and several passerine species. The star bird of the day was the island's first-ever White Stork. Two Hoopoes and a Little Tern were found on 21st. There were even larger movements of Swallows on 28th and Willow Warblers on 29th, with a Hawfinch on the latter date.

The first five days of May continued to be very favourable for Swallow and Willow Warbler passage, together with the other regular species of warblers, chats, etc. They also brought Hobbies, Sparrowhawk and all the three regular British harrier species. The rest of the month was poor for numbers of common migrants, but there were several unusual species including Subalpine Warbler, Osprey and Woodchat Shrike in the first half and Red-footed Falcon, Shore Lark and Lundy's first Temminck's Stint in the second, along with the expected few Golden Orioles. There was also a Scarlet Rosefinch and later a pair of this species was present for part of June too.

In early June, David Price organised a survey of breeding Auks and other seabirds, to compare with similar surveys in 1981, '82 and '86. The most noticeable changes have been an increase in Guillemots and a marked reduction in Kittiwakes. Puffin numbers have remained very low but stable over the past six years. Fuller details of the survey results are given in the species accounts.

A pair of Willow Warblers bred, along with the Song Thrushes and Spotted Flycatchers which have been regular in recent years, but, like last year, there was no firm evidence of breeding House Martins, so their previous cliff-breeding has not developed into a long-term trend. Storm Petrels continue to visit the island on summer nights without any evidence of breeding attempts.

July tends to be a quiet month for species not breeding on the island, so an adult Sabine's Gull flying across the Landing Bay on the 13th was a very pleasant surprise for its observer.

In August and September there were generally low numbers of common migrants, apart from several big movements of Swallows in September. However, as usual in the early autumn, there were some weeks when this lack of records probably reflected a shortage of observers rather than birds. Several unusual species were reported by those that did venture out, including a Rose-coloured Starling and Wilson's Phalarope in August and Ortolan, Wrynecks, Grey Phalarope and Red-breasted Flycatcher in the second half of September.

The species which was particularly prominent in October was Redwing, with several high counts through the month. There was a modest passage of several species including Blackcap and Goldcrest on the 14th but the most conspicuous movements were towards

the end of the month and involved high numbers of Blackbirds, Starlings and Chaffinches, with other thrushes and finches, especially Bramblings, accompanying them. There were no major rarities in October but Nightjar, Pochard and Woodlark were unusual for the island. A Greenland White-fronted Goose which stayed for the final week was particularly interesting because it was colour-ringed and could be traced to the Wexford wintering flock.

The departure from the island of Mary Gade in spring and Andrew Jewels in November meant that coverage in the absence of visitors was significantly reduced and there was little to report from the final two months of the year. Andrew's work in keeping the log book well-ordered and in verifying records and gaining confirmatory details from observers has been immensely valuable and will be sorely missed.

The tables showing variations in the numbers of common migrant species through the year, which have been included in the last six bird reports, have contained too much information to be very easily digestible. So for 1992 graphs have been substituted, which cover seventeen common species. Like the tables, they show the daily numbers of birds averaged over ten-day periods. This change leads to some loss of accuracy in the figures, but it is hoped that the graphs' more immediate impact, together with the comparisons with previous years that have been added, will be seen as a significant improvement.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

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

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*. One was seen off the Terraces on 2nd February.

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*. One was in the Landing Bay from 1st to 4th January (M.Gade, A.M.Jewels, S.Wing) and one off the South End on 22nd April (A.S.Disley). These are the sixth and seventh accepted Lundy records.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. One was seen on twenty-five days between 1st January and 7th April, with a second bird present on 18th January. One was in the Landing Bay on 5th, 6th and 9th June. The few previous late spring records have been confined to May, the most recent being in 1985. Two adults were seen on most days from 18th to 29th October and one on 10th November.

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Breeding. Recorded in all months except October and December. The breeding survey found 174 apparently occupied nests - significantly more than in the early '80s but below the 185 in 1986.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. Reported regularly between 2nd April and 15th August, with later birds calling at night on 3rd September. Peak Counts included 1500 on 19th May, 1000 on several days in June and 3000 on 9th to 11th July. In contrast to the previous few years, there was no evidence to suggest breeding at the traditional site near Old Light.

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Singles were reported on 15th May and 3rd June, then two on 15th July. Four were caught on the night of 23rd July, the first two without the use of a tape-lure.

Gannet *Sula bassana*. Birds were seen in all months except January and December. Most counts were in single figures. Peaks included forty on 21st May and 2nd August, fifty on 14th September and seventy-two on 23rd October.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. After four on 18th January, one was seen regularly until 8th March. There were frequent records throughout April and May, including seventeen on 1st and sixteen on 22nd April and twelve on 22nd May. Between 15th July and 29th October, small numbers were seen on many days, rising to between nine and twelve birds on seven dates and with thirty-seven moving south on 13th September.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Twenty-two apparently occupied nests were found in the breeding survey, compared with counts between thirty-five and forty-three in the 1980s.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. Singles were seen on 9th March, 21st April and 4th May. There were further singles on twenty-one days from 10th June to 11th October, and two on 13th June and 22nd July: a typical pattern of dates.

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*. One was seen flying over the island several times on 20th April, eventually leaving to the south (A.S. Disley *et al.*). This is the first Lundy record for the species.

Swan *Cygnus sp.* Single unidentified swans were reported on 21st and 29th October.

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*. A colour-ringed bird of the Greenland race *A. a. flavirostris* was on the island from 23rd to 30th October (B. and L. Tollitt, N. Trout *et al.*). It had been ringed at Wexford Slob, Eire, in November 1991. On its final day on Lundy it flew to join a second bird, which was calling as it went north past the island, and they both continued towards Wales.

Wigeon *Anas penelope*. A male was present from 2nd to 13th February. A female from 5th October was joined by a second bird on 9th and a third on 10th. All stayed to 16th.

Teal *Anser crecca*. A male stayed from 1st January to 4th March. Then a pair was seen from 19th to 22nd March. After two on 31st July, a female was present from 4th to 18th October, with two additional birds on 9th.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. Feral birds remained throughout the year and at least one pair bred. Maximum counts were twenty-two in February and twenty-three in October.

Shoveler *Anas chrypeata*. A pair was seen on Pondsby on 24th April.

Pochard *Aythya ferina*. A male stayed on Pondsby from 14th to 29th October (S.J. Dodgson, G.K. Gordon *et al.*). This is the seventh Lundy record, with only three in the past twenty years.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. A female was in Jenny's Cove on 2nd April. Fourteen were seen off the East Side on 25th June and thirty-six during the boat crossing on 18th September.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*. A female was seen arriving from the north and later hunting over Acklands Moor, on 5th May (J.K. Allen, M. Gade, K. Wimbush). The majority of past records, including most recently the several birds seen in 1989, have been in late April or early May.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. There were three records, all in spring: a female on 7th April, a male on 3rd May and a female on 5th May.

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*. A female was seen several times, hunting over the southern half of the island, on 4th May (J.K. Allen, P.M. Mayer, K. Wimbush *et al.*). This is the eleventh dated Lundy record. Since the first three, all have been in spring.

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. A female was seen on many days between 29th March and 25th May, with two additional birds on 3rd May. A female on 2nd and 3rd July was followed by singles on 3rd November and 8th and 15th December. September and October, usually the peak months for this species, produced none.

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. One arrived on 20th February and was seen on several of the next fifteen days. There were further singles on 18th May and 4th and 5th December.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*. One was watched being mobbed by gulls at the North End on 8th May (J.K. Allen, A. Hill, K. Wimbush). This is the eighth record in this century, the first being in 1974.

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. After singles on 2nd and 28th January and 4th March, one or two were seen on many days between 7th April and 10th June and again from 22nd July to the end of the year. Higher counts involved four on 31st July and three on 11th and 15th September.

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus*. A female was on the island from 19th to 24th May, ranging widely over the area north of Quarter Wall but usually in the Quarry area early and late in the day (I.Kendall, N.Wall *et al.*). Assuming acceptance by the B.B. Rarities Committee, this is the sixth confirmed Lundy record of the species.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. Singles were seen on twenty-four days from 23rd February to 18th May, with two on 15th March and 10th April. Two were seen on most days in October from 3rd, then more sporadically to 20th November. There were three on 16th October.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*. There were singles on 20th and 22nd April and on five days in May up to 17th. Three were reported on 3rd May.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. Birds were present throughout the year, with most reports involving single birds but not infrequently two or three. There were two records of five in late July.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. There were occasional reports of single birds from 2nd February to 31st March and from 7th October to the end of the year.

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*. Breeding. Reported throughout the year, with numbers usually in single figures. However, a summer survey located about fifteen territorial pairs.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. Single birds were seen on 19th May, 16th and 24th August and 18th and 21st September.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*. One was found near Old Light on 26th May. A late autumn bird arrived on 14th October.

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*. One was seen on four days from 16th to 28th February. In April, after one on 3rd, six arrived on 21st and two remained for a further week. Three on 5th May were followed by two for three days from 15th, then singles on five days to 18th June. Autumn records involved one or two birds on thirteen days between 22nd September and 18th October and four on 15th October. One was seen on 21st and 22nd December.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. Two summer plumaged birds were in the Rat Island area on 17th and 19th May. Up to four were present in the second half of December.

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. Breeding. After occasional records of up to five in January and most of February, birds were seen on most days from 27th February to 4th August. Spring counts peaked at thirty on 29th March and 10th April. In autumn, after one on 18th and 19th September, small numbers were present on many days in October, peaking at fifteen on 13th. One was seen on 28th December and twenty-two on 30th.

Knot *Calidris canutus*. One was found dying on 3rd September.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*. One was watched on 27th May and early on 28th, in several areas of the island including Southwest Field, Rocket Pole Pond and Pondsby (R.A.Duncan, A.M.Jewels *et al.*). This is the first Lundy record of the species.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. There were just four records of single birds, on 16th February, 12th and 20th March and 5th August.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. Three arrived on 10th May and there were records of one to four on ten further days to the end of the month. There were three singles over the next two months, then one on most days from 1st to 22nd August with a second on 16th and 17th. Two singles in September were followed by one from 6th to 15th October.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*. One was seen on 3rd June.

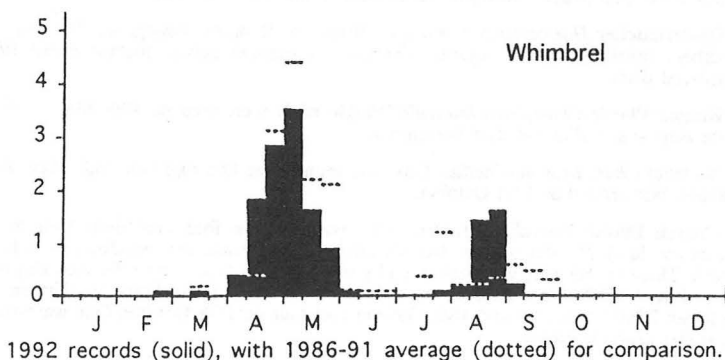
Jack Snipe *Lymnocyrtus minimus*. One was seen on 7th March. In autumn, two on 5th October were followed by four singles over the next three weeks.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. Records were scattered through much of the year but birds were absent during the period 14th May to 28th July, much of August and the month from 21st November. Maximum counts were of six birds, twice in February and three times in October. Otherwise most records were of ones and twos.

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*. Early in the year there were nine reports of one or two birds, the last on 1st March. Then there were eight records of single birds between 1st October and the end of the year.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Two arrived on 13th May, one staying to 19th.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. An early bird was seen in Lametry Bay on 23rd February and 7th March. There were four on 7th April, then daily records from 19th April to 22nd May, with a maximum of eleven on 20th April. Autumn records were scattered between 27th July and 7th September, the most being sixteen on 21st August. See graph, which shows that spring arrivals were early but low in numbers while autumn numbers were better.



Curlew *Numenius arquata*. In January and February there were three records of a flock of up to twenty on the west side. From 3rd April to the end of August there were occasional reports of up to five birds, with one sighting of a larger flock: twenty-eight on 22nd July. Through September and October a flock of up to eighteen was seen occasionally, and odd ones and twos that were presumably migrating via the island. A flock of twelve was seen on the west side on 29th December.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*. One was at Pondsburry on 14th August.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. One was seen on most days from 20th to 29th April and there were two on 12th June.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*. Single birds were seen on 29th July, 26th August and 5th September.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*. Two were present from 18th to 20th May.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*. Singles were seen on three days from 20th to 29th April, then up to two on four days from 17th to 22nd May. Six further singles were

scattered between 27th June and 27th September, with two on 30th July.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpes*. There were six reports of one or two birds between 15th February and 21st April. Then, after seven on 5th August, up to three were seen on scattered dates to 13th November. Finally, ten were seen on 27th and 28th December.

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolour*. A juvenile was found on Pondsburry on 27th August and stayed there until 1st September (A.M.Jewels, P.M.Mayer *et al.*). This record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee and if accepted it will be the first for this North American species on Lundy.

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*. A juvenile was found feeding in pools on the main track near Quarter Wall on 21st September (A.M.Jewels, R.Tuffin *et al.*). This is the tenth Lundy record and the sixth of these to be in September.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*. One was seen from the Oldenburg about six miles from Lundy on 30th September.

Sabine's Gull *Larus sabini*. An adult flew south across the Landing Bay on 13th July (A.M.Jewels). This is the third Lundy record, the previous two being in September 1958 and October 1980. It coincided with a number of other records from the southwest of Britain and Ireland, unusual for this time of year.

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. After an adult on 4th and 5th January there were none until 11th June. Then there were up to four on fifteen days to 17th August and up to three on ten days in October.

Common Gull *Larus canus*. There was only one record, of two birds on 12th October.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. Breeding: a total of 166 pairs was found. Recorded in all months except December. Highest counts outside the breeding season were fifty on 6th February and forty-three on 7th October.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Breeding: an estimated 500 pairs. Recorded throughout the year, with maximum counts outside the breeding season of about 300.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. Breeding: twenty-eight pairs were located. Present throughout the year, with a count of twenty in January, fifty in September and 110 on 19th October.

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Breeding. The breeding survey found 407 apparently occupied nests: a major decline since the early 1980s when there were over 900. Small numbers were recorded in all months outside the breeding season and there was a significant movement of about 200 birds north and west on 23rd October.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*. One was seen on 8th April, one on 11th June and two on 29th June.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*. Two were seen on 21st and 22nd April.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*. One was seen feeding in the Landing Bay and twice landing on the beach, on 21st and 22nd April (A.M.Jewels, S.Mulkeen *et al.*). This is the fourth Lundy record and the first since 1955.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Breeding: the census revealed 2629 birds on breeding ledges - an increase since the three equivalent counts in the 1980s, which were all close to 2000. Birds were seen regularly from the beginning of the year to 1st August. Thereafter just five singles were reported, between 28th September and 7th November.

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Breeding: the census found 788 birds at breeding sites. This is less than in the early 1980s but similar to the 1986 total. Birds were recorded regularly from late January until 7th August. After eight seen on 15th October, smaller numbers were reported over the next four weeks.

Ancient Murrelet *Synthliboramphus antiquus*. For the third year running, one was

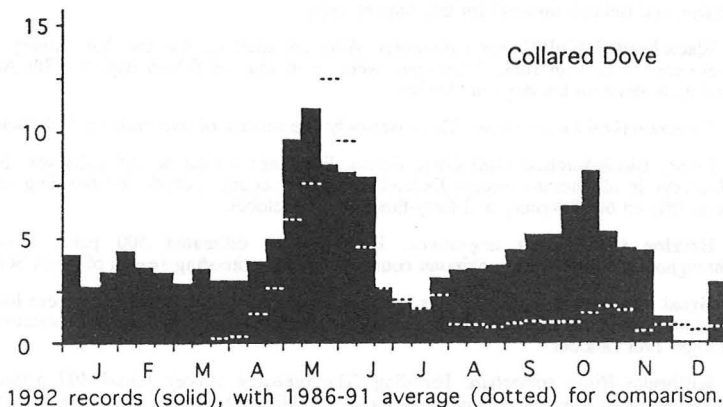
seen regularly in spring in Jenny's Cove, between 30th March and 29th April (R.H.Bonser, A.M.Jewels *et al.*). As in the previous years, it tended to be visible early in the morning and then enter a hole among rocks by the Devil's Chimney.

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*. Presumed breeding. The census recorded thirty-seven birds: virtually the same as in 1986 but a major decline since the 129 birds in 1981. Birds were seen on most days between 2nd April and 3rd August. The maximum count was fifty on 28th June, by which date young non-breeders had probably arrived.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*. One was seen from 14th to 21st May, one on 31st August and one on five days from 13th to 30th October, with a second bird on 29th.

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*. Recorded in all months of the year, with most counts referring to one or two birds but reaching maxima of twelve in May and between four and seven in most other months from April to November.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. Reported throughout the year apart from early December. The usual maximum was ten but there were more in the first half of May, peaking at thirty-three on 14th, and the first half of June, reaching fifteen on 14th. See graph, which shows increased numbers, including overwintering.



Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*. After singles on 20th and 22nd April, the main spring passage was from 4th May to 11th June. May peaks were fifteen on 14th and six on 18th, 25th and 27th. Four singles were seen in late June and July. The only autumn bird was one on 19th and 20th September.

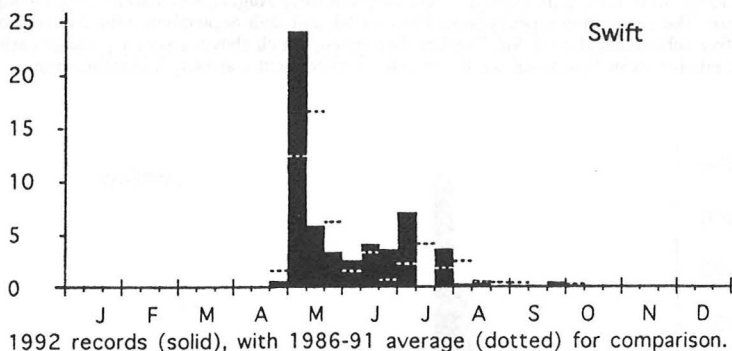
Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. Single birds were seen on most days from 20th April to 25th May, with two on 4th, 8th and 14th May. There were five further reports of single birds between 10th and 28th June, the first of these involving a juvenile.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. In January, one was seen on 12th and two on 24th. Singles were then present from 17th to 24th April and 18th to 22nd May. The first autumn bird arrived on 5th October, with a second from 10th to 13th and six subsequent sightings of one until 10th November.

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*. One was flushed from the Rhododendrons north of St Helen's Copse on 10th October (S.J.Dodgson, G.K.Gordon). This is the first island record since 1980.

Swift *Apus apus*. The first arrived on 20th April. The main spring passage produced peaks of fifty on 3rd May, fifty-five on 10th and twenty on 16th and 27th, then twenty-five on 15th June. From then until 19th August, records became sporadic but there were high counts of twenty on 28th June, sixty on 6th July and twenty-five on

31st. Finally, three were seen on 29th September. See graph which shows a spring passage earlier and more concentrated than usual.



Hoopoe *Upupa epops*. Two arrived on 21st April, with one seen subsequently on 22nd, 26th and 30th.

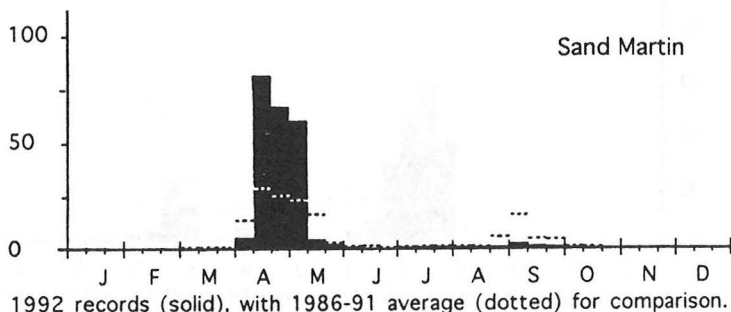
Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*. Two were present from 18th to 23rd September, one staying another two days. Then one was seen from 4th to 10th October.

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*. One flew south over the island, calling, on 29th October (I.J.Andrews). The three records in the previous twelve years were also in October.

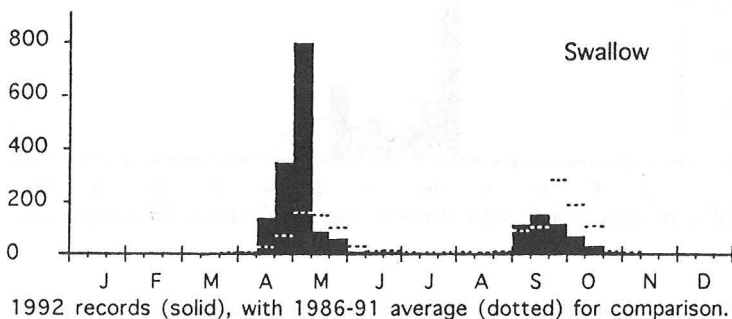
Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Most counts were of twenty or fewer but passage in October produced forty on 7th and 26th and 101 on 31st.

Shore Lark *Eremophila alpestris*. One, thought to be a first year male, was in the Rocket Pole area on 22nd May (N.Wall, J.Wright *et al.*). Of the previous five Lundy records, three were in spring.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. After five on 25th March, there were records on most days from 30th March to 22nd May. Major movements included 800 on 20th April and 200 on 4th May. After one on 7th June there were occasional reports of up to six in July and August, then a trickle of birds through September, with a peak of ten on 5th, and a final single on 6th October. See graph, which shows an encouragingly heavy spring passage but low autumn numbers.



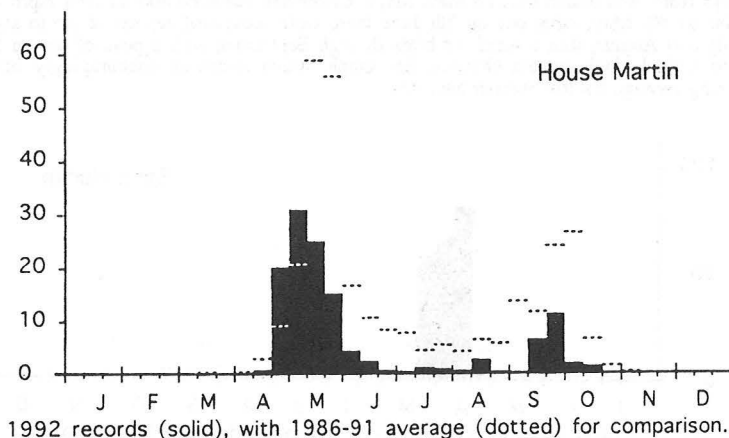
Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. The first record was of twenty on 8th April. Thereafter birds were seen virtually every day until the last on 31st October. Major spring movements included 800 on 20th and 1000 on 28th and 29th April, then 2000 on 3rd to 5th May. Up to ten were seen daily through June, July and early August, when southward passage began. The main autumn peaks were 1000 on 5th and 20th September, with 200 or more on five subsequent days to 9th October. See graph, which shows a spring passage earlier and much heavier than usual while the autumn movement was early and rather light.



House Martin *Delichon urbica*. After the first on 8th April birds were seen on most days from 20th April to 15th October, apart from a gap in early September. Spring peaks included fifty on 29th April and on four dates through May, and 100 on 3rd May. Up to ten were seen in June, then most July and August counts were down to one or two.

There is no report of anyone having checked the cliff breeding sites this year and the only hint of breeding activity was a bird prospecting for nest sites on the shop on 24th June.

During the autumn passage, the peak count was fifty on 26th and 27th September. See graph, which shows that numbers were lower than usual in spring and autumn.



Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Spring birds were seen on most days from 19th April to 20th May. There were six on 21st and four on 25th April, otherwise all reports were of three or fewer. A later single arrived on 3rd June. In autumn there were two on 30th August and otherwise just five singles between 16th August and 20th September.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Counts involving passage birds included 200 on 21st April, 500 on 28th September and 150 on 26th October.

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*. Breeding. Present throughout the year.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. The first spring bird was seen on 20th April, rising to three on 22nd. There were singles on ten further days to 19th May and five on 3rd May. One was present from 31st July to 16th August. Then birds were seen on most days between 29th August and 1st October, the maximum being five on 21st September.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cineria*. Spring records consisted of singles on 1st and 15th March, two on 16th March, then one on 19th April and a late bird on 15th May. In autumn, singles were recorded on thirteen dates from 1st September to 30th October, five seen on 12th September and two on 14th October.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. The first spring bird was noted on 19th February and there were almost daily records of one or two from then on. Peaks included eight on 17th March and 5th April and five on several later April dates, then there were fifteen on 3rd May. One or two were reported irregularly throughout the summer, then numbers rose in September, the most being thirteen on 5th and 18th. Smaller numbers continued to move through in October, with five or less on most days, but eight on 26th. One remained to 11th November.

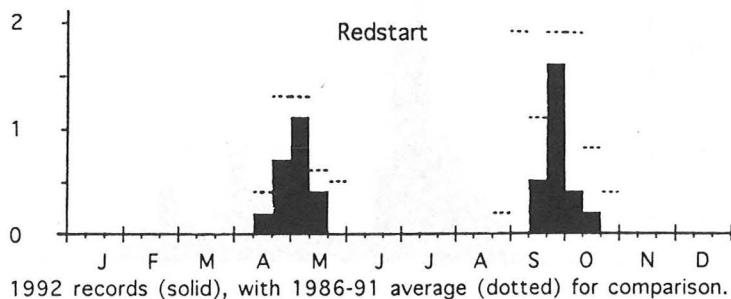
Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. The maximum count was forty-one on 30th October.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. The highest numbers reported were seventeen in late October.

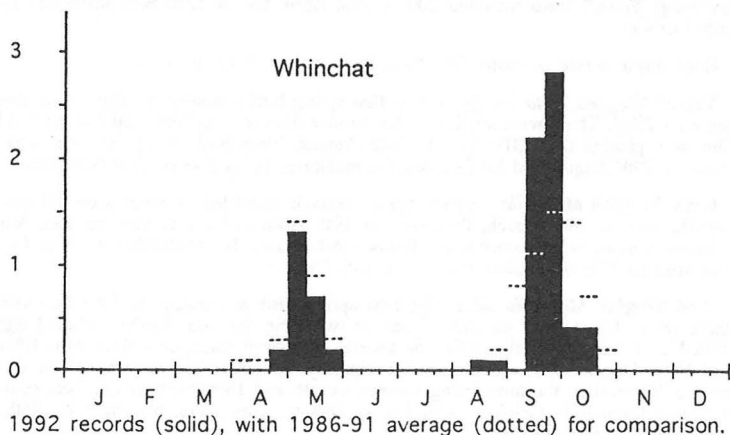
Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. The maximum count was twenty-six on 29th October.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*. A female was seen occasionally in late January and February, then there were seven records of one or two birds from 10th April to 30th May. After singles on 4th and 11th October, three appeared on 6th November, one staying until 6th December.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. In spring, birds were seen on fourteen days from 20th April to 19th May. Most records involved one or two, with three on 21st April and four on 4th May. Autumn records involved up to five birds, between 17th September and 13th October. See graph, which shows that numbers were lower than usual in both spring and autumn.

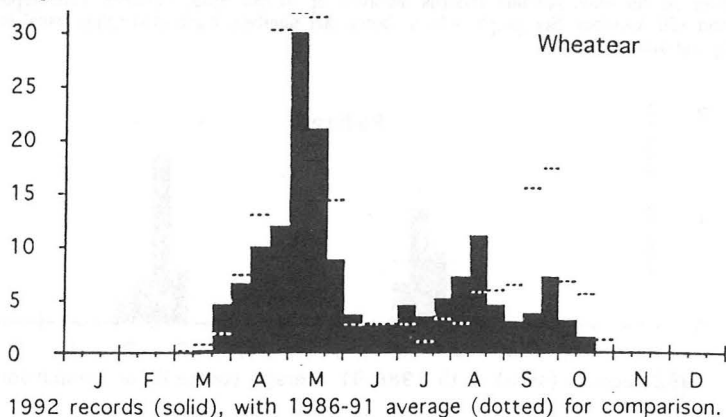


Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. Spring passage lasted from 25th April to 25th May. Birds were seen on fourteen days, including four on 4th and 14th May. Most other reports were of ones and twos. After singles on 18th and 30th August, the main autumn passage was between 17th September and 4th October, with September peaks of twelve on 18th, seven on 20th and six on 29th. After two more October singles, the last two birds were seen on 16th. See graph, which shows a more concentrated autumn passage than usual.



Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. One or two were seen irregularly from 22nd February to 1st April, then singles on 19th May, 11th July and 20th and 29th August. Between 16th September and 16th November, birds were seen on most days, peak counts being seven on 4th, twelve on 13th and seven on 23rd October. A pair was reported on 31st December.

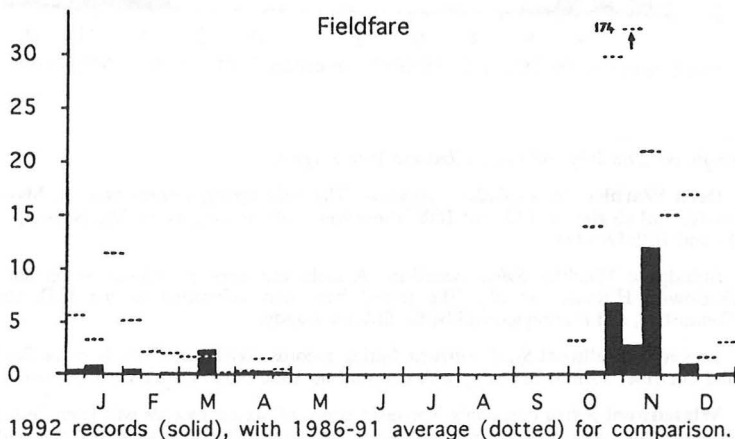
Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. The first spring bird, seen on 6th March, was followed by several more records before the main spring passage between late March and late May. The main movements involved thirty on 31st March, fifty on 20th April and further counts of fifty on four days in the first half of May. Birds remained to breed, with fledged young seen from the end of May onwards, and counts of up to fifteen birds through the summer. There was no very clear indication of autumn passage, highest counts being twenty-five on 18th August and sixteen on 20th September. The final two birds were seen on 19th October. See graph, which shows passage numbers below average.



Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*. The only spring records were on five days from 19th to 27th April, including three on 20th. Autumn records were also tightly bunched, between 4th and 14th October, with two on three days and singles on five.

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. There were counts of about twenty in January and February and a late October passage peaked at seventy on 21st and 200 on 30th. Forty were counted on 29th December.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. There were occasional records of between one and four birds from the beginning of the year to 21st April, the only higher count being twenty on 17th March. The first autumn bird was seen on 11th October, the peak count later in the month being twenty-two on 29th. Regular sightings continued until 20th November, the most being thirty-five on 18th. There were just two December records: ten on 8th and one on 21st. See graph which shows that numbers were much lower than usual.



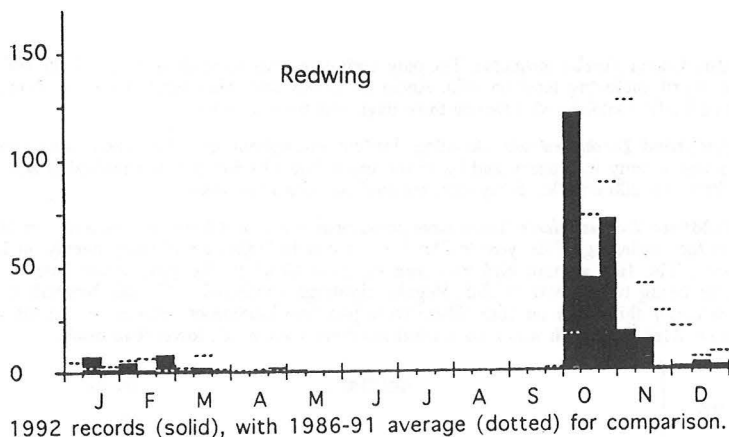
Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. One pair bred successfully. Small numbers, with a maximum of eight, were seen throughout the year until early October, when noticeable migration started. Peak counts were thirty on 8th, forty on 13th and fifty on 30th. In the final two months there were only five records: ones and twos apart from eight birds on 24th December.

Redwing *Turdus ilacus*. Birds were seen regularly until mid-March, with influxes including fifty on 13th January, fourteen on 6th February, twenty on 25th and 28th February and fifteen on 17th March. After six on 29th March, two stayed later than usual, until 2nd May. The first autumn birds were seen on 4th October and peak arrivals later that month included 500 on 8th, 150 on 21st, 200 on 26th and 140 on 29th. Up to eighty were seen in early November, then counts became less frequent and numbers declined to about ten in late December. See graph (on following page), which shows autumn movements starting early but low in total.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. One was present from 5th to 9th February and two on 28th February. In autumn, one was seen on most days from 8th to 19th October, with a second on 10th, then one on 30th and 31st October.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. The first spring birds were fourteen on 20th April. There were further records on thirteen days to 10th May, the other two major arrivals being twenty on 2nd May and thirty on 4th. In autumn there were four September singles, between 5th and 27th.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. Spring records were spread between 20th April and 30th May. In early May, numbers built up to twenty on 3rd, then 100 on 4th. Otherwise, counts involved ten or fewer birds. The only autumn records were a



single on 29th July and two on 2nd and 18th August.

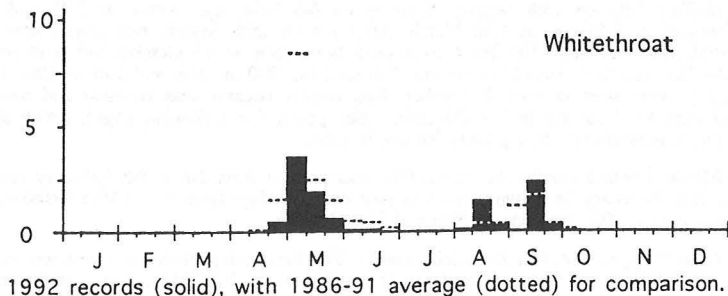
Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. The only spring records were in May: two on 4th and singles on 14th and 16th. There were autumn singles on 29th September and 11 and 16th October.

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*. A male was seen in Millcombe on 6th May (R.Bower, H.Radley *et al.*). The record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee, and if accepted will be the fifth for Lundy.

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*. Spring records consisted of two birds on 3rd May and one from 17th to 21st May with a second on 18th. None were seen in Autumn.

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. The main series of spring records was from 28th April to 29th May, with between one and five on most days but with an influx of twenty on 4th May. Late singles were reported on 8th and 14th June.

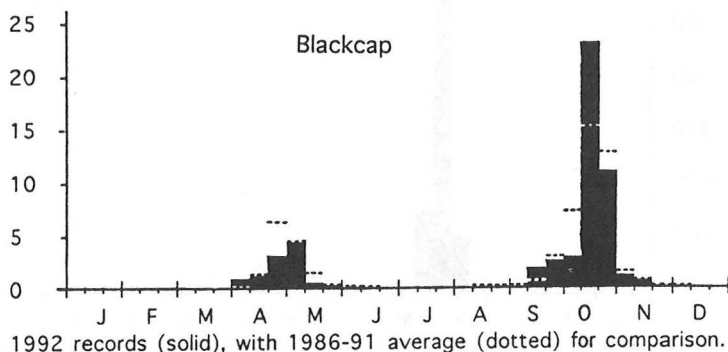
In autumn, ones and twos were seen on seven days between 9th and 31st August and twelve on 18th. Then there was a second series of records, with a maximum of seven, between 16th September and 2nd October. See graph, which shows rather low spring numbers.



Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. In spring up to three birds were seen on thirteen days between 2nd and 30th May. After one on 17th July, there were one or two on four days

in August, then twenty further autumn reports to 17th October. Most were in the second half of September with a peak of seventeen on 18th.

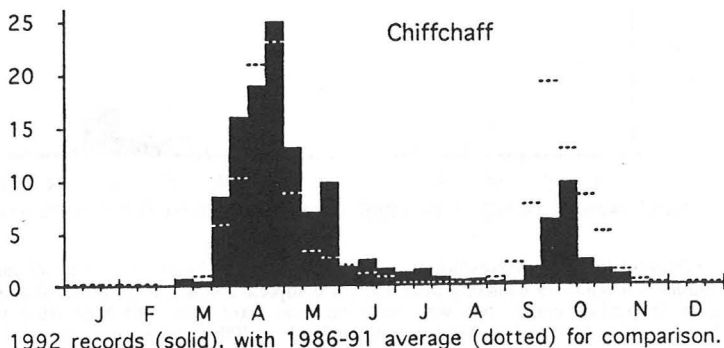
Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. Spring records were between 1st April and 6th June, with most birds seen from 20th April to 4th May and only ones and twos outside this period. The main arrivals were eight on 20th April, ten on 2nd May, and twenty on 4th. In autumn after one on 31st August, there were records on most days from 11th September to 19th November. There were several counts of about ten and larger movements in October, of 100 on 14th, thirty on 19th and thirty-four on 30th. See graph.



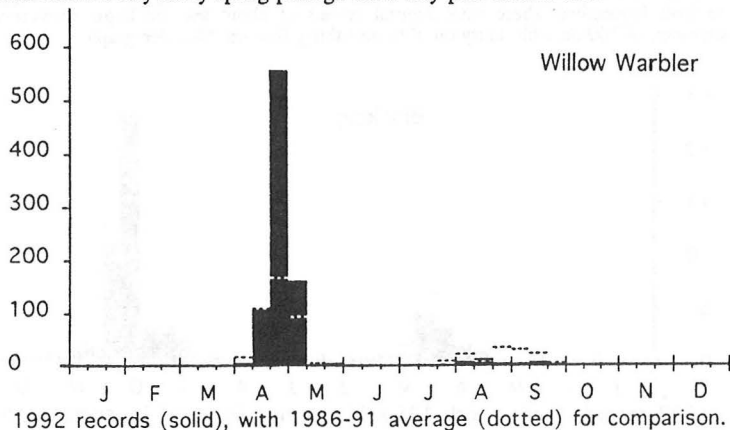
Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*. A single bird was seen on 13th and 14th October.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. Birds were seen on twelve days between 1st and 24th May, including six on 2nd and 3rd and four on 14th: more than in most springs. However there were no autumn records.

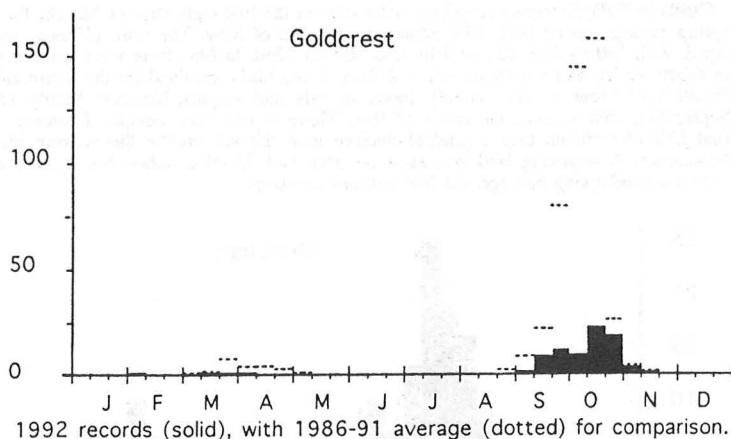
Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. After one on the first eight days of March, the main spring passage lasted from 17th March to the end of May. The main influxes were in April, with 100 on 2nd, 150 on 20th and 100 on 22nd. In May there were smaller peaks of thirty on 3rd and twenty on 6th and 21st. Some birds remained for the summer, with counts up to four in June, mainly fewer in July and August. Numbers hardly rose in September, with a maximum count of five. There were several counts of twenty in the first half of October, then a gradual decline until the last bird of the autumn on 11th November. A wintering bird was seen on 30th and 31st December. See graph, which shows a good spring passage, but low autumn numbers.



Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. The first were seen on 30th March and there were three major spring influxes: 1000 on 20th April, 5000 on 29th and 1000 on 2nd May. There were only occasional reports of ones and twos after the end of May, but an adult was seen feeding fledged young on 21st July. The largest autumn counts were thirty on 2nd August, twenty on 9th and sixty on 18th, then twenty on 16th September. After 18th, there were occasional singles until the last on 12th October. See graph, which shows a very heavy spring passage but a very poor autumn one..



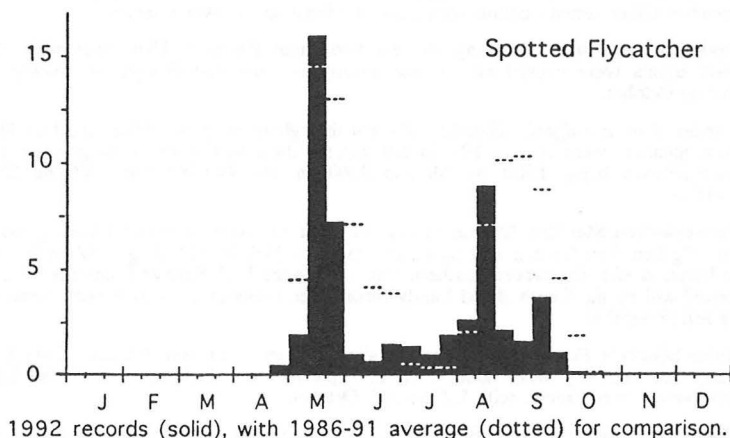
Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. Occasional ones and twos were seen from the start of the year, to mid-March, then numbers increased slightly, with four on 17th and five on 30th March, dropping again until the last spring bird on 9th April. In autumn, birds were seen on most days from 31st August, to 12th November. Numbers fluctuated, but there was a series of increasing peaks until they reached forty on 14th October, then a gradual decline. See graph: as last year, numbers were very low.



Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*. One on 14th May was followed by a small influx in autumn - a return to normality after 1991's complete absence of records. After one on 24th September, one or two were seen on most days from 30th September to 15th October, with four on 8th. Another three arrived on 30th October, and one or two were

seen on several further dates to 11th November.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. The first two were seen on 24th April, followed by two further singles that month. In May, after up to four early on, numbers rose to forty-five on 14th, with smaller peaks of up to thirteen to the end of the month. One pair stayed to breed in Millcombe, with fledged young being fed in mid-July and again in mid-August. Autumn numbers remained in single figures apart from thirty on



18th August and fifteen on 20th September. The last was seen on 1st October. See graph which shows that numbers were low in both spring and autumn.

Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*. One was in Millcombe from 29th September to 4th October.

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. An exceptionally early bird was reported on 31st March. The main spring movement was from 21st April to 20th May, with ten on 4th May and otherwise maximum counts of three. In autumn, birds were seen sporadically between 15th August and 4th October. The main influxes were eight on 15th and twenty on 18th August and five on 18th and 30th September.

Coal Tit *Parus alter*. One was seen on 5th January, 2nd and 6th February and 29th March: perhaps the same bird throughout.

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. One was seen regularly from 4th January to 26th March.

Great Tit *Parus major*. One was seen between 12th January and 14th March and one on 5th April.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. One was present from 1st to 9th August and one from 27th September to 9th October.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*. One or two birds were reported on seven days between 14th and 28th May: typical dates for this species. At least three and perhaps as many as six different individuals were involved.

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*. An adult was found at the south end of the Terrace on 14th May (C.Bourne, I.Kendall *et al.*). A juvenile, first seen in Millcombe on 22nd September, remained there until 3rd October (A.M.Jewels, P.M.Mayer *et al.*). It was caught and ringed on 30th September.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. One was present from 10th to 23rd February, then two between 5th and 19th April. One was seen on a number of days from 16th May to 27th

June, with a second on 24th and 31st May.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*. One arrived on 30th January, joined by a second on 1st February and a third from 5th to 19th. Thereafter, one or two birds were seen on most days until 15th March, then one occasionally until 27th April.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Peak counts were twenty-five on 20th February, twenty on 15th June and forty-one on 19th September. Other autumn counts were generally in the ten to twenty range.

Raven *Corvus corax*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Until September the highest counts were consistently around twenty-five, but had dropped to twenty or below by October.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Before the breeding season, numbers were around 100. In late autumn there was evidence of passage, the largest influxes being 1500 on 7th and 2200 on 31st October and 1000 on 20th November.

Rose-coloured Starling. *Sturnus roseus*. An adult was with the resident starling flock in the Pig Pen, Tea Garden and incinerator areas on 11th to 13th August (A.M.Jewels, P.M.Mayer *et al.*). The record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee and if accepted will be the fourth dated Lundy record. The previous ones have been between June and September.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Counts in January and February were about fifty. In September and October most of the high counts were around ninety, with 130 on 20th October.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Up to twelve were present before the breeding season. Major autumn movements included in October 300 on 13th, 1000 on 26th and 1300 on 31st and 150 on 4th November.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. One was seen on 13th February, then one on most days from 28th March to 9th April, with a second on 1st April. Two were also seen on 20th April. Autumn records were between 7th October and 13th November. The main October influxes, usually coinciding with high Chaffinch numbers, included fifteen on 13th, twenty-six on 19th, fifty on 26th and fifty-six on 30th.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. In April, one or two were seen on seven days between 5th and 20th. Then one was reported on 3rd May and two on 21st. In autumn, birds were seen on most days from 23rd September to 8th November. Most counts were of five or less, but there were ten on 26th October and nine on 31st. A later single was seen on 28th November.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. One was present from 20th January to 12th February. In spring, birds were seen on most days from 9th April to 22nd May, with numbers mainly in single figures, but flocks of thirty on 14th April and fifty on 19th and 29th. Up to four were seen intermittently from 1st June to 5th July. In autumn, up to five birds were seen on many days from 4th to 30th October, with an influx of twenty-six on 14th. One was seen occasionally in the first half of November, then two on 30th and 31st December.

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. A single bird was seen on 29th April. After one on 29th September, the main autumn movement was from 10th to 31st October, including thirty on 22nd, thirty-five on 26th and nineteen on 30th. In November, one or two were seen on three days to 13th.

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*. Breeding. Recorded in all months except January, but only sporadically and in small numbers in February, March, November and December. April numbers rose to 300 on 19th. There were up to sixty in May, and 100 by early August. Numbers fell in September and by late October stood at twenty or less. The final autumn record was on 11th November, but one was seen on 31st December.

Redpoll *Carduelus flammea*. In May, up to five were seen on most days from 3rd to 19th, followed by one on 28th. In October, singles were seen on 9th, 16th and 18th and four on 19th.

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*. Two were seen on 29th October.

Scarlet Rosefinch *Carpodacus eythrinus*. After one on 25th and 26th May, a pair was seen from 14th to 27th June. In autumn, an immature was present from 18th to 23rd September and one from 2nd to 8th October.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. One was seen on 22nd May.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. A male was seen on 29th April.

Lapland Bunting *Calcarius lapponicus*. The only records were in early October. One was present from 4th, three on 8th and two on 13th.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Two were seen on 6th February, then one female intermittently until it was joined by a second from 31st March to 2nd April, with one on 4th. In autumn, singles were seen on seven dates from 29th September to 31st October, then five on 1st November and one on 28th.

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*. One was seen in Millcombe on 18th September.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. A female was present from 21st to 26th May. In October there were two on 8th and 13th and singles on seven other dates between 4th and 29th.

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

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*. One on 6th April.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*. Two on 15th July.

Elder *Somateria mollissima*. Four on 15th July.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. Singles on 6th May, 28th August and 17th October.