

BIRD RINGING IN 1992

By

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The year's ringing total was 2,421 birds. Ringers were on the island for three weeks in spring, three days in July and five weeks in Autumn. Autumn Goldcrest numbers were again low, though better than in 1991, and in view of this the overall total reflected a successful year.

In spring, Willow Warblers and Chiffchaffs dominated the totals, as expected, but numbers of Redstarts, Whitethroats and Spotted and Pied Flycatchers were low, perhaps reflecting problems in their African wintering grounds. The main feature of the autumn was a good movement of migrants in late October, which led to record year-totals for Blackbird, Redwing, Chaffinch and Brambling. Blackcap numbers were also above average.

There were no national rarities among the catches this year, the two scarcest species ringed being Red-breasted Flycatcher and Woodchat Shrike. Swift and Snow Bunting have also rarely been caught on Lundy before and it was most unusual for a Carrion Crow to be careless enough to fly into a mist-net.

A complete list of the Lundy ringing totals is given below, together with details of recoveries and controls received so far. Among others, these include a Greenland White-fronted Goose that had previously wintered in Ireland, a Lundy-bred Kittiwake that was nineteen years old and still alive and well, a Collared Dove that moved to Ireland and a Siskin found in Sweden. No details have been received yet of three birds controlled in spring which are potentially interesting because they carried foreign rings.

Our thanks are due to Mary Gade, who looked after the ringing records and equipment on the island for many years until Spring 1992, and to Andrew Jewels, who took over the task from her for the rest of the year.

LUNDY RINGING TOTALS 1992

Manx Shearwater	27	Lesser Whitethroat	1
Storm Petrel	4	Whitethroat	13
Collared Dove	2	Garden Warbler	15
Swift	1	Blackcap	195
Sand Martin	8	Wood Warbler	1
Swallow	280	Chiffchaff	122
House Martin	23	Willow Warbler	530
Meadow Pipit	22	Goldcrest	100
Grey Wagtail	1	Firecrest	4
Pied Wagtail	1	Spotted Flycatcher	4
Wren	25	Red-breasted Flycatcher	1
Duncock	15	Pied Flycatcher	9
Robin	28	Woodchat Shrike	1
Redstart	4	Carrion Crow	1
Whinchat	2	Starling	12
Stonechat	12	House Sparrow	79
Wheatear	7	Chaffinch	361
Ring Ouzel	1	Brambling	10
Blackbird	212 (4)	Greenfinch	17

Song Thrush	38	Goldfinch	11
Redwing	52	Linnet	86
Grasshopper Warbler	16	Redpoll	2
Sedge Warbler	62	Snow Bunting	1
Reed Warbler	2		
		Total	<hr/> 2421

Figures in brackets indicate pulli (included in main totals).

RECOVERIES AND CONTROLS 1992

FC24472 Manx Shearwater. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 23.7.91. Found freshly dead (killed by gull) on Skokholm, Dyfed, 28.7.92 (72km; bearing 325°; 371 days).

2153496 Storm Petrel. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 23.7.92. Controlled at Portland Bill, Dorset, 14.8.93 (171km; 115°; 22 days).

Brown colour-ring and neck-band OXK. White-fronted Goose (Greenland race). Ringed at Wexford Slobs, EIRE, 10.11.91, remaining there until 31.3.92. Seen on Lundy 23-30.11.92.

EF48087 Kittiwake. Ringed as a pullus at Virgin Springs, Lundy, 7.7.73. Breeding at Kittiwake Gully, Lundy, 22.7.92 (ring read through telescope). (6955 days).

EB66462 Collared Dove. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 3.5.91. Found alive (feeding with racing pigeons) and released, Malahide, Dublin, EIRE, 4.8.92. (273km; 339°; 459 days).

XN34135 Blackbird. Ringed as an adult female on Lundy, 17.10.91. Found dead on Lundy, 26.2.92. (132 days).

H612568 Blackcap. Ringed as first year male at Sandwich Bay, Kent, 29.9.92. Controlled on Lundy, 30.10.92. (421km; 268°; 31 days).

7X3814 Willow Warbler. Ringed as a first year male at Icklesham, Sussex, 13.8.91. Controlled on Lundy, 29.4.92 (375km; 274°; 260 days).

VC53552 House Sparrow. Ringed as an adult female on Lundy, 5.5.92. Found dead on Lundy, 22.7.92. (78 days).

VK70086 Greenfinch. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 30.10.92. Controlled at Mullock, nr Marloes, Dyfed, 13.12.92. (72km; 331°; 44 days).

H113433 Siskin. Ringed as an adult female on Lundy, 19.10.90. Found dead at Hallstahammar, Vastmanland, SWEDEN, 8.3.92 (1613km; 54°; 506 days).