

BIRD RINGING IN 1993

By

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During the four weeks' ringing coverage in spring, poor weather conditions restricted the catch to about 400 birds and hence the year's totals for the species such as Chiffchaff and Willow Warbler were low.

The five weeks of autumn ringing were more successful, bringing the year's total up to 2786. The last week in October brought very large numbers of Chaffinches and their 1992 total, a record at the time, was more than doubled. The same applied to the Bramblings migrating with them. Record totals were also achieved for Blackcap and Redwing.

Siskins arrived in good numbers again after their 1992 absence. Goldcrests showed an increase for the second year running, after the extremely low numbers in 1991, but still have not reached the levels of the late 1980s.

The highlights of the rarities caught were a Subalpine Warbler in May and a Rustic Bunting in October. Other unusual species included Wryneck, Melodious Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher and Golden Oriole. A complete list of the year's ringing totals is given below.

An interesting selection of recoveries and controls was received during the year, including Willow Warblers migrating north from Italy and south from Denmark, a Sedge Warbler wintering in Senegal and a Starling found in the Netherlands. There was also news of a Great Black-backed Gull ringed as a nestling twenty-six years ago but unfortunately only the ring was found, so the fate of the bird remains unknown. There was more definite information about the White-fronted Goose that strayed to Lundy in October 1992: it succeeded in finding its way back to its normal wintering area in Wexford. A full list of recoveries and controls (including three late ones referring to 1992) is given below.

LUNDY RINGING TOTALS 1993

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Manx Shearwater | 1 | Reed Warbler | 4 |
| Kestrel | 1 | Melodious Warbler | 1 |
| Merlin | 1 | Subalpine Warbler | 1 |
| Water Rail | 1 | Lesser Whitethroat | 6 |
| Razorbill | 1 | Whitethroat | 15 |
| Collared Dove | 1 | Garden Warbler | 27 |
| Wryneck | 1 | Blackcap | 380 |
| Skylark | 8 | Yellow-browed Warbler | 1 |
| Sand Martin | 2 | Chiffchaff | 100 |
| Swallow | 113 | Willow Warbler | 184 |
| House Martin | 3 | Goldcrest | 306 |
| Tree Pipit | 1 | Firecrest | 7 |
| Meadow Pipit | 34 | Spotted Flycatcher | 15 |
| Grey Wagtail | 2 | Red-breasted Flycatcher | 1 |
| Pied Wagtail | 1 | Blue Tit | 3 |
| Wren | 26 | Golden Oriole | 1 |
| Duncock | 15 | Jackdaw | 1 |
| Robin | 46 | Starling | 68 |
| Redstart | 4 | House Sparrow | 59 |
| Stonechat | 11 | Chaffinch | 767 |
| Wheatear | 2 | Brambling | 28 |

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|----------------|-------------|
| Ring Ouzel | 3 | Greenfinch | 1 |
| Blackbird | 158 | Goldfinch | 18 |
| Fieldfare | 3 | Siskin | 198 |
| Song Thrush | 40 | Linnet | 34 |
| Redwing | 60 | Rustic Bunting | 1 |
| Grasshopper Warbler | 6 | | |
| Sedge Warbler | 14 | Total: | <u>2786</u> |

RECOVERIES AND CONTROLS 1993

FC37618 Manx Shearwater. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 23.7.92. Controlled on Annet, Scilly Isles, 30.6.93. (186km; bearing 220°; 342 days).

Brown colour-ring and neck-band OXK White-fronted Goose (Greenland race). After its stay on Lundy 23 - 30.10.92 (not November, as stated in the 1992 Ringing Report), this bird was seen back at Wexford Slobs, EIRE, 9.12.92 - 19.4.93.

HW01419 Great Black-backed Gull. Ringed as a nestling on Lundy, 10.7.67. Ring found near Kingswear, Devon, 23.5.93 (121km; 139°; 9449 days).

EB66457 Collared Dove. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 29.4.90. Found dead, Tregaron, Dyfed, Wales, 11.7.93. (122km; 24°; 1169 days).

Jersey A61005 Swallow. Ringed as a first year bird at La Rochelle, Guernsey, Channel Islands, 30.9.91. Controlled on Lundy, 4.5.92. (240km; 321°; 217 days).

F284779 Dunnock. Ringed as a first year bird on Lundy, 8.9.90. Found freshly dead on Lundy, 27.4.93. (962 days).

XN34236 Blackbird. Ringed as an adult male on Lundy, 1.5.92. Found dead on Lundy, 24.4.93. (358 days).

F736077 Sedge Warbler. Ringed as an adult on Lundy, 28.4.90. Controlled at Parc National du Djoudj, St. Louis, SENEGAL, 24.1.93. (3999km; 195°; 1002 days).

Bologna VB6271 Willow Warbler. Ringed as an adult at Castello Barbarossa, Capri Island, ITALY, 16.4.92. Controlled on Lundy, 3.5.92. (1873km; 309°; 17 days).

Copenhagen 9K45652 Willow Warbler. Ringed as a first year male at Hanstholm, Thy, Jylland, DENMARK, 4.9.93. Controlled on Lundy, 25.9.93. (1084km; 233°; 21 days).

4F4945 Goldcrest. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 7.10.93. Found freshly dead (hit window) at Westward Hol, Devon, 24.10.93. (34km; 116°; 17 days).

F225692 Pied Flycatcher. Ringed as a second year male on Lundy, 8.5.89. Controlled, breeding, at Landhydrock, Cornwall, 10.6.92. (81km; 181°; 1129 days).

XN34390 Starling. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 22.10.92. Found dead at Stadskanaal, Groningen, NETHERLANDS, 17.5.93. (816km; 76°; 207 days).

VC53598 House Sparrow. Ringed as an adult male on Lundy, 24.4.91. Found dying on Lundy, 18.5.93. (755 days).