

BIRD RINGING IN 1998

By

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Ringling coverage during migration times was poor, involving just one week in April, one in August and two in October. In June, John Hutchinson spent ten days on his Skylark study and Peter Carr did five days of seabird ringling.

In all, 1409 birds of thirty-nine species were ringed. Almost half of these were Willow Warblers caught in April and August. No other species total reached three figures, but those for Grasshopper Warbler, Sedge Warbler and Linnet were high, given the limited coverage. The rarity of the year was Lundy's first Citrine Wagtail, caught in St. John's Valley in August. The same week also produced a Scarlet Rosefinch.

During the year, several birds ringed on Lundy were found abroad. A Meadow Pipit was recovered in Spain and a Blackbird in Belgium. The Chaffinch controlled in Denmark in May 1997 was caught again at the same site in May 1998 and a second Chaffinch, ringed on Lundy in October 1993, was controlled in Sweden in April. Two colour-ringed Lesser Black-backed Gulls were seen in Portugal and one in France.

A Field Society working party did an impressive job of rebuilding the Terrace Heligoland trap, which will give ringers greater flexibility in windy conditions, when mist-nets are unusable. As in 1997, Steve Wing undertook the very valuable task of putting the year's ringling data onto computer.

LUNDY RINGING TOTALS, 1998

Manx Shearwater	51	Song Thrush	7
Storm Petrel	10	Redwing	7
Shag	7 (7)	Grasshopper Warbler	19
Herring Gull	75 (75)	Sedge Warbler	53
Lesser Black-backed Gull	31 (31)	Reed Warbler	3
Great Black-backed Gull	6 (6)	Whitethroat	6
Skylark	62 (38)	Garden Warbler	2
Swallow	8 (4)	Blackcap	40
Meadow Pipit	36	Chiffchaff	63
Pied Wagtail	2	Willow Warbler	690
Citrine Wagtail*	1	Goldcrest	40
Wren	11	Spotted Flycatcher	2
Duncock	10	Pied Flycatcher	1
Robin	4	Starling	4
Redstart	2	House Sparrow	1
Whinchat	1	Chaffinch	41
Wheatear	31	Brambling	2
Blackbird	10 (1)	Greenfinch	1

Goldfinch	4	Scarlet Rosefinch	1
Linnet	64		
		Total	<hr/> 1409

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

* Added to the Lundy ringing list in 1998.

RECOVERIES AND CONTROLS, 1998

FC37618 **Manx Shearwater**. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 18.7.90. Found freshly dead at Whiteford Burrows, Llanmadoc, Gower, Glamorgan, 4.8.98 (57km, bearing 29°, 178 days)

2267592 **Storm Petrel**. Ringed as a full grown bird on Lundy, 24.6.98. Controlled at Pendeen Watch, Cornwall, 26.7.98. (134km, bearing 212°, 32 days).

N194873 **Meadow Pipit**. Ringed as a adult on Lundy, 29.7.97. Found dead (in net protecting tree seedlings) at Valdovino, Coruna, SPAIN, 24.3.98. (883km, bearing 197°, 178 days).

RK24919 **Blackbird**. Ringed as first year female on Lundy, 27.10.97. Found dead (road casualty) at Wellen, Limburg, BELGIUM, 20.5.98. (699km, bearing 93°, 205 days).

J995796 **Blackcap**. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 2.11.95. Found dead (hit window) at Stewarton, Strathclyde, 16.7.98. (475km, bearing 47°, 987 days).

8G7867 **Chiffchaff**. Ringed as a first year bird on Lundy, 25.10.97. Controlled at Budby Corner Plantations, Carburton, Nottingham, 24.7.98. (335km, bearing 47°, 272 days).

7D6002 **Willow Warbler**. Ringed as an adult on Lundy, 27.4.98. Controlled at Portland Bill, Dorset, 6.8.98. (171km, bearing 115°, 101 days).

3G1357 **Goldcrest**. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 2.10.97. Controlled at Bardsey Island, Gwynedd, 20.3.98. (176km, bearing 357°, 169 days).

J477809 **Chaffinch**. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 26.10.93. Controlled at Ottenby, Oland, SWEDEN, 8.4.98. (1493km, bearing 68°, 1625 days).

J509136 **Chaffinch**. Ringed as a first year male on Lundy, 29.10.93. Controlled at Vester Vandet So, Thisted, Jylland, DENMARK, 9.5.98. (1078km, bearing 53°, 1653 days).

K923261 **Siskin**. Ringed as an adult female on Lundy, 30.10.97. Controlled at Sandford, Crediton, Devon, 27.10.97 and 1.2.98. (81km, bearing 120°, 58 and 94 days).

VR46687 **Greenfinch**. Ringed as a first year male on Lundy, 28.10.97. Found dead (?killed by cat) at Chelworth, Wiltshire, 30.4.98. (189km, bearing 74°, 184 days).

VX48916 **Greenfinch**. Ringed as a first year male on Lundy, 31.10.97. Controlled at Holy Vale, St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 30.3.99. (180km, bearing 219°, 515 days).

In addition, **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** colour-ringed as pulli on Lundy have been seen

as follows:

Ringed 25–29.6.95, seen on the Hayle Estuary, Cornwall, 12.8.98.

Ringed 23–27.6.96, seen at Praia da Saude, Almada, PORTUGAL, 28.8.98.

Ringed 23–27.6.95, seen at Sesimbra, PORTUGAL, 28.10.98 and 28.11.98.

Ringed 25–29.6.96, seen at Les Grissotieres, Dolus d'Oleron, FRANCE, 20.20.98.