

BIRDS RECORDED IN 1951

Those details of the rarer birds not given elsewhere in this report may be found in the log-book.

Corvus corax. **Raven.**

Three pairs bred. Most seen, thirteen April 5th, nine on many dates until end of year.

Corvus cornix. **Hooded Crow.**

One at the North End, June 10th, an unexpected date.

Corvus corone. **Carion Crow.**

No estimate of breeding population. Seen daily throughout the year, numbers not exceeding thirty (May 26th) in spring, but generally greater from August to mid-November, with maxima fifty-two, September 30th; fifty-four, October 2nd; c. fifty, November 5th.

Corvus frugilegus. **Rook.**

Single birds on March 19th, April 10th, 28th, 29th and May 2nd, with three April 17th, and four April 15th, 16th and 23rd.

Corvus monedula. **Jackdaw.**

Recorded on thirteen days between March 29th and April 20th (most eight April 7th to 9th). One May 10th, two 13th and 25th. No autumn records.

Sturnus vulgaris. **Starling.**

Very numerous in both spring and autumn. Seen daily from beginning of season to April 24th, with six hundred March 8th to 11th, eight hundred 31st, but numbers small in April. Single birds on eight days in May, two in June, and two in early July. One September 22nd, then daily from the 29th, with peak numbers of five hundred October 15th; one thousand 25th; seven hundred and fifty 28th; fifteen hundred November 5th and 7th; six hundred December 1st.

Oriolus oriolus. **Golden Oriole.**

A hen in Millcombe, June 6th.

Coccothraustes coccothraustes. **Hawfinch.**

Single birds June 19th, 28th; July 3rd, 4th and 6th.

Chloris chloris. **Greenfinch.**

Up to four seen on eleven days between March 28th and April 22nd. Two on October 3rd, then fairly frequently from October 24th to the end of the year, but numbers never exceeded seven.

Carduelis carduelis. **Goldfinch.**

Single birds on February 25th and 26th, March 3rd and 14th, then recorded on fifteen days between April 15th and May 11th (most seven May 9th). One June 11th. Seen almost daily from September 29th to end of season, with c. twenty October 12th, twenty-one October 17th and November 5th the most.

Carduelis cannabina. **Linnet.**

Size of breeding population uncertain. First recorded March 31st, then seen on most days until October 23rd, with stragglers into early November, and one on the 26th. Some passage in mid-April, and many moved through in autumn, over two hundred being present on most days from late August to early October. Maxima : c. four hundred September 5th ; c. three hundred 16th and from 19th to 22nd.

Fringilla coelebs. **Chaffinch.**

Breeding population not known, but obviously small. Little spring passage, but exceptional numbers in autumn, with peak estimates four hundred October 11th, several thousands on 15th, several hundreds on 16th, seven hundred and fifty 26th, five hundred 29th, and two thousand five hundred November 7th ; passage continuing intermittently until November 26th. Four of five males trapped in autumn (two November 6th, one 10th, and one December 11th) were of the Continental form *F.c. coelebs*, and most of those seen from early October were thought to be of this form.

Fringilla montifringilla. **Brambling.**

One April 9th. In autumn, seen on fifteen days between October 24th and November 26th, with c. eighty November 7th the most.

Emberiza calandra. **Corn Bunting.**

One May 11th, two November 11th and 12th.

Emberiza citrinella. **Yellow Bunting.**

Two pairs almost certainly bred, although no nests were found. Seen fairly regularly from April 3rd, almost daily from late May to November 1st, and on five later dates to the 27th.

Emberiza bruniceps. **Red-headed Bunting.**

An adult male from July 14th to 20th, and a female or first-winter bird from September 30th to October 3rd. First records for Lundy.

Emberiza cirlus. **Cirl Bunting.**

A female on September 28th.

Emberiza hortulana. **Ortolan Bunting.**

Four (an adult and three juveniles) on September 11th, two juveniles on the 12th, three or four birds on the 14th, a juvenile 21st, an adult and a juvenile 22nd, two adults 28th, and an adult female October 9th and 10th. The total number of individuals present is not certain.

Emberiza pusilla. **Little Bunting.**

Two adult males, one trapped, October 16th ; the ringed bird seen again on the 19th. First record for Lundy.

Emberiza schoeniclus. **Reed Bunting.**

A hen on November 26th.

Calcarius lapponicus. **Lapland Bunting.**

One on September 25th.

Plectrophenax nivalis. **Snow Bunting.**

One on March 6th, two from 7th to 14th. Four on September 14th, then up to three birds on twelve days later in September, on six days in October, six days in November, and three days in early December.

Passer domesticus. **House Sparrow.**

One, possibly two, June 27th.

Passer montanus. **Tree Sparrow**

One May 14th, 15th, 30th, 31st and June 5th.

Lullula arborea. **Wood Lark.**

Single birds April 3rd, 5th and May 11th, two October 21st. There is only one previous record for the island.

Alauda arvensis. **Sky Lark.**

No estimate of breeding population. Small evidence of spring passage, but considerable movement from late September to early November, with peaks of c. two hundred September 22nd and October 15th. Few present from mid-November.

Anthus campestris. **Tawny Pipit.**

Single birds, September 19th and 29th. There is only one previous occurrence.

Anthus trivialis. **Tree Pipit.**

In spring, two April 21st and 22nd, one 23rd, 24th, 25th and May 3rd. In autumn recorded almost daily from September 7th to 22nd (c. twelve on the 12th), with a late bird on October 1st.

Anthus pratensis. **Meadow Pipit.**

The most numerous breeding passerine. Some movement in early spring, most marked on March 13th and 31st. Passage considerable in late September and early October, with peaks September 20th, 29th and October 3rd, 6th, 11th, and 15th. Very few present later in the year.

Anthus spinoletta. **Rock Pipit.**

Breeding population c. 40 pairs. (An estimate in late autumn gave about thirty pairs.)

Motacilla flava. **Yellow Wagtail.**

Single birds April 19th, 22nd, 24th, two 21st, 25th and May 12th, one June 2nd. On autumn passage, one August 19th, five 23rd; then seen almost daily from August 31st to October 5th, with maxima c. thirty-seven September 9th, c. sixty September 16th.

Motacilla cinerea. **Grey Wagtail.**

Three March 1st, and single birds on fourteen days to April 2nd, one May 17th and 26th, two June 29th. Four September 9th, then odd birds quite frequently between September 20th and October 28th (three October 5th).

Motacilla alba. **Pied Wagtail.**

Seen in all months except December, but few records between May and August. Most numerous in April (eight 2nd, seven 22nd) and September (twenty 12th, thirty-one 15th). Single White Wagtails *M.a. alba* were identified April 16th and 22nd, and several birds in September were thought to be of this form.

Parus major. **Great Tit.**

One September 10th and 12th, October 22nd, 25th and November 1st, with two October 31st.

Parus caeruleus. **Blue Tit.**

One October 20th the only record.

Lanius collurio. **Red-backed Shrike.**

A juvenile September 14th, trapped the following day.

Muscicapa striata. **Spotted Flycatcher.**

Single birds April 23rd, 26th, then seen almost daily from May 6th to June 6th, c. twenty May 24th the most. One July 17th, 31st, and August 1st. Usually present from August 8th to October 9th, with eighteen August 30th, seventeen September 1st, and sixteen September 11th. Two October 18th, 19th, one 20th and 21st were very late.

Muscicapa hypoleuca. **Pied Flycatcher.**

In spring, five April 21st, four 22nd, two May 6th, one 25th, 26th and 27th. First of autumn, one July 15th, an unusual date; one August 11th; then on most days from August 16th to October 5th, (most sixteen September 11th) with a single late straggler October 13th to 18th.

Muscicapa parva. **Red-breasted Flycatcher.**

Single adult females, October 5th and November 2nd. Second and third records for the island.

Regulus regulus. **Goldcrest.**

Seen frequently from beginning of season to end April; most, six April 10th. One May 30th. Single birds September 10th, 11th, 18th, then regularly until November 15th (maxima: ten October 11th, eighteen 18th, ten 29th and 30th). Only later record, one November 26th.

Phylloscopus collybita. **Chiffchaff.**

Recorded in spring from March 28th to May 18th, probably most numerous on April 15th and 16th. In autumn small numbers identified from July 30th; and this species the predominant phylloscopine from mid-September with c. one hundred September

20th, c. forty 26th, c. fifty October 5th. Stragglers were present until October 29th, then one seen November 10th and 11th, two 12th, 13th and 14th, and one on several days to the 23rd; two probably new arrivals, December 1st, and one on the 2nd, but not seen subsequently. A bird on October 15th and all those of November and December, resembled *abietinus* or *tristis*.

Phylloscopus trochilus. **Willow Warbler.**

Seen daily from April 6th to May 19th, abundant April 22nd and 23rd. A few in late May, and odd birds in three days in June, and on three in early July. Autumn passage from July 28th to September 20th (perhaps later), maxima: c. fifty August 1st, c. forty-five August 12th, c. forty September 6th and 10th.

Phylloscopus sibilatrix. **Wood Warbler.**

Single birds April 23rd, 29th, 30th, two May 6th, four 10th. No autumn records.

Locustella naevia. **Grasshopper Warbler.**

One or two birds present April 21st to 26th (three 22nd), two May 6th and 11th, one June 1st. Single birds August 1st, September 14th, 20th, 28th and October 2nd.

Acrocephalus scirpaceus. **Reed Warbler.**

Records, all of single birds, on April 21st, 22nd, 23rd, May 7th, August 17th, September 24th and October 9th.

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus. **Sedge Warbler.**

Seen almost daily from April 18th to May 14th (c. twelve April 23rd the most), and a few individuals later in May. One June 9th. In autumn recorded fairly regularly from July 29th to October 2nd, but numbers never exceeded four (August 23rd).

Hippolais icterina. **Icterine Warbler.**

A juvenile trapped September 9th and an adult the following day. An unringed juvenile seen on the 10th was caught on the 11th and a fourth bird was watched on the 20th. There is only one previous record.

Hippolais polyglotta. **Melodious Warbler.**

One taken in the Garden Trap on July 30th. First record for the island.

Sylvia borin. **Garden Warbler.**

Two April 22nd, one 23rd, two May 9th, 10th, 11th and one 24th. Autumn records all of single birds: September 8th, 9th, 17th, 23rd October 3rd and 5th.

Sylvia atricapilla. **Blackcap.**

One April 20th, twelve 21st, four 22nd, c. ten 23rd, and one 24th, May 3rd and 22nd. Singly on July 19th, 20th; August 6th, 14th; September 9th, 18th, 23rd, 30th; October 2nd, 14th, 20th and 25th, with two October 17th and 22nd. Later records (perhaps wintering birds): a male November 14th and 17th a female on the 15th, and a male in Millcombe, December 7th.

Sylvia communis. **Whitethroat.**

One, possibly two pairs, bred. Seen almost every day from April 18th to June 16th (c. thirty-five April 21st, c. fifty 23rd, abundant 25th and twenty or more on several days in early May). Seen June 28th and on thirteen days in July (seven 19th). Single birds August 1st, 3rd, 7th, then on most days from August 15th to October 6th, with maxima c. thirty September 7th and 10th, c. twenty 20th. One late bird October 13th to 18th.

Sylvia curruca. **Lesser Whitethroat.**

One April 17th, two 23rd, one May 10th. One in Millcombe October 3rd to 6th.

Sylvia undata. **Dartford Warbler.**

A bird of the year in St John's Valley on October 28th. First record for the island.

Turdus pilaris. **Fieldfare.**

Recorded singly on six days in late February, three on March 9th, two 30th and one May 6th (a rather late date). In autumn first seen October 1st and 2nd (two), with four on the 18th. From October 23rd seen on most days until the end of the year. Passage was heavy in early November, with c. two hundred and fifty on the 5th and c. three hundred on the 7th.

Turdus viscivorus. **Mistle Thrush.**

One March 10th and October 18th, two October 23rd, 25th and November 7th.

Turdus ericetorum. **Song Thrush.**

Present in all months and one pair probably bred. A few passed through in late February and early March. In autumn movement was noted from October 18th to about November 14th (peaks c. one hundred October 18th, c. forty November 8th). A bird thought to be of the continental race *philomelus* was caught on November 21st, but most of the migrants were of a small, dark variety.

Turdus musicus. **Redwing.**

Northward movement took place in early March (seventy-one March 7th the most), with stragglers until April 20th. From October 2nd birds were usually present until the end of the year. The passage was heavy and protracted, with peaks c. fifty October 2nd, c. three hundred 18th, c. eighty 24th, c. seventy November 5th, and c. two hundred on the 7th. A bird of the Iceland race *coburni* was trapped on November 6th.

Turdus torquatus. **Ring Ouzel.**

Spring records, all of single birds, on eleven days between April 10th and May 1st. In autumn first seen September 8th, then on seven days later in September, and on sixteen days in October to the 31st (most c. twenty October 2nd and 3rd).

Turdus merula. **Blackbird.**

Size of breeding population uncertain. Evidence of passage in early March, and from mid-September to mid-November, with maxima: c. forty October 5th, c. fifty 15th, 18th and 29th, c. eighty November 7th, c. seventy 14th.

Oenanthe oenanthe. **Wheatear.**

Three pairs bred. Spring passage began March 18th, and continued until about May 15th, with peaks of forty-two March 30th, c. fifty April 10th, c. sixty April 20th, 'abundant' 21st and 22nd, c. fifty May 10th. The autumn movements began August 2nd and lasted until October 21st, with maxima c. fifty August 13th and 23rd, c. sixty-five August 29th, c. one hundred September 7th and c. eighty-five September 12th. Several of the birds seen in spring, and many of those in autumn (including the two caught and three found dead) resembled the form *leucorrhoa*.

Saxicola rubetra. **Whinchat.**

Four April 21st, one 22nd, 23rd, May 5th, 6th, two May 10th, one 19th and 29th. A single bird August 18th, then recorded on twenty-four days between September 9th and October 8th, fourteen September 11th and c. ten September 15th the most.

Saxicola torquata. **Stonechat.**

One pair successfully bred, for the first time since 1943. Two broods were reared. Small numbers seen frequently from beginning of season to July 19th, by which time the breeders appeared to have left the island. Four arrived September 20th, one was seen on the 26th, and a few were present from October 3rd to the end of the season, with fifteen October 5th much the largest number recorded.

Phoenicurus phoenicurus. **Redstart.**

One April 20th, three 21st, single birds 22nd, 24th, 26th, May 20th and 21st. One August 30th, and one to three birds on eight days in September, but the species was most numerous in October, occurring on nine days to the 19th, with five on the 2nd and seven on the 5th.

Phoenicurus ochrurus. **Black Redstart.**

Single birds February 24th, April 20th, 24th and 25th, May 20th and June 4th. Two September 10th, one 30th. Seen on fifteen days in October (six 16th the most), two November 1st and one bird present until the end of the year.

Erithacus rubecula. **Robin.**

Five to six pairs bred. Some passage in late August, September and October, but numbers recorded exceeded twenty on only six occasions September 27th, October 3rd, 5th, 13th, 16th and 18th (most c. thirty on the 18th).

Prunella modularis. **Hedge Sparrow.**

Three or four pairs bred. No evidence of passage.

Troglodytes troglodytes. **Wren.**

Breeding all round the coast. No indication of movement.

Hirundo rustica. **Swallow.**

First seen April 2nd, then on most days to June 21st (most numerous April 11th, 21st to 25th, especially 24th, May 3rd, 5th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 24th, 26th and 27th). Seen on twenty-three days from June 26th to end August, but numbers very small except on August 15th. Passing each day from August 31st to October 16th with main peaks September 3rd, 7th, 16th, 20th, 23rd and October 13th. Four records later in October, and single birds November 2nd, 3rd and 11th.

Delichon urbica. **House Martin.**

Four seen April 11th, passage continuing until June 20th. Numbers were small except on May 6th, 24th (c. one hundred and fifty), 26th and 27th. Single birds were present on four days in July, and small numbers on four days in August, then recorded frequently from beginning September to October 16th, with maxima c. thirty-five September 3rd, c. fifty September 28th. Later records of single birds October 24th, November 7th, two November 12th and 13th.

Riparia riparia. **Sand Martin.**

First recorded April 2nd, movement continuing intermittently until May 28th, with peaks April 4th, 11th, 24th. Two on July 8th. A heavy influx July 16th to 19th (c. four hundred, 19th), then seen fairly frequently until October 5th (c. one hundred and fifty July 29th, c. two hundred and fifty August 31st).

Apus apus. **Swift.**

First seen April 20th, and on most days until July 22nd, but numerous only from May 15th to 19th (c. four hundred 19th), with c. sixty July 17th. Occurred on eighteen days between August 6th and September 11th (c. fifty August 16th), with single, exceptionally late birds September 30th, October 2nd and 11th.

Caprimulgus europaeus. **Nightjar.**

Only spring record, two June 1st. In autumn, two August 19th, single birds September 1st, 8th and 20th.

Upupa epops. **Hoopoe.**

Three or four April 16th, one 20th and 21st, and one June 30th.

Cuculus canorus. **Cuckoo.**

First appeared April 21st and up to five seen daily until early June. One or two were frequently seen in June and July, but there was no definite proof of breeding. Recorded on fourteen days in August (three August 8th) with one September 4th.

Asio flammeus. **Short-eared Owl.**

Single birds March 25th, August 21st, 25th, September 12th, 13th and 20th and November 18th.

Falco peregrinus. **Peregrine Falcon.**

One or two birds were usually present until late autumn, but despite their attachment to the Gannets' Combe site, there was no evidence of breeding. On October 25th the resident pair chased away a third bird.

Falco columbarius. **Merlin.**

Single birds April 21st to 24th, April 28th, May 6th, August 23rd and 31st.

Falco tinnunculus. **Kestrel.**

Two pairs bred, in Jenny's Cove and near the Sugar Loaf. Seen almost daily throughout the year, with evidence of passage in late August and early September (most, nineteen August 22nd, c. twenty September 2nd).

Buteo buteo. **Common Buzzard.**

Two pairs bred, above Seal's Hole and at Tibbett's Point. Seen almost daily throughout the year. Eleven, September 1st, probably included some immigrants.

Circus cyaneus. **Hen Harrier.**

An adult male on November 13th. There are only two other records in the last twenty-five years.

[*Accipiter gentilis*. **Goshawk.**

A first-year bird on April 17th and 18th. First record for Lundy.]

Accipiter nisus. **Sparrow Hawk.**

Seen singly on April 7th, May 1st, on twelve days between August 13th and 27th, September 8th, 19th to 25th (two on the 20th), October 5th, 14th, 20th and 22nd.

Ardea cinerea. **Common Heron.**

Single birds June 27th, August 6th and 9th.

Anas platyrhynchos. **Mallard.**

A drake November 10th, a duck November 18th, 19th, 21st and two on the 23rd and 24th. The first post-war records.

Anas crecca. **Teal.**

Two ducks October 23rd, 24th and 25th, three from the 26th to November 2nd, two November 3rd, one 5th, two 6th, one 10th, 12th, 14th, 21st, 23rd, 24th and a drake on the 26th, December 6th, 7th, 12th and 14th.

Anas penelope. **Wigeon.**

A drake and a duck September 3rd to 8th, three ducks September 9th, one 10th to 14th, two 22nd and 23rd, and a drake 25th to 27th.

Melanitta nigra. **Common Scoter.**

A drake off the west coast on February 27th.

Phalacrocorax carbo. **Cormorant.**

Only two pairs bred. Seen in all months, with some passage in April (seventeen 5th, c. twelve 22nd), and September (eleven 22nd), the numbers fluctuating noticeably throughout the autumn.

Phalacrocorax aristotelis. **Shag.**

Breeding population see later report. Few present until late March or after the end of September, and none noticed between October 11th and November 5th. Small numbers were seen on most days later in the year.

Sula bassana. **Gannet.**

Seen in all months, the largest numbers in early July, late August, September and early October.

Puffinus puffinus. **Manx Shearwater.**

First heard on the night of April 4th, last seen off-shore on September 5th.

Fulmarus glacialis. **Fulmar Petrel.**

Last recorded September 6th.

Podiceps auritus. **Slavonian Grebe.**

One in Landing Cove November 1st.

Podiceps nigricollis. **Black-necked Grebe.**

An adult, present at the same time as the above, November 1st.

Columbus immer. **Great Northern Diver.**

One 'probable' November 7th, two clearly seen November 14th and 15th, one of which was observed frequently until December 9th.

Columbus arcticus. **Black-throated Diver.**

An immature bird seen at close quarters on November 1st. First record for the island.

Columbus stellatus. **Red-Throated Diver.**

Single birds, perhaps the same, off the North End on February 28th, March 13th and April 11th. Two 'probables' off Rat Island, November 14th.

Columba palumbus. **Wood Pigeon.**

Two pairs bred. Seen in all months, but few recorded before April or after October. Most numerous from late August to late October, with twenty August 31st and September 10th, twenty-five October 16th.

Columba oenas. **Stock Dove.**

One on May 13th.

Streptopelia turtur. **Turtle Dove.**

One April 16th, an early date; one April 22nd. Recorded on eighteen days in May from the 4th, on twenty-one days in June, and on five days in July to the 16th. (Spring maxima c. fourteen May 26th, c. fifteen 28th.) One August 22nd, then seen almost daily from August 31st to October 4th, most eight September 10th.

Numenius arquata. **Common Curlew.**

One pair bred, in the Punchbowl Valley. Seen in all months except December, but numerous only in early July (c. sixty-five on the 4th) and in August (c. thirty-three on the 23rd). There were few records after mid-September.

Numenius phaeopus. **Whimbrel.**

First seen April 25th, then on twenty-one days to June 1st, eighteen May 2nd the most. One July 13th, 22nd, 23rd, and small numbers recorded frequently until September 25th, maximum sixteen August 2nd.

Scolopax rusticola. **Woodcock.**

One March 7th. Single birds October 20th, 23rd, 31st, November 3rd, 6th to 8th, December 1st and 4th with three November 14th and 25th.

Capella gallinago. **Common Snipe.**

Recorded in all months except June, but only one occurrence in May and only two in July. Largest numbers seen, nine March 7th and seven October 2nd.

Phalaropus fulicarius. **Grey Phalarope.**

One in the Landing Cove, September 17th.

Arenaria interpres. **Turnstone.**

Two April 24th, one August 7th, seven August 27th, one November 17th, three November 24th and two December 2nd. Probably often overlooked.

Calidris alpina. **Dunlin.**

Single birds April 16th and 22nd, and recorded on twelve days in May to the 29th (most : five or seven May 1st). One or two present August 11th to 17th, and up to five on eight days in September. One October 2nd and 3rd. A bird trapped September 11th was of the northern race, *C. a. alpina*.

Calidris maritima. **Purple Sandpiper.**

One on the Black Rock, September 21st.

Crocethia alba. **Sanderling.**

One seen on the top of the island August 30th and September 3rd.

Actitis hypoleucos. **Common Sandpiper.**

Seen singly April 11th, 23rd, 24th, two May 2nd, one 11th and 12th. One August 23rd and 25th, September 11th, 19th, two 20th, one 27th.

Tringa glareola. **Wood Sandpiper.**

One at Pondsburry, September 5th to 16th, caught on the 7th.

Tringa ochropus. **Green Sandpiper.**

Single birds August 10th to 15th, and September 3rd.

Tringa totanus. **Redshank.**

One April 11th and 23rd. One August 2nd, six 6th, three 8th, and single birds August 23rd, 28th and September 19th.

Charadrius hiaticula. **Ringed Plover.**

Spring records of single birds May 8th, 16th and 19th. In autumn, one August 29th, three September 10th, and singly on seven days to October 2nd.

Pluvialis apricaria. **Golden Plover.**

Seen in all months except July, but only one record in June and only two in August. Numbers generally very small, with maxima fourteen March 19th and fourteen September 26th.

Eudromias morinellus. **Dotterel.**

One at the North End September 7th.

Vanellus vanellus. **Lapwing.**

Breeding population seven or eight pairs. Present in all months. Some movement noted in early March (thirty-seven on the 3rd the most), and from late July intermittently until late November. Largest flocks recorded c. seventy-two August 11th, c. eighty September 7th, seventy-four October 18th, one hundred and nine November 26th and c. eighty November 27th and 28th.

Haematopus ostralegus. **Oyster Catcher.**

Always present, with twenty-two December 8th the largest flock seen.

Sterna hirundo or *macrura*. **Common or Arctic Tern.**

Single 'Comic' Terns were seen on September 5th and 20th, October 1st and 2nd.

Larus ridibundus. **Black-headed Gull.**

Single birds February 26th, March 23rd, 24th and 26th, two August 23rd and September 21st, one October 5th and November 12th.

Larus canus. **Common Gull.**

A first-summer bird on March 30th. There are no other records.

Larus argentatus. **Herring Gull.**

For notes on the numbers of breeding sea-birds see later report. As in previous years, numbers were small in late September and October, but they had increased again considerably by late November.

Larus fuscus. **Lesser Black-backed Gull.**

Numbers much reduced in late September, and none seen after October 17th.

Larus marinus. **Great Black-backed Gull.**

Present in all months, but very few from late September to late November.

Rissa tridactyla. **Kittiwake.**

First seen on nesting cliffs February 24th and first eggs on May 24th. Last seen off-shore, three September 5th.

Alca torda. **Razorbill.**

First eggs May 26th. Few seen after early August ; late autumn records were of oiled birds.

Uria aalge. **Guillemot.**

First eggs May 23rd. A few were seen off-shore until early October, later records referring to oiled birds. One caught on the Landing Beach November 29th, was of the Northern form *U. a. aalge*.

Fratercula arctica. **Puffin.**

Not recorded until April 11th, and none seen after the end of July, except for one off-shore, September 15th.

Crex crex. **Corn Crake.**

Two April 24th, 25th, single birds May 7th, 8th, 14th, June 1st and 2nd. One September 7th and 16th.

Rallus aquaticus. **Water Rail.**

On February 20th, two March 3rd. Single birds March 30th, April 1st, 7th and 23rd. First recorded in autumn September 10th, when one was caught in an outhouse at the Hotel. Next seen September 23rd, and two at least were present from early October until the end of the year, with three heard October 30th and 31st.

Gallinula chloropus. **Moorhen.**

One in the High Street, December 16th.

Fulica atra. **Coot.**

An adult in the Hotel garden, December 15th, found in a dying condition on the following day.

Phasianus colchicus. **Pheasant.**

Largest number seen, eight on April 16th, October 25th and November 23rd (one had been killed earlier in November).

NOTES ON SELECTED SPECIES

Chaffinch. The autumn migration of Chaffinches appears to have been one of the heaviest ever recorded. Most of these birds passed over the Island without halting and very few were caught. Three males were however taken in early November, and one in December, and were undoubtedly of one of the continental forms. No skins were available for comparison, but in the strong vinaceous colour of the underparts, and the almost total absence of any brownish tinge on the breast, the November birds would seem to have resembled the recently-recognized *F. c. hortensis* (C. and S. Germany and the Low Countries) rather than the typical *F. c. coelebs* from Northern Europe.

Red-headed Bunting. The first bird, an adult male, was seen and identified by John Ogilvie, on July 14th. From then until the 21st it was almost always to be found on the east side of the Tillage Field, especially around a patch of charlock.

The general impression gained was of a large bunting with brilliant yellow underparts and a red bib and forehead. It appeared larger than the Yellow Bunting with which it was often to be seen.