

## BIRDS ON LUNDY 2000 & 2001

By

A. M. TAYLOR

26 High Street, Spetisbury, Blandford, Dorset DT11 9DJ

### 2000

#### REVIEW OF THE YEAR

#### INTRODUCTION

As usual, the Systematic List below has been compiled mainly from visitors' entries in the L.F.S. log book kept on the island. From the log it appears that thorough daily coverage was achieved in about half the weeks from mid April to mid June and from mid September to early November, with less in the rest of the year. So some important arrivals are likely to have been missed, particularly in early spring and early autumn. Nevertheless, those who enter their counts in the log are contributing to an important set of data that tracks the fortunes of many British species. Visitors in the 1950s, for example, could not have foreseen the decline in breeding and migrant Lapwings since then or the contrasting fortunes of Turtle and Collared Doves - they are unlikely to have heard of the latter - but we only know for certain about the changes because of their records. Accumulations of counts, even if they are only very rough estimates, are vital in triggering and monitoring conservation initiatives. So thanks especially to all who count.

A survey of seabirds in early June was carried out by David Price and Helen Booker. Their totals are given in the Systematic List below and discussed in more detail in their paper in this volume. A request from Tim Davis and Tim Jones for breeding records of all other species, in preparation for their proposed book on the birds of Lundy, produced plenty of information in the log book and Tony Parsons spent a week in June carrying out a detailed survey of these species.

#### BIRDS OF 2000

After a quiet start to the year, the first Swallows were seen on 10th March, followed by Sand Martin, Wheatear, Chiffchaff and Willow Warbler over the next ten days. Snow Buntings were also seen at this time and Cormorants were noted moving north at the end of the month. On 8th April significant numbers of thrushes moved through and a Hoopoe and Little Ringed Plover arrived. In mid April there was little activity, though the first Pied Flycatcher and Redstart were seen. Many more species followed in the

final week, with Whinchat, Sedge Warbler, Whitethroat and Spotted Flycatcher on 23rd, then Yellow Wagtail, Grasshopper Warbler, Cuckoo and others. There was a big influx of Swallows, Willow Warblers and Chiffchaffs on 28th, then Wheatears, Sedge Warblers and Whitethroats on 29th. Less common species at this time included two Shelducks and another Hoopoe.

In the first week of May, notable records included two Dotterel, a very late Redwing, then Black Tern, Hawfinch and Ortolan Bunting. The first Turtle Doves were seen on 5th and peak spring numbers of Whimbrel on 8th. Curlews were very scarce, with only three birds seen all spring. A Nightjar was seen on 11th, a Marsh Harrier on 12th and up to three Golden Orioles from 13th, with a significant movement of Spotted Flycatchers also on 13th. Good numbers of Swallows and House Martins were still moving north on 24th. The final spring arrival was the most unusual: a Rose-coloured Starling seen from 9th June.

Among the breeding species, Lapwing and Puffin seem to be maintaining a very precarious toehold after big declines and Kittiwake numbers continue to fall, but most of the well-established passerines are doing well. Of the less regular breeders, Goldcrests were successful. Birds of several warbler species also set up territories but the outcomes were unknown.

Most of the interest in July centred on non-passerines, with a Tufted Duck arriving on 3rd, Black-tailed Godwit on 4th and three Shovelers on 5th. Then in the last week waders including Grey Plover, Sanderling and Wood Sandpiper were moving through and Manx Shearwaters were passing offshore in large numbers. A Little Grebe joined the Tufted Duck on Pondsburry on 26th. This would be unremarkable in mainland Britain but both species very rarely visit Lundy. An immature Little Egret, perhaps a product of the rapidly expanding English breeding population, also arrived. Finally, a noteworthy passerine appeared in the form of a Tree Sparrow on 29th.

On 6th and 12th August Sedge and Willow Warblers were on the move, along with smaller numbers of other species, most notably a Melodious Warbler on 12th. A Rose-coloured Starling, quite possibly the same individual as in June, was also seen at this time. In the final days of the month, there was evidence of migration of several species including flycatchers, Sand Martin and Yellow Wagtail. In September there were major movements of Swallows and Meadow Pipits on 16th, when a Little Stint also arrived. A Wryneck was found on 17th and in the next few days Wheatears were at their autumn peak. On 30th, large numbers of Swallows and Goldcrests were migrating and a strange sparrow-like bird arrived. This caused considerable speculation during its five-week stay but all that was established was that it was not a Western Palearctic or North American species and therefore was probably an escaped cagebird, though it was wary and unmarked.

In the first week of October, the last Swifts of the year and several unusual species were seen, including Wryneck, Red-breasted Flycatcher, two Scarlet Rosefinches and

the rarity of the year - a Red-eyed Vireo. In the following week there were some arrivals from the north: the first Redwings and Snow Buntings of the autumn and a flock of Barnacle Geese, as well as a Comcrake. Redwing numbers were low for the rest of the month and Fieldfares failed to appear at all until November. Autumn Brambling numbers were also low and they were not seen until 22nd October, when migration of Starlings, Chaffinches and Black Redstarts was evident.

From 3rd to 7th November large numbers of Winter Thrushes, Starlings and finches, particularly Chaffinches, were seen, along with the last Swallows. A few late warblers were still present too: Garden, Blackcap and Chiffchaff. A Little Auk was found in a weak state on 12th. At the end of the month, winter visitors including Teal and flocks of Golden Plover and Lapwing were present. Between Christmas and New Year, these last two species were again much in evidence, along with hundreds of Redwing, and a Chough provided the icing on the cake.

## 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.

Records of birds seen during boat crossings have only been included when it is clear from the log book that they were seen close to Lundy. Others have been forwarded for inclusion in the Devon Bird Report.

### **Great Northern Diver** *Gavia immer*.

*Occasional visitor, mainly October to March.*

One on four days, 4 to 11 Oct.

### **Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*.

*Vagrant. Three previous records, in Oct 1949, Apr '63, Aug '64*

An adult was on Pondsburry, 26 to 28 Jul (A.M. and M.A. Taylor et al).

### **Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis*.

*Breeding. Infrequent, October to February.*

Recorded as present from the beginning of the year until 27 Aug, then just three reports of up to three birds to 11 Oct and four records in the last week of Dec, including twenty-seven in Jenny's Cove on 28th. During the seabird census in early Jun, 190 apparently occupied sites were found, showing a slight decrease since 1996.

### **Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus*.

*Presumed breeding. Common between April and September.*

Recorded on many days from 16 Apr to 28 Jul, then just one on 11 Oct and an

unidentified shearwater, probably this species, 25 Oct. During the seabird census in early Jun, the number of occupied burrows was estimated at 300 to 400. Highest counts of birds offshore: 350, 3 Jul, and about 500 passing north per hour on the evenings of 27 and 28 Jul. The absence of records in Aug and Sep presumably reflects lack of coverage, not lack of birds.

**Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*.

*Occasional offshore in summer and autumn. Also recorded on the island at night in very small numbers.*

Six were ringed overnight on 24/25 Jul and one seen, 19 Aug.

**Gannet** *Morus bassanus*.

*Common offshore, particularly in summer and autumn.*

Seen frequently between 24 Mar and 27 Oct. Most counts ten or less, with peaks including fifteen, 26 May; twenty-five, 27 and 28 Jul; then between twenty and sixty on eight days, 19 Sep to 25 Oct.

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: nine records, 15 Mar to 30 Apr, involving up to five birds, except on 31 Mar when thirteen flew north. Then six were reported on 5 Jun and four the next day. Autumn: twelve records of up to six birds, 28 Aug to 21 Oct.

**Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*.

*Breeding, present throughout the year.*

Recorded in all months. During the seabird census in early June, fifty-six apparently occupied nests were found, showing a continuing increase from 1992 and '96. Other counts included thirty-one birds off the East Side, 28 Jul, and in autumn twenty-five, 6 Oct.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*.

*Vagrant. Six previous records, Apr 1957, Sep '89, Oct '93, Jan '95 and two records in May '96.*

An immature bird was seen in the Rat Island and Rocket Pole areas, 25 Jul to 3 Aug (A.M., C.H. and M.A. Taylor et al).

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*.

*Occasional visitor, most commonly in late summer.*

One, 8 Feb. One found dead, 20 Feb, and another caught and taken to the mainland in an exhausted state, 7 Mar. A third, found dead, 27 Apr. One, 17 and 28 Jul, seen flying towards Devon on 28th. Up to three seen on seven days, 4 to 20 Aug.

**Barnacle Goose** *Branta leucopsis*.

*Vagrant. Ten previous records, mainly in late autumn, several of which have involved small flocks.*



A flock of seven flew over the island on 11 Oct (A.L.Cooper).

**Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*.

*Vagrant. Nine previous records, four in spring, three in autumn, two in Jan.*

Two, 26 Apr.

**Teal** *Anas crecca*.

*Regular visitor, mainly in winter.*

Four, 27 Dec, and two on 28th.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*.

*Occasional visitor, but wild birds difficult to differentiate from the resident ones of domestic origin.*

Five resident birds from Jan. Two females, with two and seven young, were found during the Jun breeding survey. At least sixteen birds were present after the breeding season, declining to twelve in late Dec.

**Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*.

*Vagrant. Thirteen previous twentieth century records, nine in spring and one each in Feb, Jul, Sep and Nov.*

Three on Pondsburry, 5 Jul.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*.

*Vagrant. Of fifteen previous records, the majority have been in spring and early summer.*

A male was on Pondsburry, 3 Jul to 3 Aug (J.Hutchinson, A.M. and M.A.Taylor *et al*).

**Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*.

*Vagrant. Up to nineteen previous records, all but six being in spring.*

An immature male was seen several times between Acklands Moor and Tibbetts, 12 May (T.Davis, T. Jones *et al*).

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*.

*Uncommon, mainly occurring as a spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: a female was seen on eleven days, 27 Apr to 22 May. Autumn: singles, 10 Sep and 17 and 20 Oct.

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo*.

*Uncommon visitor.*

Singles, 1 May and 1, 5 and 26 Jun.

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*.

*Regular visitor, mainly in spring and autumn. Has bred occasionally.*

A female was seen regularly from 1 Jan to 11 Mar and 20 Apr to 12 May, with a

second bird on 20 Apr. One, 1 Jun. Then birds were seen on many days from 17 Jul to 10 Nov, with maximum counts four in Jul, Aug and Sep, three in Oct and one in Nov. One, 28 and 29 Dec.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

Spring: singles, 26 Mar and 30 Apr to 8 May. Autumn: fifteen records, 20 Sep to 6 Nov, all singles except two on 13 Oct. One, 26 and 27 Dec.

**Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*.

*Rare visitor in spring and early autumn.*

Spring: singles on four days, 30 Apr to 14 May. Autumn: singles on four days, 11 to 30 Sep.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*.

*Recorded in all months in recent years.*

Reported in all months except Feb. Records generally involved one to three birds but three pairs, with three, two and one young, were located during the Jun breeding survey.

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*.

*Formerly present in small numbers from September to April, but a decline has become evident in recent years.*

One hit and was killed by a barbed wire fence on 30 Mar. Autumn: singles on four days, 13 Oct to 6 Nov.

**Corncrake** *Crex crex*.

*Formerly a regular spring migrant, rare in summer and autumn. Now very rare, most recently recorded in May 1989 and Sep '99.*

One was seen in Millcombe, 13 Oct (A.L.Cooper).

**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*.

*Breeding. Usually present all year but scarcer in winter.*

Recorded regularly from 27 Jan to 3 Sep. During the seabird census in early Jun, twenty territorial pairs were recorded.

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*.

*Vagrant. One previous record, May 1998.*

One was seen in Southwest Field, 8 Apr (R.Marshall).

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles on five days, 25 Apr to 12 May. Autumn: singles, 26 and 28 Jul and 11 Oct.

**Dotterel** *Charadrius morinellus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Two, 4 and 5 May.

**Golden Plover** *Pluvialis apricaria*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant, occasional visitor in all other months.*

Spring: seen daily from 24 Apr to 1 May, with numbers peaking at twenty-six on 29 Apr. Then one on 16 and 17 May. Autumn: recorded on thirteen days, 4 Aug to 22 Oct, with two on 11 Oct and four on 13 Oct but otherwise singles. Eighty-five were seen on 29 Dec and five on 30th.

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant, occasional winter visitor.*

Singles, 24 Jul and 10 Oct.

**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*.

*Formerly bred in small numbers but now only sporadically. Was formerly a common spring and autumn migrant, less regular in winter. Major decline in recent years.*

Two, 17 Jan, and three, 19 Mar. A pair on Acklands Moor from early Apr had four eggs by early May and four young on 11 Jun and at least one on 17 Jun. Then one or two birds were reported sporadically until 25 Jul. One, 22 Oct. Four reports in early Nov and three in late Dec included thirty birds on 8 Nov, thirty-eight on 29 Dec and sixty-two on 30th.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

One, 25 Jul.

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*.

*Uncommon autumn migrant. One spring record.*

One, 16 Sep.

**Purple Sandpiper** *Calidris maritima*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and occasional winter visitor.*

One, 3 Jan.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant, occasional in winter.*

Spring: recorded on fourteen days from 21 Apr to 12 May, with peak of six, 6 May. Autumn: singles, 17 Sep and 6 Nov.

**Jack Snipe** *Lymnocyptes minimus*.

*Uncommon migrant and visitor, mainly late September to March.*

Singles on 5 May (exceptionally late for a spring bird) and 24 and 26 Oct.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*.

*Regular migrant and visitor; mainly August to April.*

Reported as present on several days in Jan, Feb and Mar. Then one, 27 Apr, two, 1 May, and one, 5 May. Autumn: five records of up to three birds, 23 Jul to 31 Aug, then twelve records, 11 Oct to 6 Nov, with four on the first date and one or two subsequently. Two, 27 Dec, with one on the next three days.

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*.

*Migrant and visitor in small numbers, mainly October to March.*

Singles, 21 Oct, 3 Nov and 27 and 28 Dec.

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*.

*Rare migrant and winter visitor.*

One, 4 Jul.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen on most days from 25 Apr to 18 May, with fifteen on 8 May, five or less on other days. One, 2 Jun. No autumn records. (See Table 1)

**Curlew** *Numenius arquata*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant, also visiting in all other months.*

Three, 3 May. Then twelve records between 30 Jun and 11 Sep including flocks of ten, 6 Jul, and twelve, 24 Jul, both near North Light, and eight on 20 Aug.

**Redshank** *Tringa totanus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 4 May and 29 Aug.

**Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 13 May and 23 Aug.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

Two, 25 Jul, with one on the next three days.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant.*

One, 30 Apr and 1 May.

**Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*.

*Uncommon migrant and visitor; mainly late August to early May.*

Singles, 2 Oct and 26 Dec. Two, 29 Dec.

**Great Skua** *Catharacta skua*.

*Rare visitor, mainly in summer and autumn.*

One, 18 Oct.

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

*Uncommon visitor throughout the year.*

One, 24 May. Three, 9 Jun. Two adults, 23 Jul, then an adult and juvenile on 25 Jul. Singles, 6 Aug and 11 Oct.

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

*Breeding. Scarce in winter.*

Recorded between 15 Mar and 27 Oct. During the seabird census in early Jun, 443 pairs were found, showing a continuing increase from 1986 and '96. Highest autumn count was 120 on 22 Oct. Up to five were seen on 24 to 27 Dec.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*.

*Breeding. Present all year but fewer in winter.*

Present in all months. During the seabird census in early Jun, 762 pairs were found, showing little change since 1996. Highest autumn count was 169 birds on 23 Oct.

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

*Breeding. Present all year but usually few in winter.*

Present in all months. During the seabird census in early Jun, 35 pairs were found, showing a recovery from the low in 1996. Highest autumn count was 109 birds on 23 Oct.

**Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla*.

*Breeding. Scarce in winter.*

Reported as present on several days in Jan. Then recorded regularly from 1 Apr to 28 Jul. During the seabird census in early Jun, 237 apparently occupied nests were found, showing that the steady decline since the 1950s is continuing. Several records of small numbers seen in Oct and Dec included twenty-one on 10 Oct, thirty-eight on 29 Dec.

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*.

*Vagrant. One previous record, in Aug 1967.*

Two were seen from the Oldenburg as it approached Lundy, and one, probably different, seen five minutes later, on 7 May (A.M.Jewels et al).

**Guillemot** *Uria aalge*.

*Breeding. Usually absent from early August to October, then sporadic until January.*

Reported from 6 Mar to 24 Jul, though it would be unusual for adults not to be visiting ledges from Jan. During the seabird census in early Jun, 2348 birds were

recorded at breeding sites, showing an increase since 1996. Seven records of birds offshore, 10 to 27 Oct, included twenty-three on 25th. Eight were seen in Jenny's Cove, 29 Dec.

**Razorbill** *Alca torda*.

*Breeding. Uncommon between August and February.*

Reported from 2 Mar to 28 Jul. During the seabird census in early Jun, 950 birds were recorded at breeding sites, showing little change since 1996. Five records of birds offshore, 11 to 27 Oct, included eight on 11th.

**Little Auk** *Alle alle*.

*Vagrant. Five previous records, Sep 1926, Jun '50 (dead), Nov '58, Dec '79 and Nov '90.*

One was found in a weak state, being harrassed by Ravens, at the South End on 12 Nov. It died later that day. (L.Cole et al).

**Puffin** *Fratercula arctica*.

*Present in small numbers, April to August. Breeding now doubtful. Major decline in the last fifty years.*

Recorded from 31 Mar to 26 Jul. Two were at a burrow at St Philip's Stone, 31 Mar, and a pair mating in Jenny's Cove, 3 May. During the seabird census in early Jun, only thirteen birds were seen. The highest count was twenty on 3 Jul.

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 4 and 15 May.

**Woodpigeon** *Columba palumbus*.

*Probably breeds in most years. Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Sporadic in winter.*

Recorded frequently from the beginning of Jan to the end of Jun, with numbers at three or less except in May, when between five and eight were reported on eight days. Two probable territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Later, one or two seen on ten days, 24 Jul to 3 Nov.

**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*.

*Recorded in all months in recent years. Most numerous in spring and autumn.*

Seen in all months. The spring peak was seven on 22 to 24 May. Three were seen regularly in the farmyard during the Jun breeding survey, probably a pair and fledged young. Only one or two were reported as present from then to the end of the year. (See Table 1)

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*.

*Migrant, regular in spring but scarce in autumn.*

Five records, 5 to 15 May, including five birds on 5th, six on 13th.

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*.

*Presumed breeding. Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: four singles, 26 Apr to 26 May, and two on 16 May. Then one, 26 Jul.

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

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor.*

Singles, 20 Mar, 29 Apr and 27 Dec.

**Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*.

*Formerly an uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Now very rare: one on Oct 1992 is the only other record since 1980.*

One was seen on the West Side between Old Light and Battery, 11 May (T.Jones).

**Swift** *Apus apus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant and summer visitor.*

Seen on most days from 26 Apr to 12 May, the most being fifteen on the last date. Then reported sporadically until 6 Oct, mainly in ones and twos but with six on 16 Jun, ten on 23 Jul, six on 6 Oct.

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 8 to 10 Apr and 30 Apr.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*.

*Uncommon migrant, more regular in autumn than spring.*

Singles, 17 Sep, 6 Oct and 9 to 13 Oct.

**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*.

*Breeding. Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers. Sporadic in winter.*

Recorded as present on most days until 7 Nov. Seventy-two territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. The highest previous estimate was about fifty pairs in 1962. Fifteen broods of young were found in late Jun and early Jul. Highest reported count in autumn was just twenty on 1 Oct. Up to three were present in the last week of Dec.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant, with occasional summer records.*

Spring: reported from 14 Mar to 21 May, with highest counts of 1000 on 28 and 29 Apr. One, 10 Jun. Autumn: reported on only fourteen days, 6 Jul to 13 Oct, with highest counts of sixteen, 17 Jul, seven, 9 Aug, and nine, 31 Aug. (See Table 1)

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*.

*Sporadic breeding. Spring and autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Spring: the first were twenty seen on 11 Mar but there was only one more until Apr. Highest estimates were 500, 26 Apr; 1000, 28 and 30 Apr; and 500, 12 May. Birds

were present throughout the summer and at least two pairs bred, one in the farmyard and one in the church porch, with a possible second pair in the farmyard. Autumn: seen regularly until 27 Oct, with a highest count of 300, 30 Sep, and 100 on three other days, 17 Sep to 13 Oct. Later, six were seen on 4 Nov. (See Table 1)

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*.

*Sporadic breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: reported as present on most days from 8 Apr to 30 Jun, with highest counts of 100, 28 Apr, 150, 24 May. Autumn: one, 7 Aug, then just seven counts of ten or less, 17 Sep to 21 Oct. (See Table 1)

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: five records, 28 Apr to 4 May, all of single birds except on 2 May, when two were seen. Autumn: singles on 4 and 13 Oct.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*.

*Breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant. Scarce in winter.*

Reported in all months. 179 territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Previous estimates were about 275 pairs in 1930, 200 in '39 and fifty in 1962. Autumn movements included 1000 on 17 Sep, 100 or more on four days later in Sep and on three days in Oct.

**Rock Pipit** *Anthus petrosus*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Seen in all months. Thirteen territories were located during the Jun breeding survey but this was not thought to be the whole population.

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: recorded on thirteen days, 24 Apr to 10 May, with a peak of three birds on 29 Apr. One later bird was seen on 24 May. Single birds of the continental Blue-headed race, *M. f. flava*, were seen on 29 Apr and 7 May. Autumn: four, 31 Aug, and one, *M. f. flava*, on 27 Sep.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and occasional visitor in summer and winter.*

Spring: one on eight days, 27 Apr to 10 May. Autumn: eleven records, 20 Sep to 26 Oct, mainly of single birds but rising to three on 22 Oct.

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*.

*Breeding in most years. Regular spring and autumn migrant. Uncommon in winter.*

Seen on most days from 19 Mar to 7 Nov. Spring: highest count was six, 25 Apr. Four territories were located during the Jun breeding survey, including a pair feeding



fledged young. Three fledged young being fed in late Jul were probably a second brood of one of the pairs seen earlier. Autumn: highest count was ten, 14 Sep. One wintering bird was reported in late Dec. Single continental birds of the subspecies *M. a. alba* were seen on 4, 5 and 10 May, 6 and 10 Oct..

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Present all year. Thirty-two territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. The highest previous estimate was twenty-eight pairs in 1975. Highest reported count outside the breeding season: thirty-five on 26 Oct.

**Dunnock** *Prunella modularis*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Present all year. Eight territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Highest reported count outside the breeding season: twelve, 27 Oct.

**Robin** *Erithacus rubecula*.

*Breeding. Resident, with occasional migrants mainly in autumn.*

Present all year. Just one pair, with fledged young, was located during the Jun breeding survey. Highest count outside the breeding season: forty-six, 24 Oct, which presumably included migrant birds. Twenty on 27 Dec is interestingly high for winter.

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Occasional in winter.*

Spring: singles, 29 Apr and 10 May. Autumn: one, 2 Sep, and two, 30 Sep, then ten on 22 Oct with one or two on the next four days. One. 4 and 6 Nov, and a wintering bird on 23 Dec.

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: nine records, 18 Apr to 13 May, all of single birds except on 30 Apr, when two were seen. Autumn: singles on 31 Aug, 18 Sep, 6 and 15 Oct, and two on 24 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*.

*Uncommon spring migrant. More regular in autumn.*

Spring: eleven records, 23 Apr to 9 May, with peaks of four, 30 Apr, and five, 8 May. Autumn: six records, 17 Sep to 1 Oct, maximum four on 26 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*.

*Recorded in all months. Breeds occasionally. Uncommon spring and regular autumn migrant.*

Spring: six singles, 15 Mar to 29 Apr. Then two, 27 Jun. Autumn: seen on twenty-two days, 18 Sep to 8 Nov, with numbers mainly five or less but twelve on 11 Oct. Up to five were present in late Dec.

**Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*.

*Breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Present on most days from 15 Mar to 19 Oct. Spring: highest count was 100 on 29 Apr, with between thirty and seventy throughout the following week. Eight territories were located during the Jun breeding survey, with breeding confirmed in four of them. Autumn: highest count was forty from 18 to 21 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles, 1, 8 and 26 Apr. Autumn: two, 14 Sep, 11 Oct and 4 Nov, and singles on 6, 12 and 19 Oct.

**Blackbird** *Turdus merula*.

*Resident, breeding. Common late autumn migrant.*

Present all year. Twenty territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Late autumn movements peaked at forty-two on 6 Nov.

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*.

*Common migrant in early spring and late autumn. Winter visitor during cold spells.*

Spring: forty-three on 8 Apr. Autumn: unusually, none in Oct, but in early Nov there were thirty-five on 4th, forty-five on 7th and 100 on 10th. Winter: six, 29 Dec. (See Table 2).

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*.

*Regular breeding in recent years. Usually present throughout the year. Common migrant in early spring and late autumn.*

Seen in all months except Aug. Spring: forty migrant birds on 8 Apr. A bird was seen carrying food in late May, then two territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Autumn: highest counts were twenty on 13 Oct and 6 Nov. Twelve were seen on 29 Dec.

**Redwing** *Turdus iliacus*.

*Common early spring and late autumn migrant. Winter visitor during cold spells.*

Spring: four records of up to three birds, 20 Mar to 10 Apr, then a late bird on 6 and 7 May. Autumn: seen on most days, 11 Oct to 10 Nov, with highest Oct numbers twenty-five on 13th and 22nd, then eighty-five on 4 Nov and 100 on 10th. Winter: an influx of 375 on 29 Dec, with smaller numbers on other days of 23 to 30 Dec. (See Table 2).

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus*.

*Uncommon visitor, seen at all times of year except late summer but most regular as a late autumn migrant.*

Spring: one seen on four days, 26 Mar to 8 Apr. Autumn: singles, 21 Oct and 4 and 6 Nov.

**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia*.

*Migrant, regular in spring but uncommon in autumn.*

Spring: recorded on most days from 25 Apr to 4 May, peaking at fifteen on 29 Apr. Autumn: singles, 10 Aug and 12 and 13 Oct.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen daily, 23 Apr to 13 May, with 100 to 150 on 26 to 29 Apr and up to twenty in May. One, 29 May, and a singing male, 10 to 17 Jun. Autumn: seen on most days from 25 Jul to 12 Aug, peaking at 10 on 7 Aug. Then one, 18 Sep.

**Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: five singles, 2 to 13 May. Autumn: singles, 11 Aug and 10 and 11 Oct.

**Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta*.

*Rare migrant, usually in autumn.*

One was caught and ringed in St John's Valley, 12 Aug (D.Kightley).

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: five records, 28 Apr to 10 May, all of singles except for two on 29 Apr. Autumn: none reported.

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*.

*Sporadic breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen on most days from 23 Apr to 13 May, with between fifty and 150 on four days, 26 to 30 Apr, and other counts ten or less. Singles, 28 May and 12 Jun. Autumn: five counts of up to four birds, 7 Aug to 20 Sep. (See Table 2).

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: one or two on six days in Apr, from 17th, then seven counts of up to six birds from 5 to 13 May. Autumn: ten records from 16 Sep to 13 Oct, with six birds on 20 Sep but otherwise one or two. One late bird on 6 Nov.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*.

*Regular migrant, most numerous in autumn.*

Spring: recorded on most days from 16 Apr and 13 May, with between 100 and 200 on four days, 26 to 30 Apr, and counts of six or less outside this period. Autumn: seen on most days from 16 Sep to 7 Nov, with peaks of twenty on 20 Sep, thirteen on 6 Oct, seven on 11 Oct and 4 Nov. (See Table 2).

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Just one, on 10 May.

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*.

*Occasional breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant. Occasional in winter in recent years.*

Spring: after one on 16 Mar, numbers were not recorded until late Apr, when between fifty and 200 were seen on four days, 26 to 30 Apr. In the first week of May, ten or twelve were seen on most days, then numbers apparently dropped to one by 30th. However, three territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Two birds were reported on 17 Jul. Autumn: seen on most days from 17 Sep to 6 Nov, with peaks of twelve, 12 Oct, and ten, 21 Oct. (See Table 2).

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*.

*Occasional breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: after two on 20 Mar, numbers were not recorded until late Apr, when between 250 and 1000 were seen from 26 to 30 Apr. In May, after 150 on 1st, there were twenty on four days in the first half, then one or two to 6 Jun. Three territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Autumn: reported from 24 Jul, with influxes of eighty on 25th and seventy on 28 Jul, then in Aug fifty on 6th, 100 on 7th and 10th, 200 on 11th and fifty on 28th. Numbers dropped from twenty on 13 Sep until in Oct one was seen on five days to 13th. (See Table 2).

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant and occasional winter and summer visitor (has bred occasionally).*

Seen in all months except Dec. One, 1 Jan, then numbers not reported until 17 Mar, after which up to three were seen on most days to 29 Apr, when there were ten. Ten also on 1 May, then up to three reported sporadically through the summer. One territory was found in Millcombe during the Jun breeding survey, with a possible second one there too. Later, breeding was confirmed, with a male feeding two fledglings, 23 Jul. Autumn counts included ten on 29 Aug, between twenty and forty on eleven dates from 16 Sep to 24 Oct, with smaller numbers on the other days in this period. Twenty-four on 4 Nov, with smaller numbers to 7 Nov.

**Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*.

*Uncommon migrant, most regular in autumn.*

Spring: up to two on six days, 29 Apr to 6 May. Autumn: two, 20 Sep, up to two, 24 to 27 Oct, and one, 7 Nov.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*.

*Breeding in most years recently. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen on most days from 23 Apr to 10 Jun, with twenty on 13 May but other counts eight or less. Autumn: sporadic records from 10 Aug to 2 Oct, with ten on 30 Aug, fifteen on 20 Sep, other counts six or less.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*.

*Uncommon autumn migrant.*

A first year bird was caught and ringed in Millcombe, 6 Oct, remaining to 8th (S.Beavan, A. and S.Stevens et al).

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*.

*Regular migrant, small numbers in spring and common in autumn.*

Spring: one 12 Apr, then eleven records from 23 Apr to 12 May, with four on 28 Apr and one or two on the other days. Autumn: thirteen records, 30 Aug to 29 Sep, with a peak of five on 18 and 19 Sep.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*.

*Rare migrant, mainly in late autumn.*

Four, 6 Nov.

**Blue Tit** *Parus caeruleus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Rare winter visitor.*

One, 24 Sep.

**Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*.

*Uncommon visitor, mainly between July and October.*

One, 4 and 5 Jun.

**Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*.

*Uncommon spring migrant.*

Two, 13 and 14 May, then three on 16th and one on three days to 22nd.

**Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*.

*Bred until late nineteenth century. Vagrant since then, with records in Oct 1949, Feb '52, Feb and Jun '90 and May '94.*

One was seen in the Tibbett's Point area, 28 Dec (C., D. and T. Clifton).

**Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula*.

*Irregular spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor.*

One, 2 May.

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*.

*Uncommon spring migrant. Rare visitor at other times.*

Singles, 26 Apr and 2 May.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Present all year. During the Jun breeding survey, the number of territories was estimated to be six, with confirmed breeding at four sites. Peak counts after the breeding season: twenty-five, 24 Oct, and six, 28 Dec.

**Raven** *Corvus corax*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Present all year. Five nests were found in early May. During the Jun breeding survey, the number of territories was estimated to be six. Highest post-breeding counts were ten on 18 Sep and 24 and 29 Dec.

**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year. Spring and autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Present all year. Counts included twelve on 5 May, at least thirty, 10 to 17 Jun, including six juveniles, and thirty-five in late Jul. In Oct there were counts between twenty-four and seventy on several days and an influx of 450 on 22nd. From 3 to 7 Nov, there were 850 on 5th, 150 to 550 on the other days. Then, from 23 to 29 Dec, between twenty-five and fifty daily.

**Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*.

*Vagrant. Six twentieth century records have been accepted, involving three adults in summer and three autumn immature birds.*

An adult was seen at the incinerator and elsewhere in the south of the island, 9 to 14 Jun (L.Cole, A.J.Parsons et al). An adult, perhaps the same bird, was found in Tillage Field and seen later in various parts of the south of the island, 3 to 10 Aug (D. Kightley, M. Oram et al). These records have been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Present all year. Twenty-three nests were located during the Jun breeding survey and the number of fledged birds estimated to be fifty-four at that time. Highest autumn count was 111 on 6 Oct.

**Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*.

*Previously an uncommon visitor; most frequently seen in early summer. Now rare.*

One, with House Sparrows, at Benjamin's Chair, 29 Jul.

**Red-eyed Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus*.

*Vagrant from North America. Five previous records, in Oct 1985, Sep and Oct '88, Oct '90 and Oct '95.*

A first-year bird was caught and ringed in Millcombe on 5 Oct and seen on 8 to 12 Oct at Quarter Wall Copse (S. Beavan, A. and S. Stevens et al). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee.

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year. Late autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Present all year. Four territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. Autumn movements included 700 on 22 Oct; 150, 24 Oct; 140, 26 Oct; 210, 4 Nov; 1600, 5 Nov. Up to five were seen in the last week of Dec.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*.

*Rare spring and common late autumn migrant. Occasional winter visitor.*

Numbers were lower than usual, with two on 22 Oct, one, 27 Oct, and up to three from 4 to 6 Nov.

**Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*.

*Common late autumn migrant. Uncommon visitor through the rest of the year.*

One, 12 Jun. Autumn: one, 17 Sep, then fifteen records, 10 Oct to 7 Nov, with peaks of thirty on 26 Oct and 5 Nov and counts between twelve and seventeen on four other days.

**Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant. Uncommon summer and winter visitor.*

One seen on four days, 4 to 25 Jan. Spring: counts on twenty-five days, 13 Apr to 5 Jun. Numbers peaked at twelve on 24 Apr, with other counts six or less from 13 Apr to 4 May and one or two thereafter. Autumn: one, 8 Aug, then sixteen reports from 1 Oct to 7 Nov, with maxima of fourteen or fifteen birds on 11, 17 and 22 Oct. Winter: one or two daily, 24 to 29 Dec.

**Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*.

*Late autumn migrant, numbers varying greatly from year to year. Very rare in spring.*

Spring: singles, 15 Mar and 15 Apr. Autumn: twelve records, 10 Oct to 6 Nov, with peak counts of twenty-six, 22 Oct; fifty-five, 26 Oct; thirty-eight, 27 Oct; sixteen, 4 Nov.

**Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina*.

*Breeding. Irregular migrant, mainly in autumn. Uncommon winter visitor.*

Reported as present on most days from 31 Mar to 7 Nov. Sixteen territories were located during the Jun breeding survey. This was thought to be an underestimate of the total population, with birds feeding in pairs away from breeding territories, as well as flocks of fourteen and thirty-two birds, also seen at this time. Other counts included a flock of 100 on 22 Jul, in addition to birds still on breeding territories then; and 200 on 31 Aug and 17 to 20 Sep.

**Redpoll** *Carduelis cabaret*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: six records of up to three birds, 27 Apr to 10 May. Autumn: unusually scarce, with just one, 4 Nov.

**Scarlet Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*.

*Rare spring and autumn migrant.*

Two were seen in Millcombe on 7 Oct, with one remaining until 13th (A. and S. Cooper, J. Oates and R. Patient).

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.

*Rare visitor, Apr to Nov.*

One was seen in the St John's, Millcombe and village areas on 7 May (A.M.Jewels, P.M.Mayer et al ).

**Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*.

*Regular autumn migrant in small numbers. Has also been recorded in winter and spring.*

One on 7, 10 and 12 Oct, and two, 24 Oct.

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*.

*Uncommon spring and regular autumn migrant. Occasional winter visitor.*

Spring: two, 15 Mar, and one, 30 Mar. Autumn: fifteen records, 10 Oct to 10 Nov, mainly of one or two birds but with four on 13 Oct, six on 21st, seven on 22nd and four on 2 Nov.

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Occasional summer and winter visitor.*

A male was seen on three days, 6 to 17 May.

**Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*.

*Rare migrant, mainly in autumn.*

One was seen at Quarter Wall on 7 May (T.H.Smith).

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Occasional summer and winter visitor.*

One, 22 to 26 Oct.



## LUNDY RARITIES

Records rejected because they were undocumented or descriptions inconclusive.

**Grey Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicarius*. One, 13 Oct.

**Long-eared Owl** *Asio otus*. One, 12 Oct.

**Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*. One, 11 Oct.

**Alpine Swift** *Apus melba*. One, 18 May.

**Woodlark** *Lullula arborea*. One, 10 to 14 Apr.

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. One, 29 Sep.

**Ruppell's Warbler** *Sylvia rueppelli*. One, 1 Nov.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*. One, 2 Nov.

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*. One, 26 May to 10 Jun.

**Cirl Bunting** *Emberiza cirlus*. One, 9 Jun.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Whimbrel				1.2 3.2	1.2 0.1							
Collared dove	P P P	P P P	P P P	P 1.5 2.8	1.2 3.0 0.9	2.1 1.0	P 0.5 0.1	0.3	0.1 0.2 0.5	0.2 0.4 0.3		
Swift			0.1	0.3 3.6	1.7 0.1 0.1	0.1 0.6 0.5	1.4 0.2	0.2 0.1	0.4 0.6			
Sand Martin			2.2 1.0 0.2	0.8 27 3.5	0.8 0.1	0.4	1.6 0.2 0.9	1.0	0.1 0.6 0.3	0.2		
Swallow			2.1 P	P 28 0 82	55 41 2.3	2.5 P B	B B 3.1	1.9 1.0 P	20 30 26	14 6.5 0.6		
House Martin			P	P 18 5.5	3.6 21 P	3.5 P	P 0.1		2.1 0.2 1.1	0.6 0.2		
Redstart				0.1 0.6 0.1	0.1			0.1	0.1 0.2 0.1	0.1		
Whinchat				1.0 1.3			0.1		0.3 0.8 0.3			
Wheatear			0.7 1.0 P	P 20 28	5.2 3.6 B	B B B	B B 1.8	P 1.0 0.2	15 8.3 0.9	0.1		

Table 1: Whimbrel, Collared Dove, Swift, Martins and Chats on Lundy, 2000.

Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten day periods, throughout the year. P: Present but numbers not reported; B: present, breeding

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Fieldfare	P P P	0.1		4.3					0.2		29	0.6
Redwing	P P P	0.1	0.1 0.3 0.4	0.2					0.1	2.9 3.8	52	43
Whitethroat				39 3.7	0.8 0.1	0.1	0.5	0.4 0.2	0.7			
Blackcap			0.1	0.4 60 2.7	0.5				4.1 1 1.7	1.3 1.8 2.3	.	
Chiffchaff			P 0.1	P 49 6.7	0.7 1.3 0.5	2.1 0.2	0.2		1.2 0.6 0.8	2.1 2.7 0.9		
Willow Warbler			0.2 P P	P 390 25	2.4 1.3 0.4	2.1	17 26	20 4.7	6.0 P 0.2	0.3		
Goldcrest	P P P	P P	0.1 20.6	0.4 2.2	2.4 0.4 0.5	0.2 1.4 0.3	0.1 0.1 B	0.2 1.0	6.4 4.4	4.6 10 15	6.4	
Spotted flycatcher				1.4	1.7 3.1 3.1	0.4		0.1 0.3 1.3	0.4 3.4 1.0	0.5		

Table 2: Thrushes, Warblers, Goldcrest and Spotted Flycatcher on Lundy, 2000.

Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten day periods, throughout the year. P: Present but numbers not reported; B: present, breeding

## REVIEW OF THE YEAR

## INTRODUCTION

Visits to the island by observers providing detailed information in the L.F.S. log book were largely restricted to the period from 8 April to 6 November. As usual, within this time, recording in some weeks was much more thorough than in others, with the first three and last four weeks being the most consistent. This always needs to be considered when attempting to use the data from the log to draw conclusions about the timing and total numbers of birds involved in migration. The situation in the summer is illustrated by the fact that Goldfinches - a species with very conspicuous plumage and calls - were only recorded on ten days from mid May to late August, despite being present as breeders. So, many thanks to those who do contribute, and to those who spread the word about effective use of the log book on the island, and who encourage more birders to visit by recommending Lundy as a great place for seeing birds.

## BIRDS OF 2001

The first date of note was 25 April, when there was a significant movement of hirundines, Blackcaps and Willow Warblers, followed by more hirundines on 26th. Then, in another influx on 29th, Swallows and Willow Warblers were joined by Wheatears. On 2 May, Wheatears, *Sylvia* warblers and Sedge Warblers predominated but on 4th, Swallows were again to the fore. Early May also produced a selection of more unusual species for the island, with Marsh Harrier on 2nd, a Hawfinch on 4th that stayed for most of the month, a late spring Great Northern Diver from 5th, then five Dotterel on 11th and a Nightjar on 13th. More hirundines, mainly Swallows, passed through on 14th, 20th and 29th, joined by Swifts on 20th. Late May also had excitement in the form of a Black Kite on 24th and Golden Oriole on 30th. A final movement of Swallows and House Martins took place on 3 Jun.

The breeding season produced no real surprises, although a pair of Goldfinches bred successfully. Sand Martins investigated holes at the Landing Bay but did not stay, and a pair of Tufted Ducks lingered on Pondsbyry for a time without settling for the summer.

A Quail was seen on 7 July and three Little Egrets arrived on 12 August. Excitement levels rose further in the last week of August, when significant movements of Willow Warblers and flycatchers on 24th and Swallows on 25th were followed by Lundy's first Isabelline Shrike on 28th.

Migrating hirundines continued to feature through September. A Common Rosefinch on 8th was the bird of the month. However it was eclipsed in October, when a second Rosefinch, on 9th, coincided with a Rose-breasted Grosbeak and was followed by a Black-faced Bunting on 12th. These last two species are rare vagrants to Britain from

North America and Asia respectively. Other wanderers, from less far east than the bunting, included at least three Yellow-browed Warblers on 13th and two on 29 October, Red-breasted Flycatcher on 20th, Richard's Pipit on 23rd, another Common Rosefinch and a Red-rumped Swallow on 26th and Barred Warbler on 27th. An Osprey on 27th was also notable and Canada Geese on 31st, despite being a much more familiar species, were very unusual for the island.

At the same time as all these, regular migrants continued to move through, with hirundines, Meadow Pipits, Blackcaps and the first Snow Buntings of autumn on 8 October, Redwings on 9th, then Robins, thrushes, Blackcaps and seven Firecrests on 21st. 28th and 29th also produced good numbers of thrushes and Blackcaps, along with Chiffchaffs, Chaffinches, Bramblings and Siskins. Very late summer stragglers included a Willow Warbler on 29th and a Reed Warbler at the beginning of November.

The last week of migrant observation produced an influx of fourteen Black Redstarts on 30 October, then a Lapland Bunting and Little Bunting on 1 November. The birds of 2 November gave the day a wintry flavour, with Redwings and other thrushes, along with Starling and finch flocks, passing south, and a Twite and a family of Whooper Swans arriving. Finally, a White-fronted Goose appeared on 6th.

#### SYSTEMATIC LIST 2001

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.

Records of birds seen during boat crossings have only been included when it is clear from the log book that they were seen close to Lundy. Others have been forwarded for inclusion in the Devon Bird Report.

#### **Great Northern Diver** *Gavia immer*.

*Occasional visitor, mainly October to March.*

An immature bird was present from 5 to 8 May. One, 28 Oct to 5 Nov, with a second, 1 to 3 Nov.

#### **Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis*.

*Breeding. Infrequent from October to February.*

Recorded as present from 8 Apr until 14 Sep, then singles on 22 and 31 Oct. No complete counts of breeding birds but sixty-two were seen on Gannets Rock on 7 Jun.

#### **Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus*.

*Presumed breeding. Common between April and September.*

Reported on many days from 16 Apr to 22 Aug, then one on 7 Oct. A detailed

survey by David Price and Helen Booker in May produced an estimate of 166 breeding pairs (see their paper in this volume).

**Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*.

*Occasional offshore in summer and autumn. Also recorded on the island at night in very small numbers.*

One, 30 Jul.

**Gannet** *Morus bassanus*.

*Common offshore, particularly in summer and autumn.*

Seen frequently between 9 Apr and 6 Nov. Most counts ten or less, with peaks including thirty, 4 May; fifty, 22 Aug; 180, 29 Aug; forty-three, 13 Sep; eleven counts of ranging from twenty to 100, between 6 Oct and 6 Nov.

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: twelve reports, 25 Apr to 16 May, of up to six birds, except on 26 Apr when nine flew north. Then five were reported on 4 Jun. Autumn: twenty-three records, 26 Aug to 2 Nov. most counts were of ten or less but there were twenty-six on 26 Aug, twenty-two on 14 Sep.

**Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*.

*Breeding, present throughout the year.*

No complete breeding-season counts. Autumn maximum: thirty-six on 11 Sep.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*.

*Formerly a vagrant, with one in Apr 1957. Now becoming a more regular visitor, with six records, mainly in autumn, since Sep '89. This reflects the dramatic increase in British records and the establishment of British breeding colonies.*

Three, 12 Aug, one remaining to 16th, in the Landing Bay and elsewhere at the south end of island.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*.

*Occasional visitor, most commonly in late summer.*

Singles on fourteen days, 4 Jun to 10 Nov.

**Whooper Swan** *Cygnus cygnus*.

*Vagrant. Eight previous records, involving parties of up to six birds, between 1949 and '81. All were in Oct, Nov or Dec.*

A family group of two adults and two juveniles was seen on Pondsbyr and flying about the island, 2 and 3 Nov (T. Davis, T. Jones *et al*).

**White-fronted Goose** *Anser albifrons*.

*Rare visitor, mainly in late autumn.*

A first year bird was at the Rocket Pole, 6 Nov (J.R. Diamond).

**Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*.

*Vagrant. Six previous dated records, four of them in spring.*

Two flew north over the island, 31 Oct (T. Davis, T. Jones).

**Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*.

*Vagrant. Ten previous records, five in spring, three in autumn, two in Jan.*

Two, 7 May.

**Wigeon** *Anas penelope*.

*Occasional visitor, mainly in autumn and winter.*

Two, 6 to 13 Oct.

**Teal** *Anas crecca*.

*Regular visitor, mainly in winter.*

Two, 18 and 30 Sep.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*.

*Occasional visitor, but wild birds difficult to differentiate from the resident ones of domestic origin.*

Seven resident birds in spring. Two females, with eleven and eight young, were seen in Jun. At least eighteen birds were present after the breeding season, dropping to eleven in Nov.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*.

*Vagrant. Of sixteen previous records, the majority have been in spring and early summer.*

A pair was on Pondsby, 18 to 23 May (T. Byrne, J. Holland *et al* ).

**Common Scoter** *Melanitta nigra*.

*Occasional visitor, seen more regularly in recent years.*

One, 14 May.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*.

*Vagrant. Two previous accepted records, in Apr 1984 and May '89.*

One flew in from the sea at the south end and then continued north, 25 May (A. Brown, L. Lock, D. Price *et al* ). This record has been submitted to the 'British Birds' Rarities Committee.

**Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*.

*Vagrant. Up to twenty previous records, all but six being in spring.*

A female or immature was in the Quarter Wall area, 2 May (T. Davis, T. Jones).

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*.

*Occasional spring and autumn migrant.*

One, 1 May.

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*.

*Uncommon, mainly occurring as a spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: singles on five days, 29 Apr to 8 Jun. Autumn: singles, 2 and 20 Oct.

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo*.

*Uncommon visitor.*

One, 7 Feb to 12 Mar and 18 Apr. Then singles reported on many days from 8 Jun to 4 Nov - perhaps all referring to the same long-staying bird.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*.

*Vagrant. Eleven 20th century records, all since 1974, seven of them in spring, one in July and three in autumn.*

One was seen near South Light and flying north over Millcombe, 27 Oct (T. Jones, B.K. Owens, A.M. Taylor).

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*.

*Regular visitor, mainly in spring and autumn. Has bred occasionally.*

Spring: ten records of up to two birds, 27 Apr to 10 May. Autumn: seen on most days from 2 Aug to 6 Nov, with most reports of one or two birds, but three or four on several days and five on 14 Sep.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

Spring: singles, 13 and 23 Apr, 3 May. Autumn: singles on eighteen days, 21 Sep to 5 Nov, and two on 3 Nov. One, 27 Dec.

**Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*.

*Rare visitor in spring and early autumn.*

Four singles, 18 Apr to 11 May. One, 25 Sep.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*.

*Recorded in all months in recent years.*

Reported on most days when observers were present. Records generally involved one to three birds, with maximum counts of five in Apr, eight in Jun, seven in Sep.

**Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*.

*Vagrant, with most records in spring.*

One was seen near the Church, 7 Jul (N. Lock).

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*.

*Formerly present in small numbers from September to April, but a decline has become evident in recent years.*

Recorded on many days from 18 Sep to the end of the year. Most reports were of one or two birds but there were three on 8 Oct and up to four in early Nov.



**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*.

*Breeding. Usually present all year but scarcer in winter.*

Recorded between 7 Apr and 21 Oct, with peak counts of eight in May and Oct.

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles on 26 Apr, 4 and 28 May, and two on 11 and 22 May. Autumn: singles, 22 and 23 Aug, 21 Sep and 6 Oct.

**Dotterel** *Charadrius morinellus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Five, 11 May.

**Golden Plover** *Pluvialis apricaria*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant, occasional visitor in all other months.*

Spring: singles on 5, 29 and 30 May. Autumn: up to four on many days, 16 Sep to 6 Nov. Seven on 31 Dec.

**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*.

*Formerly bred in small numbers but now only sporadically. Was a common spring and autumn migrant, less regular in winter. Major decline in recent years.*

One pair probably bred, judging from behaviour. Up to four seen on many days, 20 Apr to 8 Jul. Autumn: ten reports of up to seven birds, 9 Oct to 14 Nov. Ten on 31 Dec.

**Purple Sandpiper** *Calidris maritima*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and occasional winter visitor.*

Four, 7 Oct.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant, occasional in winter.*

Spring: recorded on eleven days from 28 Apr to 16 May, with peak of nine, 8 May. Autumn: two, 21 Sep, and one, 26 to 28 Sep.

**Jack Snipe** *Lymnocyptes minimus*.

*Uncommon migrant and visitor, mainly late September to March.*

One, 30 and 31 Oct.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*.

*Regular migrant and visitor, mainly August to April.*

Spring: one, 5 and 6 May. Autumn: seen on thirty days, 6 Sep to 12 Nov. Most records were of one or two birds, but sixteen were seen on 26 Oct, three on 31st and four on 2 Nov. Three, 31 Dec.

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*.

*Migrant and visitor in small numbers, mainly October to March.*

Sixteen records, 15 Oct to 15 Nov, with a maximum count of six on 3 Nov.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: One, 21 Mar, then up to three on twenty-two days, 24 Apr to 4 Jun.

Autumn: up to eight, 24 to 27 Aug. One very late bird on 1 Nov. (See Table 1)

**Curlew** *Numenius arquata*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant, also visiting in all other months.*

Spring: just seven reports of singles, 23 Apr to 30 May. Autumn: counts of eight on 15 Jul, 27 Aug and 1 Nov, with seven on 11 Sep and four singles in Oct.

**Redshank** *Tringa totanus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Two, 15 May. One, 18 Sep.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: four singles between 27 Apr and 10 May. Autumn: singles, 17 and 21 Aug.

**Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*.

*Uncommon migrant and visitor, mainly late August to early May.*

One, 2 Aug.

**Great Skua** *Catharacta skua*.

*Rare visitor, mainly in summer and autumn.*

Singles, 4 and 7 Oct.

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

*Uncommon visitor throughout the year.*

Singles, 18 May, 22 Aug and 1 Nov.

**Common Gull** *Larus canus*.

*Uncommon visitor, mainly August to April.*

Two, 5 Nov.

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

*Breeding. Scarce in winter.*

Recorded between 21 Mar and 5 Nov. No complete counts in the breeding season.

Highest autumn count was ninety on 13 Sep.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*.

*Breeding. Present all year but fewer in winter.*

Recorded whenever observers were present. No breeding season counts. Highest autumn count was fifty on 7 and 23 Oct.

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

*Breeding. Present all year but usually few in winter.*

Recorded whenever observers were present. No breeding season counts. Highest autumn count was 100 on 23 Oct.

**Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla*.

*Breeding. Scarce in winter.*

Recorded as present from 21 Mar to 22 Aug. 350 were reported on 29 Apr. Twelve records of birds offshore, 9 Oct to 6 Nov, including counts of thirty on 31 Oct, 2 and 5 Nov.

**Guillemot** *Uria aalge*.

*Breeding. Usually absent from early August to October, then sporadic until January.*

Recorded as present until 30 Jul. No complete counts in the breeding season. Five reports of offshore birds between 20 Oct and 2 Nov, including thirty-four on 24 Oct.

**Razorbill** *Alca torda*.

*Breeding. Uncommon between August and February.*

Recorded as present until 25 Jul. No complete counts in the breeding season. Four reports of offshore birds between 7 and 25 Oct, including ten on 7 Oct.

**Puffin** *Fratercula arctica*.

*Present in small numbers, April to August. Breeding now doubtful. Major decline in the last fifty years.*

Recorded between 11 Apr and 15 Jul. The highest count was twenty-six, 11 Jun. Up to three pairs were entering burrows at St Philip's Stone in May and early Jun. Birds were seen mating on the sea nearby.

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Five, 1 Jun, one, 21 Oct, and up to three daily, 2 to 6 Nov.

**Woodpigeon** *Columba palumbus*.

*Probably breeds in most years. Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Sporadic in winter.*

Reported on many days from 13 Apr to 10 Nov. Maximum counts were eight, 23 May and 11 Sep, sixty-six on 4 Nov and sixty on 10 Nov.

**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*.

*Recorded in all months in recent years. Most numerous in spring and autumn.*

Reported on most days from 13 Apr to 11 Nov. The maximum counts were fifteen on 14 May and eight in mid Sep. A pair bred in the covered yard. Two fledged young, and then a second clutch of eggs, were reported in Jun. (See Table 1)

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*.

*Migrant, regular in spring but scarce in autumn.*

Spring: up to four on eleven days, 11 to 31 May. None in autumn.

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*.

*Presumed breeding. Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: eight singles between 5 Apr and 27 May. None in autumn.

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

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor.*

One, 23 May. Two, 22 Oct, then singles on seven days, 31 Oct to 18 Nov.

**Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*.

*Formerly an uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Now very rare: just two records since 1980, in Oct '92 and May 2000.*

One was seen in rhododendrons beside the lower east side path, 13 May (T. Whiley, M. Langman).

**Swift** *Apus apus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant and summer visitor.*

Seen on most days from 25 Apr to 20 May, then sporadically to 29 Jul. Peak counts included thirty on 10 May, forty on 15 and 20 May, thirty on 6 Jul. Autumn: two, 23 Aug, and one, 1 Sep.

**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*.

*Breeding. Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers. Sporadic in winter.*

One was singing on 7 Feb. Then recorded as present whenever observers were active on the island until 6 Nov. No breeding season counts. The autumn maximum was forty on 12 Oct.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant, with occasional summer records.*

Spring: recorded on most days from 12 Apr to 15 Jun. Main movements included fifty or sixty on four days, 25 to 30 Apr, fifty on 8 and 31 May and 100 on 29 May. At least eight birds were seen fighting over drainage holes in the retaining wall of the road between the Landing and Divers Beaches in April, but there was no later evidence of breeding. Autumn: sixteen records, 10 Aug to 10 Oct, the main movements being in mid Sep with thirty-three on 11th, fifty on 20th and seventy-five on 21st. (See Table 1)

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*.

*Sporadic breeding. Spring and autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Recorded on most days from 8 Apr to 3 Nov. Spring: main movements were 1800 on 26 Apr, 1000 on 29 Apr and 1000 on 29 May, with counts over 100 on sixteen other days. No reports of breeding. Autumn: the maximum was 5000 on 18 Sep, with ten counts of between 100 and 500, 27 Aug to 12 Oct. (See Table 1)

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica*.

*Vagrant. Five previous records, Mar 1952, Oct '80, Oct '87, May '89 and Apr '96.*

One was seen flying north along the east side, 26 Oct (M. Ferris, M. James). This record has been accepted by the 'British Birds' Rarities Committee.

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*.

*Sporadic breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: one, 25 Mar, then recorded on most days from 19 Apr to 3 Jun, with peaks of 100, 30 May, and 200, 3 Jun. Autumn: twenty counts between 1 Sep and 23 Oct were mainly in single figures but significant movements included 400, 18 Sep, and 200, 20 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*.

*Uncommon autumn migrant.*

One was in Tillage Field, 23 to 25 Oct (M. Ferris, M. James).

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: six records of up to three birds, 25 Apr to 10 May. None in autumn.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*.

*Breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant. Scarce in winter.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active between 21 Mar and 6 Nov. Autumn movements included 500 on 8 Oct and between 100 and 250 on six other days, 10 Sep to 12 Oct.

**Rock Pipit** *Anthus petrosus*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active between 21 Mar and 6 Nov. maximum counts in autumn: ten on 9 and 24 Oct.

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: one or two on seven days, 3 to 13 May. Autumn: up to three on five days, 20 Sep to 10 Oct. A bird showing characteristics of the Blue-headed race *M. f. flava* was seen on 6 and 7 Oct.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and occasional visitor in summer and winter.*

Spring: two, 27 May. Autumn: twenty-five records, 29 Aug to 2 Nov, with four birds on 9 Oct; all other reports were of one or two.

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*.

*Breeding in most years. Regular spring and autumn migrant. Uncommon in winter.*

Recorded on virtually every day when observers were active, 21 Mar to 5 Nov. Spring: highest counts were ten on 30 Apr, 31 May and 1 Jun. Up to six birds of the continental race *M. a. alba* were seen on nine days, 2 to 16 May. Two nests were found in May. Autumn: six counts of between ten and twenty-two birds, 8 to 15 Sep, with all other reports in single figures.

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Highest autumn count: thirty-five on 21 Oct.

**Duncock** *Prunella modularis*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Highest autumn count: twenty-five on 20 Oct.

**Robin** *Erithacus rubecula*.

*Breeding. Resident, with occasional migrants mainly in autumn.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Autumn: ten counts of between forty and sixty-five, 8 Oct to 5 Nov, suggest significant passage.

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Occasional in winter.*

Spring: singles on 15 Apr, 4 and 13 May and 3 Jun. Autumn: after one on 29 Sep, one or two on ten days, 18 Oct to 3 Nov, with an influx involving four on 29 Oct and fourteen on 30th.

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: up to two seen on eight days, 25 Apr to 16 May. Autumn: seen on six days, 10 Sep to 23 Oct, all singles apart from two on 23 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*.

*Uncommon spring migrant. More regular in autumn.*

Spring: up to two seen on seven days, 2 to 11 May. Autumn: seen on eleven days, 26 Aug to 2 Nov, all singles apart from two on 14 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*.

*Recorded in all months. Breeds occasionally. Uncommon spring and regular autumn migrant.*

Spring: just one, 4 Apr. Autumn: one on four days, 15 to 21 Sep, then birds seen on most days from 3 Oct to 5 Nov, with influxes of fourteen on 8 Oct and twenty on 21 Oct.

**Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*.

*Breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: one, 21 Mar. Most migrants were seen between 29 Apr and 16 May, with counts between twenty and sixty on fifteen days. No complete breeding season counts. Autumn: birds seen on most days to 25 Oct, with highest counts of twenty daily from 24 to 27 Aug, seventeen, 14 Sep, and ten, 8 and 9 Oct. Two late birds were seen on 2 Nov. (See Table 1)

**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: none reported. Autumn: singles, 26 Sep, 30 Oct, 1 and 5 Nov, and two on 2 and 7 Nov.

**Blackbird** *Turdus merula*.

*Resident, breeding. Common late autumn migrant.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Autumn: between twenty and forty on most days from 7 to 26 Oct, then an influx of 100 on 2 Nov, with numbers declining to forty-five over the next four days. Fourteen on three days, 27 to 31 Dec.

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*.

*Common migrant in early spring and late autumn. Winter visitor during cold spells.*

No spring records. Autumn: early singles, 15 to 18 Sep and 9 Oct, were followed by larger movements between 20 Oct and 12 Nov. Main influxes were thirty-three on 21 Oct, sixty on 28 Oct, 100 on 2 Nov and 200 on 10 Nov. Up to six were seen in the last week of Dec. (See Table 2).

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*.

*Regular breeding in recent years. Usually present throughout the year. Common migrant in early spring and late autumn.*

Recorded as present on most days when observers were active. Breeding evidence: in early May, three males were singing and two birds were seen carrying food. Autumn: migrants led to increased numbers from 21 Oct to 11 Nov, with eighteen on 21 Oct, forty on 28 Oct, 100 on 2 Nov and fifty on 10th. Up to sixteen were seen in the last week of Dec.

**Redwing** *Turdus iliacus*.

*Common early spring and late autumn migrant. Winter visitor during cold spells.*

Spring: singles, 14 Apr and 5 May, and two on 30 Apr. Autumn: one, 29 Sep, then seen on most days from 9 Oct to 11 Nov. Main influxes were thirty-one on 9 Oct, seventy-five on 21 Oct, 100 on 28 Oct, 300 on 29 Oct and 1 Nov, then 1000 on 2nd and 100 on 10 Nov. Up to thirty were seen in the last week of Dec. (See Table 2).

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus*.

*Uncommon visitor, seen at all times of year except late summer but most regular as a late autumn migrant.*

Autumn: one or two on seven days, 9 Oct to 1 Nov, then five on 2 Nov. Four in the last week of Dec.

**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia*.

*Migrant, regular in spring but uncommon in autumn.*

Spring: up to three on eleven days, 25 Apr to 13 May. None reported in autumn.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen on most days from 25 Apr to 26 May, with peaks of twenty on 2 May and eight on 10 May, then two on 1 Jun. Autumn: one or two on nine days, 24 Aug to 8 Oct.

**Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: one, 10 May. Autumn: one on 13 Oct was followed by a very late bird, ringed on 1 Nov and still present on 2nd.

**Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*.

*Rare autumn migrant.*

One was in the St Helens Combe area, 27 Oct (S. Darling, T. Davis, T. Jones *et al*).

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: one or two on six days, 24 Apr to 12 May. Autumn: one, 11 to 13 Oct.

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*.

*Sporadic breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen on most days from 25 Apr to 1 Jun, with peaks of thirty on 2 May and fifteen on 11 May. Autumn: one or two from 22 to 26 Aug, then singles on 8 and 28 Oct. (See Table 2)

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: seen on twelve days, 23 Apr to 13 May, with peak counts of three on 10 and 11 May. Autumn: seven records of singles, 8 Oct to 1 Nov, and two on 21 Oct.



**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*.

*Regular migrant, most numerous in autumn.*

Spring: seen on many days from 16 Apr to 1 Jun, with peaks of twelve on 25 Apr and ten on 2 and 3 May. Autumn: seen on many days from 26 Aug to 6 Nov, with peaks of twenty on 8 Oct, seventy-five on 21 Oct and twenty-five on 29 Oct. Twelve were still present on 4 Nov. (See Table 2)

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*.

*Uncommon autumn migrant*

Three or four, 13 Oct (J.R. Diamond). Two, 29 and 30 Oct, with one staying to 2 Nov (T. Davis, T. Jones, A. Richardson *et al* ).

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles, 2 and 9 May. None in autumn.

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*.

*Occasional breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant. Occasional in winter in recent years.*

Spring: recorded between 12 Apr and 13 Jun, with peak counts of 140 on 25 Apr, 100 on 29 and 30 Apr and 2 May. Autumn: two on 26 Aug, then reported on many days from 10 Sep to 6 Nov. Peak numbers included thirty-five on 20 Oct, twenty on 29 Oct and thirteen on 3 Nov. (See Table 2).

Two birds, both caught and ringed, showing all the known characteristics of the northern subspecies *P. c. tristis*, were present in the period 29 Oct to 5 Nov.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*.

*Occasional breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: recorded between 12 Apr and 25 Jun, with peak counts of twenty on 29 and 30 Apr and 2 May. Autumn: reported on many days from 22 Aug to 24 Sep. The main arrival was of 250 birds on 24 Aug, with numbers then dropping gradually, to twenty on 27 Aug. All other counts were of ten or less. Later there were singles on 9, 12, 20, 21 and 29 Oct. (See Table 2).

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant and occasional winter and summer visitor (has bred occasionally).*

Spring: five on 11 Apr, then singles on seven later dates, to 3 May. Autumn: seen on most days from 9 Sep to 6 Nov, with peak counts of fourteen on 11 Sep, nineteen on 14 Oct and thirty on 21 Oct. (See Table 2)

**Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*.

*Uncommon migrant, most regular in autumn.*

Spring: one, 23 Apr. Autumn: seen on many days from 7 Oct to 5 Nov, with peak counts of seven on 21 Oct and six on 27 Oct.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*.

*Breeding in most years recently. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: seen on most days from 25 Apr to 13 Jun, with a maximum of just ten on 23 May. Autumn: singles, 25 Jul and 2 Aug, then seen on most days from 23 Aug to 13 Oct, with 150 arriving on 24 Aug. Almost all other counts were in single figures. (See Table 2)

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*.

*Uncommon autumn migrant.*

One, 20 to 24 Oct (J. and P. Gale *et al* ).

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*.

*Regular migrant, small numbers in spring and common in autumn.*

Spring: reported on eleven days, 16 Apr to 20 May, with a maximum count of eight on 2 May. Autumn: nine records from 18 to 30 Aug, with between twenty-five and thirty from 24 to 26 Aug. Then singles on four days, 9 to 14 Sep, before another series of records from 29 Sep to 13 Oct, peaking at five on 8 Oct.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Rare winter visitor.*

One, 9 to 16 Oct.

**Great Tit** *Parus major*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Rare winter visitor.*

One, 25 to 27 Apr.

**Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*.

*Uncommon visitor, mainly between July and October.*

One, 20 Sep. One, 21 to 24 Oct.

**Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*.

*Uncommon spring migrant.*

One female, 30 and 31 May.

**Isabelline Shrike** *Lanius isabellinus*.

*Vagrant from central Asia. Not previously recorded on Lundy.*

One was by the upper east side path on 28 Aug (P. Davies). This record has been accepted by the 'British Birds' Rarities Committee.

**Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula*.

*Irregular spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor.*

Singles on 11 Apr, 5 to 7 May and 2 Nov.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Highest autumn count: thirty on 8 Sep. A Hooded Crow *C. c. cornix* was seen on 24 and 25 Apr.

**Raven** *Corvus corax*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Highest autumn count: twelve on 12 Sep.

**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year. Spring and autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. High autumn counts included 130 on 14 Sep, 185 on 22 Oct, 450 on 30 Oct, 500 on 1 Nov, 1000 on 2 Nov.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Highest autumn count: 170 on 14 Sep.

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year. Late autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active. Three singing males in May. Autumn arrivals of migrants included sixty on 12 Oct, 100 on 21 Oct, 300 on 28 Oct, 100 on 1 Nov and 1000 on 2 Nov.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*.

*Rare spring and common late autumn migrant. Occasional winter visitor.*

Autumn: recorded on fifteen days, 7 Oct to 5 Nov. Peak numbers were ten on 29 Oct, twelve on 2 Nov and thirteen on 3 Nov.

**Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*.

*Common late autumn migrant. Uncommon visitor through the rest of the year.*

Spring: singles, 30 Apr and 31 May, and six on 26 May. Autumn: fourteen records, 1 Oct to 6 Nov, with peaks of ten on 29 Oct and 1 Nov, twenty-one on 5 Nov.

**Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant. Uncommon summer and winter visitor.*

Spring: present on most days from 21 Apr, with peaks of 15 on 21 Apr and twenty on 1 May. A pair bred, with fledged juveniles being fed in Aug. Autumn: seen on most days to 4 Nov, with maximum counts of eight on 12 and 20 Oct.

**Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*.

*Late autumn migrant, numbers varying greatly from year to year. Very rare in spring.*

Autumn: after four on 20 Sep and five on 21st, there were records on most days

from 7 Oct to 6 Nov. The main influxes were of thirty birds on 12 Oct, thirty-one on 23 Oct and forty on 28 Oct.

**Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina*.

*Breeding. Irregular migrant, mainly in autumn. Uncommon winter visitor.*

Recorded as present whenever observers were active, from Apr to 6 Nov. High counts included sixty on 6 May, 280 on 14 Sep, seventy-five on 12 Oct.

**Redpoll** *Carduelis cabaret*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: singles, 11, 13 and 29 May. Autumn: up to three on most days from 20 Oct to 5 Nov, with higher counts of six on 2 Nov and nine on 5 Nov.

**Twite** *Carduelis flavirostris*.

*Very rare visitor, mainly in late autumn.*

One was in the Airfield area, 2 Nov (J.R. Diamond).

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*.

*Rare spring and autumn migrant.*

A female or first-year bird was seen on rhododendrons south of the Terrace, 8 Sep (N. Trout). One, probably first year, was in Millcombe, 9 to 13 Oct (A.L. and S.L. Cooper, A.M. Jewels *et al* ). A first-year bird was caught and ringed in Millcombe, 26 Oct (J. Cracknell *et al* ).

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.

*Rare visitor, Apr to Nov.*

One, 4 to 28 May, with a second on 16th. One, 4 Nov.

**Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*.

*Regular autumn migrant in small numbers. Has also been recorded in winter and spring.*

One near Threequarter Wall, 1 Nov, and one over the village, 2 Nov (T. Jones).

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*.

*Uncommon spring and regular autumn migrant. Occasional winter visitor.*

Eleven records of up to three birds, 8 Oct to 6 Nov.

**Black-faced Bunting** *Emberiza spodocephala*.

*Vagrant from north Asia. No previous Lundy records.*

One was seen on several occasions in the Millcombe and St Johns area, 12 Oct (A.L. Cooper, A.M. Jewels, R.M. Patient *et al* ). This record has been accepted by the 'British Birds' Rarities Committee. It is the third record of this species in Britain.

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*.

*Vagrant. Eleven previous records, one in spring and ten in late autumn.*

One was seen feeding briefly in St Johns Valley, 1 Nov (C.H. Taylor and R.J. Taylor).

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Occasional summer and winter visitor.*

One on most days from 20 Oct to 3 Nov, with two on 23 Oct.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** *Pheucticus ludovicianus*.

*Vagrant from North America. One previous Lundy record, Oct 1985.*

One was seen in the Millcombe and St Johns area, 6 to 9 Oct (S.L. Cooper, A.M. Jewels, R.M. Patient *et al* ).

LUNDY RARITIES

Records rejected because they were undocumented or descriptions inconclusive

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*. One, 21 Sep.

**Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus*. One, 24 Nov.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*. One, 27 Nov.

**Alpine Swift** *Apus melba*. One, 19 May.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*. One, 13 Oct.

**Dusky Thrush** *Turdus naumanni*. One, 24 Nov.

**Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*. One, 13 Oct.

**Alpine Chough** *Pyrrhocorax graculus*. One, 30 Aug.

**Twite** *Carduelis flavirostris*. Three, 20 Oct. Two, 23 Oct.

**Rock Bunting** *Emberiza cia*. One, 11 Nov.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Whimbrel			0.1	0.6	1 0.9 0.7	0.1		1.2			0.1	
Collared dove				0.1 1.3	2.9 3.5 2.3	0.3 1.1 0.9	P	P P 1.4	1.2 3.7 0.4	2.1 3.5 3.5	2.5 2.0	
Swift				2.8	5.3 11 0.5	0.4 1.4 1.4	3 1.5	0.2	0.1			
Sand Martin				2 27	20 3.7 17	2.7 0.3		0.1 0.1 0.7	0.7 11 7.5	0.8		
Swallow				0.5 P 370	100 91 180	30 P P	P 0.1 0.2	P 1.3 27	27 670 51	46 29 14	0.3	
House Martin			0.1	0.5 24	13 11 19	23 P 0.1		0.1 0.1 0.3	1.5 66 10	2.9 0.4 0.5		
Redstart				0.6	0.3 0.2				0.1 0.4	0.2		
Whinchat					0.9 0.2			0.2	0.3	0.2 0.3 0.1	0.1	
Wheatear			0.1	11	43 13 2.7	1.2 1.3 B	B B B	B 1.6 9.5	2.8 2.8 2.7	3.8 0.4 0.6	0.2	

Table 1: Whimbrel, Collared Dove, Swift, Martins and Chats on Lundy, 2001.

Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten day periods, throughout the year. P: Present but numbers not reported; B: present, breeding

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Fieldfare									0.3	0.1 0.1 16	45 15	1.2
Redwing				0.1 0.2	0.1				0.1	4.6 5.3 50	170	1.6
Whitethroat				0.5	8.3 2.4 0.6	0.1		0.6		0.1 0.1		
Blackcap				0.2 4	4.6 0.8 0.9	0.1		0.1	0.9 1.9 0.3	6.8 7.1 14	5.8	
Chiffchaff				6.1	3.5 0.3 0.4	0.1 0.5		0.2	0.2 2.9 0.4	2.7 6.2 9	4.3	
Willow Warbler				42	25 2.9 1.7	9.2 1 0.1		0.2 4.9	1.9 2.1 0.7	0.1 0.2 0.2		
Goldcrest			0.1	0.5	0.2				1.9 5 1	4.8 9.4 12	2.8	
Spotted flycatcher				0.2	1.5 3.4 1.8	0.3 0.5	0.1	0.1 25	1.5 2.1 1.1	1.8 1.2		

Table 2: Thrushes, Warblers, Goldcrest and Spotted Flycatcher on Lundy, 2001

Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten day periods, throughout the year. P: Present but numbers not reported; B: present, breeding.