

## BIRD RINGING IN 2005

By

TONY TAYLOR

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

### INTRODUCTION

The timing of ringing work on the island was similar to that in 2005, with twelve days' coverage in late April and early May, two weeks in late August and early September and two weeks in October. Again the emphasis was on migrant species, with additional work on breeding Manx Shearwaters in early autumn. Despite the similar coverage, the total number of birds ringed (1564, of 45 species) was lower, with autumn weather conditions generally less favourable for migration and mist-netting. Though the number of Manx Shearwater chicks ringed was also lower, this appeared to be because few were old enough to have started emerging from their burrows at the time the work was carried out, rather than because of reductions in breeding attempts or success rates.

As in 2005, the regular migrant species for which ringing totals reached three figures included Swallows, Blackcaps and Chaffinches, but in 2006 autumn Meadow Pipits were replaced by spring Willow Warblers in this list. Among the irruptive species which had been a notable feature of the previous autumn, numbers of Goldcrests and Goldfinches in 2006 were greatly reduced and not a single Brambling or Siskin was caught. Unusual species ringed included Golden Plover, Wryneck, Cetti's Warbler, Subalpine Warbler, two Yellow-browed Warblers and a Red-breasted Flycatcher. A full list of the year's ringing totals is given below.

Recoveries and controls during 2006 included a Manx Shearwater ringed on Lundy that was found in Cumbria, having lived at least twenty years. Two Sedge Warblers were caught on Lundy on successive days in spring, after being ringed in the south of England in 2002 and 2004 respectively. There was also belated news of a Song Thrush, ringed on Lundy in October 2005, which was killed by a hunter in the Gironde region of France a month later. Details of these and other recoveries and controls are given below.

### LUNDY RINGING TOTALS, 2006

Manx Shearwater	10	(3)
Golden Plover	1	
Wryneck	1	

Sand Martin	2	
Swallow	145	(4)
House Martin	3	
Tree Pipit	2	
Meadow Pipit	46	
Rock Pipit	1	
Grey Wagtail	1	
Pied Wagtail	1	
Wren	26	
Dunnock	8	
Robin	20	
Redstart	1	
Whinchat	1	
Stonechat	7	
Blackbird	33	
Song Thrush	22	
Redwing	56	
Cetti's Warbler	1	
Grasshopper Warbler	8	
Sedge Warbler	35	
Reed Warbler	7	
Subalpine Warbler	1	
Whitethroat	23	
Garden Warbler	2	
Blackcap	188	
Yellow-browed Warbler	2	
Wood Warbler	1	
Chiffchaff	89	
Willow Warbler	402	
Goldcrest	84	
Firecrest	4	
Spotted Flycatcher	3	
Red-breasted Flycatcher	1	
Pied Flycatcher	1	
Coal Tit	1	
Starling	15	
Chaffinch	225	
Greenfinch	5	
Goldfinch	60	
Linnet	13	
Lesser Redpoll	2	
Bullfinch	4	
Total	<u>1564</u>	

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

#### RECOVERIES AND CONTROLS, 2006

FC24354 **Manx Shearwater**. Ringed as an adult on Lundy, 16.7.87. Found dead (not fresh) at Ravenglass, Cumbria, 23.6.06. (364 km; bearing 14°; 6917 days).

GN08607 **Herring Gull**. Ringed as a pullus on Lundy, 27.6.99. Found dead (not fresh) at Northam Burrows, Devon, 9.1.06. (34 km; 113°; 2388 days).

R109402 **Sedge Warbler**. Ringed as an adult male at Chew Valley Lake, Avon, 28.7.02. Controlled on Lundy, 23.4.06. (143 km; 264°; 1365 days).

R899392 **Sedge Warbler**. Ringed as a first year bird at Icklesham, Sussex, 30.9.04. Controlled on Lundy, 24.4.06. (374 km; 275°; 571 days).

RK24971 **Blackbird**. Ringed as a second year male on Lundy, 19.4.99. Found dead on Lundy, 28.4.06. (2566 days).

CL15903 **Blackbird**. Ringed as a second year male on Lundy, 2.5.03. Found dead (killed by predatory bird) on Lundy, 8.3.06. (1041 days).

RT43724 **Song Thrush**. Ringed as a nestling on Lundy, 24.4.05. Found dead (not fresh) on Lundy, 27.8.06. (490 days).

RT43729 **Song Thrush**. Ringed as a first year bird on Lundy, 5.10.05. Found freshly dead (hunted) at Lacanau, Gironde, FRANCE (44° 58' N; 1° 04' W), on 3.11.05. (739 km; 159°; 29 days).

T930409 **Chaffinch**. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 23.10.05. Found dead (killed by predatory bird: in pellet) on Lundy, 13.3.06. (141 days).

T930564 **Chaffinch**. Ringed as a first year female on Lundy, 25.10.05. Found dead (killed by predatory bird: in pellet) on Lundy, 13.3.06. (139 days).

T457929 **Goldfinch**. Ringed as a first year male on Lundy, 14.10.05. Controlled at Kingsteignton, Devon, 7.2.06. (101 km; 133°; 116 days).

T930572 **Siskin**. Ringed as a first year male on Lundy, 25.10.05. Controlled at Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent, 2.4.06. (398 km; 88°; 159 days).