

BIRDS RECORDED IN 1952

One hundred and twenty-nine species were seen during the year (four of them for the first time), and thirty-six species are known to have bred. A detailed account of movements will be found elsewhere in this report.

The list has been arranged to conform with the Wetmore system of classification, now generally adopted by leading authorities. It starts with the most primitive birds, and ends with those considered most likely to undergo further evolutionary development. The order will already be familiar to readers of the *Popular Handbook*.

Colymbus immer. **Great Northern Diver.**

One January 6th (F.W.G.), probably the one seen in the previous month.

Colymbus stellatus. **Red-throated Diver.**

One near Gannets' Rock, February 20th.

Hydrobates pelagicus. **Storm Petrel.**

Two in Lundy Roads, October 30th.

Procellaria puffinus. **Manx Shearwater.**

First seen March 25th, last seen September 9th. Many rats were noticed at the colonies visited, and probably few young escaped them.

Fulmarus glacialis. **Fulmar Petrel.**

Extreme dates, February 4th and September 5th. At Jenny's Cove, eleven sites were occupied, nine eggs laid, three hatched, one chick probably reared. At Gannets' Rock, ten sites occupied, seven eggs laid, three hatched, three chicks probably reared. The dark-phase bird at Gannets' Rock mated, and reared a normal chick.

Sula bassana. **Gannet.**

Seen off-shore at all seasons, but frequent only from early July to late September, and never numerous.

Phalacrocorax carbo. **Cormorant.**

Four pairs nested on Gannets' Rock. Not seen before February 27th or after October 30th. Some passage in late March and April (thirteen, March 24th) and in August-September (ten, August 23rd ; nine, September 8th).

Phalacrocorax aristotelis. **Shag.**

Eighty-six pairs bred. Seen almost daily throughout the year, but numbers very small before March and after September.

Ardea cinerea. **Heron.**

Single birds July 23rd ; August 4th, 7th, 15th ; September 6th and November 14th to 16th.

Anas platyrhynchos. **Mallard.**

Two 'probables' in flight April 25th ; two July 17th and 18th, one 24th, three 25th to 28th ; three August 1st to 3rd, one August 28th, November 19th and 26th.

Anas crecca. **Teal.**

One January 24th. Single birds August 6th, 20th, 21st, three 31st and up to five on sixteen days in September. Up to four on seven days in October to the 15th. One November 13th, and up to fifteen on twelve days to the end of the month.

Anas strepera. **Gadwall.**

A pair April 25th to 28th ; two drakes May 7th.

Anas penelope. **Wigeon.**

A duck October 9th to 13th ; a drake and two ducks December 2nd.

Buteo buteo. **Buzzard.**

Always present, and two pairs bred, at Halfway Bay and east of Seal's Hole. Two young were reared at each site.

Accipiter nisus. **Sparrow Hawk.**

Records of single birds. March 17th, 28th, 30th ; on six days in April, May 15th and 16th. One September 1st, and on six days later in the month ; one on nine days in October to the 18th.

Falco peregrinus. **Peregrine Falcon.**

A pair present all the year, but apparently did not attempt to breed. Three seen February 15th and October 11th.

Falco columbarius. **Merlin.**

Single birds April 1st, 3rd, 13th, 23rd and 29th ; September 10th, 11th, 14th ; October 10th and 22nd.

Falco tinnunculus. **Kestrel.**

Two pairs bred in the 1951 sites. Seen in all months, though irregularly before March 11th. Some passage noted in April (six 28th) and in August (nine 4th). One seen to leave for the south, October 31st.

Phasianus colchicus. **Pheasant.**

Most seen on one day, eleven April 27th. Several nests were found.

Rallus aquaticus. **Water Rail.**

One or two seen frequently until March 18th ; one April 13th and 23rd. One August 7th, 21st, and then seen on most days to the end of the season (four November 16th the most).

Porzana parva. **Little Crake.**

An adult male in the Millcombe gardens, September 12th to 14th. First record for Lundy.

Crex crex. **Corn Crake.**

One April 23rd, 27th, and as remains of Peregrine's kill, May 15th. Single birds August 16th, 17th and 21st.

Gallinula chloropus. **Moorhen.**

One near the Hotel, February 28th.

Haematopus ostralegus. **Oyster-catcher.**

About twenty pairs bred. Few seen in January or November.

Vanellus vanellus. **Lapwing.**

Eight pairs bred (seven near Quarter Wall, and one in South-West field). Seen almost daily throughout the year, numbers fluctuating widely. Maxima : forty January 30th ; c. fifty February 23rd ; c. one hundred and ten March 1st, c. sixty 11th ; c. sixty October 14th ; c. sixty-five November 15th, c. eighty 28th ; c. sixty December 10th (J.O.).

Charadrius hiaticula. **Ringed Plover.**

No spring records. A 'probable' August 12th, single birds 20th, 21st, 22nd, 29th, September 5th, 8th, 27th and October 1st ; two September 28th and 29th.

Charadrius apricarius. **Golden Plover.**

Seen fairly frequently before May 15th and after August 16th ; largest numbers in March (thirty-one 12th), during the night of April 27th to 28th ; in September (thirty-five 18th) and on November 24th (twenty-one).

Arenaria interpres. **Turnstone.**

Single birds January 5th (M.G.), March 2nd, April 22nd, August 14th, 17th, 21st and October 3rd.

Capella gallinago. **Snipe.**

Small numbers present until May 4th and after July 10th. Frequently seen flying over in late July, August and September, and a noticeable influx in late November, when one or two could be flushed from most boggy places on the island.

Lymnocyptes minimus. **Jack Snipe.**

One March 4th, October 3rd ; three October 22nd.

Scolopax rusticola. **Woodcock.**

Up to three seen frequently before March 4th, and up to four between October 13th and November 23rd.

Numenius arquata. **Curlew.**

One pair bred near Pondsbury. Seen only occasionally before late February and after mid-September. The largest numbers occurred in late June, July, and August, with c. forty August 4th, c. thirty 17th.

Numerius phaeopus. **Whimbrel.**

Seen on most days between April 22nd and May 19th, with eight April 23rd and nine May 6th. Three May 31st. Southward movement from July 25th to September 4th, with thirteen August 6th, c. twelve 17th. One September 28th.

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

A wader almost certainly of this species, seen in flight May 27th (S. F. Ball).

Tringa ochropus. **Green Sandpiper.**

Single birds August 6th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 26th ; September 13th and 28th.

Tringa glareola. **Wood Sandpiper.**

One August 22nd.

Tringa hypoleucos. **Common Sandpiper.**

Singly on April 22nd, 24th, 25th, May 4th ; four May 8th, two 18th ; two June 20th ; one July 9th, 25th. Seen on seven days in August (four 4th), and one September 2nd.

Tringa totanus. **Redshank.**

No spring records. One July 25th ; one August 6th, two 18th, one 27th and one October 16th.

Tringa nebularia. **Greenshank.**

Single birds flew over, July 25th and 28th.

Calidris canutus. **Knot.**

An adult April 16th, an immature August 13th, both in Middle Park. There are no other recent records.

Calidris alpina. **Dunlin.**

Two April 17th and one May 15th, the only spring records. Two July 29th ; single birds on eight days between August 9th and 28th ; one September 5th, and up to four present until the 21st (seven or eight individuals are known to have occurred in this period, six of which were caught). One September 29th, October 4th and 8th, and November 28th. Three of the trapped birds were of the northern race *alpina*, the others intermediates.

Crocethia alba. **Sanderling.**

One on Landing Beach, August 12th.

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

Thirty to forty pairs bred. Numbers after September very small.

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

Breeding population probably less than one hundred pairs. Extreme dates, February 19th and September 26th.

Larus argentatus. **Herring Gull.**

Apparently some increase in the breeding population. Very few were present in October and early November.

Larus canus. **Common Gull.**

An adult and an immature March 29th, two immatures 30th ; six birds September 30th ; four October 13th ; c. fifty November 28th, two 30th ; three December 1st. All records were in strong easterly weather.

Larus glaucooides. **Iceland Gull.**

An immature of this species or *hyperboreus*, March 1st. An adult seen with Herring and Common Gulls, November 28th.

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

One June 16th; three July 4th and one on most days to the 12th, three 25th; one September 10th, six 11th, four 15th; two October 12th, 13th, six 14th; one November 30th, and December 6th to 8th (M.G.).

Rissa tridactyla. **Kittiwake.**

Apparently a considerable increase in the breeding population. First seen off-shore, February 15th, on the cliffs 29th. First eggs May 13th, first young June 12th. None seen after August 25th.

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

One October 5th the only record.

Alca torda. **Razorbill.**

Signs of a small increase in the breeding population. First seen on the cliffs, March 1st. First eggs May 6th, first chicks June 12th (several days old). None seen after July 28th.

Uria aalge. **Guillemot.**

Came ashore in numbers, January 30th. First eggs May 16th, first young June 20th. The few records after July were of oiled birds.

Fratercula arctica. **Puffin.**

Numbers continue to decrease. First seen April 4th, last seen July 23rd.

Columba aenas. **Stock Dove.**

One March 10th, two 11th; singly April 22nd, 23rd and 28th. One November 1st, and up to six seen on most days to the 12th; one 24th and 25th.

Columba palumbus. **Wood Pigeon.**

Two or three pairs bred. Two seen February 7th, and small numbers usually present from the 23rd. Probably some passage in late April and early May (eleven April 29th) and intermittently from early August to November 5th (nineteen September 4th; seventeen October 3rd and 4th). One November 23rd.

Streptopelia turtur. **Turtle Dove.**

First seen April 26th, and present on most days to June 18th; seven May 15th the most. One July 10th. Very scarce in autumn, with single birds August 19th, 23rd, 25th to 27th and September 12th.

Cuculus canorus. **Cuckoo.**

One egg was seen. Recorded April 15th to September 4th, with five April 18th; four May 5th and up to seven in late July.

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

Records of single birds August 28th, September 25th and 29th (F.W.G.).

Caprimulgus europaeus. **Nightjar.**

Singly May 9th and 10th ; August 7th 10th and 17th.

Apus apus. **Swift.**

Four April 22nd, and intermittent movements throughout the spring and summer to August 23rd. Numbers were generally smaller this year, exceeding fifty only on May 22nd, July 22nd and August 6th (one hundred).

Alcedo atthis. **Kingfisher.**

One August 29th.

Lullula arborea. **Wood Lark.**

Records, all of single birds, January 28th, February 22nd, 24th, March 11th to 13th, October 21st.

Alauda arvensis. **Sky Lark.**

The resident flock increased to over one hundred and fifty in the cold spell of late January, but numbers small in early February, and full breeding population probably not present until March. Light passage on many days in October and early November, peak numbers, *c.* one hundred and fifty October 8th, *c.* one hundred and eighty October 14th. Few on island after middle of November.

Hirundo rustica. **Swallow.**

One pair bred, and a second present for much of the season. Spring passage March 26th to early June, numbers exceeding one hundred April 9th, 23rd to 27th (abundant), 29th ; May 5th, 7th, 11th, 13th and 15th. In autumn some movements from July 24th, main passage in September and early October, with *c.* four hundred September 8th, *c.* six hundred 12th, *c.* four hundred 14th, *c.* eight hundred October 3rd, and smaller numbers on most days to the 29th. Two November 10th.

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

One March 27th. First record for Lundy.

Delichon urbica. **House Martin.**

First seen April 8th, and passing on most days to June 9th. Most numerous on May 5th (*c.* one hundred). Three June 18th, one 28th, and small number on five days in July (*c.* twenty 22nd), and on only three days in August. Seen fairly regularly from September 7th to October 8th, but greatest number only *c.* thirty, October 3rd. Single birds October 19th, 22nd and 24th.

Riparia riparia. **Sand Martin.**

Single birds March 8th and 11th, four 18th and five 27th. Seen almost daily April 5th to May 8th, with peaks or *c.* one hundred April 9th, *c.* one hundred and fifty 18th. Return passage on most days between July 4th and September 22nd ; over one hundred recorded July 18th to 20th, August 21st, 25th, September 8th and 12th (*c.* one hundred and fifty). Two October 3rd.

Oriolus oriolus. **Golden Oriole.**

A female in the Millcombe woods, June 5th to 7th.

Corvus corax. **Raven.**

Two pairs bred, at Long Ruse and in the Devil's Limekiln, and seven young were reared. Two non-breeding pairs were present.

Corvus cornix. **Hooded Crow.**

One June 4th to 7th.

Corvus corone. **Carriion Crow.**

About eight pairs bred, and there were about fifteen non-breeding birds. Up to sixty were present in September and early October, but numbers declined towards the end of the season.

Corvus frugilegus. **Rook.**

Single birds March 16th and April 9th.

Corvus monedula. **Jackdaw.**

Spring records : five March 18th, one 29th, and one April 3rd ; three or more April 9th, one 13th, 16th to 21st, 30th, and June 11th to 15th. In autumn, two October 28th to November 11th, seven 12th, c. twenty 13th, twenty-seven 14th, and smaller numbers each day to 22nd.

Pica pica. **Magpie.**

One June 12th to 18th. There are only two previous records for the island.

Coracia pyrrhocorax. **Chough.**

One February 20th to March 3rd. The second record of this century.

Parus major. **Great Tit.**

One October 15th, two 16th, four 17th, two 18th and three 19th. One or two seen most days from October 26th to end of season.

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

Five October 11th to 14th, one 19th to November 3rd. There are only two previous records.

Troglodytes troglodytes. **Wren.**

Bred in all suitable places round the coast, and on top of the island in the farm area and at Stonycroft. Probably some passage in first week of October, when over a third of the birds trapped this year were caught.

Turdus viscivorus. **Mistle Thrush.**

Single birds April 28th, November 3rd and 13th.

Turdus pilaris. **Fieldfare.**

A few present in January, and some passage February and early March (most, c. sixty February 21st). Single stragglers April 15th and May 2nd. In autumn seen from October 4th, main movements in mid-November (c. three hundred 15th).

Turdus ericetorum. **Song Thrush.**

Weather movements in late January, passage in February and early March (c. fifty February 20th, March 1st), and small numbers recorded later in March, and on four days between April 14th and 22nd. One July 16th, two 25th; one August 7th; one September 4th and on seven days later in September. Seen on most days in October and November, largest movements November 9th and 12th (c. seventy).

Turdus musicus. **Redwing.**

Up to thirty present in late January, and passing through in small numbers until March 8th, with seventy February 11th. Single birds April 7th and 10th. Autumn movements from October 1st, main peaks c. eighty October 17th and 22nd; c. three hundred November 5th, c. two hundred 24th.

Turdus migratorius. **American Robin.**

A first-winter bird October 27th (probably 25th) to November 8th, caught in the Terrace trap on 27th. First record of what was in all probability a wild bird.

Turdus torquatus. **Ring Ousel.**

First recorded March 27th, and seen on thirteen days in April (most, c. ten 21st, c. fifteen 28th). One May 1st. In autumn seen on fifteen days between September 4th and October 22nd. Most three September 18th.

Turdus merula. **Blackbird.**

About fifteen pairs bred. Some passage in February and early March (c. seventy March 1st) and from mid-October to late November, maxima c. eighty October 15th and 22nd; c. one hundred November 8th and 9th, c. two hundred 15th.

Turdus dauma. **White's Thrush.**

One in Millcombe, October 15th to November 8th. First definite record for the island, though Chanter lists the species as 'of doubtful occurrence'.

Oenanthe oenanthe. **Wheatear.**

About ten pairs bred. First seen March 10th, and passage movements until early May; largest numbers c. fifty April 5th, 9th, c. seventy 18th. Autumn movements early August to October 14th, with c. sixty August 16th, c. fifty 21st and 23rd. Large Wheatears, *leucorrhoa* or *schioleiri* were noted at both seasons.

Saxicola torquata. **Stonechat.**

One pair bred, at Brazen Ward. Small numbers were recorded in all months, with evidence of movements in early March (seven March 1st), and in autumn from September 10th (four 18th) to mid-November. One December 6th (J.O.).

Saxicola rubetra. **Whinchat.**

One May 4th, two 11th ; one June 11th. Seen on eighteen days between August 16th and September 22nd (most *c.* ten September 14th) with single birds October 4th and 6th. F. W. Gade reported one November 10th, a very late date.

Phoenicurus phoenicurus. **Redstart.**

Two April 13th, one 14th, 17th, 18th, 26th, 28th and May 1st. In autumn on most days from August 20th to September 22nd (three August 25th and September 13th). One October 9th and 10th, and a late bird 22nd to 26th.

Phoenicurus ochrurus. **Black Redstart.**

Single birds March 16th and 18th ; May 22nd. One August 24th and 25th, and one or two on seven days between October 15th and November 23rd.

Erithacus rubecula. **Robin.**

Six or eight pairs bred. Probably some movement March 14th, 15th, and in first week of October.

Locustella naevia. **Grasshopper Warbler.**

Seen on ten days between April 13th and 27th, four 25th and 27th the most. Single birds May 2nd, 10th and 11th. Two or three July 25th ; one August 22nd ; one September 12th, 15th, 16th and 18th.

Acrocephalus scirpaceus. **Reed Warbler.**

One April 26th the only record.

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus. **Sedge Warbler.**

Seen frequently April 16th to May 10th, main influx *c.* fifty April 27th, numbers otherwise small. One May 19th. In autumn on most days July 20th to September 18th ; thirteen July 30th the most.

Sylvia atricapilla. **Blackcap.**

Recorded on ten days between April 13th and May 2nd, six April 28th the most. In autumn none seen before October 4th, then almost daily until the 23rd, with eight on the 22nd. One or two present October 31st to November 11th, one 18th.

Sylvia borin. **Garden Warbler.**

One April 30th, one singing in Millcombe June 2nd and 10th. Single birds August 2nd, 9th ; September 8th and 17th.

Sylvia communis. **Whitethroat.**

About eight pairs bred (Millcombe, and one pair St Helen's Valley, one pair Terraces). Spring movements from April 13th to about May 18th ; greatest numbers *c.* thirty April 19th ; *c.* seventy 27th, abundant 28th ; *c.* one hundred May 4th, *c.* one hundred and fifty 5th ; first definite influx of autumn, *c.* fifty August 16th, then *c.* thirty 21st ; *c.* fifty September 7th, *c.* thirty 12th. Passage ended September 18th, except for one 25th and one killed at North Light October 12th.

Sylvia curruca. **Lesser Whitethroat.**

No spring records. One in Millcombe October 9th and 10th.

Phylloscopus trochilus. **Willow Warbler.**

The first recorded, March 24th, had been killed by a cat. Next identified April 5th, and seen on most days to May 11th; heaviest movements April 11th, 13th, 14th, 17th, 23rd, 26th and 27th. Single birds May 13th, 17th, 18th; two June 16th. On autumn passage July 10th to September 18th, main influxes (over fifty) July 22nd, 25th, 26th, 29th to 31st; August 2nd, 16th; September 12th. On the basis of numbers trapped, Willow Warblers outnumbered Chiffchaffs by about four to one in spring, two to one in autumn.

Phylloscopus collybita. **Chiffchaff.**

Identified in spring from March 13th to April 27th, this species the predominant leaf-warbler until the big influx of April 13th. Main arrivals March 18th, April 5th, 9th, 11th and 13th. In autumn recorded from August 25th, and predominant in last heavy movements of phylloscopids, September 12th and 17th. Small numbers on most days to October 22nd, then none until November 5th (six). A few seen daily until the 13th, and single birds 15th, 19th and 20th. Two individuals were thought to be 'northern'—one seen October 14th and one trapped November 15th. The latter was of the Scandinavian form *abietinus*.

Regulus regulus. **Goldcrest.**

Breeding recorded for the first time since 1923, one pair nesting in the Millcombe pines. Spring passage March 13th to 28th (c. ten 17th and 18th). The breeding pair appeared in mid-April, fledged young first seen July 7th. Immigration in autumn detected from September 22nd, several small influxes in October (most, c. twenty-five 15th), and a few birds present until late November. Birds trapped in mid-October were very grey on nape and mantle, and were probably 'continentals'.

Regulus ignicapillus. **Firecrest.**

Seven or eight were recorded. A first-winter bird caught on the Terrace, October 12th, another caught in the Stoneycroft garden on 13th. The second was released in Millcombe and seen again 14th and 15th. A third first-winter bird and an adult were taken in the Terrace trap on 14th. On November 5th, two unringed adults seen on the Terrace, one later caught. An unringed first-winter bird seen in the same place November 9th to 11th, and one in Millcombe on 15th. There are only two previous records.

Muscicapa striata. **Spotted Flycatcher.**

One May 2nd, c. fifteen 5th, and up to eight on nineteen days to 29th. Two June 7th and 16th, and one (perhaps a summering bird) June 20th. One July 23rd, four 25th, and species seen almost every day to September 23rd; maxima c. twenty August 14th, c. twenty-five 16th and 23rd; seventeen September 12th. Single birds October 1st and 5th.

Muscicapa hypoleuca. **Pied Flycatcher.**

Numbers very low this year. One April 26th ; two May 5th. Single birds July 10th, August 6th, 23rd, c. five 25th and one or two on eleven days to September 21st. One October 3rd, two 5th and one 15th.

Prunella modularis. **Hedge Sparrow.**

About six pairs bred.

Anthus pratensis. **Meadow Pipit.**

Spring passage and gradual arrival of breeders in February and March. Autumn passage and departure early August to early November ; greatest numbers moving late September and early October. Very few present at end of season.

Anthus trivialis. **Tree Pipit.**

One April 30th, the only spring record. In autumn first seen August 6th, and recorded on sixteen days to September 13th ; most seven August 22nd, four 25th.

Anthus spinoletta. **Rock Pipit.**

No noticeable change in breeding population. Very seldom seen on top of island, though one caught in Garden Trap in June.

Motacilla alba. **Pied and White Wagtails.**

Seen frequently from February 19th to May 24th ; maxima six April 16th, c. fifteen 18th. Single birds on six days in June, and on three in early July. Present on most days from August 4th to October 28th, maxima c. twenty September 10th ; c. thirty October 5th. White Wagtails *M. a. alba* were identified on eight days between April 18th and May 7th, and several suspected among the birds of September and early October, which were mainly juveniles.

Motacilla cinerea. **Grey Wagtail.**

First recorded February 26th, and one or two seen on thirteen days to March 31st. One April 22nd, two 25th. One June 14th. Seen on most days from September 1st to November 7th ; three September 21st the most.

Motacilla flava. **Yellow Wagtail.**

Spring passage April 17th to May 27th ; c. ten April 25th the most. In autumn almost daily August 17th to September 20th ; greatest numbers c. twenty-five August 22nd, c. twenty 26th. A late bird with the main herd of ponies, October 4th and 9th.

Lanius senator. **Woodchat Shrike.**

A female May 5th, a first-winter bird August 21st. Second and third records for Lundy.

Sturnus vulgaris. **Starling.**

Numbers fluctuated widely in early part of year. Big weather movements took place in late January, and intermittent passage from February to early April, a few stragglers to May 17th. Seen

on eight days between July 2nd and 16th, then none until September 16th. One or two on four days later in September, and always present after October 3rd. Largest diurnal movements October 13th, 15th, 19th, November 4th, 12th, 23rd and 24th. Several big nocturnal movements are known to have occurred, especially October 20th to 23rd.

Coccothraustes coccothraustes. **Hawfinch.**

An adult November 24th.

Chloris chloris. **Greenfinch.**

Up to six seen irregularly from beginning of season to April 26th, and species present on most days after October 15th, maxima c. twenty October 30th, November 3rd, 4th; c. twenty-five November 10th and 12th.

Carduelis carduelis. **Goldfinch.**

Small numbers seen frequently until May 31st (most, five January 29th and May 4th) and after October 6th (eight October 29th).

Carduelis spinus. **Siskin.**

A pair bred in Millcombe, and three young were reared. This is the first breeding record. First seen May 20th, last seen August 6th. One November 26th and December 13th (J.O.).

Carduelis cannabina. **Linnet.**

Breeding population probably about twenty pairs. About forty birds arrived in the cold 'snap' of January 26th to 27th, some remaining for several days. Otherwise few records until April. Main arrival April 13th onwards. Considerable passage late August to mid-October, with daily estimates exceeding two hundred in mid-September. Numbers small in late October, and few November records.

Carduelis flavirostris. **Twite.**

Two near Pondsburry, October 13th. There is only one previous reliable record.

Carduelis flammea. **Redpoll.**

One October 15th. Up to three seen on most days October 30th to November 12th, with seven November 1st. Those seen at close quarters were *cabaret*.

Fringilla coelebs. **Chaffinch.**

About six pairs bred. Wintering flock of about fifty, apparently 'continentals', at both ends of year. Some passage late February and March, and from early October, main movements October 15th to 17th, 31st; November 3rd to 4th, 10th, 12th and 24th. October birds seemed to be mainly *coelebs* (N. Europe); both *coelebs* and *hortensis* (C. Europe) occurred in November.

Fringilla montifringilla. **Brambling.**

A few present during cold spell of late January, most five 27th. One February 5th, single birds on five days in March and on three in April to 16th. In autumn two October 15th, and one or two daily until 22nd, one 29th, four 31st. From November 3rd, usually present, peak numbers c. ten 3rd and 4th, c. twenty 12th, c. forty 24th.

Emberiza citrinella. **Yellow Bunting.**

Present from March 9th (six 23rd), and up to three seen frequently in April and May, less frequently in June and July to 25th. There was no satisfactory evidence of breeding. Autumn records of one September 7th ; a male October 24th and 25th, female 30th to November 3rd ; male November 9th, female 24th, male 27th and 28th, and one December 13th (J.O.).

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

An adult male August 15th to 21st ; another October 2nd and 3rd.

Emberiza hortulana. **Ortolan Bunting.**

One August 28th, the only record.

Emberiza schoeniclus. **Reed Bunting.**

A male January 27th, 31st and February 9th ; a female October 10th, 18th, 20th, November 12th, 13th, two 15th, one 18th.

Calcarius lapponicus. **Lapland Bunting.**

One September 11th and 13th, two 17th, one October 9th.

Plectrophenax nivalis. **Snow Bunting.**

A female February 1st, a male April 15th. One October 22nd, two 24th, one 25th to 27th, November 12th, two 13th and 14th.

NOTES ON SELECTED SPECIES

Little Crake. The bird of September 12th to 14th was seen only by Dudley Iles, who had had previous experience of the species on the Continent. On the first day, he saw the bird's head above the bank of the shallow ditch in the walled gardens of Millcombe, and noted the short green bill. A moment later the bird was chased from the ditch by a Water Rail, which pursued it for some yards. The impression was of a very small rail rather similar in general coloration to a Water Rail, but without barring on the underparts. A better view was had on the 14th, when the crake was feeding beneath the apple trees. The lack of white markings on the upperparts ruled out Baillon's Crake, and left no doubt that it was an adult male Little Crake.