



BIRDS RECORDED IN 1949

Observers' initials and details of identification, which were included in the corresponding list for last year, are omitted in order to save space. Full details of observations on all the scarcer birds are recorded in the logbook, and may be found in an article by Hugh Boyd to appear shortly in *British Birds*.

The figures in parentheses after the vernacular names show the numbers ringed.

Corvus corax. **Raven**.

Bred. Number of pairs successful not known certainly, but probably three.

Corvus corone. **Carrion-Crow**.

About six pairs bred, and about nine non-breeding birds were present during the nesting season. Occurred on passage in both spring and autumn, some birds apparently remaining on the island for days or even weeks. Largest flock in spring twenty-two April 24th, and in autumn forty-three September 25th.

Corvus frugilegus. **Rook**.

Two seen March 21st, and two April 8th.

Corvus monedula. **Jackdaw**.

Three March 25th, three April 20th, two 25th, one 30th.

Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax. **Chough**.

One seen October 18th, 20th, 21st and 24th. No previous records in this century.

Sturnus vulgaris. **Starling**. (18).

Seen on eighteen days in March and nine in April, in numbers between one and thirty-five, except for c. 150 on March 23rd. Single birds May 14th, June 17th, July 1st, 5th, and 8th. Small numbers on six days in second half of September. Almost daily in October, in numbers from six to about one hundred (13th), ninety (15th), eighty (24th).

Oriolus oriolus. **Golden Oriole.**

A male reported above the beach road on May 28th.

Coccothraustes coccothraustes. **Hawfinch.**

In June : one on 10th, 11th, and 13th, two on 12th. One August 22nd and 24th, and September 30th, two October 5th, one 13th to 15th.

Chloris chloris. **Greenfinch.** (1).

Small numbers on fifteen days between March 9th and April 14th the most eight April 8th. Two July 2nd. Six October 4th, and then seen on most days to end of season in varying numbers, eighteen on 16th and 22nd the largest.

Carduelis carduelis. **Goldfinch.** (1).

Up to three seen, infrequently, in all months from March to September ; and on all save four days in October, in numbers from two to twenty (24th).

Carduelis spinus. **Siskin.**

From two to twenty-five seen on thirteen days from October 8th to 24th. There is only one previous record of this species, though it seems unlikely that it is so infrequent a visitor as this would suggest.

Carduelis cannabina. **Linnet.** (1).

Bred, but size of population not known. Few seen before last week of March, but subsequently noted almost every day until end of October. On passage in early April and the second half of August (largest number reported 350—400 28th), and a few days in September. One hundred and twenty or more October 9th the only large number seen in that month.

Loxia curvirostra. **Common Crossbill.**

Three August 13th, one 14th, 15th, and 18th. There have been four other records since 1927, all in August or September.

Fringilla coelebs. **Chaffinch.** (7).

Number breeding not known. More birds were present about the farm in March than remained to breed. Increasing numbers in autumn became apparent in the last few days of September, and movements were evident on many days in October, several hundred being seen on 9th, 13th (the most), 14th, 21st, 22nd, 24th, and 27th.

Fringilla montifringilla. **Brambling.**

One March 26th. Two October 20th, one 22nd.

Emberiza citrinella. **Yellow Bunting.**

One March 23rd. One June 10th to 12th. One September 30th. Two October 16th.

Emberiza cirlus. **Cirl Bunting.**

One September 23rd.

Emberiza hortulana. **Ortolan Bunting.**

One May 11th, and one August 29th, both females. The first records for the island.

Emberiza schoeniclus. **Reed Bunting.**

One March 21st to 24th, another April 1st and 2nd, one April 10th.

Calcarius lapponicus. **Lapland Bunting.**

One September 2nd, and a party of six from 3rd to 15th (seven seen on 7th). It appears that this species may occur regularly in early autumn.

Plectrophenax nivalis. **Snow Bunting.**

Two March 17th. In October: one 17th to 19th, three 20th, five 21st, two 22nd to 27th.

Alauda arvensis. **Sky Lark.**

The number of breeding birds was not determined. Some migrants in spring, notably March 28th. Autumn passage apparent from third week of September. Largest numbers September 26th October 9th, 10th and 17th.

Anthus trivialis. **Tree Pipit.**

One April 20th the only spring record. Autumn records all in August: five 23rd, one 24th, three 30th, one 31st.

Anthus pratensis. **Meadow Pipit.** (19).

Large breeding population. Passage migrants in evidence at end of March and in early April, and again in September (notably 26th), but few present in October.

Anthus spinoletta. **Rock Pipit.**

Breeding population about thirty-six pairs. No evidence of migration.

Motacilla flava. **Yellow Wagtail.**

Few spring records: single birds April 30th, May 11th, 12th, 21st, two May 3rd and 4th. Recorded almost daily from August 19th to September 7th and on nine days subsequently, to October 8th. Largest numbers thirteen August 25th, twenty September 3rd, fourteen September 22nd.

Motacilla cinerea. **Grey Wagtail.**

One March 6th. Four September 4th, one 6th, two 10th and 11th, three 17th, two 24th, one 25th, and single birds October 5th, 9th and 15th, four 16th, one 18th.

Motacilla alba. **Pied Wagtail.** (1).

Seen in all months, but no evidence of breeding, though a male sang persistently near the hotel. Only once noted between June 24th and August 12th. Nine March 26th the largest number in spring: in autumn twelve October 9th. Several of the spring records referred to birds of the form *M. a. alba*.

Parus major. **Great Tit.**

One (probably the same bird) March 25th and 29th, April 5th, 10th and 14th.

Parus caeruleus. **Blue Tit.**

Seen daily, except October 11th and 25th, from September 30th to end of season, in numbers varying from one to six (13th).

Parus ater. **Coal Tit.**

Two September 30th and October 1st, one October 8th, two 9th, one 10th, 16th, 20th and 21st.

Lanius senator. **Woodchat Shrike.**

A male June 16th, the first record for the island.

Lanius collurio. **Red-Backed Shrike.**

Three: females June 10th and September 11th, and a juvenile October 7th. Last recorded 1938.

Muscicapa striata. **Spotted Flycatcher.** (7).

On twenty days from April 30th to June 14th (six May 16th the most). Single birds June 24th, July 22nd. Autumn movement from August 12th to September 30th, especially August 19th to 31st (forty 19th, at least seventy-five 22nd, thirty-five 25th). These are the largest numbers yet recorded.

Muscicapa hypoleuca. **Pied Flycatcher.** (4).

One April 13th, and one May 13th. Seen on many days between August 14th and September 30th, with maxima of twelve August 22nd and fourteen 23rd. The correspondence in movements of the two flycatchers this autumn was marked, though the numbers of Pied were well below those of Spotted.

Regulus regulus. **Goldcrest.**

From one to three on eight days between March 20th and April 5th. One April 29th. Small numbers almost daily from August 30th to end of season, nine October 14th the most.

Regulus ignicapillus. **Firecrest.**

One seen March 11th, 12th and 15th. There are no reliable published records.

Phylloscopus collybita. **Chiffchaff.** (13).

On passage in spring from March 22nd to May 4th, being seen on most of the intervening days: most numerous March 29th (about thirty) and April 15th. One July 2nd and 3rd. One August 2nd and 3rd. Seen subsequently, in small numbers, on at least six days in August, and a few in early September, though on many occasions adequate distinctions between this species and the Willow Warbler could not be drawn. From September 22nd to October 9th, however, the Chiffchaff was predominant, very few Willow Warblers being seen. Largest numbers recorded not less than 120 October 1st and about twenty-five September 24th. Several stragglers later in October, to 24th. One trapped October 1st was of the Scandinavian form *abietinus* (wing 66 mm.).

Phylloscopus trochilus. **Willow Warbler.** (69).

One, very probably two, pairs bred Millcombe. First seen March 26th, and then on most days from 29th to May 17th, with 'peaks' April 13th to 15th and 29th, but never numerous. Autumn movement first evident July 22nd, continuing to September 26th (and perhaps later, though none identified) but only plentiful from August 20th to September 1st (at least 100 22nd and 24th, eighty 25th).

Phylloscopus sibilatrix. **Wood Warbler.** (1).

One seen May 4th. One trapped August 29th.

Phylloscopus inornatus. **Yellow-Browed Warbler.**

One seen October 6th and 7th. The first autumn record, but there is one, apparently unpublished, of a bird seen by F. W. Gade on April 26th, 1944 at very close range.

Locustella naevia. **Grasshopper Warbler.** (1).

Single birds seen May 1st, July 25th, October 1st and 2nd, one trapped October 4th.

Acrocephalus scirpaceus. **Reed Warbler.**

One seen October 16th and 18th, a late occurrence.

Acrocephalus schænobænus. **Sedge Warbler.** (1).

On passage in both spring and autumn, but, unlike 1948, numbers in spring exceeded those in autumn. On eighteen days between April 15th and May 26th, more especially May 4th to 18th, about ten May 17th the most. Autumn records widely scattered: on twenty days from August 4th to October 8th, four August 24th the most seen.

Acrocephalus paludicola. **Aquatic Warbler.**

Two seen September 15th. An addition to the island list.

Hippolais icterina. **Icterine Warbler.** (1).

One trapped August 28th. One seen October 16th, 17th, 23rd and 26th (the same individual on all these dates), an exceptionally late bird. Another addition to the list.

Sylvia nisoria. **Barred Warbler.**

One, apparently immature, seen October 10th. Again an addition.

Sylvia borin. **Garden Warbler.**

One seen May 12th, two 17th, one singing 21st. Single birds seen September 8th, 15th (and another trapped), 22nd, 24th, 26th, 27th, October 5th, 9th, and 15th.

Sylvia atricapilla. **Blackcap.**

Single birds seen April 13th, 14th, 18th, May 4th. One September 22nd, two October 4th and 12th, one 13th and 14th.

Sylvia communis. **Whitethroat.** (16).

First seen April 18th. Again 19th, and then on eighteen days from 27th to May 21st (at least twenty-five May 11th, eighteen 12th and 15th). Subsequently seen or heard at intervals through summer (four July 5th) but no evidence of nesting. Autumn passage from August 12th to October 14th, principal movements August 24th (at least fifty), 25th and 30th, September 1st, 15th (at least thirty-five) and 23rd.

Sylvia curruca. **Lesser Whitethroat.**

One May 11th and 12th, two 15th.

Turdus pilaris. **Fieldfare.**

Two March 6th, one 7th, 22nd, two 23rd, one 24th to 26th. One or two April 11th, one 13th. One October 6th, about twenty 26th, and not less than a hundred 27th.

Turdus viscivorus. **Mistle Thrush.**

One October 14th.

Turdus ericetorum. **Song Thrush.** (1).

Breeding not proved, though may have taken place. Seen in all months, but few records in July and August. Small passage movements apparent in March and October.

Turdus musicus. **Redwing.**

Single birds March 8th, 9th, 14th, 23rd, 25th, fourteen 22nd. One April 10th. One October 5th, 6th, 7th, two 8th, one 14th, 17th, 24th, twelve 25th, about twenty 26th, not less than fifty 27th.

Turdus torquatus. **Ring Ouzel.**

In April: two 1st, one 5th, 7th, 8th, three 9th, eighteen 10th (the most yet recorded). One May 7th. Seen on ten days in September from 14th onwards, and twelve days in October up to 19th. The most seen in autumn seven September 30th.

Turdus merula. **Blackbird.**

Size of breeding population not known, but no indication of change. Clear evidence of passage in March and from September 23rd to October 7th, and perhaps later. At least thirty seen September 23rd and October 4th, over twenty on several occasions.

Ænanthe ænanthe. **Wheatear.**

At least six pairs bred, the most noted since 1934. First seen March 19th and the spring passage lasted until May 20th, with birds most plentiful on March 29th, April 11th and 29th, May 4th and 7th to 12th. Many of those seen in May were ascribed to the race *leucorrhœa* (one found dead May 14th was definitely of this form), and several observed in the second week of June were also of this race. Autumn passage from July 31st to October 14th, notably August 13th, 14th, 19th, 30th, September 1st, 12th, 17th, 18th, 26th. A late juvenile October 21st.

Saxicola rubetra. **Whinchat.** (1).

One April 30th, three May 3rd, two 4th, one 8th, two 11th, one 12th, 16th, 18th and 19th. One June 27th. On twenty-four days between August 16th and October 14th, principally August 16th to 29th and September 22nd to October 1st. Four September 15th and 23rd the most.

Saxicola torquata. **Stonechat.** (1).

Single birds seen March 9th, 11th, 12th, 18th, 20th, four 21st, one 23rd. Two April 29th. On twenty-five days from September 24th to end of season, ten October 1st and five 13th the most.

Phoenicurus phoenicurus. **Redstart.** (4).

Single males April 10th, 12th 14th, 15th. Two May 11th, three females 12th, one 18th. Single birds on ten days from August 14th to end of month, September 10th, 22nd, two 23rd, one 25th, 26th, two 27th, one 29th, one October 6th and 10th.

Phoenicurus ochrurus. **Black Redstart.** (8).

Spring passage : ten March 25th, four 26th, four 29th, two 30th, one 31st, and single birds April 1st, 4th, 7th, 14th. These dates correspond very closely with those recorded by R. Perry in 1939. Autumn records all October : one 1st, 4th, 6th, 10th, four 13th, two 14th, one 15th, two 16th, one 17th, 19th, two 24th, one 27th.

Luscinia svecica. **Bluethroat.**

One seen September 14th, and another October 20th and 22nd. Not previously recorded.

Erithacus rubecula. **Robin.** (2).

Number of breeding birds not known. Birds on passage noted March 26th (at least fifteen seen), 30th and 31st, probably August 14th, and October 1st and following days. Few seen after October 9th.

Prunella modularis. **Hedge Sparrow.**

Four, perhaps five, pairs believed to have bred east side. Very few records from mid-June to late September. Some indications of passage or immigration in October.

Troglodytes troglodytes. **Wren.** (4).

Size of breeding population not known. Though no nests found on west side probably several pairs breeding there, so that restriction to east side recorded last year may be incorrect. Immigration or passage evident in first and third weeks of October.

Hirundo rustica. **Swallow.**

One seen March 22nd, next seen 30th and subsequently recorded on all but eight days to July 7th, usually in small numbers, but plentiful on April 9th, 11th, 17th to 20th, 21st, 26th, 29th, May 8th to 14th (especially 10th), 28th, 30th and 31st. A few seen on eight days from July 9th (first juvenile) to 22nd, ten days in August and first three days of September, but not at all numerous until September 7th. Subsequently almost daily until end of season, and abundant September 14th to 18th (especially 17th and 18th), 22nd, 23rd, and October 17th.

Delichon urbica. **House Martin.**

First seen April 9th and then on most days to first week of June, generally in small numbers, but this species the predominant hirundine on May 6th and 7th. Seen a few times in later June, one July 6th, not again until August 19th. Subsequent records irregular, with numbers very small (twelve October 2nd the most), latest record two October 27th.

Riparia riparia. **Sand Martin.**

First recorded March 21st, subsequently on most days to May 21st, usually in small numbers, though hundreds April 20th. Noted irregularly in last week of May and first week of June, infrequently in remainder of June and July (about one hundred and fifty July 23rd). From August 9th seen on many days until September 18th, but only numerous August 13th and 14th. Single birds September 23rd and 24th, two 25th and one October 9th.

Apus apus. **Swift.**

First seen May 5th, then daily till 15th (twenty-five on that day the most). Two May 20th, 21st, 28th. Over twenty June 9th, about twenty 14th, one 20th and 22nd, 29th, about thirty 30th, then single birds or small parties on fourteen days to July 22nd (nearly forty 10th). No more until five August 12th, thirty or so 13th, one 14th, fifteen 15th, one 18th, 21st, four 23rd, one 28th and 29th, two September 1st.

Caprimulgus europæus. **Nightjar.**

A female June 11th.

Upupa epops. **Hoopoe.**

Single birds seen April 18th, 25th, May 13th, 22nd and 23rd (the same bird), and October 4th. Not recorded in spring since 1943 and no previous autumn records.

Coracias garrulus. **Roller.**

One, probably female, seen August 25th. The first island record.

Alcedo atthis. **Kingfisher.**

One August 20th.

Dryobates major. **Great Spotted Woodpecker.**

A single bird seen October 2nd, 4th, and 5th. Not only a first record for the species but apparently the first authenticated occurrence of any species of woodpecker. The bill was noticeably stout, and it seems likely that this bird was *D. m. major*.

Jynx torquilla. **Wryneck.**

Single birds seen May 11th, September 3rd and September 22nd and 23rd. Hitherto unrecorded.

Cuculus canorus. **Cuckoo.**

Two seen April 14th the first of the year. Subsequently recorded on many days until August, and some remained to breed. First juvenile seen July 14th, and others on most days until August 24th, but three July 19th the most.

Falco peregrinus. **Peregrine Falcon.**

One or two seen at frequent intervals in all months, but no evidence of breeding.

Falco columbarius. **Merlin.**

Single birds seen April 4th, August 16th and 17th, September 26th, October 1st, 2nd, 10th, 14th and 16th.

Falco tinnunculus. **Kestrel.**

Recorded on two days in March, eleven in April, seven May, thirteen June, twenty-one July, twenty-seven August, twenty-four September, sixteen October. Not more than three seen at once until August 9th but then increased, reaching about fifteen on 13th and twelve 14th, declining to about four to end of September and reverting to one or two in October.

Buteo buteo. **Common Buzzard.**

Only two pairs nested (Tibbett's Point, Seal's Hole). Little seen in late March and early April, or in mid-October.

Accipiter nisus. **Sparrow Hawk.**

A few records, all of single birds : April 5th, May 14th, July 11th and 20th, August 15th to 18th, 24th, 27th, 30th, October 5th, 10th, 13th, 19th and 20th.

Ardea cinerea. **Common Heron.**

One seen June 26th and August 18th.

Cygnus cygnus. **Whooper Swan.**

The following record was made after the Observatory had been closed for the winter. Six seen for about two weeks at the beginning of November by F. W. Gade, Miss Mary Gade and others. Identified by the extent of the yellow on the bills of the two adults and the call on taking wing. They were seen on both land and sea, mostly on the west side. There is no other recent record.

Anser anser. **Greylag Goose.**

One seen on sea and beach September 9th to 11th and captured on the latter date. Its remarkable tameness suggested rather strongly that the bird was an 'escape'.

Anser albifrons. **White-Fronted Goose.**

A flock of eight seen October 27th.

Anas crecca. **Teal.**

Three March 10th and 12th, one September 15th, three October 27th.

Anas penelope. **Wigeon.**

One September 30th to October 2nd, another October 26th and 27th.

Spatula clypeata. **Shoveler.**

One March 31st to April 9th. Only one other recent record (two March and April 1929).

Melanitta nigra. **Common Scoter.**

A male seen March 16th.

Phalacrocorax carbo. **Cormorant.** (10).

Seven occupied nests Gannets' Rock. Seen in all months, but breeding birds apparently dispersed before end of August. Migrants recorded on several occasions : three April 9th, three 30th, twenty-six September 11th, twenty-three 14th, six October 9th, four 27th.

Phalacrocorax aristotelis. **Shag.** (10).

Breeding population 70—5 pairs. Dispersal of breeding birds almost complete by end of September. No certain records of birds on passage.

Sula bassana. **Gannet.**

Seen offshore in all months, though few records, and of small numbers only, until late June. Numbers much increased in the first half of October.

Puffinus puffinus. **Manx Shearwater.** (10).

Little studied, and no new evidence relating to breeding. First heard night of March 16th, last heard September 26th (both records by keepers of North Light). Large numbers seen offshore in daytime June 9th to 12th (several thousand), and June 30th to July 3rd, c. fifty August 27th and forty September 2nd.

Fulmarus glacialis. **Fulmar.** (1).

Attempted breeding at the same sites (Jenny's Cove and Gannets' Rock) as used last year. Number of eggs laid at the former not determined; one chick seen, but this disappeared before mid-August. At Gannets' Rock at least five eggs laid, but only one chick thought to have flown. Latest record of an adult August 30th. Largest number of adults definitely recorded forty-nine April 26th.

In the account of the status of the Fulmar in last year's report the classification of colour phases into four groups was erroneously ascribed to Roberts. It is in fact a modification of Roberts' scheme due to Fisher.

A dark bird was again present at Gannets' Rock. It was uniformly grey-brown, save only for a lighter patch on the upper wing coverts. This makes its identity with the dark bird of last year doubtful.

Podiceps ruficollis. **Little Grebe.**

One found in engine-room of North Light October 15th. There are, apparently, no other recent records.

Columba palumbus. **Wood Pigeon.**

One pair nested. Seen, rather infrequently, in all months except October (September 24th latest date). On June 10th a flock of six were seen flying north from North East Point, but there were no other records of movements.

Columba aenas. **Stock Dove.**

One March 27th. There are only two other recent records.

Streptopelia turtur. **Turtle Dove.**

First seen May 9th. One or two seen on two other days in May, six days in June (three on 19th), two in July, three in August (three on 23rd), and nine in September, the latest being one 26th.

Limosa lapponica. **Bar-Tailed Godwit.**

One over the island September 22nd.

Numenius arquata. **Common Curlew.**

One pair bred : nest not found but young seen. Noted frequently in all months, usually in small numbers, but more plentiful in late June and July. Largest monthly figures : five March 26th, five April 10th, six May 1st, about forty June 27th, at least forty-two July 5th, twenty August 13th, twenty-five September 4th, seven October 3rd.

Numenius phaeopus. **Whimbrel.**

First seen April 24th, then almost daily to June 3rd in widely fluctuating numbers, fifty May 11th the largest. Sixteen June 19th to 21st. Seen singly or in very small numbers on two other days in June, nine days in July, nineteen days August and six September (at least fifteen 4th). Latest record two October 8th.

Scolopax rusticola. **Woodcock.**

One October 14th.

Capella gallinago. **Common Snipe.**

Seen, usually singly, on five days in March, five in April, one May, two July, four August, three September (three on 14th), five October.

Lymnocyptes minimus. **Jack Snipe.**

One seen March 12th, 19th, 29th and 31st.

Arenaria interpres. **Turnstone.**

Three August 23rd, one 27th, seven September 1st, one 10th, three 11th, ten 13th.

Calidris alpina. **Dunlin.**

Seen only in May : two 8th, one 10th, twenty-four 11th, seven 12th, two 14th, three 15th, six 16th, one 22nd. The absence of later records is in sharp contrast to previous years ; presumably it was in consequence of the unusually dry state of the island.

Calidris maritima. **Purple Sandpiper.**

Four May 12th. One September 21st.

Actitis hypoleucos. **Common Sandpiper.**

One April 24th, two May 8th, one 10th. One August 15th, 19th, two 20th, 21st, one 24th, three 25th, 26th, two 27th, one 31st, two September 2nd, one 10th.

Tringa ochropus. **Green Sandpiper.**

One June 15th and 16th.

Tringa totanus. **Redshank.**

One seen April 5th. Three July 7th, one August 12th, 17th, two 23rd. Heard on several other occasions in July and August.

Charadrius hiaticula. **Ringed Plover.**

One September 6th to 13th.

Pluvialis apricaria. **Golden Plover.**

Three March 26th, one found dead April 14th, three April 21st to 23rd, fourteen 25th, single birds May 6th, 8th, 16th, 20th and 28th. One August 15th to 17th, twenty-six 24th, five September 28th, four 30th, three October 1st, one 3rd, eleven 4th, one 9th, eighteen 18th, fourteen 19th, twelve 21st and 24th, fifteen 27th.

The dead bird in April was *a. apricaria*.

Eudromias morinellus. **Dotterel.**

Eight April 14th, the fourth record for the island.

Vanellus vanellus. **Lapwing.** (1).

Six or seven pairs believed to have nested, though only four nests found. A flock thought to comprise the breeding population remained until the end of September. Seen also on passage, but only in small numbers. Most seen in spring about thirty March 6th, in autumn thirty-five August 28th.

Hæmatopus ostralegus. **Oyster Catcher.** (1).

No estimate of breeding population. Seen in all months. A flock of fifteen April 4th the largest noted.

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

Three in landing bay September 10th the only terns seen from the island.

Larus ridibundus. **Black-Headed Gull.**

One June 8th, one 16th, two or three 20th, one 22nd.

Larus argentatus. **Herring Gull.** (217).

Seen in all months, but few in late September. First eggs found April 30th.

Figures for the breeding season population of this and the other breeding gulls are given elsewhere.

Larus fuscus. **Lesser Black-Backed Gull.** (2).

The principal nesting colonies were near Pilots' Quay and North East Point, both long established sites. There is no evidence of a change in numbers from last year so that the report of 'large numbers' breeding then given is incorrect and misleading. Seen only in very small numbers after the last week of July, though a few October records.

Larus marinus. **Great Black-Backed Gull.** (10).

Little change in population apparent throughout season, though the numbers seen in March were probably in excess of the breeding population.

Larus hyperboreus or *glaucoides*. **Glaucous or Iceland Gull.**

A gull flying past Puffin Slope on April 11th was of one of the white-primaried species, but from the view obtained it was not possible to determine which.

Rissa tridactyla. **Kittiwake.** (78).

Birds often seen at nest sites from early March, but nest construction not noted until May 9th. First eggs seen May 22nd (some nests then had two). First young seen on wing July 22nd. Latest nestling noted on cliffs August 10th, by which date the appearance of adults at the colonies were erratic. Few seen inshore after mid-August and hardly any in September, but large flocks (hundreds or thousands) some way offshore on September 25th and 26th, and October 7th, 8th and 11th.

Stercorarius parasiticus. **Arctic Skua.**

Two, of the pale phase, seen on crossing from Ilfracombe September 5th, by Mr N. J. Wadley.

Alca torda. **Razorbill.** (148).

No estimate of breeding population. First seen ashore December 19th, 1948, but not regularly until late April. First egg seen May 15th, first young June 22nd. Latest young left at end of July, and few adults seen subsequently, though odd birds seen inshore on a few days in September and October.

Uria aalge. **Guillemot.** (173).

No estimate of breeding population. First eggs seen May 22nd, first young June 23rd. Young all gone by July 25th and very few adults then still present. Odd birds inshore in August, but none definitely identified later.

Fratercula arctica. **Puffin.**

No estimate of breeding population, and little information recorded.

Crex crex. **Corn Crake.**

One seen May 5th, heard 8th, two seen 10th, one 16th. One seen August 30th.

Rallus aquaticus. **Water Rail.** (1).

One seen March 12th, the only spring record, but residents reported rails present all the winter. One or two seen most days from September 6th to 15th and again from October 1st to end of season.

Phasianus colchicus. **Pheasant.**

Two nests reported and one brood seen. At least three males and four females were present in mid-March. Nine August 22nd and 23rd the largest number seen.