

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF BIRDS, 1987

By
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The sequence and nomenclature follow those of *The 'British Birds' List of Birds of the Western Palearctic* (which follows the Voous sequence).

Note: "Lundy Rarities". These are species not classed as national rarities but very uncommon on the island (for further details, see the island log book). Records of them are only included in this report if they have been fully documented, with satisfactory substantiating details in the log book.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. Singles were seen on three days up to 2nd February. Two were reported on 7th March. An adult was seen on most days from 19th to 31st October and there were further records on 7th November and from 18th December to the end of the year. Two unidentified divers were reported on 20th May.

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. Present, breeding. Outside the breeding season, twenty were seen on 22nd December. A census in June revealed 257 adults and 162 apparently occupied nests. See Willcox, N.A. *Seabird Studies on Lundy*, p24 in this report, for further details.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*. Two were seen during the boat crossing on 8th August (R. Bower). The only previous records are of single birds in August 1970 and September 1973.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*. Presumed breeding. Birds were heard calling underground during the day on several occasions. Reported between 18th April and 8th August. Maximum numbers seen from the island were 500 on 25th May, 1500 on 6th June and very heavy northward movement on the afternoon of 13th July, with about 150 birds per minute flying up the west side. A bird of the Balearic race *P.p. mauretanicus* was seen during the boat crossing on 8th August.

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*. Recorded on nine dates between 17th May and 18th July, most birds being caught in mist-nets at night. The maximum was eight on 15th July and the total ringed was 33.

Gannet *Sula bassana*. Recorded regularly between 15th April and 30th October. Maximum numbers were twenty on 7th June, fourteen on 17th August, 60 on 14th and 40 on 21st September, and 20 on 21st October. Two were seen on 24th and 26th December.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. There were nine spring records between 15th April and 6th June, including sixteen on 21st April and seventeen on 6th May. Small numbers occurred on many days between 17th August and 29th October, with southward movements of 34 on 16th September and eleven on 11th October.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. Present, breeding. Maximum count outside the breeding season was fifty on 29th September.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. The spread of records was typical, with singles on 21st March, 28th May, 20th and 21st June and ten further dates between 4th July and 29th October. There were also groups of three on 12th July, 2nd September and 4th October.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*. One, first located at Quarter Wall Pond, was present from 29th May to 4th June (P. Davies et al.). This is the third Lundy record, following singles in April 1970 and April 1978.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*. One was seen flying over the south of the island on 21st May (B. Gibbs, M. Glover, G. Pope). A description has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee. If accepted, this will be the first record of the species on Lundy this century.

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*. One was seen in the Landing Bay on 16th November (J. Daniels). This is only the third occasion on which the species has occurred on Lundy, the previous being one in September 1959 and three together in June 1976.

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. One on 11th January (N. Willcox) was followed by two on Ponsbury on 8th May and again on 19th May (M. Cressell et al.). There are only four previous confirmed records.

Wigeon *Anas penelope*. One on 12th January was the only record. Usually there are several in a year.

Teal *Anas crecca*. Up to five were seen on eight days until 20th February. One on 30th September was followed by eight records in November and December, numbers increasing from one on 1st November to five by the end of the year.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. There were three on 19th and 20th January, one on 1st February, two on 6th March and a female from 16th April onwards. From mid May the picture was obscured by the escape of Mallard-type domestic ducks and ducklings, totalling about 30, on the island.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors*. A female was present from 13th (probably 11th) to 16th September (R. Castle et al.). A description has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee. If accepted, this will be the first Lundy record of this North American species.

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*. A male was seen on Ponsbury on 8th May (M. Cressell) and a female was there on 12th September (A. Halliday et al.).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. No island records but during boat crossings three were seen on 25th April and a male on 24th October.

Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*. An immature flew south over the island on 24th October (A.M. Taylor et al.). This is the fourth Lundy record, the previous ones being in July 1975, October 1981 and September 1983.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*. The only record was of a ring-tailed bird on 24th October.

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. One was reported on 10th April and a female was seen on many days between 16th April and 31st May. There were further records of single birds on 16th, 17th and 24th August, 2nd September and on many days between 27th September and 7th November, with two birds present on three dates in the latter period.

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*. One was seen regularly from 22nd April to 13th June.

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. One or two birds were seen on several dates in most months but there were none during March, November and December. Four were reported on 30th August and three on 4th and 6th September.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*. One on 4th April was the only spring record. One or two were seen on most days from 26th September to 28th October.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*. Single birds were seen on 16th and 29th April, 9th May and 5th and 17th October. The spring dates are typical but the autumn ones are later than usual.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*. One or two birds present throughout the year, with three or four on four dates in spring and four on 25th October.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*. Up to three were present in January and February, two remaining into March and one until 17th April. One or two were recorded from 6th October until the end of the year and one was found dead on 25th October.

Corncrake *Crex crex*. One was seen on 8th October near Quarter Wall (S.J. Hayhow and I.D. Smith).

Oystercatcher *Haemantopus ostralegus*. Present throughout the year. Breeding. The maximum count was twelve on 8th October.

Pratincole *Glareola* sp. An unidentified Pratincole was seen being chased by two Peregrines over the south end of the island on 1st May (C. McShane, K. Mitchell et al.). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee. A Pratincole has occurred on Lundy once previously, a Collared Pratincole *G. pratincola* in February and March 1945.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. One on 25th May and two on 2nd July, including one juvenile, were followed by records on ten days between 25th August and 18th September, all of single birds apart from three on 29th August and two on 7th September.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*. In spring there were six on 16th April and two on 24th May, one remaining on 25th. In autumn two juveniles were present from 25th to 30th August, one remaining until 7th September.

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*. More commonly seen than in 1986, with records in all months except July and December. Peak numbers were ten on 16th February, eighteen on 17th March, nineteen on 20th April and twenty on 7th October. See Table 1.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. Two were seen on 8th May.

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. Present throughout the year. Breeding. Peak numbers were 40 on 12th January, 30 on 20th March, twenty on 17th August. Mainly only one or two from September onwards, but seven on 24th November.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*. One on 12th and 13th September: typical dates for this species.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*. There was a total of eight records in the first four months and two in October. Most were of single birds but there were two on 3rd March and 21st April.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. The spread of records was typical. There were seven in spring between 16th April and 5th June, including two birds together on 22nd and 24th May. Then one or two were seen on many days between 27th July and 23rd October, higher numbers being three on 2nd, 3rd and 29th August and six on 9th August.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*. Three were seen on 17th April, one remaining until 19th. The species is uncommon on Lundy and most previous records have been in autumn.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*. One was seen on 14th and 19th March. Unusually, there were no autumn records.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. There were regular sightings early in the year, the maximum being nine on 7th January, declining to occasional singles in March. There were more in April again, with peaks of five on 15th and 25th. The last spring record was one on 2nd May. After two singles in July they became more regular until from late September to the end of the year there were almost daily observations. Peak numbers were five on 27th and 30th September, eight on 31st October, ten on 4th December and twenty on 23rd December. See Table 1.

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*. One was seen regularly until 20th March. There were two on 2nd January and an influx in snowy weather on 15th January when eight were recorded, some of which remained for a few days. There was one, sometimes two, from 17th October to 4th December.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Two were seen on 21st April.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*. Spring passage started with two on 16th April. There were almost daily sightings until 20th May but numbers remained low, with five on 7th May being the maximum. Thereafter there was one on 29th May and seven on 24th June. There were nine records in the next two months, including four birds on 28th July, and then sixteen on 18th September and a last single on 28th September. See Table 1.

Curlew *Numenius arquata*. Occasional sightings early in the year included 34 on 25th and 26th January and 36 on 20th February. In March there were just two on 25th, then one through April. In early May numbers increased to a peak of eight on

8th. One appears to have stayed from then on, being joined by another four by the end of July. Occasional high counts among the scattered subsequent records included 40 on 16th August, 33 on 9th and 44 on 21st September and 45 on 1st October. Numbers then diminished until one remained through late October and November. 22 arrived on 22nd December. See Table 1.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Two on 21st and one on 25th and 26th April were the only spring records. There were then singles on 17th and 31st July, 21st August and 20th October.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. Single birds were seen on 16th April, 22nd July, 17th August and 29th December. Three arrived on 22nd August. Most of these records are typical for the species but the December one is unprecedented.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*. Single birds were seen on 30th August and 6th September.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*. In spring there were single birds on 16th April and 1st May. There were then singles on 14th, 19th and 21st July, 16th and 18th August and 26th September.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*. As usual, records were widely scattered, largest numbers being six on 5th February, five on 2nd March, three on 20th May and three on 9th October. The species was also recorded in January, September and December.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*. One was seen during the boat crossing on 21st August.

Little Gull *Larus minutus*. An adult was seen flying south down the east side of the island on 5th October (R.J. Campey and K. Mortimer). There have been four previous records, all in autumn.

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. There were six records up to 2nd May, including 30 on 15th January and five on 6th February. There were a further ten records between 14th July and 11th October, mainly involving ones and twos but with 28 on 19th August and nine on 11th October. There were up to three present between 1st and 6th December.

Common Gull *Larus canus*. The only reports were of twelve on 13th and 30 on 15th January. This unusually large group coincided with a similar influx of Black-headed Gulls and followed snow on 14th.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*. Breeding. Groups of 114 on 17th September and 150 on 13th October were reported.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*. Breeding. No counts.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*. Breeding. Groups of about 60 were reported on 1st and 22nd October.

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. Breeding. Counts included 67 passing in three hours on 21st October and 400 on 22nd December. See Willcox, N.A. *Seabird Studies on Lundy*, p24 in this report, for details of recent census work.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*. One was seen on 5th June and three on 16th July were fishing off the North End.

Common or Arctic Tern *Sterna hirundo* or *S. paradisea*. Twelve were seen flying east on 20th April. An unidentified tern was reported on 1st October.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*. Breeding. Seen visiting breeding ledges from early January onwards. See Willcox, N.A. *Seabird Studies on Lundy*, p24 in this report, for details of recent census work.

Razorbill *Alca torda*. Breeding. Small numbers occasionally recorded offshore from October onwards. See Willcox, N.A. *Seabird Studies on Lundy*, p24 in this report, for details of recent census work.

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*. Recorded from 31st March to 25th July. Presumed breeding. A count of 30 was made on 21st May. See Willcox, N.A. *Seabird Studies on Lundy*, p24 in this report, for details of recent census work.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*. Two on 15th April and one from 23rd to 29th October were the only records.

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*. Numbers were higher than usual early in the year, with many sightings of up to ten birds in the first four months. There was an increase in late May to 21 birds on 24th, with fourteen on 27th. From June to September the maximum was five. Evidence of breeding was found in the form of a recently hatched egg shell on 16th August. In the last three months of the year there were occasional records of single birds.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. The first was seen on 6th April. Numbers gradually built up to a peak of fourteen on 25th to 27th May but from 8th June onwards there were only occasional singles to the end of July and again on 2nd, 3rd and 23rd September. See Table 1.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*. Spring records were from 17th April to 18th June, peaks being three on 28th April, six on 9th, 17th and 31st May and seven on 22nd May and 4th June. Later there were singles on 1st to 4th and 16th July and 30th August and two on 31st August and 19th September.

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. All records were of one or two birds only. They were seen on four days in April, the first being on 5th, and thirteen days in May. Singles were recorded on five days in June, up to 17th. The only later record was a juvenile on 28th and 29th July.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus*. One was seen in Millcombe on 16th October (S. Tanner and N. Trout). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee. If the 1986 bird is also accepted these will be Lundy's second and third records, in very quick succession compared with the 112 year gap since the first.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. Singles were seen on 3rd and 25th October. An unidentified owl was reported on 9th and 11th November.

Swift *Apus apus*. The first was recorded on 25th April. There were reports on most days from then until mid June, mainly of small numbers but with 100 on 22nd and 40 on 25th May. Scattered records, continuing until 2nd September, were in single figures apart from 24 on 1st and twenty on 3rd July. There were two late sightings: a single on 3rd and 5th October. See Table 1.

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*. One was seen on 16th May. In autumn, singles were present on most days from 19th September until 30th October, at least three individuals being involved.

Eastern Phoebe *Sayornis phoebe*. One was seen in St. John's valley on 25th April (C. McShane, K. Mitchell, A.F. Wood et al.). It was very probably also present in the same area and Millcombe on 24th. The record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee. A bird likely to have been the same individual was seen at Slapton, Devon, on 22nd April. If accepted, these will be the first and second records of this North American species — in the Tyrant Flycatcher family: not closely related to the European flycatchers — for Britain and Europe.

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*. One was in the Airfield area from 23rd to 27th October (N. Trout et al.). The record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee and if accepted will be the seventh for Lundy. Surprisingly, the first was seen as recently as 1972 and all the others have been in the last ten years. This year's was the latest date for the species on Lundy, the previous autumn records falling between 28th September and 16th October.

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. Breeding. Up to 30 were present in January and February. Few autumn counts were recorded but 100 were reported on 20th and 23rd October. About twenty remained in December.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*. The main spring passage was between 5th and 27th April. Numbers were much higher than last year, with peaks of 500 on 15th and 200 on 21st. There were then scattered records of up to six until 4th June, two on 21st June and scattered records of up to five from 18th July until the first significant autumn movement: twenty on 30th August. There were very few for most of September but 30 on 28th. The last was on 6th October. See Table 1.

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. The first were reported on 5th April, with main spring peaks of 500 on 15th and 200 on 20th April, 200 on 5th, 19th, 21st and 26th May and 1000 on 25th May. Numbers remained unusually high in June with 30 or more reported almost daily and 100 on 21st and 23rd. In July there were scattered records of up to five. Numbers built up slowly until from 14th September to 23rd October there were 100 or more on many days, the most being 700 on 28th September. The last were 34 moving through on 31st October. See Table 1.

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*. One was hunting in the Millcombe and St. John's Valley area on 24th October (B. & L. Tollitt, N. Trout et al.). The record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee and is the third island record, following those in March 1952 and October 1980.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*. Breeding. A small breeding colony was established on the South cliffs of Rat Island, where one half-built and three complete nests were seen being visited on 14th July. Two adults and four juveniles were still there on 29th September but there were no other observations of the site reported. These are the first cliff nests found on Lundy, although they were suspected in 1930. A pair bred on Paradise Row in 1981. The first migrant was seen on 4th April but records did not become regular until 15th. The highest number of the month was 25 on 19th. May peaks were 100 on 4th, 22nd and 28th, 200 on 15th. Up to 30 were reported regularly in June. August numbers remained at or below 25, apart from 100 on 20th. The main autumn movement was between 16th September and 5th October, with 100 or more reported on seven days, including 200 on 24th September and 600 on 4th October. Small numbers remained until 17th October and there were then 26 on 22nd and the last one on 29th October. See Table 1.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*. One was seen on 8th November. An unidentified Richard's or Tawny Pipit *A. campestris* was reported on 7th October.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Two to five birds were seen each day from 16th to 20th April. Other spring records were singles on seven days from 25th April to 17th May. Autumn records were between 17th August and 5th October. There were single birds on thirteen days, three on 19th and 21st August and two on 5th October. See Table 2.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*. Breeding. Two were reported on 19th February. The first spring movement noted was of 200 on 21st March and 250 were counted on 9th May. The largest autumn movement involved 800 on 5th October. There were four subsequent records of 200 or more in October and 30 were seen on 22nd December.

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. No complete counts.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*. Singles were reported on 30th April and 1st May, 18th July, 1st, 2nd and 17th October.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. There were fewer spring records of *M. f. flavissima* than usual: just five singles between 16th April and 25th May. However, there were singles showing the characteristics of *M. f. flava* (Blue-headed) on 8th and 13th May and two on 10th May, and another showing characteristics of *M. f. thunbergi* (Grey-headed) on 2nd June. After a single on 18th July, the main autumn movement was from 30th August to 18th September, the maximum being thirteen on 5th September but there were scattered records of up to three birds from 30th September to 30th October.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. There were none in spring. Autumn records were from 13th September to 29th October, from one to three birds being seen on most days. See Table 2.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. Breeding. There were records from 18th March onwards, with spring peaks of twelve on 4th and twenty on 16th April. The maximum reported throughout the next three months was five, but at least two broods of young fledged. Numbers rose again in August, reaching twenty on 31st. The main autumn movements were in September, with 30 on 2nd, 5th, 8th and 19th

and 50 on 4th. Up to ten birds a day, mainly in the second half of the month, were considered to be White Wagtails *M. a. alba*. There were up to five present throughout October but no reports after 1st November. See Table 2.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. No complete census.

Duncock *Prunella modularis*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. No complete census.

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. No complete census.

Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Singles were present on 17th April and 29th and 30th August.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*. Singles were seen on 13th January, 11th March, 25th and 28th April and 9th May, with two on 26th April. In autumn, one was seen from 5th to 10th October and one from 26th, rising to five from 28th to 30th October. There were another five singles to the end of November and two on 20th.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Spring records were from 15th April to 31st May. They were regular in late April, the most being three on 25th and 28th. May brought only scattered ones and twos. The first autumn arrival was on 21st August and records remained scattered and were mainly of single birds, except between 30th September and 6th October, with five on 30th September and 1st October. The last was seen on 24th October. See Table 2.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. In spring there were scattered ones and twos from 23rd April to 27th May, with four on 18th May. Autumn records were spread from 27th August to 23rd October and referred to up to three birds apart from five on 1st October. See Table 2.

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*. Two on 26th April were followed by singles on four days to 1st June. In autumn there were four on 1st September and scattered singles from 27th September to 23rd October, with two on 4th October.

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Breeding. The first spring arrivals were from 11th to 21st March, with four birds on 13th. In April there were between ten and 60 on many days and an unprecedented 200 on 16th. Up to 30 were present in May, with Greenland birds *O. o. leucorroha* on three days. Fledged young were seen from early June. The maximum count in August was eighteen. In September, numbers remained below twenty until 19th, when 200 arrived, followed by 100 on 24th. In October, numbers declined from twelve on 1st until there were only singles from 10th to the last on 21st. See Table 2.

Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica*. One was seen on the sidelands north of Jenny's Cove from 6th to 15th May (M. Gade and S. Wing). The record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee. If accepted, this will be the third Lundy record of this Mediterranean species. The previous ones were in May 1974 and June 1984.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*. One was caught and ringed on 15th October and remained in the Millcombe area until 31st (B. & L. Tollitt et al.). The record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee and is the second of this North American species on Lundy, the first having been found dead in October 1986.

Veery *Catharus fuscescens*. One was caught and ringed on 10th October and remained in the area of Millcombe and St. Helen's field until 11th November (J.M.B. King, B. & L. Tollitt et al.). It was extremely elusive for its first fortnight but then started feeding conspicuously in open situations and was seen by many hundreds of visiting birders. The record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee and is the first for Lundy and the second for Britain.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*. Spring records were restricted to 4th to 19th April with singles on five of these days, two on 14th and ten on 16th. One on 9th September was followed by singles on six days in late September and early October. There were then five records between 23rd October and 1st November, including two on 24th, three on 29th and four on 30th October.

Blackbird *Turdus merula*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. A count of 33 on 17th August is likely to refer to the resident population, while 100 on 20th October and 200 on 23rd October indicate passage. 34 were seen on 22nd December.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*. Reported regularly from the beginning of the year to 19th April, peak numbers being 40 on 27th January, twenty on 12th February and 7th March, 25 on 17th April. A late bird was seen on 28th April. After singles on 30th September and 15th October, there were reports on most days from 20th October to the end of the year. Peaks included 75 on 23rd October, 700 on 1st, 100 on 7th and 140 on 22nd in November, 150 on 1st and 200 on 4th in December. Later observations were all in single figures. See Table 2.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*. Breeding. Scattered records through January and the first half of February mainly involved one or two birds but there were ten on 28th January. In mid-April there was an influx peaking at 30 on 17th. A pair remained and probably reared two broods. Migrants in late October raised numbers to 150 on 23rd. 40 on 30th included some continental birds. Two or three were reported regularly through November and December, rising to six on 23rd December. See Table 2.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*. There were scattered records through the first three months of the year, peak numbers being 30 on 27th January, fifteen on 19th February and 60 on 7th and 50 on 14th March. There were six April records, mainly of singles, the last being on 15th. The first autumn arrivals were two on 4th October and from mid October onwards records were regular. Peak numbers were 1000 on 23rd October and 2000 on 1st, 200 on 5th and 7th, 90 on 15th, 80 on 29th November, 150 on 1st December. About fifteen remained to the end of the year. See Table 2.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. Singles were seen on 4th, and 15th to 17th April and nine passed through on 23rd October, when there were very large numbers of other thrushes too. There were a further three on 25th October.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*. Spring passage was between 13th April and 3rd May, with eight on 15th and four on 26th April and singles on five other days. The only autumn birds were singles on 4th and 10th October.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. The first spring arrival was on 17th April and peak numbers were 30 on 26th April and nine on 7th and seven on 18th May. The last was seen on 21st May. There were scattered autumn records between 9th August and 20th September, all referring to three or fewer birds apart from six on 22nd August.

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. In spring there were three records of single birds, on 27th April, 6th May and 6th June. Two caught and ringed on 21st and 22nd August were typical but the other autumn bird, caught on 29th October, was exceptionally late.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*. One was present from 16th to 21st September.

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*. One was reported on 28th July and 1st August, then two were caught and ringed, on 16th and 19th August respectively, and one was seen on 5th September.

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*. A male was found singing in lower Millcombe on 31st May and was recorded until 4th June (R.J. Campey and K. Mortimer). There were subsequent reports on 9th August (R. Bower) and 17th August, when it was trapped on the Terrace and ringed (R.A. Duncan), and 5th September. It seems likely that these refer to two individuals: one in May and June and the other in August and September. Descriptions have been submitted to the

B.B. Rarities Committee, which has so far accepted the 9th August to 5th September records. There has been one previous record of this Mediterranean species on Lundy, in June 1985.

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia corruca*. Between 17th April and 29th May single birds were reported on ten days and two on 7th May. In autumn there were five singles and three reports of two birds, between 7th September and 20th October.

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. In spring there were records on most days from 20th April to 29th May, mainly involving one or two birds but with more in late April, peaking at fifteen on 27th, and four on 7th May. One was then present from 18th to 26th June. Autumn records were spread from 8th August to 11th October, with reports on about half these days. Most involved up to three birds but there were four on 22nd August and fifteen on 2nd and twelve on 13th September. See Table 3.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. After the first on 24th April there was an influx of 30 on 26th. There were then scattered ones and twos until 25th May and again from 8th August until mid September. There were then almost daily observations until the last on 29th October, peak numbers being twenty on 29th and 30th September and ten on 5th, 7th and 20th October. See Table 3.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. The first arrived on 14th April and all significant spring movements were in the second half of the month, largest arrivals being twenty on 16th, ten on 24th and 150 on 26th. Scattered records of singles continued until 21st May. Autumn records were spread between 27th August and 20th November, main arrivals being twenty on 29th September and 50 on 20th and 23rd October. Significant numbers remained for a few days after these three influxes but otherwise there were reports of ten or fewer on most days of this period. See Table 3.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*. Singles were seen on 5th, 19th and 28th October, the first two of these being caught and ringed. The dates are typical for this species.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. In spring there were singles on 23rd, 24th and 27th April, 8th May and 20th June, and arrivals of eight on 26th April (coinciding with a major influx of Willow Warblers) and four on 6th May. In autumn there were singles on 20th and 21st August and 19th September and two on 22nd August.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. A wintering bird was seen on 6th to 10th January. The first spring observations were 50 on 5th April and further major arrivals in the month were 400 on 15th, 200 on 24th and 100 on 26th. There were records on most days of May and in June until 7th, involving up to five birds apart from twelve on 8th May. One was seen from 17th to 25th June, up to five between 28th July and 1st August and ones and twos from 19th August to mid September when significant passage began. Peak numbers were twenty on 15th and 100 on 28th September, 40 on 7th, 30 on 10th, 25 on 20th and twenty on 24th October. The last two were seen on 7th November. One bird on 25th October and two on 26th to 28th showed characteristics of the northern races *P. c. abietinus* or *P. c. tristis*. See Table 3.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Spring arrivals were from 5th onwards in April, with 100 on 5th, a massive 3000 on 15th, 800 on 24th and 500 on 26th. Apart from fifteen on 7th and 8th, May records were of up to seven birds and the last spring bird was seen on 5th June. One bird from 13th July preceded the first major post-breeding influx of 40 on 25th rising to 60 on 26th July. Subsequent peaks were 70 on 8th, 38 on 18th and 200 on 23rd August, 400 on 2nd, 50 on 7th and 30 on 13th September. There were scattered ones and twos in late September and to 6th October, then a final five late birds on 20th October. See Table 3.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*. Spring birds were extremely scarce, with only two on 7th March, singles on 12th, 16th and 27th April and three on 15th April. However, autumn numbers were high. The first arrived on 28th August. Major influxes included 150 on 15th and 200 on 25th and 28th September, 500 on 6th, 2000

on 11th, 500 on 14th and 150 on 22nd October. There were scattered reports of up to ten in November. See Table 3.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*. Singles were seen on 15th and 27th to 29th April. In autumn there were one or two on many days from 28th September to 31st October, with five on 4th October.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Breeding. After two exceptionally early birds reported on 12th April there were none until 2nd May, peak numbers being twenty on 14th, 100 on 18th, 25 on 21st and sixteen on 28th May. A pair reared two broods of young on the Terrace. The main autumn movements were between 8th August and 19th September, with peaks of 26 on 18th, 33 on 23rd and 25 on 30th August, 100 on 2nd, 30 on 8th, twenty on 13th and 19th September. The last five were seen on 5th October. See Table 3.

Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*. Two were present from 5th to 7th October, one remaining until 9th.

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. There were three significant spring influxes, involving seven birds on 16th, eight on 24th and 60 on 26th April, with smaller numbers remaining for a few days after each. Singles were seen on four days in May, 5th June and 13th August. There were records on most days from 29th August to 11th October, involving up to three birds except on 7th September when there were seven. See Table 3.

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*. One on 22nd October was joined by a second on 23rd. One remained to 30th October and there were further reports of single birds on 6th and 10th November and 23rd December.

Great Tit *Parus major*. One on 3rd October was the only record.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*. Two were present from 5th to 10th October.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*. A good year, in which seven different individuals appear to have arrived in spring. One on 26th April was joined by another on 27th, one remaining on 28th. There was one from 6th to 8th May and three on 9th, then singles from 19th to 25th May and 15th to 17th June.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*. One was seen on 15th May. A second shrike seen on the same day was grey but the description given would fit Lesser or Great Grey Shrike *L. minor* or *L. excubitor* and the likelihoods of the two species on that date seem similar.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*. One was seen on 25th April, two on 22nd May, one on 11th October and another on four days from 13th to 23rd December.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Flocks of up to nineteen were seen in October. Otherwise the highest count was eleven in mid August.

Raven *Corvus corax*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. The highest count was ten in mid August.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. 30 were counted in mid August and autumn migrants included 200 on 20th October and 1000 on 26th November.

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus*. One was seen on 2nd July, feeding with Starlings among sheep in St. Helen's Field (M. Gade). A description has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee. If accepted this will be the fourth dated Lundy record, following birds in June 1934, June 1979 and September 1983.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. Breeding: at least three pairs. Present throughout the year. No counts recorded outside the breeding season.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Breeding. Present throughout the year. Eight were counted in January. There were major influxes of migrant birds in late October, peaks being 4000 on 20th, 500 on 23rd, 400 on 25th and 1000 on 29th.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*. Three on 16th April were the only spring birds. A few passed through in late October, the first on 17th, then six on 20th, then singles on most days until four on 29th and two on 30th. Later there were singles on 7th November and 22nd December and two on 27th November.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. In spring there were one or two on five days between 21st and 30th April. After scattered singles from 2nd October, 30 arrived on 22nd October, fifteen remaining to the end of the month. Eight were seen on 13th November and three remained a further fortnight. A single was seen on 8th, 18th and 20th December.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. One was seen on 4th January. There were sightings on most days from 15th April to 1st May with peaks of ten on 26th and 28th April. One was seen on 14th and two on 17th May. Small autumn movements were recorded from 3rd to 28th October, peak numbers being four on 11th and seven on 23rd. Two were seen on 1st December.

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*. After singles on 4th, 16th and 17th October there were up to six on most days from 20th to 30th October but 60 passed through on 29th, among the large numbers of migrant Chaffinches. Five were seen on 7th November.

Linnets *Carduelis cannabina*. Breeding. There were no reports until 1st April. Numbers had risen to 50 by mid month, with 25 remaining on 23rd. There were 35 in mid August. Migrant flocks rose to 200 on 11th September. The maximum in October was 32 on 20th, declining to one by 30th. The last was a single on 7th November.

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*. Three arrived on 27th April, and there were two on 28th and one on 30th. In May there were four on 3rd and one on 31st. The only autumn bird was one on 3rd October.

Scarlet Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*. An immature was seen on 22nd October.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. Spring records, all in April, involved two on 5th, five on 7th and two on 15th. One was seen on four days from 7th November to 1st December. There is no previous December record of this species on Lundy but the other dates are typical.

Lapland Bunting *Calcarius lapponicus*. Two were seen on 11th September, rising to four on 15th, one remaining until 19th. There were then records on most days from 2nd to 31st October, peak numbers being ten on 8th and fourteen on 20th and 22nd, nine remaining until 28th and three on 31st.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. There were ten sightings from the beginning of the year to 21st March, mainly involving one or two birds but with six on 3rd March and four on 21st. In autumn there were almost daily records from 23rd September to 28th October, peak numbers being fourteen on 28th September and 1st October, then eighteen on 11th and 12th, sixteen on 20th and 27 on 22nd October. In November there were two on 1st and four on 7th and in December two on 1st and one on 16th.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. Singles were seen on 16th and 26th April.

Oortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*. One was seen on 9th May. There have only been four previous spring records, all in May or June. In contrast, autumn records are much more regular but there were none this year.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*. One was seen in St. Helen's Field on 25th October (A.H.J. Harrop). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee and is the seventh for Lundy.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*. A female was seen on 15th April. The only autumn record was one on 25th October.

LUNDY RARITIES: records rejected because they were undocumented or descriptions were inconclusive:

1987

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*. Two on 12th May.

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*. One on 19th April.

1986

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*. One on 17th October.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*. One on 5th May.

Little Auk *Alle alle*. One on 1st November.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*. One on 14th October.

Pallas's Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus*. One on 6th December.

The following species will no longer be classed as Lundy rarities from January 1988 since they are easily identified and records have become commoner recently:

Shelduck

Shoveler

Common Scoter

Richard's Pipit: as there have been at least 36 records on Lundy in the last 30 years, this species should not be classed as a Lundy rarity despite its omission from the list of non-rarities in the 1988 Log Book.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Golden Plover	0-2	0-1	2-0 2-3	1-4 3-9 0-7	0-7 3-6 3-5	0-7 1-0	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-4 0-7	4-9 1-6 0-4	0-3	
Snipe	1-8 1-6 2-3	0-2 0-8	0-3 0-2	0-5 0-8 1-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-3 1-6	1-7 1-1 2-5	1-0 1-5 1-4	2-0 2-3 9-6
Whimbrel				0-4 1-0	1-9 1-6 0-1	0-7	0-1 0-2 0-7	0-1 0-4	1-6 0-1				
Curlew	0-1 0-1 9-3	0-4 3-6	0-2	0-1 0-1 0-3	1-9 0-9	0-2 0-5 0-1	0-2 0-4 1-5	0-6 5-1 0-2	5-6 0-5 9-1	8-2 0-8 0-3	0-1 0-3 0-1	2-2	
Collared Dove				0-1 0-8 2-2	1-4 2-7 8-4	1-7 0-2	0-1 0-2	0-2	0-1				
Swift				3-5 2-6 18	0-5 1-9 0-2	4-5 1-1 0-6	0-2 1-3 0-3	0-4	0-2				
Sand Martin				7-2 85 24	1-1 0-2 0-7	0-5 0-2	0-3 0-2	0-2 1-3 2-1	0-9 0-4 3-6	0-5 0-1			
Swallow				2-5 91 52	6-0 17-0 17-0	4-1 19 3-4	5-6 0-6 0-2	1-9 2-9 1-2	5-3 4-9 2-4-0	6-8 7-1 3-2			
House Martin				1-1 9-4 6-0	1-7 3-6 5-0	1-6 1-3 1-7	—breeding	—18 1-1	2-8 2-9 5-7	8-3 3-1 2-5			

TABLE 1: WADERS, COLLARED DOVE, SWIFT AND MARTINS ON LUNDY, 1987.
(Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten-day periods, throughout the year.)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tree Pipit				1-4 0-3	0-3 0-1			0-6 0-5	0-3	0-3	0-3	
Grey Wagtail				1-5 6-6 2-2	—breeding			—2-9 6-6	1-0 0-8	0-4 0-4 0-6	0-1	
Pied Wagtail			0-3 0-5	0-4 1-1	0-4 0-2 0-1			0-5	0-2 0-5 0-6	1-9 0-2 0-2		
Redstart				0-6	0-4 0-5 0-2			0-2	0-5 0-3 0-7	1-6 0-7 0-2		
Whinchat				7-8 30 25	1-1 9-5 5-8	—breeding		—5-0 3-3	5-9 4-1 2-5	5-6 0-5 0-1		
Wheatear			1-3 0-2	1-8 8-6 0-1	0-1 0-2 0-4	0-7 0-4 0-1	0-1 0-1 0-5	0-2 0-5	0-1	0-2 2-2	9-2 1-4 2-9	5-6 0-9 0-5
Fieldfare	1-0 3-3 4-6	1-2 4-5 0-1	2-5 1-4 0-6	1-8 8-6 0-1	0-1 0-2 0-4	0-7 0-4 0-1	0-1 0-1 0-5	0-2 0-5	0-4 1-2 1-1	1-7 2-2 3-5	0-2 0-2 0-2	0-8 0-1 1-9
Song Thrush	0-5	1-4	0-3	7-2 0-5	0-1 0-2 0-4	0-7 0-4 0-1	0-1 0-1 0-5	0-2 0-5	0-4 1-2 1-1	1-7 2-2 3-5	0-2 0-2 0-2	0-8 0-1 1-9
Redwing	1-3 3-0 6-4	0-6 2-6 0-4	9-2 5-6 0-1	0-5 0-3						0-2 5-8 1-3-0	2-5-0 1-2 1-0	1-9 3-5

TABLE 2: PIPITS, WAGTAILS, CHATS AND THRUSHES ON LUNDY, 1987.
(Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten-day periods, throughout the year.)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Whitethroat				0-1 4-1	1-3 0-8 0-6	0-3 0-1		0-1 0-8 0-5	2-4 2-4 0-1	0-3 0-1		
Garden Warbler				5-0	0-3 0-2 0-2			0-1 0-3 0-3	0-6 1-9 6-4	5-2 2-2 1-0		
Blackcap				3-4 2-2	0-5 0-2 0-1			0-1	0-2 0-9 6-1	7-7 7-4 1-6	0-7 1-2	
Chiffchaff	0-4			9-5 6-9 3-8	3-3 0-7 2-4	1-9 0-4 0-3	0-9	0-3 0-2 0-6	0-6 4-3 1-8	1-2 6-8 9-3	0-2	
Willow Warbler				16 4-3-0 1-5-0	5-4 1-2 1-9	0-9	0-2 1-5	1-6 1-3 5-0	6-0 6-0 0-4	0-4 0-5		
Goldcrest			0-2	0-5 0-1	1-2 2-3 8-0	2-5 —breeding		0-4	8-0 3-3 8-4	2-8-0 4-3-0 4-8	0-1 1-6 0-4	
Spotted Flycatcher				0-2	0-1 0-1 0-2	0-1		2-6 7-0 1-1	1-7 6-6 1-3	0-5		
Pied Flycatcher				1-7 9-5				0-1 0-3	1-5 0-8 1-0	0-6 0-1		

TABLE 3: WARBLERS AND FLYCATCHERS ON LUNDY, 1987.
(Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten-day periods, throughout the year.)