

## **BIRDS ON LUNDY, 2005**

By

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### **REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

#### **Introduction**

As in the previous two years, experienced observers were on the island, providing thorough records in the log book of the numbers of birds seen, for most weeks through the main migration times, from early April to early June and from late August to mid November. At other times coverage remained patchy but Ben Sampson and James Leonard in particular helped to give an idea of the numbers of common birds present and were rewarded with some exciting rare species too.

The late publication of the 2004 report delayed the dissemination of the information given in it about the recording of rarities. It is worth re-emphasising that more background details are now required, in addition to descriptions of the birds, for records to be assessed at county level. These requirements are listed in the island log book. Unfortunately there are still some records which are rejected because of lack of information rather than probable misidentification.

The answer to last year's photo caption competition was Manx Shearwater: a Lundy chick still showing some of its down.

#### **Birds of 2005**

In the first three months of the year, the most unusual bird seen was a Slavonian Grebe in early Feb. Other more typical winter visitors included Great Northern Diver, with a high count of four on 28 Mar, Teal, Water Rail, Snipe, Woodcock, thrushes and Snow Bunting. The smaller of these will have been keeping a wary eye on the Hen Harrier and Merlin that were also present, in addition to the local Peregrines.

The first summer migrants to arrive were Sand Martin, Wheatear and Chiffchaff on 18 Mar, followed by Swallow, House Martin, Blackcap and Willow Warbler before the end of the month. After an uneventful first half of April, 14th to 18th produced

the first Cuckoo and Grasshopper Warbler and the peak movement of Chiffchaffs for the spring, as well as good numbers of Swallows. Then on 21st there was significant passage of Sand Martins and Willow Warblers as well as the first Redstart and Pied Flycatcher. In the final week there were first arrivals of Turtle Dove, Swift, Tree Pipit, Yellow Wagtail, Whinchat and Garden Warbler and peak numbers of Swallows, with an impressive 6000 on 26th, and Blackcaps, along with more Sand Martins.

No unusual spring species appeared until 7 May, when Nightingale and Golden Oriole arrived, followed by a Quail on 12th, Marsh Harrier on 15th and Dotterel, Hobby, Short-toed Lark and Woodchat Shrike in the second half of the month. Of the commoner species, Swallows continued to move north in large numbers, particularly from 8th to 16th, Swifts peaked at 500 on 9th, followed by 25 Sedge Warblers the next day, and Wheatears reached 100 on 11th. 16th was notable for 1000 House Martins and twenty Spotted Flycatchers. June's highlight was a Subalpine Warbler, found on 17th.

Among breeding species, the second year of Manx Shearwater success and the sighting of a Puffin chick were highlights. There was a hint that, like them, Storm Petrels might be taking advantage of the rat eradication programme too. In addition to the passerine species which breed every year, Swallows, Pied Wagtails, Stonechats and Song Thrushes maintained their recent runs and Goldfinches appear to have joined them. Offshore, the summer months produced large flocks of Manx Shearwaters, sometimes with numbers in the thousands and presumably consisting mainly of birds from the huge Pembrokeshire colonies. Less usual were some concentrated mixed-species feeding flocks of seabirds in late October, with counts of up to 450 Gannets and 60 Manx Shearwaters and an unprecedented total of five Balearic Shearwater records at that time. Arctic Skuas were also seen on 15 and 25 Oct and a Grey Phalarope on 27th.

Up to eight Crossbills in July and a Bee-eater on 17 Aug provided a colourful start to the autumn season of post-breeding dispersal and migration. They were followed in the last four days of August by two Ortolan Buntings, three Little Egrets, a Melodious Warbler and an eastern-race Yellow Wagtail. Several of the commoner warbler species and Spotted and Pied Flycatchers were also moving at that time. Then September produced three periods of particular interest. 11th and 12th saw the heaviest southward passage of Swallows, Wheatears and Willow Warblers. On 17th and 18th, a Wryneck, Icterine Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler and the first Siskin of the autumn arrived and Sand Martin numbers reached 200. Between 27th and 29th the quality was raised further by a Red-eyed Vireo, along with a Barred Warbler, two Lapland Buntings and the first of three autumn Scarlet Rosefinches, while Meadow Pipit numbers reached 1000.

October was more continuously eventful. The highlights of the first half were a Little Bunting from 5th, the first of up to four Hawfinches from 10th, a Dartford Warbler on 13th and a superb Red-flanked Bluetail - Lundy's first - caught and ringed on 14th. Departing summer visitors included up to 1000 House Martins daily in the first week, with Chiffchaffs and Pied Wagtails conspicuous among the other species at that time. Winter arrivals included the first Redwings and Fieldfares on 6th and 8th. Goldcrest numbers peaked at 300 on 9th and there was an unprecedented influx of Goldfinches with 450 on 12th and 300 on 15th, along with 1000 Chaffinches. On the following day, thrushes were more evident, with 90 Blackbirds, 300 Redwings and 60 Song Thrushes, but there were 1000 Chaffinches again, accompanied by 20 Bramblings and 300 Siskins. In the second half of October, a Richard's Pipit was seen on most days, with two on 18th, a Lapland Bunting appeared on 22nd and five Yellow-browed Warblers were ringed on 22nd and 23rd. Thrushes and finches continued to dominate the migrant counts, with twenty Ring Ouzels on 18th particularly notable, while up to 40 Blackcaps, further arrivals of Goldcrests and up to five Coal Tits added variety.

In November, thrushes were still much in evidence but, unusually, Redwings and Fieldfares were outnumbered by the 300 Blackbirds seen on 17th. Two Laughing Gulls, first reported on 9th, gave the island its second new species for the year. December began with four Whooper Swans on Pondsbury and finished with ten Lapwings, sadly notable as the highest count of the year for a species which used to breed on Lundy in significant numbers and migrate in much larger flocks. A Christmas day bonus was three Yellowhammers, with wintering Blackcap and Chiffchaff also present.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST

Note: in addition to species that are classed as national or county rarities, which require satisfactory substantiating details to be submitted to the relevant committees if records are to be accepted, there are others classed as 'Lundy rarities'. These are species that are common in mainland Britain but very unusual on the island. For further details, see the island log book. Records of them are only accepted if they have been fully documented in the log book or submitted to the Bird List Editor. Observers' names are included below for all species which are national, Devon or Lundy rarities.

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

### **Whooper Swan** *Cygnus cygnus*.

*Vagrant. Ten previous records, including parties of up to seven birds, with eight records between 1949 and '81, then small flocks in Nov 2001 and Oct '02. All were in Oct, Nov or Dec.*

Four adults were on Pondsbury on 3 and 4 Dec (C. Matthews *et al.*).

### **Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*.

*Vagrant. Twelve previous records, seven in spring, three in autumn, two in Jan.*

Three flew northwest over the island on 26 Sep.

### **Teal** *Anas crecca*.

*Regular visitor, mainly in winter.*

One, 29 Jan, then two, 1 to 6 Feb, and one, 13 and 14 Mar. In autumn, one or two on eleven days, 21 Sep to 26 Oct. Two, 24 Dec.

### **Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*.

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

Up to 13 resident birds in spring and 16 in autumn.

### **Common Scoter** *Melanitta nigra*.

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

Singles, 1 and 2 Feb and 5 and 6 May.

**Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*.

*Very rare visitor, with most records in spring.*

One was flushed from near the stone crusher on 12 May (T. Bedford and R.J. Campey).

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

*Occasional visitor, mainly October to March.*

Two, 2 Feb, then singles on 15, 18 and 31 Mar and four on 28 Mar.

**Slavonian Grebe** *Podiceps auritus*.

*Vagrant. Eleven previous records, six in Feb/Mar/Apr and five in Oct/Nov/Dec.*

One was in the Landing Bay, 4 to 6 Feb (P.A.T. Clabburn, S. Illsley *et al.*).

**Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis*.

*Breeding. Infrequent from October to February.*

No full breeding counts reported. Seen in all months, though only occasionally, with counts in single figures, before 13 Mar and after 19 Sep.

**Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus*.

*Breeding. Common between April and September.*

Recorded on many days from 28 Mar to 5 Sep, with peak counts of birds offshore including 1500 on 18 Jun, 6000 on 16 Jul, 12,500 on 22 Jul and 2000 on 19 Aug. Successful breeding was confirmed, with eleven large chicks found outside burrows in late Aug and early Sep. Later, after singles on 12 and 26 Sep, birds were seen offshore on nine days from 13 to 28 Oct, with a peak count of 60 on 19th.

**Balearic Shearwater** *Puffinus mauretanicus*.

*Vagrant. One previous record, in Jul 1959, of a bird seen from the island. (There have been several other reports of birds seen during boat crossings but these have not necessarily been in waters close to Lundy.)*

One was seen from the Ugly flying south, 19 Oct (A.M. Jewels, I. Kendall, P. St Pierre). Another flew south past the Landing Bay, 20 Oct (D.S. Flumm, P. St Pierre). Then a further three were seen moving south off the Landing Bay at different times on 21 Oct (D.S. Flumm *et al.*).

**Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*.

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

Three were caught at night on 27 Aug. One had been ringed on Bardsey

Island, North Wales, earlier in the month (see Ringing Report). Another had a brood patch, suggesting it had at least attempted to breed in 2005, though this might not have been on Lundy.

**Gannet** *Morus bassanus*.

*Common offshore, particularly in summer and autumn.*

Seen on many days from 17 Apr to 9 Nov, with occasional records of up to ten birds outside this period. Monthly maxima were 40 in Apr, 70 in May, 60 in Jun, 200 in Jul, 250 in Aug, 150 in Sep and 450 in Oct.

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Two on 23 and 24 Feb. Then seen on twenty days from 31 Mar to 21 May, with records totalling 113 bird-days. They included fourteen on 18 Apr and seventeen on 10 May. Six reports in the first half of Jul included twelve on 14th. There were autumn records on 22 days, 28 Aug to 26 Oct, with a total of 284 bird-days, peak movements being 49 south on 1 Sep and 98 on 12 Oct. - unusually high counts. Two were seen on 25 Dec.

**Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*.

*Breeding, present throughout the year.*

No breeding counts reported. Recorded in all months. Maximum in autumn was 68 on 28 Aug.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*.

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

Three were seen together on 29 Aug, with one remaining the following day.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*.

*Occasional visitor, most commonly in late summer.*

Singles on 10 May, 30 Jun and 1 Jul, then two on 4 Jul. Up to four were seen on four days from 23 to 31 Aug, then three on 19 Sep and one on 24 Nov.

**Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*.

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

A female was watched hunting in the Pondsburry area on 15 May (M. Sharp, A. Turner, J. Williamson).

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*.

*Occasional spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 28 Jan and 2 Apr, then one was recorded on five days from 5 to 18 May, with a second bird on 12 May. In autumn, single ring-tailed birds on 5 and 6 Oct and 20 Nov.

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*.

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

Singles, 1 Jan, 17 to 20 Apr and 9 May. An adult female was seen on 28 Aug, followed by a male the next day. After four further records of a female in the first half of Sep, one or two birds were seen almost every day from 17 Sep to 27 Oct, with a third on 10 and 15 Oct. Then singles, 5 Nov and 2 Dec.

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo*.

*Uncommon visitor.*

Singles, 12 and 14 May and 5 and 14 Sep, then two on 17 Sep.

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*.

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

Nineteen records from 4 Jan to 17 Apr probably refer to the same male bird. From 18 Apr, a second, female bird was also seen frequently until 12 May and occasionally to mid Jul, with the male present throughout. So an undetected breeding attempt is possible. A third bird was seen on three occasions from 17 Jul to 28 Aug. From then to the end of the year, one and sometimes two birds continued to be reported. They were joined by extra birds in mid Oct, with totals of four on 12th and 20th, eight on 18th and three on three other days in this period.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

A female was seen on 22 days from the beginning of the year to 13 May. One was reported again on many days from 18 Sep to the end of the year, with a second on eight days from 9 to 29 Oct.

**Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*.

*Rare visitor in spring and early autumn.*

One, 20 to 23 May.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*.

*Recorded in all months in recent years. One or more pairs have bred regularly since 1978, after being absent since the 1950s.*

Reported on many days throughout the year. Totals of three were recorded

frequently, four occasionally, with higher peaks of six in Sep and eight in Oct.

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*.

*Usually present in small numbers from September to April.*

One was found dead on 4 Jan. Then singles were recorded on 19 and 28 Mar and - unusually late in spring - 10 and 29 May. This secretive species has doubtless been under-recorded at times, but in autumn there were continuing hints of an improvement in the species' fortunes that seemed to start in 2001. Birds were reported frequently from 11 Sep to 21 Nov, with records totalling 102 bird-days. The highest count was six on 20 Oct. Up to three were reported daily from 24 to 29 Dec.

**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*.

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

Recorded in all months. From Jan to Jul, monthly maxima were between ten and twelve. Chicks were seen in mid June. From Aug to Oct, peak counts were generally between seven and nine but nineteen were seen on 20 Oct. After a lack of records from 28 Oct to 24 Dec, up to four were seen in the last week of the year.

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles, 21 Apr and 10 May, and two on 25 Apr. Autumn: between 29 Aug and 2 Sep, two records of two birds and two of singles, then further singles on 17 Sep and 5 Oct.

**Dotterel** *Charadrius morinellus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

One was seen in Middle Park on 19 May (J.W. Leonard).

**Golden Plover** *Pluvialis apricaria*.

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

Two, 2 Feb. Spring: six records, 28 Apr to 11 May, totalling twelve bird-days, with a maximum of four on 29 Apr. Autumn: one on three days, 2 to 8 Jul, then two on 16 and 20 Aug and one, 1 Sep. A series of records on most days from 20 Sep to 26 Oct, including 27 on 12 Oct, totalled 62 bird-days.

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*.

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

Singles, 3 Jul and 30 Nov, then two, 2 Dec.

**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*.

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

Singles, 12 May, 27 and 29 Jun and 12 Oct, then three on 16 Oct, further singles on 18 Oct and 18 Nov, ten on 28 Dec.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

Singles, 15 May and 29 Aug.

**Purple Sandpiper** *Calidris maritima*.

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

One, 25 Apr.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*.

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

Spring: after one on 23 Apr, five records from 10 to 16 May, including six birds on 11th and 13th. Autumn: one, 27 Jul, two, 2 Sep, then six singles, 10 Sep to 14 Oct. One on 28 Dec.

**Jack Snipe** *Lymnocyptes minimus*.

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

Singles on seven days, 27 Sep to 6 Nov.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*.

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

Eleven records, 28 Jan to 17 Mar, peaked at five on 29 Jan and three on 16 and 17 Feb, then singles on 2 Apr and 7 and 20 May. Autumn: one or two were seen on many days from 29 Aug to 10 Oct, then three or four on several days from 12 to 20 Oct, six on 26 Oct and fifteen on 9 Nov. Six further records of one or two birds to the end of the year.

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*.

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

One, 3 Jan, two on 27 and 28 Jan, then one, 14 Mar. Autumn: seen daily from 17 to 23 Oct, maximum three on 20th and 22nd, totalling thirteen bird-days. Further singles on 29 Oct and 15 and 17 Nov.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: fifteen records, 19 Apr to 20 May, totalling 24 bird-days, maximum three on 8 and 9 May. Then one, 16 Jun. Autumn: five records, 29 Aug to 9 Sep,

totalling twelve bird-days, maximum four on 31 Aug and 1 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Curlew** *Numenius arquata*.

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

Singles, 25 Jun, 1, 7 and 20 Jul and 28 and 31 Aug. Then four on 11 Sep, five on 14 Sep and two on 14 Nov.

**Redshank** *Tringa totanus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 26 Apr and 2 Oct.

**Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

One, 20 Apr.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*.

*Uncommon migrant, mainly in autumn.*

One, 2 Sep.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles, 25 Apr and 14 Oct.

**Grey Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicarius*.

*Vagrant. Twelve previous records, mainly in Sep or Oct.*

One was seen on the sea close to Rat Island on 27 Oct (J. Allen, M. James).

**Arctic Skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus*.

*Rare migrant, mainly in autumn.*

Singles, 11 May and 15 and 25 Oct.

**Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla*.

*Vagrant from North America. No previous Lundy records.*

A first-winter bird was present near the Church from 9 to 17 Nov. An adult was seen with it on 9th but then found dead near St John's on 11 Nov (P. Hamlyn, J.W. Leonard, B. Sampson *et al.*). These records have been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee.

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

*Uncommon visitor throughout the year.*

Two on 6 Feb, then singles on 11 May and 26 and 30 Jun. Two on 2 Jul, with one the next day, then three on 1 Sep and two on 16 Oct

**Common Gull** *Larus canus*.

*Uncommon visitor; mainly August to April.*

Two on 3 Jul and two on 16 Oct.

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

*Breeding. Scarce in winter.*

After one on 16 Jan, recorded regularly between 29 Jan and 7 Nov. Highest counts included 215 on 30 Jun and 120 on 21 Oct. Then up to fifteen in the last week of Dec.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*.

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

Present in all months. Counts included 500 on 16 Jan and 26 Apr, 300 on 16 Oct and 200 on 24 Dec.

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

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

Present in all months except Dec. Highest counts were 75 on 17 Mar and 83 on 9 Oct.

**Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla*.

*Breeding. Scarce in winter.*

Recorded throughout the year. Counts reached the 200 to 250 range six times in the first three months. No breeding counts reported. After few records of small numbers in Sep and early Oct, flocks were feeding offshore daily later in the month, rising to 500 on 25th. Just one was noticed in Nov. 150 were seen on 24 Dec, then smaller numbers to the end of the year.

**Arctic Tern** *Sterna paradisaea*.

*Rare migrant and summer visitor.*

One, 22 Oct. Eight birds seen on 1 Sep and one on 21 Oct were either this species or **Common Terns** *Sterna hirundo*.

**Guillemot** *Uria aalge*.

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

Reported throughout the year apart from the period from 23 Jul to 22 Sep. Counts included 130 on 6 Jan and 710 on 30 Jun. In Oct and Dec, many distant, offshore birds could not be distinguished as Guillemots or Razorbills, highest counts being 160 on 21 Oct and 250 on 24 Dec.

**Razorbill** *Alca torda*.

*Breeding. Uncommon between August and February.*

Reported throughout the year apart from the period from 23 Jul to 22 Sep. Counts included 100 on 16 Jan, 150 on 14 Mar, 300 on 20 Apr and 210 on 28 Jun. See comment on Oct and Dec records, under the Guillemot heading, above.

**Puffin** *Fratercula arctica*.

*Present in small numbers, April to August. Major decline in the last sixty years. Only occasional evidence of breeding since the 1970's.*

After one on 21 Apr, birds were seen on many days from 5 May to 26 Jul. High counts were nine or ten on five occasions and sixteen on 24 Jun. Despite these low numbers, the indications of breeding were very encouraging: birds were seen entering six burrows at St Philip's Stone in Jun and a chick was seen at the entrance to one of these on 13 Jul. In autumn, two were seen off Rat Island on 21 Oct and one on 24 Oct.

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

One was seen daily from 16 to 21 Oct, with a second on 20th.

**Wood Pigeon** *Columba palumbus*.

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

Recorded in all months. After a maximum of two until late Mar, numbers rose to five in the second half of Apr and six in May. In general, numbers then declined gradually to two by Dec, but there were occasional apparent influxes with counts of nine on 30 Jun, seven on 12 Oct and sixteen on 14 Oct, with some of these remaining for the next two days.

**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*.

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

One or two were seen on four days, 11 to 26 Mar. Then reported on seventeen days from 8 May to 13 Jun, with peak counts of seven on 22 May and 9 Jun. Then five further singles to 2 Sep and one on 14 Dec. (See Table 1)

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*.

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

Seen in spring only: singles on ten days, 30 Apr to 30 May.

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*.

*Bred in the past. No evidence in recent years. Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Singles on 14 Apr, 5 and 12 May and 8 Jun, then two on 9 Jun and one on 28 Jun.

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

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor.*

Singles, 16 Mar, 19 Apr, 16 Oct and 13 Nov.

**Swift** *Apus apus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant and summer visitor.*

Seen on most days from 24 Apr to 8 Jul. There was a big movement of 500 on 9 May, totals between 20 and 40 on four other days from 8 to 19 May and thirty on 8 Jul. Otherwise, numbers were mainly in single figures. Later there were four on 28 Jul and singles on 15, 23 and 30 Aug. (See Table 1)

**Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*.

*Vagrant. Three previous records, in May 1940, May '85 and May 2002.*

One was seen near Threequarter Wall on 17 Aug (I. Stone).

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*.

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

One was seen in St Helen's Combe, 18 and 20 Sep (J.R. Diamond).

**Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla*.

*Vagrant. Thirteen previous records, seven in spring and six in autumn.*

One was seen in the area of the rock crusher on 27 to 30 May (M.J. McGill, J.J. Squire *et al.*).

**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*.

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

Recorded as present in all months except Dec. Highest reported numbers included one on several days in Jan, fifteen in Feb, 40 in Apr, 61 in Jun, 30 in Sep, 35 in Oct.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*.

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

Spring: first seen on 18 Mar, with eight further records of ten or fewer to mid Apr. Then seen on most days from 16 to 30 Apr, with peaks of 100 on 21st and 30th, and from 8 to 30 May, with highest count 24 on 8th. One or two on four days,

9 to 16 Jun. Autumn: one on 28 Jul, then seen on many days from 23 Aug to 7 Oct. Peak counts included 25 on 31 Aug, 200 on 18 Sep and 20 on 23 Sep. (See Table 1)

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*.

*Has bred in most years recently. Spring and autumn migrant in large numbers.*

Spring: small numbers seen on seven days, 21 Mar to 5 Apr, then significant passage of at least 100 on 10 and 11 Apr. Seen on most days from 16 Apr to the end of May, with major movements including 1500 on 18th, 6000 on 26th and 1000 on 30 Apr, then 2000 on 8 May and 1000 on four of the next eight days. Small numbers remained through the summer, with breeding confirmed in the Church porch. Autumn: numbers rose to 70 on 30 Aug and birds were then seen daily to 23 Oct. Major movements in Sep included 7500 on 12th, 1200 on 18th, 1500 on 23rd and 3000 on 29th, and in Oct 3000 on 3rd and 2000 on 4th and 6th. A last single was seen on 25 Oct. (See Table 1)

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*.

*Sporadic breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: up to five seen on seven days, 21 Mar to 5 Apr, then seen on many days from 16 Apr to 19 Jun, with movements including 200 on 26 Apr, 800 on 15 May, then on the next five days counts of 1000, 500, 350, 150 and 150. In Jul, one was seen on 2nd and twelve on 8th. Autumn: seen on most days from 15 Aug to 18 Oct, with movements including 500 on 12 Sep, 100 on 23 and 29 Sep, then totals of 100, 1000, 1000, 500 and 500 on 2 to 6 Oct. (See Table 1)

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

*Uncommon autumn migrant.*

One was on the island from 17 to 27 Oct, with a second bird on 18th. Seen in a variety of areas from the Castle to the Old Hospital, but mainly on the Airfield. (T. Blunden, A.M. Jewels, I. Kendall *et al.*).

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: singles, 30 Apr and 7 May. Autumn: up to three seen daily from 28 Aug to 2 Sep, then singles on 11 and 20 Sep, three on 29 Sep and further singles on 30 Sep and 9 and 17 Oct.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*.

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

Reported in all months. Records included autumn passage involving 750 on 24 Sep, 1000 on 29 Sep and 3 Oct, 520 on 12 Oct and 340 on 20 Oct.

**Rock Pipit** *Anthus petrosus*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Seen in all months, with a highest count of 30 on 15 Oct.

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles were seen on 29 and 30 Apr and 8, 10, 12 and 30 May. The bird on 8 May was a male of the continental, blue-headed race, *M. f. flava* (T. Davis). Autumn: ten records between 28 Aug and 23 Sep, totalling fourteen bird-days, then one on 17 Oct and two on 20 Oct. A bird seen on 30 Aug showed characteristics of one of the East European or Asian races (A.M. Taylor, J.M. Taylor and R.J. Taylor). This record has been submitted to the B.B. Rarities Committee.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*.

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

Spring: five records of up to two birds, 7 to 18 Mar, then singles on 10, 17 and 27 May. Autumn: 23 records, totalling 31 bird-days, 18 Sep to 23 Oct.

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*.

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

Seen on most days from 7 Mar to 5 Nov. Spring: peak movements in Apr included fifteen on 18th, nineteen on 22nd, 40 on 25th and 20 on 29th. Birds showing characteristics of the subspecies *M. a. alba*, totalling eighteen bird-days, were seen between 17 Apr and 12 May. Breeding was confirmed, with birds seen feeding young in Jun and Jul. Autumn: peak movements included 20 on 11 and 13 Sep and 32 on 6 Oct. Birds showing characteristics of the subspecies *M. a. alba*, totalling 85 bird-days, were seen between 18 Sep and 28 Oct, with the majority being in late Sep.

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Present all year. The highest reported count was 31 on 11 Oct.

**Duncock** *Prunella modularis*.

*Breeding. Resident.*

Present all year. The highest reported count was 11, on 30 Jun and 12 Oct.

**Robin** *Erithacus rubecula*.

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

Present all year. The highest reported count was 60 on 18 Oct. This probably included migrant birds, given that most other counts in Oct were about 30 or below.

**Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*.

*Rare spring and autumn migrant.*

One was watched in St John's Valley on 7 May (A. Coughlan, T. Jones).

**Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus*.

*Vagrant from Asia and northeast Europe. Not previously recorded on Lundy.*

A first year bird was trapped and ringed in St John's Valley on 14 Oct (R. Castle, L. James *et al.*). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee.

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*.

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

Spring: one, 31 Mar. Autumn: after one on 4 Sep, birds were seen on fifteen days from 3 to 28 Oct, giving a total of 35 bird-days and maximum counts of five on 17th and 22nd. Then two on 6 Nov.

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.

*Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: singles on 21 and 24 Apr, then two on 27 Apr and further singles on 11 and 12 May. Autumn; singles on nine days from 5 Sep to 19 Oct. (See Table 1)

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*.

*Uncommon spring migrant. More regular in autumn.*

Spring: one on 30 Apr, then two on 9 May and one on 13 May. Autumn: after an early record of one on 3 Jul and further singles on 31 Aug and 1 and 5 Sep, birds were seen daily from 17 Sep to 1 Oct. This series totalled 42 bird-days, with peaks of five on 22, 23 and 29 Sep. Later, one was present from 17 to 21 Oct. (See Table 1)

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*.

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

After one on 2 Jan and up to three on four days in Feb, the Mar records were mainly of one or two, but ten on 12th and twelve the next day indicated some passage. From Apr to Sep, records suggest that two or three pairs were present and breeding, with young seen in Jul. In autumn, counts rose to nine on 27 Sep and 10 Oct, then from 15 to 20 Oct the records totalled 103 bird-days, with a peak of 25 on

18th, suggesting migrant birds. A scatter of fourteen further reports through late Oct and Nov, with the last on 28th, peaked at seven on 16 Nov.

**Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*.

*Breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Present on most days from 18 Mar to 25 Oct. Spring; the main periods of movement involved nine records of between 20 and 50 birds from 16 to 30 Apr, then records totalling 225 bird-days from 8 to 12 May, with a peak of 100 on 11th, and twelve records of between 20 and 30 birds from 13 to 26 May. High counts in Jun and Jul were fourteen and 20, and adults were seen feeding juveniles in late May and Jul. Reported numbers were lower again in Aug, with fourteen on 28th the highest. There were daily records throughout Sep, averaging sixteen, with peaks of 50 on 11th and 40 on 25th. In Oct birds were seen on most days to 25th but counts were in single figures apart from 20 on 16th, then ten and twelve on the next two days. A late bird was seen on 5 Nov. (See Table 1)

**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: one on 24 Apr and two on 3 May. Autumn: the highest counts for at least 20 years, with daily records from 16 to 21 Oct totalling 53 bird-days and peaking at 20 on 18th.

**Blackbird** *Turdus merula*.

*Resident, breeding. Common late autumn migrant.*

Present all year. Autumn movements included 51 on 12 Oct, 60 on 16 Oct, then seven counts between 25 and 50 over the next eleven days. However, the biggest influx was 300 on 17 Nov.

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*.

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

Thirteen records from 28 Jan to 5 Apr, with counts of twelve on 2 and 13 Feb but otherwise four or fewer. Autumn: very scarce in Oct, with just three on 8th, two on 16th and 22nd and one on 29th. Numbers remained low in Nov, with six records peaking at 20 on 14th and 15th and 30 on 17th. Five Dec records were of four or fewer. (See Table 2)

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*.

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

Seen in all months. Up to five were present before the breeding season, then at least one pair bred successfully and juveniles were seen in May and Jun.

Maximum counts in Jul and Aug were three and in Sep four. Arrivals in Oct included 20 on 5th to 7th, 60 on 16th and 17th and 30 on 22nd. Up to seven were seen in Nov and up to four in Dec.

**Redwing** *Turdus iliacus*.

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

Ten records from 1 Jan to 15 Mar, with a maximum of three birds. Autumn: in contrast to Fieldfares, birds were seen on many days from 6 Oct to 21 Nov, with main arrivals including 300 on 16 Oct, with 200 the next day, 90 on 22 Oct, 125 on 27 Oct, 150 on 15 Nov and 120 on 17 Nov. There were four records of one or two birds in Dec. (See Table 2)

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus*.

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

Spring: singles on 6 Mar and 22 Apr. Autumn: one reported on sixteen days from 7 to 28 Oct, then one on 15 Nov, two on 17 Nov and one on 24 Nov.

**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia*.

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

Spring: nine records from 16 Apr to 13 May, totalling fifteen bird-days, with a highest count of four on 9 May. Autumn: singles on 1, 19 and 25 Sep.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*.

*Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: nineteen records from 23 Apr to 27 May, totalling 104 bird-days. 75 of these were from 8 to 12 May, with a highest count of 25 on 10 May. Autumn: one on 28 Jul, then eleven records from 28 Aug to 25 Sep, with five birds on 30 Aug and 1 Sep, two on 11 Sep and the rest being singles.

**Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: singles on 26 Apr and 16 and 17 May. Autumn: singles on 28 and 29 Aug, 2 Sep and 15 Oct.

**Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*.

*Rare migrant, usually in autumn.*

One was seen in Millcombe on 18 Sep (J.R. Diamond).

**Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta*.

*Rare migrant, usually in autumn.*

An adult bird was trapped and ringed in St John's Valley on 29 Aug and seen there again the next day (A.M. Taylor, J.M. Taylor and R.J. Taylor).

**Dartford Warbler** *Sylvia undata*.

*Vagrant. Five previous records, Oct 1951, Mar '63, Apr '88, Oct '94 and Oct 2004.*

A male was seen above Pilot's Quay on 13 Oct (L. James).

**Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans*.

*Vagrant. Ten previous accepted records, the first as recently as 1985. Nine have been in spring.*

One was seen in Millcombe on 17 and 18 Jun (R.H. and L.H. Hurrell). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee.

**Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*.

*Rare autumn migrant.*

One was seen at Stoneycroft on 28 and 29 Sep (R.J. Campey, J.R. Diamond and T. Jones).

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant. Has bred.*

Spring: one on 11 May. Autumn: singles on 29 Aug, 18 and 24 Sep and 2 Oct.

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*.

*Sporadic breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: six records from 20 to 30 Apr, all of single birds apart from two on 25 Apr. Then seventeen records between 5 and 30 May, totalling 56 bird-days, with counts peaking at ten on 8th and 27th. Then singles on 9 and 26 June and two on 2 Jul. Autumn: thirteen records between 30 Aug and 1 Oct, totalling 31 bird-days, with counts peaking at nine on 24 Sep. (See Table 2)

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring: seven records between 24 Apr and 18 May, all of single birds apart from two on 17 May. Autumn: one on 29 and 30 Aug, then eight records totalling ten bird-days between 19 and 30 Sep, and two on 22 Oct.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*.

*Regular migrant, most numerous in autumn.*

Spring: five records, totalling thirteen bird-days, between 27 Mar and 5 Apr.

Then recorded on most days from 16 Apr to 20 May, with a total of 124 bird-days and peaks of twelve on 21 Apr and fifteen on 25 Apr and 8 May. Later, two males were recorded on six days from 27 May to 28 Jun, then one to 1 Jul. Presumably they were present throughout this time. Autumn: nine records of up to four birds from 14 Aug to 2 Sep. Then seen almost every day from 17 Sep to 29 Oct, with a total of 362 bird-days in this period and main arrivals of 21 on 24 Sep, 20 on 7, 8 and 15 Oct, 30 on 16 Oct and 40 on 22 Oct. Five were then seen on 6 Nov, three the next day and singles on 15 and 29 Nov and 25 Dec. (See Table 2)

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

*Uncommon autumn migrant.*

One was in Millcombe on 18 and 19 Sep (J.R. Diamond). Then one on 6 Oct, three the next day, one of which was caught and ringed, and two on 8th, in St John's Valley, Millcombe and St Helen's Copse (R. Castle, J. Horton and B. Sampson). One was in Quarter Wall Copse on 18 Oct (P. St Pierre), two in St Helen's Copse the next day (D. Flumm, P. St Pierre *et al.*), with one remaining there on 20th. Then on 22 and 23 Oct, five were caught and ringed in Millcombe and St John's Valley (R.A. Duncan, A.M. Taylor, J. Walshe *et al.*).

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*.

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

One on 25 Aug.

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*.

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

Spring: ten on 18 Mar, then 20 the next day, ten on 30 Mar and three on 5 Apr. Ten records from 16 to 30 Apr totalled 84 bird-days, with a peak of 25 on 18th. Birds were then seen on many days from 5 May to 8 Jul, with peak counts of twelve on 7 May, ten on 16 May, then five on several days in late May and Jun. Autumn: five records totalling thirteen bird-days from 15 to 30 Aug. Then seen on most days from 11 Sep to 29 Oct, with these records totalling 198 bird-days and with peak counts of ten on 11 and 17 Sep, 20 on 3 Oct and ten on the next four days. There were eight records of up to four birds from 5 to 17 Nov, then one on 24 to 26 Dec. (See Table 2)

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*.

*Occasional breeding. Common spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: two on 27 Mar, one on 30 Mar and six on 1 Apr. Then recorded daily from 16 to 30 Apr, with a mean of 37 per day and a peak count of 60 on 21st. Nineteen further records from 5 May to 10 Jun totalled 151 bird-days, with the main movements being 50 on 8 May, 20 on 10 May and 25 on 12 May. Autumn:

after 20 on 28 and 29 Jul and 50 on 31 Jul, there were four further series of records, likely to reflect observer presence rather than just bird arrivals. From 14 to 19 Aug, a total of 28 bird-days; from 28 Aug to 2 Sep, 75 bird-days, including 35 on 30 Aug; from 11 to 13 Sep, daily totals of 40, 35 and three; then from 22 Sep to 12 Oct, sixteen records of up to four birds, totalling sixteen bird-days. A later bird on 22 Oct showed characteristics of the subspecies *P. t. acredula* (D.S. Flumm). (See Table 2)

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*.

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

One on 4 Feb, then two on 6 and 24 Feb. Spring: recorded on eleven days from 12 Mar to 5 Apr, with a total of 62 bird-days and a peak of 25 on 19 Mar. Then ten further records of up to three birds, to 19 May. Autumn: five records of one or two birds from 28 Aug to 2 Sep, then seen daily from 12 Sep to 28 Oct, giving a total of 1394 bird-days and highest counts of 100 on 3 and 6 Oct, 300 on 9 Oct and 100 on 10 Oct. Up to two were seen on seven days in Nov and Dec. (See Table 2)

**Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus*.

*Uncommon migrant, most regular in autumn.*

Autumn: one on 5 Oct, then counts of three, two and one on the next three days. One on five days from 15 to 20 Oct.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*.

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

Spring: nineteen records from 7 to 30 May, totalling 115 bird-days and with peak counts of twelve on 15 May, 20 on 16th and ten on 26th. Then four on 9 Jun were followed by eleven scattered records of one or two to 19 Aug. The last of these referred to a juvenile, so it is possible that a pair bred on the island somewhere unnoticed. Autumn: 34 records between 28 Aug and 13 Oct, totalling 62 bird-days, with peak counts of 25 on 30 Aug and 20 on 6 and 7 Sep. Most other counts were in single figures and all in Oct were of single birds. (See Table 2)

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*.

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

Spring: three on 21 and 26 Apr and one on 24 and 25 Apr. Then one on 18 and 19 May and six on 20 May. Autumn: seen daily from 28 Aug to 2 Sep, totalling 59 bird-days and peaking at 20 on 31 Aug. Then four further singles to 21 Sep.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*.

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

Autumn: seen daily from 22 to 29 Oct, with five birds on 25th and other counts of one or two. Then one on 5 Nov.

**Blue Tit** *Parus caeruleus*.

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

Autumn: two on the very early date of 15 Aug. Then, more typically, singles on 17 and 27 to 29 Oct. One was seen on four days from 24 to 29 Dec.

**Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*.

*Uncommon spring migrant.*

A female or immature bird was in Millcombe from 7 to 11 May (T. Bedford, R.J. Campey, T. Jones *et al.*).

**Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*.

*Rare spring and autumn migrant.*

A female was in the Quarter Wall area on 27 and 28 May (M.J. McGill, J.J. Squire).

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Present all year. The highest count was 30 in mid Oct.

**Raven** *Corvus corax*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Present all year. The highest count was fourteen in mid Oct.

**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*.

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

Present all year. Most counts in Jan and Feb were 300 to 400, then 300 or fewer to mid Mar, then dropping to around 60 in late Mar and through Apr. Most counts through the summer were 30 or below, but 145 were noted on 27 Jun. By late Aug there were 80, then numbers in the 120 to 140 range in the second half of Sep, 200 on 4 and 5 Oct and 400 on 14 and 17 Oct. Later peaks were 140 on 27 Oct and 150 on 4 Nov, then 150 on 24 Dec.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*.

*Breeding. Present throughout the year.*

Present all year. The population was 400 in mid Aug.

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

*Vagrant from North America. Six previous records, in Oct 1985, Sep and Oct '88, Oct '90, Oct '95 and Oct 2000.*

A first year bird was in Millcombe on 29 and 30 Sep, then caught and ringed there on 4 Oct and seen again on 6th (R.J. Campey, T. Jones *et al.*). This record has been accepted by the B.B. Rarities Committee.

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*.

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

Present all year. A scattering of records through Jan, Feb and Mar gave a maximum of six each month. Numbers had risen to 16 by late Apr and 20 were recorded on 11 May. The few counts through the summer were four or fewer. Then eleven were seen in late Aug and fifteen in late Sep. There was significant passage from 5 to 29 Oct, with a total of over 5000 bird-days, peaking at 1000 on 15th and 16th and 500 on 23rd. A bird caught on 27 Oct had been ringed in Russia in Sep, giving an idea of how far some of these migrants had come (see the ringing report for further details). In early Nov, numbers were generally around 20 but 150 were seen on 7th. In late Dec, five was the maximum recorded.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*.

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

Singles were seen on 22 Feb and 28 Mar. Autumn: seen daily from 14 to 29 Oct, with a total of 117 bird-days and highest counts of 20 on 16th and 19th. Then two were seen on 18 and 20 Nov.

**Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*.

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

One was seen on 6 Feb and two on 28 Mar. Autumn: after one on 1 Oct, birds were seen daily from 9 to 29 Oct, giving a total of 144 bird-days with peaks of 30 on 17th and 33 on 20th. One was seen on 24 Dec.

**Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*.

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

After two on 31 Jan and one on 6 and 7 Feb, ten were seen on 25 Feb. Spring: seen on 29 days from 9 Apr to 23 May, giving a total of 121 bird-days, with peaks of twelve on 20 Apr and ten on 24 to 26 Apr. Occasional reports of up to three from 9 Jun to 29 Jul, followed by a record of an adult feeding a fledgling on 16 Aug, suggest breeding on the island. From mid Aug there were records on most days to 22 Nov. Peak counts during this time included 24 on 10 and 11 Sep, then

rose to unprecedented levels with 150 on 8 Oct, 450 on 12 Oct and 300 on 15 Oct. Numbers then declined gradually, reaching 40 on 29 Oct and levelling off at about eight through Nov. Two were seen on 27 and 28 Dec.

**Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*.

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

Spring: singles on 30 Mar and 29 and 30 Apr. Autumn: one on 17 Sep, then two on four days from 19 to 29 Sep. From 5 to 29 Oct there was a large influx totalling about 2000 bird-days, with peak counts of 300 on 16 and 19 Oct and 250 on 23 Oct. Then five on 6 Nov and one on 10 Nov.

**Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina*.

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

Recorded from 6 Feb to 17 Nov, with counts including 80 from 26 to 28 Apr, 74 on 29 Jun, 100 on 29 Jul, and peaks in autumn, probably including migrants, of 160 on 21 Sep, 350 on 8 Oct and 240 on 12 Oct.

**Redpoll** *Carduelis cabaret*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

Spring: two on 25 Apr, singles on 8 and 12 May, then two and three on 13 and 14 May. Autumn: one on 19 and 20 Sep, then eleven records from 7 to 26 Oct, totalling 26 bird-days, the highest count being eight on 8 Oct.

**Common Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra*.

*Uncommon summer and autumn visitor.*

One was seen on 13 Jul, then from 16 to 24 Jul there were seven further records totalling 26 bird-days, with a peak of eight on 20th. One was found dead on 16 Jul. From 16 Aug to 2 Sep there were eight records of a single female or immature bird, then a male on 20 Oct.

**Scarlet Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*.

*Rare spring and autumn migrant.*

A first-year bird was in Millcombe from 29 Sep (T. Davis, T. Jones *et al.*). It was joined by a second on 2 Oct (S. Beavan, C. Matthews *et al.*), both remaining until 4 Oct. Both were caught and ringed. An unringed bird was then seen on 9 Oct (L. James).

**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*.

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

A female was seen on 27 and 29 Oct.

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.

*Rare visitor; Apr to Nov.*

One on 10 Oct was followed by four on 15 Oct, three remaining to 21st and one on 22nd. Then one on 29 Oct. One that was caught and ringed had very large measurements, suggesting continental origin.

**Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*.

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

One was seen near Halfway Wall on 20 Sep (J.R. Diamond), then two on 27 Sep, in the same area and in St Helen's Field, where one remained on 29th (R.J. Campey, J.R. Diamond, T. Davis). One was seen near Halfway Wall and then flying south on 22 Oct (D.S. Flumm, A.M. Jewels, I. Kendall *et al.*).

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*.

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

Singles on 13 Jan and 5 Feb, then two on 14 Mar. Autumn: 27 records from 27 Sep to 9 Nov, totalling 41 bird-days and with a peak count of four on 16 Oct.

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella*.

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

Three were seen on 25 Dec and one on 27 Dec.

**Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*.

*Rare migrant, mainly in autumn.*

Two were seen at Quarter Wall on 28 Aug (A.M. Taylor, J.M. Taylor and R.J. Taylor).

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*.

*Vagrant. Twelve previous records, one in spring and eleven in late autumn.*

One was seen at the stone crusher on 5 Oct, then near the Old Light on 8 and 9 Oct (S. Beavan, R. Castle, J. Horton *et al.*). One at the stone crusher on 17 Oct was thought to be the same bird (G. Knass).

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*.

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

One was seen on seven days from 12 to 20 Oct, then two on 22 Oct.

## LUNDYRARITIES

Records rejected because they were undocumented or descriptions inconclusive.

Eider <i>Somateria mollissima</i>	One, 22.11.05
Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	One, 15.11.05
Blyth's Pipit <i>Anthus godlewskii</i>	One, 11.5.05
Red-breasted Flycatcher <i>Ficedula parva</i>	One, 23 and 26.10.05
Red-backed Shrike <i>Lanius collurio</i>	One, 12.6.05
Great Grey Shrike <i>Lanius excubitor</i>	One, 9.5.05
Scarlet Rosefinch <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	One, 29.5.05



Table 2: Thrushes, Warblers, Goldcrest and Spotted Flycatcher on Lundy, 2005.

	January		February			March		April			May			June		July		August		September			October			November			December			
Fieldfare		0.1	1.6	1.2	2.0	0.4	0.1																0.3	0.2	0.3	1.3	7.1	0.3	1.0	0.4		
Redwing	0.1	0.3	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.1																			1.9	64	27	6.7	37	1.2	0.2	0.4
Whitethroat								0.1	0.6	2.5	1.5	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.2				0.3	0.3	0.5	1.9	0.1									
Blackcap						0.8	0.5	3.1	6.0	3.4	2.9	0.2	0.1	0.5	1.0	0.1			1.5	0.2	0.2	0.9	4.8	11	12	7.3	0.8	0.1	0.1		0.1	
Chiffchaff						3.0	1.0	0.3	5.1	3.3	3.4	3.2	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.7	0.5		0.3	0.9	3.8	2.7	7.2	4.5	1.5	1.2	0.4				0.3	
Willow Warbler						0.5	0.6	19	37	9.2	4.6	1.1	0.2				8.2		2.8	5.3	1.7	5.8	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.1						
Goldcrest		0.3	0.2	4.1	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4									0.4	0.2	6.3	15	84	20	13		0.7	0.1			0.4	
Spotted Flycatcher										1.0	7.0	3.2	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.2			0.7	3.6	5.7	3.4	2.6	0.3	0.2							

Figures show the number of birds recorded per day, averaged over ten day periods, throughout the year