

BIRDS ON LUNDY 2010

by

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BIRDING YEAR

A total of 147 species was seen during 2010.

Wildfowl

No swans or wild geese were seen this year. Of the ducks, five species were reported: **Wigeon**, **Teal**, **Mallard** (breeding), **Shoveler** and **Common Scoter**.

Game birds

A **Quail** – the first since two in June 2006 – was heard calling frequently in the Tent Field for four days in late June and early July.

Divers

A count of five **Great Northern Divers** off The Ugly in late December set a new record for the island.

Birds of prey

A good year with ten species recorded, including a long-staying wing-tagged **Red Kite** with an interesting history, and the island's fourth **Black Kite** on 27 April. The previous day an **Osprey** flew over the Landing Bay and Millcombe before heading up the East Side. The first record of a **Tawny Owl** since 1978 occurred in late March when a bird was heard hooting in Millcombe.

Waders

Seventeen different species of wader were reported during the year. **Jack Snipe** records were well up on 2009's single occurrence, with eight sightings during the cold weather of January and February, and records on nine days in the last quarter of the year, all singles apart from three on 24 December. A **Spotted Redshank** in August was the first for four years and, with **Green Sandpiper**, the least common of the species recorded.

Seabirds

Without doubt the rare-bird occurrence of the year was the finding of a **Macaronesian Shearwater** (formerly Little Shearwater) in early June during a survey of potential Storm Petrel breeding sites by Helen Booker and Chris Townend. The record, including a sound-recording of its calls, currently resides with the British Birds Rarities Committee which is carrying out a review of all Little Shearwater records in the light of recently published identification papers.

The **Manx Shearwater** population continues to flourish, with nest burrows found at the North and South Ends as well as new sites along the West Side. Researchers from Oxford University's Department of Zoology returned for a second year to recover tracking devices placed on birds in 2009 and to place new trackers on further birds – a report on their findings appears on page 76. 2010 was a record year for sightings of **Balearic Shearwaters** off Lundy, involving at least 13

birds on six days in early October. It was during this period that Lundy's first **Pomarine Skua** was seen briefly off North End. Both **Great** and **Arctic skuas** also put in appearances at this time, making it one of the best weeks of seawatching ever experienced on Lundy, further enhanced by sightings of **Sandwich** and **Common or Arctic Terns**.

The first **Puffins** of the year – three on the water off Jenny's Cove – were seen on 23 March and birds were observed entering burrows before the end of the month. The encouraging signs of a recovery, albeit small, in Puffin numbers continued in 2010, with confirmed breeding in Jenny's Cove and up to 74 different birds counted in June, many of which are likely to have been immatures prospecting for future nest sites (see page 75).

Passerines and near-passerines

Unquestionably the most colourful bird of the year was a **Bee-eater** that spent 30 minutes or so in Upper Millcombe in early June. Happily it's short visit coincided with a warden-led nature ramble for visitors, many of whom saw the bird. Two less colourful but nevertheless striking birds seen on single days in May were a **Woodchat Shrike** and a **Red-backed Shrike**. Even more fleeting was a **Woodlark** which was heard in flight only passing over the island in October.

Other birds to cause a flutter were Lundy's second **Western Bonelli's Warbler**, trapped and ringed in early September, a late-spring **Subalpine Warbler** near Quarter Wall Pond in June, a **Bluethroat** on Ackland's Moor in May, and a **Red-flanked Bluetail** (the second for the island) caught and ringed in mid-October.

Six species of bunting occurred during the year: **Snow**, **Lapland**, **Oortolan**, **Little** and **Reed Bunting**, as well as **Yellowhammer**. The autumn passage of Lapland Buntings in 2010 matched and perhaps exceeded the record set way back in 1953 for the exceptional numbers involved.

Breeding was confirmed for the following species: **Carrion Crow**, **Raven**, **Skylark**, **Swallow**, **Chiffchaff**, **Sedge Warbler** (for only the third time), **Wren**, **Starling**, **Blackbird**, **Robin**, **Wheatear**, **Dunnock**, **House Sparrow**, **Pied Wagtail**, **Meadow Pipit**, **Rock Pipit**, **Chaffinch**, **Goldfinch** and **Linnet**.

Finally, the following entry by Ian Draycott and Ruth Allen in the LFS Logbook gives a fine example of the excitement that Lundy can offer the birdwatcher during a stay on the island: "29-29 Apr – Bird highlights were large swallow/martin passage, plenty of migrant warblers, male ring ouzel (nr. ¼ wall), female redstart (N End), 1 whimbrel and large numbers of wheatears (min. 200 on 27th) & 1 turtle dove."

Keeping in touch with Lundy bird news and information

Regularly updated news, photos and video-clips of birds seen on Lundy are maintained by Richard Campey at www.lundybirds.org.uk – all contributions will be welcomed by Richard.

Updates to the species texts published in *The Birds of Lundy* (Davis & Jones, 2007) will be posted at www.birdsoflundy.org.uk, along with pdfs of the bird reports published in the LFS Annual Report. The aim, by combining the information published in the 2007 book with comprehensive data from subsequent years, is to provide a readily accessible set of data on Lundy's birds for anyone wishing to undertake research or look up specific information.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Nomenclature and sequence

These follow *The British List* maintained by the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU), version dated 15 December 2010. Where different from the species name in common usage (e.g. Robin), the international English name applied by the BOU (e.g. European Robin) is given in square brackets after the scientific name.

The numbers of birds given in the tables, where included, are taken from the LFS Logbook and give the monthly maxima and, for some cases, the number of days on which the species was recorded. It should be noted that many counts are not necessarily fully representative of the numbers of birds present and are reflective of periods when observer coverage is higher (particularly spring and autumn). This is particularly true for seabirds, for which there was no complete count in 2010; the next full census is due in 2012.

Assessment of records of rare birds

Records of species that are vagrants to Britain (e.g. Western Bonelli's Warbler) are assessed by the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC). Records of species classified as 'nationally scarce migrants' or which are otherwise rare in Devon (e.g. Richard's Pipit, Woodchat Shrike) are considered by the Devon Birds Records Committee (DBRC). In addition, records of 'Lundy vagrants', species that are occasionally or commonly encountered on the mainland but rare on the island (e.g. Tawny Owl), are assessed by the Lundy Bird Recorders.

In all cases, records of species that are rare – whether at national, county or island level – must be accepted by the relevant committee or recorder as being adequately documented. This helps to ensure that the ornithological records kept by different bodies, including the LFS, form a coherent whole, and that high standards of assessment are shared and applied. The unpredictable nature of birdwatching means that even the most experienced and knowledgeable observers are sometimes unable to clinch the identity of a suspected rarity; perhaps it was not seen for long enough, was too far away, or the weather was too bad for crucial plumage details to be picked out. In other cases the distinguishing features are so subtle that photographs and/or examination of the bird in the hand may be required. The assessment of a rarity record as 'not proven' should be seen in the light of such challenges; it does not necessarily mean that those assessing the record believe the observer was mistaken.

Observers are asked to ensure that supporting notes for all records of rare species are entered in the LFS Logbook (which contains guidelines on what information to provide) as soon as possible after the sighting has been made. Please take care to ensure that your name(s) and contact details are included – and legible! Photographs and video clips are especially welcome and these can be emailed to the Lundy Bird Recorders at info@birdsoflundy.org.uk.

Observers' names are included below (where given in the LFS Logbook or in rarity accounts submitted direct to BBRC and DBRC) for all accepted 2010 records of species that are national rarities, nationally scarce migrants and/or Lundy vagrants.

Birds seen during boat crossings

Sightings during boat crossings have only been included when it is clear that the birds in question were close to the island. Observers are encouraged to submit other 'crossing records', particularly those for the coastal waters of the North Devon mainland, including the Tav & Torridge Estuary, to the Devon Bird Recorder (email address: recorder@devonbirds.org).

Acknowledgements

We are indebted first and foremost to the island residents and visitors, whether or not they class themselves as birdwatchers, who contribute sightings to the LFS Logbook and to the database maintained by the Devon Bird Watching & Preservation Society (DBWPS); this report is a distillation of thousands of hours of observation by many dozens of individuals.

Special thanks go to Richard Campey, with whom we liaise closely on the latest news sent for posting on his lundybirds.org.uk website, and to Nicola Saunders, Sophie Wheatley and their colleagues from the island wardening team. We also express our sincere appreciation to the Devon Birds Records Committee, and especially the Devon Bird Recorder, Mike Langman and, since 1 October 2010, Steve Waite, for their ever-reliable and enthusiastic correspondence with us on the assessment of rarity records. Julia Harris, DBWPS database manager, provided a data file of all 2010 Lundy records to ensure consistency between the respective bird reports published by Devon Birds and the LFS. Others who have helped us in various ways include James Leonard, Mike Lock, Alan Rowland, Grant Sherman and Tony Taylor.

Wigeon *Anas penelope* [European Wigeon]

Uncommon passage migrant, mainly in autumn, and occasional winter visitor.

One male on 11 Jan, with one (sex not specified) on 17th. The cold weather at the end of the year was probably responsible for the appearance of two on Christmas Eve, followed by five on Boxing Day and six on 27th.

Teal *Anas crecca* [Eurasian Teal]

Uncommon migrant and winter visitor in small numbers; rare in summer.

Two females on 11 Jan, with four (sex not specified) on 17th. Single female on 25 & 26 Feb; then one on 27 Sep, two on 15 Oct and singles on 20, 27 & 28 Oct. The hard weather of late Nov and most of Dec led to a small influx, with three on 28 Nov and records on nine dates in Dec, including a maximum of 11 on 25th.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Resident breeding flock of feral origin; unknown numbers of wild birds occur from time to time.

Breeding was confirmed with the first reported brood of ducklings being 10 on 18 Apr. Nine young were recorded on 7 May and 11 on 8 & 11 Jun (including birds from broods of three different ages on the latter date).

Maximum monthly counts of fully grown birds

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
11	19	8	8	14	14	1	8	18	23	16	14

Shoveler *Anas clypeata* [Northern Shoveler]

Lundy vagrant.

One reported on 17 May (no location given but presumably Pondsbury).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Uncommon passage visitor.

Two seen during a seawatch from the Castle on 5 Oct was the only record for the year.

Quail *Coturnix coturnix* [Common Quail]

Rare migrant; bred in the nineteenth century.

One calling frequently from the Tent Field between 30 Jun and 3 Jul (Andrew Cleave, C. Young *et al.*)

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*

[Great Northern Loon]

Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers, mainly October to March.

None was recorded during the period Jan-May. There were records of a single bird – presumably all relating to the same individual – on 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 & 13 Jun. In autumn, one on 15 Oct, then two in the Landing Bay 12-15 Nov and finally, in the last week of Dec one on 27th, five off The Ugly on 28th and three on 29th. The count of five on 28 Dec is the highest ever recorded on Lundy.

Unidentified diver *Gavia* sp.

One was seen off the East Side on 3 Oct. Another, flying west off South Light on 6 Oct, was thought probably to have been a Black-throated Diver.

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*

[Northern Fulmar]

*Common breeder; recorded in all months, mainly from January to September.***Maximum one-day count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
60	70	50	50	75	43	12	60	3	2	75	30

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus**Lundy vagrant.*

One, mixed in with a flock of Manx Shearwaters, seen at rest on the water and in flight off the Castle on 5 Oct (Tim Jones) – the fourth Lundy record.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus**Common breeder and passage migrant; usually seen from late March to September; occasional records in October.*

The first report of birds calling at night came from outside the Tavern on 13 Apr. One found trapped between bins at the Castle on the morning of 8 Jun was released from the Landing Bay. The last sighting of the year was of 60 on 11 Oct.

High counts involved a large raft estimated at 7,000 birds off South West Point on 8 Aug and 10,000+ mainly north-northwest of the island on 30 Aug.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	2	60	300	50	10,000	2,000	600	1	–

GPS tracking studies were conducted between 10 & 24 Jul. Breeding birds were tracked foraging as far north as the Isle of Man and as far as Dartmouth to the south. Most rafting birds were to the south-west of Lundy. Data-loggers were fitted to some birds and should reveal information about migration routes and wintering areas – if the loggers can be retrieved in 2011 (see page 76).

David & Elisabeth Price, Peter Slader and Richard & Tony Taylor ringed 169 young and 17 adults between 26 Aug and 11 Sep. Many were captured in the colony between Old Light and Battery Point, but others were found along the sidings north of Pyramid Rock, at Puffin Slope, on Castle Hill and at various sites between Benjamin's Chair and Old Light.

Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus**Lundy vagrant.*

During the first week of Oct, Tom Bedford, Richard Campey, Tim Davis, James Diamond and Tim Jones recorded unprecedented numbers (for Lundy): at least five passing west with light passage of Manx Shearwaters off the Castle on both 3 & 4 Oct; at least 10 during seawatches from the Castle, Shutter Point and North End on 5 Oct; a record total of 13 during a day of significant seabird movements (involving 600+ Manx Shearwaters and 500+ Kittiwakes) on 6 Oct; one off the East Side on 7 Oct; and five off the East Side on 8 Oct, again feeding with Manx Shearwaters and Kittiwakes. Records accepted by Devon Bird Recorder. In addition, two were seen on the crossing on 2 October (observers as above).

Macaronesian Shearwater (formerly Little Shearwater) *Puffinus baroli**British vagrant. Breeds on the North Atlantic islands of Madeira, the Azores and the Canaries – 59 British records between 1950 and 2007.*

An apparently territorial male heard calling from the sidings from 4 Jun to at least 24 Jun. First located by Chris Townend and Helen Booker (see page 83 for their note on the finding). A recording of the bird's calls was made by Carl Pimlott on the night of 6 Jun. Intriguingly, Carl had also recorded the call on his mobile phone while night-fishing off the Jetty in spring 2009. **Record subject to acceptance by BBRC**; previous records of North Atlantic Little Shearwater are currently under review in the light of new identification papers [at 1 June 2011].

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

[European Storm Petrel]

Uncommon passage migrant; possibly breeds – recorded on the island at night in small numbers during the breeding season.

Twelve on 25 May and singles on 13 & 18 Jun. A survey of likely nesting sites by Helen Booker and Chris Townend from 1-5 Jun found no evidence of breeding birds (see page 81).

Gannet *Morus bassanus*

[Northern Gannet]

Common offshore from spring to autumn; less frequent in winter; formerly bred.

Numbers were relatively low throughout the year with a modest maximum of 150 on 10 Aug.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	5	12	5	15	40	15	150	70	15	3	30

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

[Great Cormorant]

Uncommon but regular spring and autumn migrant; formerly bred.

A first-winter bird was seen on several days in Oct and Nov at Rocket Pole and Quarry Ponds, where it was presumably taking fish.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	1	–	4	6	2	2	3	16	15	9	2

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

[European Shag]

Common breeder; uncommon from October to February.

Assistant Warden Sophie Wheatley reported 90 Shags in the Landing Bay and on the Landing Beach on 4 Aug, those on the beach wing-drying and milling about.

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
15	30	31	40	25	55	78	90	120	84	21	22

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Lundy vagrant (though the number of records is increasing).

Two on 17 Oct was the only record for the year.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Uncommon visitor; recorded throughout the year but most regular during late summer and early autumn.

The first of the year was a single bird flying north off Jenny's Cove on 2 Jun, followed by a further 11 scattered sightings up to and including one on 2 Dec. All records involved ones and twos, with the exception of five being mobbed by gulls over The Ugly on 17 Jun.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	–	–	5	1	1	2	1	–	1
–	–	–	–	–	4	1	1	2	2	–	1

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One drifting south-east off The Ugly on 27 Apr (Colin McShane *et al.*) Record accepted by DBRC – the fourth for Lundy.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

Lundy vagrant.

A wing-tagged bird first seen and photographed over the Airfield on 13 Mar was seen regularly until 24 Mar (Nigel Dalby, Sophie Wheatley *et al.*) – see colour plate 3. The wing tags (blue on the left wing, bearing the letter 'd' in black; purple on the right wing bearing the letter 'd' in white) showed that this bird, a female, had been collected as a chick from a nest in mid-Wales on 10 Jun 2007 and transported to County Wicklow, Republic of Ireland. After rearing in an aviary the bird was released as part of the Irish Red Kite reintroduction programme on 20 Jul 2007. In 2009 she was one of only two females to have bred (though unsuccessfully) – the first in Ireland for over 200 years. Thanks to Damian Clarke, Red Kite Project Manager, Wicklow Mountains National Park for these details. What was likely to have been the same bird was reported daily on Lundy from 11 to 13 Apr. Tony Cross of the Welsh Kite Trust later reported the bird to be on Bardsey Island on 17th Apr. This was the seventh occurrence since LFS records began in 1947.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

[Northern Harrier]

Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and rare winter visitor.

One, thought to be a female, was reported on 18 Apr. A second-calendar-year male on 9 & 10 Jun. Two on 11 Oct and one on 17 Oct (sexes not specified).

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nissus*

[Eurasian Sparrowhawk]

Common spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; has bred at least once.

On 5 Feb Nigel Dalby photographed a male Sparrowhawk, ringed on its right leg, perched in the farmyard. Although the ring number cannot be read in the photo, this was possibly the same first-winter male that had been ringed on The Gower (South Wales) on 14 Sep 2009, controlled on Lundy on 3 Oct 2009 and caught again on 11 & 27 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	1	–	1	1	–	1	2	2	2	–
1	3	1	–	2	1	–	1	10	19	3	–

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

Uncommon visitor; formerly a breeding resident.

Singles were seen 6-8 Dec and 26-29 Dec; perhaps one or more refugees from the extreme cold on the mainland.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Rare passage migrant.

One mobbed by gulls over the Landing Bay/Millcombe, seen from Brambles on 26 Apr (Colin McShane). Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

[Common Kestrel]

Common visitor in small numbers, mainly in spring and autumn; breeds occasionally.

Present throughout the year in small numbers, but no evidence of breeding. Sightings virtually daily in Sep and Oct. Five separate individuals were hunting in Middle Park on 1 Sep.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	1	2	2	1	–	3	5	6	1	1
4	3	1	8	7	4	–	6	25	27	5	3

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Common passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers; very rare in summer.

A count of six on 10 Nov equalled the record set on 14 Oct 2008.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	1	1	1	2	–	–	–	–	4	6	1
–	2	1	1	4	–	–	–	–	18	8	7

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

[Eurasian Hobby]

Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.

One on 21 May. A late migrant was seen on 18 Oct.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

[Peregrine Falcon]

Breeds; recorded in all months in recent years.

Up to six recorded in every month of the year. Breeding confirmed, with four successful pairs and fledged juveniles seen in Jun & Jul. A male was seen taking a Mallard duckling from Ponds-bury on 11 May.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Common passage migrant in small numbers; occasional winter visitor; has bred in all years since breeding was first confirmed in 2007.

As in other recent years, most records came from Millcombe and St John's Valley, where there were at least three territories, but there were also sightings (or hearings!) at St Helen's/Barton Field (e.g. two on 16 May), Quarter Wall (at least one, probably two, on 2 Jun), Ponds-bury (young seen in Jun) and Gannets' Combe (one on 20 Jan). Breeding was confirmed for the fourth consecutive year when chicks were seen in Lower Millcombe on 10 May. Two adults with two chicks were also seen in the Brick Field near Quarter Wall on 16 May. Young were also seen in St John's Valley and at Ponds-bury in Jun. The highest count of the year was eight on 28 Dec following the exceptionally severe weather that lasted for most of that month.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	3	2	3	4	5	3	3	5	6	4	8
2	9	4	11	13	13	3	5	24	26	4	6

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* [Eurasian Oystercatcher]
Common breeder and passage migrant; recorded throughout the year but scarcer in late autumn and winter.

No evidence of breeding recorded in 2010, though nesting undoubtedly took place.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
8	13	9	10	17	14	8	17	16	13	10	–
5	16	8	15	22	23	11	8	9	5	5	–

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* [Common Ringed Plover]
Uncommon spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; occasional winter records.

During spring, two on 11 Apr, followed by two on 15th and one on 16th, then two (at North End) on 10 May and finally one on 8 Jun. The first returning migrant was one on 31 Aug, followed by records of ones and twos on 15 dates from 2 Sep to 15 Oct.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus* [Eurasian Dotterel]
Uncommon but virtually annual spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.

Two confiding juveniles were seen and photographed (see colour plate 3) at the North End, between John O'Groats and the top of North Light steps, on 31 Aug & 1 Sep (Elisabeth Price).

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* [European Golden Plover]
Common spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; irregular winter visitor.

The highest counts were 50 on 6 Jan, 18 on 21 Feb and 11 on 7 Mar. The last spring migrants were two on 20 May. The earliest autumn record was of one on 16 Sep. A notable arrival at the end of Nov coincided with the start of a prolonged cold spell, with 20 on 28th and 30 on 29th. Unusually high numbers continued to be seen through Dec, with a max of 40 on 12th and 20 or more on nine other dates during the month.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
50	18	11	4	3	–	–	–	1	2	30	40
2	7	3	2	6	–	–	–	6	9	3	16

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* [Northern Lapwing]
Uncommon passage migrant. Formerly a common breeder, spring and autumn migrant and occasional winter visitor, but major decline in recent years.

The hard weather early in the year brought notable influxes to Lundy, with records on nine dates from 5 to 20 Jan, including 44 on 7th, 64 on 9th and 37 on 17th. These were followed by three on 7 Feb. Conversely, there were sightings on just three dates during spring passage: one on 23 Mar, one on 14 Apr and three on 3 May. The first returning migrant was one on 18 Jul, but there were no further sightings until eight on 17 Oct, one on 24 Oct and one on 9 Nov. The severe winter weather of late Nov and most of Dec brought unusually high numbers to the island, some of which were in emaciated condition and could be picked up. There were five on 28 Nov, 63 the next day, then almost daily records in Dec, with maxima of 50 or more on nine dates, including 100 on 12th and 150 on 14th. Seventy were still present on 29th.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

Common spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; very rare in winter.

Unusually, there were two winter records – perhaps arrivals associated with harsh weather – with two on 22 Jan and one on 23 Feb. (A discounted record of 12 Common Sandpipers on 9 Jan may well have been Dunlins.) During spring migration, singles occurred on three dates between 11 and 18 Apr, with three on 19 Apr, and records on seven dates between 8 and 17 May, with a max of nine on 9 May – see colour plate 3. The last spring migrant was one on 31 May. The first autumn migrants were four on 31 Aug, followed by singles on 1, 2 & 6 Sep and 4 Oct.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Uncommon migrant and winter visitor, mainly late Sep to Mar.

During the first winter-period, four on 17 Jan, two on 26 Jan and two on 9 Feb. In autumn, singles on 9, 10 & 21 Oct, 7 Nov and 5, 25, 29 & 30 Dec, with three on 24 Dec.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

[Common Snipe]

Common passage migrant and winter visitor.

The highest counts in the first part of the year were 12 on 21 Feb and 13 on 11 Mar. A major influx of birds during the severe cold spell in Dec peaked at 70 on 27th, with an estimated 50 on each of the following two days. James Leonard wrote in the logbook for 22-24 Dec: “*Basically Snipe everywhere, particularly at South End on banks warmed by sun. On 23rd one apparently sat on the front of the fire truck by the helicopter landing pad. It didn’t move when the siren was played but did when the door opened.*”

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
5	12	13	1	–	–	–	4	1	5	15	70
6	11	4	1	–	–	–	2	6	17	2	10

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*

[Eurasian Woodcock]

Common passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers, mainly Oct to Mar.

Ones and twos recorded on six dates between 8 and 30 Jan, followed by two on 21 Feb and one on 26 Feb. In autumn, ones and twos on five dates between 13 Oct and 14 Nov. A cold-weather influx at the end of Dec resulted in records on seven dates between 21st and 29th, with a maximum of five on 27th.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Common spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; declining.

The only records of spring migrants involved single birds on 28 Apr and 6 & 14 May. In autumn, one was heard calling off the West Side on 3 Oct.

Curlew *Numenius arquata*

[Eurasian Curlew]

Common spring and autumn migrant in declining numbers; occasional winter visitor; formerly bred.

Another very poor year for this species, with records on just 18 dates and only one sighting of more than two in a day (three on 24 Oct).

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	–	1	2	1	1	–	1	3	–	2
2	2	–	1	2	1	2	–	1	4	–	3

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
Regular spring and autumn migrant; very rare in winter.
Singles on 13 & 19 Apr and 14 & 19 May.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*
Rare spring migrant; uncommon autumn migrant.
One on 17 Apr. One on 24 Aug seen on the High Street north of the Barn.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*
Rare passage migrant, mainly in autumn.
Three on 27 Aug.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* [Common Greenshank]
Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.
One on 17 Oct.

Redshank *Tringa totanus* [Common Redshank]
Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.
Two on 11 Oct was the only record for the year.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* [Ruddy Turnstone]
Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor; signs of a decline in recent years.
One on 11 Sep.

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*
Lundy vagrant.
One off the North Light on 6 Oct (Tom Bedford, Tim Jones) – the first record from the island itself, though there have been eight previous sightings during the crossing from/to the mainland.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* [Parasitic Jaeger]
Rare passage migrant, mainly in autumn.
Singles on 19 & 24 Sep and 5 & 8 Oct, but a high count of six on 6 Oct.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*
Rare spring and autumn migrant; has occurred in winter.
In spring, one on 12 May. In autumn, one on 19 Sep, three on 24 Sep, one on 28 Sep and 3 Oct, five on 5 Oct, four on 6 Oct and one on 8 Oct. In addition, one (possibly two) seen from MS *Oldenburg* close to the island on 29 Sep.

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* [Black-legged Kittiwake]
Common but declining breeding species; uncommon from Sep to Jan.

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	1,000	22	120	100	250	200	60	200	650	12	900

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* [Common Black-headed Gull]
Uncommon visitor throughout the year, mainly Jul to Sep; occasional cold-weather influxes.
Singles on 7 & 13 May and 21 Aug.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Common breeding species and passage migrant; uncommon in winter.

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	80	300	500	140	560	60	25	10	30	8	1

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

Common breeding species; present all year but fewer in winter.

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
200	399	300	200	60	430	“100s”	40	40	185	25	150

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Breeds; present in all months, but fewer in winter.

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
30	61	23	12	20	78	20	11	62	32	15	50

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

Uncommon migrant, late March to early October.

One off the East Side on 8 Oct during a strong movement of seabirds that included small numbers of Common or Arctic Terns.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Uncommon migrant, April to October.

One juvenile on 30 Aug.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* or Arctic Tern or *S. arctica*

Uncommon migrant, April to October / Rare migrant, mainly in autumn.

Two with a juvenile Common Tern on 30 Aug. At least 12 off the East Side on 8 Oct were part of a strong movement of seabirds that was too distant to permit separation between these two very similar species. In addition, a first-winter bird was seen from MS *Oldenburg* close to the island on 29 Sep.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*

[Common Murre]

Common breeder, but in smaller numbers than formerly; uncommon from Aug to Oct, then occasional sightings to Jan.

Many were noted on the breeding ledges at Jenny's Cove during fine weather on 14 Feb. What proved to be a male Guillemot bearing a yellow ring marked 67A on its left leg was photographed by Grant Sherman on the ledges between Dead Cow Point and Needle Rock on 13 Mar and again on 22 Apr when it was seen mating; the bird was ringed as a chick on Skomer in 2003 and seen again on Skomer in 2007 (as a pre-breeder). In autumn, five birds were back on breeding ledges in Jenny's Cove early on 18 Oct (nine days earlier than in 2008) but all had gone by 07:42 (Grant Sherman).

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
100	1,250	1,500	1,500	1,600	1,500	500	1	3	73	675	210*

*combined count of Guillemots and Razorbills

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Common breeder, though in smaller numbers than formerly; uncommon between Aug and Feb. Many were noted on the breeding ledges at Jenny's Cove during fine weather on 14 Feb. The first egg was seen on 4 May (Grant Sherman).

Maximum count for each month (as recorded in the LFS Logbook)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	450	500	500	410	750	250	–	1	2	1	210*

*combined count of Guillemots and Razorbills

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*

[Atlantic Puffin]

Uncommon breeding species; formerly bred in large numbers; very rare between mid-Aug and early Apr.

The first sightings of the year were unusually early compared to recent years, with three on 23 & 25 Mar (on the water off Jenny's Cove) followed by seven on 26 & 27 Mar (birds seen on land and on the water at both Jenny's Cove and St Philip's Stone). Four pairs seen at burrows in Jenny's on 6 May. Fourteen at Jenny's and two at St Philip's Stone on 6 Jun. Four off North East Point on 7 Jun. Eighteen, including three entering burrows, at Jenny's on 10 Jun. On 13 Jun up to 74 different individuals were counted – mostly on the sea – including 33 at Jenny's Cove/St Philip's Stone, 27 at Gannets' Rock, four at Brazen Ward and 10 off the South End. The first confirmation of breeding in 2010 came when an adult was seen carrying food to a burrow in Jenny's Cove on 14 Jun. On 10 Jun, six were seen on land at a site in Jenny's Cove not used since 1992. On 25 Jun, 50 on land at Jenny's Cove and six at St Philip's Stone. At least 20 were reported during a boat trip around the island on the late date of 30 Aug, mainly in the vicinity of Gannets' Bay, North End and Jenny's Cove.

Maximum count for each month during the breeding season

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	7	15	12	74	32	20	–	–	–	–

Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Common visitor in small numbers.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	1	2	12	12	2	2	7	1	–	–
12	4	4	6	8	24	9	4	10	3	–	–

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

Uncommon but regular spring and autumn migrant.

In spring, one on 27 Mar was followed by three on 10 Apr and one on 16 Apr. Autumn occurrences involved single birds (perhaps the same individual) on eight dates between 12 and 27 Oct.

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*

[Common Wood Pigeon]

Probably breeds in most years; spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; sporadic in winter. Woodpigeons were again present throughout the breeding season (e.g. two at the Terrace on 6 Jun), but in very small numbers. With the excellent progress made in clearing thickets of mature rhododendron, suitable cover and nesting habitat for Woodpigeons continue to shrink. There was no evidence of breeding in 2010. An exceptional migratory movement resulted in a count of 450 on 25 Oct, around the time of some large movements of this species elsewhere in Devon (e.g. over 24,000 at Dawlish Warren on 7 Nov).

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	1	2	2	4	3	3	1	2	450	46	2
–	4	1	9	17	20	3	3	12	5	3	4

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

[Eurasian Collared Dove]

Regular migrant, usually in small numbers, especially in spring; summer resident in some years; has bred; has overwintered.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	2	2	4	1	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	3	3	13	1	–	–	–	–	–

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

[European Turtle Dove]

Increasingly scarce migrant, still regular in spring but rare in autumn.

Singles recorded on 16 dates between 28 Apr & 3 Jun. A slightly better showing than in recent years but still pitiful by the standards of LFS records from the 1950s until the mid-1990s.

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

[Common Cuckoo]

Uncommon and declining spring and autumn migrant; probably bred regularly in the past; breeding not confirmed between 2000 and 2007, but successful in 2008 and 2009.

First recorded on 9 May (single bird), with two on 11th & 12th (both on fence posts between Upper East Side Path and St Helen's Field on latter date) and further singles on 20-21 May and 11 Jun. After breeding successfully in 2008 and 2009, there was no indication of breeding in 2010.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

Lundy vagrant.

A male was heard hooting in Millcombe at 11:00 on 22 Mar (Eileen Sterns and Phil Atkin). This is the first record since 1978 and only the eleventh ever for the island.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and rare winter visitor.

One flushed twice on the West Side between Pondsburry and the Old Light on 20 Feb. In autumn, singles on 12, 17 & 20 Oct.

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

[European Nightjar]

Lundy vagrant; formerly more frequent and may have bred.

One flushed from ground cover halfway along the main track to the Castle on 9 May (Richard Campey).

Swift *Apus apus*

[Common Swift]

Common spring and autumn migrant and non-breeding summer visitor.

The first of the spring was one on 18 Apr. Passage peaked at 166 on 11 May (there were only three other May counts of more than 10 in a day) and 84 were seen on 25 Jun with 73 the following day (other Jun records were of one to four birds only). Unusually, there were no recorded sightings for Jul or for most of Aug, and singles on 30 Aug and 6 Sep were the only indication of 'autumn' passage. This must reflect under-recording but also the effects of the fourth consecutive summer in which frequently dull, damp weather conditions must have affected breeding success.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	4	166	84	–	1	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	4	17	11	–	1	1	–	–	–

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*

[European Bee-eater]

Nationally scarce migrant.

One, seen and heard calling in Millcombe on 6 Jun, perched on treetops and fence posts, was constantly harried by Starlings, a Blackbird and a Meadow Pipit before flying off after about half-an-hour (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). Record accepted by DBRC; the fifth for Lundy.

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*

[Eurasian Wryneck]

Nationally scarce migrant.

One in Lower Millcombe on 19 Apr (Mike Langman). One in Millcombe on 9 Sep (Richard Taylor) and one on the same date in Gannets' Combe (Dave Leech). Records accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

Lundy vagrant, though more frequent in recent years.

One between VC Quarry and the Heligoland Trap on 26 Sep (Andrew Cleave *et al.*). One flew over Government House on 29 Sep. A female flew south along the main track on 7 Oct, alighting briefly on the corner of Barton Cottages before dropping down into Millcombe, where it was still present on 8th (Andy Jayne *et al.*). A male was seen in Millcombe and around the Terrace Heligoland Trap from 23 to 26 Oct, and was trapped and ringed in Millcombe on 25 Oct when it was found to be a first-year bird (R. Duncan, T. Palmer, O. Slessor *et al.*).

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One seen for 10 minutes in Upper Millcombe on 17 May (Enslin Family). **Record subject to acceptance by DBRC;** would be the first Lundy record since 2006.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One seen and photographed on the Millcombe side of The Ugly, and later in the area of cleared rhododendron between The Ugly and St Helen's Combe, on 18 May (Shaun Barnes, Richard Fowling). Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

[Western Jackdaw]

Rare spring migrant; very rare autumn migrant and winter visitor.

There were daily sightings of a single bird from 13 to 20 May (with two on 15th) and again on 26 & 28 May and on nine dates between 5 and 25 Jun (possibly one long-staying individual?). Two on 13 Jul and a single bird on three dates in the last week of the month. In autumn, one around the Village on 4 Sep.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

Rare spring migrant; very rare autumn migrant and winter visitor.

Singles on 22 Mar (Brazen Ward) and 10 May (Brick Field/Airfield), then 10 on 30 May (location not given). One on 16 Jul.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone**Breeds; present throughout the year.*

Breeding was confirmed when a pair with two fledged juveniles were seen near the Timekeeper's Hut on 13 Jun. The highest count of the year was 47 on 8 May.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
25	36	25	27	47	38	20	20	41	44	20	44

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix**Lundy vagrant, primarily in spring.*

One with Carrion Crows in the Brick Field on 25 Mar (Kevin Welsh). One reported on 29 & 30 May (P.J. Lymbery & H. Engelen). One reported between Pondsbury and Halfway Wall on 29 Jun (Hazel McLiffe).

Raven *Corvus corax*

[Northern Raven]

Breeds; present throughout the year.

Breeding confirmed with three juveniles making begging calls to adults at Benjamin's Chair on 12 May. The highest count of the year was 20 on 11 Oct.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
6	10	9	5	7	8	4	9	12	20	12	12

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Common spring and autumn migrant, most numerous in autumn; has bred; occasional in winter. There were no recorded sightings until four on 10 Apr and one the following day. Then none at all until an initially sparse autumn passage in Sep when there were records of one to three birds on 13 dates between 9 & 24 Sep, with six on 20th. Numbers and frequency increased in Oct, with maxima of 30 on 13th, 100 on 14th, 50 on 15th and 25 on 16th. All other counts were of ten or fewer. There were no further records after three on 28 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	6	100	–	–
–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	14	27	–	–

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*

Uncommon spring passage migrant, more regular and more numerous in autumn; has wintered. The only spring record was of one on 11 Apr. The first autumn migrants were three on 3 Sep, followed by sightings of one to three birds on a further 11 dates in Sep, 18 dates in Oct and four dates in Nov, the last of these being two on 17th.

Coal Tit *Periparus ater**Uncommon autumn migrant; very rare spring migrant; occasional in winter.*

Recorded on ten dates between 11 and 23 Oct, with two on 11th, three on 12th, two on 13th & 14th and singles on the remaining days. Four birds, all believed to be of the continental race *P. a. ater*, were caught and ringed during this time (see page 66 and colour plate 7).

Woodlark *Lullula arborea**Lundy vagrant.*

One heard calling in flight over Castle Hill on 9 Oct (Tom Bedford, Richard Campey, Tim Davis *et al.*).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis* [Sky Lark]

Common breeder; common spring and autumn migrant; sporadic in winter with influxes during exceptionally cold weather.

Breeding was confirmed when many adults were seen carrying food in the first week of Jun, but there was no estimate of population size. Maximum 100 on 4 Oct during autumn passage.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
8	62	55	30	30	68	12	10	82	100	2	11
2	15	8	13	19	26	14	7	19	27	6	5

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Common spring and autumn migrant; occasional in summer.

The earliest spring migrant – and the only Mar sighting entered in the logbook – was one over the Airfield on 27th. The next record was of at least 15 (possibly up to 30) on 7 Apr. Spring passage peaked with 170 on 18 Apr. Small numbers continued to pass through until the last two on 8 Jun. Thereafter, four on 14 Jul marked the beginning of post-breeding dispersal and return passage, which peaked at a very modest 40 birds on 9 Sep.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	1	170	10	5	4	25	40	2	–	–
–	–	1	14	14	3	3	3	15	2	–	–

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

[Barn Swallow]

Common and at times abundant spring and autumn migrant; breeds in very small numbers.

The first of the spring was a single bird on 22 Mar, followed by three on 24th and two on 25 Mar. As usual, the main migration occurred during the second half of Apr and first half of May, with counts of 500 or more as follows: 17 Apr (500), 26 Apr (500), 27 Apr (2,000), 28 Apr (500) and 10 May (500). Active nests were found in the gas store and farmyard buildings in the first week of Jun, with presumably a second (or even third) brood about to fledge from the gas store on 7 Sep. Return migration was evident from the first week of Sep, with counts of 500 or more on: 11 & 12 Sep (1,000 both days), 16 Sep (2,500), 23 Sep (1,000), 12 Oct (1,000) and 13 Oct (500). A single bird on 15 Nov was the last of the year.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	2	2,000	1,000	70	16	20	2,500	1,000	1	–
–	–	3	20	19	26	20	17	27	22	1	–

House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

[Common House Martin]

Common spring and autumn migrant; occasional during summer and has bred.

The first spring migrants were three or four on 7 Apr. Movements continued into mid-Jun, but numbers appeared low, the modest peak of just 100 occurring on both 26 & 27 Apr. Autumn migration got under way from early Sep and seems to have been equally low key on most days, but there were at least 250 on 12 Sep and 800 on 16 Sep – one of the highest-ever autumn counts for the island. The Oct peak of 50 occurred on 11th and the final sighting of the year was of five on 20 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	100	60	15	4	1	800	50	–	–
–	–	–	14	18	12	2	2	13	12	–	–

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

[Long-tailed Bushtit]

Very rare autumn migrant and exceptional in spring/early summer; two winter records; has overwintered once (in 2008/09).

Seven on 20 Nov and three reported in brambles outside Pig's Paradise (Quarters) on 27 Nov.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Nationally scarce migrant.

Singles in Millcombe 2, 3 & 5 Oct (Tim Jones *et al.*). Two caught, ringed and photographed in Millcombe on 12 Oct (Tim Ball *et al.*). One seen on the Terrace on 18 Oct. One trapped, ringed and photographed in Millcombe on 22 Oct (Tony Taylor *et al.*). Records accepted by DBRC.

Western Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli*

British vagrant. Breeds in south-east Europe and North Africa, wintering in sub-Saharan Africa. 84 British records to the end of 2006 (later records not yet available).

One trapped, ringed and photographed on the Terrace, 4 Sep (Richard Taylor, Tony Taylor) – see colour plate 4. Record accepted by BBRC – the second accepted occurrence of this species on Lundy.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Uncommon spring and autumn migrant; declining.

In spring, there were records of single birds on 5, 6 & 11 May.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Common spring and autumn migrant; occasional in midsummer and winter; breeds sporadically.

The first spring migrants recorded were five on 27 Mar. Spring passage seems to have been sparse, with maxima of 15 on 18 Apr and 13 on 5 May being the only counts of more than 10 in a day. Sightings of ones and twos continued throughout Jun. A pair was seen carrying food in Millcombe on 30 May and singing males were holding territory in the Beach Road copse below Hammers, Millcombe, St Helen's Copse and Quarter Wall Copse during the first week of Jun. A pair was also seen carrying nesting material in Millcombe. Adults feeding young in Lower Millcombe on 15 & 16 Jul. Autumn movements began at the end of Aug, with 10 on 27th. Though recorded almost daily in Sep, there were no large influxes, with a max of 30 on 18th & 23rd. Oct counts were all of 20 or fewer, with the exception of 100 on 13th and 50 the following day. The last presumed migrant was seen on 15 Nov. There were no further records until one on 29 Dec, coinciding with a slight easing of the severe cold spell.

One showing characteristics of *P. c. abietinus* seen in St Helen's Copse on 11 Sep (Dave Leech).

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	15	13	5	4	10	30	100	2	1
–	–	–	11	23	25	3	4	24	26	2	1

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochillus*

Very common spring and autumn migrant with occasional mass arrivals; has bred.

Spring migration was recorded from 28 Mar (one along the Terrace) until mid-May, with maxima of 80 on 17 Apr, 120 on 18 Apr and 185 on 19 Apr. There were no other day counts of more than 50, so none of the spectacular mass arrivals (known as 'falls') that occur in some springs. Single birds occurred on nine dates between 17 May and 15 Jun, but without any indication of breeding. With the exception of one on 13 Jul, return movements got under way in the last week of Jul, with daily records of up to seven from 26th onwards. Small numbers continued to pass through

in Aug, with a notable influx of 60 on 27th. Significant migration continued in early Sep, with a max of 80 on 9th. Thereafter the highest count was 10 on 18 Sep and the last of the year a single bird on 8 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	185	4	1	7	60	80	1	–	–
–	–	–	20	18	2	7	13	20	3	–	–

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

[Eurasian Blackcap]

Common spring and autumn migrant; occasional in midsummer and winter.

Spring migrants were recorded regularly between 10 Apr and 21 May, with the additional sighting of a late individual on 17 Jun. The highest counts were 62 ringed on 27 Apr, with an estimated 20 seen the following day. Counts in May did not exceed six. Return movements began with a single male on 13 Jul. There were no Aug records, but three on 5 Sep were followed by virtually daily sightings for the rest of the month and throughout Oct, with maxima of 80 on 12 Sep, 50 on 23 & 24 Sep, 50 on 13 Oct and 100 on 14 Oct (the latter two dates coinciding with significant influxes of Goldcrests and Chiffchaffs). The last of the year were two on 15 Nov.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	62	6	1	1	–	80	100	2	–
–	–	–	15	13	1	1	–	21	26	4	–

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Regular spring and autumn migrant, usually in small numbers.

The first spring migrants were three ringed on 27 Apr. Unusually, there were only two May records, both of single birds, on 11 & 13 May, making this a very poor spring showing. During autumn passage, one on 12 Aug, with further singles on nine dates between 12 Sep and the last of the year on 21 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	3	1	–	–	1	1	1	–	–
–	–	–	2	2	–	–	1	3	6	–	–

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

Uncommon but annual spring and autumn passage migrant; bred in 2003.

A single bird on 26 Apr was the first of the spring. Two were ringed the following day and another two on 28 Apr. There were no records in May but a single late migrant seen on 2 & 3 Jun was heard singing on the East Side on the latter date. In autumn, one on 23 Sep.

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

[Common Whitethroat]

Common migrant in spring and autumn; has bred.

The earliest spring migrant was one on 18 Apr. Passage continued until at least the middle of May, with peaks of 25 on 10 May and 12 the following day. Ones and twos were seen regularly from mid-May until the end of Jun, and though a singing male appeared to be holding territory on the Terrace in the first week of Jun there was no evidence of breeding. Autumn movements began with two on 12 Aug and five on 27th, followed by records of up to four birds on seven dates between 5 & 23 Sep and finally one on 15 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	10	25	2	–	5	4	1	–	–
–	–	–	8	16	13	–	2	7	1	–	–

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*

Nationally scarce migrant.

A female, thought to be in its second calendar year, was watched and photographed in the clumps of gorse just west of the main track gate near Quarter Wall Pond on 9 Jun (Darryl Spittle). Record accepted by DBRC; the fourteenth occurrence of Lundy.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*

[Common Grasshopper Warbler]

Common spring migrant; uncommon autumn migrant.

Spring passage appears to have been sparse, with records on just six dates between 18 Apr and 11 May (single birds on both dates) and a max of five on 19 Apr. Autumn migrants were equally scarce, with two on 5 Sep, singles on 17 & 20 Sep, two on 21 Sep, two on 4 Oct and one on 13 Oct being the only records.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	5	1	–	–	–	2	2	–	–
–	–	–	5	2	–	–	–	4	2	–	–

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One seen on the Terrace on 4 Sep (Richard Taylor & Tony Taylor). Record accepted by DBRC; the seventeenth for Lundy.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Common spring and autumn migrant, generally more numerous in spring.

The earliest spring migrants were two on 19 Apr and there were regular sightings until 21 May, but numbers appear to have been low, with 11 ringed on 27 Apr being the peak count, followed by 10 on 11 May. One was singing in Lower Millcombe on 6 Jun and breeding was confirmed when an adult was seen carrying food in St John's Valley on 17 Jun and an adult female with a brood patch was trapped there on the same day. Fledged young were seen near Brambles on 14 & 16 Jul. The only previous instances of confirmed breeding occurred in 1934 and 1935. There were few reports of autumn migrants: single birds on 30 Jul and 7 Aug and two on 8th were followed by singles on 5 & 18 Sep, with two on 16 Sep being the last of the year.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	11	10	2	5	2	2	–	–	–
–	–	–	6	17	6	3	2	3	–	–	–

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

[Eurasian Reed Warbler]

Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.

One ringed on 27 Apr was the first of the spring and was followed by singles on 10, 11 & 13 May. Return movements began with one on 15 Jul – the earliest ever for Lundy and the first July record – but there were no further sightings until singles on 8, 22 & 23 Sep.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*

[Eurasian Treecreeper]

Uncommon late summer and autumn visitor; very rare outside this period.

Singles on 20, 25 & 29 Sep (perhaps two present on latter date) and on 17 dates between 2 and 28 Oct, plus two on 16th – see colour plate 4. Additional singles were seen on 22 Nov and on the exceptionally late date of 28 Dec, the latter bird in Millcombe.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

[Winter Wren]

Common breeding resident.

A partial survey of breeding landbirds in the first week of Jun suggested that the severe winter weather in Feb 2009 and Dec-Feb 2010 had significantly reduced the island population, with only a handful of territories located. This compares with 44 territories during a full survey in May 2004. The maximum of 21 on 7 Oct was less than half of the peak count in 2009.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	4	3	4	4	15	3	1	15	21	3	3

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

[Common Starling]

Resident; breeds; common spring and autumn migrant, often in large numbers.

Breeding confirmed. Maximum count during autumn passage was 700 on 25 Oct.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
30	60	50	30	30	55	20	20	62	700	400	200

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus**Uncommon but regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

The first spring passage record was of two on 11 Apr. Two males were seen at Quarter Wall on 24 Apr, with single birds on eight other dates in Apr. In autumn, a male from 3 to 6 Oct, two (ages/sexes unspecified) on 10th, three on 12th and singles on 13th, 15th & 17th.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–
–	–	–	10	–	–	–	–	–	9	–	–

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

[Common Blackbird]

Common breeding resident; irregular spring migrant and common late-autumn migrant; occasional winter influxes during hard weather.

Breeding was confirmed when adults were seen feeding young in Millcombe on 10 May and fledged young were seen in early Jun. At least five territories were located during a survey of breeding landbirds in the first week of Jun – all between Millcombe and the Terrace.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
18	22	9	6	8	10	7	2	10	100	35	25

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris**Common migrant in early spring and, especially, late autumn; winter visitor in variable numbers, with occasional hard-weather influxes.*

After small numbers during the hard weather at the beginning of the year, there were no further sightings until autumn passage began in Oct with one on 10th, peaking at 300 on 21st. The only other count of more than 50 was 67 on 25 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
5	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	300	12	23
5	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15	9	8

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Resident in small numbers, breeding in most years; common migrant in early spring and late autumn; winter influxes during hard weather.

Singing birds were holding territory in Millcombe/St Helen's Copse and Quarter Wall Copse in early June but there was no evidence of breeding. Maximum of 25 on Christmas Day.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
7	12	8	4	2	2	–	–	3	23	12	25

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Common migrant in early spring and late autumn; winter visitor in variable numbers, with occasional hard-weather influxes.

Cold weather influxes in both winter periods. Autumn passage maximum of 200 on 21 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
115	4	5	1	–	–	–	–	–	200	60	50
8	6	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	19	9	12

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

Rare spring migrant; uncommon autumn migrant; rare summer and winter visitor.

One on 22 Feb. One on 10 May. In autumn, there were records on seven dates between 10 and 24 Oct, mostly of single birds, but two on 21st and five on 16th. Three on 26 Dec and one the following day probably involved birds that had moved in response to severe weather.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Common spring and autumn passage migrant; irregular breeder.

The first spring migrants were singles on 24 & 25 Apr (the only Apr sightings). Spring passage maxima were 10 on 11 & 13 May and 20 on 14 May, with the last sighting in Jun being one on 21st. There was no evidence of breeding. Return passage was noted from the end of Jul, with two on 27th and peaks of 10 on 27 Aug and 3 Sep, 11 on 2 Sep and 12 on 5 Sep. All other autumn records were of one to five birds. The last sighting was of one on 17 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	1	20	2	2	10	12	1	–	–
–	–	–	2	19	5	3	3	16	4	–	–

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

[European Robin]

Common breeding resident present in small numbers; uncommon spring migrant; common autumn migrant in small numbers.

Breeding was confirmed when adults were seen feeding young in Lower Millcombe on 10 May. A fledged juvenile was seen in Millcombe in the first week of Jun and a singing male was continuing to hold territory there. This was the only territory located in a partial survey of breeding landbirds. An adult was seen carrying food on 12 Jul – presumably a second brood.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	4	3	2	4	3	3	6	7	30	6	2

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica*

Nationally scarce migrant.

A female seen and photographed amongst rushes near the water tanks in the south-east corner of Ackland's Moor on 9 May (Richard Campey). Record accepted by DBRC; the tenth for Lundy.

Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus*

British vagrant. Breeds from Finland eastwards across Russia, wintering in south-east Asia. 38 British records between 1950 and 2006 (later records not yet available).

A first-winter bird was trapped at 09:40 on 18 Oct in a mist-net set in the gully below Brambles. It was promptly ringed, photographed and released outside Brambles, whereupon it flew strongly over the treetops and down into Lower Millcombe. An hour later it was retrapped in a different mist-net in Millcombe, but released immediately. At 17:30 it was seen briefly once more, perched and flying into a tamarisk bush in Millcombe (Tony Taylor, Fred Watts *et al.*). This is the second record for Lundy following one in Oct 2005. Record accepted by BBRC.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Common late-autumn migrant in small numbers; uncommon spring migrant; has overwintered.

One near Benjamin's Chair on 3 Jan was the only winter record for the year. In spring there were six sightings of single birds: on 16, 25 & 27 Mar and 11-13 Apr, followed by the unusual record of a female in Jenny's Cove on 17, 21 & 22 Jun.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	–	1	1	–	1	–	–	–	4	–	–
1	–	3	3	–	3	–	–	–	6	–	–

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

[Common Redstart]

Common but declining spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.

The earliest spring sighting was of two males on 17 Apr, followed by a single male on 18 & 19 Apr, a female on 27 & 28 Apr, a male on 9 May and two singles (sexes not specified) on 13 & 22 May. In autumn, there were just 11 sightings, all of single birds, scattered between 2 Sep and 17 Oct, the last of the year.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	1	1	–	–
–	–	–	5	3	–	–	–	6	5	–	–

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Uncommon spring migrant; more regular in autumn; occasional records in midsummer.

During spring migration, recorded on just three days in May, the earliest being two on 11th. The autumn max was just three, on 8 Sep and 6 Oct, the last of the year a single bird on 13 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	3	3	–	–
–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	9	7	–	–

Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus*

[Eurasian Stonechat]

Breeds occasionally; uncommon spring migrant and regular autumn migrant; irregular in winter. Almost certainly due to mortality during the severe weather of Feb 2009 and Jan-Feb 2010, there were many fewer records in 2010 than in other recent years and there was no indication of breeding. The only sightings early in the year were of one on 5 Jan, followed by two on 25 Feb and one the following day. Thereafter, single males were seen on 26 Apr and 6 Apr, but there were no further logbook entries until one was seen on 27 Sep. This was followed by records of one to three birds on 13 dates between 5 and 20 Oct – a poor autumn passage.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	2	–	1	1	–	–	–	1	3	–	–
1	2	–	1	1	–	–	–	1	13	–	–

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

[Northern Wheatear]

Summer visitor; breeds; common spring and autumn migrant.

The first reported spring migrant was a male on 18 Mar, with 12 on 27 Mar. There was a significant influx on 7 Apr, with at least 100 seen in half-an-hour at the North End, especially around Gannets' Combe. Spring passage maxima were 180 on 17 Apr and 200 on 27 Apr.

2010 appears to have been a bumper breeding season for Wheatears on Lundy. A survey of breeding landbirds during the first week of Jun resulted in an estimated 30-40 territories, located mainly along the South End and West Side. At least 24 recently fledged juveniles – most in loose family groups and still being fed by adults – were counted. Other adults were continuing to carry food to nest sites.

Return passage occurred mainly between the very end of Aug and early Oct, with peak counts of 75 on 30 Aug, 40 on 31 Aug and 30 on 9 & 21 Sep. The last autumn migrant was one on 7 Nov.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	12	200	95	74	100	75	30	23	1	–

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

[Eurasian Pied Flycatcher]

Uncommon spring migrant; common autumn migrant, usually in small numbers; occasional records in midsummer.

The first spring migrant was a male on 10 Apr. The only other spring records were two on 27 Apr and one on 12 May (sexes unspecified). Autumn passage was noted from early Sep, with three on 2nd and a max of four on 12th. The latest was one on 17 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	4	3	–	–
–	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	8	9	–	–

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*

Common breeding resident in apparently declining numbers; small influxes of passage migrants detected occasionally in autumn.

A partial survey of breeding landbirds in the first week of Jun located at least three territories. An adult was seen feeding young just below the new section of Beach Road. The small resident population seemed unaffected by the cold 2009/10 winter. Maximum seven on 3 Oct.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	6	3	3	3	6	–	–	2	7	2	2

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Common breeding resident; present throughout the year; possible immigration obscured by resident population.

Breeding confirmed but no details provided this year.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
10	53	20	20	30	42	20	20	35	40	20	25

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Uncommon spring migrant; common early autumn migrant in small numbers; occasional in summer. Formerly more numerous, particularly in autumn.

In spring: one on 27 Apr; two on 12 May, with one the following day; singles present on five days between 7 & 13 Jun. In autumn, the max was five on 8 Sep; the last was one on 13 Sep. A singing male, showing characteristics intermediate between Blue-headed Wagtail *M. f. flava* and Yellow Wagtail *M. f. flavissima* was seen around the Village, mainly in St Helen's Field, 10-12 Jun.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	1	2	1	–	–	5	–	–	–
–	–	–	1	2	6	–	–	9	–	–	–

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Uncommon spring migrant; common autumn migrant in small numbers; occasional summer records; rare in winter.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	1	1	–	1	–	–	–	2	4	–	–
–	1	1	–	2	–	–	–	8	10	–	–

Pied / White Wagtail *Motacilla a. yarrellii* / *M. a. alba*

[White Wagtail]

Pied Wagtails nest most years in small numbers; common spring and autumn migrant, but rare in midwinter. White Wagtails occur annually during both spring and autumn migrations.

'White' Wagtails *M. a. alba* were recorded on five days in Apr and a male was seen near the Lambing Shed on 12 May. A nest behind Brambles Villa was reported on 31 May. Fledged young were seen on the edge of the Beach Road, just below Brambles, on 6 & 7 Jun. Up to six breeding territories were identified during a survey of breeding landbirds in the first week of Jun. An adult was seen carrying food on 12 Jul – presumably a second brood. Adults were feeding young at the rear of Brambles on 15 Jul.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	3	4	7	6	12	8	12	35	25	–	–

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One flushed just north of Pondsbury was watched and photographed on the ground near the western end of Quarter Wall on 4 Oct (Andy Jayne). Record accepted by DBRC.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.

In spring: first one on 17 Apr; last one on 2 May. In autumn: three on 3 & 5 Sep; last one on 9 Sep.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	3	–	–	–
–	–	–	4	1	–	–	–	5	–	–	–

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Breeds; common passage migrant in spring and autumn; scarce or absent in winter.

Breeding was confirmed when fledged young and many pairs of adults carrying food were seen in the first week of Jun. Maxima of 500 on 19 & 29 Sep and 600 on 4 Oct.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	28	50	70	36	121	25	75	500	600	5	3

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

[Eurasian Rock Pipit]

Common breeding resident; extent of migratory or dispersive movements involving Lundy unknown.

Breeding was confirmed when fledged young were seen in the Landing Bay in the first week of Jun. Maximum of 20 on 3 Sep and 10 Oct.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	8	10	2	10	14	1	2	20	20	2	–

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

Resident, breeding annually in small numbers. Common, at times abundant, on autumn passage; noticeable spring passage rarely recorded; winter influxes in some years.

Breeding was confirmed when fledged young were seen being fed by adults in Millcombe in the first week of Jun. Another family party was being fed outside Brambles on 15 Jul. Autumn passage relatively modest in 2010. Maxima of 1,500 on 17 Oct, 5,700 on 22nd, 8,000 on 25th and 1,000 28th.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
20	41	45	12	9	11	12	6	25	8,000	150	11

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Uncommon spring migrant; annual autumn migrant in variable numbers; occasional in winter.

Recorded on 16 dates between 17 Oct and 15 Nov, with maxima of 10 on 17 Oct, 12 on 21 Oct and 15 on 25 Oct.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*

Uncommon spring migrant in small numbers; common autumn migrant; occasional visitor in summer and winter.

One on 23 Jul, two on 22 Aug. In autumn, records on 14 dates between 2 Oct and 14 Nov, with maxima of six on 13 Nov and seven on 2 Oct.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

[European Goldfinch]

Breeds occasionally; common spring and autumn migrant; irregular in summer and winter.

The only record until the start of spring migration was of two on 11 Jan. Spring passage max was 20 on 9 May. One or two pairs were seen in Millcombe and along the East Side in the first week of Jun, but there was no firm evidence of breeding until a juvenile was seen at Brambles on 13 Jul. Juveniles seen in several places on 12 Aug may have included birds dispersing from the mainland. Maximum of 50 on 19 Oct.

Maximum count for each month (top) and number of days recorded (bottom)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	–	–	10	20	8	6	8	25	50	12	2
1	–	–	12	21	25	8	8	19	27	9	3

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*

[Eurasian Siskin]

Late autumn migrant in greatly varying numbers; very rare in spring.

A male was photographed by Nigel Dalby on the feeders outside Quarters on 11 Apr and single birds were also recorded on 7, 10 & 13 May. In autumn, recorded on 19 dates between 3 and 28 Oct, including a notable influx in the second half of the month, with maxima of 220 on 21st and 290 the following day.

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

[Common Linnet]

Common breeder; irregular spring and autumn migrant; more numerous in autumn; occasional in winter.

There were no recorded sightings until 20 on 24 Mar. Many territorial pairs were seen during the first week of Jun, including some carrying nesting material. Breeding was confirmed with young seen later in the summer. Maximum of 200 on 4 Oct.

Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	20	15	65	58	60	110	120	200	6	2

Lesser Redpoll *Carduelis cabaret**Uncommon spring and autumn migrant in variable numbers, but more frequent than formerly; rare in winter.*

A series of winter and early spring records included many sightings of birds coming to the feeders outside Pig's Paradise. One reported daily from 1 to 11 Jan, the same or another from 30 Jan to 3 Feb, one on three dates at the end of Feb (an adult male was ringed on 25 Feb) and then daily throughout Mar. One or two on 10 dates between 10 & 30 Apr (including two, both of which appeared to be unringed, photographed at Pig's Paradise on 11th) and records on 10 dates between 4 and 31 May, including a max of four on 9th & 16th. In autumn, recorded on 14 dates between 3 and 25 Oct, with a maximum of five on 18th, followed by a single bird on 14 Nov.

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

[Red Crossbill]

Rare summer and autumn migrant, occurring highly irregularly, but in large numbers during 'invasion' years.

A single male seen between Millcombe and the Terrace on 8 Oct was the only record for the year. Andy Jayne's entry in the logbook read: "At about 09.10hrs I flushed a female Sparrowhawk from the small quarry just south of VC Quarry. A split second later a male Crossbill appeared right in front of me at the same spot and did not move for several minutes. After a while I noticed that the bird had a lot of feather damage on its nape [see colour plate 4], as though it had been plucked. It seems likely that the Crossbill had been taken by the Sparrowhawk but I had disturbed it before it had the chance to tuck into its meal! At 09.30hrs the Crossbill flew off south and was later seen in Millcombe."

Common Rosefinch (Scarlet Rosefinch) *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One seen in Millcombe 8 Sep (Richard Taylor). One trapped and ringed in Millcombe 15 Sep (Steve & Anna Sutcliffe *et al.*). A first-winter bird was trapped, ringed and photographed in Millcombe on 18 Sep (Andy Turner & Chris Dee). The bird ringed on 15 Sep was retrapped in Millcombe on 18 & 23 Sep. A first-winter bird bearing a ring on its right leg was seen in Millcombe on 2 & 3 Oct (Tim Jones). All records accepted by DBRC. At least two, potentially three, individuals involved.

Bullfinch *Phyrrula pyrrhula*

[Eurasian Bullfinch]

Rare spring migrant and very rare autumn migrant; recent evidence of possible breeding; one winter record.

A female seen on 9 May and a single bird (sex unspecified) on 21 Oct.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Rare autumn migrant and very rare spring migrant.

Records of single birds in Millcombe on 17, 18, 25 (male caught and ringed – Tony Taylor *et al.*), 27 & 28 Oct were presumed to relate to one individual, but this cannot be certain.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Uncommon but regular autumn migrant in small numbers; uncommon spring migrant; rare in midwinter.

In autumn, recorded on ten dates between 5 and 29 Oct, with maxima of five on 5th and six on 11th. All other sightings were of ones and twos.

Lapland Bunting *Calcarius lapponicus*

[Lapland Longspur]

Uncommon but regular autumn migrant; rare spring migrant; very rare in winter.

Two on the main track south of Quarter Wall on the exceptionally early date of 29 Aug (the previous earliest record for Lundy was 31 Aug 1977), were the vanguard of what became a spectacular autumn passage – a phenomenon noted elsewhere in the UK. Recorded on a further 31 dates between 30 Aug and 15 Nov, in ones and twos to begin with, until six on 16 Sep, 16 on 17 Sep, 25 on 19 Sep and a maximum of at least 30 on 7 Oct. However, from 9 Oct onwards numbers dropped back down to ones and twos only, until the final report of the year of two flying over the Tavern on 15 Nov. One particularly tame individual took up residence along the main track between Quarter Wall and the Village and allowed itself to be photographed at very close range (see colour plate 4).

It is extremely difficult to estimate the total number of birds involved, due to the highly mobile nature of the small flocks that frequented various parts of the island plateau (particularly Ackland's Moor, around Pondsburry and Middle Park) and an unknown turnover rate of migrants – some birds apparently staying for several days or even weeks, others clearly flying straight through. However, it is very likely that numbers in 2010 reached or exceeded the previous record, set way back in the autumn of 1953, when “probably over 100 individuals” occurred.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

Rare spring and autumn migrant; very rare winter visitor; formerly more numerous and has bred. One seen and photographed near Pondsburry on 14 Nov (see colour plate 4).

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*

Nationally scarce migrant.

A first-winter bird with a flock of Meadow Pipits in St Helen's Field on 16 Sep (Steve & Anna Sutcliffe). Record accepted by DBRC.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

Nationally scarce migrant.

One first-winter bird in the Camping field on 22 Feb and in the vegetable gardens outside Quarters on 24th and flying over the Tavern on 25th (John Horton, Neil Trout). Record accepted by DBRC.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus* [Common Reed Bunting]

Regular autumn migrant in very small numbers; rare and increasingly irregular spring migrant; very rare in winter.

A male photographed in Millcombe on 11 Jan. The only other records were of single birds on seven dates during autumn migration between 4 and 27 Oct.

BRITISH VAGRANT EXCLUDED FROM THE MAIN REPORT

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius* – one reported on 16 Apr, with a possible further sighting on 19 Apr. Record assessed by BBRC as 'not proven'.

OTHER RECORDS EXCLUDED FROM THE MAIN REPORT

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus* – one reported on 26 Dec; the photo taken showed the bird to have been misidentified.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* – a single individual was reported on 12 Nov, the second latest date ever, though without any supporting information to rule out Balearic Shearwater, much more likely on this date.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* – a logbook entry for 17 Oct states “possible Little Egrets?” but without any description, location of sighting or observer names.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo* – a logbook entry of one on 30 Jan is judged to have been a mis-entered Merlin. A record of one on the very late date of 6 Nov was discounted for lack of any supporting detail.

Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* – one reported near the Devil's Slide on 1 Sep; no description provided.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* – a logbook entry of two on the late date of 19 Jun, without any supporting detail, was considered unreliable.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* – an entry of one on the unlikely date of 8 Jan, without supporting details, was discounted.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* – a bird seen and photographed on 26 Dec and reported as this species was incorrectly identified. Another seen on 28 Dec but description inconclusive.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* – an entry of one on 20 Nov without any supporting detail was discounted as it would be the latest ever autumn Tree Pipit by three weeks.