



Lundy  
Field  
Society  
Annual  
Report  
2015



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**[www.lundy.org.uk](http://www.lundy.org.uk)**

# LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015

(65<sup>th</sup> Report)

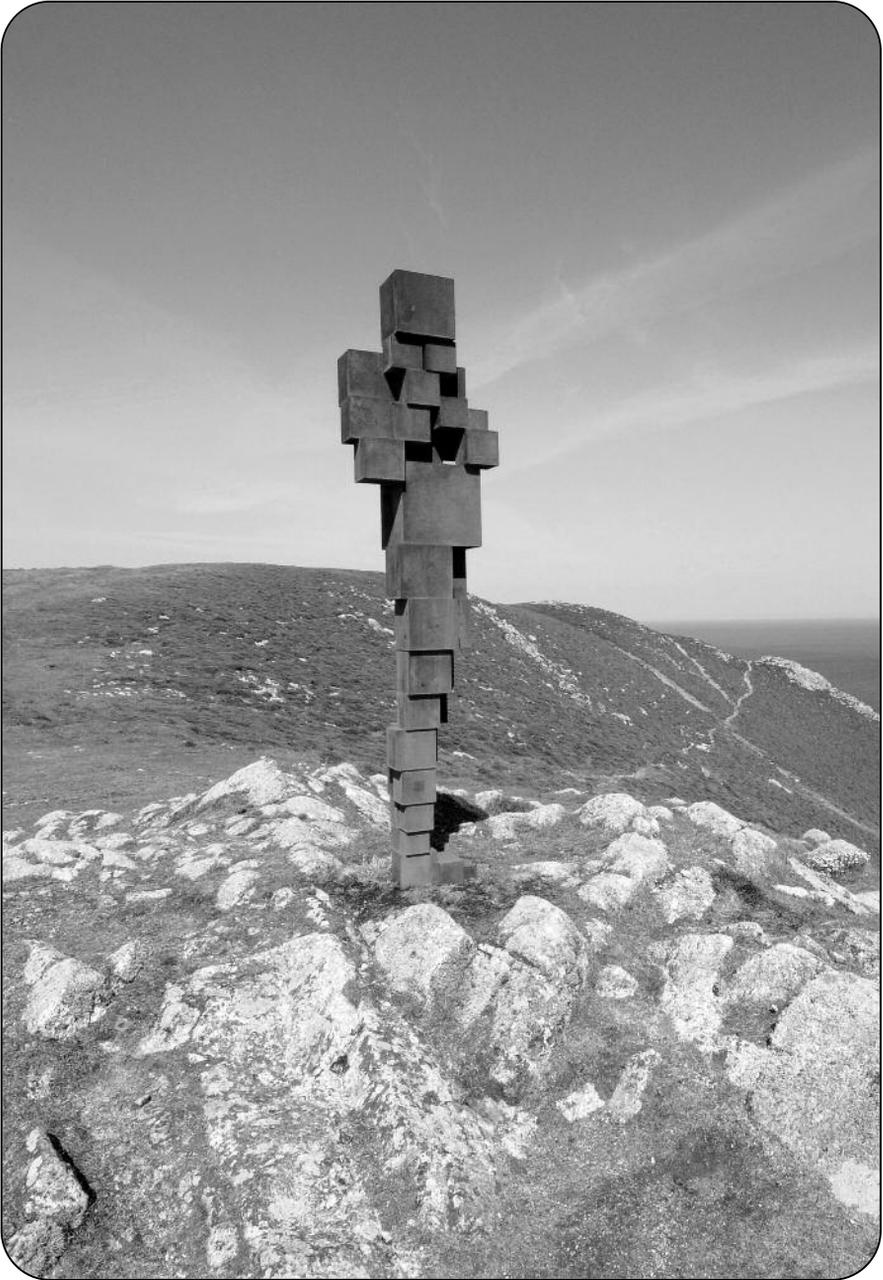
### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2015

President:	DIANA KEAST	
Vice Presidents:	PROFESSOR JENNIFER GEORGE JOHN A. HARMAN DR KEITH HISCOCK DR MYRTLE TERNSTROM BEM	
Chairman:	DR KEITH HISCOCK	
Vice Chairman:	ALAN ROWLAND	
Honorary Secretary:	MICHAEL WILLIAMS	
Honorary Treasurer:	ROGER CHAPPLE	
Honorary Membership Secretary:	SANDRA ROWLAND	
Committee:	ANDREW CLEAVE MBE BELINDA COX ANDRÉ COUTANCHE CHRISTOPHER DEE TREVOR DOBIE JANE ELLIOTT PROFESSOR JENNIFER GEORGE PROFESSOR JOHN HEDGER DIANA P. KEAST CHRIS WEBSTER	(2015-2018) (2013-2016) (2015-2018) (2015-2018) (2015-2018) (2015-2018) (2015-2018) (2015-2018) (2015-2018) (2015-2018)

Lundy Marine Protected Area  
Advisory Group Representative: ROBERT IRVING (co-opted)

#### **Non-Committee posts:**

Island Representative: GRANT SHERMAN  
Bird Ringing Coordinator: TONY TAYLOR  
Editor, Annual Report: TIM DAVIS



*Antony Gormley's 'Daze IV' sculpture at South West Point, 16 May 2015. © Keith Hiscock*

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# EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 65th Annual Report of the Lundy Field Society.

It is pleasing, a year away from the Society's 70th anniversary, to read in Sandra Rowland's membership report that the LFS continues to attract new members at a time when small organisations such as ours face all sorts of pressures to survive in a world of ever increasing demands on people's time and pockets. For all of us who go to Lundy, even on a day-trip but especially for longer, the island remains a place of escape and sanctuary from the constant buzz of mainland life. And for those who wish to stay in touch with that intangible something that Lundy gives, the Lundy Field Society offers a host of opportunities, from joining on-island activities such as Conservations Breaks or 'Discover Lundy' weeks, to the Society's diverse publications, or participating in the annual meeting in Crediton.

And so to the report of LFS activities in 2015. Keith Hiscock opens with his reflections on another year as our Chairman. Michael Williams, writing from his perspective as Secretary, gives an overview of the remarkable diversity and depth of LFS engagement during the year, while Sandra Rowland unveils the good news on membership. After Roger Chapple's succinct summation of financial matters, Derek Green and Beccy MacDonald round up events on and off the island (and lest we forget, there's a picture of the now retired Nigel Dalby in familiar pose in the island shop; is he or isn't he smiling?! Whichever, we wish him a long and happy retirement down on the south coast). Rounding up the business end of matters, Robert Irving reports on the topics that occupied the Lundy Marine Protected Area Advisory Group.

The yearly compilation of fauna and flora records from the LFS Logbook, as well as the bird ringing report by Tony Taylor, fills the bulk of the remaining pages, followed by articles on dragonflies – to date a group little studied on Lundy – and an autumn survey of fungi by John Hedger and his team of observers.

Thanks to everyone who contributed records to the LFS Logbook in 2015, to all those named above who filed the reports that await you, and to the photographers whose pictures adorn the 12-page colour plate section. Our printer, Short Run Press Ltd of Exeter, generously sponsored the colour pages for a sixth consecutive year.

Lastly special thanks to Tim Jones for his tireless work on the bird records, and to Alan Rowland for his unfailing support in the piecing together of this Annual Report.

TIM DAVIS  
July 2016

## CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

Each year brings some new activities for your Society as well as the 'usual' events and our 'usual' contributions to study and conservation on and around Lundy. In 2015, we were pleased to assist the island during the Landmark Trust's 'Golden weekend' by showing visitors around Millcombe House. We also continued our support for the island through our contributions to the Lundy Management Forum meetings – something that especially helps us to be a part of the 'Lundy family'.

Some of my duties as Chairman are a mixture of sadness and pleasure. Representing the Society on 25 July when some of the ashes of our past President, Sir Jack Hayward, were scattered on the island was one such. Before that event, at our AGM, we had elected Diana Keast as our new President. I was delighted that Diana was willing to take on that role. She has been active, as Vice-President, in our Committee meetings and is a font of knowledge about the island and its history: not surprising as the daughter of Martin Coles Harman and someone who has visited Lundy since being a small girl.

Sometimes, I need to answer for myself an 'is it true?' question. I did that in June by seeing that the number of Puffins breeding on the island is indeed remarkable following the eradication of rats. I have yet to participate in a shearwater ringing night but the LFS provides central support for that programme and, especially through Tony Taylor, will continue to support research into another remarkable story of recovery.

It was very important to the Society that, at the 2015 AGM, members voted in favour of raising subscriptions so that we would no longer function at an operational deficit. It is also, I feel, a very good thing that the Society can contribute to the costs of the warden on Lundy: something we have not been able to do for many years.

Whilst 2015 was a 'no-journal' year, the work of considering submitted papers and getting them refereed was a major one: thanks to Jenny George for editing and to all of the referees. The Bulletin (*Discovering Lundy*) and the Annual Report are both high-quality and informative publications and my thanks to Belinda Cox and Tim Davis in particular for their roles in producing those publications.

Our Committee meetings are mostly held in the comfort and hospitality of the Coutanche residence in Bristol: something we greatly appreciate.

As always, thanks especially to the Lundy General Manager, Derek Green, and the Warden, Beccy MacDonald for their support for the LFS. In 2015, Beccy was again assisted by Chloë Nicholson. The island Ranger, Steve Pratt, supervised our LFS Conservation Break teams which were organised by Trevor Dobie. The LFS representative on Lundy, Grant Sherman, continued his good work for the Society and provides a font of knowledge about seabirds (Guillemots in particular), astronomy and much more.

As for me, the role of Chairman continues to be a pleasure with such a strong and able Committee, as well as working with a well-managed and friendly island.

KEITH HISCOCK  
April 2016

## HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

2015 was a very busy year for the LFS, during which we awarded grants to Luke Sutton to continue his study of Lundy's Peregrines, to John Henry Charles for an up-to-date study of the petrogenesis and age of the Lundy granite, and to Helen Booker for the construction of 30 nestboxes to aid monitoring of Manx Shearwaters. We also part-funded the survey expenses of the BTO's Non-Estuarine Waterbird Survey (which took place in January 2016) and sponsored the Puffin pages of the new *Devon Bird Atlas*.

The Society appointed the first wardens on the island until finances made this impracticable. The current warden is funded by the Landmark Trust, until recently with support from Natural England. In June, the LFS Committee decided to make a one-off contribution of £1,000 towards funding this post. If our finances permit, we hope to make further contributions in future.

We recorded the death of our President, Sir Jack Hayward, in last year's report. The LFS was represented by the Chairman and two members on 25 July when family members and friends of Sir Jack scattered some of his ashes on the island.

On a much more cheerful note we were very pleased that Diana Keast accepted our nomination to become our new President and she was duly elected at the 2015 AGM. Although previously a regularly attending Committee member, Diana's presence at the June meeting meant it was only the third time that the Society's President had attended such a meeting. The two previous occasions were in May 1969, when John Harman, Diana's nephew, was President, and in February 1949 when Diana's father and founder of the Society, Martin Coles Harman, chaired a meeting.

Three conservation working parties took place during the year, with 38 participants. Most of the tasks continued to involve rhododendron clearance on the East Side slopes, burning leftover brush and making access ways to stumps and areas of regrowth to enable further treatment. Widow's Tenement was also walked in search of seedlings. Other activities included fence erection and repair, routine tree maintenance, and painting the H of the helipad once again! The group leaders were Andy Bell, Gabi Humphries and Belinda Cox, while Trevor Dobie continued to organise the parties. To each, our thanks.

As usual, the Society contributed to various activities on the island, including talks in the Wheelhouse, fungi forays and moth-trapping demonstrations. Andrew Cleave gave illustrated talks in the southern counties of the mainland and, in addition to history talks in the Tavern, André Coutanche also gave presentations about Lundy in the Bristol area. Simon Dell and Frances Stuart supported the wardening team in educational activities for school parties in North Devon.

The long-term studies of Manx Shearwaters continued, with 126 new adults and 255 chicks ringed in 2015. In the main colony, about 40% of the adults now carry rings from previous years. These provide valuable information on survival rates and on the recruitment of Lundy-reared young to the growing breeding population.

Tony Taylor and Richard Taylor continued their study of the island's Wheatear population, with contributions of colour-ring sightings – which provide information on the survival of breeding birds – by several members. The survival rate of colour-ringed birds between the 2014 and 2015 seasons was 52%. A further 37 birds were trapped and colour-ringed in 2015. General ringing of the island's birds continued in the spring and autumn periods, further contributing towards the national effort to track their movements and monitor their populations. Several demonstrations

of the ringing process were given, as well as evening talks on the insights that ringing provides. The more adventurous visitors who joined in night-time shearwater ringing included two parties from Natural England, including the Chairman of Natural England's Board in September.

On the marine front, our Chairman along with committee member Robert Irving continued to advise on fieldwork – in particular condition monitoring and studies of spiny lobsters – and in consultations regarding the Marine Protected Area around the island. Robert also continued his role as secretary to the Lundy Marine Protected Area Advisory Group which meets twice a year.

Steve Compton and Roger and Rosy Key once again surveyed the Lundy cabbage population. The total number in flower in early June 2015 was about 7,700, almost exactly the same as in 2014 but showing a different pattern of distribution, with an approximately 40% decline in the Millcombe area but increases elsewhere. Greater goat activity in and around Millcombe may be responsible for declines there. Overall, the Lundy cabbage total in 2015 was 48% higher than the average figure over the previous 22 years, an indication that the plant is doing well. The very rough estimate of the overall number of plants in 2015, including those not in flower, was 25,000, reflecting fewer seedlings than usual.

Jenny George continued as editor of the biennial Journal, which will see its fifth volume published in 2016, with André Coutanche again acting as production editor. With eight papers on a diverse range of subjects ranging from Pygmy Shrews to Icelandic artists, it is a measure of the tremendous contribution to the scientific study of Lundy that the Society makes. Belinda Cox edited her third issue of our Bulletin, *Discovering Lundy*, assisted by Tim Davis who acts as production editor.

The Landmark Trust commemorated its 50th anniversary in 2015 and this was marked on Lundy with a 'Golden Weekend' in May. The LFS supported the event by acting as stewards at Millcombe House, which was open to visitors over the weekend. We answered questions, handed out leaflets (including our own!) and supplied cups of tea to over 300 people. A television series about the Landmark Trust was broadcast on Channel 4 during the autumn. As Honorary Secretary, I assisted the production team in sourcing information and historical photographs of Lundy for the segments about the restoration of the lower light in the Old Light.

Tom Dickins was co-opted to the Committee in September. Tom's father led field trips to Lundy for 20 years and Tom now follows in his footsteps. He is based at Middlesex University and brings students to Lundy undertaking a variety of research, including animal behavioural psychology.

The LFS continues to be represented on the church restoration steering group and our Chairman represented the Society at two meetings of the Lundy Management Forum.

At a meeting in Exeter on 29 May 1946, the Lundy Field Society was founded by Lesley Harvey and Martin Coles Harman. Seventy years later the Society is still going strong, making a significant contribution to the conservation and study of a small island in the Bristol Channel. We will be marking the anniversary in 2016 during the Discover Lundy week in September, during which we aim to hold a commemorative dinner and unveil a special plaque.

MICHAEL WILLIAMS  
March 2016

# HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership of the Society continues to increase I would like welcome all our new members and thank all existing members for their continued support of the Society and its many activities.

Many members send donations to the Society along with their subscriptions; all are very much welcomed and appreciated. Some members also increase their subscriptions by gift aid. In 2015, Life Members contributed a large amount in donations to the Society to help with the cost of publications and increasing postage costs. The Society greatly appreciates all these donations.

## Subscriptions and membership news

Subscriptions become due annually, in January. The Society does not send reminders. However, if members have not paid by the middle of the year I do contact members to advise them that their membership is about to lapse and offer them the opportunity to bring their subs up to date. Doing so of course is time consuming and costs the Society extra postage, therefore I would like to encourage members to pay their subs, either by standing order or by cheque sent to me at the address below, during January to avoid membership lapsing. May I remind members that from 2016 the subscription rate is £25 for ordinary or individual members and £28 for family membership. Please contact me if you require a new standing order form.

In 2015, I sent out 42 subscription letters to non-payers. I'm pleased to record that 28 members subsequently paid their subscription and remain members of the Society.

Membership has grown from 350 in 2008 to 435 at the end of 2015. Some of the 435 are 'family' members, so the actual number of members equates to at least 542.

It is with regret that I have to inform you that one of our members, Mr M J P Srawley of Reading, passed away last year.

A record-breaking 48 new members (58 individuals) – listed below, along with their main interest if given – joined the Society during the year. We welcome them all.

John Adams	Wild places
Vikki Ames	Conservation Breaks
Bob Bagatti	Wildlife
John Barry	
Richard and Janice Berry	
Natasha Billingsley	Ecology
Martin and Angela Carney	
David Chamberlain	Butterflies/Dragonflies
Adrian Colton	Invertebrates
Jennifer Davis	Wildlife and Lundy
Rhys Deane	Conservation Breaks
Mandy Ealham	Conservation Breaks
Mandy English	Conservation Breaks
Chris and Ann Evans	
Marion and Bronwen Evans	Lundy ponies
Fiona Gibbon	
Nick Herbert	Habitat conservation
John Horton	Bird ringing

Neil Houston	Conservation Breaks
Stephen Jackson	
Peter Kennedy	Arthropods/Insects
C and B Kingshott	History
Sarah Laslett	Archaeology
Teresa Lee	Conservation Breaks
Ian Lewis	Conservation Breaks
Jane and Sandy Lock	All things Lundy
Geoff and Elizabeth Mason	Birds
Alan Mildren	Marine biology
Brian Nutley	Tree surgery/planting
Ben Parker	Horticulture
Jan Paul	Conservation work
Tim Pett	Birdwatching
Rachel Powell	Ringing
Ty Redif	Conservation Breaks
Martyn Roper	Birds
Susan Sabin	Bird ringing
Nicola Saunders	Marine
Robert and Felicity Shepherd	Birds
Isabella Skelton	Conservation Breaks
Peter Stacey	Archaeology
Barry Summers	Bird ringing/watching
Gail Taplin	Conservation Breaks
Ruth Turner	Birds
Donna Vince	Conservation Breaks
Chris Ware	Walking
Robert and Sue Waterfield	Lundy
Susan Wells	Wildlife
Andrew and Joanne Wilby	Birds

### Keep in touch

Please inform me if you have a new or changed email address, and also if you change your postal address so that I can keep the membership database up to date and you do not miss any of the Society's annual or biennial publications that are part of your membership benefits. Please do visit our website at [www.lundy.org.uk](http://www.lundy.org.uk) for up-to-date information, where you may read or search our online publications and also view the list of LFS publications available for purchase. You might also like to visit the Society's Facebook page for more interesting and informal information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any membership queries:

By post: Mole Cottage, Chapel Close, Woodford, Morwenstow, Cornwall EX23 9JR

Email: [membership@lundy.org.uk](mailto:membership@lundy.org.uk)

Phone: 01288 331750

SANDRA ROWLAND  
March 2016

## LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET 2015

INCOME	Year End 31/12/2014	Year End 31/12/2015
Subscriptions 2016	£ -	£ 602.00
Subscriptions	£ 4,926.00	£ 5,006.00
PLR/CAF	£ -	£ 1.80
AGM Auction	£ 334.00	£ 388.00
Donations	£ 550.47	£ 3,095.77
Legacy	£ 8.00	£ -
Bird Ringing	£ 170.35	£ 289.60
Conservation Break Deposits	£ 290.00	£ 240.00
Conservation Break Deposits 2016	£ -	£ 260.00
Gift Aid	£ 776.25	£ 1,589.53
PayPal	£ 512.67	£ 7.10
Bulletin Donation and Advertising	£ -	£ 200.00
Sales	£ 287.41	£ 442.49
Discover Lundy 2016	£ -	£ 13,125.00
Car Stickers	£ 12.00	£ 5.00
Polo Shirts	£ -	£ -
<i>Protecting Lundy's Marine Life</i>	£ 271.50	£ 74.59
<i>The Harman Family's Lundy</i>	£ 418.22	£ 487.49
AGM Lunches Sold	£ 168.00	£ 317.00
Every Click	£ 4.82	£ -
Interest	£ 220.37	£ -
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£ 8,950.06</b>	<b>£ 26,131.37</b>

## LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET 2015

EXPENDITURE	Year End 31/12/2014	Year End 31/12/2015
Devon Bird Atlas	£ -	£ 200.00
Discover Lundy 2016	£ -	£ 4,470.00
AGM Boniface Centre	£ 170.00	£ 170.00
AGM Catering	£ 442.50	£ 426.00
AGM Expenses	£ -	£ 24.66
Bird Ringing	£ 425.00	£ 618.50
Annual Report	£ 1,876.00	£ 1,231.00
Bulletin	£ -	£ 661.00
Journal	£ 3,145.00	£ -
Grants	£ 500.00	£ 414.30
Conservation	£ 1,617.00	£ 1,889.00
Stationery	£ 303.90	£ 308.42
Postage	£ 1,585.43	£ 702.85
LFS Lundy Cupboard	£ -	£ 142.04
Website Expenses	£ -	£ 50.39
Refund Donations	£ -	£ 237.55
PayPal	£ 51.90	£ -
Lundy Warden	£ -	£ 1,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£ 10,116.73</b>	<b>£ 12,545.71</b>
<b>Net Income/Expenditure</b>	<b>-£ 1,166.67</b>	<b>£ 13,585.66</b>

## LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET 2015

ASSETS	Year End 31/12/2014	Year End 31/12/2015
Stocks	£ 1,334.24	£ 1,772.64
NS&I Account	£ 29,602.82	£ 29,824.84
Current Account	£ 2,551.58	£ 15,850.60
Reserve Account	£ 9.07	£ 9.07
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>£ 33,497.71</b>	<b>£ 47,457.15</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
B/f from previous year	£ 34,106.39	£ 33,497.71
Stocks	£ 1,334.24	£ 1,772.64
Discover Lundy 2016 deposits held	£ 8,655.00	
2016 Subscriptions held	£ 602.00	
2016 Conservation Break deposits held	£ 260.00	£ 9,517.00
NS&I Interest		<u>£ 222.02</u>
		£ 45,009.37
Debtor/Creditor	-£ 776.25	-£ 858.97
Surplus	-£ 1,166.67	£ 3,306.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 33,497.71</b>	<b>£ 47,457.15</b>

**Note 1.** Interest: for year ended 31/12/2015, the NS&I interest is omitted from the income analysis as it is not a received benefit. It appears, and can be calculated from the movement shown in relevant asset figure.

**Note 2.** Stock Values have been reviewed and reduced where appropriate while the value of bird rings held has been included.

ROGER CHAPPLE  
Honorary Treasurer  
March 2016

### LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY ACCOUNTS EXAMINATION FOR 2015

I have examined the accounts of the Lundy Field Society for the year 1 January to 31 December 2015 and am happy to report that the figures presented to me by the Treasurer, in my opinion, represent fairly and accurately the overall financial situation of the Lundy Field Society for that financial period.

The Treasurer adequately explained to me the three questions that I had concerning some figures on the accounts. He had this year set up a cash book containing details of each transaction from which it became comparatively easy to tie together the entry on the bank statement with the source documentation for each income or expenditure item. I would like to thank him for this.

The operational income for the year, though small, is adequate when compared to the haemorrhaging of funds that had taken place in previous years. The funds received in this financial year referring to the 2016 'Discover Lundy' event have been correctly placed into suspense and will only appear as income in next year's accounts.

ROGER E. ALLEN  
Examiner

## LUNDY GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

2015 marked the 50th anniversary of the founding of The Landmark Trust and turned into one of the busiest years in recent memory.

*MS Oldenburg* completed 98 scheduled sailings to Lundy, with bad weather cancelling 12 trips over the summer. She carried 14,666 passengers, a slight decrease on the previous year's 15,598 passengers. Notably, day-trip numbers were reduced whilst staying passenger numbers increased. *Oldenburg* also played host to six river cruises and eight private Lundy charters as well as remaining a popular day out on her relocation cruises from Bideford to Ilfracombe. The winter helicopter service had a busy season with 39 scheduled flying days, carrying 1,354 passengers, an increase of 17% on 2014. Total attendance (16,020) by both ship and helicopter over the year was slightly down on the previous year's 16,713 visitors. Meanwhile, property occupancy across the island was healthy at 80% over the year; an increase of 3% on 2014.

*Oldenburg* dry-docked in Sharpness again as in previous years, with major works completed to her windlass (winch) and foredeck. The annual cost for dry-docking for 2015 was an all-time high of £180,000. There were celebrations for long-serving members of the crew, with Ships Superintendent Jack Bater reaching his 25th year of service aboard, and First Officer Brian Slade retiring after 24 years. Lundy is extremely grateful for their dedication and commitment to the ship.

On a sad note, regular rope man at Ilfracombe, Nick Perrin, tragically died after falling into the harbour at Ilfracombe. The crew are to be commended for their actions while attempting to rescue him. Nick was a popular member of our team and will be sadly missed.

Back at Lundy we welcomed the return of *MV Balmoral*, restored to service following a heroic volunteer effort after she was sold by previous owners Waverley Excursions Ltd. The island also enjoyed visits from *PS Waverley* and cruise liner *Ocean Nova*.

On the staff front we welcomed new island manager and his wife, Rob and Sue Waterfield. Sue has since taken over the management of the shop following the retirement of 'Arkwright' (Nigel Dalby, right). We also bade farewell to Ben Clarke and Kate Johns following the birth of their daughter Mya in September.

We were sad to learn of the death of Sir Jack Hayward, a true friend to Lundy whose generosity in 1969 helped save the island for the nation. Known as 'Union Jack' for his patriotism, Sir Jack's ashes returned to Lundy with his family in July and were appropriately scattered beneath the Union Flag on the Ugly. A lasting memorial of thanks has been placed in the Wheelhouse in recognition.



Landmark's 50th anniversary was celebrated in style on Lundy. Among the many highlights was the installation of DAZE IV – a remarkable sculpture, part of the Land series by artist Sir Antony Gormley – which through most of 2015 graced South West Point. A 'Golden Weekend' took place in May during which Millcombe, with help from members of the LFS, opened its doors to the public. A special anthem for Landmark was performed on Millcombe lawn and a Golden moment was held simultaneously at Landmark properties across the country at 3pm on a glorious afternoon.

*Ship Superintendent Jack Bater inspects Oldenburg's propellers during the annual dry-dock at Sharpness. Photo: Derek Green*



*New arrivals on Lundy during 2015: the air-sea rescue helicopter, making its first visit after entering service, and the converted Land Rover fire truck. Photo: Derek Green*

Other notable events to mark the anniversary included a new issue of Lundy stamps featuring Landmark properties across the country. A special 50th anniversary beer was brewed and a special peal was rung in the church.

Media coverage of the anniversary was extensive and Lundy featured in a Channel 4 programme showing the restoration of the lower lantern room. Celebrations continued throughout the summer, culminating with the island's own version of the Wickerman Festival in October.

Other events across the island included the marriage of Kim Welsh (daughter of Kevin the farmer) and Gavin Cann. August brought the Lundy's annual 'fly in' and the Lundy 'lympics on a wet summer Sunday, and an all-island 50th birthday party held in a transformed lambing shed for Mr Fred Deakin.

In the autumn we said farewell to an old friend when RAF 22 Squadron Search and Rescue was disbanded as the iconic Sea King helicopter reached the end of its useful life. A regular visitor to

Lundy, they will be sadly missed. However, when the new Coastguard rescue helicopter paid its first visit, we were encouraged and delighted to find some of the regular Sea King crew had transferred across to the new service. We were assured that normal service would continue; thus we can expect to see the rescue helicopter regularly practising around Lundy and en route to and from the island with *Oldenburg*.

The island also took delivery of a new fire truck in October when a converted Land Rover was delivered from the mainland to replace the ageing Ford Ranger.

An extensive maintenance programme was undertaken during the year, with works continuing to Old Light, the Tavern, the lambing shed and the church. The appeal to raise funds for the church continued and, whilst reasonably well supported, more funds are urgently required to bring the Heritage Lottery Fund project to life.

Inside the island's letting properties, further improvements include anglepoise lamps and LED lighting to improve reading in the darker properties, while duvets have been introduced to replace blankets, and toasters are now a permanent feature in the cottages.

Back on the mainland it was a busy year for the Bideford and Ilfracombe shore offices, which underwent an extensive IT review, including the development and implementation of a new ticketing/booking system with help from our Landmark colleagues at Shottesbrooke.

All in all, 2015 was an extremely busy year for Lundy's dedicated team and our loyal volunteers, and I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and support.

Lastly, as we approach the 70th anniversary of the founding of the LFS, everyone on Lundy would like to wish the Society a very happy birthday year.

All the very best.

DEREK GREEN  
May 2016



*Derek (front right) with the LFS team on Millcombe lawn during The Landmark Trust's 'Golden Weekend' 50th anniversary celebrations.  
Photo: Rob Waterfield*

# LUNDY WARDEN'S REPORT

2015 was an exceptionally busy year for the Conservation Team, with increased focus on the rhododendron and bracken management plans by the island's Rangers, and a higher demand for visitor engagement with the Wardens, along with a Puffin Monitoring Project.

Chloë Nicholson returned for a second season as volunteer Seasonal Assistant Warden and Robyn Evans joined us as the volunteer Seasonal Assistant Ranger. Both gained valuable experience in the positions and Chloë has since found work with Sheffield Wildlife Trust while Robyn has remained on Lundy as a General Assistant.

Visitor events occurred throughout the year with a major increase during the sailing season. The sailing season began with a Cadbury's Easter Trail, organised through the National Trust's collaboration with the chocolate giant. This ran exceptionally well and brought a number of new families to the island (thanks to Robyn, Leanne and Frances Stuart who supported the event and looked amazing in their pirate outfits and bunny ears!). Guided walks and talks were provided on nearly all sailing days which were supported by a volunteer Visitor Engagement Officer (Charlotte Eich) for the six week school holiday period. Snorkel Safaris were planned with at least four sessions each week from the beginning of June however the inclement weather conditions affected the number of successful sessions this season. The number of Rockpool Rambles increased and became more popular with visitors of all ages.

Splash In! took place on Saturday 1 August after being rescheduled due to an easterly blow. Sixteen participants fully captured the Marine Protected Area through their amazing images and then spent the evening enjoying a Lundy BBQ and music from Baz and Tony. The winners were as follows:

- **Overall:** *Jester's hat* by Jonny Aird – winning a Sunnto Eon Steel.
- **Marine Abstract:** 1st *Jesters Hat* by Jonny Aird – winning a Tough camera courtesy of Olympus; 2nd: *Anemone* by Mike Deaton – winning a Hoolis mask and matching cap courtesy of Oceanic; 3rd: *Anemone* by Andrea Bentote – winning an Ikelite PCa lite torch courtesy of Cameras Underwater.
- **Mega to Macro:** 1st: *Seal* by Mike Deaton – winning a Nexus Dive Computer courtesy of AP Diving; 2nd: *Anemone*" by Mark Lavington – winning a family day-trip to Lundy courtesy of the Lundy Company/The Landmark Trust; 3rd: *Glass shrimp* by Jonny Aird – winning an Ikelite PCa lite torch courtesy of Cameras Underwater.
- **Simply Marine:** 1st: *Seal at Brazen Ward* by Mike Deaton – winning an Aqualite-S90 degrees courtesy of Sea & Sea; 2nd: *Red eyes* by Mark Lavington – winning an Oceanic Cyanea mask and Lavacore booties courtesy of Oceanic; 3rd: *Mexican wave* by Maggs Ashton – winning a subscription to DIVER magazine.
- **Spirit of the Marine Protected Area:** 1st: *Yellow power* by Maggs Ashton – winning a Xenos wetsuit courtesy of Fourth Element. 2nd: *Pink sea fan* by Mike Deaton – winning a Travel lite bag courtesy of Beaver Sports; 3rd: *New life* by Owen Atkinson – winning an Ikelite PCa lite torch courtesy of Cameras Underwater.

Our thanks to all of our sponsors. All the images are available to view on the Lundy Conservation Team Facebook page and on the Lundy Warden Flickr channel. The 2016 competition will be run online, so please check the Facebook page for details if you wish to take part.

We received funding from Banrock Station, through the National Trust, to run a more in-depth monitoring study of the Puffin colony on the main slope of Jenny's Cove. This allowed us to buy new equipment to create time-lapse videos of a previously unmonitored area and to increase the monitoring effort undertaken by an enthusiastic group of volunteers (known as Team Puffin). The findings of the project have been very exciting as Team Puffin identified 198 burrows, of which 153 were apparently active. Of these, around 77% were observed to have fish taken into them; a sure sign of chicks being fed. The time-lapse images however brought the biggest surprise, with a further 66 apparently active burrows identified. We would like to thank everyone involved in the project. We have since been in discussions with a local university to continue the project in 2016 and 2017.

The Ranger team as ever focused on grounds maintenance, enhanced by all the hard work (and levels of enthusiasm despite inclement weather conditions) of the LFS working parties, whose support is invaluable.

The ongoing eradication of rhododendron is well on course for the island to become free of this invasive plant by 2025. All the stacks are gradually being burnt, so that the east sidelands changed even more in appearance during 2015. Seedlings are however still a concern and the Ranger team are working exceptionally hard to deal with them. As this project has moved on, so the focus of the Rangers has moved more towards bracken. In 2015 they increased efforts to reduce the spread of bracken across the plateau, with a particular focus on areas around some of the island's Ancient Scheduled Monuments. The success of this work can already be seen and we will be continuing with this in the years ahead. Head Ranger Steve Pratt has also been busy developing management plans with his assistants to look into other non-natives on the island, such as Spanish bluebells and Alexanders.

This is just a taster of what we have been up to in 2015. We look forward to seeing you on the island in 2016.

All the very best.

BECCY MACDONALD  
April 2016

# REPORT OF THE LUNDY MARINE PROTECTED AREA ADVISORY GROUP

The Lundy Marine Protected Area Advisory Group (LMPAAG) provides a forum for the discussion of all matters relating to the island's waters and shores. The Group includes representatives from the island (the Lundy Company/Landmark Trust), Natural England, the Devon & Severn Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority, Historic England, the Marine Management Organisation, the Lundy Field Society, the Marine Biological Association, MARINELife, local nature conservation groups, commercial fishing interests, dive charter boat skippers and local dive clubs. The Group meets twice a year: in 2015 it met on 22 April on board the MS *Oldenburg* alongside Bideford Quay, and on 6 October at the Ilfracombe and North Devon Sub-Aqua Club, Ilfracombe. October's meeting was the 60th meeting of the Advisory Group, which started out life as the Lundy Marine Consultation Group in 1985. The Lundy Field Society provides the secretariat for the LMPAAG.

A variety of issues were brought to the attention of the Group and discussed during the two meetings held in 2015. These are summarised below:

## **Diving on the protected wreck of the *Iona II***

Firstly it should be pointed out that, as from 1 April 2015, English Heritage (who are responsible for all Protected Wreck Sites around the English coastline) has now been renamed as Historic England (HE). Last year, readers will recall that a Dive Trail and accompanying booklets (which could be taken under water) were produced to assist with the interpretation of this historic wreck site. The interpretive material was very well received and was highly commended at the Association of Heritage Interpretation awards in November 2015, in the category of a target audience.

At the April meeting, members were informed that the means by which a licence has to be obtained from HE by those intending to dive on the *Iona II* wreck had changed. Unfortunately, the new requirements proved impossible to apply so no dives were actually undertaken on the *Iona II* wreck site at all in 2015, and the interpretative material that had been so well received was not used.

Once this problem was raised at the Advisory Group meeting in October, Historic England soon realised there was no point having unworkable requirements for the issuing of their licences. A couple of months later, the Group were informed that HE had amended their licensing procedure. A single licence would now be held by the island (the Warden) and all of the charter skippers would be named on this one licence. The names of divers diving on the wreck could then be passed on to the Warden after each dive, and these would be submitted at regular intervals back to HE.

## **Funding the Warden's time**

As a result of financial cut-backs within Natural England, their contribution to funding the Warden's post on Lundy has had to be stopped. NE had funded the position fully since the designation of the Marine Nature Reserve in 1986, with part-funding from The Landmark Trust in recent years. The Warden's post will now be largely funded by The Landmark Trust (c/o the Lundy Company) with a contribution from the Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (D&SIFCA). As reported elsewhere in this volume, the LFS has also made a financial contribution for the year 2015/16.

## **Marine Conservation Advice packages**

During the autumn, members of the Advisory Group were invited to comment on two draft Marine Conservation Advice packages which have been compiled for Lundy by Natural England. One is for the Marine Conservation Zone (consisting of Supplementary Advice for conserving and restoring the site's feature – spiny lobster) and one is for the Special Area of Conservation (consisting of Site Information; Supplementary Advice for conserving and restoring the site's features; and Advice on Operations). Both of these packages are due to be finalised by the end of March 2016.

## **New byelaws for Potting and Diving**

The Group were informed by the D&SIFCA that the two new permitting byelaws for Potting and Diving were signed off by the Secretary for State on 17 March 2015 and so now are in force. There is a pot limit for recreational purposes of five pots per permit holder, and a daily catch limit of two lobsters and three crabs; and of 15 scallops per diver. Note, however, that in the spirit of the Marine Protected Area, several of the charter boat skippers will not allow their divers to bring shellfish back on board after a dive. The conditions of the permit also state that all deployed gear must be marked (i.e. be able to be identified on the surface). Permits are issued to individuals as well as to boats. For a diving group, this means that anyone wanting to take shellfish during their dive has to have a permit – the licence for the boat will not cover them.

## **New speed limit for vessels**

A new speed limit of five knots within 100 metres of the coastline (introduced as part of the Code of Conduct for minimising disturbance to grey seals) has been in force and largely adhered to during the 2015 summer (see last year's Annual Report). The Warden reported that there had been an increase in the number of jet-skis visiting the island during the summer. Apparently a change to the insurance conditions for these craft now allows them to venture up to 15 miles offshore (from five miles), so Lundy falls within their reach. There had also been a noticeable increase in the number of visiting Rigid-Hull Inflatable Boats, fast leisure craft and paddle boards.

## **New wildlife accreditation scheme**

Charter boat skippers are being encouraged to take part in a new wildlife accreditation scheme (created by the Warden in association with the North Devon Biosphere Reserve), which involved attending a day's training in marine wildlife conservation. The scheme is linked to the national WiSe scheme (Wildlife Safe) and most of Lundy's regular visiting skippers have already attended the course.

## **Sublittoral monitoring of the SAC**

In order to assess the condition of various notable features of the Special Area of Conservation (SAC), a number of monitoring programmes are in place which are undertaken at least once every six years. As part of the Habitats Directive, the status of these features are then reported to the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (by Natural England), who in turn have to submit them to Brussels as part of a UK-wide assessment. In 2014, it was the turn of the sublittoral aspects of the rocky reef feature to be assessed, requiring the use of diving as a means of access.

The sub-features/tasks in question were: (1) kelp forest communities; (2) vertical and overhanging circalittoral rock; (3) subtidal bedrock and stable boulder communities; (4) the density and condition of sea fans; (5) photographic survey of sunset cup coral populations; (6) the maximum depth of foliose algae; and (7) assessment of the change in sessile epifaunal

communities inside and outside of the Lundy No-Take Zone. Frustratingly for those contracted to undertake this work (PML Applications Ltd, Plymouth), the poor weather during the summer of 2014 meant that some of the tasks had to be postponed until 2015. At the time of writing, the results of this work are still being written up.

### **MARINElife sightings on trips to/from Lundy on MS *Oldenburg***

Volunteers belonging to the charity MARINElife have been recording marine mammals and seabirds once a month on the *Oldenburg's* crossings between Bideford/Ilfracombe and Lundy. During 2015 they spotted a total of 20 species of seabird and six species of marine mammal. Common dolphin were again the most numerous cetacean observed (150), with regular sightings of harbour porpoise (51). Most of the seal sightings (184 grey seal; 2 common seal) were of animals around Lundy, but some were observed further offshore. Bottlenose dolphin numbers (seven) were low during the summer, but interestingly there were three minke whale sightings, each one observed around midway between Ilfracombe and Lundy.

If there are any matters which LFS members would wish to have addressed at the Advisory Group meetings, I would be happy to raise them on your behalf.

ROBERT IRVING  
Honorary Secretary  
Lundy Marine Protected Area Advisory Group  
March 2016

# BIRDS ON LUNDY 2015

by

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BIRDING YEAR

A total of 140 species were recorded during 2015.

### Wildfowl

Only five species of Anatidae were reported on Lundy in 2015, four ducks – **Shelduck**, **Teal**, **Mallard** and **Common Scoter** – and a single representative of the goose family, a lone **Dark-bellied Brent Goose** which was seen on two days in September off the East Side. A highlight of the year was the successful breeding by Teal for the first time, a female raising four young on Pondsburry. Unlike most Mallard ducklings, which tend to fall prey to gulls and Peregrines, all four youngsters were still present in July, having acquired full juvenile plumage.

### Divers, grebes and herons

The Landing Bay, not unusually, produced the year's records of divers. **Great Northern Divers** were seen in seven months, including three on the unusual date of 30 June; lone **Red-throated Divers** were seen on single dates in March and April; and a **Black-throated Diver** – Lundy's 12th record – stayed for two days in late November. Grebes are real rarities for Lundy and, as tends to be the norm, none were recorded in 2015. Sightings of **Little Egrets** on the other hand are increasing as their UK population continues to establish, with possibly as many as six birds passing through the island in May. Records of **Grey Herons** easily outstripped the previous year's 26 days, with single or occasionally two birds seen on 46 days between May and October, plus a late bird in early December.

### Birds of prey (including owls)

The year's raptor species amounted to just seven (compared to ten the previous year). A single springtime **Hen Harrier** passed through in late April, while autumn brought a strong showing with records on nine days between mid October and late November. After a long-staying **Sparrowhawk** in the first half of June, the highest autumn count was five, all seen in view at the same time, leaving the island on 27 September. Formerly a breeding resident, single **Buzzards** on three dates in January, April and June, plus another on three days in September, was a good showing by this uncommon visitor. **Kestrels** were seen in every month but again did not breed; after a high of four in mid April, the highest count in autumn was seven in mid October. **Merlins** were seen on 33 days during the year, as usual peaking in October with four on 15th. All three records of **Hobby** fell within seven days in early June, while Lundy's **Peregrines** had a much better year than in 2014, with five young fledged. **Short-eared Owl** was, as in most years, the sole species of owl recorded, in 2015 seen from mid October to the first day of November.

### Rails and waders

After an apparent blank year in 2014, **Water Rails** bred again in 2015 when a chick was heard calling at night near Quarter Wall Pond in early June, and a juvenile was seen there in August.

Ten was the highest day count following an influx of passage migrants in mid October. Among 17 wader species during the year, **Dotterel** (a juvenile on 2 October), two **Black-tailed Godwits** (24 March & 10 July, the former in summer plumage) and a juvenile **Ruff** (28 August) were the highlights. **Woodcocks** were notable for their scarcity, with single birds on three dates at the end of October and start of November after an initial two on 14 October. A spring high of 48 **Oystercatchers** on 9 April will have included a good number passage migrants as well as island breeders, while 20 on 4 November was an unusually high number for that month.

## Seabirds

The first **Manx Shearwater** of the year was heard calling in the Landing Bay on 7 April. The long-term study of the island's shearwaters is continuing to yield some fascinating results, especially as the population grows. Among eight birds caught at the Old Light breeding colony in May was a bird ringed as a juvenile on Lundy in 2008. After two years of low double-digit counts of **Balearic Shearwaters**, 2015 produced just a single bird off South End on 15 September. **Storm Petrels** may be building on the success of confirmed breeding in 2014, with at least one singing for long periods at night in mid July. A count of 100 **Gannets** on 5 August was the year's high, while autumn passage **Cormorants** peaked at 24 on 15 September. **Shags** were recorded in every month (just one bird in December), the highest count (of 60) as usual in August, though well down on the 238 of the previous year, most likely a consequence of under-recording. Skua sightings included a **Pomarine** on 29 October and an impressive group of 15 **Bonxies** migrating north off the West Side on 15 May. A solitary **Black Guillemot** returned for the fourth successive year in the Landing Bay, from 2 April to 22 June. **Puffin** numbers reached a new peak since confirmation of successful rat eradication in 2004, when 250 birds were counted in Jenny's Cove (3 July); this figure doesn't include birds present in other areas during the same period. The maximum count of **Razorbills** during the year was 1,100 in May, while a March count of 1,697 **Guillemots** was the highest ever for that month, and also the highest for the year, though there was no full breeding-season census in 2015. Three **Sandwich Terns** (9 April) and two **Common Terns** (18 August) were two of only four records of terns. Among seven species of gulls reported, the undoubted highlight was Lundy's second record of **Mediterranean Gull**, 37 years after the first.

## Passerines and near-passerines

### *Rarity highlights*

Arguably the rarity highlight of the year was Lundy's second **Great Grey Shrike** which was seen on two days in mid October. It spent most of its (viewable) time in Millcombe, feeding on bumblebees. Other rare or unusual birds seen during the year were: **Hoopoe** (April/May), **Kingfisher** (an exceptional year with four records), **Wryneck** (April), **Great Spotted Woodpecker** (September), **Golden Oriole** (May), **Yellow-browed Warbler** (September/October), **Dartford Warbler** (October), **Rose-coloured Starling** (June), **Red-breasted Flycatcher** (October), **Grey-headed Wagtail** (September), **Richard's Pipit** (September), **Hawfinch** (October), **Common Rosefinch** (May & September), **Bullfinch** (January, April & September), **Snow Bunting** (October), **Lapland Bunting** (September/October), **Ortolan Bunting** (September), **Little Bunting** (October) and **Rustic Bunting** (September/October).

### *Spring migration*

Among the early long-distance arrivals, as usual, were **Wheatears**, the first on 7 March, with the highest count, of 200, on 26 & 27 April. First dates for ten species of warbler recorded during spring were: **Chiffchaff** (16 March, with a peak of 200 on 14 April), **Willow Warbler** (5 April, 300 on 8 & 14 April), **Blackcap** (5 April, 200 on 16 April), **Sedge Warbler** (10 April), **Grasshopper**

**Warbler** (11 April), **Whitethroat** (16 April), **Reed Warbler** (17 April), **Garden Warbler** (29 April), **Wood Warbler** (13 May, the only one recorded) and **Lesser Whitethroat** (one only, on 5 June). **Sand Martin** (8 March) and **Swallow** (3 April) turned up more or less on cue, while two **House Martins** on 10 March were much earlier than usual. Peak spring numbers for hirundines were 102 Sand Martins on 7 April, 130 House Martins on 15 April and 550 Swallows on 26 May. Among the thrushes, the first **Ring Ouzel** was seen on 6 April, while a single **Fieldfare** (5 April) and just one **Redwing** (15 April) belied their status as common spring migrants. First appearances by later-arriving migrants were **Cuckoo** (23 April), **Turtle Dove** (27 April) and **Spotted Flycatcher** (29 April). **Swift** numbers peaked at 20 on 13 June, but the first date, 15 April, was early for this normally later-arriving species. A **Blue Tit**, rare on Lundy in spring, put in an appearance on 10 April and left wearing a ring.

### ***Breeding season***

Successful breeding was confirmed for **Woodpigeon** (a pair in Millcombe), **Carrion Crow** (several family parties around the island), **Raven** (two family parties seen), **Skylark** (in what appeared to be a late season), **Swallow** (1–3 pairs), **Wren** (some 60 territories around the island), **Starling** (about 20 pairs), **Blackbird** (an estimated eight pairs), **Robin** (five pairs), **Stonechat** (one pair), **Wheatear** (about 100 pairs), **House Sparrow** (122 broods), **Pied Wagtail** (at least one pair), **Meadow Pipit** (many adults taking food to nest sites in June in what was appeared to be a late season), **Rock Pipit**, **Chaffinch** (up to four pairs), **Linnet** (several family parties seen) and **Goldfinch** (at least three pairs). Species that evaded efforts to obtain confirmed breeding included **Chiffchaff** (a presumed female seen gathering nesting material in lower Millcombe), **Dunnock** (two territories only). Yet again, **Blackcaps** could only be assigned to 'possible' breeding, a male holding territory and sub-singing in June.

### ***Autumn migration***

**Sand Martin** passage peaked at 60 on 17 September, while **Swallow** numbers reached 5,000 on 25 September, and **House Martins** 150 on 28 September. Two **Swifts** were unusually late migrants on 28 September. While **Goldcrests** peaked at 70 on 23 September, 2015 was a bumper year for **Firecrests** on Lundy, a strong and prolonged autumn passage evidenced by the record number of 19 birds trapped and ringed, and a day maximum of eight on 15 October. **Coal Tits** too put in a good showing, recorded on 23 days between early October and late November. **Willow Warblers** peaked at 27 on 15 September, closely followed by **Chiffchaffs** (25) on 23 September, while two **Wood Warblers** put in welcome appearances in mid September. The highest count of **Blackcaps** (175) occurred on 3 October. Four **Mistle Thrushes** on 14 October was the highest day count since five in 2010. A count of 11 **Whinchats** on 16 September was higher than in most recent years, while the autumn peak of Wheatears was a modest 50 on the same day. A fall of **White Wagtails** early on 16 September numbered at least 100 around the South End. **Meadow Pipit** passage was noticeable from early September, with day counts rising progressively from 80 on 2nd to 500 on 25th, and peaking at 650 on 12 October. Unfavourable weather conditions for a third successive autumn depressed finch passage, numbers of **Chaffinch** exceeding 100 on only four days, 300 on 26 October being the maximum. Other maxima were 50 **Goldfinches** (11 & 25 October), 45 **Siskins** (13 September) and seven **Bramblings** (28 October). Late migrants passing through in November included a single **Swallow** on 16th, a **Black Redstart** on 20th and two **Stonechats** on 26th.

## **Keeping in touch with Lundy bird news and information**

The website [www.birdsoflundy.org.uk](http://www.birdsoflundy.org.uk) linked to the 2007 publication *The Birds of Lundy* includes updates to the species accounts up to the end of 2015. Further updates will be added as new observations continue build on the knowledge gained from nearly 70 years of intensive study by the LFS.

Complementing this long-term archive is an online blog [www.lundybirds.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.lundybirds.blogspot.co.uk) through which visiting birdwatchers and ringers may contribute news of the latest sightings. This relies completely on voluntary contributions. If you would like to become a 'co-author' of the blog, meaning that you can post your own updates, please send an email to [gen@birdsoflundy.org.uk](mailto:gen@birdsoflundy.org.uk).

## **SYSTEMATIC LIST**

### **Nomenclature and sequence**

These follow *The British List* (summarised 8th edition, 30 March 2016) maintained by the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU). Where different from the species name in common usage (e.g. Robin), the international English name applied by the BOU (in this case 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, in most cases, the number of days on which the species was reported. It should be noted that some of these counts may not be truly representative of the numbers of birds present and are perhaps more reflective of periods (particularly spring and autumn) when observer coverage is higher.

### **Assessment of records of rare birds**

Records of species that are vagrants to Britain (there was one on Lundy in 2015: Rustic Bunting) 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. Red-breasted Flycatcher, Little Bunting) are considered by the Devon Birds Records Committee (DBRC). In addition, records of 'Lundy vagrants', species that are regularly encountered on the mainland but rare on the island (e.g. Mediterranean Gull, Dartford Warbler), 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 this context; it does not necessarily mean that those assessing the record think 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 [gen@birdsoflundy.org.uk](mailto:gen@birdsoflundy.org.uk).

Observers' names are included below for all accepted 2015 records of species that are national rarities, nationally scarce migrants and/or Lundy vagrants, as well as for some other reports of particular interest.

### **Birds seen during boat crossings**

Sightings during boat crossings are generally only included in the main list when it is clear that the birds in question were close to the island. There is a separate listing at the end of the report for other crossing records of interest. Observers are strongly encouraged to submit records for the coastal waters of the North Devon mainland, including the Taw & Torridge Estuary, to the Devon Bird Recorder ([recorder@devonbirds.org](mailto:recorder@devonbirds.org)).

### **Acknowledgements**

As always we are grateful 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 Devon Birds; the annual bird report is a distillation of thousands of hours of observation by many dozens of individuals.

Special thanks go to Devon Birds for working closely with us on the assessment of rarity records, especially Julia Harris, Devon Birds database manager, who provided a file of all 2015 Lundy records, including those submitted via BirdTrack, to help ensure consistency between the respective bird reports published by Devon Birds and the LFS. Others who have helped us in various ways include Chris & Carol Baillie, Rebecca Bates, Richard Campey, Dave Chown, Tim Cleeves, Chris Dee, James Diamond, Rob Duncan, Robert Foster, Andy Jayne, Andrew Jewels, Martin Kerby, Beccy Macdonald, Steve McAusland, Ryan Miller, Nick Papps, David & Elisabeth Price, Martyn Roper, Alan & Sandra Rowland, Alfredo Sánchez-Tójar, Grant Sherman, Luke Sutton, Richard & Rebecca Taylor, Tony Taylor, Jon Turner, Nik Ward and Justin Zantboer.



*Pied Wagtail, High Street, 18 October 2015. © Tim Jones*

## THE BIRDS OF 2015

### **Brent Goose** *Branta bernicla*

[Brant Goose]

*Lundy vagrant.*

One Dark-bellied Brent Goose (*B. b. bernicla*) on the sea off the East Side below Quarter Wall on 26 Sep (Martin Kerby, Tim Cleeves) was still present, off the Sugar Loaf, on 29 Sep (Darren Dowding, Ryan Miller *et al.*). The 16th LFS record, 11 of which have been in autumn.

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

[Common Shelduck]

*Lundy vagrant.*

A probable first-year male landed briefly on the sea off White Beach on 15 Apr. It flew off north-east after it was harassed by a Great Black-backed Gull but quickly disappeared into thick mist (Tim Jones).

### **Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

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

A male on 1 Jan (Neil Trout).

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

[Eurasian Teal]

*Uncommon migrant and winter visitor in small numbers; rare in summer. First record of breeding occurred in 2015.*

The maximum during the first winter period was six on 23 & 27 Jan and 3 Mar. A pair was seen on 4 & 16 Apr, but there were no records at all in May and so it came as a huge surprise when a female and four ducklings were found on Pondsbury on 7 Jun (Tim Jones *et al.*), the first ever confirmation of breeding on Lundy. All five birds were still present in mid Jul, by which time the young had acquired full juvenile plumage (Tony Taylor). The maximum during the second winter period was five on 10 Sep, 14 Oct & 28 Dec.

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

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
6	–	6	3	–	5*	5*	6	5	5	3	5
9	–	5	3	–	7	2	4	13	11	1	1

\* = adult female plus four juveniles

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

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

The first ducklings of the year were seen on 27 Apr when about eight were on Pondsbury. A further brood, of 13 ducklings, was seen on 30th. A female with a relatively late brood of nine freshly hatched ducklings was near Quarters pond on 15 Jun.

#### **Maximum monthly counts of fully grown birds**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
14	6	14	9	15	13	13	8	15	20	9	16

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

*Uncommon passage migrant.*

A female was in the Landing Bay on 25 Jul (Steve McAusland/MARINElife).

### **Red-throated Diver** *Gavia stellata*

[Red-throated Loon]

*Rare passage migrant and winter visitor.*

Singles were in the Landing Bay on 4 Mar (Andy Jayne) and 21 Apr (Malcolm Shakespeare).

**Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica***

[Arctic Loon]

*Lundy vagrant and Devon rarity.*

One in the Landing Bay on 28 & 29 Nov (Philip & Helen Lymbery). This is the 12th LFS record and the first since Feb 2009. Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer***

[Great Northern Loon]

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

There were no records in Jan & Feb, but ones and twos were seen in the Landing Bay on six dates between 2 & 16 Mar. There were no records in Apr or May, but three were off the Landing Bay on the unusual date of 30 Jun (David Oddy). One flew south on 29 Oct and single birds were recorded 28–30 Nov (in the Landing Bay), 12 Dec and on four dates 23–28 Dec (location not given, but presumed to be the Landing Bay).

**Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis***

[Northern Fulmar]

*Common breeder; recorded in all months, mainly from January to September.*

Ninety-six birds were on the nesting ledges on the north-facing side of Gannets' Rock on 15 Apr (Tim Jones). As normal, numbers dwindled rapidly after mid Sep, with one at Jenny's Cove on 25 Oct (Grant Sherman) being the only record for that month. Seventy-one were sheltering in Lundy Roads on 18 Nov following severe gales on the night of 17th/18th.

**Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
100	100	100	100	80	90	nc	78	14	1	71	50

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole; nc = present, but no count entered for the month in question.

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

The first record was of birds calling in the Landing Bay on 7 Apr. At least 350 were counted on 3 May (Ian Searle). At the Old Light breeding colony during the night of 22/23 May, 33 new birds were ringed and eight birds from previous years were retrapped. Two of the latter had been ringed as chicks on Lundy, in 2008 and 2013 respectively (Tony Taylor). An estimated 20 per minute were passing north along the East Side during the evening of 29 May (Tony Taylor). During MarineLIFE/RSPB survey work aimed at recording Balearic Shearwaters and Bottlenosed Dolphins on 18 Aug, dense rafts totalling up to an estimated 20,000 birds were off the East Side (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). The last of the year was one on 31 Oct.

Teams of ringers led by David Price and Tony Taylor were again present to ring shearwaters in Sep, with 255 chicks and 126 adults ringed. Three of the chicks ringed were subsequently found dead, among hundreds of unringed birds, in southern Brazil as a result of severe weather. For more details see *Bird ringing in 2015*, p.58.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	200	350	300	500	20,000*	13	26	–	–

\*Estimate in range 10,000 to 20,000 birds

**Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus****Lundy vagrant.*

A poor year in comparison with recent years, with just a single record: one flying west-south-

west past the South End seen from the Castle on 15 Sep (Tim Jones). Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*

[European Storm Petrel]

*Uncommon passage migrant; recorded on the island at night in small numbers during the breeding season. First confirmation of breeding in 2014.*

At least one was singing for long periods between 23.00 hrs and 00.30 hrs on the night of 15/16 Jul in the main breeding colony of Manx Shearwaters between Old Light and Battery Point, close to where a well-grown chick was found in Oct 2014 (Beccy MacDonald, Tony Taylor). An adult was tape-lured and ringed in the same area on 9 Sep (Jeremy Barker).

**Gannet** *Morus bassanus*

[Northern Gannet]

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

The peak number during the first winter period was 19 on New Year's Day, while the highest spring count was 51 on 11 May. At least three dead Gannets were found washed ashore during the spring; cause(s) unknown. The highest count of the year was of 100 on 5 Aug, when all of the birds seen were heading east off Shutter Rock. Ninety-five flew south on 29 Oct.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
19	–	3	6	51	10	75	100	70	95	12	2

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

[Great Cormorant]

*Uncommon but regular spring and autumn migrant; formerly bred.*

Ten were reported on the early date of 10 Feb. The highest counts during autumn passage were 24 on 15 Sep and 23 on 7 Oct.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
5	10	2	7	6	4	–	9	24	23	7	–

**Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

[European Shag]

*Common breeder; uncommon from October to February.*

**Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
5	5	8	30	35	34	21	60	26	29	10	1

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

*Scarce but increasing passage migrant.*

There were records of ones and twos on at least four dates between 10 & 16 May as follows: one on rocks below North Light on 10th; one at Brazen Ward on 11th; two at Jenny's Cove on 13th; two flying NW away from the island off North End were lost to sight on 16th (Chris Baillie/A Rocha group, Tom Nunn *et al.*).

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

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

An immature bird was present in the south of the island daily 26–30 May. It was first seen being mobbed by gulls around the Old Light on 26th. Further frequent harassment by gulls, corvids

and Peregrines was the likely cause of damage to the heron's flight feathers, which had resulted in an obvious gap by 28th. There were further records, perhaps of the same bird, 12–15 & 19 Jun (mainly at Quarry Pond), with a second flying high over the island and on towards the Pembrokeshire coast on 14th. Two were being mobbed by gulls on 24 Jun. Later in the summer and autumn there were records of ones and twos on the unusually high total of 35 dates between 1 Jul and 27 Oct, perhaps indicating the presence of one or more long-staying individuals. The last of the year was a single bird in the Lighthouse Field on 3 Dec.

**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	2	1	–	1
–	–	–	–	5	6	4	13	13	5	–	1

**Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus***

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

A female flew north-west low over the heathland near Quarter Wall Pond in foggy conditions on 25 Apr. During autumn passage 'ringtails' (including adult females and/or first-year birds, which have broadly similar plumage) were recorded on nine dates between 12 Oct and 26 Nov. One on 12 Oct, first seen over the Airfield at 10.00 hrs, later circled high over Castle Hill and left the island to the south-west at 12.30 hrs; two (thought to be an adult female and a first-year bird) ranged widely between Tibbetts and the Airfield on 15 & 16 Oct; one flew in to the South End, apparently off the sea, on 17 Oct; one was over Halfway Wall on 18 Oct; one was along the East Side on 27 & 28 Oct; and further singles were sighted near Pondsbury on 4 Nov and flying south along the West Side near Halfway Wall on 26 Nov. Most Hen Harriers seem to pass through Lundy rather quickly (as shown by the bird on 12 Oct), whereas others may linger for a day or two, occasionally longer, so it is impossible to say how many different individuals were involved in this autumn's relatively strong showing.

**Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus***

[Eurasian Sparrowhawk]

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

A single female was seen regularly in the first half of Jun. The highest count of the year was of five on 27 Sep, which were all seen leaving the island for the mainland and all in view at the same time (John Horton).

**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	2	1	1	1	1	5	3	1	–
1	–	5	12	3	8	4	3	17	18	1	–

**Buzzard *Buteo buteo***

[Common Buzzard]

*Uncommon visitor; formerly a breeding resident.*

Singles were reported on 26 Jan, 17 Apr, 4 Jun (the latter at Quarter Wall Copse) and 13–15 Sep.

**Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus***

*Common passage migrant in small numbers; occasional winter visitor; bred annually 2007 to 2013 and in 2015: no proof of breeding in 2014.*

Singles were heard calling at Pondsbury on 3 Mar and near the pond in lower Millcombe on 31 Mar. There were no records at all in Apr and only three in May, so it was a welcome surprise when a chick was heard calling from the wet flush running between Quarter Wall Pond and Quarry Pond on 8 Jun (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). An adult was seen in the same area on 14 Jun. A juvenile was at Quarter Wall on 27 Aug (Joshua Harris). Numbers remained low until a notable influx of autumn passage migrants in Oct, when 10 were recorded on 15th.

**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	2	10	–	–
–	–	2	–	3	4	–	2	8	17	–	–

**Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus***

[Eurasian Oystercatcher]

*Common breeder and passage migrant; recorded throughout the year but scarcer in late autumn and winter.*

There was an exceptionally high spring count of 48 on 9 Apr, which must have included at least some passage migrants, as the island's entire breeding population is less than 20 pairs. Display flight was seen at North West Point on 17 May and a bird was sitting on a nest at Gannets' Bay on 7 Jun. It is assumed breeding was successful but there were no reports of young this year. Twenty were recorded on 4 Nov – an unusually high count for 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
13	11	16	48	12	30	20	8	8	15	20	1
7	2	12	17	24	18	15	8	17	7	5	1

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not necessarily representative of the breeding population as a whole.

**Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria***

[European Golden Plover]

*Common spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; irregular winter visitor.*

In spring there were records of one and twos on six scattered dates between 26 Apr (two) and 12 Jun (one). In autumn, one on 27 Aug, five on 15 Sep and single birds on six dates in the second half of Sep, followed by records on nine dates from 2 to 17 Oct, including 10 on 12th.

**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	1	–	1	5	10	–	–
–	–	–	2	3	1	–	1	7	9	–	–

**Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus***

[Eurasian Dotterel]

*Uncommon but virtually annual spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; Devon rarity.*

A juvenile was on the Airfield on 2 Oct (Tim Cleeves, Martin Kerby). Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula***

[Common Ringed Plover]

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; occasional winter records.*

The only spring passage records concerned one on 7 Apr (Martyn Roper), one heard calling on 21 Apr (Malcolm Shakespeare) and three on the main track south of Quarter Wall gate on 8 May. The first autumn migrant was recorded on 12 Sep. Single birds were recorded on a further three dates in Sep.

**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.*

A single bird seen on New Year's Day and one in Brick Field on 27 May (Peter & Ann Dunn) were the only records during the first eight months of the year. Autumn brought one on 26 Sep and two on 27th, followed by one to three birds daily, 11–17 Oct, and final single birds on 27 & 28 Oct and 2 Nov.

**Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus***

*Increasingly uncommon spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

During an apparently sparse spring passage, there were records on just nine dates between 15 Apr and 22 May, with a maximum count of four on 3 May. All other records were of ones and twos. During autumn passage there were four records of single birds 4–10 Aug.

**Curlew *Numenius arquata***

[Eurasian Curlew]

*Increasingly uncommon spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; occasional winter visitor; formerly bred.*

The first reported sighting of the year was not until the end of Apr, when one was seen on 27th. Thereafter, one on 3 May, two on 17 May and one on 8 Jun. Sparse autumn passage involved singles on 4 Jul, 9 & 16 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	2	1	1	–	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	1	2	1	1	–	2	–	–	–

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

*Rare passage migrant; one winter record (1973).*

One in breeding plumage was at the pond outside Barton Cottages on 24 Mar (Kevin Welsh, Grant Sherman). One at Pondsburry on 10 Jul (Andrew Jewels).

**Turnstone *Arenaria interpres***

[Ruddy Turnstone]

*Increasingly uncommon spring and autumn migrant and rare winter visitor.*

Two flying north past Quarry Beach on 27 Aug (Joshua Harris) were followed by three flying west over the Tent Field on 2 Sep (J. & S. Buchanan) and one below North Light on 18 Sep (Tim Jones).

**Ruff *Calidris pugnax***

*Rare passage migrant; has occurred in late winter.*

A juvenile was on the pond outside Barton Cottages at 08.00 hrs (Beccy MacDonald) and in the Brick/Tillage Field area at 20.00 hrs (Ryan Burrell, Luke Sutton) on 28 Aug.

**Dunlin *Calidris alpina***

*Regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; apparent decline in recent years; very rare in winter.*

During spring passage there were records on nine dates between 8 Apr and 27 May, with a maximum of five on 15 May, including two at the small reservoir impoundment in South West Field. In autumn there were two on 25 Jul and single birds on nine dates between 12 Aug and 20 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
–	–	–	2	5	–	2	1	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	4	5	–	1	3	6	–	–	–

**Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos***

*Regular spring and autumn migrant; very rare in winter.*

One on Rat Island on 16 Apr (Paul Holt), two in the Landing Bay on 4 May (Ian Searle) and three the following day (Chris Bollen) were the only spring passage records. During return migration there were three in the Landing Bay on 6 Jul, singles at Brazen Ward and Old Light on 17 & 19 Jul, respectively, and one on 9 Sep.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*

*Rare spring migrant; uncommon autumn migrant.*

One flushed from freshwater pools on the plateau at North End flew off high to the north east on 19 Sep (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

**Redshank** *Tringa totanus*

[Common Redshank]

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

One on the pond in the Brick Field 15 Apr (Tim Jones) was seen in flight and landing at Pondsbury the following day (Paul Holt). One flew across the Landing Bay calling on 17 Sep (Tim Jones). One first seen at Rocket Pole Pond flew down St John's Valley towards the Landing Bay on 14 Oct (Ivan Lakin, Martyn Roper & Kevin Rylands).

**Jack Snipe** *Lymnocyptes minimus*

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

One on 23 Jan (Neil Trout). One flushed from South West Field on 2 Oct (Tim Cleeves, Martin Kerby) and also reported on 3 Oct, with another on 14 Oct (Kevin Rylands).

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*

[Eurasian Woodcock]

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

Not recorded during late winter or spring migration, so the first of the year was not until a very sparse autumn passage commenced with two on 14 Oct. The only other records were of single birds on 29 & 30 Oct and 4 Nov.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

[Common Snipe]

*Common passage migrant and winter visitor.*

The late-winter/early-spring maximum was just seven, on 2 Mar, all of which were flushed between Quarter Wall and Pondsbury. A single bird was flushed from the pond in Middle Park, below Tibbetts, on the unusual date of 8 Jun. The highest count of the year was 12 on 11 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	7	1	–	1	1	–	4	12	2	1
–	1	6	2	–	1	1	–	9	16	4	2

Unidentified **snipe** species (Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus* or Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*)

One on 27 Jan.

**Pomarine Skua** *Stercorarius pomarinus*

*Lundy vagrant.*

A juvenile flew south past Lametor at 08.05 hrs on 29 Oct (Justin Zantboer). Though not recorded from Lundy until 2010, there have been almost annual late-autumn sightings since then. Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Great Skua** *Stercorarius skua*

*Rare spring and autumn migrant; has occurred in winter.*

A loose group of 15 migrants flew north off the West Side on 15 May (Chris Baillie), alighting on the water for a short time. One was seen from the Ugly on 13 Oct (James Diamond) and one flew south past Lametor on 29 Oct (Justin Zantboer).

Unidentified **skua** species *Stercorarius* sp.

Two were harrying a flock of c.60 Kittiwakes feeding with Manx Shearwaters off the West Side on 3 Jul. One was harrying Kittiwakes off the East Side on 8 Aug (both records Martin Thorne/Morte Wildlife Group).

**Puffin *Fratercula arctica***

[Atlantic Puffin]

*Uncommon but gradually increasing breeding species; formerly bred in large numbers; very rare between mid Aug and early Apr.*

The first of the year were 16 on 2 Apr, rising to 50 by 7th and 76 on 22 Apr (on the latter date there were 54 on the sea and six on land at Jenny's Cove, plus 15 on the sea and one on land at St Philip's Stone). At least two pairs were mating on the water on 17 Apr. The peak count in May was 74 on 10th. In Jun there were 90 on land at Jenny's Cove on 7th, while the peak count during the month was 110 on 10th. Jul brought the highest count for the year when up to 250 (200 on land and 50 on the water) were at Jenny's Cove on 3rd (Martin Thorne/Morte Wildlife Group). There were records on eight dates in Aug, the last of these a single bird on 12th, followed by a logbook entry on 16th of "2 from boat", which could have been some way from the island itself. Although most records were from the colonies at Jenny's Cove and St Philip's Stone, small numbers were also seen at Long Roost (including birds entering burrows) and on the water off Pilot's Quay, North Light and North East Point, all between late Jun and mid Jul. (See p.16 for Beccy MacDonald's note on the monitoring study of the Puffin colony at Jenny's Cove.)

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	75	74	110	250	5	–	–	–	–

**Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle***

*Lundy vagrant and Devon rarity.*

Recorded for the fourth successive year. What is presumed to be the same returning individual was first seen back in the Landing Bay, off the jetty, on 2 Apr (Beccy MacDonald) – more than a month earlier than the previous earliest date. There were sightings on at least 20 further dates up to and including 2 Jun, followed by a gap to 13 Jun, a brief sighting at 07.30 hrs on 14 Jun and a final record of the bird swimming close inshore between the jetty and Rat Island on 22 Jun. All sightings were in the Landing Bay, especially in the vicinity of Miller's Cake. Tony Taylor's entry in the LFS logbook for 27 May reads: "*Black Guillemot on rocks below 'Smelly Gully', a.m. Walked half way up its favourite rock, which had a Lesser Black-backed Gull perched on top. Much aggressive posturing (standing very tall, with bill pointing down and open; wings slightly open) which had no effect. In the end, marched up towards the gull, which flew off. Black Guillemot settled down on peak of rock.*" Record accepted by DBRC.

**Razorbill *Alca torda***

*Common breeder, though in smaller numbers than formerly; uncommon between August and February.*

At least seven were on land (Jenny's Cove and St Philip's Stone) on 27 Jan (with one possibly as early as 18 Jan). The first record of birds returning to the waters immediately around Lundy following post-breeding dispersal was of two on 11 Oct. Following strong winds during the night of 28/29 Oct, 417 flew south off South End during the morning of 29th.

**Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
40	300	800	400	1,100	300	100	50	–	417	–	–

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

**Guillemot *Uria aalge***

[Common Murre]

*Common breeder, but in smaller numbers than formerly; uncommon from August to October, then occasional sightings to January.*

On 8 Feb most Guillemots were in breeding plumage, while Razorbills were in all stages of moult.

The Mar maximum of 1,697 was the highest ever recorded in that month (Grant Sherman). At least two birds on Grant's study ledges at St Philip's Stone had eggs on 13 May, while the first confirmation of hatched chicks came on 12 Jun, with a total of 12 chicks hatched by 25 Jun. Monitoring by wardens of the Guillemot colony at St Mark's Stone yielded 88 active sites from which just 28 chicks (0.32) fledged. The first record of birds returning to breeding ledges after their post-breeding dispersal was of 35 at Jenny's Cove on 22 Oct; all were in winter plumage. Numbers rose to 298 on 25 Oct (when some individuals were starting to show signs of breeding plumage), 550 on 22 Nov and 964 on 13 Dec (Grant Sherman).

**Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1,450	1,470	1,697	1,647	600	1,568	800	1	1	298	550	964

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

**Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis***

*Uncommon passage migrant, late March to early October.*

Reported on four dates 7–14 Apr in the Landing Bay. All records were of single birds except three on 9th (Martyn Roper). The only autumn passage record involved one on 7 Sep.

**Common Tern *Sterna hirundo***

*Uncommon passage migrant, April to October.*

Two from *Obsession II* off the East Side, shortly after leaving the Landing Bay on 18 Aug (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). A first-winter bird was seen on 17 Oct.

**Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla***

[Black-legged Kittiwake]

*Common but declining breeding species; uncommon from September to January.*

The maximum count during the first winter period was 700+ on 26 Jan. The first birds seen on land at the breeding ledges were 22 at the Grand Falls Zawn colony (site number F16), close to the western end of Threequarter Wall, plus one at Jenny's Cove (site number E11) on 18 Feb; other birds were rafting close to land and/or flying close to the ledges (Grant Sherman). The bird bearing a green colour-ring inscribed in white with 'AV', ringed on Lundy in Jun 1999, was recorded on 16 May attending the same nest in the colony below Threequarter Wall as in 2014 (Chris Baillie). A second colour-ringed bird (orange over white on the left leg, red ring on the right leg) was seen on 13 May at the same colony (Chris Baillie). There was a 'feeding frenzy' of at least 200 birds off the East Side on 8 Jun. Monitoring by wardens of the Grand Falls Zawn site found 98 active nests from which 46 chicks (0.47) fledged.

**Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
700	100	250	200	150	220	60	64	4	115	11	40

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

**Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus***

*Uncommon visitor throughout the year, mainly July to September; occasional cold-weather influxes.*

There were six records during the year, all of single birds and all in the Landing Bay unless otherwise stated: a first-summer on 16 Apr; an adult in breeding plumage on 14 Jun; one (age not specified) on 10 Jul; an adult flew south down the East Side off North Light on 19 Sep; an adult on 17 Oct and a first-winter on 27 Oct.

### **Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus***

*Lundy vagrant.*

An adult was in the Landing Bay on 18 Jul (Chris & Mandy Dee, Tony Taylor). Remarkably, this is only the second record of 'Med Gull' for Lundy, with the first as long ago as Aug 1978. Incidentally, one of the observers those 37 years ago was... Tony Taylor! Although Mediterranean Gulls have become a regular feature of mainland birding in recent years, including on the nearby North Devon coast, where three-digit counts were made in 2014 and 2015, this has not so far been reflected on Lundy; perhaps in part because relatively few birders visit the island during late summer, but that is not the whole story. Black-headed Gulls, with which Mediterranean Gulls commonly associate, have always been scarce on Lundy in spite of their abundance on the nearby mainland, so perhaps it is more the case that both species are very much birds of inshore waters, only passing Lundy in small numbers from time to time. Nevertheless, this is a remarkable record, not least because it seems so long overdue. Will it mark the opening of the floodgates, or will we wait until 2052 for the next one?!

### **Common Gull *Larus canus***

[Mew Gull]

*Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor; mainly September to April.*

A 2nd-calendar year bird was with Herring Gulls in the Brick Field on 5 May (Ian Searle). Four off the East Side on both 14 & 15 Oct consisted of different birds, with three adults and one first-winter on 14th, but three first-winters and one adult on 15th. One was in the same area on 16th & 17th.

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

*Common but declining breeding species; passage migrant; uncommon in winter.*

Although there was no breeding census in 2015, several observers commented that numbers appeared lower than in previous years. Counts of 288 on 28 Jan and 316 on 29th were unusually high for Lundy in winter. A bird ringed as a nestling on Lundy in 1995 was seen in France in Feb (for more details see *Bird ringing in 2015*, p.58).

#### **Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
316	2	25	29	50	75	30	85	75	5	78	2

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

### **Herring Gull *Larus argentatus***

[European Herring Gull]

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

Bred successfully. Although there was no breeding census in 2015, several observers commented that numbers appeared lower than in previous years. The highest counts of the year were during the winter periods, with 366 on New Year's Day and 320 counted from Hammers on 23 Nov (Helen & Philip Lymbery).

#### **Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
366	300	200	36	60	250	54	50	35	40	320	200

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

### **Presumed hybrid Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* x Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus***

A gull showing characteristics of both Herring and Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen and photographed (see colour plate 10) in Jenny's Cove on 26 May (Richard Taylor).

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

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

Bred successfully. The highest count of the year was 40 on 22 Sep.

**Maximum count for each month\***

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
27	35	10	6	7	20	21	35	40	20	17	2

\*There was no census of breeding numbers in 2015 and the breeding-season counts entered in the LFS Logbook and included in the table are not representative of the breeding population as a whole.

**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
2	–	–	1	4	15	2	–	3	1	–	–
2	–	–	2	20	15	9	–	1	4	–	–

**Stock Dove *Columba oenas***

Uncommon but regular spring and autumn migrant.

Three records: one flushed from St Helen's Field on 4 Mar (Andy Jayne); one seen daily around the farm and Tillage Field pigsty, 13–16 Jun (Tim Davis, Tim Jones *et al.*); and one on 2 Jul (location not given).

**Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus***

[Common Wood Pigeon]

Probably breeds in most years; spring and autumn migrant in small numbers; sporadic in winter.

The first of the year was a single bird on 3 Apr, increasing during the month to four on 6th, six on 11th and seven on 30th. In May, song was heard in Millcombe on 19th and there were counts of seven adults on 15th and eight on 24th. There were further records of singing birds in Millcombe on 12 & 16 Jun. Successful breeding was confirmed when a fledgling was seen in Millcombe on 7 & 8 Jul (Alan & Sandra Rowland, Andrew Jewels). The highest autumn count was of seven on 13 Sep, while the last of the year were two on 29 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
–	–	–	7	8	6	3	5	7	3	4	–
–	–	–	18	27	20	11	17	23	8	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.

Passage migrants occurred as usual during spring and early summer, with records on 24 dates from 5 Apr (one) to 16 Jul (one) and a maximum of five on 23 May. Though song was heard in Millcombe on 11 Jun and 18 Jul, there was no sign of breeding behaviour. In autumn single birds were recorded on 25 Aug and 27 & 29 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	5	3	3	1	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	2	14	8	2	1	2	–	–	–

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*

[European Turtle Dove]

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

During spring migration single birds, involving probably only one or two long-staying individuals, were reported on 27 Apr (Quarter Wall gate) and on 15 dates 2–25 May, including singles in Millcombe on 3rd, 16–19th & 23rd. Two sightings on 11 May, around the farm at 15.00 hrs and in Millcombe half-an-hour later may have been of different birds.

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*

[Common Cuckoo]

*Uncommon and declining spring and autumn migrant; probably bred regularly in the past; breeding confirmed just twice since 1999 (in 2007 and 2012).*

There were spring and early summer records on 13 dates between 23 Apr (one calling and perched on gate post by Blue Bung) and 16 Jun. Most involved single birds, but two were in St Helen's Copse on 30 Apr and there were two calling males (Millcombe/St John's Valley area) on 15 & 16 Jun. Observation of plumage suggested that these were second-year birds. The only autumn record was of a juvenile in Millcombe on 24 Aug; it seems likely that this was a passage migrant fledged elsewhere.

**Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus**Uncommon spring and autumn migrant and rare winter visitor.*

There were autumn passage records on eight dates between 16 Oct and 1 Nov (Mike Jackson, Ivan Lakin, Kevin Rylands *et al.*). Most sightings were of single birds, but two were reported on 20th & 21st. Locations included Ackland's Moor/Quarter Wall (16th & 31st), South West Field (18th) and Pondsbyr (29th).

**Swift** *Apus apus*

[Common Swift]

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

The first spring migrant was a single bird on 15 Apr. Recorded regularly during May, the spring passage maximum was ten on 27th. The highest count of the year was 20 on 13 Jun. Two unusually late sightings both involved two birds: on 11 & 28 Sep respectively.

**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	10	20	12	11	2	–	–	–
–	–	–	1	23	14	9	10	2	–	–	–

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

[Eurasian Hoopoe]

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

One near Mousehole & Trap at 13.00 hrs on 12 Apr (Phil & Pat Johnson) was probably the same individual photographed feeding on the ground and seen in flight on the northern side of Gannets' Combe on 15 Apr (Tim Jones). One seen and photographed in and around Millcombe on 13 May (Chris & Carol Baillie, Lisa Ostenson *et al.*). Records accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*

[Common Kingfisher]

*Lundy vagrant.*

A record year with four sightings, probably all relating to dispersing juveniles. One flew in and landed next to a rockpool at Brazen Ward on 25 Jun, staying for 30 seconds (unattributed). One flew past North Light landing stage and into Kittiwake Gully on 13 Sep (Sue & Rob Waterfield). One, calling in flight, flew south below North Light and disappeared from view towards the bottom of Puffin Slope on 18 Sep (Tim Jones). One flew past Pyramid Rock on 27 Sep (Sue & Rob Waterfield). The three Sep sightings could refer to a single long-staying bird. All previous 14 records (the last was in 2009) were of single birds in any one year, so 2015 was exceptional.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*  
*Nationally scarce migrant.*

[Eurasian Wryneck]

One trapped in Millcombe on 8 Apr was ringed and photographed (Rob Duncan, Martyn Roper). This bird was part of a significant influx to western England and Wales in early Apr. Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*  
*Lundy vagrant.*

A juvenile, first seen near The Ugly on 9 Sep (Elisabeth Price) was trapped and ringed near Brambles the following day (Nik Ward *et al.*).

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

[Common Kestrel]

*Common visitor in small numbers, mainly in spring and autumn; has bred (most recently in 2005).* Recorded in all months except Jan, but there was again no evidence of breeding and there was only one record, of a single bird, in Jun. The highest spring count was four (2 males, 2 females) on 15 Apr. During the autumn seen virtually daily throughout Aug, Sep and Oct, with maxima of five on 23 Aug, six on 16 & 28 Sep and seven on 11 & 12 Oct. On 16 Sep, three migrant Kestrels were watched leaving the island to the south, at 08.50 hrs (two birds) and 12.35 hrs (one).

**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	2	1	1	5	6	7	1	1
–	2	1	8	7	1	8	23	26	27	5	1

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*

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

During spring passage recorded on ten dates from 31 Mar to 21 May. All records were of single birds with the exception of two on 15 Apr. Autumn migrants were recorded on 24 dates from 2 Sep (one) to 28 Oct (one), with a maximum of four 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
–	–	1	2	1	–	–	–	1	4	–	–
–	–	1	4	5	–	–	–	8	16	–	–

**Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*

[Eurasian Hobby]

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

There were three records of single birds, on 5, 8 & 11 Jun, though how many individuals were involved is unknown. On 8th one flew north over the Upper East Side Path, alongside the Tillage Field (Tim Davis & Tim Jones), while the sighting on 11th was at South Light (Jeremy & Jill Aldred).

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*

[Peregrine Falcon]

*Breeds; recorded in all months in recent years.*

Luke Sutton, continuing his research (under licence) into the diet and feeding ecology of the island's breeding Peregrines, reported five territorial adult pairs and one adult present at a territory in Apr. Of these, two pairs fledged a total of five juveniles, with no observed breeding attempts in the other three territories. The mean distance between nest cliffs was 1.60 km, and based on a total land area of 445 ha, the mean number of hectares per adult pair was estimated at 89 ha. Prey species ranged in size from Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* (mean weight of adults 8 g) up to Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* (mean weight of adults 1,210 g). The most common prey species recorded were Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* and, unexpectedly, Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, the majority being juveniles or first-winter immatures, with a small number of

adults also taken. (For more information see Luke's paper, 'Status of the Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* on Lundy: Breeding ecology and prey spectrum' in the *Journal of the LFS*, 5, published in 2016.)

**Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*

[Eurasian Golden Oriole]

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

What seems likely to have been the same female or immature male was in the St Helen's Copse area on 10 May (Brian Thompson *et al.*, Devon Birds day trip) and in Millcombe on 13 May (Chris Baillie/A Rocha group). The bird on 10th was photographed. Record accepted by DBRC.

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*

*Lundy vagrant and very scarce passage migrant and winter visitor to mainland Devon.*

One, first seen in flight over St John's Valley (James Diamond, Tim Jones *et al.*) and hovering at height near the Church in the early morning of 16 Oct, flew north-west over the village but could not be found again that day in spite of intensive searching. It was relocated in Millcombe, on the south-facing slopes of The Ugly, on the morning of 17th (Ivan Lakin, Kevin Rylands *et al.*) and showed well in the same area for the rest of the day (see colour plate 10), perching prominently on blackthorn to watch intently for passing bumble-bees, which it seized in flight. This bird was part of a significant and unusually early influx of Great Grey Shrikes to Britain, primarily along the east coast, with at least ten in Norfolk alone on 16th. This constitutes only the second occurrence for Lundy, the first dating back some 41 years when a first-year female was trapped and ringed on the Terrace on 22 Oct 1974. Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula*

[Western Jackdaw]

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

One on 10 May (P. Treen). One was at Brazen Ward and in the Brick/Tillage Fields on 27 May (Philip & Helen Lymbery). One on 6 Jun in the Tillage Field and later over the Airfield (Richard Campey).

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*

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

One calling as it circled high over the Village on 16 Apr (Tim Jones), one at Quarter Wall on 10 May and one on 30 May (location not given, B. Boyland/BirdTrack).

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*

*Breeds; present throughout the year.*

During the first half of Jun family parties of recently fledged young, many still being fed by adults, were seen in many parts of the island, indicating another very successful breeding season. A brood of at least two young fledged from a nest in Millcombe had partially albino plumage, showing broad white wing bars in flight and causing much puzzlement amongst visitors as to their identity. The affected flight feathers apparently lacked physical durability and although both birds were still alive in October, they were by then looking extremely dishevelled. The highest count of the year came on 10 Oct when a flock of 75 gathered in the Lighthouse Field to take advantage of supplementary feed put out for the domestic sheep.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
64	46	42	35	49	49	33	14	45	75	45	18

**Raven** *Corvus corax*

[Northern Raven]

*Breeds; present throughout the year.*

Breeding confirmed; family parties with two and four young respectively were seen in the southern half of the island during the second week of Jun. A juvenile reported regularly from the East Side in the vicinity of Quarry Cottages during mid May to mid Jun had a length of unravelled rope strands caught around one leg (probably from material used to build or 'decorate' the nest in which the youngster had been hatched), though this did not appear to be impairing its ability to fly or feed.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
7	6	13	6	6	8	9	5	10	13	6	–

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus**Common spring and autumn migrant, most numerous in autumn; has bred; occasional in winter.*

The first records of the year were of presumed spring passage migrants, with ones and twos on five dates 4–27 Mar. Movement peaked in Apr, with a max of 12 on 7th. The last spring bird was on 11 May. Autumn migrants were recorded between 17 Aug (one) and 29 Nov (two), with a maximum of 70 on 23 Sep and nine further counts of 25 or more during the second half of Sep and mid to late 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	12	1	–	–	1	70	45	2	–
–	–	5	16	2	–	–	2	25	19	3	–

**Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapilla*

[Common Firecrest]

*Uncommon spring passage migrant, more regular and more numerous in autumn; has wintered.*

Not recorded during either the first winter period or spring migration. A strong autumn passage was noted between 8 Sep (one) and 31 Oct (three). There were records on 40 days altogether, with peaks of four on 14 Sep, six on 15 Sep, four on 28 Sep, five on 12 Oct, eight on 15 Oct and four on 16 Oct. All other counts involved one to three birds. Nineteen (a record year) were ringed during the autumn.

**Blue Tit** *Cyanistes caeruleus*

[Eurasian Blue Tit]

*Uncommon autumn migrant and rare spring migrant; occasional in winter.*

An adult female was trapped and ringed in Millcombe on 10 Apr (Rob Duncan) – the first since 2012.

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

There were autumn records on the unusually high number of 23 dates between 4 Oct (three birds) and 22 Nov (two), with a maximum count of four on 14 Oct, though ringing information indicated that there were at least two long-staying individuals, rather than a continuous turnover of new arrivals. Observer coverage was very low during much of Nov (and the weather largely dreadful!), so whilst there was a long gap between sightings from 2 to 22 Nov, it is possible that birds were present throughout that period. The great majority were seen in Millcombe but one was at Quarter Wall Copse on both 15 Oct and 22 Nov. Three were ringed in early Oct (one on 3rd, two on 4th); all were identified as belonging to the British subspecies *P. a. britannicus* and all were first-year birds. Two of the three individuals were retrapped between 28 & 30 Oct.

**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*

[Eurasian Skylark]

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

A flock of 87 birds were feeding in Lighthouse Field on 2 Mar, with at least 90 there on 4th and 95 on 5th. Breeding confirmed; many adults were carrying food to nest sites during the first half of Jun, but no fledged young were seen, suggesting a relatively late season (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). The highest autumn-passage count was 40 on 12 Oct.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
11	11	95	50	30	57	14	5	30	40	1	4

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

*Common spring and autumn migrant; occasional in summer.*

The first of the spring flew over Castle Hill on 8 Mar (Grant Sherman, Shelley Southon). Another was seen on 18 Mar. Spring passage peaked in Apr, with maxima of 102 on 7th and 100 on 26th. A trickle of migration continued throughout May and well into Jun, concluding with one on 13th. Autumn passage was sparse (or under-recorded) to begin with, the only reports concerning singles on 17 Jul and 18 Aug, and three on 28 Aug. Numbers picked up in Sep, reaching a maximum of 60 on 17th, with 20 or more on four other dates. The last of the year was a single bird on 12 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	102	15	2	1	3	60	1	–	–
–	–	2	18	17	6	1	2	17	2	–	–

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

[Barn Swallow]

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

There were no records in Mar, with the first report of the year concerning 20 on 3 Apr. Spring passage was spread over a considerable period with counts of 500 on 15 Apr and 4 & 13 May, though it was not until 23 May that the peak of 600 occurred. Movements continued into mid Jun, with 65 on 7th and 15 on 15th. Three were found trapped at the top of the Old Light on 16 Jun (outcome unknown). Bad weather on 1 Jun seems to have accounted for two Swallows found dead in the Casbah the following day; their weights were well below the 18+ grams for healthy adults (Richard & Rebecca Taylor). Breeding confirmed; a pair nesting in the Church porch were collecting mud from Pig's Paradise on 12 Jun and the nest contained half-grown young on 16 Jul. A pair was prospecting inside the gas store in lower Millcombe in Jun and another pair was seen regularly around the village at the same time, but no further nests were discovered. The first notable influxes of autumn migrants were in the second half of Aug, when there were 50 on 16th. Numbers peaked in the last two weeks of Sep, with 1,000 on 16th, 3,000 on 17th, 5,000 on 25th and 1,500 on 26th, but fell away thereafter. The Oct maximum of 350 occurred on 12th and the last three-digit count of the year was 102 on 16 Oct. The final record, of a single bird flying over St Helen's Field, was on 16 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
–	–	–	500	600	65	6	50	5,000	350	6	–
–	–	–	19	29	20	19	18	24	21	3	–

**House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

[Common House Martin]

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

Two were reported on the unusually early date of 10 Mar. There were no further records until three on 3 Apr. The highest counts during spring migration were 130 on 15 Apr and 100 on 26 May. Small numbers continued to be seen daily until mid Jun and one occurred on the unusual date of 28 Jun. As for Swallow, the main autumn movements occurred towards the end of September, with peaks of 100 on 23rd and 150 on 28th. The Oct maximum of 50 occurred on 4th. The last of the year were four on 4 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
–	–	2	130	100	18	–	20	150	50	4	
–	–	1	18	27	17	–	3	20	11	1	

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus**Nationally scarce migrant.*

Single birds were in St Helen's Copse at 11.00 hrs and in the willow clumps next to the Terrace Trap and south of the Quarry Beach cable-way between 12.30 and 14.00 hrs on 17 Sep (Dave Chown, Tim Jones). It is unclear whether one or two birds were involved. Two were feeding with crests and Coal Tits in upper Millcombe on 10 Oct (James Diamond, Tim Jones, Ivan Lakin *et al.*). One was in the sycamores above the gas store in lower Millcombe during the early morning of 15 Oct, with two in upper Millcombe during the evening of the same day (James Diamond, Tim Jones *et al.*). One was again around the gas store on 16 Oct (many observers). Records accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix**Uncommon spring and autumn migrant; declining.*

Spring migrants were reported on three dates in mid May: one on 13th (Millcombe, Chris Baillie/A Rocha group). The only autumn migrants were singles on 14 & 16 Sep, with two seen on 15th, all in Millcombe (Dave Chown, Tim Davis *et al.*)

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*

[Common Chiffchaff]

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

The first spring migrants were one near Millcombe House on 16 Mar, followed by two on 27th. A large mixed fall of 1,000+ *Phylloscopus* warblers occurred on 6 Apr, while Chiffchaff numbers included at least 200 on 14 Apr, with 150 the following day, coinciding with significant influxes of Willow Warblers and Blackcaps. There were no double-digit counts after ten on 29 Apr. A very pale 'washed out'-looking bird was in Millcombe on 8 Jun. It showed almost no greenish or yellowish tones in its plumage, having largely khaki upperparts and whitish underparts, typical of Chiffchaffs from breeding populations in north-east Europe (Tim Jones). Potentially territory-holding males were singing in Millcombe, Quarter Wall Copse and along the Terrace during the second week of Jun. A female was collecting nesting material around the tree-planting enclosure in lower Millcombe on 16 Jun, but there was no subsequent evidence of successful breeding. Autumn migration was protracted, as usual, spanning the period mid Aug to early Nov. No large influxes were recorded, with only four daily counts of 20 or more, peaking at an extremely modest 25 on 23 Sep. The last report of the year concerned ten on 1 Nov. A bird ringed in The Netherlands in autumn 2014 was caught on Lundy in Apr (for more details see *Bird ringing in 2015*, p.58).

**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	200	7	6	2	15	25	20	10	–
–	–	2	20	27	16	3	10	22	19	1	–

**Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochillus***

*Very common spring and autumn migrant with occasional mass arrivals; breeds sporadically.*

The first reported spring migrants were 18 on 5 Apr. A large fall of *Phylloscopus* warblers occurred on 6 Apr, with 300 passing through the Terrace area in two hours and an estimated 1,000+ present on the island as a whole – the ratio of Chiffchaffs to Willow Warblers unknown. The highest counts of Willow Warblers were 300 on 8 & 14 Apr, with between 50 and 200 birds on seven other days before the end of the month. Only single birds were recorded after mid May and though song was heard in Millcombe and (on one date) at Quarter Wall Copse in early Jun there was no evidence of breeding and the last of the spring/early summer was one on 14 Jun. The earliest report of autumn migrants was of 20 on 10 Aug. Passage continued during the latter part of Aug and through Sep, but numbers recorded were generally low, with only five double-digit counts, the highest of these being 27 on 15 Sep and 45 on 16th. The last of the year was a single bird along the Terrace on 19 Oct (Mike Jackson).

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

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	300	6	1	–	20	45	1	–	–
–	–	–	19	12	6	–	9	21	3	–	–

**Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla***

[Eurasian Blackcap]

*Common spring and autumn migrant; occasional in midsummer and winter. Has probably bred but so far unconfirmed.*

The first spring migrants were four males and a female on 5 Apr. Numbers rose quickly to 60 on 8th and 100 on 14th, peaking at 200 on 16th when Paul Holt and Tony John reported them being “all over the place”, and with 50 or more on six other dates during the month, including 100 on 26th. By way of contrast, passage appears to have been negligible in May, with 15 on 4th by far the highest count. There were again some intriguing records in Jun, hinting at a possible breeding attempt in Millcombe, with a male on 4 & 5 Jun, a female on 8 Jun and a male sub-singing in the same area on 15 & 16 Jun. However, a small arrival of three strongly singing males on 14 Jun (Millcombe, Quarter Wall Copse and Terrace) for one day only showed that a trickle of migration was continuing. There were no records after 16 Jun until one on 10 Aug. Autumn passage got properly underway in Sep with a maximum of 100 on 23rd and seven other daily counts of 25 or more, peaking in early Oct when there were 175 on 3rd. The last of the year was on the relatively early date of 31 Oct, doubtless reflecting a combination of poor weather and limited observer coverage in 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
–	–	–	200	15	3	–	1	100	175	–	–
–	–	–	19	18	5	–	1	24	19	–	–

**Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin***

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

Spring migrants (all single birds) were recorded on just seven dates from 29 Apr to 4 Jun. Autumn migration was similarly poor, with single birds on eight dates in Sep between 6th and 24th. Unusually, there were no Oct 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
–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	1	5	1	–	–	8	–	–	–

[**Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*  
*Nationally scarce migrant.*

**2014 record.** One seen briefly on the Terrace on 2 Oct (Richard Campey). Record accepted by DBRC.]

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*

*Uncommon but annual spring and autumn passage migrant; has bred (2002).*

The only spring migrant recorded was one singing in Millcombe on 5 Jun (Steffi & Iain Beath), while the sole autumn migrant was one in Millcombe on 21 & 22 Sep, trapped and ringed on the first date (Chris Dee *et al.*).

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*

[Common Whitethroat]

*Common migrant in spring and autumn; has bred.*

Spring migrants were recorded on only 20 dates from Apr to Jun. The first were five on 16 Apr, while the highest count was ten on 26 & 29 Apr. Small numbers continued to be seen during May and the last of the spring was a female, a presumed late migrant, near the Terrace Trap on 14 Jun. In autumn, one on 10 Aug (coinciding with a small influx of other warblers) was followed by scattered records on 14 dates from 6 Sep (two) to 13 Oct (one), peaking at ten on 16 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
–	–	–	10	6	1	–	1	10	1	–	–
–	–	–	7	12	1	–	1	9	5	–	–

**Dartford Warbler** *Sylvia undata*

*Lundy vagrant.*

A male, thought probably a first-winter bird, was watched at close range as it worked its way slowly east through scattered gorse bushes near Quarter Wall gate on 16 Oct (James Diamond *et al.*). It was found when visiting birdwatchers were scouring the island looking for the Great Grey Shrike that had been seen briefly that morning. This is the 8th record for Lundy and the first since Apr 2008.

**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia*

[Common Grasshopper Warbler]

*Common spring migrant; uncommon autumn migrant.*

Spring passage was recorded on just six dates from 11 Apr (one ringed) to 30 Apr (one), with a maximum of five on 26th. The only reports of autumn migrants concerned single birds on 12 & 24 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
–	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

*Common spring and autumn migrant, generally more numerous in spring. Breeds sporadically.*

Spring migration was recorded on 25 dates between 10 Apr (one) and 16 Jun (one sub-singing at the mouth of 'Smelly Gully'), with maxima of ten on 29 Apr, 15 on 30 Apr and nine on 4 May. There was no indication of breeding. Autumn passage commenced with one on 9 Aug and two on 16th, followed by ones and twos on six scattered dates in Sep and a final individual on 2 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
–	–	–	15	9	1	–	2	2	1	–	–
–	–	–	8	13	1	–	2	6	1	–	–

**Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

[Eurasian Reed Warbler]

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

During spring passage, single birds occurred on 17 Apr (near Government House), 17 & 18 May (trapped and ringed in lower Millcombe on 18th) and 22 May. In autumn there were single birds on 25 Sep (in bracken along Upper East Side Path), 28 Sep (trapped and ringed in Millcombe), 8 Oct (details unknown) and 15 Oct (Millcombe walled gardens).

**Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*

[Eurasian Treecreeper]

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

Single birds were on the Terrace on 13 Sep (Dave Chown; see colour plate 12) and in Millcombe on 1 & 2 Oct (trapped and ringed on 1st – John Horton).

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

[Eurasian Wren]

*Common breeding resident.*

Twenty-two singing males were counted in Millcombe and along the Lower East Side Path on 15 Apr (Tim Jones). Based mainly on the mapping of singing males during the period 6–16 Jun, it was estimated that there were at least 60 territories on the island, concentrated mainly on the East Side, but with small numbers scattered along the West Side, South End and over the plateau. Birds were seen carrying nesting material and food to nest sites (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). Successful breeding was confirmed when a party of fledglings was begging for food on 5 Jul (Andrew Jewels). The highest one-day count of the year was 47 on 13 Oct.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
10	2	5	22	11	28	8	7	25	47	3	3

**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

[Common Starling]

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

The highest count during the first winter period and spring passage was 96 on 4 Mar. The May maximum of 36 on 14th is broadly consistent with an island breeding population of around 20 pairs, taking into account that some adults were likely to have been sitting on eggs or brooding small young. During the period 6–16 Jun adults were still taking food to nests in the Old Light, Black Shed, Church and abattoir, while young from other nests had already fledged (some continuing to be fed by their parents, others independent). The highest immediately post-breeding count was of 90 on 13 Jun, though there were still a few unfledged nests on that date (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). The first major influx of autumn migration was 150 on 11 Oct, while the highest counts of the year were 500 the following day and 300 on 26 Oct.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
85	80	96	65	50	90	52	85	95	500	200	50

**Rose-coloured Starling** *Pastor roseus*

[Rosy Starling]

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

A first-summer bird that had moulted from juvenile plumage into partial breeding plumage was photographed in Pigs' Paradise gardens and sitting on top of the Church on 14 Jun (Rebecca Bates, Robert Foster, Tim Davis, Tim Jones). Record accepted by DBRC.

### Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

*Uncommon but regular spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring migrants were reported on six dates between 6 Apr (three) and 27 Apr (one), with a maximum of seven (two near Government House and five at Quarter Wall gate – Martyn Roper) on 8th. Autumn passage was noted on nine dates from 19 Sep (one) to 28 Oct (one), with maxima of five on 15 Oct and three the following day. All other records involved single birds.

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

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	7	–	–	–	–	1	5	–	–
–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	3	6	–	–

### Blackbird *Turdus merula*

[Common Blackbird]

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

The highest spring count of adults was just ten on 30 Apr. A count of 12 on 20 May included an unspecified number of fledged young. Observations between 9 & 16 Jun suggested a breeding population of at least eight pairs, including three or four in Millcombe/St John's Valley, others along the East Side between St Helen's Copse and Knight Templar Rock and one in a bramble clump next to the entrance to the South Light compound (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). The only noticeable, albeit modest, autumn influxes occurred during the third and fourth weeks of Oct when numbers rose to a peak of 30 on 15th and 28th. The ring (only) of an adult female ringed on Lundy in Oct 2007 was found in a Peregrine nest in Wales in Dec (for more details see *Bird ringing in 2015*, p.58).

#### Maximum count for each month

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	2	2	10	12*	12	4	3	14	30	10	1

\*Including an unspecified number of fledged young.

### Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

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

The only reports during the late-winter and spring periods concerned singles on 15 Feb and 5 Apr, followed by six on 6 Apr. Autumn passage started with a sudden arrival of 125 on 14 Oct, followed by 175 on 15th, 130 on 16th and 100 on 18th. This proved a short-lived influx, with no other count exceeding 20 and most in single digits. The last report of the year was of 20 on 22 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	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	175	20	–
–	1	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	12	4	–

### Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

*Common migrant in early spring and late autumn; winter influxes during hard weather. Occasional resident and sporadic breeder.*

The only record during the first three months of the year was one on 6 Mar. There was evidence of light passage in Apr, with records of one to five birds on eight dates from 6th to 17th. There were no territory-holding birds. The first autumn migrant was one on 25 Sep, followed by records on a further 17 dates until the last on 29 Nov (one). The main movements were in mid to late Oct, with a maximum of 20 on 15th & 28th.

**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	5	–	–	–	–	1	20	1	–
–	–	1	7	–	–	–	–	1	14	3	–

**Redwing *Turdus iliacus***

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

The only records during the late-winter and spring passage periods were singles on 4 Mar and 15 Apr. Autumn migrants were recorded on 18 dates between 8 Oct (two) and 26 Nov (one). Peak movements occurred in mid to late Oct, with highs of 500 on 14th, 600 on 15th and 400 on 16th, followed by a further arrival of 150 on 27th. All other counts were in single or low double-digit 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	–	–	–	–	–	600	20	–
–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	15	3	–

**Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus***

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

One on 8 Oct was followed by daily records from 11 to 16 Oct, with one on 11th, two on 12th, three on 13th, peaking at four on 14th before dropping back to two on 15th and one on 16th. Further single birds were recorded on 28 Oct and 23 Nov.

**Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata***

*Common spring and autumn passage migrant; irregular breeder.*

Spring migrants were recorded on 32 dates between 29 Apr (two) and 16 Jun (one), with a maximum of six on 13 & 16 May and 8 Jun. Birds were apparently holding territory in Millcombe, Quarter Wall Copse and along the Terrace on 28 May (Paul McGowan), but these were evidently passage migrants as there was no evidence of territorial birds when the same areas were watched intensively in mid Jun (Tim Jones). Autumn passage was noted on 37 dates from 3 Aug (no count given) to 1 Oct (three), with a peak of 20 on 16 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
–	–	–	2	6	6	–	4	20	3	–	–
–	–	–	1	20	12	–	11	25	1	–	–

**Robin *Erithacus rubecula***

[European Robin]

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

The highest count for the late-winter/early spring period was six on 3 Mar. The spring maximum was ten on 15 Apr, perhaps indicating the presence of a few passage birds. A pair was brooding small young in a nest in Millcombe on 26 May. Fledged young were seen in Jun when the island's breeding population was estimated at five pairs (two in Millcombe, one in Quarter Wall Copse and two along the Terrace – Tim Davis & Tim Jones). The first notable autumn passage influx occurred in mid Sep, when 15 were logged on 13th, rising to 20 on 17th and 25 on 24th, with variable numbers on the intervening dates. Further arrivals were noted in mid Oct, when 29 on 12th was the highest count of the year. Additionally there were 17 on 13 Oct, 23 on 14th and 17 on 15th.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	2	6	10	7	8	1	4	25	29	6	1

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

A first-winter bird was watched at close range in Millcombe in an area between the Casbah, Government House and Millcombe House on 15 Oct (Tim Jones *et al.*). Record accepted by DBRC.

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

[European Pied Flycatcher]

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

The only spring migrants were single birds on four dates 10–18 Apr, all females except for a male on 14th. The first post-breeding migrant appeared in the Battlements sycamores on 18 Aug. Thereafter, ones and twos occurred on 15 dates scattered throughout Sep, with a final individual on 6 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	2	1	–	–
–	–	–	4	–	–	–	1	15	1	–	–

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*

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

A female was at Benjamin's Chair on 2 Mar. In Apr there were further single females on 11th & 16th, and two on 15th (Terrace/Quarries and North Light). Single birds were recorded on 13 & 25 May, but without locations. Finally, during spring passage, a female was in Gannets' Comb on the unusually late date of 7 Jun (Tim Jones). Autumn passage was sparse, with records on 12 dates between 3 Oct (one) and 20 Nov (one), including six days during the last week of Oct when the maximum count of four occurred on 29th.

**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	–	–	–	4	3	–
–	–	1	3	2	1	–	–	–	9	3	–

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

[Common Redstart]

*Common but declining spring and autumn migrant in small numbers.*

Spring migrants were recorded on 12 dates between 9 Apr (two males, in Millcombe and at Quarter Wall) and 23 May (one, sex not recorded), with maxima of four (all males) on 10 Apr, three (all females) on 16 Apr and three (one male, two females) on 4 May. After two on 2 Jul and a single bird on 3 & 4 Jul, autumn passage was negligible, with further records – all of single birds – on just four dates: 16 & 28 Sep and 10 & 29 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	3	–	2	–	1	1	–	–
–	–	–	9	3	–	3	–	2	2	–	–

**Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra***

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

The only spring migrants were single birds on 4 & 13 May. Autumn passage was confined to Sep and early Oct, with records on 20 dates between 6 Sep (one) and 14 Oct (one), the maximum of 11 occurring on 16 Sep. All other counts were of one to four birds.

**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	–	–	–	11	2	–	–
–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	17	3	–	–

**Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola***

[European Stonechat]

*Breeds occasionally; uncommon spring migrant and regular autumn migrant; irregular in winter.* Between one and three birds were seen 1–24 Mar, though detailed observations suggested a turnover of passage migrants rather than the presence of longer-staying, potentially territorial, birds. A pair were at Tibbetts on 6 Apr, a male was noted on 15 Apr and two birds were seen on 25 & 27 May (one on 25 May was an alarm-calling female just south of Pondsbury), but given the paucity of spring sightings it still came as a welcome surprise when, in Jun, breeding was confirmed for the first time since 2009: a pair with fledged young were on the heathland south of Pondsbury 9–15 Jun. Autumn migrants were recorded on 38 dates between 16 Sep (two) and 26 Nov (two), with a maximum of 12 on 25 Sep and 13 & 14 Oct. The only other double-digit count was ten on 16 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	2	2	4*	2	–	12	12	2	–
–	–	5	2	2	7	2	–	13	18	7	–

\*including two fledged young

**Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe***

[Northern Wheatear]

*Summer visitor; breeds; common spring and autumn migrant.*

The first arrival of spring was a male on 7 Mar. After further males on 12 & 15 Mar, there was an influx of seven males on 17th, rising to ten males and a female on 18th. The first major influx was of 140 and 150 birds on 8 & 9 Apr, respectively, followed by a second peak at the end of the month, when there were an estimated 200 on both 26th & 27th. The two peaks are likely to reflect the arrival of local and other UK breeders at the beginning of Apr, followed by staging Greenland Wheatears – that breed as far north-west as Arctic Canada – nearly three weeks later. Two Greenland birds (confirmed by considerably longer wing-lengths and higher weights than local Wheatears) were trapped and ringed in South West Field on 28 May, with a third trapped in the same place on 30 May. One was still present on 2 Jun (Richard Taylor). Birds were singing in total darkness below Tibbetts at around 02.00 hrs and near Pondsbury at about 04.00 hrs on 29 May (Richard & Rebecca Taylor). Autumn passage was protracted and unremarkable, with the modest maximum of 50 occurring on 16 Sep. The final double-digit count was of ten on 9 Oct, while the last bird of the year was seen on 24 Oct.

Tony Taylor and Richard Taylor continued their colour-ringing study of Wheatears, marking 37 new birds in 2015, during which 32 birds ringed in 2013 or 2014 were resighted. The survival rate from 2014 to 2015 among the colour-ringed birds was 52%. The island's breeding population in 2015 was estimated at about 100 pairs.

**Request.** *Further birds will be colour-ringed in 2016 so please continue to record sightings in the LFS logbook. Photos are particularly appreciated.*

**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	200	33	70	20	30	50	12	–	–
–	–	11	20	28	19	17	13	21	17	–	–

**Dunnoch *Prunella modularis***

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

The highest count in spring was six on 15 Apr. During the period May–Jul, song was heard in Millcombe and St John’s Valley (two singing against each other on 28 May), from below the Terrace and at St Helen’s Copse. However there was no confirmation of breeding, or even evidence of nesting. Although first-year birds were trapped in the autumn, these could have dispersed or migrated from the mainland; a possibility underlined by the apparent influx of birds in Oct, when nine were logged on 14th, and seven on 15th & 28th. Thorough coverage of suitable habitat during Sep had yielded only single birds on just four dates.

**Maximum count for each month**

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

**House Sparrow *Passer domesticus***

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

The following summary from ongoing research into Lundy’s House Sparrow population has been contributed by Alfredo Sánchez-Tójar, Max Planck Institute for Ornithology.

The 2015 breeding season was average in terms of starting time and number of fledglings ringed. The first egg was laid on 11 April. Surprisingly, the totals for pairs, broods and fledglings were reduced by 50%, 50% and 60% respectively, when compared to the breeding season of 2014. However, it’s important to keep in mind that the breeding season of 2014 involved the biggest population ever recorded. During 2015 we recorded a total of 122 broods and we ringed 227 fledglings from April to August. The main reason for the reduction in the number of breeding pairs in the summer of 2015 might have been the continuous presence of Sparrowhawks and Merlins during the previous winter. Many of the 2015 fledglings, as well as many of the adults, were caught in a subsequent winter trip (February 2016). During this winter trip, only 71 individuals were caught, a reduction of 17% compared to February 2015. For the 2016 breeding season, the team is due to arrive on 23 April. In view of the lower numbers recorded in winter 2015/2016, the breeding population in 2016 might be a bit smaller than in 2015, though it has proven very difficult to make reliable predictions in previous years and sparrows always try to surprise us. The sparrow project will keep you updated.

**Maximum count for each month (from LFS logbook)**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
63	21	p*	14	8	46	15	20	50	16	25	20

\* = present, but no count reported

NB. The counts recorded in the logbook are clearly lower in most cases than the actual population, as shown by Alfredo’s report.

**Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava***

[Western & Eastern Yellow Wagtail]

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

Single spring migrants were recorded on four dates: 21 & 27 Apr and 21 & 22 May. Autumn

migrants were recorded on 13 dates from 8 Sep (one) to 10 Oct (one), with a maximum of three on 14 & 15 Sep.

One of the birds present on the latter two dates (an adult male feeding around sheep in the Lighthouse Field) showed the characteristics of **Grey-headed Wagtail** *M. f. thunbergi*, which breeds in Scandinavia and western Russia (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). Record accepted by DBRC.

**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	1	–	–
–	–	–	2	2	–	–	–	11	2	–	–

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*

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

The only spring record was of one in the ditch near the cattle grid outside Square Cottage on the unusual date of 7 Jun. Autumn passage was noted on 27 dates from 10 Aug (one) to 30 Oct (one), with a maximum of five on 17 Sep and 2 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	5	5	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	11	15	–	–

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

[White Wagtail]

*Pied Wagtail nests most years in small numbers, is a common spring and autumn migrant, but rare in midwinter. White Wagtail occurs annually during both spring and autumn migrations.*

The first of the year was a single bird on 2 Mar, followed by records on a further 12 dates in Mar, with a maximum of five on 31st. The spring passage maximum and the only spring count in double digits, was 13 on 15 Apr (though this included ten birds that could not be identified to race). Breeding confirmed: a pair seen regularly in May was collecting nesting material at the north end of the High Street on 28th, and an adult was feeding a fledged juvenile on 18 Jul. It is thought unlikely that more than one pair bred. During spring migration White Wagtails were recorded on nine dates 5–28 Apr, with a maximum of 12 on 14th; a late migrant occurred on 8 & 9 Jun. Autumn passage of both Pied and White Wagtails peaked in mid Sep; there were 50 Pies on 14th, while a fall of White Wagtails in the early morning of 16th numbered at least 100, concentrated mainly at the southern ends of the Tent Field and South West Field. Most had left the island by 10.00 hrs.

**Maximum count for each month: (Pied Wagtail (top) & White Wagtail (bottom))**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	5	13*	6	2	2**	1	50	30	1	–
–	–	–	12	1	1	–	–	100	7	–	–

\*Could include some White Wagtails

\*\*One adult with one fledged young

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

One on West Side north of Quarter Wall on 27 Sep, on Ackland's Moor on 28th and north of Quarter Wall again on 29th (Tim Cleeves, Martin Kerby). Record accepted by DBRC.

### **Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis***

*Uncommon spring and autumn migrant.*

The only spring records occurred in Apr when there were three on 15th and two on 16th (on both days all calling in flight as they headed north over the island), plus single birds ringed on 26th & 29th. Autumn migrants were recorded on 13 dates from 6 Sep (two) to 16 Oct (one), with a maximum of six on 8 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
–	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	6	1	–	–
–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	9	4	–	–

### **Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis***

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

The first reported signs of spring migration were 20 on 18 Feb, followed by 40 the next day. A relatively light but steady passage brought 160 on 5 Mar, while the highest count in Apr was 170 on 14th. Many adults were taking food to nest sites during the second week of Jun and successful breeding was confirmed when a very recent fledgling was in St John's Valley on 15th. Noticeable autumn passage was recorded from early Sep, with numbers rising from 80 on 2nd to 110 on 11th, 200 on 13th & 16th, 250 on 24th and 500 on 25th. The highest count of the autumn was 650 on 12 Oct, but numbers dwindled from mid Oct, with 70 the maximum during the second half of the month and only a handful of birds reported in Nov.

#### **Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	40	160	170	30	55	20	30	500	650	3	6

### **Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus***

[Eurasian Rock Pipit]

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

The highest count for the late-winter and early-spring period was 11 on 4 Mar. Successful breeding was confirmed when a fledgling was seen along the Beach Road on 7 Jul.

#### **Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	1	11	2	7	4	6	–	6	10	2	–

### **Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla***

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

There were no late-winter or spring-passage records. Autumn migrants were recorded on just eight dates between 14 & 31 Oct, with a maximum of seven on 28th; all other counts were of one to five birds.

### **Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs***

[Common Chaffinch]

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

The highest count for the late-winter and early-spring period was ten on 14 & 15 Mar and there were further counts of ten on both 28 Apr and 13 May, indicating that this was about the size of the small resident population at the start of the breeding season. There was no evidence of any spring passage. During 6–16 Jun at least two singing males were holding territory in Millcombe, where a pair was watched gleaning insects from sycamore leaves to take back to a nest site. Song was also heard from Hammers Copse and near St Helen's Copse, though these could have

been the Millcombe birds moving around. Additional pairs (including singing males) were at Quarter Wall Copse and the Terrace. For a third successive autumn, weather conditions in late Oct and early Nov were unfavourable for major daytime movements of finches over Lundy and there were just four dates – all in the last week of Oct – when Chaffinch numbers exceeded 100; the maximum of 300 occurred on 26th. A female Chaffinch, ringed on Lundy as a first-year bird in Oct 2009 and controlled (recaptured) near Stavanger, Norway in Apr 2012, was caught again at the same location in Norway on 23 Apr 2015 (see *Bird ringing in 2015*, p.58, for full details).

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	4	10	10	10	9	2	12	15	300	10	1

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

*Rare autumn migrant and very rare spring migrant; Devon rarity.*

A male was trapped and ringed in Millcombe on 30 Oct (Rob Duncan *et al.*). Of three seen the following day, one came in off the sea and flew up Millcombe at 07.20 hrs, while two were together in lower Millcombe before flying off towards the South Light at 07.40 hrs (Justin Zantboer *et al.*). Records accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Common Rosefinch** *Erythrura erythrina*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

A female or first-summer male was in Millcombe on 29 & 30 May (Philip & Helen Lymbery, Paul McGowan). One calling in flight at least ten times over Millcombe and St John's Valley was heard from the northern flank of Castle Hill during the course of about ten minutes from 07.47 hrs during strong visible migration of Chaffinches and Redwings on 14 Oct (James Diamond & Tim Jones; also heard in Millcombe by Ivan Lakin & Kevin Rylands). Records accepted by DBRC.

**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

[Eurasian Bullfinch]

*Rare spring migrant and very rare autumn migrant; recent evidence of possible breeding; one winter record (1997).*

A male was in Millcombe on 8 Jan (Jim Campbell). A pair were in Millcombe on 6 Apr, with a female trapped and ringed on 7th. An exceptional five birds – four females and a male – were in Millcombe on 8th, of which two females and the male were trapped and ringed. The influx continued with a male and a female trapped and ringed in St John's Valley on 9th (all records 6–9 Apr – Rob Duncan). A male was still in Millcombe on 14 Apr (Paul Holt) and one (sex not determined) was calling and seen briefly in flight on 15th (Tim Jones). A female was reported on 25 Apr, and finally one (sex not reported) was near Brambles on 13 May and heard there again on 14th & 15th. During autumn passage a female was in Millcombe walled gardens on 28 Sep (Ryan Miller).

**Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris*

[European Greenfinch]

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

One on 5 May was the only spring record. The only autumn migrants were one on 26 Oct, two on 28th and two on 1 Nov.

**Linnet** *Linaria cannabina*

[Common Linnet]

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

The first report of the year was of two on 5 Mar. Spring passage peaked in Apr, with a maximum of 125 on 15th. Successful breeding confirmed: several family parties were seen during the

second week of Jun, while a female carrying nesting material on 9 Jul was presumably embarking on a second brood. Post-breeding flocks built up to 150 by 28 Aug, while the peak of autumn passage brought 400 on 13 & 15 Sep, falling to 300 on 16th and 150 on 17th. The Oct maxima were 150 on 1st and 180 on 12th; the final triple-digit count of the year was 100 on 16 Oct, with only a handful remaining by the end of the month.

**Maximum count for each month**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	2	125	50	80	30	150	400	180	1	1

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

There were no records until the autumn when migrants were logged on 16 dates between 19 Sep (one) and 23 Nov (one). The maxima were four on 25 Sep and six on 2 & 13 Oct. Many were only seen/heard calling in flight, so are technically 'redpoll sp.' but are assumed to have been Lesser Redpolls (all those seen well were identified as belonging to this species).

**Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis* [European Goldfinch]  
*Breeds occasionally; common spring and autumn migrant; irregular in summer and winter.*

The first reports of the year concerned two on 5 Mar and one on 10th. There were no further records until two on 5 Apr, but records were regular after that, with spring passage appearing to peak at the end of Apr when there were 20 on three dates between 27th & 30th. At least six adults were in Millcombe most days during the period 6–16 Jun and a pair was nest-building between Government House and Millcombe House on 6th. Birds were also seen and heard regularly around Quarter Wall Copse and along the Terrace and further nesting territories were suspected (Tim Davis & Tim Jones). Successful breeding was confirmed when an adult was feeding a juvenile near Blue Bung on 4 Jul and five juveniles were begging for food in Millcombe on 8 Jul (Andrew Jewels). Post-breeding dispersal and autumn passage was presumably ongoing during Aug & Sep, but there were no notable influxes until mid/late Oct when there were 50 on 11th & 25th and 45 on 16th.

**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	20	15	15	8	22	20	50	10	–
–	–	2	18	27	20	14	18	24	20	13	–

**Siskin** *Spinus spinus* [Eurasian Siskin]  
*Late autumn migrant in greatly varying numbers; very rare in spring.*

There were no records during the first eight months of the year. Though noticeable post-breeding movements were recorded along the coast of the nearby Devon mainland from late Jun, the first report of migrants on Lundy concerned four on 6 Sep. There were records on a further 37 dates until the last on 31 Oct (when 20 were logged). The maxima were 45 on 13 Sep and 21 on 14 Oct.

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*  
*Uncommon but regular autumn migrant in small numbers; uncommon spring migrant; rare in midwinter. Devon rarity.*

A very poor year; the only record was of two on 8 Oct – one at North End and one at Quarter Wall gate (Julian Bowden & Tony Simpson). Record accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*

[Lapland Longspur]

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

One seen and heard in flight over Middle Park on 19 Sep (Richard & Rebecca Taylor); two on 28 Sep – one flying over Old House, one in flight near the eastern end of Halfway Wall – and one on 2 Oct in the Brick Field (Tim Cleeves & Martin Kerby); and one flew south over Quarter Wall on 14 Oct (Ivan Lakin & Kevin Rylands). Records accepted by Devon Bird Recorder.

**Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

Three in the north-east corner of the Lighthouse Field near the boundary with Bull's Paradise and the lambing shed on 11 Sep (Dave Chown, Richard Taylor *et al.*) – see colour plate 11. Two remained on 12th and one on 13th & 16th. Two of the three originally present on 11th were aged – from photographs – as first-winter individuals; the third bird was aged as an adult. A first-winter bird was in the area close to the junction between Brick and Tillage Fields 25–28 Sep (Richard & Fran Castle, Andy Jayne *et al.*). Records 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.*

Only recorded during autumn passage in mid Oct when there were daily records from 12th to 17th, with counts rising from three on 12th–14th to four on 15th, five on 16th and six on 17th (at least four around Quarter Wall, one at Pondsby and one at Threequarter Wall – many observers). Finally, one was in Millcombe on 19 Oct.

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

An elusive individual was at the western end of Quarter Wall on 14 & 16 Oct (Ivan Lakin & Kevin Rylands). Seen initially in flight and perched atop dead bracken on 14th, it was relocated on 16th when it was again seen in flight and perched on gorse, giving good views of its head pattern. Record accepted by DBRC.

**Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*

*British vagrant.*

A first-winter male was mist-netted in Millcombe (near Government House), ringed and photographed on 27 Sep (John Horton) – see colour plate 11. Not seen in the field after its release, it was assumed to have left the island but was relocated on 30 Sep along the wall dividing the Lighthouse Field and Tent Field between the old stone-crushing machine and the helipad (Ryan Miller *et al.*). It was still present in the same area on 1 Oct but could not be found the following day. This is the sixth record for the island but the first since Oct 1994. Record accepted by BBRC.

## **BIRDS SEEN ON THE CROSSING TO OR FROM LUNDY**

Records of birds seen close to the island are incorporated in the main list, above. Other reports of interest for the 'open sea' part of the crossing are given below, but we do not cover the North Devon shoreline or the Taw & Torridge Estuary. Records for these areas should be submitted to the Devon Bird Recorder (recorder@devonbirds.org).

**Diver species** *Gavia* sp.

One, thought probably to be Red-throated Diver *G. stellata*, on 25 Apr. The timing roughly coincides with the record of a single Red-throated in the Landing Bay on 21 Apr (see main report).

**Great Shearwater** *Puffinus gravis*

One seen from MS *Oldenburg* at c.09.30 hrs on 4 Jul, approximately 30 minutes prior to landing on Lundy (Andrew Jewels). This is the first record for the waters close to Lundy since Aug 2002. Record accepted by DBRC.

**Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*

One on 21 May approx. four miles south-east of Lundy (Martin Thorne/Morte Wildlife Group). Four were seen on the crossing from Lundy to Ilfracombe during the evening of 30 May (Tony Taylor).

**Arctic Skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus*

One 15 minutes out from Lundy on 17 Oct (Kevin Rylands).

**Great Skua** *Stercorarius skua*

One about halfway across to Lundy on the crossing from Ilfracombe on 22 Sep (Andy Jayne).

**Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicensis*

Two seen from MS *Oldenburg* about 15 minutes prior to arrival in the Landing Bay on 25 Aug (Chris Baillie).

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

One on 30 Apr.

## RECORDS EXCLUDED FROM THE MAIN REPORT

The following reports are considered unsubstantiated for the reasons given. We would be delighted to receive further information that could enable any of these reports to be confirmed.

**Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris borealis*

A report of one seen from MS *Oldenburg* on 1 Aug lacked sufficient supporting details.

**Cory's or Great Shearwaters** *Calonectris borealis* or *Puffinus gravis*

A report of two large shearwaters, thought to be one of these two species, seen from MS *Oldenburg* on 7 Jul lacked supporting details.

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*

A report of one off The Ugly on the unusual date of 30 Jun lacked any supporting details.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*

One on 12 Aug – no supporting information provided.

**Jack Snipe** *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Singles reported on 23 Jan and 2 & 3 Oct – no supporting information provided.

**Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* [Ruddy Turnstone]

One reported on 12 May but without any supporting details.

**Arctic Skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus*

A single bird reported on 3 Aug – no supporting information provided.

**Great Skua** *Stercorarius skua*

A single bird was reported on 3 Aug, and another from The Ugly on 13 Oct – no supporting information provided for either record.

**Black Guillemot** *Cephus grylle*

A report of one in the Landing Bay on 18 Nov lacked supporting details.

**Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicensis*

One reported on 7 Sep but without any supporting information.

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*

A first-winter bird on 17 Oct – no supporting information provided.

**Iceland Gull** *Larus glaucoides*

A report of one over Rat Island on 12 Sep lacked any supporting details.

**Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix*

One reported on 7 May but without any supporting details. Although the entry in the LFS Logbook states “photo taken”, none has been received. Hooded Crow is a category A Devon rarity that requires a full written description, or a photograph, to be accepted by DBRC.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*

A report of one on the main track near Gannets' Rock on 31 Aug lacked any supporting details.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*

A tick in the LFS logbook indicating the presence of this species on 17 Mar lacked any supporting information.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*

A report of one hawking over Millcombe on 5 Jul lacked sufficient supporting details to rule out aberrant or hybrid Barn Swallow or House Martin.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Reports of two on both 16 & 18 May lacked supporting information.

**Waxwing species** *Bombycilla garrulus* or *B. cedorum*

A corpse found by island staff in Millcombe on the seemingly unlikely date of 5 Jun was reported as that of a Bohemian Waxwing *B. garrulus*, but no photograph or written description was taken and the corpse was not retained. Unseasonably mobile Atlantic weather brought three North American Cedar Waxwings *B. cedorum* to Britain and Ireland, including one on Scilly, and it actually seems more likely that a waxwing reaching Lundy in early Jun would have been Cedar Waxwing rather than Bohemian Waxwing. Regrettably, in the absence of any description or photograph, this can only remain a highly intriguing report and not a confirmed record of either species.

**Rose-coloured Starling** *Pastor roseus*

A report of one in the pig-sty on 5 Jul lacked supporting details.

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Reports of single birds on 3 & 6 Jul – highly unusual dates for this species – contained no further details so are excluded from the main report.

**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*

A report of one near Halfway Wall on 23 Oct lacked supporting details.

**Scandinavian Rock Pipit** *Anthus petrosus littoralis*

A Rock Pipit videoed in the Devil's Kitchen on 8 Apr was provisionally identified as belonging to the Scandinavian breeding subspecies *A. p. littoralis*, but more detailed examination of the clip (showing the upperparts only) concluded that it was a well-marked British Rock Pipit *A. p. petrosus*.

**Cirl Bunting** *Emberiza cirius*

A report of three at Quarry Pond on 4 Oct lacked supporting details.

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

A report of one near the old stonecrusher on 30 Sep lacked any subsequent supporting details and seems likely to have been the Rustic Bunting relocated in the same area later that day.

## **DBRC DECISIONS ON RARITY RECORDS PENDING FROM 2014**

**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

One reported on 2 Oct. Record considered not proven.

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

*Nationally scarce migrant.*

One reported on 25 Oct. Record considered not proven.

# BIRD RINGING IN 2015

by

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2015 saw the continuation of long-term studies of Manx Shearwaters and breeding Wheatears, along with the mist-netting of spring and autumn migrants. In all, 2,823 birds were ringed, a significant increase on the 2014 total.

Spring migrants were targeted during two and a half weeks in April and early May. Another two and a half weeks in late May and early June were spent working on Wheatears and shearwaters, with a further four days of shearwater work in July. For the first 19 days of September, the main focus was on shearwater chicks, with some migrant ringing also achieved. Then the next two and a half weeks, and four days at the end of October, were spent catching autumn migrants.

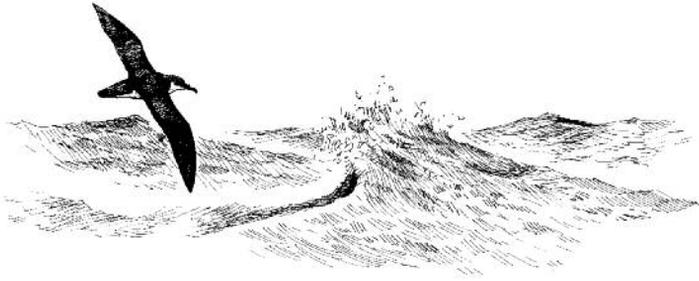
The year's ringing totals are shown in the table below. Swallows were ringed in the greatest numbers, with 678 caught, most of them on three days of strong passage in autumn. Blackcaps continue to do very well, and totalled 619. Other species with three-figure totals include Manx Shearwater (381), Goldcrest (233), Chiffchaff (211) and Willow Warbler (199). The most unusual species caught were Wryneck, Hawfinch and Lundy's third Rustic Bunting. Common in Britain but rarely ringed on Lundy were three Bullfinches caught in April, three Kestrels in autumn, a Woodcock and a Great Spotted Woodpecker.

Firecrest numbers were impressive, 17 being the highest total since 1990. In contrast, the Goldcrest total was unexceptional, with higher numbers caught as recently as 2013. In autumn 2015 some sites on the south coast of England recorded a big influx of continental Goldcrests, as well as Firecrests, but there was no indication that any of these greyer-looking Goldcrests got as far as Lundy. This backs up the evidence from previous ringing recoveries, which suggest that Goldcrests visiting Lundy have relatively local origins compared to Firecrests.

## **Manx Shearwaters**

Shearwater ringing is strongly influenced by weather and the phase of the moon, with very dark, cloudy nights being most productive. The timing of colony visits in relation to different stages of the breeding season is also critical. These considerations explain the lower number of adults (126) and higher number of chicks (255) ringed compared with 2014, when the totals were 235 and 121. In 2015 a further 44 of the adults caught had rings from previous years, and eight of these had originally been ringed as chicks, adding to our knowledge of recruitment to the breeding population.

Three of the chicks ringed in September 2015 were found dead in southern Brazil two months later, along with hundreds of unringed birds. They appear to have been victims of particularly severe weather associated with a strong El Niño event. By combining Lundy data with the equivalent figures from Skomer, Skokholm, Ramsey and Bardsey, the numbers involved confirm two points: this was an exceptional event, with a combined total of 11 ringing recoveries from South America in 2015, compared with none in 2014 and two in 2013; and the majority of the birds affected were in their first year, suggesting that their inexperience was a contributing factor. Long-term studies in the Pembrokeshire colonies suggest that although most adults survive such



winters, they tend to return to their colonies in poor condition and have lower breeding success in the following summer, so it will be interesting to see how Lundy birds are affected in 2016.

### **Wheatears**

The Wheatear Retrapping Adults for Survival (RAS) project continued with a very successful season. Extending the ringing work to two and a half weeks meant that 37 breeding birds were newly colour-ringed, and 32 birds colour-ringed in 2013 and 2014 were re-sighted.

Males tend to be more obvious while the females are incubating or brooding small young, whereas females become more obvious when they have older chicks. So, because of the restricted timing of previous visits, in 2013 more males were trapped or seen, and in 2014 more females. The longer period of intensive work in 2015 meant that roughly equal numbers were recorded, and several males ringed in 2013 but not seen in 2014 were re-sighted. Since these males must have been alive in 2014, the adult survival rate between the 2013 and 2014 seasons needs to be revised upwards to 59%. The provisional rate for 2014 to 2015 is 52%, but a similar upward revision may be necessary next year.

Many thanks to the various observers who reported colour-ringed birds before and after the main study period in 2015, adding to our knowledge of the birds' life histories. Any 2016 records will be extremely welcome.

### **Recoveries and Controls**

Details of the ringed birds found on Lundy or moving elsewhere in 2015 are listed overleaf. Among the most notable are the three Manx Shearwaters found in Brazil, discussed above. These were the first Lundy shearwaters ever found outside Europe. A 20-year-old Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen again at its usual wintering site in the Landes region of France, while another was less than six months old when it died on Lundy, having moved south from Anglesey.

Among the passerine migrants, a Chaffinch was nearly seven years old when it was recaptured by a ringer in Norway for the second time. It had probably travelled to Britain or beyond for each of its six winters, before returning to Scandinavia each summer to breed. Another autumn migrant, ringed on Lundy in 2007, was not so lucky: a Blackbird was killed by a Peregrine on a subsequent journey across the Welsh uplands, though it is not known how long ago, since only the ring was found.

A Willow Warbler, ringed on Lundy on its way north in spring and recaptured on a Dorset headland on its way south the following year had probably taken similar routes each time. In contrast, a Chiffchaff ringed in The Netherlands in autumn was nearly 900 km further west when it passed though Lundy in spring.

## LUNDY RINGING TOTALS 2015

Manx Shearwater	(255)	381	Wren	34
Storm Petrel		1	Ring Ouzel	1
Woodcock		1	Blackbird	28
Woodpigeon		3	Song Thrush	5
Wryneck		1	Redwing	2
Great Spotted Woodpecker		1	Spotted Flycatcher	7
Kestrel		3	Robin	31
Carrion Crow		1	Pied Flycatcher	3
Goldcrest		233	Black Redstart	1
Firecrest		17	Redstart	1
Blue Tit		1	Stonechat	9
Coal Tit		3	Wheatear	40
Sand Martin		8	Dunnock	5
Swallow		678	Tree Pipit	5
House Martin		24	Meadow Pipit	91
Chiffchaff		211	Chaffinch	91
Willow Warbler		199	Hawfinch	1
Blackcap		619	Bullfinch	3
Garden Warbler		2	Lesser Redpoll	1
Lesser Whitethroat		1	Goldfinch	27
Whitethroat		12	Siskin	9
Grasshopper Warbler		3	Linnet	5
Sedge Warbler		16	Rustic Bunting	1
Reed Warbler		2		
Treecreeper		1	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,823</b>

Numbers in brackets indicate pulli ringed in 2014 (included in the main totals).  
Number of species: 48



*Goldfinch by Mike Langman, from 'The Birds of Lundy'*

## LUNDY RECOVERIES AND CONTROLS 2015

**Manx Shearwater** EY74131 – ringed as a pullus on Lundy, 4.9.15. Found freshly dead, after days of storms, at Mongagua, São Paulo, BRAZIL, 30.10.15. (56 days; 9,338 km; bearing: 207°).

**Manx Shearwater** EZ06320 – ringed as a pullus on Lundy, 9.9.15. Found freshly dead, after days of storms, at Praia do Cassino, Rio Grande do Sul, BRAZIL, 6.11.15. (58 days; 10,493 km; 207°).

**Manx Shearwater** EY74178 – ringed as a pullus on Lundy, 6.9.15. Found dead at Parque Nacional da Lagoa do Peixe, Rio Grande do Sul, BRAZIL, 6.11.15. (61 days; 10,228 km; 207°).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** FH67947 – ringed as a pullus on Puffin Island, Anglesey, 12.7.14. Found dead (not fresh) on Lundy, 25.1.15. (197 days; 243 km; 190°).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** colour-ring: blue, with white L, on left leg; metal on right – ringed as a pullus on Lundy, 25-29.6.95. Seen at Courant de Mimizan, Landes, FRANCE, 24.2.15. (c.7,182 days; 814 km; 162°).

**Chiffchaff** ACX038 – ringed as a full-grown bird at Schiermonnikoog, West Frisian Islands, The Netherlands, 9.9.14. Controlled on Lundy, 14.4.15. (217 days; 780 km; 251°).

**Willow Warbler** HBP721 – ringed as an adult on Lundy, 15.4.14. Controlled at Durlston Country Park, Dorset, 11.8.15. (483 days; 202 km; 109°).

**Blackbird** LA36779 – ringed as an adult female on Lundy, 25.10.07. Ring found by metal detector, in Raven nest used by Peregrine at Cwar yr Hendre, Powys, 18.12.15. (2,976 days; 119 km; 53°).

**Chaffinch** L026586 – ringed as a first-year female on Lundy, 14.10.09. Controlled at Bomyra, Randaberg, Rogaland, NORWAY, 6.4.15. (2,000 days; 1,086 km; 37°). This bird was previously controlled at the same site on 23.4.12.

**Goldfinch** D184888 – ringed as a first-year bird on Lundy, 23.9.14. Found (road casualty with damaged wing; later released) at Kilkhampton, Cornwall, 29.10.15. (401 days; 36 km; 159°).

# FAUNA AND FLORA RECORDS 2015

## (for groups other than birds)

compiled by

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The following records are taken mainly from the LFS Logbook and are reproduced here in good faith. No attempt has been made to verify these reports in their entirety. Thanks are due to Keith Hiscock, Beccy MacDonald and Alan Rowland who helped in various ways, and especially to everyone who entered records in the logbook.

### WHALES, DOLPHINS AND PORPOISES

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#### **Minke whale** *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*

- 14 Jun – one off Needle Rock, Jenny's Cove area, heading south at approximately 09.35 hrs (unattributed record).
- 15 Aug – one seen from MS *Oldenburg* during crossing to Lundy (unattributed).

#### **Common dolphin** *Delphinus delphis*

- 24 May – 20+ feeding fairly close in off South End (Richard & Rebecca Taylor).
- 7 Jun – one, dead with large wound to lower ventral area, off Tibbetts Point (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).
- 15 Jun – eight off South End heading west (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).
- 3 Aug – three breaching 500 m south-east of Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 4 Aug – four 500 m east of Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 6 Aug – approx. 25-30 seen during cetacean watch (10.00-12.20 hrs) from Castle Green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 16 Aug – pod of 12 seen half a mile off East Side.
- 18 Sep – five off East Side (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).
- 19 Sep – five off North End (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).
- 20 Sep – 20+ off the East Side (Mandy Dee).

#### **Bottle-nosed dolphin** *Tursiops truncatus*

- 27 May – 70 in four separate pods off Tibbetts Point.
- 6 Jul – one feeding with 25 Gannets (Martin Thorne, Morte Wildlife Group).

#### **Harbour porpoise** *Phocoena phocoena*

- 1 Jan – one off Seal Rock, North End.
- 3 Mar – two off South End (Andy Jayne).
- 4 Mar – one south of Rat Island (Andy Jayne).
- 26 Mar – six, Rat Island to Surf Point.
- 4 Apr – one, Lametry Bay.
- 15 Apr – three off Jenny's Cove (Paul Holt).
- 17 Apr – one in tide race off North End (Paul Holt).
- 20 Apr – one off Dead Cow Point (Sophie Perry).
- 21 & 22 Apr – one off Battery Point (Sophie Perry).
- 27 Apr – four of West Side at Old Light; c.50 spread over large area off North West Point (Sue James).

- 13 May – 12 off West Side (Chris Baillie).
- 23 May – one south of Rat Island (Tony Taylor).
- 24 May – three off South West Point (Tony & Ann Taylor).
- 26 May – three off South End (Tony Taylor).
- 29 May – one off South End.
- 16 Jul – two off West Side (Tony Taylor).
- 2 Aug – five feeding 1 km north-west of Needle Rock (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 3 Aug – five, 500 m south-west of Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 5 Aug – up to ten seen during cetacean watch (09.48-11.25 hrs) from Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 6 Aug – five, 300 m due south of Castle Green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 7 Aug – five, 500 m west at Jenny's Cove (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 8 Aug – four, 500 m off Castle Green; three, 300 m off North Light (Chris & Sharron Blackmore); two feeding off Black Rock (Rob Curtis & Tony Leat).
- 11 Aug – four, 300 m off Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 12 Aug – five, 800 m off Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 14 Aug – three, 800 m off Castle green (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).
- 15 Oct – six off the West Side, level with Halfway Wall.

## SEALS

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### **Common seal** *Phoca vitulina*

- 25 May – one around the jetty (Martin Thorne).
- 6 Jul – one hauled out on Mouse Island (Martin Thorne, Morte Wildlife Group).
- 19 Jul – one, Devil's Kitchen (Jo Maris).
- 8 Aug – one hauled out at Rat Island (Martin Thorne, Morte Wildlife Group).

### **Grey seal** *Haliophoca grypus*

- 8 Feb – three bulls, eight females and two juveniles hauled out at North End.
- 17 Feb – three in Landing Bay (Linda Brennan).
- 18 Feb – two, Gannets' Bay (Linda Brennan).
- 3 Mar – 30+ off north-east coast (Andy Jayne).
- 12 Mar – two off Lametor, one at Quarry Beach, one off North Light (Jane Elliott).
- 4 Apr – four juveniles between Lametry Bay and Needle's Eye.
- 15 May – six at Brazen Ward (Robin Hall).
- 5 Jun – up to 30 along East Side (Steffi & Ian Beath).
- 9 & 10 Jul – two in Devil's Kitchen; one in the Landing Bay (Simon Witt).
- 10 Jul – five near Gull Rock, East Side (Simon Witt).
- 18 Jul – six adults below North Light (Jo Maris).
- 28 Jul – 17 in Gannets' Bay.
- 17 Sep – newborn pup, Quarry Beach; seen with mother next day (RDJ).
- 18 Sep – 41 between Landing Bay and North End (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).
- 21 Oct – pup "floating" on shoreline on Landing Beach; five "white/cream pups" on Halfway Wall Bay rocks; two females and one bull also present; a "white-coloured hairy pup" in Kaaksburg bay on rocks with mother alongside.
- 30 Oct – two in Landing bay (Kingshott family).
- 10 Nov – pup on Quarter Wall cove beach (Alan Rowland *et al.*).

## SHARKS

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### **Basking shark** *Cetorhinus maximus*

- 30 May – one in the Landing Bay (Charlie Smith & Nic Saunders).

## OTHER MARINE FISHES

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### **Ocean sunfish** *Mola mola*

6 Jul – one on the surface of the Landing Bay, seen from the Ugly (Martin Thorne, Morte Wildlife Group).

8 Aug – one seen from MS *Oldenburg* on crossing to island.

### **Grey mullet** *Mugil cephalus*

18 Aug – “huge shoal” in Lametry Bay (Sue James).

## MARINE INVERTEBRATES

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The Archive for Marine Species and Habitat Data (DASSH) at the Marine Biological Association has been validating seabed marine biological data from around Lundy from various sources including:

1. Extracting information from the work of Edward Forbes in the 1840s. This has involved identifying what would have been Lundy data from tables that combined Lundy with South Wales data.
2. Extracting information from the Marine Fauna lists published in the LFS Annual Reports and georeferencing locations within polygons that match named places.
3. Extracting a small number of key papers (e.g. Red band fish, *Cepola rubescens*, distribution) from LFS Annual Reports and digitising the data.
4. Accessing data from Natural England surveys.
5. Working with Natural England/Environment Agency to access data from the grab sample surveys around the island in 2012.

The data will be archived by DASSH and, where permission is granted, it will be made available via the DASSH website ([www.dassh.ac.uk](http://www.dassh.ac.uk)) and the NBN ([www.nbn.org.uk](http://www.nbn.org.uk)). Copies of data extracted from LFS Annual Reports will be made available for inclusion on the LFS website if desired.

### **Compass jellyfish** *Chrysaora hysoscella*

10 Jun – one off Montagu Steps (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

9 Jul – one below jetty (Andrew Jewels).

### **Moon jellyfish** *Aurelia aurita*

10 Jun – one off Montagu Steps (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

29 Jun – twenty, bay between Gannets' Bay and Mousehole & Trap (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

6 Jul – two stranded on Landing Beach (Andrew Jewels).

9 Jul – 200 below jetty (Andrew Jewels).

10 Jul – six, Brazen Ward (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

25 Jul – large numbers in Landing Bay and stranded at high water (Keith Hiscock) – see colour plate 1.

### **Blue jellyfish** *Cyanea lamarckii*

10 Jun – one off Montagu Steps (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

5 Jul – one below Jetty (Andrew Jewels).

9 Jul – 5 below jetty (Andrew Jewels).

### **Barrel jellyfish** *Rhizostoma pulmo*

27 Apr – four off North-East Point (Sue James).

29 Jun – one, bay between Gannets' Bay and Mousehole & Trap (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### **Comb jellyfish** *Beroe cucumis*

9 Jul – 30 below jetty (Andrew Jewels).



Above: **Pelagic gooseneck barnacle** *Lepas anatifera* cluster on a plastic bottle at Hell's Gates, 25 July 2015.

Below: **Moon jellyfish** *Aurelia aurita* stranded at Hell's Gates, 25 July 2015.

Photos © Keith Hiscock



PLATE 2



Above: **Snowy slime mould** *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa* on Rhododendron wood, Quarter Wall Copse. Below: **Star pinkgill** *Entoloma conferendum* in short turf near the Old Hospital. Photos © Alan Rowland





Above: *Hygrocybe ?canescens* in short turf near Old Hospital.

Left: **Crow pinkgill** *Entoloma corvinum* in short grass on the path to Tibbetts.

Photos © Alan Rowland

PLATE 4



Above: **Azure pinkgill** *Entoloma chalybdaeum* var *lazulinum* in short turf, Old Hospital.

Below: **Plums and custard** *Tricholomopsis rutilans* in turf, upper Gannets' Combe.

Photos © Alan Rowland





Above: **Golden-hair lichen** *Teloschistes flavicans*, near Dead Cow Point, 16 July 2015.  
© Tony Taylor

Below: **Red-veined darter** *Sympetrum fonscolombii*, Pondsburry, 6 June 2015  
– a first for Lundy. © Richard Campey



PLATE 6



Above: **Six-spot burnet moth** *Zygaena filipendulae* emergence, Castle Hill, 16 July 2015.

Below: **Painted lady** *Vanessa cardui* caterpillar, Castle Hill, 16 July 2015.

Photos © Tony Taylor





Clockwise from top left:

**Rosy footman** *Miltorchrista miniata*.

**Autumnal rustic** *Eugnorisma glareosa*.

**Large yellow underwing** *Noctua pronuba*.

**Scarce bordered straw** *Helicoverpa armigera*.

The first three were caught in the Brambles area as part of National Moth Night activity between 10 & 14 September 2015. The Scarce Bordered Straw was caught in an actinic trap in the Beer Garden.

Photos © Andrew Cleave



PLATE 8



Clockwise from top:

**Hoary footman** *Eilema caniola*.

**L-album wainscot** *Mythimna l-album*.

**Frosted orange** *Gortyna flavago*.

**Angle shades** *Phlogophora meticulosa*.

All four were caught in the Brambles area as part of National Moth Night activity between 10 & 14 September 2015.

Photos © Andrew Cleave





Above: **Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*, near Pondsbury, 12 June 2015.

Below: Colour-ringed **Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*, west end of Quarter Wall, 12 June 2015.

Photos © Richard Campey





Clockwise from top left: **Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*, 13 September 2015. © Dave Chown

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*, Millcombe, 18 October 2015. © Tim Davis

**Goldfinches** *Carduelis carduelis*, East Side, 18 October 2015. © Tim Jones

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*, Millcombe, 17 October 2015. © Tim Davis

Presumed **Herring Gull x Lesser Black-backed Gull**, Jenny's Cove, 26 May 2015. © Richard Taylor





Clockwise from top: **Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*, Brick Field Pond, 12 June 2015.  
© Richard Campey

**Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*, trapped in Millcombe, 27 September 2015. © John Horton  
**Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*, Lighthouse Field, 11 September 2015. © Dave Chown  
**Stonechat** *Saxicola rubicola*, near Quarter Wall, 14 October 2015. © Tim Davis





Above: **Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*, Terrace, 5 October 2015. © Tim Jones  
Below: **Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*, Terrace, 13 September 2015. © Dave Chown



**Lion's mane jellyfish** *Cyanea capillata*

18 Aug – one in Landing Bay close to jetty (Chlöe Nicholson).

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**MARINE PLANTS**

**Japanese wireweed** *Sargassum muticum*

17 May – one plant found east of the jetty and another in pools at Devil's Kitchen (unattributed records).

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**MARINE FAUNA**

**Scarlet & gold star coral** *Balanophyllia regia*

17 May – 47 counted through the water at western monitoring site at Devil's Kitchen (Keith Hiscock).

**Pelagic gooseneck barnacle** *Lepas anatifera*

25 Jul – a cluster at Hell's Gates on a plastic bottle (Keith Hiscock) – see colour plate 1.

**Spiny starfish** *Marthasterias glacialis*

17 Aug – one in Landing Bay, close to jetty (Chlöe Nicholson).

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**INTRODUCED FRESHWATER FISHES**

**Golden orfe** *Leuciscus idus*

30 Oct – three in Quarry Pond (Michael Williams).

**Mirror carp** *Cyprinus carpio*

30 Oct – one in Quarry Pond (Michael Williams).

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**INTRODUCED REPTILE**

**Slow-worm** *Anguis fragilis*

3 Apr – at least two in Millcombe gardens (LFS Work Party).

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**NATIVE LAND MAMMALS**

**Pygmy shrew** *Sorex minutes*

14 Feb – one by Blue Bung.

18 Feb – one, Stoneycroft (Linda Brennan).

10 May – one in Marisco Tavern (Chris Baillie).

1-12 Jun – a hair-tube study of Pygmy shrew distribution on Lundy found 23 positive signs, including one in the fireplace in the Barn, one at North East Point, and 21 at the Castle (Nathaniel Legall, Middlesex University).

12 Jun – one in Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

13 Jun – one in Blue Bung.

13 Jun – one climbing trunk of an elder on the Terrace (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

22 Jun – one in Old School (Blue Bung).

1 Jul – one outside Big St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

9 Jul – one near Devil's Limekiln (Simon Witt).

16 Jul – one, Punchbowl Valley and one heard, Ackland's Moor (Tony Taylor).

21 Jul – one by North Light (Sara & Mark).

28 Jul – one by North Light.  
2-4, 7-9 & 13 Aug – one in Castle Cottage (Chris & Sharron Blackmore).  
28 Aug – one in lounge of Millcombe House (Les Anstey).  
15 Sep – one on track near Brambles (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

## FERAL LAND MAMMALS

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The following maximum estimates of feral land mammals on Lundy in 2015 were provided by Lundy Warden Beccy MacDonald:

<b>Feral goat</b> <i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>	27
<b>Sika deer</b> <i>Cervus nippon</i>	80
<b>Soay sheep</b> <i>Ovis aries</i>	225
<b>Rabbit</b> <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	50

Other notable counts:

### **Feral goat** *Capra aegagrus hircus*

13 Feb – six, including white kid, feeding near Tavern (Michael Williams).  
15 Feb – 15 including four kids, Castle Hill (Alan Rowland *et al.*).  
16 Feb – 16 including six kids around church (Michael Williams).  
16 Mar – seven below VC Quarry.  
25 Mar – seven in VC Quarry.  
3 Jun – 16 eating Lundy cabbage in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

### **Sika deer** *Cervus nippon*

14 Feb – 13 on West Side above Gannet's Combe, plus seven north of Gannet's Combe.  
17 Feb – 22 in Quarter Wall Copse and four in Gannet's Combe (Michael Williams).  
14 Apr – 40 along East Side (Paul Holt *et al.*).  
16 Apr – 11 near Brazen Ward (Hook family).  
3 May – 20 in Brick Field.  
18 May – 27 in Brick Field.

### **Soay sheep** *Ovis aries*

14 Feb – 101 (71 in Middle Park, 28 N of Threequarter Wall, 3 North End; Alan Rowland *et al.*).  
6 Jul – 80 by Halfway Wall (Andrew Jewels).  
10 Jul – 80 along West Side between NW Point and Quarter Wall (Simon Witt).  
16 Jul – 130 between Halfway Wall and Threequarter Wall (Mandy Dee).  
19 Sep – 154, Middle Park and North End (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
11 Oct – 180 (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

## BATS

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Probable **Pipistrelle** *Pipistrellus* sp.

25 Sep – one, reading strongly between 46 and 52 MHz on Bat Box IIID detector, flying on east side of Tavern towards Barton Cottages (unattributed).

## TERRESTRIAL & FRESHWATER INVERTEBRATES

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### BRISTLETAILS (Machilidae)

#### Sea bristletail *Petrobius maritimus*

5 Jul – one in Thrift along Beach Road (Andrew Jewels).

8 Jul – two in ivy by Blue Bung (Andrew Jewels).

### LEECHES (Hirudinea)

#### Horse leech *Haemopsis sanguisuga*

18 May – one in puddle near Quarter Wall gate (Alan Rowland).

2 Jun – nine in big puddle on main track at Halfway Wall gate (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

27 Jun & 1-10 Jul – between one and four in St John's Stream (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

8 Nov – one in ruts of main track near Quarter Wall gate (Alan Rowland).

### SNAILS LIMPETS and MUSSELS (Mollusca)

#### A pea mussel *Pisidium* sp.

5 Jul – two, Pondsburry (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### MILLIPEDES (Diplopoda)

#### Pill millipede *Glomeris marginata*

5 Jul – one at bottom of Beach Road (Andrew Jewels).

### SHRIMPS (Crustacea)

#### Freshwater Shrimp (*Gammaridae*)

27 Jun – two, St John's Stream (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### WOODLICE (Isopoda)

#### Woodlouse *Armadillium vulgare*

10 Nov – one in Middle Park (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### DAMSELFLIES & DRAGONFLIES (Odonata)

– see also p.91 for an overview of Lundy dragonflies

#### Common blue damselfly *Enallagma cyathigerum*

14 Jun – 30 males, four females & three tenerals at Pondsburry Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

15 Jun – 37, Pondsburry (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

28 Jun – four, Pondsburry (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

10 Jul – one male, Pondsburry (Andrew Jewels).

13 Sep – two, Pondsburry (Dave Chown).

#### Blue-tailed damselfly *Ischnura elegans*

14 Jun – four males, Pondsburry (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

28 Jun – four, Quarry Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

28 Jun – four, Quarter Wall Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

30 Jun – four, including mating pair, Quarry Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 Jul – six, Quarry Pond (Andrew Jewels).

**Migrant hawkler** *Aeshna mixta*

15 Sep – one at North Light hawking insects along the wall of the lighthouse (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

17 Sep – one on Terrace (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

19 Sep – three, North End (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

25 Sep – one, location not given (Andy Turner).

**Emperor dragonfly** *Anax imperator*

9 Jul – a male, Rocket Pole Pond (Andrew Jewels).

15 Jul – one male patrolling the edge of Pondsbury (Tony Taylor).

**Vagrant emperor** *Anax ephippiger*

13 Oct – a male seen at 14.00 hrs in Punchbowl Valley near West Side path – first record for Lundy. Seen well three times in flight over bracken and *Molinia* before flying out of view over the West Side. “Hawker-like, a bit smaller than Emperor dragonfly *A. imperator*. Dead-bracken coloured abdomen. Clearly contrasting blue first segment. Bronze-brown thorax. Clear wings. Eye colour did not contrast against thorax (i.e. not green or blue)” (Kevin Rylands & Ivan Lakin).

**Red-veined darter** *Sympetrum fonscolombii*

6 Jun – one at Pondsbury – the first record for Lundy; identified from photo by Richard Campey – see colour plate 5.

**GRASSHOPPERS and CRICKETS (Orthoptera)**

**Speckled Bush-cricket** *Leptophyes punctatissima*

7 Jul – one, North Quarry (Andrew Jewels).

**Common field grasshopper** *Chorthippus brunneus*

6 Jul – two, Millcombe gardens (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**BUGS (Hemiptera)**

**Pondskaters (Gerridae)**

29 Jun – twenty, St John’s Stream (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Backswimmers (Notonectidae)**

A Backswimmer *Notonecta viridis*

5 Jul – four larvae, Pondsbury (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Shieldbugs (Pentatomidae)**

**Red-legged shieldbug** *Pentatoma rufipes*

7 Jul – one on Turkey Oak, Millcombe (Andrew Jewels).

**Gorse shieldbug** *Piezodorus lituratus*

14 Feb – five in gorse between Government House and Blue Bung (Alan Rowland *et al.*).

15 Feb – seven in Millcombe (Alan Rowland *et al.*).

19 May – one by Quarter Wall gate (Alan Rowland).

27 Jun – two adults, 50 1st instars and eggs, St John’s Valley (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

28 Jun – adults, eggs and 1st instars, Quarter Wall gate and Blue Bung (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 Jul – seven adults: three in Millcombe north side; three in Millcombe south side; one at Quarter Wall (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 & 8 Jul – one below Government House (Andrew Jewels).

**Note from Alan Rowland:** Gorse shieldbug eggs were apparent at St John's Valley and at Quarter Wall gate from 27 Jun to 4 Jul, with instars seen occasionally, although they appeared to be dispersing or being predated as gradually fewer were noted. I checked many stands of gorse but only found this species on Gorse *Ulex europaeus*; I have not found it on Western Gorse *U. gallii*. However my searches have all been conducted when *U. europaeus* is in flower, and it may be that this is significant. Further searches are needed when only *U. gallii* is in flower to establish if it has a preference.

## **BEETLES (Coleoptera)**

Sequence and nomenclature follow the *Checklist of Beetles of the British Isles* (Duff, 2008)

### **A Whirligig beetle** *Gyrinus* sp.

29 Jun – forty, St John's Stream (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### **A beetle** *Carabus granulatus*

4 Jul – one, main track north of Threequarter Wall (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### **Oil beetle** *Meloe* sp.

18 Apr – two on path from Castle to Rocket Pole (Tony John).

23 May – one, either violet or black, on Castle Hill (Pete & Sarah Damon).

### **Green tiger beetle** *Cicindela campestris*

2 Jun – present along East Side (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

### **A ground-beetle** *Pterostichus melanarius*

2 Jun 2016 – one above Quarry Bay (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

### **Black snail beetle** *Silpha atrata*

2 Jun – one inside brambles in northernmost quarry on East Side (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

### **A beetle** *Staphylinus caesareus*

3 Jul – one, Middle Park (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

10 Jul – one, main track near Widow's Tenement (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### **Minotaur beetle** *Typhaeus typhoeus*

15 Feb – one, Quarries (Alan Rowland *et al.*).

7 Apr – one on main track towards North End (Rachel Williams).

16 Apr – five on path above The Battery (Paul Holt).

29 May – one on path to quarries.

2 Jun – present along East Side (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

6 Jun – one dead on Terrace (Tim Davis).

13 Jun – one on Lower East Side Path (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

### **A dumbledor beetle** *Anoplotrupes stercorosus* (= *Geotrupes stercorosus*)

31 May – present in North Quarry (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

2 Jun – "lots" along East Side (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

### **A dumbledor beetle** *Anoplotrupes spiniger* (= *Geotrupes spiniger*)

31 May – present in North Quarry (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**Rose chafer** *Cetonia aurata*

22 Mar – one, East Side.

2 Jun – present along East Side (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

6 Jun – one on Terrace (Tim Jones).

7 Jun – five north of Halfway Wall (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

10 Jun – 11 along West Side, and one at Old Light (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

28 Jun – four, Quarries (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

3 Jul – two, Lower East Side Path (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

4 Jul – two, north of Threequarter Wall (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

8 Jul – one, Castle (Andrew Jewels).

9 Jul – singles, Millcombe and on Beach Road (Andrew Jewels); two in Gannets' Combe and on Upper East Side Path (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

11 Jul – one, Hospital (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

15 Jul – one, Pondsburry (Frances Stuart); one near Old Light (Tony Taylor).

16 Jul – two, Terrace (Tony Taylor).

6 Oct – one on Lower East Side Path near Quarter Wall Copse (L. Black).

**A click beetle** *Prosternon tessellatum*

3 Jun – one on window ledge at Brambles (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**A click beetle** *Athous haemorrhoidalis*

4 Jun – present in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**A click beetle** *Agriotes pallidulus*

4 Jun – present in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**A darkling beetle** *Isomira murina*

31 May – one on Lundy cabbage flowers along Beach Road (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

3 Jun – one just south of St Helen's Combe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**A leaf beetle** Chrysomelidae

2 Jun – one, possibly *Chrysolina haemoptera*, just above Quarry Bay (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

4 Jun – one, possibly *Chrysolina haemoptera*, on Beach Road by turn into Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**A mustard beetle** *Phaedon cochleariae* or *armoraciae*

4 Jun – one on Lundy cabbage in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**Heather beetle** *Lochmaea suturalis*

10 Jul – two, North End (Andrew Jewels).

**A flea beetle** *Psylliodes luridipennis*

5 Jun – four on Lundy cabbage in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**A flea beetle** *Psylliodes napi*

4 Jun – two in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**Lundy cabbage leaf weevil** *Ceutorhynchus contractus pallipes* (= *C. minutus*)

2 Jun – on Lundy cabbage at Quarry Bay (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

4 Jun – “hundreds” in Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

## FLIES (Diptera)

### Tachinid fly sp.

30 Jun – one, Beach Road (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### Noonday fly *Mesembrina meridiana*

30 Jun – two, Quarry Cottages (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

## LADYBIRD SURVEY, 4–11 JULY 2015

### **Recording method and effort**

Constant searching by eye whilst walking, checking paths, verges, walls etc for conspicuous species, e.g. 7-spot ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata*. Uprturned umbrella and stick used to survey particular habitats (with permission from warden). Beach Road vegetation searched for 11-spot *C. 11-punctata* and 24-spot *Subcoccinella 24-punctata* ladybirds. Pine trees in Millcombe checked for a variety of species. Damp areas with rushes in North Quarry, Quarry Pond, St John's Valley and Middle Park searched for *Coccidula rufa*. Heather at North End searched for Hieroglyphic ladybird *Coccinella hieroglyphica*.

### **Results**

No ladybirds seen.

### **Conclusions**

Ladybirds are probably scarce on Lundy, with a few resident species, e.g. Hieroglyphic ladybird and *Coccidula rufa*, likely to show large annual population fluctuations. Seven-spot ladybird was described as “abundant” on 14 May 2008 (LFS Annual Report) but this appears to be the only record for Lundy post-1990. Was this a one-off migration event or is this species under-recorded? More research required. Any additional records welcome (andrewjewels@hotmail.co.uk).

**Andrew Jewels**

## BUTTERFLIES (Lepidoptera)

Generally a poor year for butterflies on Lundy, but partly a reflection of apparently reduced observer coverage and consequently fewer records than in 2014.

### **Clouded yellow** *Colias croceus*

Singles on 21 May and 6 Sept were the only records for the year.

### **Large white** *Pieris brassicae*

Recorded on 19 days between 26 Apr (four) and 25 Sep (two), with a max of 12 on 6 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
–	–	–	4	–	1	4	1	12	–	–	–
–	–	–	5	–	2	4	1	7	–	–	–

**Small white** *Pieris rapae*

Recorded on 26 days between 9 Apr (one) and 14 Oct (one), with a max of ten on 16 Apr & 30 May.

**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	5	4	1	–	27	3	–	–
–	–	–	1	7	3	1	–	13	1	–	–

**Green-veined white** *Pieris napi*

Recorded on 27 days between 14 Apr (three) and 27 Aug (two), with a max of 12 on 16 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
–	–	–	3	'lots'	12	3	5	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	1	7	12	3	4	–	–	–	–

**Small copper** *Lycaena phlaeas*

Recorded on 13 days between 13 May (one) and 20 Oct (one), with a max of 8 on 14 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	–	5	4	8	–	–
–	–	–	–	2	2	–	2	2	5	–	–

**Common blue** *Polyommatus icarus*

Following a blank year in 2014, there was one record in 2015: a single butterfly on 3 Sep.

**Holly blue** *Celastrina argiolus*

Following a blank year in 2014, there was one record in 2015: a single butterfly at the extreme end of the flight period on 27 Aug.

**Red admiral** *Vanessa atalanta*

Recorded on 82 days between 5 Apr (one) and 2 Nov (one). A notable influx (especially along the West Side) occurred on 12 Jun when at least 165 were counted, though the real number present was likely to have been much higher. One was caught in a moth trap on the night of 15/16 Jun, showing that some continue to migrate at night.

**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	165	6	4	20	75	1	–
–	–	–	7	1	16	9	6	21	20	2	–

**Painted lady** *Vanessa cardui*

Recorded on 56 days between 26 Apr (one) and 30 Oct (one), with a max of 48 on 15 Jun. Breeding confirmed with a caterpillar on Castle Hill on 16 Jul (Tony Taylor) – see colour plate 6.

**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	48	4	2	16	5	–	–
–	–	–	1	4	14	11	2	16	8	–	–

**Small tortoiseshell** *Aglais urticae*

Recorded on 37 days between 5 Apr (one) and 30 Oct (two), with maxima of 12 on 13 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
–	–	–	5	–	7	10	1	12	2	–	–
–	–	–	4	–	2	12	1	13	5	–	–

**Peacock** *Inachis io*

Recorded on 16 dates between 24 Jan (one) and 19 Sep (one), with a max of six on 8 Apr.

**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	6	1	–	–	1	2	–	–	–
1	–	1	8	1	–	–	2	3	–	–	–

**Speckled wood** *Pararge aegeria*

One on 13 Sep in Millcombe was the only record for the year (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

**Wall brown** *Lasiommata megera*

Two on 27 Aug was the only record for the year.

**Grayling** *Hipparchia semele*

Singles only, recorded on just five days between 3 & 9 Jul (one).

**Gatekeeper** *Pyronia tithonus*

Recorded on three days in late Jul, with a max of four on 21st, and on 4 Sep (one).

**Meadow brown** *Maniola jurtina*

Recorded on 32 days between 14 Jun (one) and 18 Sep (one), with a max of 144 on 9 Jul.

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

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
–	–	–	–	–	16	144	50+	2	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	6	14	9	3	–	–	–

**Ringlet** *Aphantopus hyperantus*

After a blank year in 2013, but a partial recovery in 2014, hopes were that the better summer weather during 2014 would lead to good numbers in 2015. However, there were records on only eight days: 29 Jun (one), on six days in Jul (max two) and on 10 Aug (one).

**Small heath** *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Recorded on 41 days between 4 May (one) and 13 Sep (five), with a max of 27 on 7 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
–	–	–	–	2	27	7	–	60	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	8	15	11	–	7	–	–	–

## MOTHS (Lepidoptera)

Common and scientific names follow the popular *Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland* (P. Waring & M. Townsend, 2nd edition 2009). The digits prior to each common name are the 'Bradley & Fletcher' numbers from *A Recorder's Log Book or Label List of British Butterflies and Moths* (J.D. Bradley & D.S. Fletcher, 1979), which provide the most widely recognised sequence of British moths, used in Waring & Townsend and elsewhere.

*A Provisional List of the Moths of Lundy, Devon*, compiled by S.D. Beavan and R.J. Heckford, was published recently in the British Journal of Entomology and Natural History (Volume 27, 2014, pp45-62).

### 17 **Common Swift** *Korscheltellus lupulina*

2 Jul – one, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### **Burnet moth** *Zygaena* sp.

3 Jun – thousands of pupae just north of the Castle (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

26 Jun – six at South End.

28 Jun – adults, cocoons and caterpillars abundant in St John's Valley (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

30 Jun – "numerous" by side of Square Cottage and by the track to the Castle.

19 Jul – up to 15 on a clump of Thyme near the Castle (Jo Maris).

### 169 **Six-spot burnet** *Zygaena filipendulae*

2 Jul – 4, St John's Valley (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

5 Jul – 2, St John's Valley (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

6 Jul – 25, Castle (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 Jul – 10, St John's Valley (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

16 Jul – large emergence on Castle Hill (Tony Taylor) – see colour plate 6.

21 Jul – seven.

23 Jul – eight.

26 Jun – six, South End

21 Jul – seven by track to Castle (Alexandra Hajok).

23 Jul – at least 15 on thistles alongside main track opposite Church (Alexandra Hajok).

### 171 **Five-spot burnet** *Zygaena trifolii*

20 Jun – 40+ (location(s) not given).

26 Jun-11 Jul – hundreds seen each day all over the island – see *Burnets* below.

## **BURNETS, 27 JUNE–7 JULY 2015**

From 27 June, hundreds of adult 5- and 6-spot Burnet moths were seen from South West Field to North End wherever there was suitable grassland. Five-spots appeared to be the commonest, seen on grasses, thistles, buttercups and Bird's-foot trefoil, with 6-spot seen only on Bird's-foot trefoil and on Wild thyme (e.g. on the Castle track). Caterpillars were noted on 27 & 28 June but none later than 28th, when it was assumed that all caterpillars were then in their cocoons. Copulating pairs were noted from 27 June to 4 July. From 4 July, their life cycle apparently complete, dead moths were noted, having mated and the females laying eggs (although none were found). Emerged adults were seen from 7 July along the Castle track and in St John's Valley.

**Alan Rowland**

4 Jul – 300 (location(s) not given).  
7 & 9 Jul – 200 (location(s) not given).  
16 Jul – 1100+ (general locations not given).  
10, 12 & 16 Aug – two (locations not given).  
16 Jul – a major emergence, mainly on Castle Hill, most feeding on carpets of Thyme or on  
thistles (up to nine on a single flower-head); some males waiting on pupae to mate with  
emerging females (Tony Taylor).

361 ***Phyllonorycter trifasciella***

3-8 Sep – five in the Ugly (Tony Simpson).

383 **Thrift clearwing** *Syansphecica muscaeformis*

6 Jul – two empty pupal cases sticking out of dead Thrift flowerheads at bottom of Beach  
Road (Andrew Jewels).

464 **Diamond-back moth** *Plutella xylostella*

16-17 Apr – two trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

672 **Parsnip moth** *Depressaria radiella*

16-17 Apr – three trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

16-17 Apr – two trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

839 ***Nothris congressariella***

10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

970 **Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix** *Pandemis cerasana*

7 Jul – two trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

1038 ***Acleris laterana***

3-8 Oct – number not given, trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson).

1342 ***Eudonia angustea***

3-8 Oct – 6 trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson).

1398 **Rush veneer** *Nomophila noctuella*

11 Jun – one at top of South Light steps (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

14 Jun – one on Upper East Side Path (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

15 Jun – one in St John's Valley (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

12 Sep – one in Millcombe (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

13 Sep – ten in Millcombe (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

15 Sep – seven, various locations (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

18 Sep – ten "widespread" around island.

3-8 Sep – present around the Ugly (Tony Simpson).

12 Oct – one (location not given).

18 Sep – ten, various locations (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

1634 **The lackey** *Malacosoma neustria*

3 & 6 Jul – one, Millcombe (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

8 Jul – one caterpillar below Government House (Andrew Jewels).

1636 **Grass eggar** *Lasiocampa trifolii*

10 Aug – one at Hammers (Rob Curtis & Tony Leat).

1637 **Oak eggar** *Lasiocampa quercus*

11 May – a caterpillar on East Side Path.

26 May – a caterpillar above (presumably North) Quarry.

10 Aug – six (location not given).

1638 **Fox moth** *Macrothylacia rubi*

20 Sep – 88 caterpillars.

11 Oct – 20+ caterpillars on path near Shutter Point.

13 Oct – 30+ caterpillars.

1643 **Emperor moth** *Saturnia pavonia*

16 Apr – one male.

25 Apr – one female.

6 Jun – one.

1689 **Mullein wave** *Scopula marginepunctata*

15-16 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

1727 **Silver ground carpet** *Xanthorhoe montanata*

15 Jun – one in Millcombe (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

1728 **Garden carpet** *Xanthorhoe fluctuata*

16-17 Apr – two trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

1752 **Purple bar** *Cosmorhoe ocellata*

15 Jun – one along Upper East Side Path (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

1764 **Common marbled carpet** *Dysstroma truncata*

3-8 Oct – number not given, trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson).

7 Jul – one trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

1768 **Grey pine carpet** *Thera obeliscata*

3-8 Oct – one trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson)

1817 **Foxglove pug** *Eupithecia pulchellata*

15-16 Jun – two trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

1825 **Lime-speck Pug** *Eupithecia centaureata*

5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

1846 **Narrow-winged Pug** *Eupithecia nanata*

5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

1862 **Double-striped pug** *Gymnoscelis rufifasciata*

16-17 Apr – two trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

16-17 Apr – one trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

1902 **Brown silver-line** *Petrophora chlorosata*

26 May – one on bracken in (presumably North) Quarry.

3 Jun – present all along East Side (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

14 Jun – one in Millcombe (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

15 Jun – three (locations not given).

27 Jun – one, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
3 Jul – 19 along Lower East Side Path (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
10 Jul – six, east side of North End (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

1906 **Brimstone moth** *Opisthograptis luteolata*  
16-17 Apr – one trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

1917 **Early thorn** *Selenia dentaria*  
14-15 Apr – three trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
16-17 Apr – three trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
16-17 Apr – two trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

1931 **Peppered moth** *Biston betularia*  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

1934 **Dotted border** *Agriopsis marginaria*  
16-17 Apr – two trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
16-17 Apr – eight trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

1972 **Convolvulus hawk-moth** *Agrius convolvuli*  
5 Jun – one, near Benjamin's Chair (Richard Taylor). Richard provided the following behavioural note: "On 5 June 2015 I was watching a female Wheatear about 20 feet from her nest, which was half way up the south slope/cliff just east of Benjamin's Chair. The Wheatear suddenly darted at something and pecked at it. It started flapping and I could see it was a Convolvulus hawk-moth. The Wheatear pecked at its head region three or four times. The moth moved a few inches and sat on the cliff with its wings half open looking slightly unhealthy and not moving. The Wheatear danced around for a few seconds with its wings raised above its back before losing interest and carried on foraging."

1984 **Hummingbird hawk-moth** *Macroglossum stellatarum*  
6, 12, 14 & 15 Jun – singles (locations not given).  
15 Jun – one near Old Light (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
3 & 17 Jul – two (locations not given).  
10 Jul – one feeding on Creeping thistle at Brazen Ward (Sandra Rowland); one by Marisco Tavern (Beccy MacDonald).  
12 Jul – two at Barton Cottages (Beccy MacDonald).  
16 Jul – one by main track to Castle (Tony Taylor).  
17 Jul – one at the Ugly and one by Marisco Tavern (Tony Taylor).  
18 Jul – one at Earthquake (Jo Maris).  
7, 15, 23, 24 & 25 Sep – singles (locations not given).

1994 **Buff-tip** *Phalera bucephala*  
15 May – one, location not given (Robin Hall).  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2037 **Rosy footman** *Mittochrista miniata*  
23 Jul – one (dead) in Millcombe House (Alexandra Hajok).  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2045 **Hoary footman** *Eilema caniola*  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2047 **Scarce footman** *Eilema complana*

9 Sep – three, Old Light Manx Shearwater colony (David Price *et al.*).

2057 **Garden tiger** *Arctia caja*

9 Apr – a caterpillar near Quarter Wall Cottages (Martyn Roper).

28 May – a caterpillar just south of Halfway Wall east of main track.

28 May – two caterpillars opposite ends of Halfway Wall (Paul McGowan).

30 May – a caterpillar next to the Beach Road (Rebecca Taylor).

25 Jul – one on Lower East Side Path north of Brazen Ward (Trevor & Karen Dobie).

2058 **Cream-spot tiger** *Arctia villica*

23 May – one, location not given (Natural England group).

1 Jul – one, St John's Valley (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2060 **White ermine** *Spilosoma lubricipeda*

14-15 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

15-16 Jun – ten trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

29 Jun – one, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

3 Jul – one, Marisco Tavern Ladies WCV (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

5 Jul – 15, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 Jul – four trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2061 **Buff ermine** *Spilosoma lutea*

15-16 Jun – two trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

5 Jul – one, inside the Tavern (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

5 Jul – two trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 Jul – six trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2063 **Muslin moth** *Diaphora mendica*

17 Feb – one (location not given).

2064 **Ruby tiger** *Phragmatobia fuliginosa*

26 Apr – one at North End (P Bright).

11 May – one on Quarry Beach path.

2087 **Turnip moth** *Agrotis segetum*

3-8 Oct – one trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson).

2089 **Heart and dart** *Agrotis exclamationis*

14-15 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

5 Jul – six trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

7 Jul – two trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2090 **Crescent dart** *Agrotis trux lunigera*

10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2091 **Dark sword-grass** *Agrotis ipsilon*

14-15 Apr – seven trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

16-17 Apr – four trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

2104 **Northern rustic** *Standfussiana lucerneae*

15-16 Jun – two trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

2107 **Large yellow underwing** *Noctua pronuba*  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).  
3-8 Oct – number not given, trapped at Government House (Tony Simpson).  
5 Jul – three trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2109 **Lesser yellow underwing** *Noctua comes*  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).  
3-8 Oct – number not given, trapped at Government House (Tony Simpson).

2117 **Autumnal rustic** *Eugnorisma glareosa*  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2120 **Ingrailed clay** *Diarsia mendica*  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2123 **Small square-spot** *Diarsia rubi*  
14-15 Jun – three trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
15-16 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

2126 **Setaceous Hebrew character** *Xestia c-nigrum*  
16-17 Apr – one trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).  
15-16 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

2134 **Square-spot rustic** *Xestia xanthographa*  
3-8 Oct – trapped, number not given, Government House – Tony Simpson).

2160 **Bright-line brown-eye** *Lacanobia oleracea*  
14-15 Jun – four trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
15-16 Jun – 11 trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
5 Jul – 65 trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
7 Jul – six trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2163 **Broom moth** *Ceramica pisi*  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2171 **Marbled coronet** *Hadena confusa*  
16-17 Apr – three trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).

2173 **The lychnis** *Hadena bicurris*  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
7 Jul – one trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2187 **Common quaker** *Orthosia cerasi*  
16-17 Apr – six trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
16-17 Apr – three trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

2190 **Hebrew character** *Orthosia gothica*  
16-17 Apr – one, Casbah.

2202 **L-album wainscot** *Mythimna l-album*  
15-16 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2243 **Early grey** *Xylocampa areola*

14-15 Apr – one trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
16-17 Apr – three trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
16-17 Apr – two trapped, Casbah (Paul Holt).

2255 **Feathered ranunculus** *Polymixis lichenea*

3-8 Oct – two, Government House (Tony Simpson).

2270 **Lunar underwing** *Omphaloscelis lunosa*

3-8 Oct – number not given, trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson).

2289 **Knot grass** *Acronicta rumicis*

14-15 Jun – one, trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
15-16 Jun – one, trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
5 Jul – two trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2305 **Small angle shades** *Euplexia lucipara*

7 Jul – one trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2306 **Angle shades** *Phlogophora meticulosa*

16-17 Apr – two trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
14-15 Jun – one trapped, Big St John's (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2321 **Dark arches** *Apamea monoglypha*

5 Jul – two trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
7 Jul – one trapped, Casbah (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

2353 **Flounced rustic** *Luperina testacea*

10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2364 **Frosted orange** *Gortyna flavago*

10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2403 **Bordered straw** *Heliothis peltigera*

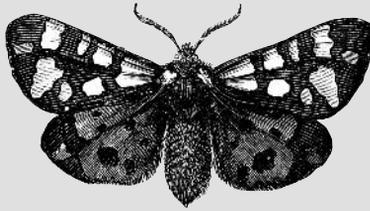
14-15 Apr – one trapped, Little St John's (Tony John).  
10 Jun – one on West Side near Battery (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
10-14 Sep – number not given, trapped, National Moth Night (Andrew Cleave).

2441 **Silver Y** *Autographa gamma*

15 May – two.  
3 Jul – three, Lower East Side Path (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
4 Jul – eight on heather at North End (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's; two, Pondsbyury & Government House (Alan Rowland).  
9 Jul – two, North End (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
17 Sep – 30.  
3-8 Oct – number not given, trapped, Government House (Tony Simpson).

2450 **The spectacle** *Abrostola tripartita*

5 Jul – one trapped, Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).



### **NATIONAL MOTH WEEK ON LUNDY, 10–14 SEPTEMBER 2015**

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The focus was on migration and traps were set around Brambles and Millcombe. Quite a few migrants turned up, including Scarce bordered straw (possibly a first record for Lundy) and Rush veneer. Nearly 40 species were recorded, including two Lundy specialities: *Nothris congressariella* and the Lundy form of Lesser yellow underwing. Other 'local' species were Hoary footman and Crescent dart. Most abundant were Large yellow underwing and Flounced rustic. All went well until two Pygmy shrews found their way into one of the traps and ate all the moths. Among other species trapped were two species of Sexton beetle, two species of Caddisfly, while Craneflies and Harvestmen were also abundant.

**Andrew Cleave**

#### **SPIDERS (Araneae)**

##### **Zebra spider** *Salticus scenicus*

3 Jun – one on castellated wall along Beach Road at entrance to Millcombe (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

##### **Amarobius fenestralis**

3 Jun – one in Timekeeper's Hut (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

##### **A cellar spider** Pholcidae

11 Jul – four, inside Little St John's (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

#### **BUMBLE-BEES & WASPS (Hymenoptera)**

##### **White-tailed bumble-bee** *Bombus lucorum*

26 May – one, location not given (Philip & Helen Lymbury).

28 May – 22 (Philip & Helen Lymbury).

##### **Buff-tailed bumble-bee** *Bombus terrestris*

14 Apr – "numerous" on willow flowers on the Terrace (Tim Jones *et al.*).

25 Oct – several in Millcombe.

#### **SLUGS & SNAILS (Gastropoda)**

##### **Great grey slug (Leopard slug)** *Limax maximus*

19 Feb – one, South West Point.

## FLORA

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Sequence and nomenclature follow Stace, C. 2010. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press. See [www.thewildflowersociety.com/wfs\\_list\\_of\\_all\\_plants/main\\_menu\\_2010.htm](http://www.thewildflowersociety.com/wfs_list_of_all_plants/main_menu_2010.htm) for Stace 3rd edition names.

### FERNS

**Small adder's-tongue** *Ophioglossum azoricum*

26 May – 26 plants near Rocket Pole (Ann Taylor, Richard & Rebecca Taylor).

1 Jul – around 50 'flowering' stalks in Middle Park (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

10 Jul – 17 spikes in Middle Park (Andrew Jewels).

**Royal fern** *Osmunda regalis*

7 Jul – present in North Quarry (Andrew Jewels).

6 Oct – one small plant in the Brazen Ward area (unattributed record).

**Wall-rue** *Asplenium ruta-muraria*

29 Jun – five, Tillage Field (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Rustyback** *Asplenium ceterach*

10 Jul – 467 counted on St John's Valley wall (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

### FLOWERING PLANTS

**Meadow buttercup** *Ranunculus acris*

21-22 Oct – present.

**Common chickweed** *Cerastium fontanum*

25 Oct – in flower in Millcombe.

**Rock sea-spurrey** *Spergularia rupicola*

10-14 Sep – in flower, location not given (Andrew Cleave).

21-22 Oct – present, location not given.

**Sea campion** *Silene uniflora*

30 Oct – in flower at Benjamin's Chair (Micheael Williams).

**Marsh St John's-wort** *Hypericum elodes*

18 Sep – many shoots around the north-east fringes of Pondsburry, with a few flowers, ranging from buds to seedheads (Tony Taylor).

**Trailing St John's-wort** *Hypericum humifusum*

10-14 Sep – flowering in the Quarries (Andrew Cleave).

**Round-leaved sundew** *Drosera rotundifolia*

31 May – present in North Quarry (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

5 Jul – an estimated 300 plants on the east side of Pondsburry (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Bog pimpernel** *Angallis tenella*

31 May – present in North Quarry (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**Scarlet pimpernel** *Anagallis arvensis*

25 Oct – in flower in Millcombe.

**Navelwort** (= Wall Pennywort) *Umbilicus rupestris*

21-22 Oct – on walls near Government House.

**Tormentil** *Potentilla erecta*

21-22 Oct – “frequent everywhere”.

**Bird’s-foot** *Ornithopus perpusillus*

29 Jun – present at Ackland’s Moor Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Sea storksbill** *Erodium maritimum*

10-14 Sep – in flower, location not given (Andrew Cleave).

**Common centaury** *Centaureum erythraea*

10-14 Sep – in flower, location not given (Andrew Cleave).

**Selfheal** *Prunella vulgaris*

21-22 Oct – present, location(s) not given.

**Twiggy Mullein** *Verbascum virgatum*

6 Jul – one in Millcombe gardens (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Balm-leaved figwort** *Scrophularia scorodonia*

6 Oct – flowering along Lower East Side Path.

8 Oct – present on the Terrace.

**Ivy-leaved toadflax** *Cymbalaria muralis*

21-22 Oct – on walls near Shop.

**Common field-speedwell** *Veronica persica*

25 Oct – in flower in Millcombe.

**Lousewort** *Pedicularis sylvatica*

10 Nov – on track at Pondsburry (Sandra Rowland).

**Broomrape** sp. *Orobanche* sp.

31 May – one plant growing beside Broom high on the northern side of VC Quarry (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

2 Jun – seven spikes of Broomrape with Broom in Quarry Bay (Roger & Rosy Key, Steve Compton).

**Sheep’s-bit** *Jasione montana*

10-14 Sep – in flower, location not given (Andrew Cleave).

21-22 Oct – in flower, scattered on heathland.

25 Oct – present near South Light helipad (Michael Williams).

30 Oct – in flower at Benjamin’s Chair (Michael Williams).

**Autumn hawkbit** *Leontodon autumnalis*

21-22 Oct – present.

**Umbellate hawkweed** *Hieracium umbellatum*

10-14 Sep – in flower in the Quarries (Andrew Cleave).

21-22 Oct – in Quarries.

**Goldenrod** *Solidago virgaurea*

10-14 Sep – in flower in the Quarries (Andrew Cleave).

**Yarrow** *Achillea millefolium*

21-22 Oct – very common.

**Sea mayweed** *Tripleurospermum maritimum*

21-22 Oct – present, location not given.

**Common ragwort** *Senecio jacobaea*

21-22 Oct – present.

25 Oct – in flower in Millcombe.

**Bog asphodel** *Narthecium ossifragum*

5 Jul – ca. 450 flowering plants on the east side of Pondsbury (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Snowdrop** *Galanthus nivalis*

15 Feb – north end of Government House (Alan Rowland & Sandra Rowland).

**Spanish bluebell** *Hyacinthoides hispanica*

1 May – a single flower spike near the Blue Door (Andrew Cleave).

Hybrid daffodil cultivar *Narcissus x medioluteus* 'Primrose Peerless'

1 May – in flower in sheltered location on the East Side near Millcombe (Andrew Cleave).

**Heath spotted-orchid** *Dactylorhiza maculata*

4 Jun – four on south side of Pondsbury (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).

21 Jun – two between main track and Pondsbury (Ian Nicol).

30 Jun – present around Pondsbury.

5 Jul – an estimated 800 flowering plants on the east side of Pondsbury (Alan & Sandra Rowland).

**Plant species recorded by Sandra Rowland, 27 June–11 July 2015**

Alexanders; Bell heather; Betony; Bird's-foot trefoil; Bird's-foot; Black medic; Black spleenwort; Bluebell; Bog asphodel; Bog pimpernel; Bracken; Bramble; Broom; Buckler fern; Buttercup; Cleavers; Common centaury; Common mallow; Common sorrel; Common sundew; Common vetch; Cotton grass; Daisy; Dove's-foot cranesbill; Dwarf willow; Elder; English stonecrop; Eyebright; Flowering rush; Foxglove; Germander speedwell; Greater Birds-foot trefoil; Ground ivy; Haresfoot clover; Heath bedstraw; Heath spotted orchid; Herb robert; Honeysuckle; Ivy-leaved toadflax; Ling heather; Lousewort; Lundy cabbage; Maidenhair spleenwort; Marsh St John's wort; Milkwort; Nettle; Polypody; Potamogeton; Red campion; Red clover; Rosebay willowherb; Royal fern; Rustyback; Sea spurrey; Selfheal; Skullcap; Slender St John's wort; Sloe (fruiting); Small-adder's tongue; Soft rush; Spike rush; Lesser stitchwort; Sundew; Thrift; Tormentil; Wall pennywort; Wall rue; Water forget-me-not; White clover; Wild arum; Wild thyme; Wood sage; Woody nightshade; Yarrow; Yellow iris; Yellow pimpernel.

## LICHENS

### **Golden hair lichen** *Teloschistes flavicans*

17 Feb – clumps on ground on last two bends of path down to The Battery (Beccy MacDonald).

25 May – by cliff-top fencing on West Side just beyond Quarter Wall (Ann & Tony Taylor).

16 Jul – near Dead Cow Point (Tony Taylor) – see colour plate 5.

28 Oct – present on wall down to The Battery (Kingshott family).

10 Nov – present at North End (Sandra Rowland).

## FUNGI

Scientific nomenclature and sequence follow Hedger *et al.* 2010. Lundy Fungi: Further Surveys 2004–2008. *Journal of the Lundy Field Society*, Vol. 2, pp 21–44.

### **Porcelain fungus** *Oudemansiella mucida*

18 Sep – 15+ spore-bearing bodies in six groups on a Beech tree in Millcombe wood (Tony Taylor).

### **A slime mould** *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa*

12 Jul – Quarter Wall Copse (Alan & Sandra Rowland) – see colour plate 2.

### **Crow pinkgill** *Entoloma corvinum*

9 Jul – Middle Park (Alan & Sandra Rowland) – see colour plate 3.

See also 'Autumn Surveys of Fungi on Lundy', p.98.

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# BRITISH ENTOMOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY VISIT TO LUNDY, 5–8 JULY 2014

The British Entomological and Natural History Society (BENHS), based in Hurst, Reading was founded in 1871. Its objectives are the promotion and advancement of research in entomology with an increasing emphasis now being placed on the conservation of the fauna and flora of the United Kingdom and the protection of wildlife throughout the world.

The roll call of entomologists who have visited Lundy since the middle of the 19th century includes T.V. Wollaston, F. Smith, F.A. Walker, N.H. Joy, J.R. le B. Tomlin, H.St.J. Donisthorpe, R.S. Mitford, C. MacKechnie-Jarvis and R.C. Welch. Many of their records are for beetles, and these were summarised in 1975 by Martin Brendell (Coleoptera of Lundy, Annual Report of the Lundy Field Society, 26: 29-53).

Up to the BENHS visit in July 2014, invertebrate records were occasional so they determined to try to expand the lists of species. Their main focus was on the village and Millcombe area, although the lists show that members of the party ventured all the way to North End. The emphasis is mainly on spiders (Table 1) but the following species were also recorded:

## Beetles

*Coccinella hieroglyphica* – three x 24-spot ladybirds, central track Gannets' Combe, 6 Jul 2014  
*Notiophilus aquaticus* – a Bronze ground beetle, North End, 6 Jul 2014  
*Badister bullatus* – a Carabid beetle, central track Gannets' Combe, 6 Jul 2014  
*Chrysolina banksi* – adult Leaf beetle, South Light, 7 Jul 2014  
*Carabus nemoralis* – an adult Bronze Carabid beetle, St John's Valley, 7 Jul 2014  
*Ulopa reticulata* – an adult Cicadella beetle, village, 6 Jul 2014  
*Cteniopus sulphureus* – an adult Sulphur beetle, Castle Hill, 5 Jul 2014  
*Typhaeus typhoeus* – a Minotaur beetle, Quarries, 8 Jul 2014

## Harvestman

*Leiobunum rotundum* – an adult female, Beach Road, 5 Jul 2014  
*Leiobunum blackwalli* – eight adult females, North Light, 6 Jul 2014  
*Leiobunum blackwalli* – an adult female, Quarry Beach, 7 Jul 2014  
*Leiobunum rotundum* – an adult female, Middle Park, 7 Jul 2014  
*Dicranopalpus ramosus* – two Fork-palped harvestman, Middle Park, 7 Jul 2014

## Bugs

*Pithanus maerkelii* – an adult female Mirid gug, Millcombe Valley, 5 Jul 2014  
*Capsus ater* – a Mirid bug, Punchbowl Valley, 6 Jul 2014  
*Cyrtorhinus caricis* – an adult Mirid bug, Punchbowl Valley, 6 Jul 2014  
*Closterotomus norwegicus* – a Potato Capsid bug, Middle Park, 7 Jul 2014

## Pseudo-scorpion

*Chthonius ischnocheles* – an adult male, Castle Hill, 7 Jul 2014

Table 1. Species of spider recorded during the BENHS visit to Lundy, 5–8 July 2014					
Scientific name	Vernacular name	No.	Stage/sex	Location	Date
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	5 October 2014
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1	Adult female	Beach Road	
<i>Bathyphantes parvulus</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Village	
<i>Clubiona reclusa</i>	A leaf-curling sac spider	1	Adult female	Village	
<i>Drassyllus pusillus</i>	Black Zelote spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Enoplognatha ovata sens. str.</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Village	
<i>Euophrys frontalis</i>	A jumping spider	1	Adult male	Castle Hill	
<i>Heliophanus cupreus</i>	Woodlouse spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Lepthyphantes zimmermanni</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Meta menardi</i>	Cave spider	1	Adult female	Beach Road	
<i>Neriere clathrata</i>	Herb hammock spider	1	Adult male	St John's Valley	
<i>Nuctenea umbratica</i>	Walnut orb-weaver	1		Middle Park	
<i>Pardosa monticola</i>	Pin-stripe wolf spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Pholcus phalangioides</i>	Cellar spider	4		Castle Hill	
<i>Pholcus phalangioides</i>	Cellar spider	11		Castle Hill	
<i>Segestria bavarica</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Segestria senoculata</i>	Snake-back spider	1	Adult female	St John's Valley	
<i>Textrix denticulata</i>	Toothed weaver	1		St John's Valley	
<i>Xysticus cristatus</i>	A crab spider	1	Adult male	Village	
<i>Agyneta conigera</i>	A sheet-weaver spider	2	Adult female	North End	6 October 2014
<i>Agyneta conigera</i>	A sheet-weaver spider	2	Adult female	Village	
<i>Agyneta decora</i>	A sheet-weaver spider	2	Adult male	North End	
<i>Agyneta decora</i>	A sheet-weaver spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Alopecosa pulverulenta</i>	A wolf spider	1	Adult female	Devil's Slide	
<i>Bathyphantes gracilis</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Punchbowl Valley	
<i>Bathyphantes gracilis</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Punchbowl Valley	
<i>Ceratinella brevipes</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Ceratinella brevipes</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Village	
<i>Ceratinella brevipes</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Ceratinella brevis</i>	A spider	1		Gannets' Combe	

Table 1, continued					
Scientific name	Vernacular name	No.	Stage/sex	Location	Date
<i>Ceratinella brevis</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	6 October 2014
<i>Ceratinella brevis</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Drassyllus pusillus</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Hahnia montana</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Harpactea hombergii</i>	Stripe-legged spider	1	Adult female	Puffin Slope	
<i>Lathys stigmatisata</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Gannets' Combe	
<i>Lathys stigmatisata</i>	A spider	1		Gannets' Combe	
<i>Lepthyphantes ericaeus</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	North End	
<i>Lepthyphantes ericaeus</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Lepthyphantes ericaeus</i>	A spider	2	Adult male	Middle Park	
<i>Lepthyphantes mengei</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	Village	
<i>Lepthyphantes mengei</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Middle Park	
<i>Meioneta saxatilis sens. str.</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Punchbowl Valley	
<i>Neon reticulatus</i>	A jumping spider	1	Adult	Gannets' Combe	
<i>Oedothorax fuscus</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Punchbowl Valley	
<i>Oedothorax fuscus</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Village	
<i>Pachygnatha degeeri</i>	A long-jawed orb-weaver	1		North End	
<i>Pachygnatha degeeri</i>	A long-jawed orb-weaver	1	Adult female	Village	
<i>Pardosa nigriceps</i>	A wolf spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Pardosa nigriceps</i>	A wolf spider	1	Adult male	North End	
<i>Pardosa nigriceps</i>	A wolf spider	1	Adult female	Village	
<i>Pelecopsis parallela</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Pelecopsis parallela</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Peponocranium ludicrum</i>	A spider	1	Adult	Gannets' Combe	
<i>Peponocranium ludicrum</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Peponocranium ludicrum</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	North End	
<i>Peponocranium ludicrum</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	Village	
<i>Peponocranium ludicrum</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Pirata piraticus</i>	Pirate wolf spider	1	Adult female	Punchbowl Valley	
<i>Pocadicnemis juncea</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	

Table 1, continued					
Scientific name	Vernacular name	No.	Stage/sex	Location	Date
<i>Segestria senoculata</i>	Snake-back spider	1	Adult female	North Light	6 October 2014
<i>Tiso vagans</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	North Light	
<i>Tiso vagans</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North Light	
<i>Walckenaeria atrotibialis</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	North End	
<i>Zora spinimana</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Gannets' Combe	
<i>Zygiella x-notata</i>	Missing-sector orb-weaver	2	Adult female	North Light	
<i>Zygiella x-notata</i>	Missing-sector orb-weaver	1		Village	
<i>Amaurobius ferox</i>	Black lace weaver	1	Adult female	Beach Road	7 October 2014
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1		Beach Road	
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1	Adult female	South Light	
<i>Centromerus prudens</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Drassodes lapidosus</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Beach Road	
<i>Enoplognatha ovata sens. str.</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Middle Park	
<i>Enoplognatha ovata sens. str.</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Millcombe Valley	
<i>Haplodrassus signifer</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	South Light	
<i>Harpactea hombergi</i>	Stripe-legged spider	2	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Harpactea hombergi</i>	Stripe-legged spider	1		Beach Road	
<i>Heliophanus cupreus</i>	A jumping spider	1	Adult male	Millcombe Valley	
<i>Lepthyphantes zimmermanni</i>	A spider	1		Middle Park	
<i>Lepthyphantes zimmermanni</i>	A spider	2	Adult male	Millcombe Valley	
<i>Lepthyphantes zimmermanni</i>	A spider	2	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Meta menardi</i>	Orb-weaving cave spider	3	Adult female	Beach Road	
<i>Meta menardi</i>	Orb-weaving cave spider	3	Adult male	Beach Road	
<i>Meta menardi</i>	Orb-weaving cave spider	6		Beach Road	
<i>Metellina mingei</i>	Orb weaver spider	1	Adult male	Millcombe Valley	
<i>Metellina merianae</i>	Yellow orb-weaver	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Metellina merianae</i>	Yellow orb-weaver	5		Castle Hill	
<i>Metellina merianae</i>	Yellow orb-weaver	1	Adult female	Beach Road	
<i>Metellina merianae</i>	Yellow orb-weaver	1	Adult female	South Light	

Table 1, continued					
Scientific name	Vernacular name	No.	Stage/sex	Location	Date
<i>Nuctenea umbratica</i>	Walnut orb-weaver spider	1		Beach Road	7 October 2014
<i>Oedothorax fuscus</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Village	
<i>Pardosa nigriceps</i>	A wolf spider	1	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Pardosa pullata</i>	Common wolf spider	1	Adult male	Castle Hill	
<i>Philodromus dispar</i>	A crab spider	1	Adult female	Millcombe Valley	
<i>Phrurolithus festivus</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Castle Hill	
<i>Steatoda nobilis</i>	False widow spider	1	Adult male	Hell's Gates	
<i>Tegenaria domestica</i>	House spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Tegenaria domestica</i>	House spider	1	Adult female	Castle Hill	
<i>Tegenaria domestica</i>	House spider	5	Adult female	Hell's Gates	
<i>Zygiella x-notata</i>	Missing-sector orb-weaver	1	Adult female	Beach Road	
<i>Zygiella x-notata</i>	Missing-sector orb-weaver	1	Adult female	South Light	
<i>Amaurobius ferox</i>	Black lace weaver	1	Adult female	Quarries	
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1	Adult female	Quarries	
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1		Quarries	
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	5		Quarries	
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	Garden spider	1		Middle Park	
<i>Dysdera crocata</i>	Woodlouse spider	1	Adult male	Middle Park	
<i>Enoplognatha ovata sens. str.</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Quarries	
<i>Meioneta saxatilis sens. str.</i>	A spider	1	Adult male	Quarries	
<i>Neon reticulatus</i>	A jumping spider	1	Adult male	Quarries	
<i>Salticus scenicus</i>	Zebra spider	1	Adult male	Middle Park	
<i>Segestria bavarica</i>	A spider	1		Middle Park	
<i>Segestria senoculata</i>	Snake-back spider	1		Quarries	
<i>Tegenaria saeva</i>	House spider	1	Adult female	Middle Park	
<i>Tetragnatha extensa</i>	A long-jawed orb-weaver	1	Adult female	Quarries	
<i>Textrix denticulata</i>	Toothed weaver spider	1		Quarries	
<i>Theridion mystaceum</i>	A spider	1	Adult female	Quarries	
<i>Trochosa terricola</i>	Ground wolf spider	1	Adult female	Quarries	

# DRAGONFLIES ON LUNDY – A SUMMARY OF OCCURRENCE DURING THE LFS YEARS

by

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## INTRODUCTION

Despite the number of small freshwater ponds dotted across the island, and the presence of a relatively large body of water in the form of Pondsburry, the Odonata – comprised of damselflies (Zygoptera) and dragonflies (Anisoptera) – have been surprisingly little studied on Lundy.

Formal wildlife recording on Lundy began in 1947, following the founding a year earlier of the Lundy Field Society. The LFS Annual Report for 1947 indicates that a collection of insects made that year included two species of Odonata but without identifying them to species. Remarkably, however, one of these records – of a Common darter *Sympetrum striolatum* – found its way into the current database of Devon dragonfly records; this shows that it was collected in July 1947 by R.L. Baxter and P.E. Parry of Cambridge University, two of a four-person party which also included subsequent LFS Warden Hugh Boyd.

'Miscellaneous' records in the 1948 Annual Report mention "several species noted, both adults and nymphs", but again without identifying the species concerned. The note also states "this would be a compact and interesting group for ecological study" – something that would not happen, and then only in part, for another 30 years.

The next three records also feature among the Devon records but not in LFS Annual Report: 'collections' of single adult Common darters on three days in May 1961 by LFS member A.L. Galliford of Liverpool. It was not until publication of the Annual Report for 1963-64 that the first record of a named species of Odonata appeared in print.

It took a widespread invasion of Four-spotted Chaser *Libellula quadrimaculata* during the first four days of June 1963 for this to happen – and what an amazing spectacle it must have been, with dragonflies seen in large numbers across much of the island: "thousands were present along the western sidelands," wrote LFS Warden Michael Jones in the 1963-64 LFS Annual Report.

While the report is unclear as to the exact year (1963 or 1964), a 'Further Note' at the end of the paper states that on "15th May, 1964, a large hatch of *Libellula quadrimaculata* was observed at Pondsburry", while a paper by John Burton in the journal *Atalanta* in 1996 acknowledges Michael's contribution and confirms the year as 1963.

Another 14 years passed until reporting of dragonfly species in the LFS Annual Report began to appear regularly, with the results of studies of Lundy's freshwater pools, led by Jenny George, appearing in the reports for three successive years, 1978 to 1980. There have since been just four blank years (1981, 1982, 1988 and 1990) up to 2015.

To date, 15 species (including two new to Lundy in 2015) have been recorded on the island, as summarised below, collated from LFS Annual Reports. In many instances the available

information is at best sparse, but dates, locations and observers' names are included wherever they have been given in past reports.

## DAMSELFLIES (Zygoptera)

### Beautiful demoiselle *Calopteryx virgo*

One record:

1985 29 Aug – a male photographed in Millcombe, “undoubtedly an immigrant individual” (A.J. Parsons).

### Blue-tailed damselfly *Ischnura elegans*

At least 21 records:

1978 undated record – one (S. Davies).

1979 Aug – one, Quarter Wall Pond 2 (just north of the main Quarter Wall Pond); four, Quarry Pond; and three, Rocket Pole Pond (J.J. George & B.M. Stone, reported in 1980 LFS Annual Report).

1983 12 Jun – present at Quarry Pond and a West Side field (A.J. Parsons).

1986 Sep – four, Quarry Pond (J.J. George & S.P. Sheridan).

1987 15-23 Aug – “common at Pondsburry and present at Quarry Pool” (A.J. Parsons).

1992 14 Jun – 20.

1995 31 Jul-2 Aug – present at Pondsburry [but could refer to *Enallagma cyathigerum*] (A.J. Parsons).

1996 15 Jun – Pondsburry.

1998 3 Sep – one.

2000 13 Jun – 20+ at Pondsburry.

2002 26 Jun-29 Sep – max 12.

2009 30 May – present at Pondsburry.

2012 28 May – 50 nymphs in Brick Field Pond (Alan Rowland);  
1 Jun – one at Quarry Pond (Chris Eve).

2013 26 Jun – present at Pondsburry (Alan & Sandra Rowland);  
7 & 8 Jul – three males and one female at Quarter Wall Pond (Alan Rowland).

2014 12 Jun – a mating pair and two males at Quarter Wall Pond (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
29 Jul – two near Quarry Pond (Chris Eve);  
30 Jul – one, Pondsburry (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
2 Aug – two near Quarry Pond (Chris Eve);  
14 Aug – three, Quarry Pond (Tim Jones).

2015 14 Jun – four males, Pondsburry (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
28 Jun – four, Quarry Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland);  
28 Jun – four, Quarter Wall Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland);  
30 Jun – four, including mating pair, Quarry Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland);  
7 Jul – six, Quarry Pond (Andrew Jewels).

### Common blue damselfly *Enallagma cyathigerum*

At least 21 records:

1983 12 Jun – present at Pondsburry (A.J. Parsons).

1987 15-23 Aug – “common”, Pondsburry (A.J. Parsons).

1989 19 Jul – present (A.J. Parsons)

1992 14 Jun-28 Aug – max 100 on one day.

1993 25 May – three;

21 Jul – one;

Jul & Aug – eighteen caught in sweep samples (P. Clabburn & P.Long).

- 1995 31 Jul-2 Aug – present at Pondsburry [but could refer to *Ischnura elegans*] (A.J. Parsons).  
 1998 1 Aug-30 Sep – max 20.  
 2000 13 Jun – 50+ at Pondsburry.  
 2002 27 Jun-29 Sep – max 200+.  
 2003 14 Aug – one.  
 2007 18 Jun – one male.  
 2008 7 Aug – two at Pondsburry.  
 2009 27 Jun – present at Quarter Wall Pond.  
 2011 24 Jun-8 Jul – 12, including males and females at Quarter Wall Pond (Alan & Sandra Rowland).  
 2014 30 Jul – mating pair plus two males at Quarter Wall Pond (Tim Davis & Tim Jones).  
 2015 14 Jun – 30 males, four females & three teneral at Pondsburry Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
 15 Jun – 37, Pondsburry (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
 28 Jun – four, Pondsburry (Alan & Sandra Rowland);  
 10 Jul – one male, Pondsburry (Andrew Jewels);  
 13 Sep – two, Pondsburry (Dave Chown).

## DRAGONFLIES (Anisoptera)

### **Migrant hawk** *Aeshna mixta*

At least 20 records:

- 1998 27 Sep – one, Pondsburry.  
 2002 29 Sep-3 Oct – one.  
 2003 14 Aug-24 Sep – two.  
 2005 16-22 Oct – max three (A.J. Parsons).  
 2006 19 Oct – one.  
 2010 20 Sep – one.  
 2012 21 Sep – one on the Terrace (Andy Jayne).  
 2013 24 & 26 Sep – one by Brambles East  
 2014 30 Jul – one, Lower East Side Path (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
 14 Aug – one, Millcombe (Tim Jones);  
 18 & 19 Sep – one, upper Millcombe (Andy Jayne);  
 23 Sep – one (Andy Jayne & Andy Turner);  
 26 Sep – one (Chris Dee);  
 29 Sep – one (Chris Dee & Andy Turner);  
 1 Oct – one, Millcombe (Chris Dee & Andy Turner);  
 6 Oct – one patrolling Millcombe gardens (Tony John, Luke Phillips, Tony Taylor).  
 2015 15 Sep – one at North Light hawking insects along the wall of the lighthouse (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
 17 Sep – one on Terrace (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
 19 Sep – three, North End (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
 25 Sep – one, location not given (Andy Turner).

### **Southern hawk** *Aeshna cyanea*

Two records:

- 1999 30 Aug – one.  
 2003 12 Aug-26 Sep – two.

### **Common hawk** *Aeshna juncea*

Three records:

- 2002 23 Sep-3 Oct – one.

- 2007 9 & 10 Sep – one (J. Leonard).  
2008 13 & 14 Sep – one in Millcombe.

**Unidentified hawk dragonfly** *Aeshna* sp.

- 2011 1-15 Oct – one in Lower Millcombe on three dates.

**Emperor dragonfly** *Anax imperata*

Ten records:

- 1978 undated record – one (S. Davies).  
1981 22 Jul – one.  
1991 4 & 27 Aug – two (A.J. Parsons).  
2002 3 Jul – one.  
2012 6 Sep – one, a male photographed in flight over Quarter Wall Pond (Alan Rowland).  
2014 12 Jul – one at Quarter Wall Pond (Cambridge Conservation Volunteers);  
30 Jul – two males, Pondsburry (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
8 Aug – one patrolling Quarters Pond (Tony Taylor).  
2015 9 Jul – a male, Rocket Pole Pond (Andrew Jewels);  
15 Jul – a male “patrolling the edge of Pondsburry” (Tony Taylor).

**Vagrant emperor** *Anax ephippiger*

One record:

- 2015 13 Oct – one in Punchbowl Valley near West Side path (Ivan Lakin & Kevin Rylands).

**Golden-ringed dragonfly** *Cordulegaster boltonii*

One record:

- 2009 9 Sep – one near the Castle (Tony Taylor).

**Four-spotted chaser** *Libellula quadrimaculata*

Recorded on two occasions:

- 1963 1-4 Jun – reported in thousands across the island (Michael Jones).  
1964 15 May – a large hatch of emerging adults at Pondsburry (Michael Jones).

***Libellula* sp.**

- 1992 14 Jun – one, possibly Broad-bodied Chaser *L. depressa*.

**Black darter** *Sympetrum danae*

Two records:

- 1998 29 Sep – one at Pondsburry.  
2012 21 Oct – one hawking insects on the western edge of South West Field (Tim Davis).

**Ruddy darter** *Sympetrum sanguineum*

One record:

- 2014 21 Sep – a male (photographed) along the Lower East Side Path about halfway between St Helen's Combe and Quarterwall Copse (Andy Jayne).  
NB. Ruddy Darter inhabits weedy ponds and ditches, frequently in woodland, and is resident in south-east England and central Ireland but increasing its range ([www.british-dragonflies.org.uk/species/ruddy-darter](http://www.british-dragonflies.org.uk/species/ruddy-darter)).

**Red-veined darter** *Sympetrum fonscolombii*

One record:

- 2015 6 Jun – one photographed at Pondsburry (Richard Campey) – see colour plate 5.

### **Common darter** *Sympetrum striolatum*

At least 37 records:

- 1947 1 Jul – one (R.L. Baxter & P.E. Parry).  
1961 20, 21 & 25 May – singles (presumed to be specimens) collected by A.L. Galliford.  
1978 undated record – one (S. Davies);  
Jul – present at Pondsburry (J.J. George);  
1979 Aug – three larvae “seen stalking their prey” (J.J. George & B.M. Stone);  
Aug – one, Quarry Pond (J.J. George & B.M. Stone, reported in 1980 LFS Annual Report).  
1981 22 Sep – “Common on the East Side”.  
1984 25 Sep – “egg-laying” (A.J. Parsons).  
1987 15-23 Aug – “up to three on several occasions” (A.J. Parsons).  
1991 28 Jul-22 Sep – inc 50 on one day.  
1992 18 May-20 Sep – max 50 on one day.  
1993 Jul & Aug – seventeen caught in sweep samples (P. Clabburn & P.Long);  
24 Jul & 10 Oct – present.  
1994 6 & 7 Oct – “maximum three”.  
1995 31 Jul – present at Pondsburry (A.J. Parsons).  
1996 31 Aug – one (male).  
1997 22 Jul & 19 Sep – one.  
1998 27 Sep-1 Oct – three, Pondsburry.  
1999 26-30 Sep – max five.  
2000 28 Aug – ten.  
2001 10 Oct – one.  
2002 23 Sep-12 Oct – max seven.  
2003 14 Aug-27 Sep – present (A.J. Parsons).  
2005 29 Sep-6 Oct – “singles” (A.J. Parsons).  
2006 14-18 Oct – one.  
2007 15-17 Oct – three.  
2008 3-16 Sep – maximum seven.  
21 Oct – a male along the East Side.  
2010 21 Sep & 6 Oct – singles.  
2011 1 Oct – one, male at Pig’s Paradise Pond (James Diamond);  
3 Oct – singles at the Terrace, along the main track above Gannets’ Combe and along the Lower East Side Path below Threequarter Wall (Tim Davis);  
6 Oct – one (Richard Campey).  
2014 30 Jul – one, Lower East Side Path (Tim Davis & Tim Jones);  
18 Sep – one, western end of Quarter Wall (Andy Jayne);  
20 Sep – one, Terrace (Andy Jayne).

### **NEW SPECIES AND FUTURE RECORDING ON LUNDY**

Of the three new dragonflies recorded in 2014 and 2015, Ruddy darter is a resident species in south-east England that is increasing its range, while Red-veined darter and Vagrant emperor are both migrants, the latter a long-distance traveller from Africa. That these three dragonflies are the latest to be recorded on Lundy is perhaps an indication of a warming climate, but also indicative of gradually increasing observer awareness of dragonflies and damselflies.

That said, the number of observers (to date predominantly visiting birdwatchers) submitting Odonata records remains small. Thus I would like to encourage LFS members who spend time around the island’s ponds, especially between May and October, to watch for dragonflies and

damselflies and to record their observations (especially of mating pairs or egg-laying females) in the LFS Logbook in the Tavern.

An excellent photographic field guide – Britain's Dragonflies by Dave Smallshire and Andy Swash (which helped me identify a Black Darter in South West Field) – can be found on the shelves near the Logbook.

The records listed above will be submitted to the Devon dragonfly recorder, Dave Smallshire, to supplement the small number of records currently held.

Looking to the future, what might be the likely new additions to the Lundy list of Odonata? With records of vagrants to Britain increasing in recent years, potential visitors from the continent include Small red-eyed damselfly *Erythromma viridulum*, Scarlet darter *Crocothemis erythraea* and Lesser emperor *Anax parthenope*, while from across the Atlantic perhaps Common green darter *Anax junius*, first recorded in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly in 1998. New (and subsequently accepted) records will of course depend on the interest and skill levels of observers. Happily for those interested in dragonflies and damselflies, the latest field guides have made identification, while still challenging, that much easier.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks to Alan Rowland for his help in the compilation of this record, as well as Lundy's breeding dragonflies (see opposite), and to Tim Jones and Alan for their helpful comments on the text.

## REQUEST

If anyone has any dragonfly records from Lundy that are not listed above, please send them, with as much detail as possible, to Tim Davis at [gen@birdsoflundy.org.uk](mailto:gen@birdsoflundy.org.uk). Photographs would also be very welcome. Thank you.

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## BREEDING DRAGONFLIES ON LUNDY

Only four Odonata species are so far known to have bred on Lundy:

- ❑ **Common blue damselfly** – larvae in Pondsburry (Clabburn 1993) and in Ackland's Moor Pond (Alan Rowland pers. obs.)
- ❑ **Blue-tailed damselfly** – larvae in Quarter Wall Pond, Quarry Pond, Rocket Pole Pond, St Helen's spring, 1979 to 2007; and in Brick Field Pond in 2012 (Alan Rowland pers. obs.)
- ❑ **Four-spotted chaser** – a large hatch at Pondsburry in 1964 (Jones 1963-64)
- ❑ **Common darter** – larvae in Pondsburry and in Quarry Pond 1978 to 2004; and in Widow's Tenement Pond, 2010-2011 (Alan Rowland pers. obs.).

Although there is plenty of habitat in the form of ponds and pools spread across the island, a restricting factor is the drying out of suitable areas in prolonged dry spells – especially the Lundy streams which are too intermittent to offer a stable breeding habitat. Thus the more likely species to breed successfully are those whose life cycles – from mating, egg-laying and larvae to adult emergence – are one or, at most, two years and which are better adapted to ephemeral habitat.

While longer periods of drought will see the drying out of standing areas of fresh water – even of the larger areas like Pondsburry (as in 1984) and Quarter Wall Pond (in 2006) – (re)colonisation either from other areas of the island or through immigration has been observed. For example, Brick Field Pond dug in *circa* 2010 had 50 Odonata larvae when surveyed during the LFS 'Discover Lundy' week in 2012. In addition, some of the waterbodies on Lundy, e.g. Rocket Pole Pond, are pumped out during dry spells, which may artificially exacerbate their dessication.

Of dragonflies, Clabburn (1993) wrote: "*Isolation would not be an important factor concerning the colonisation of Lundy ... as the flight powers of the Odonata are well known.*" So beyond the four species known to have bred on Lundy, what other species could breed on the island in future?

Potential candidates include **Migrant hawk** (one-year life cycle; requires warmth), **Emperor dragonfly** (two-year life cycle and a frequent 'pioneer' colonist of new waterbodies), **Vagrant emperor** (likes to breed in temporary waters; first Lundy record in 2015), **Four-spotted chaser** (two-year life cycle; has already bred at least once), **Ruddy darter** (one-year life cycle; increasing nationally; recorded on Lundy in 2014), **Red-veined darter** (recent invasions to Britain; recorded on Lundy in 2015; first recorded breeding on Skokholm in 2015).

Less likely would be **Southern hawk** (second-year nymphs require fish or tadpoles as prey), **Common hawk** (recorded in North Devon but has a minimum three-year life cycle), and **Golden-ringed dragonfly** (minimum two-year life cycle; breeds in running waters, especially fast-flowing streams with gravel beds).

Whichever, it is surely only a matter of time before at least one of these dragonflies – or another species altogether – attempts to breed on Lundy.

# AUTUMN SURVEYS OF FUNGI ON LUNDY

by

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## INTRODUCTION

A party consisting of John Hedger, André & Marie-Jo Coutanche and Alan & Sandra Rowland visited Lundy on 6–13 November 2015 to carry out a survey of the fungi. This latest autumnal effort was a continuation of yearly surveys by the LFS carried out since October 2003, when I first visited Lundy with Jenny & David George, who correctly suggested that the ‘mushrooms and toadstools’ on Lundy were worth studying.

The visits both by myself and the Georges, usually staying at Big St Johns, and with the Rowlands and Coutanches, based in Government House, have now yielded a list of 517 species, of which around 95 were recorded by LFS members prior to 1995. Accurate identification of many fungi needs a microscope, so visits have always needed temporary conversion of part of the properties to *ad hoc* laboratories, an eccentricity tolerated, even perhaps enjoyed, by the Lundy staff. In addition over the past few years, the Wardens, latterly especially Beccy MacDonald, have encouraged a ‘Foray’, open to visitors to the island, most of which have been successful, in spite of occasional awful weather, and have become an item on the Lundy events calendar. In 2015 a party of 21, which included visitors, LFS members and some of the island staff, spent an enjoyable morning on 11 November exploring the delights of the multitude of fungi around Quarter Wall Pond and the Old Hospital, accompanied by the best weather of the week.

## SPECIES OF FUNGI RECORDED

An entry in the LFS Logbook for the week previous to our arrival had indeed recorded the presence of this ‘Myriad of Fungi’ on Lundy – an accurate observation, probably due to the dry warm September and October, the weather only really breaking down as we arrived, so the sudden moisture and relatively high soil temperature allowed the ‘myriads’ to suddenly appear all over the island. From the south to the north we recorded species in many places where they had been absent in previous autumn surveys. Such is the hazard of field studies on fungi. They may be present in the soil or wood, but only visible and identifiable when they form their fruit bodies, the ‘mushrooms and toadstools’.

Inevitably we concentrated on the main interest on Lundy: the fungi of its unimproved, and thus very special, grassland and heathland. Most of the species listed in Table 1 come from these areas of Lundy. However, Lundy woodland, although very small, never ceases to surprise and yielded two new records: the rather beautiful Snowy slime mould *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa* (shown on colour plate 2) which was found by Alan Rowland in Quarter Wall Copse; and a large, but new to Lundy, ‘shelf fungus’ called *Postia subcaesia*, the ‘Broadleaf blueing bracket’, which was discovered by LFS member Linda Bolwell on an Ash stump in Lower Millcombe and did indeed bruise a faint blue colour on handling.

Linda also got another Lundy ‘first’ by somehow spotting a very tiny, but perfectly formed, gill fungus, growing in the moss at the side of the road by Brambles. The cap is only 2 mm across

and it has beautiful translucent gills. It was eventually identified as a species, and indeed genus, never before seen on Lundy, *Leptoglossum griseopallidum*. Other gill fungi new to Lundy were found, all in grassland. Most notable were three waxcap species. The beautiful bright orange *Hygrocybe marchii* was found growing on the Airfield. A rather duller grey species may be *Hygrocybe ?canescens* (? denotes the degree of uncertainty), a rarity (shown on colour plate 3) which was found in very short pony-grazed turf around the Old Hospital, along with many other colourful Waxcaps like *H. coccinea* (Scarlet waxcap), *H. insipida* (Spangle waxcap) and *H. chlorophana* (Butter waxcap). Finally an orange waxcap, possibly related to the Honey waxcap *H. reidii* but with many points of difference, was found on the Airfield. We await determinations by DNA homology to sort out its identity and that of *H. ?canescens*. In all, 20 certain waxcap species were found on the survey. Nine species previously recorded were not found but will re-occur, so the running waxcap total is now 29 species; possibly 31 once the DNA work is done.

As well as the waxcaps, another group of grassland fungi that are indicators of the high conservation value of the Lundy grasslands are the pinkgills (*Entoloma* species). Many are brown-capped, for example the Star pinkgill *Entoloma conferendum* (see colour plate 2). However, those attending the Foray were delighted to find the very beautiful 'Azure' pinkgill, *Entoloma chalybdaeum* var *lazulinum* (called *E. lazulinum* in many books) – a small gill fungus with the most extraordinary deep blue cap and stem, plus pink gills (colour plate 4). Although a first record for Lundy, it was not rare as we found it all over the island. In total we found 12 species of pinkgill, of which two are new records, the 'Azure' pinkgill and the much larger blue species *Entoloma corvinum* which we found bravely growing in the centre of the path to Tibbetts (colour plate 3). The Lundy total for pinkgill species is now 31.

Numbers of species of pinkgills and waxcaps can be combined with numbers of club fungi (Clavariaceae family) and earth tongues (Geoglossaceae family) to give a 'CHEG' score (see below) of the conservation value of a grassland. Species of both families were common all over Lundy, with short turf in some places covered with the black tongue-like fruit bodies of Black earthtongues (mostly *Geoglossum fallax*), together with the white, yellow or orange 'spindles' of species of the club fungi *Clavaria* and *Clavulinopsis*. Total numbers of species of Clavariaceae, Hygrocybe, Entolomataceae and Geoglossaceae (the CHEG score) for the November 2015 survey was 42, an impressive figure.

One of the strangest records was of the large and colourful gill fungus 'Plums & Custard' *Tricholomopsis rutilans*. This has a purple cap and custard-yellow gills (see colour plate 4). We found it in two places, in turf near Gannets' Combe and on the West Side above Jenny's Cove. The latter is an odd situation since this is a wood-rotting fungus, with only one previous record on Lundy (in October 2013) on the wood used to construct the Jacob's ladder path up from the Lower East Side Path to Millcombe. On Lundy it seems to rot grass litter – we could find no buried wood.

Overall, the survey turned up ten new records of species of fungi, bringing the current total to 527.

## **SURVEYS OF NUMBERS OF FUNGI ON THE AIRFIELD AND AT THE NORTH END**

Apart from recording species of fungi over Lundy, we surveyed the numbers of fruit bodies (mushrooms and toadstools) of fungi on three approximately 30-m wide transects of the western end of the Airfield. This survey has now been carried out by the LFS in most autumns since 2004, some ten years of data and sufficient for publication hopefully as a short note in the next

LFS Journal. In 2015 we recorded 40 species of fungi and 388 fruit bodies. Some had not been found in previous surveys, including the very colourful Blue roundhead *Stropharia caerulea* which was also common all over the island.

Another ongoing LFS autumn survey is of the Heather waxcap *Hygrocybe lacmus*, first found near John O'Groat's House in 2003. We have found that the grey fruit bodies are restricted to the North End, although this time we established them in a 'furthest south' location in the heather on the West Side just north of St James's Stream. The count of fruit bodies this year for the North End was a record 2,017. As with the Airfield transect data, we now have enough to publish a short account of the distribution and fruit body numbers of this intriguing waxcap.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the LFS members on Lundy during our visit and the island staff and Lundy Warden Beccy MacDonald for their help and interest in the project. We thank Derek Green for the financial assistance from the Lundy Company for transport of microscopes and books to the island. Hopefully this will be unnecessary in the future thanks to the new and excellent secure cupboard for LFS field equipment in Jack's Store, organised by Roger Chapple.



**Table 1. Fungi recorded on Lundy, 6–13 November 2015.**

<b>Fungi</b>	<b>Popular name</b>	<b>Where found / Site</b>
<b>MACROFUNGI</b>		
<b>Ascomycota</b>	<b>Sac fungi or Ascus</b>	
<b>Discomycetes</b>	<b>Cup fungi</b>	
<i>Coprobria (=Cheilymenia) granulata</i>	Yellow dung disco	on Highland Cattle Dung / Brick Field
<i>Geoglossum fallax</i>	Black earth tongue	short turf / by Quarter Wall Pond
<i>Geoglossum glutinosum</i>	Slimy earthtongue	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<b>Pyrenomycetes</b>	<b>Flask fungi</b>	
<i>Daldinia concentrica</i>	King Alfred's cakes	on dead <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Ash) / by gas store, Lower Millcombe
<i>Epichloe typhina</i>	Choke	on <i>Holcus mollis</i> (Yorkshire Fog) / nr Middle Park Pond
<i>Sordaria superba</i> *	–	on old Rabbit dung / Gannets' Combe
<b>Basidiomycota</b>	<b>Mushrooms or Basidios</b>	
<b>Aphylophorales</b>	<b>Shelf and Club fungi</b>	
<b>Clavariaceae</b>	<b>Club fungi</b>	
<i>Clavaria acuta</i>	Pointed club	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<i>Clavaria fragilis</i>	White spindles	very short turf / Old Hospital foundations
<i>Clavulinopsis corniculata</i>	Meadow coral	very short turf / Old Hospital foundations
<i>Clavulinopsis fusiformis</i>	Golden spindles	in short grass and heather / above North Light
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	Yellow club	in short turf on path / nr Widow's Tenement
<i>Clavulinopsis luteoalba</i>	Apricot club	short grass / nr Ackland's Moor Pond
<b>Polyporaceae</b>	<b>Shelf fungi</b>	
<i>Inonotus radiatus</i>	Alder bracket	on living <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (Alder) / Quarter Wall Copse
<i>Phellinus ferruginosus</i>	–	on cut Rhododendron branches / Lower East Side path nr QW Copse
<i>Postia subcaesia</i> *	Broadleaf blueing bracket	on dead wood <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Ash) / by gas store, Lower Millcombe
<i>Spongipellis spumeus</i>	–	on dead tree <i>Salix</i> sp (Willow) / Walled Garden on west of track

Table 1, continued		
Fungi	Popular name	Where found / Site
<i>Stereum hirsutum</i>	Hairy curtain crust	on dead trunk <i>Quercus cerris</i> (Turkey Oak) / upper path, Millcombe
<i>Stereum rugosum</i>	Bleeding broadleaf crust	on dead Rhododendron stump / Lower East Side Path nr Sugar Loaf
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Turkey tail	on dead wood <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Ash) / by gas store, Lower Millcombe
<i>Trechispora farinacea</i>	–	on dead Sycamore branch / nr Casbah, Millcombe
<b>Agaricales</b>	<b>Gill fungi</b>	
<i>Agaricus arvensis</i>	Horse mushroom	in short grass / Airfield
<i>Agaricus campestris</i>	Field mushroom	on rotted dung, silage etc / Tillage Field dump
<i>Agaricus impudicus</i>	Tufted wood mushroom	Bracken and grass / by Lower East Side Path at Quarries
<i>Agaricus pseudovillaticus</i>	Clustered mushroom	short grass / cliff path on South West Field by small reservoir dam
<i>Agaricus urinascens</i> var <i>excellens</i> *	–	in short grass / Lighthouse Field
<i>Agrocybe paludosa</i>	Field cap	short turf / Lower East Side Path at Quarries
<i>Clitocybe dealbata</i>	Ivory funnel	short turf / Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Clitocybe rivulosa</i>	Fools funnel	short turf / Airfield
<i>Clitocybe nebularis</i>	Clouded funnel	in tall grass & bracken / nr Government House
<i>Clitocybe fragrans</i>	Fragrant funnel	in tall grass & bracken / by Farm track
<i>Clitocybe vibecina</i>	Mealy funnel	medium height grass / Lower East Side Path nr Quarries
<i>Collybia butyracea</i>	Butter cap	bracken and grass / by grass track up to Tibbets
<i>Collybia butyracea</i> var <i>asema</i>	White butter cap	under bracken / Lower East Side Path nr Sugar Loaf
<i>Collybia dryophila</i>	Russet toughshank	Bracken and grass / by grass track up to Tibbets
<i>Conocybe tenera</i>	Common conecap	old pony apples / by Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Conocybe subovalis</i>	Dung conecap	pony apples / by Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Coprinus</i> (= <i>Coprinellus</i> ) <i>heptemerus</i>	–	pony apples / by Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Coprinus</i> (= <i>Parasola</i> ) <i>plicatilis</i>	Pleated inkcaps	mown grass / lawn by Quarters

Table 1, continued		
Fungi	Popular name	Where found / Site
<i>Cystoderma amianthinum</i>	Earthy powdercap	tall grass with heather / nr Ackland's Moor Pond
<i>Dermoloma cuneifolium</i>	–	in short turf / West Side Path above Jenny's Cove
<i>Entoloma caesiocincta</i>	–	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<i>Entoloma chalybdaeum</i> var <i>lazulinum</i> *	Azure pinkgill	short turf / nr Middle Park Pond
<i>Entoloma conferendum</i>	Star pinkgill	tall grass / nr Middle Park Pond
<i>Entoloma corvinum</i> *	Blue pinkgill	in short turf / path up to Tibbets
<i>Entoloma lampropus</i>	–	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<i>Entoloma longistriatum</i>	–	in short turf / Lower East Side Path nr Quarries
<i>Entoloma papillatum</i>	–	grass and bracken / Lower Millcombe
<i>Entoloma sericella</i>	–	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<i>Entoloma sericellum</i>	Cream pinkgill	short turf / by Lower East Side Path at Quarries
<i>Entoloma sericeum</i>	–	in short turf / by West Side Path at North End
<i>Entoloma serrulatum</i>	Blue edge pinkgill	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<i>Entoloma turbidum</i>	–	in heather / Upper Gannets' Combe
<i>Fayodia pseudoclusilis</i>	–	in bracken and grass / Ackland's Moor
<i>Galerina laevis</i>	–	in short turf / West Side path nr Quarter Wall
<i>Galerina pseudomycenopsis</i>	–	in short turf / by West Side Path at North End
<i>Hygrocybe aurantiosplendens</i>	Orange waxcap	medium height grass / east end of Airfield
<i>Hygrocybe cantharellus</i>	Goblet waxcap	in deep moss in turf / side of main track nr Pondsburry
<i>Hygrocybe ceracea</i>	Small butter waxcap	very short turf / Old Hospital foundations
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	Butter waxcap	short turf / Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	Scarlet waxcap	short turf / Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i>	Blackening waxcap	mown grass / lawn in front of Millcombe House
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i> (= <i>H.olivaceonigra</i> )	Green blackening waxcap	in short turf / nr Square Cottage
<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>	Spangle waxcap	short turf / Quarter Wall Cottages

Table 1, continued		
Fungi	Popular name	Where found / Site
<i>Hygrocybe irrigata</i>	Slimy waxcap	in short turf / above west side of Quarry Pond
<i>Hygrocybe lacmus</i>	Heather waxcap	in heather with <i>Cladonia</i> lichen / south side of Gannets' Combe
<i>Hygrocybe laeta</i>	Heath waxcap	medium height grass / east end of Airfield
<i>Hygrocybe laeta</i> (green form)	–	in grass with bracken / main track nr Halfway Wall gate
<i>Hygrocybe marchii</i> *	–	in short grass / east end of Airfield
<i>Hygrocybe miniata</i>	Vermilion waxcap	in short turf / side of main track nr Pondsburly
<i>Hygrocybe persistens</i>	Persistent waxcap	very short turf / Old Hospital foundations
<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i>	Meadow waxcap	short turf / Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Hygrocybe psittacina</i>	Parrot waxcap	very short turf / Old Hospital foundations
<i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>	Crimson waxcap	medium height grass / nr Ackland's Moor Pond
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	Cedarwood waxcap	very short turf / Old Hospital foundations
<i>Hygrocybe splendidissima</i>	Splendid waxcap	
<i>Hygrocybe</i> sp ? <i>canescens</i> *	–	in short turf / west end of Quarter Wall
<i>Hygrocybe</i> sp ? <i>reidii</i> *	–	in short grass / Airfield
<i>Hygrocybe substrangulata</i>	–	in short grass / Lighthouse Field
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i> var <i>virginea</i>	Snowy waxcap	in short turf / nr Square Cottage
<i>Hygrocybe vitellina</i>	–	in short heather & grass / south side of Gannets' Combe
<i>Hygrophoropsis aurantiacus</i>	False chanterelle	grass with bracken / nr Old Hospital
<i>Hypholoma fasciculare</i>	Sulphur tuft	rotten stump / Millcombe
<i>Lepista nuda</i>	Wood blewitt	in tall grass & bracken / nr Government House
<i>Leptoglossum griseopallidum</i> *	–	in moss on bare soil / side of road by Brambles
<i>Lichenomphalia umbelliferae</i>	Heath navel	on wet bare peat by path / nr Widow's Tenement
<i>Macrolepiota procera</i>	Parasol mushroom	in litter under <i>Prunus spinosa</i> (Blackthorn) / upper path, Millcombe
<i>Marasmius oreades</i>	Fairy ring champignon	mown grass / lawn in front of Millcombe House
<i>Mycena aetites</i>	Drab bonnet	short turf / on grass path north of Halfway Wall

Table 1, continued		
Fungi	Popular name	Where found / Site
<i>Mycena epipterygia</i>	Yellowleg bonnet	tall grass with heather / nr Ackland's Moor Pond
<i>Mycena flavoalba</i>	Ivory bonnet	in short turf / nr Square Cottage
<i>Mycena haematopus</i> *	Burgundy drop bonnet	on dead wood <i>Quercus cerris</i> (Turkey Oak) / Quarter Wall Copse
<i>Mycena olivaceomarginata</i>	Brown edge bonnet	medium height grass / nr Ackland's Moor Pond
<i>Mycena vitilis</i>	Snapping bonnet	in short turf / West Side path above Jenny's Cove
<i>Omphalina pyxidata</i>	–	short turf / by Lower East Side Path at Quarries
<i>Omphalina velutipes</i> *	–	in short turf / West Side path nr Jenny's Cove
<i>Oudemansiella mucida</i>	–	on dead branch <i>Quercus cerris</i> (Turkey Oak) / upper path, Millcombe
<i>Panaeolous acuminatus</i>	–	short grass / side of track at Battlements
<i>Panaeolus fimicola</i>	Turf mottlegill	short grass / Brick Field
<i>Panaeolus foenisecii</i>	Brown mottlegill	in short turf / nr Square Cottage
<i>Panaeolus papilionaceus</i> var <i>parvisporus</i>	Bell-shaped mottlegill	old pony apples / by Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Panaeolus semiovatus</i>	Egg-head mottlegill	pony apples / Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Pholiota tuberculosa</i>	–	on Rhododendron stumps / Lower East Side Path nr St Helen's Copse
<i>Psilocybe semilanceata</i>	Liberty cap	in short turf / nr Square Cottage
<i>Psilocybe coprophila</i>	Meadow muffin mushroom	on Soay Sheep dung / north of Halfway Wall gate
<i>Rickenella fibula</i>	Orange mosscap	in short turf / West Side path nr St James' Stream
<i>Russula ochroleuca</i>	Ochre brittlegill	in litter under <i>Pinus corsica</i> (Corsican Pine) / upper path, Millcombe
<i>Stropharia caerulea</i>	Blue roundhead	in tall grass / nr Tibbetts
<i>Stropharia semiglobata</i>	Dung roundhead	pony apples / Quarter Wall Cottages
<i>Tricholomopsis rutilans</i>	Plums and custard	in deep turf / Upper Gannets' Combe
<b>Gasteromycetales</b>	<b>Puffballs &amp; Stinkhorns</b>	
<i>Bovista plumbea</i>	Grey puffball	medium height grass / Quarter Wall Cottages

<b>Table 1, continued</b>		
<b>Fungi</b>	<b>Popular name</b>	<b>Where found / Site</b>
<i>Bovista nigrescens</i>	Black puffball	in short grass / Brick Field
<i>Handkea utriformis</i>	Mosaic puffball	tall grass / SW Field by gate nr Old Light
<i>Lycoperdon nigrescens</i>	Dusky puffball	grass with bracken / Ackland's Moor
<i>Vascellum depressum</i>	Meadow puffball	in short grass / south side of Gannets' Combe
<i>Lycoperdon spadiceum</i>	Grassland puffball	mown grass / Old Light lawn
<b>Heterobasidiomycetes</b>	<b>Jelly fungi</b>	
<i>Auricularia auricula-judae</i>	Jelly ear	on living <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (Elder) / Walled garden, Millcombe
<i>Tremella mesenterica</i>	Jelly fungus	on dead branch of <i>Ulex europaeus</i> (Gorse) / near Rocket Pole
<i>Dacrymyces stillatus</i>	Common jellyspot	on decorticated tree trunk / upper path, Millcombe
<b>Myxomycetes</b>	<b>Slime moulds</b>	
<i>Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa*</i>	Snowy slime mould	on rotted Rhododendron branches / Quarter Wall Copse
<i>Leocarpus fragilis</i>	Eggshell slime mould	fruiting on heather / nr Widow's Tenement
<i>Mucilago crustacea</i>	Dog's vomit slime mould	fruiting on grass leaves / nr Middle Park Pond
<b>MICROFUNGI</b>		
<b>Uredinales</b>	<b>Rusts</b>	
<i>Puccinia arenariae</i>	Campion rust	
<i>Puccinia obscura</i>	Daisy rust	on leaves of <i>Silene rubra</i> (Red Campion) / Lower Millcombe
<b>Erysiphales</b>	<b>Powdery mildews</b>	
<i>Erysiphe sordida</i>	Plantain powdery mildew	on leaves of <i>Bellis perennis</i> (Daisy) / Battlements (Beach Road)
<i>Sphaerotheca erigerontiscanadensis</i>	Dandelion powdery mildew	on <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> (Ribwort Plantain) / by the Barn
<i>Sphaerotheca fugax</i>	Mallow powdery mildew	on <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> (Dandelion) / paving back of Marisco Tavern
<i>Sphaerotheca fugax</i>	Mallow powdery mildew	on <i>Geranium molle</i> (Dove's Foot Cranesbill) / base of wall of the Barn

**LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY**  
Founded 1946

**CONSTITUTION**

(adopted at the Annual General Meeting, 3 March 2012)

1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be The Lundy Field Society.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Society shall be:

- a) To further the study of Lundy and in particular its history, natural history and archaeology;
- b) To undertake investigations in these fields;
- c) To further the conservation of wildlife and antiquities of the island.

3. POWERS

In furtherance of the said objects but not otherwise the Society through its Executive Committee shall have the following powers:

- a) to promote research into subjects directly connected with the objects of the Society and to publish the results of any such research;
- b) to act as a co-ordinating body and to co-operate with the local authorities, statutory authorities, voluntary organisations, charities and persons having objects similar to those of the Society;
- c) to promote or assist in promoting activities of a charitable nature which further the objects of the Society;
- d) to publish papers, reports and other literature;
- e) to hold meetings, lectures and exhibitions;
- f) to educate public opinion and to give advice and information;
- g) to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation and otherwise; provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its primary purpose;
- h) subject to such consents as may be required by law, to borrow or raise money for the purposes of the Society on such terms and on such security as the Executive Committee shall think fit, but so that the liability of individual members of the Society shall in no case extend beyond the amount of their respective annual subscriptions;
- i) to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all who support the objects of the Society. Membership of the Society shall not confer any right on members to use the Society's name for any activity unless agreed by the Executive Committee. Any member behaving in a manner prejudicial to the interests and work of the Society shall be liable to expulsion. No member shall have power to vote at any meeting of the Society if his or her subscription is more than six months in arrears at the time. Corporate bodies may at the discretion of the Executive Committee become members of the Society. On payment of a fee they shall receive Society publications. Members of such corporate bodies may be invited to attend meetings of the Society; each corporate body will have a single vote. Subscriptions shall be due on 1 January each year. The rates of subscriptions shall be agreed by an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.

## LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY CONSTITUTION, continued

### 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a) The Society shall appoint an Executive Committee consisting of Officers and more than six and not more than twelve other members. The Officers of the Society shall comprise Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Membership Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) The other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill up to three casual vacancies occurring among the members of the Executive Committee between General Meetings.
- d) In addition to the Officers and other members of the Executive Committee, a President and Vice-Presidents may also be elected at a General Meeting of the Society. The President and Vice-Presidents shall not be members of the Executive Committee by virtue of that role, but the individuals may be elected to the Executive Committee as Officers or other members.
- e) The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt. Co-opted members shall not have the right to vote. Co-opted members shall stand down at each AGM but may be co-opted again by the Executive Committee until the next AGM.
- f) The quorum shall comprise nine members of the Executive Committee. Each member of the Executive Committee except co-opted members shall have one vote. In the event of an equality in the votes cast, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- g) The Executive Committee may constitute such Working Groups from time to time as shall be considered necessary for such purposes as shall be thought fit. The Convenor of each Working Group shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and all actions and proceedings of each Working Group shall be reported to and be confirmed by the Executive Committee as soon as possible. Working Groups shall be subordinate to and may be regulated or dissolved by the Executive Committee.

### 6. MEETINGS

- a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held, normally in March. The Executive Committee shall upon the request in writing of not less than fifteen members stating the motion or motions to be brought forward call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society. Such a meeting may also be called at the discretion of the Executive Committee. At least 14 days notice shall be given to members of all General Meetings. At all General Meetings the decisions shall be taken on a majority of those members present and voting.
- b) It shall be the duty of every member who is in any way directly or indirectly interested financially or professionally in any item discussed at any meeting of the Society (including any meeting of the Executive Committee or a Working Group) at which he or she may be present to declare such interest and he or she shall not discuss such item (except by invitation of the Chairman) or vote thereon.

### 7. EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION

The Executive Committee shall, out of monies received by the Society, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit for or towards the objects of the Society. The assets of the Society shall be held in its name and not that of one or more individuals.

## LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY CONSTITUTION, continued

### 8. INVESTMENT

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not required for immediate application for its purposes shall be invested by the Executive Committee in or upon such investment or securities as it may think fit, subject nevertheless to such authority, approval or consent by the Charity Commissioners as may for the time being be required by law.

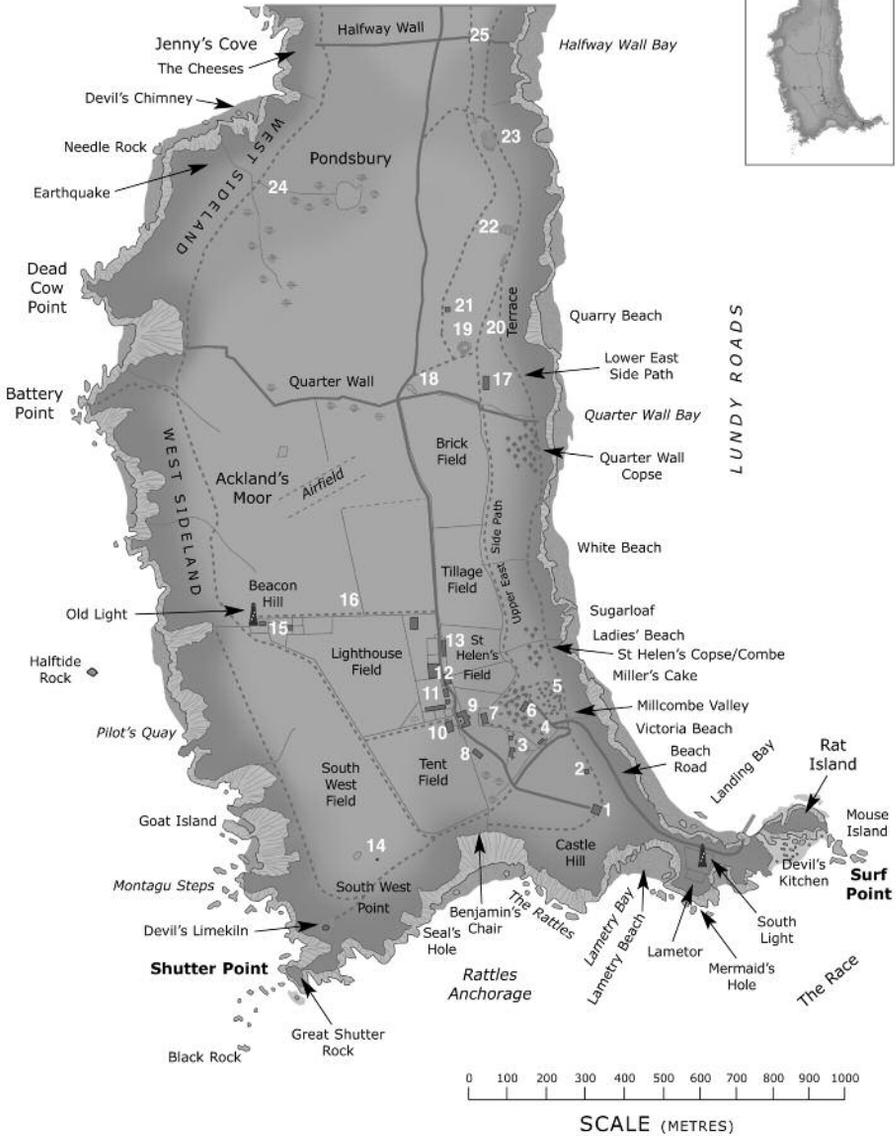
### 9. AMENDMENTS

Any proposed alteration or addition to the Constitution must be notified to the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days before a General Meeting and communicated by him or her to all members not less than 14 days before the Meeting. Amendments must be carried by a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting, but no amendment may be made which would have the effect of the Society ceasing to be a charity at law. Any proposed amendment of which notice has been given may be altered prior to voting thereon without further notice being given to members. The notice of any proposed amendment sent to members shall state that alterations to its wording may be considered and adopted at the General Meeting at which it is considered without further notice to the membership. The Chairman may refuse to allow any alteration to a proposed amendment if in his opinion the alteration is such as to require further notice to the membership before voting.

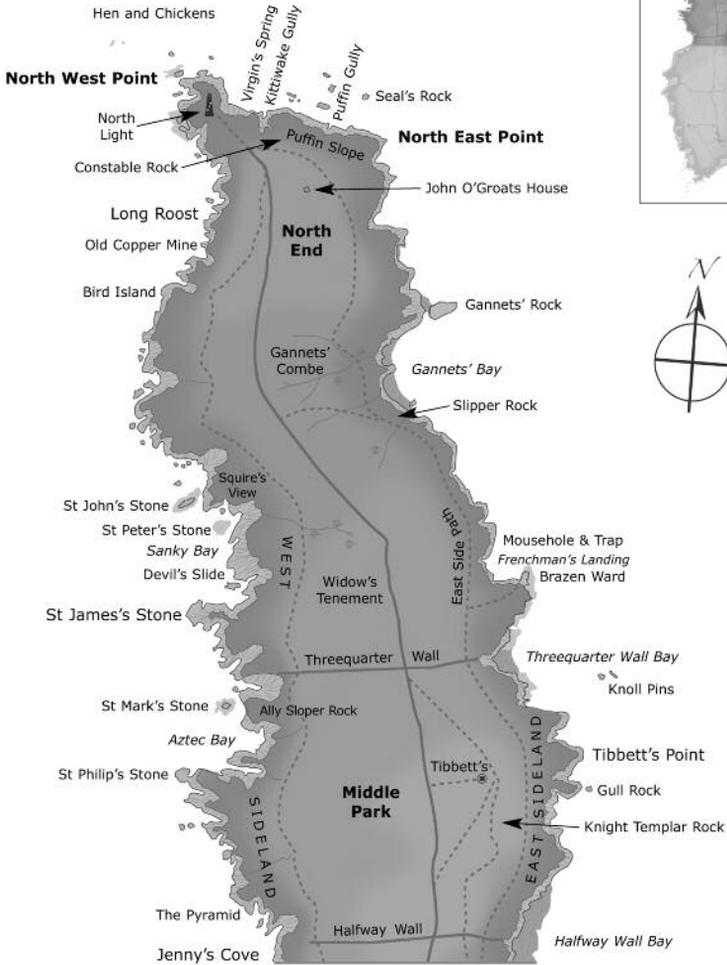
### 10. WINDING UP

If the Executive Committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Society, they shall call a meeting of all members of the Society of which not less than 28 days' notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed) shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, the Executive Committee shall have power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Society. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Society as the Society may determine, or, if that cannot be done, shall be applied for some other charitable purpose.

# Lundy South



# Lundy North



## Number key

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 Marisco Castle  | 10 Black Shed   | 18 Quarter Wall Pond & Quarter Wall Trap |
| 2 Hammers   | 11 Campsite, Quarters (Pig's Paradise) & Reservoir Pond | 19 Quarry Pond                           |
| 3 St John's Valley, Old School & Big & Little St John's | 12 Shop, Museum & High Street                           | 20 Terrace Trap                          |
| 4 Brambles Villa  | 13 Barton Cottages                                      | 21 Old Hospital                          |
| 5 The Ugly  | 14 Rocket Pole, Rocket Pole Pond & Rocket Pole Marsh    | 22 VC Quarry                             |
| 6 Millcombe House                                       | 15 Stoneycroft & Cemetery                               | 23 North Quarry                          |
| 7 Government House                                      | 16 Water Tanks  | 24 Punchbowl Valley                      |
| 8 Church of St Helena                                   | 17 Quarter Wall Cottages                                | 25 Logan Stone                           |
| 9 Old House & Marisco Tavern                            |   |  |



## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY is a registered charity, number 258294.

- For general information about the Lundy Field Society and the purchase of copies of its publications (including back numbers of the Lundy Field Society Annual Report), please contact:  
MICHAEL WILLIAMS  
Hon. Secretary LFS, 5 School Place, Oxford OX1 4RG  
Email: [secretary@lundy.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lundy.org.uk)
- For information about membership of the Lundy Field Society please contact:  
SANDRA ROWLAND  
Membership Secretary LFS, Mole Cottage, Chapel Close, Woodford, Morwenstow, Cornwall EX23 9JR  
Email: [membership@lundy.org.uk](mailto:membership@lundy.org.uk)
- For information about the Lundy Field Society, and about the island itself (including a virtual tour), visit the Society's website at:  
[www.lundy.org.uk](http://www.lundy.org.uk)
- For information about visiting Lundy, including accommodation, and general information about the island, visit the Landmark Trust's Lundy website at:  
[www.lundyisland.co.uk](http://www.lundyisland.co.uk)
- For information about the Lundy Marine Conservation Zone and its wildlife, visit:  
[www.lundymcz.org.uk](http://www.lundymcz.org.uk)
- For information about Lundy's special conservation significance, visit Natural England's website at:  
[www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications/nca/lundy.aspx](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications/nca/lundy.aspx)

**LFS CAR-STICKERS** are printed in dark red on white on self-cling vinyl, 20 cm long x 5 cm high. Cost: £1 each. Please send a stamped addressed envelope and a cheque payable to 'Lundy Field Society' to:

**André Coutanche, 14 Queens Road, Bishopsworth, Bristol BS13 8LB**

The envelope you send should be at least 20 cm long to avoid having to fold the car-sticker.





Above: Bird's-foot *Ornithopus perpusillus*, Ackland's Moor,  
29 June 2015. © Sandra Rowland

Front cover: The Lackey *Malacosoma neustria*, caterpillar, Millcombe,  
6 July 2015. © Alan Rowland



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