



ANNUAL BIRD REPORT 1982/CHECK LIST

THE BIRDS OF ARRAN

INTRODUCTION

This is the third year of the Arran Bird Report which now includes a Summary of the year as well as an updated checklist.

More contributors than ever have reported their sightings and thanks are due to them, especially for the written accounts, with special thanks to Jonathan Williams and Sibby Sangster for preparing the report for printing. Any reports/sightings always appreciated.

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ABBREVIATIONS & SYMBOLS

* : all known records given

♂ : male

♀ : female

imm : immature

max : maximum count

arr : arrival

N : north (direction of flight)

S : south (direction of flight)

inc : including

Jan etc. : all months abbreviated

nos : numbers

Initials of observer concerned are generally limited to rarities and less common species.

The Isle of Arran Natural History Society thanks you for your kind support and should also like to commend to you its delightful annual magazine **THE ARRAN NATURALIST** No.7, currently available throughout the island. Back copies may be obtained from the Arran Nature Centre, Cladoch (just north of Brodick).

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Cover based on a drawing by Julian Chanter **THE ARRAN NATURALIST** No.1.

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SUMMARY OF YEAR

1982 began with the ground still hard frozen which lowered the numbers of several species, especially Stonechat. Wrens survived in coastal vegetation. 61 Rooks in January and February provided an unusual sight for an island with no rookery. Golden Eagles and Buzzards appeared by the roadside, while a Water Rail, hard pressed for food, was seen running along the main road between Whiting Bay and Lamlash. A most striking visitor from Scandinavia, the Waxwing, developed a liking for chips and other scraps in a Brodick garden. In Whiting Bay a Jay enjoyed seeds spilled from an aviary, while a Sparrowhawk tried, without success, to prey upon the inmates of the same aviary. 11 Tree Creepers in a Lamlash wood was a high number for that species.

By mid-February Wren, Robin, Song and Mistle Thrush, Meadow Pipit and Skylark were in sub song and Fulmars were in pairs on their nest ledges. More Goldeneye than usual wintered round the coast and the introduced Tawny Owls were heard in their new territories. Barn Owls were also heard. Gannets began to reappear and on the 14th a pair of Short-eared Owls hunted the String Summit while 2 Purple Sandpipers were at Blackwaterfoot. A Robin was carrying nest material by 6 February and Ravens with nests were seen in tumbling flight.

Woodcocks were roding and Dippers began nest building in mid-March. 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls had returned to Lamlash on 3rd. 17 Hooded Crows with only 4 Carrion Crows and 4 Hybrids were at Monamore on 8th. 14 Goldeneye, consisting of 2 males and 12 sub adults were in Cordon bay on 10th. The first Chiffchaff arrived in Whiting Bay on 27th. 4 Short-eared Owls hunting over the Boguillie on 31st brought March to an impressive close.

190 Greylags were still at Shiskine on 1st April. 8 Wheatear appeared on the Narachan on the 5th. The first Willow Warbler was seen on 6th at King's Cross, the first Swallow on 16th at Sannox. A Cuckoo was heard in Glen Cloy on 18th and a pair of Common Sandpipers arrived at Carlo on 21st.

A North West gale on 3rd May brought Gannets, Fulmars, Kittiwakes, 4 Common and 2 Sandwich Terns close in at Whiting Bay while a single Sanderling, 2 Dunlin, 3 Turnstone and a lone Greylag sought shelter from blowing sand at Kildonan. Early May brought a few surprises with a Red-necked Grebe off North Glen Sannox on the 3rd; a Snow Bunting on Holy Isle on the 5th; a Dotterel below Beinn Tarsuinn and 9 White Wagtails at Kildonan on the 8th. A Kingfisher was at North Glen Sannox on 10th, a Ring Ouzel in song on Beinn Tarsuinn on 19th and 2 Canada Geese at Machrie. A Pied Flycatcher appeared at Corrie on 15th, and a Spotted Flycatcher at Glenashdale. Peregrines pursued Pigeons, dive-bombed a Sparrowhawk and a Buzzard. A Great Spotted Woodpecker flew over Lamlash golf course on 28th. The first Swift was seen on 29th and more than usual with 37 at King's Cross migrating south on 19th July. The month of May ended on 29th with the strange sight of 8 Tufted Ducks at Whiting Bay which flew off South.

In June a Long-eared Owl was not only heard but seen at Blackwaterfoot, and a pair of Merlin hunted a moor. One or two Corncrakes were calling during May, June and July. Garden Warblers and Blackcaps sang, while one male Blackcap managed to sing and hold a large beakful of flies simultaneously. Nightjars maintained their usual good numbers with an additional pair in new territory.

*In July a female Red-breasted Merganser alone reared 18 out of 25 young. At Largybeg a pair of Shelduck whose 10 ducklings were having difficulty surmounting a wall, were helped down to the beach in a box. Only two reached maturity!** On 25th a Red-throated Diver with an eel dangling flew up to a lochan to feed its young. A Greenshank was at Clauchlands on 7th. On 8th a Grasshopper Warbler was seen as well as heard reeling near Torbeg at 3 p.m. in hot sun, while a Snipe, a victim of the heat lay dead on the String road, its feet thickly embedded in tar. On the 9th a female Hen Harrier, quartering the moor, flushed a Snipe and 3 Black Grouse in North Arran in a part where Red Grouse were more usual.*

By August Autumn passage was underway, Shearwaters, Guillemots, Razorbills and an occasional Skua were observed on the Brodick-Ardrossan crossing. Sandwich Terns were seen round the island from 3 May—21 September and at Clauchlands numbers reached 17 on 23rd August, when only 3 Arctic Terns remained at Machrie and a few Common Terns at Dougrie. 2 Dotterel were on Mulloch Buidhe on 21st. A very early movement of Fieldfares occurred with 6 at Pirmill on 20th and probably same 6 at Imachar followed by 30 at Glen Cloy on 21st and 22nd. 50 Kittiwakes were in Whiting Bay on 25th with daily trickles building to 500, and 500 in Brodick on 29th.

In September 100 Swallows and Martins gathered at Whiting Bay. 2 Little Gulls at Brodick on the 7th was a rare sight and a Whimbrel at Lamlash on 11th. 2 Arctic Skuas flew by Clauchlands Point on 12th and a female Scaup with Eiders at King's Cross Point on 13th was unusual. Another Kingfisher was at Brodick on the 26th. 24 Blackcaps was a high number to be ringed between 19 Sep—9 Nov. 4 Golden Eagles, Boguillie was a fitting climax to September.

By October bigger numbers of Teal and Wigeon were back; Skylarks, Pipits, Thrushes and Waders were in fairly large flocks, while a few Hirundines lingered with last 3 House Martins in Whiting Bay on the 3rd and last 2 Swallows in Largybeg on 13th. A Canada Goose was at Machrie on the 3rd and the first Greylags were back by the 16th. October can have its surprises and this year it was a Flamingo from 20th—21st at Merkland, Lochranza and Catacol. A shy Water Rail was in evidence at King's Cross on the 22nd and 27th. A solitary Snow Bunting was on Goatfell on the 21st and 22nd.

November saw thousands of Chaffinches and Woodpigeons in Glen Cloy and Brodick accompanied by Starlings, Crows, Jackdaws and 30 Collared Doves. A single Bar-tailed Godwit was at Whiting Bay on the 15th; 4 Whooper Swans were at Brodick on the 25th but the rarest sighting was of a Sabine's Gull on the 22nd on the Brodick-Ardrossan crossing. 2 late Redstarts were at Lamlash on the 11th. All our birds of prey were seen in November either singly or in pairs.

December saw the first Shelduck back at Clauchlands on the 6th and a late Chiffchaff there also. A possible Chough was heard at Lochranza and briefly seen, which would put more than a century between the last record of a pair shot at Kilpatrick in 1863. 2 Great Northern Divers and 3 Red-throated Divers appeared in Whiting Bay on the 11th. A female Long-tailed Duck with 4 Goldeneyes at Carlo on the 22nd was unusual. A pair of Great Spotted Woodpeckers were drumming in Sannox wood on the 26th and a male Blackcap was at a bird feeder in a Brodick garden daily from 19th to the end of the year.

ARRAN BIRD REPORT 1982

by M. H. Dunn

RED-THROATED DIVER: 10 prs at usual site; 2 eggs at one site from which 1 young reared; 1 young from another site reared; success at others not known. Max: 6 Pirnmill 28 Jul.

***BLACK-THROATED DIVER:** None bred; 1 Drumadoon 15 Oct.

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER: 1 Whiting Bay 27 Jan and 2 on 6 Dec; 2 Brown Head 14 Feb; 1 Brod/Ard crossing 28 Feb; 1 Brodick 18 Mar; Passage; 3 N.G.Sannox 8 May; 1 Largybeg 9 May; 1 Drumadoon 19 May; 1 Machrie 23 May.

***LITTLE GREBE:** 1 Fallen Rocks 8 Aug; 1 Brodick 15 Sep and 21 Oct. 1 Wintered Lochranza.

***RED-NECKED GREBE:** 1 N.G.Sannox 3 May, summer plumage (J.W.)

***BLACK-NECKED GREBE:** 1 Possible, Lamlash Sept (I.S.).

FULMAR: 154 prs. Decrease. Few young seen.

MANX SHEARWATER: Many sightings Jul/Aug. Max counts; 40 Brod/Ard crossing 14 Aug; 25 Kilbrannan 23 Aug.

GANNET: Usual numbers round Arran Feb–Oct. Max; 400 Laggan fishing 15 Aug.

CORMORANT: Breeding 1 Bennan Head 4 Jun; 2 on separate ledges Drumadoon cliff 14 Feb; Max; 6 Lamlash 28 Aug.

SHAG: Nested Holy Isle — 6 present 6 Jul; Max counts; 15 Cleiteadh 14 Mar; 40 Lamlash 10 Oct.

HERON: 16 Nests. No change yet numbers down some sites, up in others. Many young; Max; 7 Lagg 17 Sep.

***FLAMINGO (Chilean):** 1 Merkland 20 Oct (A.R.); Lochranza and Catacol 21 Oct (W.D/M.D et al) Probably escaped.

MUTE SWAN: Usual pr all summer Lochranza. No young. 3 Brodick 1–20 Feb.

***WHOOPEE SWAN:** 1 → S Whiting Bay 23 Oct; 4 Brodick 2 Nov and 25 Nov.

GREYLAG GOOSE: 100 Blackwatervally 17 Jan and 190 on 3 Mar; 100 Clauchlands 3 Feb; Max; 250 Blackwatervally 19 Dec.

***CANADA GOOSE:** 2 Machrie 14 May; 1 Machrie 3 Oct.

SHELDUCK: 10 prs with 56 young, 28 reared. Several prs did not breed.

WIGEON: 6 Kildonan 29 Jun; Max counts; 41 Lamlash 10 Feb; 40 Cleiteadh 13 Oct; 47 Kildonan/Bennan 20 Dec.

TEAL: Breeding. ♀ Machrie 4 Jul — no young seen. Max; 60 Machrie 17 Jan.

MALLARD: Breeding. 14 prs with 51 young — many predated. Many non breeders. Max; 50 Brodick 1 Nov.

***TUFTED DUCK:** 8 Whiting Bay 29 May — unusual for Arran.

***SCAUP:** King's Cross point 14 Sep — unusual for Arran (A.M.).

EIDER: Breeding. 37 ♀ ♀ with 80 young. Max counts; 52 Brodick and 54 Lamlash 25 Apr; 81 Lochranza/Pirnmill 7 Feb; 84 Machrie 4 Jun.

KING EIDER: No sightings.

***LONG-TAILED DUCK:** ♀ Carlo with 4 Goldeneyes 22 Dec. Uncommon in Arran.

GOLDENEYE: Numerous prs and singles round coast; Max counts; 14 Lamlash 10 Mar; 16 Pirnmill/Machrie 2 Dec.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: 6 prs bred. Single ♀ Lamlash 25 young 7 Jul reared 18 alone, seen 23 Aug; many flocks of non breeders; Max count; 81 Machrie 8 Jul.

***GOOSANDER:** ♂ Brodick 7 Jun.

HEN HARRIER: 11 prs in breeding territory. Nests with average 5 eggs. 2 prs each reared 3 young. Numerous sightings throughout year.

SPARROWHAWK: 12 prs in breeding territory. 3 N.G.Sannox 21 Aug; many sightings.

BUZZARD: 26 prs in breeding territory; many sightings.

GOLDEN EAGLE: 2 prs; Imm. singles seen; 1 pr with 2 addled eggs; no young reared.

KESTREL: 15 prs. Numbers down but successful breeding.

***MERLIN:** 1 pr in breeding territory 30 Jun. Singles Lochranza 24 Nov; Cleiteadh 27 Nov. Scarce.

PEREGRINE: Poor year. Only 3 prs successful breeding. 1 Nest destroyed and bird injured.

RED GROUSE: Good coveys.

***PTARMIGAN:** Breeding; 1 Western Hills 14 May; 2 Beinn Bhiorach 12 Jan; 6 Caisteal Abhail 15 Jan; 2 Mulloch Buidhe 15 Sep.

***BLACK GROUSE:** 3 North Arran only ones seen 9 Jul.

PHEASANT: Good numbers bred; numerous sightings; max; 10 Glen Shurig 25 Oct.

***WATER RAIL:** 1 King's Cross 12 Jan, 22 and 23 Oct (same part so probably same bird). 1 Corriegills 9 Aug (J.S./A.I./E.A/D.Wh).

***CORNCRAKE:** 1 Calling 3 weeks May/Jun Largybeg (A.N.); 1 seen and heard Kildonan on 3 occasions Jul (G.L.)

***MOORHEN:** 1 Merkland 12 Jun; 1 Machrie 24 May; scarce.

OYSTERCATCHER: Only 36 nests found; Max; 90 Machrie 3 Oct.

RINGED PLOVER: No change; 34 nests found; Max; 63 Whiting Bay 21 Sep.

***DOTTEREL:** Passage; single Beinn Tarsuinn 8 May (N.M); 2 Mulloch Buidhe 21 Aug (B.S.).

GOLDEN PLOVER: 10 prs in breeding territory N Arran. Winter; 2 Cleiteadh 10 Jan; 6 Catacol 8 Feb.

LAPWING: 14 prs with nests and young. Max; 70 Cleiteadh 14 Mar.

***SANDERLING:** Single on passage Kildonan 3 May (M.H.D.).

***PURPLE SANDPIPER:** 3 Kildonan 31 Jan; 2 Blackwaterfoot 14 Feb.

DUNLIN: Summer; 2 Kildonan 3-27 May; Singles wintered many parts; Max; 11 Cleiteadh 10 Jan.

SNIFE: Many singles drumming in suitable habitat; Max; 7 Clauchan 8 Sep.

WOODCOCK: 15 prs roding; (often roding in prs, sometimes singly). Fledged young Sannox 10 May; 5 Glen Shurig May.

***BAR-TAILED GODWIT:** Single wintered until 13 Mar Whiting Bay; 1 Cleiteadh 10 Jan; 1 Whiting Bay 15 Nov.

***WHIMBREL:** Single Lamlash 11 Sep (A.M.).

CURLEW: 15 prs in breeding territory. Max counts; 177 Cleiteadh 14 Mar; 100+ Lagg 17 Sep; 100 Machrie 3 Oct.

REDSHANK: Breeding 2 Kilpatrick 13 May, 3 on 23 May; 2 Machrie 23 May; 2 Corriecravie May - courtship and behaviour suggested breeding. Max; 20 Lamlash 23 Aug.

***GREENSHANK:** 1 Lamlash 6 Jul and 23 Aug.

COMMON SANDPIPER: Very common. Arrival; 2 Carlo 21 Apr; 35 prs; several nests and young.

TURNSTONE: Summer; 3 Kildonan 3 May; 5 Cordon 4 May; 4 Blackwaterfoot 9 May; 1 Machrie 23 May; Max count; 27 Lamlash 10 Mar.

***ARCTIC SKUA:** 1 Dark phase and 1 light phase Clauchlands Point 12 Sep (A.M.)

***GREAT SKUA:** 1 Followed Clansman 15 mins Brod/Ard crossing 24 Oct (W.A.D.); 1 chasing Shearwaters Brod/Ard crossing 14 Aug (J.R.T.C.).

***LITTLE GULL:** 2 Brodick 7 Sep (J.R.)

***SABINE'S GULL:** 1 Brodick/Ard crossing 22 Nov; and possibly same bird 25 Nov (C.O.).

BLACK-HEADED GULL: Usual small numbers breeding and present throughout year. 50 Lamlash 12 Sep; 50 Whiting Bay and Machrie 11-18 Sep.

COMMON GULL: Breeding. 41 nests aver. 3 eggs Sliderry 26 May; Many nests Laggan/Fallen Rocks 25 May; many well grown young Holy Isle 6 Jul.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: First arr. 1 Lochranza 7 Feb; usual large colonies Holy Isle, Pladda, Loch Nuis, Machrie Moor, above Ross, Clauchan etc. Max counts; 200 Machrie 22 Mr; 500 Lamlash 31 Aug.

HERRING GULL: Usual large colonies with Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Max counts; 600 Whiting Bay 24 Jan; 500 Drumadoon 14 Feb; counts of 200 and 300 elsewhere.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL: Small numbers in prs round shores. Fair numbers bred Holy Isle and Pladda.

KITTIWAKE: Singles Dun Fionn and Fallen Rocks 25 May; 8 Whiting Bay 17 Jan.
 Max counts: 50 Whiting Bay 21 Aug building to 500 on 29 Sep; 500 Brodick 29 Sept.

SANDWICH TERN: Passage; 2 Whiting Bay 3 May; 1 Lamlash 29 Jun; 17 Lamlash 23 Aug; 3 incl 1 imm. left 16 Sept; 4 Brodick 11 Jul–18 Aug; Last 2 Whiting Bay 21 Sep.

COMMON TERN: Arrival; 1 Whiting Bay 1 May, 4 on 3 May; pr nest Machrie 23 May; Pirmill 26 May; Dougrie 4 Jul; 3 Brodick 1 Jul. Not common.

ARCTIC TERN: Breeding; 2 Pirmill 15 May; 18 Machrie 23 May with nests; 4 pr Dougrie 27 May; 2 pr Catacol 4 Jul.

GUILLEMOT: 14 Brod/Ard crossing 25 Apr; 12 Kildonan 15 Aug; many prs and singles seen round island Apr–Dec.

RAZORBILL: 3 Brod/Ard crossing 28 Feb and 2 on 5 June.

BLACK GUILLEMOT: Many sightings singles and prs throughout year. Max; 6 Drumadoon 15 Oct.

***PUFFIN:** 2 Arran/Ailsa crossing 9 May.

ROCK DOVE: 3 Kings Cave 28 May; 5 Machrie 1 Jul; 8 Machrie/Auchencar caves 4 Jul; Max; 14 Kilpatrick 14 Feb.

***STOCK DOVE:** Pr Kildonan 30 May (very scarce).

WOODPIGEON: Common and generally distributed. Max; 1000 Glen Cloy Nov.

COLLARED DOVE: Calling Lamlash, Brodick, Whiting Bay, Lagg in May. Max count; 30 Brodick 10 Nov.

FERAL PIGEON: Max; 72 Lamlash 5 Oct.

CUCKOO: First Glen Cloy 18 April; 16 prs noted; 3 fledged young seen.

BARN OWL: 8 territories. No change.

TAWNY OWL: Spreading. 5 territories.

***LONG-EARED OWL:** 1 calling and seen Blackwaterfoot 12 May and 2 Jun.

SHORT-EARED OWL: 4 territories; pr String summit 14 Feb; 4 Boguillie 31 Mar; imm with broken leg Boguillie 14 Jun; many sightings String/Machrie Moor; 1 Dereneneach Sep, Oct, Nov; 1 Ross summit 27 Nov.

***NIGHTJAR:** 10 prs in breeding territory churring, mostly Brodick; pr seen and heard Torbeg 7 and 8 Jul.

SWIFT: More than usual. First Lamlash 29 May; 15 Glen Chalmadale/Laggan 9 Jul; Max counts: 37 King's Cross → S 19 Jul; 20 → E Sannox 3 Jun.

***KINGFISHER:** 1 N.G.Sannox 10 May; 1 Brodick 15 Apr; 1 Glen Cloy on 2 occasions Jun and on 26 Sep. (DMcN/MW).

***GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER:** 1 → E Lamlash 28 May (D.H.); 2 Sannox 26 Dec (D.McA).

SKYLARK: Well distributed on high ground. Also many nests Machrie Moor. Max; 80 Kilmory 3 Oct.

SAND MARTIN: Arr; 2 Sannox 7 Apr; 4 Lagg 3 May; 4 prs Dougrie reared at least 2 young; 1 pr Sannox.

SWALLOW: Arr. Singles Pirmill 12 Apr; Cordon 15 Apr; Sannox 16 Apr; Blackwaterfoot 20 Apr; a few prs 25 Apr building to 20 Lamlash 3 May; 24 Corriecravie 5 June. Fair numbers bred. Last 2 Largybeg 13 Oct.

HOUSE MARTIN: Arr. 4 Sannox 12 Apr; fairly good numbers bred Kildonan, Lamlash, Brodick Whiting Bay. Last 3 Whiting Bay 3 Oct.

TREE PIPIT: 9 ♂♂ singing May.

MEADOW PIPIT: Numerous prs with nests and young. Many flocks 100 and 50 winter with 30 still in flock Punchbowl 5 Apr.

ROCK PIPIT: Many prs with food or young. Sample; 10 prs Laggan—An Scriodan 13 Jul.

GREY WAGTAIL: 16 prs in breeding territory; only 3 young seen.

PIED/WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba yarrelli*: many prs and fairly good numbers young but numbers down on last year. Max counts; 35 Lochranza 30 Jul; 27 Lamlash 21 Sep.

Motacilla alba alba: singles Kildonan 27 Apr; Clauchlands 3 May; Cleiteadh 22 Aug; Max; 9 Kildonan 8 May.

***WAXWING:** Single Brodick 17–21 Jan — fed every half hour on scraps eg bread, cheese, pastry, swoop — even chips! (S.M/M.H.D).

DIPPER: 9 prs. 1 pr began nest building 14 Mar; still feeding young 7 May. Increasing. Many singles winter.

WREN: 6 singing in cliff vegetation Brown Head 14 Feb; 6 Kildonan/Bennan cliff vegetation 7 Mar.

DUNNOCK: Fairly common. Singing many parts summer. Max; 5 Clachlands 6 Dec.

ROBIN: Common and widespread. Pr young Clachlands 24 May and many parts; 8 prs Brodick Country Park.

***REDSTART:** ♂ singing Corrie 29 and 30 May. (M.H.D) 2 Lamlash 11 Nov (M.B/P.C).

WHINCHAT: Numbers down from 35 to 25 prs. From 43 ringed to 22 Boguille/N.G.Sannox (J.S.P.). First 1 Narachan 19 Apr; last 1 Lagg 17 Sep.

STONECHAT: Numbers down from 34 to 15 prs probably due to severe winter but many broods successful. 18 ringed (J.S.P.). Max; 8 Ballymeanoch Glen 22 Aug; Winter; 14 in singles and prs Jan-Mar; Sep-Dec.

WHEATEAR: Breeding 23 prs, increase from 14 prs. Good nos young. First 8 Narachan 5 Apr; last 1 Whiting Bay 18 Oct.

***RING OUZEL:** Single seen and heard Beinn Tarsuinn 18 May (G.S); 2 pr Beinn Nuis 7 Jul and many other times (G.S/D.W).

BLACKBIRD: Common and widespread. Sample 4 prs Brodick Country Park; 4 young King's Cross 23 Aug.

FIELDFARE: Scarce early part year. Only 2 Kilmory 10 Jan; early arr autumn; 6 Pirnmill 20 Aug; 30 Glen Cloy 21 and 22 Aug; 6 Imachar 24 Aug; none until 10 String 12 Oct; 100 Ross 13 Oct; 160 Machrie Moor 15 Oct. Max counts; 400 mixed Redwings Glen Sannox 21 Oct; 500 mixed Sannox 23 Oct; 200 Cock farm Lochranza 27 Oct.

SONG THRUSH: Not so common as Blackbird, but widespread. Many singing May King's Cross, 2 young 22 Jun. 3 prs Brodick Country Park. Scarce Sep-Dec.

REDWING: Scarce beginning of year. 4 Kilmory 10 Jan. Max counts; 400 G.Sannox (mixed Fieldfares) 21 Oct; 500 Sannox (mixed) 23 Oct; 250 King's Cross 24 Oct.

MISTLE THRUSH: 16 prs noted. Sample pr, 3 young Stronach Brodick 1 Jul; pr Glen Chalmadale, 3 young 9 Jul; pr Brodick Castle 2 young 11 Jul; pr 1 young Merkland 6 Jul.

***GRASSHOPPER WARBLER:** 2 Singing Machrie/Torbeg 9 May and 8 Jul; single Sannox 12 May; Brown Head 3 Jun. Success not known.

SEDGE WARBLER: Only 11 prs singing in suitable habitat.

WHITETHROAT: Very common. 35 prs noted. Sample; pr King's Cross 2 young 27 June; first Kildonan 8 May; last Clachlands 23 Aug.

GARDEN WARBLER: 1 King's Cross 6 May; 1 Sannox 12 May; 2 Brodick/String 25 May; 1 Brodick School 28 May-6 Jul; 1 Corrie 4 Jul; 4 ringed Sannox 19 Sep-9 Nov.

BLACKCAP: 5 singing ♂ ♂ Brodick May/Jun; 2 ♂ ♂ carrying food; 1 Corrie 4 Jun; 1 Sannox 26 Jun; Autumn/Winter ♀ Largybeg 23 Oct; ♂ Whiting Bay 24 Oct; 24 Ringed Sannox 19 Sep-9 Nov (J.S.P.); ♂ Brodick 19-30 Dec.

WOOD WARBLER: 4 singing ♂ ♂ Brodick area May; 1 Sannox 12 May; 1 N.G.Sannox 29 May; 1 Glen Allt 18 Jul.

CHIFFCHAFF: 34 Calling. First 1 Whiting Bay 27 Mar; last Altachorvie 16 Sep; Winter; 1 Clachlands 6 Dec is latest known date (M.H.D).

WILLOW WARBLER: Numerous throughout. First 1 King's Cross 6 Apr; last dates 1 Whiting Bay 12 Sep; 1 Machrie 16 Sep.

GOLDCREST: Many singing in forestry and wooded areas. Pr with young Narachan 7 Sep.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER: 22 prs, many with young; first 1 Glenashdale 15 May; last 4 Altachorvie, Lamlash 11 Sep.

***PIED FLYCATCHER:** 1 poss Corrie 15 May (J.H); 2 poss Corrie 20 May (M.H.D).

LONG-TAILED TIT: Flock of 8 Lochranza Jul/Aug; 8 Machrie 16 Sep; 6 King's Cross 10 Oct; 6 Glenashdale 19 Oct.

COAL TIT: 1 carrying food Cnocan Brodick 21 May; family 6 King's Cross 19 Jun; pr 3 young Brodick Castle 29 Jun; many Merkland 6 Jul; 2 pr with young Lochranza Jul/Aug. Probably lots more in forestry areas.

BLUE TIT: Common in woods and gardens. 6 pr Lochranza Jul; many Merkland 6 Jul; 12 Corriegills 6 Jul; 4 pr Brodick Country Park; pr, 3 young King's Cross 23 Aug.

GREAT TIT: pr Lagg 18 May; Altachorvie Lamlash 18 May; Glen Cloy 29 May; Blackwaterfoot 28 May; 5 pr Lochranza area Jun/Jul/Aug; pr Corrie 2 Jun; pr, 3 young King's Cross 22 Jun; 1 pr Brodick Country Park and 1 pr Brodick Museum. 13 prs noted.

***TREE CREEPER:** Single King's Cross 13 May; 2 pr Whiting Bay; 4 pr Lamlash; 4 pr Brodick Country Park; 1 pr Glen Chalmadale (no young) Jul/Aug; 3 pr Glen Cloy; 1 pr Sannox; 1 pr, young Merkland 6 Jul; 2 pr, 2 young Brodick 17 Jul; Winter; 1 Brodick 7 Jan; 6 Altachorvie Lamlash 3 Jan; Max count; 11 Whitehouse Lamlash 27 Jan. 2 ringed Sannox Sep (J.S.P).

***JAY:** 1 Whiting Bay 26 Jan (H.B).

***CHOUGH:** 2 doubtful reports, 1 Lochranza, 1 Glen Cloy Sep/Dec.

JACKDAW: 200 nested Corriecravie; 200 Kilpatrick; 200 Drumadoon; many elsewhere; Total flocks throughout year — 2000+ no change.

***ROOK:** 46 Lamlash 18 Jan–3 Mar; 61 on 5 Feb; hard frost may have accounted for larger numbers. 5 Kilmory 3 Oct.

CARRION CROW: A few prs seen. Max counts; 18 Lagg 28 Mar; 20 Monamore Lamlash 26 Aug.

HOODED CROW: More common than Carrion Crow. Usual mixed pr and Hybrid King's Cross. Max counts; 16 Clauchan Lochranza 18 Jul; 40 Dunfion 10 Jan; 30 Clauchlands 6 Dec.

RAVEN: Increase. 18 prs and 24 young seen, most North and Central Arran. Max; 11 Beinn Nuis Jul.

STARLING: 3 nests King's Cross 8 May; many flocks of 50–100 seen; max; 200 Cleiteadh 13 Oct.

HOUSE SPARROW: Small numbers in villages; max counts; 50 Kilmory 10 Jan; 50 Lamlash 10 Sep.

CHAFFINCH: Common and widespread. Many young reared. Max Counts; 1000 Brodick Country Park 10 Nov–end Nov moved to Glen Cloy Dec; 150 Whiting Bay 11 Dec.

GREENFINCH: 19 prs, breeding behaviour. Flock of 17 incl ♂ feeding 4 young Clauchlands 16 Jun; max; 26 Kilmory 28 Mar.

GOLDFINCH: Pr Brodick made nest of dog's hair 18 Apr; young 6 Jun; 8 prs in breeding territory; max counts; 20 Whiting Bay Feb; 15 Lamlash 29 Sep.

***SISKIN:** Several Lamlash and Brodick May; 3 prs Laggan/Cock of Arran 13 Jul; 2 imm King's Cross 28 Aug and 20 Sep. Winter; 4 Corrie 12 Jan; Max; 40 Glen Sannox 11 Oct.

LINNET: 11 prs and young; sample pr, 3 young Kildonan 8 May; 6 Kilpatrick 8 Jul; 7 Machrie 8 Jul; 12 Clauchlands 10 Oct.

***TWITE:** 5 Sliderrywater 18 Aug; 4 Blackwaterfoot 3 Oct; 4 Largybeg 10 Oct; 50 Cleiteadh 13 Oct; 6 Machrie 15 Oct; 6 Blackwaterfoot 13 Nov. All Autumn/Winter sightings.

REDPOLL: 10 prs summer.

BULLFINCH: 10 prs. Sample; 1 singing ♂ Brodick Castle grounds 21 Apr; ♂ carrying food Lagg 30 May; pr, 1 young King's Cross 2 Jul.

***SNOW BUNTING:** ♂ N Goatfell 21 and 22 Oct (B.W/R.N). Summer ○ Holy Isle 5 May (H.W).

YELLOWHAMMER: Not common. 7 singing May–Jul South Arran; 1 Lochranza/Laggan 13 Jul; Winter; 4 Kilmory 10 Jan; 3 Kildonan 31 Jan.

REED BUNTING: 9 singing Apr–Jul. Winter; 1 Brathwic, Brodick 3 Feb.

*All records given.

Additions to 1981 Bird Report: Red-throated Diver ♀, 2 young Loch Cnoc an Loch 20 Aug; Partridge/Covey seen; Short-eared Owl pr Urie Loch 24 Aug; Nightjar churring Glen Cloy Jul; Crossbill ♀ and 1 juvenile Glenashdale 23 Aug (D.H).

CHECK-LIST 1983 by MARGARET H. DUNN

Arranged in Zoous order of classification

STATUS SYMBOLS

R — Resident (Breeds); R* — Resident (No recent breeding records);
 R** — Resident (No breeding records); S — Summer visitor (Breeds);
 S* — Summer visitor (No recent breeding records); S** — Summer visitor (No breeding records);
 W — Winter visitor; P — Passage migrant; C — Common; U — Uncommon;
 B* — Formerly bred (No recent breeding records); L — Local; O — Occasional; V — Vagrant

Red-Throated Diver (Updated)..... RC
 Black-throated Diver..... R*/PC
 Great Northern Diver..... S**U/WU/PC
 Little Grebe..... R*U
 Great Crested Grebe..... WO
 Red-necked Grebe..... V
 Slavonian Grebe..... V
 Black-necked Grebe..... V
 Fulmar..... SC/WU
 Sooty Shearwater..... V
 Manx Shearwater..... SU/PC
 Storm Petrel..... PU
 Leach's Petrel..... V
 Gannet..... S**C/WU
 Cormorant..... RC
 Shag..... RC
 Bittern..... V
 Grey Heron..... RC
 Spoonbill..... V
 Chilean Flamingo..... V
 Mute Swan..... R*U
 Whooper Swan..... WU/PC
 Pink-footed Goose..... WO
 White-fronted Goose..... WU/PU
 Greylag Goose..... WC/PC
 Canada Goose..... R*/PO
 Barnacle Goose..... WO
 Brent Goose..... V
 Shelduck..... RC
 Wigeon..... S*O/WC
 Teal..... SU/WC
 Mallard..... RC
 Pintail..... PO
 Shoveler..... R*
 Pochard..... WO
 Tufted Duck..... WO/PO
 Scaup..... WO
 Eider..... RC
 King Eider..... S**U
 Long-tailed Duck..... WO
 Scoter..... WO
 Velvet Scoter..... WO
 Goldeneye..... WC
 Smew..... WO
 Red-breasted Merganser..... RC
 Goosander..... PO

Red Kite..... B*
 White-tailed Eagle..... B*
 Hen Harrier..... RC
 Goshawk..... S**
 Sparrowhawk..... RC
 Buzzard..... RC
 Rough-legged Buzzard..... V
 Golden Eagle..... RU
 Osprey..... B*/PO
 Hobby..... V
 Kestrel..... RC
 Red-footed Falcon..... V
 Merlin..... RU
 Peregrine..... RC
 Red Grouse..... RC
 Ptarmigan..... RU
 Black Grouse..... RU
 Capercaillie..... B*
 Grey Partridge..... R*U
 Quail..... B*/V
 Pheasant..... RC
 Lady Amherst's Pheasant..... V
 Water Rail..... RU
 Spotted Crake..... V
 Corncrake..... S*
 Moorhen..... RU
 Coot..... WO
 Oystercatcher..... RC
 Ringed Plover..... RC
 Dotterel..... V
 Golden Plover..... SU/WC
 Grey Plover..... PU
 Lapwing..... RC
 Knot..... PO
 Sanderling..... PU
 Curlew Sandpiper..... V
 Purple Sandpiper..... WL
 Little Stint..... V
 Dunlin..... SL/WU/PU
 Jack Snipe..... WO
 Snipe..... RC
 Woodcock..... RC
 Black-tailed Godwit..... V
 Bar-tailed Godwit..... WO/PU
 Whimbrel..... PU
 Curlew..... RC

Spotted Redshank..... PO
 Redshank..... RC
 Greenshank..... WU/PU
 Green Sandpiper..... V
 Common Sandpiper..... SC
 Turnstone..... S**U/WC/PC
 Grey Phalarope..... V
 Pomarine Skua..... V
 Arctic Skua..... S**U/PC
 Great Skua..... PU
 Little Gull..... V
 Sabine's Gull..... V
 Black-headed Gull..... RC
 Common Gull..... RC
 Lesser Black-backed Gull..... SC/WU
 Herring Gull..... RC
 Glaucous Gull..... V
 Iceland Gull..... V
 Great Black-backed Gull..... RC
 Kittiwake..... B*SU/WC/PC
 Ivory Gull..... V
 Sandwich Tern..... S**U/PC
 Roseate Tern..... B*V
 Common Tern..... SL/PC
 Arctic Tern..... SL/PC
 Little Tern..... V
 Guillemot..... R**C
 Razorbill..... R**C
 Black Guillemot..... RC
 Little Auk..... V
 Puffin..... PU
 Pallas's Sandgrouse..... V
 Rock Dove..... RC
 Stock Dove..... RU
 Woodpigeon..... RC
 Collared Dove..... RC
 Turtle Dove..... V
 Cuckoo..... SC
 Barn Owl..... RC
 Tawny Owl..... RU
 Long-eared Owl..... RU
 Short-eared Owl..... RC
 Nightjar..... SC
 Swift..... S*U/PC
 Kingfisher..... R*U
 Hoopoe..... V
 Great Spotted Woodpecker..... R*O
 Skylark..... RC
 Sand Martin..... SL
 Swallow..... SC
 House Martin..... SC
 Tree Pipit..... SC
 Meadow Pipit..... RC
 Rock Pipit..... RC
 Yellow Wagtail..... B*
 Grey Wagtail..... RC
 White Wagtail..... B*/PC
 Pied Wagtail..... RC
 Waxwing..... WO
 Dipper..... RC
 Wren..... RC

Dunnock..... RC
 Robin..... RC
 Black Redstart..... WO/PO
 Redstart..... SU
 Whinchat..... SC
 Stonechat..... SC/WU
 Wheatear..... SC/PC
 Ring Ouzel..... SU
 Blackbird..... RC
 Fieldfare..... WC/PC
 Song Thrush..... RC
 Redwing..... WC/PC
 Mistle Thrush..... RC
 Grasshopper Warbler..... SL
 Sedge Warbler..... SC
 Lesser Whitethroat..... V
 Whitethroat..... SC
 Garden Warbler..... SL
 Blackcap..... SL/WU
 Wood Warbler..... SL
 Chiffchaff..... SC/PC
 Willow Warbler..... SC/PC
 Goldcrest..... RC
 Spotted Flycatcher..... SC
 Pied Flycatcher..... S**U
 Long-tailed Tit..... RC
 Willow Tit..... RU
 Coal Tit..... RC
 Blue Tit..... RC
 Great Tit..... RC
 Treecreeper..... RC
 Golden Oriole..... V
 Red-backed Shrike..... V
 Great Grey Shrike..... V
 Jay..... B*/PO
 Magpie..... B*/PO
 Chough..... B*
 Jackdaw..... RC
 Rook..... B*/WU
 Carrion Crow..... RC
 Hooded Crow..... RC
 Raven..... RC
 Starling..... RC
 House Sparrow..... RC
 Tree Sparrow..... R*
 Chaffinch..... RC
 Brambling..... WU
 Greenfinch..... RC
 Goldfinch..... RC
 Siskin..... RC
 Linnet..... RC
 Twite..... R*U
 Redpoll..... SL/WU/PU
 Crossbill..... RU
 Bullfinch..... RC
 Snow Bunting..... WU
 Yellowhammer..... RL
 Reed Bunting..... RC
 Corn Bunting..... B*
 Red-headed Bunting (probably escaped)..... PO

EIDERS



**and other Arran
birds in porcelain
by Alasdair Dunn**

STUDIO 4

LAMLASH