

ARRAN BIRDS



Report and Checklist for 1988

Report No. 9

INTRODUCTION

This year the Arran Bird Report has a change of cover kindly provided by Bernard Zonfrillo who is also responsible for the illustrations. All he asks in return is the chance to ring some of our Fulmars. Grateful thanks are due to him and also to Audrey Walters for help. Thanks are also due to the many contributors who provide such useful information.

The BTO/SOC/IWC Breeding Birds Atlas is now into its second year and if anyone would like to help, please contact the regional organiser Derrick Warner, Ranger's Cottage, Brodick Country Park, Brodick. Regular monthly estuary counts of waders, ducks and gulls are also done by the faithful few and sent to the BTO.

Most species had a good breeding year, probably due to favourable weather conditions from the end of April right through May and June to the first week in July. There was also an ample supply of voles for birds of prey. Exceptions were Red-throated Diver, Arctic and Common Tern, which depend on marine environment for their food. Eggs were laid but no young survived. Reed Buntings were scarce and Nightjars continued to decline in spite of attempts by the Forestry Commission to make clearings in the ever unpopular Rhododendron Ponticum. On the positive side young forestry appeared to suit Short-eared Owl and Whinchat, to name but two. Ptarmigan continued to hold their own and the sound of the Corncrake although rasping and monotonous, was music to the ears! Please send all records for 1989 in Vooos order (as in Check List) by December 1989 or earlier and not later than end January 1990 to: Margaret H Dunn, Tigh an Droma, Kingscross, Isle of Arran KA27 8RG.

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The Isle of Arran Natural History Society thanks you for your kind support and should also like to recommend to you its delightful annual magazine, THE ARRAN NATURALIST No. 12, currently available throughout the Island. Back copies may be obtained from Mrs. M. Browell, Whiting Bay, Tel.227

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Cover by Bernard Zonfrillo*

ABBREVIATIONS

m	male	N	north (direction of Flight)
f	female	S	south (direction of Flight)
imm	immature	inc	including
juv	juvenile	Jan etc	all months abbreviated
ying	young	pr	pair
max	maximum count	Arr	arrival
min	minimum count		



Manx Shearwater

ARRAN BIRD REPORT 1988

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by
Margaret Dunn
for Isle of Arran
Natural History Society
1989

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CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

JANUARY - MARCH

The first Shelduck was back at Clauchlands on New Year's day when also a Water Rail was at Shiskine and the first 2 Gannets appeared singly at Kildonan and Whiting Bay on the 2nd. Although January had the expected wet and windy weather, a Slavonian Grebe was discovered during a frosty colder day at Whiting Bay on the 7th. Treecreepers were more obvious with one at Glenashdale and one at Kingscross on the 11th. Bird song commenced during a milder sunny spell with light SW winds which prompted a Great Tit to sing on 22nd. A Little Auk washed up after a storm at Lochranza on 10th February was fed on sardines and released fit and well on 11th. 45 Goldeneye were in groups between Lochranza and Dougrie on 14th when 7 Razorbills were unexpected at Pimmill. 11 Black-throated Divers were present in Lamlash Bay on 17th. A Kingfisher made a brilliant appearance at Cordon on 24th March and at Carlo on 27th. A single Snow Bunting was on Beinn Bharrain on the last day of the month.

APRIL - JUNE

Migration became noticeable on the 1st April with the arrival of Whimbrel, Wheatear and Whinchat followed by Chiffchaff and Willow Warbler. 2 very early Cuckoos were seen at Largybeg on the 5th and a few Hirundines reached us by the 14th. 5 Tufted Duck were unusual at Loch Cnocan Loch on 12th and Greylags were still moving north on the 16th on which date also a (rare for Arran) Tree Sparrow was at Kingscross. 5 White Wagtails made an immaculate appearance at Kildonan on the 17th with 16 reaching Blackwaterfoot by the 24th. Warm sunny weather seemed to favour the arrival of most migrants in early May. By the 6th the welcome sound of the Corncrake was heard at Torbeg and a Purple Sandpiper lingered at Blackwaterfoot on the 8th. During this warm weather a few Marsh Harriers were found wandering in several counties away from their breeding areas, so we should not be too surprised that a female turned up in Arran, on the String on the 8th. 2 Sanderling called in on passage to Machrie on the 11th when a Brent Goose was also present and 7 Whimbrels was a fair number at Corrie on the 12th. A male Goosander mixed with Mergansers at Pimmill on the 22nd and a Lesser Whitethroat was singing at Kingscross on 26th for the second year in succession. On 2nd June an Arctic Tern was seen mobbing a Basking Shark off Dougrie, while at Shiskine on the 7th a Quail was calling 100 yards apart from a Corncrake. As part of an exceptional spring movement which found many rare migrants in Britain including the first ever Pallas' Rosefinch in Orkney, one of several Red-backed Shrikes turned up at Corrie on the 9th. Another unusual visitor was a Turtle Dove at Strathwhillan on 20th.

JULY - SEPTEMBER

July, often a dull month, was enlivened by a Kingfisher on the 9th which put in a third appearance of the year at Sliderrywater, followed by a Green Sandpiper on 13th which delighted observers at Machrie Pond. Again at Machrie a Greenshank arrived on 22nd and found conditions favourable enough to spend the winter there. The next unusual bird was a Little Tern at Brodick on 24th. Sandwich Terns accompanied by a few juveniles began calling in to rest and feed from July to September. August provided some movement with a Whimbrel at Whiting Bay on 3rd. Manx Shearwaters were evident round the island in strong winds with the largest numbers being 500 feeding off North Sannox on 14th accompanied by the spectacle of 200 Gannets. Blackwaterfoot held 15

Dunlin and 1 Sanderling on 19th when also single Merlins appeared at Brown Head and the Boguillie. 2 Ptarmigan with 4 young was a satisfying sight in the Goatfell area on 23rd. Meadow Piptits began assembling in flocks with 100 moving above Lochranza on 24th. There was even more passage in September with a Black-necked Grebe and a Little Gull at Largymore on 5th. Godwits began to appear on 9th with single Bar-tailed at Kildonan and Whiting Bay then 4 at the latter on 13th and a less common Black-tailed on 17th. 3 horses and riders galloping on the sands at Kildonan on 11th unknowingly disturbed 4 Dunlin, 3 Knot, 1 Sanderling and 1 Bar-tailed Godwit as they tried to roost. 2 Greenshank were at Machrie on 12th. The largest movement of 9,000 or more Gannets North then South occurred off Whiting Bay on 15th and a Brent Goose favoured Glenashdale Foot on 22nd. Late September found 1 Bar-tailed Godwit and 1 Knot still at Kildonan on 26th and good numbers of Hirundines lingering on 28th at Whiting Bay, where also a few Chiffchaffs made recognition certain by calling.

OCTOBER - DECEMBER

The first Greylags of the winter to arrive from the North were found sheltering in a field at Machrie on 8th October. The clear starry night of 10th followed by a light easterly flow on 11th suited the arrival of migrating Redwings and Fieldfares to Lochranza; Glenchal-madale and Kingscross, with more, mainly Redwings, by 13th. A Puffin was spotted during the Brodick to Ardrossan crossing on 14th which was better news than the 2 dead ones found at Whiting Bay earlier in the year. 2 male Blackcaps at Kingscross on 15th had probably recently arrived from Central Europe and possible many others went unnoticed. Single Snow Buntings appeared on the high tops of Suidhe Fhearghas on 26th and Caisteal Abhail on 29th. A late Swallow and House Martin were still in Whiting Bay on 1st November. Fieldfares had now taken over from Redwings with very few of the latter to be seen. Large numbers of Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls were present round the island with a solitary Lesser Black-backed Gull left on 3rd at Sannox. 6 Black-throated Divers were in Whiting Bay on 5th and a Water Hen was an unusual visitor to a garden in Whiting Bay on 20th. A flock of 40 Siskins brightened up a dull month at Cordon on 23rd. A Shelduck called in briefly to Clauchlands on 3rd December. Surprisingly out of the many Waxwings invading the mainland only one rather exhausted bird found its way to a garden with berries in Lamlash on 9th. It delighted observers by allowing close approach but had disappeared by the afternoon, much to the annoyance of those who missed it! Perhaps everyone was too busy with Christmas to notice any birds but maybe 4 Treecreepers on one tree at Whiting Bay on 27th is noteworthy. The year ended in dazzling style with 12 Goldfinches at Kingscross on 31st.

Summer Migrant Arrival and Passage Dates

Whimbrel	Kingscross	1 Apr	Wood Warbler	Cordon	1 May
Whinchat	Bennan	1 Apr	Common Whitethroat	Lochranza	2 May
Wheatear	Kildonan, Lochranza	1 Apr	Blackcap	Lamlash	2 May
Chiffchaff	Brodick	4 Apr	Redstart	Catacol	3 May
Cuckoo	The Guarry	5 Apr	Sedge Warbler	Lamlash	4 May
Swallow	Lamlash	14 Apr	Tree Pipit	Kingscross	5 May
House Martin	Kildonan	14 Apr	Arctic Tern	Dougie	11 May
Common Sandpiper	Brodick	15 Apr	Wood Warbler	Lochranza	11 May
Willow Warbler	Lochranza	16 Apr	Spotted Flycatcher	Lochranza	11 May
White Wagtail	Kildonan	17 Apr	Common Tern	Dougie	25 May
Sandwich Tern	Brodick	26 Apr	Lesser Whitethroat	Kingscross	26 May
Grasshopper Warbler	Brodick	26 Apr	Nightjar	Brodick	25 Jun

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Red-throated Diver Site A. present 24-26 May, none present 4-5 Jun; f + 1 egg 21 Jun, 2 eggs 23-28 Jun. No young seen. Site B. Pr present 7 Jun, no nest. Site C. Pr present 15 Jun, no nest. Sites D,E. None present 7 Jun. Sightings offshore: 2 Whiting Bay 2-7 Jan, 6 on 21 Jan, 5 Lamlash 5 Jan, 3 on 24 Jan; 1 Kingscross 1 Apr; 1 North Sannox 2 Apr; 3 Catacol 3 Apr; 2 North Newton 13 May; 1 Thundergay 3 Jun and 10 Jul, 4 on 5 Jun; 1 Pimmill 12 Jul, 2 on 22 Jul; 1 Machrie 10 Jul; 7 Whitefarland 21 Jul; 2 Dougrie 23 Jul; 1 Catacol 31 Jul; 1 Brodick 3 Aug; 1 Kildonan 7 Aug; 1 Lochranza 15-17 Aug; 2 Pimmill 15 and 17 Sep; 1 Blackwaterfoot 28 Sep; 1 Pimmill 11 Oct.

Black-throated Diver 2 Lamlash 4 Jan, 1 on 6 and 7 Jan; 2 Machrie 14 Feb; 2 Pimmill 14 Feb and 12 Mar; 11 Lamlash 17 Feb; 2 Catacol 3 Apr; 9 Dougrie 29 Apr; 2 Pimmill 5 Jun; 2 Thundergay 20 Jun; 1 Catacol 22 Jun; 1 Pimmill 22 Jul; 2 Whiting Bay 10 Oct, 6 on 5 Nov; 1 Kerrs Port 5 Nov; 1 Fallen Rocks 31 Dec.

Great Northern Diver 1 Cordon 11 Feb; 1 Lamlash 24 Mar; 4 singles Machrie-Dougrie 3 May; single Sannox 7 May, 12 May, Millstone Point 13 May may refer to same bird; 2 Kilpatrick 11 May; 1 Pimmill 13 May; 1 North Newton, 1 Cock of Arran 1 Jun; 2 Pimmill 18 Oct.

Little Grebe Single Kingscross 3 Nov (AW)

Slavonian Grebe 1 Whiting Bay 7 Jan (MHD)

Black-necked Grebe 1 Largymore 5 Sep (RS)

Fulmar 259 occupied sites, 13 eggs, min 8 young reared; 11 ringed inc first young ringed Arran (BZ); max count 200 prs Bennan Head 3 Apr.

Manx Shearwater More than in 1987 offshore. Counts inc 50 N in 1 hr Drumadoon 24 Jul; 84 N in 1 hr Pladda, 23 N North Sannox, 13 Kilbrannan 25 Jul; 12 Fallen Rocks, 8 Machrie 8 Aug; 20 Kilbrannan 13 Aug; max 500 North Sannox, one flock of 30 on sea 14 Aug; 44 Kildonan 21 Aug; 40 Catacol 24 Aug; 50 S Kilmory in 25 mins, 32 Kildonan 29 Aug; 1 dead Machrie 20 Sep; 10 S Kilbrannan 8 Oct.

Gannet First 1 Whiting Bay, 1 Kildonan 2 Jan; singles until 12 Kildonan 31 Jan; 50 Kildonan 20 Jul; 100 Kilbrannan 21 Jul; 180 S in 1 hr Kildonan 24 Jul; 40 Corrie 30 Jul; 400 Corrie 13 Aug; 200 with Shearwaters North Sannox 14 Aug; 400 Whiting Bay 25 Aug; max 9,000 in 1 hr N Whiting Bay, returning S 1,000 at a time later 15 Sep; 20 Kildonan 8 Oct; last 1 Sannox 3 Nov.

Cormorant 2 imms Holy Isle 8 Jun, no nests; 3 Whiting Bay 1 Apr; 7 inc 3 imms Kildonan 17 Apr; 6 Brown Head 8 May; 9 Corriecravie 5 Jun; 2 imms Corrie 13 Jul; 10 Kerr's Port 17 Oct; 8 Machrie 6 Nov; 7 Corrie 25 Nov.

Shag Breeding: 19 nests Holy Isle 8 Jun, 28 eggs, 38 young (LB); Counts inc: 30 Whiting Bay, 28 Lamlash 7 Jan; 150 Kildonan-Bennan 17 Jan, 57 on 3 Jun, 100 on 29 Aug, 220 on 15 Sep, 400 on 19 Oct, max 1,000 on 14 Dec; 90 Brown Head 8 May, 120 on 2 Jun; 121 Corriecravie 6 Jun; 320 Drumadoon 4 Jul; 98 inc 32 imms Dougrie 16 Jul; 400 Brown Head 22 Jul; 300 Imachar 23 Jul; 64 Kilmory 29 Aug; 150 Kilpatrick 11 Sep; 200 Drumadoon 16 Sep; 31 Corrie 19 Sep; 47 Lamlash 26 Sep; 150 Aird Nan Ron 24 Oct; 150 Bennan 29 Dec.

Grey Heron 16 occupied nests reared 13 yng: only 2 nests occupied out of 7 Merkland,

which may have been due to disturbance. Stronach: 1 definite, 1 possible, 2 not occupied. Lagg; 3 nests, 2 with 2 yng each 8 May; possibly double brooded, as bill clacking heard 9 Sep, 3 roosting 19 Sep; Lamlash: 7 nests, 4 yng min; new Heronry Lochranza, 1 nest; Whiting Bay: 1 nest, unsuccessful.

Mute Swan None bred. 7 Kildonan 10 May; pr most of year Lochranza inc summer; pr Lamlash and pr Whiting Bay wintered; pr + 6 imms Brodick 22 Sep - 6 Nov; extra pr Brodick 26 - 30 Sep was probably Lochranza pr as absent there; pr Corrie 20 Sep; pr Sannox 16 Oct.

Whooper Swan Heard over Brodick Bay 17 Jan, none seen (DWW)

Greylag Goose 250 Shiskine 6 Jan; 285 Brodick 17 Jan; 174 Torbeg 3 Apr; 100 N Auchencaim 7 Apr; 100 N Dippen 16 Apr; 4 Machrie 8 Oct; 7 S Kingscross 9 Oct; 16 Shiskine 10 Oct; 15 S Machrie 11 Oct; 2 Glenashdalefoot 18 Oct; 6 N Clauchlands 26 Oct; 160 Machrie 6 Nov; 200 Shiskine 14 Dec.

Canada Goose 4 Hybrids + 1 Chinese Goose Brodick 3 Oct, often present.

Barnacle Goose 1 Holy Isle close inshore 20 Jul (JL) probably feral.

Brent Goose 1 Machrie 3, 11, 15 May (TK, MHD, AW); 1 Glenashdalefoot 22 Sep and possibly same 1 Kildonan 9 Oct (TS, MHD). Sightings refer to pale-bellied.

Shelduck 11 prs produced min 74 yng, 21 reared: 2 prs Clauchlands had all yng predated by Crows; 2 prs Kildonan reared 11 yng; pr Carlo 7 yng reduced to 4; pr Kilpatrick 7 yng; pr Port Na Fennaiche 4 yng; pr Largybeg 8 yng; pr Whitefarland 11 yng; pr Torrylin 9 yng reduced to 2. Many non-breeders and unsuccessful prs. Counts inc 30 Kildonan-Bennan 3 Apr; 7 imms, adults gone Kildonan 12 Aug; 1 imm Machrie 16 Sep; 1 S Clauchlands 3 Dec; 1 Drumadoon 27 Dec.

Wigeon Counts inc: 55 Lamlash 2 Jan, 44 on 22 Feb, 6 on 10 Mar, 13 on 23 Oct, 30 on 7 Nov, 40 on 29 Dec; 50 Machrie 6 Jan, 42 on 7 Feb, 85 on 26 Oct, max 145 on 28 Oct and 11 Nov; 31 Whiting Bay 12 Dec; 21 Kildonan 31 Dec.

Teal 40 Machrie 6 Jan, 14 Feb, 11 on 17 Mar; pr Kildonan 17 Apr; 1 Kilpatrick 10 Oct; 6 Machrie 28 Oct, 31 on 14 Dec.

Mallard 8 prs bred, 54 yng. Counts inc 12 Lamlash 6 Jan; 22 Merkland 22 Feb; 30 Machrie 28 Aug; 14 Lochranza 31 Aug; 6 Carlo 19 Sep; 10 Brodick, 10 Lamlash 26 Sep; 60 Machrie 26 Oct, 46 on 6 Nov, 55 on 14 Dec; 9 Whiting Bay 2 Dec.

Tufted Duck 3 f, 2 m Loch Cnocan Loch 12 Apr (GS)

Elder Breeding: 1 nest Holy Isle 3 Jun, 5 eggs 5 yng 8 Jun; 3 nests Pladda 6 Jun (LB); 8 yng Kingscross, 4 yng Lochranza 3 Jun; 2 yng Largybeg 7 Jun; 14 yng Lamlash 17 Jun; 8 yng Kildonan 30 Jun; 13 yng Carlo-Corrie 9 Jul; 2 yng Imachar 17 Jul; 3 yng Brodick 25 Jul; 87 yng 3-16 Jul all round coast; Counts inc: 12 Drumadoon 30 Jan; 30 Brodick-Corrie 16 Feb; max 200 Kildonan-Bennan 3 Apr; 90 Machrie 3 Jun; 30 King's Caves 19 Jul; 28 Corrie 19 Sep; 72 Kildonan 26 Sep; 40 Torrylin 26 Nov.

Goldeneye 7 Lochranza 3 Jan; 8 Blackwaterfoot 6 Jan; 7 Kerr's Port 14 Jan; 3 Kildonan 17-20 Jan; 1 Whiting Bay 21 Jan; 10 Lamlash 24 Jan, 21 on 2 Feb - 20 Mar; 2 Brodick 28 Jan, 4 on 10 Feb; max 45 Dougrie - Lochranza 14 Feb; 7 North Sannox 16 Feb; 7 Kildonan 17 Feb; 11 Brodick - Merkland 21 Feb; 2 North Sannox, 3 Lochranza 2 Apr; 3

Catacol 4 Apr; 7 Machrie 19 Mar; 1 Kerr's Port 19 Oct, 12 on 5 Nov; 5 Brodick-Sannox 25 Nov; 1 Machrie 14 Dec; 2 Drumadoon 27 Dec.

Red-breasted Merganser Breeding: 7 prs, 45 yng reared 21 by 10 Aug; Counts inc: 38 Whiting Bay 7 Jan; 18 Brodick 16 Feb; 31 Blackwaterfoot 8 May; 30 Lamblash 16 May; 70 Pinnmill 22 Jun, max 80 on 12 Jul; 78 Machrie 7 Jul, 40 on 8 Aug; 50 Catacol 4 Sep; 32 Kildonan 15 Sep; 46 Whiting Bay 2 Oct; 30 Lamblash 10 Dec. Nos down on previous year.

Goosander M with Mergansers Pinnmill 22 May (JR)

Marsh Harrier A wandering f String 8 May (TK) is first record for Arran.

Hen Harrier 9 prs bred, 7 prs produced yng 2,2,4,3,5,2,3. Total 21 yng (JR) Good success rate compared with 1987 (See corrections). Winter sightings inc: m String 4 Jan; f Machrie 7 Jan; m frequent Kingscross and Gortonallister Jan-Apr; m Sannox 20 Jan; m Brodick C. Park 4 Feb, 23 Dec; f Machrie 19 Mar; f Sliderry 17-19 Sep; f Lochranza 20 Sep; 2 Machrie 27 Dec; m Glen Rosa 28 Dec.

Sparrowhawk Increase to 20 territories: window strike 12 Sep Brodick killed both hawk and Song Thrush prey; 5 Boguillie 30 Sep; 1 chasing Carrion Crow Tormore 14 Dec was in turn pursued by crow.

Buzzard 18 prs probably bred: pr reared 2 yng Machrie; 3 Dougrie 24 Aug; 4 String 28 Aug; 3 inc 1 imm String 21 Sep, 15 Oct; more than ever sightings all year.

Golden Eagle pr A reared 1 yng; 3 together frequently seen Aug, Sep; f adult stooped on Kestrel on ground North Arran 20 Sep; 3 Glen Rosa 22 Nov; pr B did not breed, often seen together or singly.

Kestrel More common everywhere probably due to good vole year. 15+ prs of which 8 prs noted with 14 yng; max 7 Lochranza 24 Aug; 10 North Arran 7 Sep (RS).

Merlin No breeding records: m Machrie Moor 21 Jun; f Glen Rosa 12 Jul; m Brown Head 19 Aug; m Boguillie 16 Jul, 4, 19 Aug, 27 Sep; 2 Clauchlands Pt 11 Sep; m Sannox 21 Sep; 1 Benlister 2 Nov.

Peregrine No change in 8 sites. Several failed. 3 yng definite at 1 site; 1 yng reared; another imm at a third site 5 Aug; prob yng at a fourth site; 1 oiled by Fulmar 29 Aug, cleaned and released 4 Sep; very few winter: 1 Brodick 6 Feb, 1 Dougrie 14 Feb; 1 Glen Rosa 28 Dec.

Red Grouse 2 Cnoc Dhubh 1 Mar; 1 Loch Tanna 4 Apr; 2 Goatfell 7 May; 1 Dougrie 3 Jun; 2 nests, 1 containing 7 eggs between Urie Loch and Loch na Leirg 10 Jun; 1 Dougrie 17 Jul; 4 Goatfell 5 Sep; 3 Coirrein Lochain 20 Sep.

Ptarmigan 1 Goatfell 17 May; 2 Beinn Bhreac 20 Jun, 1 on 9 Aug; 2 Goatfell 17 May, 2 + 4 yng 23 Aug; m + 2 yng 18 Sep; 2 Beinn Nuis 15 Nov.

Red-legged x Chukar Partridge 2 prs nested Sannox, one with 9 eggs nested under rose bush against house wall, close to path, f sat for weeks during wet spell Jul, finally deserted. 1 ad, 1 yng Dougrie 17 Jul, 2 on 15 Aug from those released Dougrie; 23 released Clauchlands 11 Aug, only 1 seen 23 Nov.

Quail 1 calling Shiskine 7 Jun (DWW,PJ) is first since 1984.

Pheasant Many more seen. 70 released Clauchlands, 6 cross breeds Dippen (BS); of those released Dougrie max 83 Machrie 16 Oct.

Water Rail Single Shiskine 1 Jan; single Merkland Pt - Carlo 27 Nov (HH)

Corncrake 2-3 prs attempted breeding; 1 calling Torbeg 6 May onwards; 1 Shiskine 31 May, 7 Jun on and off Jun, Jul, last heard 4 Aug; 1 Shedog 8 Jul may have moved from Shiskine where field cut; 1 Brodick C Park 18 Aug running from cut to uncut field.

Moorhen 1-2 prs bred Whiting Bay, 3 separate imms; 1 killed by dog 21 Aug, 1 on 4 Sep, 1 on 20-25 Nov.

Oystercatcher 49 nests checked Arran 2-9 Jun, 24 yng (LB); few Holy Isle, none Pladda. Counts inc: 67 Lamlash 24 Jan, 93 on 23 Feb; 38 Machrie 19 Mar; 46 Whiting Bay 17 Apr; 56 Machrie 3 May, 69 on 3 Jun; 70 Cordon 7 Sep; 95 Machrie 26 Oct, 47 on 6 Nov; 56 Lamlash 11 Dec.

Ringed Plover 25 prs reared 15 yng is improvement. Counts inc: 31 Lamlash 8 Jan; 80 Whiting Bay 21 Jan, 60 on 20 Aug, 80 on 29 Aug, 101 on 29 Sep, 16 Oct, 100 on 11 Nov, 90 on 11 Dec; 45 Kilmory 29 Aug; 40 Machrie 10 Oct; 26 Blackwaterfoot 14 Dec.

Golden Plover Pr with nest Coirein Lochain 23 Jun (DWW); 12 inc imms on 4 territories Western Hills 26 Jun (PW); 6 Machrie 11 Oct (MHD,AW).

Grey Plover 1 Blackwaterfoot 18 Oct (BB). Lamlash regular did not appear.

Lapwing 10 prs bred, no change. Counts: 2 Lamlash 4, 24 Jan; 14 Kildonan 17 Jan; 17 Machrie 19 Mar; 3 Lamlash 12 Jul; 9 Dougrie 16 Sep; 11 Machrie 8 Oct; 24 Dougrie 11 Oct; 15 Auchencairn 2 Nov; 18+ Kildonan 13 Dec.

Knot 3 Kildonan 11,12 Sep, 1 on 28 Sep.

Sanderling 2 Machrie 11 May; 1 Blackwaterfoot + 1 dead 19 Aug; 1 Machrie 27 Aug; 1 Kildonan 29 Aug, 11 Sep; 1 Cleiteadh 4 Sep.

Purple Sandpiper 1 Blackwaterfoot 8 May (MHD)

Dunlin 1 Whiting Bay 21 Jan; 5 Kildonan 3 Jun; 1 Pladda 4 Jun; 7 Machrie, 6 Blackwaterfoot 24 Jul; 2 Whiting Bay, 2 Whitefarland, 1 Brodick 25 Jul; 6 Whiting Bay 30 Jul; 2 Blackwaterfoot 2 Aug, max 15 on 19 Aug, 3 on 28 Sep; 2 Catacol 5 Aug, 1 on 19 Aug; 6 Kildonan 12 Aug - 16 Sep, 1 on 26 Sep; 1 Whiting Bay 11 Sep, 9 on 26 Sep, 1 on 29 Sep; 1 Brodick 19 Sep.

Snipe Singles Brown Head 6 Jan, Clauchlands 7 Jan, Auchencairn 26 Jun, Tormore 28 Jun, Machrie Moor 24 Aug, Brodick 29 Oct, Machrie Pond 15 Oct, Garbh Allt 2 Nov, Kildonan 5 Dec, Blackwaterfoot 14 Dec; max 30 Clauchlands 23 Nov.

Woodcock Few noted. 1 dead String, hit by car 9 May; roding Kingscross 10 Jul, Brodick C Park 13 Jul; 1 Fallen Rocks 6 Feb; 6 Clauchlands 23 Nov.

Black-tailed Godwit 1 Whiting Bay 17 Sep (RAD)

Bar-tailed Godwit 1 Blackwaterfoot 8 Sep; 1-4 Whiting Bay 9-28 Sep; 1 Kildonan 11 Sep; 1 Cordon 12 Sep.

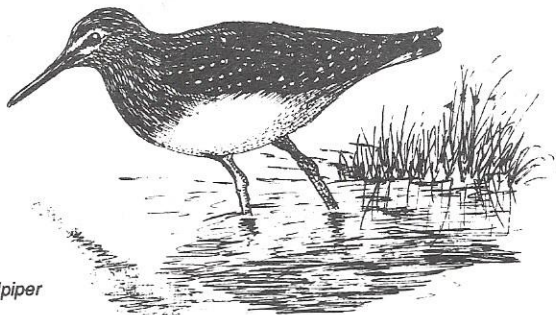
Whimbrel First 1 Kingscross 1 Apr; 1 Clauchlands 4-5 May; 3-4 Machrie 10-13 May; max 7 Corrie 12 May; 1 Whiting Bay 3 Aug; 1 Dougrie 16 Sep.

Curlew Only 6 territories noted: pr 2 yng Whiting Bay Golf Course 15 Jul; Dougrie 3 May, 3 Jun; 5 Whitefarland 2 Jun; Monyquil 3 Jun; 14 Tormore 14 Jun; 7 Glen Cloy 30 Jun. Counts inc: 40 Kingscross 1 Jan; 180 Corriecravie 8 Jan; 30 Kildonan 17 Jan; 38 Lamlash 21 Feb; 100 Gortonallister Apr; 48 Kilpatrick 30 Jun; 44 Machrie 24 Jul, 73 on 8 Aug, 70 on 4 Sep, 105 on 28 Sep; 92 Blackwaterfoot 8 Sep; 70 Merkland 25 Nov.

Redshank 3 territories, 1 pr with definite nest 6 Jun, 1 juv Whiting Bay 12 Jul. Counts inc: 8 Whiting Bay 8 Feb, 12 on 13 Jul, 14 on 3 Aug, 19 on 16 Oct; 1 dead, poss shot Blackwaterfoot 19 Aug; 12 Cordon 7 Sep; 3 Imachar 22 Sep; 15 Clauchlands, 10 Kildonan, 12 Whiting Bay 26 Sep, total 37 SE coast; 6 Brodick, 2 Corrie 27 Sep; 5 Machrie 6 Nov; 8 Kildonan-Bennan 29 Dec.

Greenshank Single Machrie 22, 24 Jul, 8 Aug, 2 present on 31 Aug, single on 4, 7, 16 Sep, 6 Nov probably wintered.

Green Sandpiper 1 Machrie Pond 13 Jul (MHD, EC)



Green Sandpiper

Common Sandpiper Arr: 1 Brodick 15 Apr; 29 prs with territories, only 4 nests with total 9 eggs located, no proof of success. Counts: 3 Brodick 1 Jul; 4 Imachar 23 Jul.

Turnstone Counts inc: 22 Whiting Bay 21 Jan; 8 Lamlash 24 Jan; 6 Cordon 6 Mar; 6 Pladda 4 Jun; 1 Port na Feannaiche 6 Jun; 1 Machrie 23 Jul, 15 on 28 Aug; 8 Whitefarland 25 Jul; 17 Whiting Bay 29 Aug, 20 on 29 Sep, 23 on 14 Oct, 11 Dec; 12 Blackwaterfoot 28 Sep; 10 Kildonan 21 Oct; 14 Catacol 1 Nov; 15 Drumadoon 27 Dec.

Little Gull 1 Whiting Bay 5 Sep (RS)

Sabine's Gull 1 poss off Brodick behind ferry 2 Jan (DrH) subject to acceptance by BBRC or SBRC.

Black-headed Gull 12 nests Dougrie 3-7 Jun with 20 eggs, 4 yng (LB); 2 prs Port na Fennaiche 5 Jun, no nests (MHD). Counts inc: 13 Lamlash 24 Jan; 29 Kildonan 12 Aug; 10 Dougrie 28 Aug; 10 Kildonan 26 Sep; 26 Brodick 14 Oct; 11 Whiting Bay 12 Dec.

Common Gull 119 nests Holy Isle; 9 nests Pladda; 12 nests Port na Fennaiche; 16 nests Dougrie; 4 nests Machrie 1 with 2 eggs, 2 with 3 eggs 24 May, 2 prs, 2 yng each 14 Jun; 1 nest, 2 eggs Imachar 7 Jun; total 157 nests; 42 yng Holy Isle 3 Jun, 56 yng 8 Jun. Counts inc: 200 Catacol, 100 Machrie 14 Feb; 250 Lamlash 21 Feb; 30 Whiting Bay 17 Apr; 55 on 26 Nov; 14 Sannox 3 Nov; 60 Kildonan 13 Dec.

Lesser Black-backed Gull 149 Pladda 4 Jun (LB); thousands bred Holy Isle; no counts other colonies. Counts inc: first 4 Kildonan 17 Jan; 150 Machrie 8 Aug; 120 Cordon 25 Aug; 25 Kildonan 20 Aug; 21 Sannox 21 Sep; 73 Catacol 22 Sep; last 1 Sannox 3 Nov.

Herring Gull 98 nests Pladda 4 Jun; 7 nests checked Holy Isle, 13 eggs, 5 yng sample from thousands (LB); counts inc: 124 Lammlash, 63 Whiting Bay 24 Jan; 200 Machrie 14 Feb; 300 Lammlash 21 Feb, 412 on 17 Jul; 100 Brodick 19 Sep; 1,000 N Corrie in 1/2 hr 19 Sep; 200 Whiting Bay 21 Oct; 150 Sannox 3 Nov; 250 Machrie 14 Dec.

Great Black-backed Gull Estimated 25 prs bred Holy Isle, 2 prs Holy Isle 9 Jun, 1 nest with 2 yng, 1 egg. Counts inc: 30 Brodick 10 Feb; 40 Whiting Bay 20 Mar; 42 Machrie 8 Aug; 75 Brodick 19 Sep.

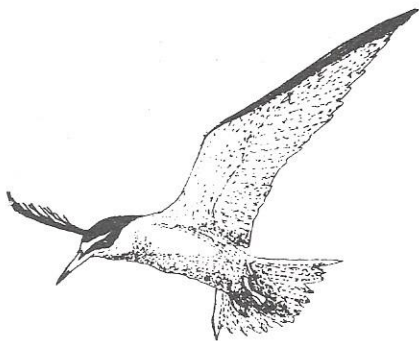
Kittiwake Counts inc: 6 Whiting Bay 26 Jul, 70 on 8 Aug, 500 on 29 Aug, 700-800 on 9 Sep; 80 Brodick 5 Aug, 130 on 237 Sep, 200 on 14 Oct; 85 Catacol 29 Sep, 300 on 11 Oct; max 1,000 Dougrie 22 Nov. More seen than 1987.

Sandwich Tern Arr: 2 Brodick 26 Apr; 2 Machrie 3 May; 7 Clauchlands 4 May, 2 on 5 May; Autumn: 2 S Corrie 9 Jul; 1 Whiting Bay 13 Jul; 1 Machrie 10, 19 Jul; 2 Clauchlands 22 Jul, 1 imm on 31 Jul; 2 Brodick 25 Jul, 2 Machrie 28 Aug; 2 Blackwaterfoot inc 1 juv 28 Aug, 4 Sep; 2 S Largymore 2 Sep; 4 Lammlash, 3 Kildonan-Bennan 8 Sep; 2 Kildonan 12 Sep; 5 Whiting Bay 4 Sep, 2 on 8, 11, 15 Sep, 2 inc 1 juv on 22 Sep last.

Common Tern 1 pr Pirmill 2 Jun; 1 pr Thundergay 3 Jun; 4-5 prs Pirmill-Whitefarland 3-9 Jun. All prs observed holding territories but no yng produced.

Arctic Tern 2 prs Dougrie 11 May, attempted breeding, no success; 14 Machrie 14 May, none bred; 3-4 prs Machrie-Dougrie 3 Jun, only 1 present 14 Jun; 14 prs Pladda 4 Jun, 11 prs with total 22 eggs; 10 Pladda 20 Jul, 4 on 25 Jul, 3 Kildonan 8 Aug, no juvs seen; 5 Whiting Bay 21 Aug.

Little Tern Single juv Brodick 24 Jul (G Agar)



Little Tern

Guillemot Singles Whiting Bay 7 Jan, Lamlash 18 Mar, Pirmill 1 Jun, Corrie 14 Jul; 8 Kildonan 8 Aug; several oiled 17-19 Aug; 5 Brodick-Ardrossan 17 Sep, 13 on 24 Sep; singles Pirmill 15 Sep, Machrie 8 Oct, Sannox 3 Nov; 2 Whiting Bay 10 Oct; 2 Kerr's Port 5 Nov.

Razorbill 1 Lamlash 6 Jan, 8 on 17 Jan, 5 on 24 Jan; 7 Pirmill 14 Feb; 1 Largymore 9 Jul; small groups Ardrossan-Brodick 16 Jul, 3 Aug; 1 oiled Kildonan 2 Oct; 3 Whiting Bay 10 Oct.

Black Guillemot Breeding: pr nested Lochranza Pier; 4 (pr + 2 singles) Kilpatrick 11 May, 1 nest 8 Jun; 1 only Pladda 4 Jun; 1 pr prob nested Dippen, 1 in sea 7 Jun; 2 Thundergay 20 Jun; pr feeding yng King's Cave 22 Jun; 2 Holy Isle 20 Jul; 1 Sannox 15 Sep; 3 Brodick 19 Sep; 1 Largymore, 3 Kerr's Port 10 Oct; 3 Catacol 11 Oct; 3 Sannox 25 Nov; 1 Lochranza 31 Dec.

Puffin 2 dead Whiting Bay 10 Apr (JH); 1 Brodick-Ardrossan 14 Oct (LD).

Rock Dove 10 prs min nested Machrie, Dougrie, Cleiteadh, King's Caves, Black Cave, Kilpatrick, late brood in nest Machrie 18 Sep. Counts inc 7 Kirkpatrick 11 May, 30 Jun; 12 Machrie 24 Jul, 18 on 6 Aug; 6 North Sannox 31 Aug; 7 Corrie 20 Sep; 6 King's Caves 28 Oct.

Feral Pigeon No change Lamlash old church. c 50 prs.

Woodpigeon 30 Kingscross 3, 17 Jan; 4 prs Brodick C Park; 2 Brodick 10 Jul; 2 Blackwaterfoot 18 Jul; 14 Machrie 24 Jul; 9 Lamlash 11 Sep; 22 Brodick 28 Sep. Common Shiskine, Glenashdale, Brodick and Lamlash.

Collared Dove 30 prs Brodick, Lamlash, Shiskine, Whiting Bay inc pr Kirkpatrick 9 May, pr Gortonallister 17 May, pr Dippen 7 Jun; Counts: 5 Marganish 5 Jun; 10 Cordon 12 Aug.

Turtle Dove Single Strathwhillan Brodick 20 Jun (JR) is fourth Arran record.

Cuckoo Arr: 2 seen Dippen 5 Apr (AN); heard Lochranza 21 Apr, Brodick 26 Apr, Auchencairn 28 Apr, pr on 1 May; 2 separate Dougrie 3 May; 1 North Sannox 5 May; 1 Kingscross, 1 Whiting Bay, 1 Machrie forestry, 1 Machrie Moor, 1 Torbeg 8 May; 1 Glen Rosa 9 May; 1 Brodick 12 May; 1 Gortonallister 17 May; 1 Ross, 1 Thundergay 2 Jun; 1 String 3 Jun; 2 Machrie 7 Jun; 1 Crocandoon, 1 Torbeg 8 Jun. 17+ territories.

Barn Owl pr reared 3 yng Dougrie; Suspected breeding Machrie, Sannox, Corrie, Lamlash, Brodick. Sightings inc: 1 Kingscross 3 Jan; 1 dead Lamlash Jan; 1 roosting Lamlash Apr, May; 1 Machrie 3-24 May, 14 Jun, 28, 31 Aug; 1 Carlo 6 Jan, 30 Jun; 1 String 28 Jul; 1 Lochranza 18 Aug; 1 Corrie 25 Aug; 1 dead Sannox 31 Aug, 1 alive Sannox 29 Sep; 1 Cordon 30 Sep; 1 Strathwhillan 30 Dec.

Tawny Owl Calling Whiting Bay 2-11 Jun, 1 seen Kingscross 15 Oct; 1 Sannox 1 Nov; 1 Auchencairn 27 Dec. No comments from Brodick or Lamlash.

Long-eared Owl Pr with yng Brodick 29 May (per DWW) was good news.

Short-eared Owl Good nos bred with voles plentiful. Poss 2 prs bred Boguillie where hatching yng Jun, Jul, max 7-8 on 16 Sep, 4 on 19 Sep, 3 on 22 Nov, 1 dead on telegraph wires 28 Nov; pr bred Machrie Moor, 3 on 30 Oct; others holding territory Ross, String, Cnocan Loch; elsewhere 1 Glen Catacol 20 Jun; 1 High Corrie 9 Jul, 7 Aug; 1 Benlister 12 Aug; unusual 1 garden wall Kildonan overlooking sea 20 mins.

Nightjar Not heard until 25 Jun Brodick, f on 13 Jul. Only 1 pr reported. (DWW)

Swift First 1 Machrie 25 May; a few Brodick 4-7 Jun; 4 North Sannox, 3 Corrygills 1 Jul, 6 on 2 Jul; 3 Kildonan 22 Jul; 1 Corrie 27 Jul; last 1 Kildonan 8 Sep.

Kingfisher 1 Cordon 24 Mar; 1 Carlo 27 Mar; 1 Sliderrywater 9 Jul.

Skylark 22 territories located min. No flocks reported; 1 Kildonan 2-5 Oct, 1 Kingscross 10 Oct.

Sand Martin 14 nest holes Dougrie, 9 occupied 3 Jun, is slight improvement.

Swallow Arr: 1 Lamlash 14 Apr; 1 Gortonallister 17 Apr; 2 Drumadoon, 2 Corrygills 19 Apr; most by 7 May. Sample breeding: 10 nests Marganish; 3 nests Bennecarrigan; 1 nest Holy Isle Lighthouse; 2 nests Largybeg; pr Kingscross reared 5 yng; pr Gortonallister reared 4 yng; 2 broods one nest Sannox; 2 juvs Lamlash 12 Jul; yng flew from nest Brodick 29 Sep. Counts inc 230 (mixed House Martins, less Swallows) Whiting Bay first half Sep; 10 Kildonan 5 Oct; last 1 Whiting Bay 1 Nov.

House Martin Arr: 6 Kildonan 14 Apr, most by 7 May. Sample breeding: 17 nests one house Sannox 14 Aug; 7 nests Lagg, 6 occupied, 1 nest full of land snails; 12 nests Kildonan; 8 nests Brodick; 20 nests Lamlash, 30 at one nest containing yng 19 Aug; 2 nests Corrygills; 2 broods reared from cardboard box Kildonan after nest collapsed; 3rd broods common. Counts inc: 230 (mixed Swallows, most House Martins) first half Sep; 15 Brodick 17 Sep; 50 Largybeg 26 Sep; 8 Kildonan 28 Sep; 30 Whiting Bay 9 Oct. Last 1 Whiting Bay 1 Nov.

Tree Pipit Arr: Kingscross 5 May; pr Lochranza 7 May; 1 displaying String 3 Jun, North Sannox 19 Jun; nest Bennan 3 Jun; 2 prs North Sannox 7 Jun; 1 High Corrie 22 Jun. Appeared scarce.

Meadow Pipit Abundant. Nest, 4 eggs Machrie 4 Jun; 3 nests, total 18 eggs Dougrie 7 Jun; nest Clauchlands 23 Jun; 2 families North Sannox 3 Jul. Counts inc: 100+ Lochranza 24 Aug; 30 Machrie 23 Aug; 50 Kildonan 12 Sep; 20 Corrie 18 Sep; 100+ Kildonan 19 Sep; 30 Clauchlands 26 Sep.

Rock Pipit Good nos with nests round coast. 2 prs Drumadoon, 2 prs Cleiteadh, 3 prs Kildonan 24 Apr; 12 Port a ghille ghlaish Kildonan 28 Apr; nest 5 yng Bennan 3 Jun; nest 5 eggs Tormore 13 Jun; 1 pr Largybeg, 1 pr Port na Fennaiche 5 Jun; pr feeding yng Blackwaterfoot 8 May. Counts inc: 20 Kildonan 17 Jan; 2 Goatfell 18 Sep; 3 Corrie 20 Sep; 12 Clauchlands, 14 Kildonan 26 Sep.

Grey Wagtail 10 prs holding territory; 1 nest 5 eggs Sliderrywater; pr 1 juv Ross; pr 1 juv Wineport Brodick; counts inc: 4 Kildonan 1-3 Apr; 7 Kildonan-Bennan 31 Jul; 3 Lamlash 13 Sep; 4 Clauchlands, 6 Kildonan 26 Sep; 4 Brodick 30 Sep.

Pied Wagtail Very good season. Counts inc: 15 North Sannox 14 Aug; 20 Kilmory 29 Aug; 20 Clauchlands 26 Sep; 70 Kildonan 2 Oct; 20 Brodick 3 Oct. White Wagtail M A alba. 5 Kildonan 17-24 Apr; 16 Blackwaterfoot 24 Apr; 2 Kildonan 28 Apr.

Dipper 3 prs Glenashdale May; nests Allt Gobhach, Sliderrywater, Cloy burn, Corrie, Lochranza, Machriewater, Glen Rosa, Strathwhillan burn, Allt Ceirde Whiting Bay. 12 locations.

Wren 4 territories Glen Catacol, 1 Glen Dhiovain 11 May; 6 territories Kilpatrick-Rubha Garbhard 11 May; 5 prs Brodick C Park; families Largybeg 7 Jun, 5 Holy Isle 9 Jun; 9 Corrie 18 Sep; single summit Boguille in deep snow 20 Nov.

Waxwing Single Lamdash 9 Dec was the only sighting! (DJ,AW)



Waxwing

Dunnock Common and widespread. No breeding comments.

Robin Common and widespread. 13 prs Brodick C Park. 2nd brood fledged Kingscross 6 Jun; 17 Corrie appeared to be 2 per garden; 3 Clauchlands 19 Sep.

Redstart Arr: Catacol 3 May f killed by cat; f 1 juv North Sannox 3 Jul; f Sannox 6 Aug; f Strathwillan 7 Aug; 1 imm m Lochranza 9 Sep.

Whinchat Arr: 1 Bannan, 2 Kildonan 1 Apr; 1 Clauchlands 4 May; Breeding: min 30 prs holding territory or with yng Boguillie, Glen Sannox, North Glen Sannox, Glen Chalmadale, Glean Easan, Glen Catacol, Glen Iorsa, Machrie, Tormore, King's Cave, Ross, String, High Corrie, Glen Rosa, Monamore.

Stonechat Good breeding season with 33+ territories, 25+ yng. Winter and Autumn: 1 Brown Head 6 Jan; 1 Kildonan 17 Jan; 10 Brown Head 4 Sep; 3 High Corrie 18 Sep; 3 Clauchlands 22 Sep; 1 Glenloig 8 Oct; 3 Machrie 15 Oct; 1 Glen Rosa 21 Nov; 8 Drumadoon-King's Cave 27 Dec; 8 Bannan-Kildonan 29 Dec.

Wheatear Arr: 3 m Kildonan, 2 Lochranza 1 Apr; 1 North Glen Sannox 2 Apr; 6 Bannan 3 Apr; 3 Clauchlands Pt 3 Apr; 1 Glen Catacol 4 Apr; Breeding: 40 prs located inc pr Cleiteadh, nest; 3 prs Bannan; 3 prs Glen Catacol; 2 prs, 4 yng Ross Rd; 3 prs Port na Fennaiche, 1 pr with food; 3 prs Brown Head; 1 pr Drumadoon; 1 pr Kilpatrick; 2 prs Holy Isle; 4 prs An Tuna; 2 prs Glen Rosa; 1 pr Laggan; 1 pr Windmill; 1 pr High Corrie; 1 pr Goatfell; 1 pr Dunfion; 2 prs North Glen Sannox; several inc juvs Western Hills. Counts inc 12 Lagg-Kildonan 24 Jul; 4 Kildonan 12 Aug; 3 Drumadoon 19 Aug; 2 Machrie 28 Aug; 8 High Corrie-Goatfell 18 Sep. Last: 2 Kildonan 2 Oct; 1 Whiting Bay 8 Oct; 1 Clauchlands 10 Oct.

Ring Ouzel Pr Glen Catacol; 1 Central Hills 1 Jun (CC). Late m Narachan 5 Nov (TC)

Blackbird Many broods fledged early successfully possibly due to mild winter-spring. 11 prs Brodick C Park; 1 ad f almost pure white mated with normal m Lamlash, no yng seen.

Fieldfare 1 Lamlash 6 Jan; 30 Kingscross 29 Jan; 50 Machrie 14 Feb; Autumn: 3 Dougrie 23 Sep; 45 S Glen Chalmadale 11 Oct; a few Kingscross 11-24 Oct, 50 on 1 Nov, 100 on 9 Nov; 20 String 14 Oct; 20 Clauchlands 17 Oct; 100 Kilmory 26 Oct; 200 Shiskine 1 Nov; 500 Lochranza 3 Nov; 30 Machrie 6 Nov; 6 Auchencairn 28 Nov; 11 West Bennan 29 Dec.

Song Thrush Breeding: pr reared 2 Kingscross; pr with 4 in nest Gortonallister; pr carrying food Margnaeglish; 4 prs Brodick C Park; 17 Lamlash 8 Feb.

Redwing 10 Lamlash 6 Jan; 50 Kingscross 11 Oct, 70-100 on 22 Oct; 1 Sliderry 16 Oct; 5 Lochranza 3 Nov. Much fewer than Fieldfare.

Mistle Thrush 2 prs reared 9 yng North Sannox; prs Lochranza, Lamlash, Brodick C Park, Marganish, Kilmichael, Thundergay, Lagg, Dougrie, Corrie, Kingscross, Ross, Pirmill, Kildonan, Machrie. Counts: 3 Lamlash 6 Jan; 3 Thundergay 13 Jul; 8 Brodick C Park 26 Jul; 15 Ross 8 Aug; 13 North Sannox 14 Aug; 10 Machrie 18 Sep; 15 Kingscross 21 Sep; 3 Auchencairn, 5 Pirmill 21 Sep; 12 The Heights 23 Sep.

Grasshopper Warbler 1 near Maol Donn holding territory. Arr: 26 Apr (HM).

Sedge Warbler Arr: Clauchlands 4 May, 4 singing 20 May where at least 1 pr bred; pr Ashlar Machrie 15 May; singing males Kildonan 11 May, 3 Jun; King's Cave 4 Jun; Machrie 4 Jun; Merkland 5 Jun; Blackwaterfoot 18 Jul.

Lesser Whitethroat 1 Kingscross 26 May is the same date it was in the same garden last year (BZ,MHD).

Common Whitethroat Arr: 2 May Lochranza, 4 May Clauchlands, 7 May Kingscross, 8 May Kildonan. 41 territories, mainly south east from Lamlash to Kildonan and west to Machrie inc 5 singing Kingscross, 5 singing Kildonan, 3 m + 1 f singing Marganish; pr with nest Largybeg; 2 territories Holy Isle; 8 inc yng Lagg-Kildonan 27 Jul. Last 1 Lamlash 13 Sep.

Garden Warbler 1 Kilpatrick 13 May (TK) was only note.

Blackcap First heard Lamlash 2 May; 17 singing males; Lamlash (2) Kingscross (3) Brodick (3) Kilmichael (2); Largybeg (2). single singing males Lochranza, Whiting Bay, Lagg, Dippen, Knockenelly. Wintering birds: pr Lamlash 11 Sep; 2 males Kingscross 15 Oct; pr Marnaeglish 23 Oct.

Wood Warbler First heard Cordon 1 May; only 9 singing males Brodick (3), Merkland, Cordon, Gortonallister, Lochranza, Lagg, Kilmichael.

Chiffchaff First heard Stronach Brodick 4 Apr; 16 singing males Brodick (4), Lamlash (4), Whiting Bay (4), Lochranza, Kilmichael, Kildonan Glen, Dippen. Probably also Merkland. Late one Whiting Bay 29 Sep.

Willow Warbler First reported Lochranza 16 Apr; widespread by 20 Apr; nest Gortonallister first week May; carrying food Marganish 5 Jun; nest Largybeg 7 Jun; nest Torbeg 8 Jun; pr 3 yng Clauchlands 23 Jun; 1 juv Kingscross 8 Sep.

Goldcrest Breeding: singing Kingscross garden, Loch Garbad forestry, Whiting Bay forestry, Monamore forestry and most afforested areas; 4 territories Brodick C Park produced yng; pr 2 yng Kingscross; pr 2 yng Clauchlands; Single Kildonan 12 Apr tried to enter bedroom window; counts inc 2 Catacol 31 Jan; 20 Whiting Bay forestry 4 Sep; 3 Lochranza 9 Sep; 4 Glen Ormidale 17 Sep; 6 Corrie 18 Sep.

Spotted Flycatcher Arr: First noted Kingscross 22 May; 24 prs produced 44 yng mainly east side of island as far north as Lochranza, except prs Glenloig, Whitefarland and Machrie. Broods: Lochranza, North Sannox, Sannox, Fallen Rocks, Brodick, Kilmichael, Corrygills, Lamlash, Cordon, Clauchlands, Monamore, Whiting Bay, Kingscross, Port Leek, Lagg. Last 1 ad 1 juv Kingscross 8 Sep.

Long-tailed Tit Good breeding season. Prs with yng Lamlash and Largybeg. Family parties May and Jun: 10 Monamore, 6 Kingscross, 4 North Sannox, 7 Glen Rosa, 6 Imachar. Counts winter and autumn inc: 8 Gortonallister 29 Jan; 8 Glen Catacol 31 Jan; 10 Cordon 4 Feb; 8 Kingscross 18 Feb; 22 Kingscross 9 Aug; 20 Auchencaim 20 Sep; 8 String 21 Sep; 6 Sliderry 22 Sep; 30 Monamore 10 Oct; 7 Lamlash 31 Oct; 20 Cordon 18 Nov.

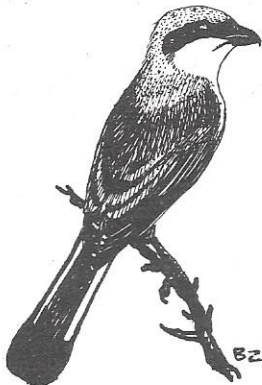
Coal Tit Good numbers bred Brodick C Park (6 prs), Lagg, Monamore, Glenashdale, Whiting Bay, Kingscross, Cordon, Corrie, Sannox, Lochranza. Counts inc: 10 Glenashdale 4 Sep; 12 Merkland 28 Sep; 4 Pirmill 21 Sep; 4 Kingscross 15 Oct; 4 Lamlash 30 Oct.

Blue Tit Breeding: 2 prs reared 14 yng Kingscross; 112 prs Brodick C Park; Counts inc: 15 Auchencaim 20 Jan; 10 Corrie 18 Sep; 6 Merkland 28 Sep.

Great Tit Breeding: 8 prs Brodick C Park. Counts inc: 3 Lochranza 9 Sep; 7 Clauchlands 19 Sep; 5 Corrie 24 Sep; 4 Merkland 28 Sep.

Tree Creeper Mainly singles, Kingscross 11 Jan; Glenashdale 2 Jan, Margnaheglis 7 Mar, 1 Oct, 2 prs Brodick C Park 12 May, Altachorvie 7 Jun, North Sannox 3 Jul, Auchencaim 9 Jul, Corrygills 20 Jul, Glen Cloy 2 Aug; Whiting Bay 22 Nov; 2 Fallen Rocks 9 Jul; 2 Kingscross 14 Oct; 4 Whiting Bay 27 Dec.

Red-backed Shrike 1 High Corrie 9 Jun (JIR, Mrs R) is first since 1980 and second Arran record. A possible in 1985 was discounted.



Red-backed Shrike

Jackdaw Breeding in good numbers Lamlash chimneys and cliffs at Machrie, Drumadon, Catacol, Largybeg, Corriecravie. Counts inc: 100 Shiskine 6 Jan; 100 Machrie 28 Aug; 20 Dougrie 23 Sep.

Rook 6 Shiskine 6 Jan was only comment. Probably few due to mild winter.

Carriion Crow Prs with yng in nests Kildonan, Clauchlands, Kingscross, Margnaheglsh, Sliderry, Kilmory, Lagg, Bennan, Marganish. Pr Clauchlands, by clever tactics of 1 ad distracting parent Shelducks while other picked off yng Shelducks one by one at rear until none remained. Counts inc: 20 Shiskine 6 Jan; 9 Sliderry 19 Sep; 25 Dougrie 23 Sep; 10 Clauchlands 26 Sep; 5 Kildonan 21 Oct.

Hooded Crow Breeding: 3 prs Ross; 1 pr Kilpatrick; 1 pr Corriecravie; 1 pr with yng The Glen Kildonan. Counts inc Hybrids: 6 Shiskine, 7 Ross 6 Jan; 4 Whiting Bay 18 Feb; 10 Monyquil hill 28 Aug; 12 Cleiteadh 4 Sep; 6 Corrie 18 Sep; 7 Sliderry, 10 Clauchlands 19 Sep; 15 Dougrie 23 Sep; 10 Ross 26 Sep; 8 Kildonan 21 Oct; 40 Dougrie 22 Nov.

Raven Breeding: 13 prs reared 30 yng. Counts inc: 6 Goatfell 21 Feb; 9 Beinn Bhreac 27 Jul; 8 Lochranza 19 Sep; 5 Dunfion 26 Sep; 6 Brodick 18 Oct.

Starling Good numbers bred producing 1 leucistic Brodick. Largest counts mainly autumn inc 300 Blackwaterfoot 19 Aug; 500 Kildonan 21 Aug; 200 Kilmory 29 Aug; 130 Corriecravie 4 Sep; 200 Dougrie, 150 Shiskine 10 Oct. Smaller numbers rest of year inc 40 Clauchlands. House Sparrow 50+ wintered Auchencairn; 20 all year Lamlash; 20 Sliderry 19 Sep.

Tree Sparrow 1 Kingscross 16 Apr (MD); 1 Kilmory 20 Sep (JGW).

Chaffinch Prs with yng Lagg 31 May; Kingscross 10 Jun; 12 prs Brodick C Park; many prs with yng widespread. Counts inc: 50 Kerr's Port 17 Jan; 100 Machrie 14 Feb.

Brambling 3 with Chaffinches Brodick 7 Feb (MA).

Greenfinch 18 prs min some with yng; counts inc 6 Tormore 27 Jun; 12 Kingscross 19 Jul; 3 Dougrie 20 Jul; 30 Auchencairn 7 Aug; 5 The Heights 22 Sep.

Goldfinch 12 prs in breeding territories. Counts inc: 5 Sannox 19 Apr; 5 Lamlash 22 Apr; 6 Lochranza 22 Sep; 6 Largybeg 26 Sep; 12 Whiting Bay 31 Dec.

Siskin Back at nuts 30 Jan Gortonallister with 8 on 10 Mar; 5 Margnaheglsh 6 Mar; 3 Whiting Bay 1 Apr; singing Ballymenoch Glen forestry 5 Jun, Kingscross 16 Jun, Kilmichael 27 Jun; pr North Sannox 3 Jul; pr Sannox 7 Jul reared 2 yng; pr, 3 yng Merkland 7 Jul; pr Cordon feeding on seaweed 7 Jul; 1 Dougrie 22 Jul; pr, 1 yng Fallen Rocks 5 Aug; pr, 1 yng Kingscross 15 Sep. Counts inc: 40 North Sannox 31 Aug; 34 Corrie 30 Sep; 6 Brodick 9 Oct; 8 Merkland, 3 Machrie 11 Oct; 40 Cordon 23 Nov.

Linnet Only 9 prs noted as breeding. Counts inc: 4 Clauchlands 22 Jul; 11 Machrie 3 Aug; 15 Kildonan 29 Aug, 26 Sep; 40 Cleiteadh 4 Sep; 20 Dougrie 16 Sep; 12 Lagg 17 Sep; 17 Kildonan 2 Oct; 7 Blackwaterfoot 14 Dec.

Twite 2 prs nested Blackwaterfoot; pr Glen Sannox 19 Jun; 6 King's Caves forestry 22 Jun; 2 imms Blackwaterfoot 19 Aug, 5 on 28 Aug; 10 Auchencar 22 Sep; 36 Dougrie and probably same Machrie 11 Oct; 8 Kildonan 21 Oct; 20 Auchencairn 31 Oct; 1 Clauchlands 5 Nov.

Redpoll Pr and single males holding territory Loch Garbad forestry 5 Jun, 2 on 8 Sep; 1 Sannox 3 Jun; 1 Crocandoon forestry 8 Jun; 5 Dunfion forestry 16 Jun; pr song flight Kingscross 26-29 Jun with 1 yng 19 Jul; 4 Sannox 9 Jul; 1 High Corrie 31 Jul; 10 North Sannox 31 Aug; 15 Clauchlands 15 Sep.

Crossbill Family West Arran 13 Aug (per R Nisbet) was only comment.

Bullfinch Increase to 19 prs. Visited more gardens than usual stripping plum and apple blossom. Pr reared 1 yng Kingscross; 2 prs Brodick C Park, 1 pr reared 3 yng; pr reared 1 yng Merkland; pr reared 2 yng Kilmichael; 1 dead imm, window strike, Port Leek; pr reared 1 yng Lamblash; other prs Monamore, Cordon, Gortonallister, Machrie, Lochranza, Sannox, Corrygills, Glenashdale, Whiting Bay, King's Caves forestry, Lagg, Auchencairn.

Snow Bunting 1 Beinn Bharrain 31 Mar; 1 Suidhe Fheargus 26 Oct; 1 Caisteal Abhail and 1 Blackwaterfoot 29 Oct.

Yellowhammer Only 9 territories noted. 3 Auchencar Machrie 22 Sep.

Reed Bunting Pr reared 1 yng Machrie-Torbeg. Very scarce.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO PREVIOUS REPORT

1987 Dotterel: 2 Caisteal Abhail 8 Jul (B.Higgins)

Red-footed Falcon has been withdrawn from the Check List as not accepted by BBRC

CHECK LIST

STATUS SYMBOLS

R - Residents (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); O - Occasional; V - Vagrant;
I - Introduced or released. E - Escaped

26/7/64 2 Doves 2 Irl	Red-throated Diver RC	Shoveler B*
	Black-throated Diver R*/PC	Pochard WO
	Great Northern Diver S**U/WU/PC	Tufted Duck WO
	Little Grebe WU	Scaup WO
	Great Crested Grebe V	Eider RC
	Red-necked Grebe V	King Eider S**U
	Slavonian Grebe WO	Long-tailed Duck SO/WO
	Black-necked Grebe WO	Scoter WU
15/8/84 Garry	Fulmar SC/WU	Velvet Scoter WO
	Cory's Shearwater V	Goldeneye WC
	Sooty Shearwater V	Smew WO
9/7/100+ Doves also many 24/6/79	Manx Shearwater SU/PC	Red-breasted Merganser RC
15/8/84 Garry 50 birds	Storm Petrel PC	Goosander S*/PU
17/7 Kilpatrick	Leach's Petrel V	Red Kite B*
	Gannet S**C/WU	White-tailed Eagle B*V
	Cormorant RC	Marsh Harrier V
	Shag RC	Hen Harrier RC
	Bittern V	Goshawk S**PO
	Grey Heron RC	Sparrowhawk RC
	Spoonbill V	Rough-legged Buzzard V
2/7 Dungen could be many	Chilean Flamingo V	Golden Eagle RC
	Mute Swan R*C	Osprey B*PO
	Whooper Swan WU/PC	Hobby V
	Pink-footed Goose WO	Kestrel RC
	White-fronted Goose WU/PU	Merlin RU
	Greylag Goose WC/PC	Peregrine RC
	Canada Goose R*/PO	Red Grouse RU
	Barnacle Goose WO	Ptarmigan RU
	Brent Goose V	Black Grouse RU
	Shelduck RC	Capercaillie B*
20/7/64 Black-throated	Wigeon S*O/WQ	Red-legged Partridge I
22/7/84 2+2 young Dunfion	Teal SU/WC	Grey Partridge R*U
24/7/84 16 + 1 yr	Mallard RC	Quail B*V
22/7 12 KC	Pintail PO	Pheasant RC
		Lady Amherst's Pheasant V
		Water Rail RU
		Spotted Crane V

17/9/84 1 fresh 3 young

juv. in 15/8/84
17/9/84 Dungen
22/7/84 Kilpatrick

♀ Dunfion 24/6/79
also Kilpatrick 22/7/84

♂ Kilpatrick 15/7/84

10/9/84 50 young

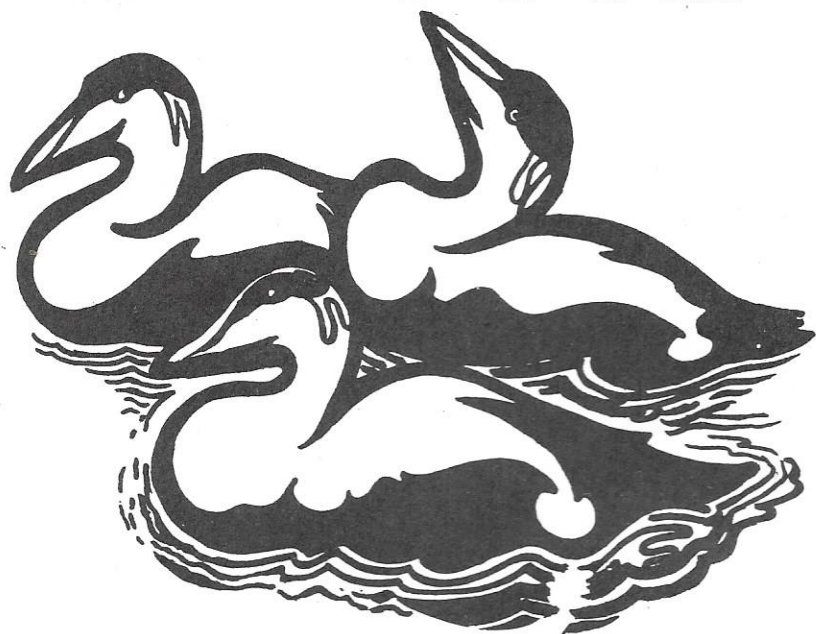
pair Machrie 15/8/84

24/7 Common

17/7/84 Dungen

15/7/84 juv. killed Trough/Dungen
24/7/84 4 Ross Road

EIDERS



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

STUDIO 4

LAMLASH