

ARRAN BIRDS



Report and Checklist for 1989

Report No. 10



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.13 currently available throughout the island. Back copies may be obtained from Mrs.M.Browell, Whiting Bay, Tel.227

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Manx Shearwater

ARRAN BIRD REPORT 1989

Edited and Compiled
by
Margaret Dunn
for
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Natural History Society
1990

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INTRODUCTION

1989 proved to be an interesting year with pride of place going to the two Cranes which visited us for the first time ever in September (see the article "Uncommon Common Cranes").

The success of this report depends on its contributors and every year more and more information is received from visiting and local birdwatchers alike, to all of whom I am very grateful. It may appear a simple matter to include everyone but somehow names are missed from the acknowledgements, and my apologies to Lawrence Baxter who has submitted most valuable breeding information, also to Chris Calvey, R.A.Dubbins, Tony Smith and T.Walsh.

The BTO/SOC/WC Breeding Birds Atlas is into its final year and help would be appreciated. Contact D.Warner, Brodick Country Park if interested. Help would also be welcome with regard to the regular monthly counts of estuary birds for the BTO.

The heatwave summer was good for some species such as Chats, Warblers, Tits and a few more Nightjars, but the vole crash did not help others like Owls, Kestrels and Hen Harriers and in the case of the latter, together with Ravens, persecution cannot be ruled out. Many nests of Swallows and House Martins failed, possibly due to lack of suitable mud, but numbers seemed low. In spite of there being a slight hiatus in Mink numbers, they are still with us and do a lot of damage to sitting birds such as the Fulmar. Help with trapping would be welcome.

Thanks are due to Audrey Walters for help and typing and to our artists Wendy Cree, Audrey Walters and Bernard Zonfrillo. Please send all records for 1990 in Vooos order (as in the Check List) by December 1990 or earlier and not later than the end of January 1991 to: Margaret H. Dunn, Tigh an Droma, Kingscross, Isle of Arran KA27 8RG.

ABBREVIATIONS

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

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

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

JANUARY-MARCH

A mild start to a rather uneventful month found a Shelduck on 1st January and 2 back on the 3rd at Clauchlands. 68 Fieldfares were discovered in the Ross near Glenrigh and a large flock of 200 Skylarks on Kilmory farmland on the 7th. A Barn Owl favoured Kingscross on the 11th and a Sparrowhawk on the 12th when also a wintering male Blackcap was at Kildonan. The first Gannet was not seen until the 26th off Whiting Bay. A Peregrine and a Greenshank were at Tormore on the 29th at which date Ravens were discovered nest building. A Golden Plover was on territory on Beinn Bhreac on 10th February and 2 Moorhens were unexpected at Shiskine on the 12th. A large movement of Divers occurred on the 16th when 16 Black-throated were in Whiting Bay and 11 Black-throated in Largybeg Bay along with a solitary Red-throated. This date also showed 5 Razorbills close inshore feeding in Whiting Bay. 2 Snow Buntings were in a Machrie field and a Dipper was singing his spring song in Machriewater on 23rd. The 1st March brought an unexpected Long-eared Owl to Clauchlands while on the 11th and 12th Catacol boasted a splendid summer plumaged Red-necked Grebe, 3 Great Northern and 2 Black-throated Divers. Migration was underway by 23rd when the first Wheatears arrived at Brodick followed on the 27th by a Sand Martin at Pirmill, a Swallow at Sliddery, A Chiffchaff and a Whimbrel at Whitefarland. Following gales over the Easter weekend a Little Auk flew south past Pirmill on the 27th. 2 House Martins found their way to Brodick on the 31st.

APRIL-JUNE

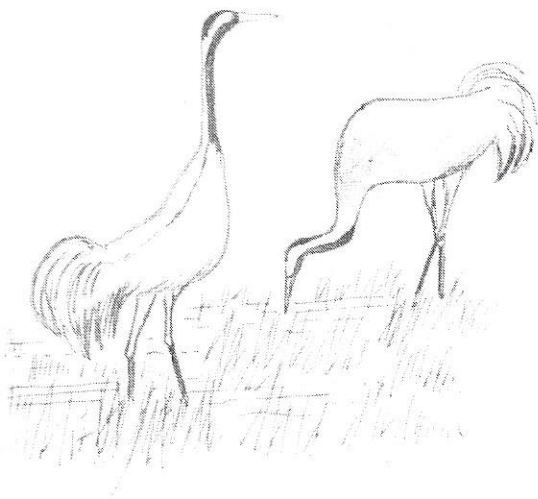
The 1st April found the first Willow Warbler at Lochranza although most did not arrive until the 13th. Another diver movement occurred on 8th between Machrie and Imachar when 8 Black-throated, 2 Great Northern and 1 Red-throated Diver were in Lamash Bay. 8 White Wagtails were at their favourite place in Kildonan on 15th while the 16th brought a Tree Pipit to Cordon. Common Sandpipers appeared at Brodick on 18th and Grasshopper Warblers to Lamash on 19th. 2 Sandwich Terns arrived on 25th and another Whimbrel at Drumadoon. The first Cuckoo of spring was heard at Machrie and Glen Shurig on 27th with 5 more Sandwich Terns and a Wood Warbler by 28th. A Kingfisher was a surprise at Torrylinnwater on 29th and another or same at Pirmill on 30th. More migrants came in May with Common Whitethroat on 3rd and Sedge Warbler on 6th at Clauchlands and a Whinchat at North Sannox. The 7th provided a Spotted Flycatcher at Monamore and 2 more Whimbrels at Clauchlands plus a third at Machrie from 9th - 14th. A Blackcap was at Largybeg on 10th and a Swift went by Kildonan on 11th about which time Arctic Terns appeared on Pladda. A Garden Warbler was at Clauchlands on 19th but probably the most unusual bird in May was a Coot in the sea at Cordon on 22nd. A Pied Flycatcher singing at Lochranza on 25th has not been seen for several years, so has to be the rarest bird of the month. The first young Shelducks were hatched by 28th and the first young Eiders by 29th. The breeding season was in full swing by early June. A corncrake made known its presence on the 1st at Shiskine while 3 Kittiwakes were onshore at North Sannox at the early date of 8th. Redstart and Ring Ouzel were not recorded until 11th. 20 late Turnstones were on Pladda on 12th and a Stock Dove was unusual on the path to the Fallen Rocks on 14th. Young Herons were bill clacking in Whiting Bay on 22nd, a Grasshopper Warbler was reeling from bracken at Kingscross on 26th while 3 were at Torbeg on 27th.

JULY-SEPTEMBER

During the quiet hot month of July a pair of Siskins feeding young on thistle seeds was a pretty sight at Kingscross on 2nd. An early Arctic Skua was heading south past Catacol on 4th. 20 Swallows on wires in Kildonan as early as 5th may have been failed breeders, however, another Kingfisher was discovered on 8th, this time on the Blackwater at Torbeg. A Black-tailed Godwit was a pleasant find at Torrylinnwaterfoot on 11th and Machrie held a Common Scoter on 28th. A happy ending to the month was the discovery of a family of Ptarmigan on Goatfell on 31st. Some autumn movement was apparent on 13th August when 6 Sandwich Terns and 4 Dunlins were found at Blackwaterfoot. Stormy conditions on 14th found 300 Manx Shearwaters flying south past Whiting Bay with more on 15th. More wind on 18th and 21st during the Brodick-Ardrossan crossing revealed a seldom recorded Sooty Shearwater, 2 Storm Petrels, a Puffin and a Bonxie (Great Skua). A Bar-tailed Godwit showed up at Clauchlands on 23rd and 4 White Wagtails were with 50 Pied Wagtails at Kildonan on 25th. Another Arctic Skua appeared on 27th on ferry crossing from Brodick. There was a large movement of 500 Meadow Pipits at Blackwaterfoot on 28th while 13 Dunlin and a solitary Sanderling were present at Kildonan on 31st. The 1st September saw a Whimbrel at Cordon while the 6th held 2 Sandwich Terns at Whiting Bay. Large families of Long-tailed Tits now began to appear while 70 Linnets had formed into a flock at the Cleates. 5 early Goldeneye had turned up at Machrie and a Great Skua went by Catacol on 7th. Yet another Arctic Skua was seen from the Brodick ferry on the 22nd. The 23rd provided excellent views of a Goshawk at Lochranza, but the limelight was stolen by the two Cranes at Shiskine from 26th until 1st October. A Pink-footed Goose was unusual at Blackwaterfoot on 29th and a late Corncrake was calling at Shiskine on 30th.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

It is not often we have a Little Tern but Clauchlands held one on 8th October, so on the one hand we had summer migrants leaving, such as hirundines and a Whinchat on 14th, while on the other winter visitors began to arrive in the form of 10 Greylags at Shiskine and 30 Redwings at Glen Rosa on 15th. Waders were on the move by 18th with 40 Golden Plover at West Bannan and a single Knot at Whiting Bay with 34 Turnstones and Ringed Plover that peaked at 100. 8 Whooper Swans were a surprise in the sea near Corrie on 22nd and a tardy Wheatear remained in Kerr's Port until 30th. On 4th November 24 Goldfinches charmed one observer in Lamlash. As Black Grouse have practically died out on Arran, it was unusual to find a male near Cnocan Loch on 14th. A Little Auk flew close inshore at Machrie during strong SE winds on the 16th by which date Fieldfares had begun their annual invasion with large concentrations around Kingscross, Auchencairn and Gortonallister. 180 Rooks was a large number for our wintering population at Shiskine on 19th. A very late Swallow was in Brodick on 24th and 25th found a very early Shelduck back at Bannan shore ready to hold territory for next year's breeding. Goldeneye were by now well distributed round the coast and our wintering pairs of Mute Swans had taken up residence in Whiting Bay, Lamlash and Brodick. The 28th saw a male Blackcap in Glenashdale. December began with 4 Bullfinches at Kingscross on 1st. Greylags had built up to 400 at Shiskine by 6th while Clauchlands produced a Water Rail on 7th. Perhaps the most interesting sighting of this rather dull month was a Great Grey Shrike at North Sannox on 26th followed by 2 Snow Buntings on Torr Nead on 27th. A pair of Ptarmigan were seen twice on Mulloch Buidhe during November and December which brings the year to a seasonal close.



UNCOMMON COMMON CRANES

As the R.S.P.B. has now disclosed one of the best-kept ornithological secrets ever, that several pairs of Common Cranes (*Grus grus*) have nested successfully in Britain over the last nine years, it is therefore not so surprising that two of these lovely birds turned up here in the Shiskine Valley last September. As their timing coincided with a Royal visit from the Princess of Wales, they were reported to be two security men in disguise! Word quickly spread, and as they stayed from 26th September until 1st October, this delighted some keen birders, although strangely for such large birds, they managed to disappear frequently during that time, disappointing more than a few.

Loud trumpeting calls heralded their arrival just before dusk on 26th September as they circled and landed in a stubble field beside the Blackwater. About 4 feet tall, these large long-legged, long-necked grey birds with tail "bustles" surprised Hugh Hamilton and Alex McMillan who were the first to see them.

Next day several of us admired them from a distance as they fed in the stubble, long necks raised turn about on guard duty. Both adult birds, each had a black head and throat extending down the front of neck with distinctive white cheeks continuing down sides of neck. No red on the head was visible at a distance. Being extremely wary, they often took wing and this showed the contrast of their grey bodies with long extended black-tipped primaries which were separated and up-curved at the ends. The flight was truly majestic, interspersed with long glides and soaring. They sometimes circled up to the arable fields around High Fiorline or disappeared into marshier ground at Balnacool.

On 30th September at 1.30am people coming from a dance at the Kinloch Hotel were surprised to find them at the Blackwater river mouth. They were last seen at 10am on 1st October in Tornacraig field between Monyquill on the String and Glaister. Let's hope we may have the pleasure of a return visit from these most distinguished birds. This is an important first record for Arran.

ARRAN BIRDS 1989

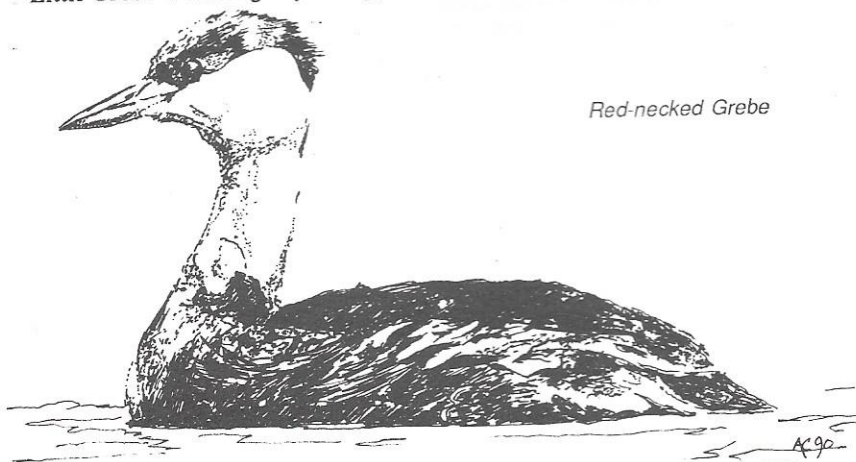
SYSTEMATIC LIST

Red-throated Diver 7 sites visited Apr-Jun, 2 with nests, one contained 2 eggs from which no yng seen. 1 pr 1 yng Machrie Bay 2 Oct. Sightings offshore: 2 Clauchlands 6 Jan, 1 on 21 Jan; 1 Largybeg 16 Feb; 1 Blackwaterfoot, 2 Catacol 31 Mar; 1 Catacol 3 Apr; 1 Machrie-Imachar 13 Apr; 1 Clauchlands 4 Apr; 1 Drumadoon 28 Apr; 2 Machrie, 1 Largybeg 29 Apr; 2 Pirmill, 2 Dougrie 30 Apr, 1 Jun; 1 Blackwaterfoot 1 May; 1 Whiting Bay 8 May; 1 Machrie 14 May, 3 calling 17 May, 2 on 23 May, 7 on 19 Jun, 5 on 16 Jul; 1 Dougrie 23 May; 1 Lochranza 23, 24 May; 2 Imachar 27 May; 2 Thundergay 29 May, 16 Jun; 1 Merkland 26 Jun; 1 Largymore 2 Jul; 2 Dougrie, 2 Imachar 28 Jul; 5 Thundergay, 1 Catacol 5 Aug; 4 Lamdash 7 Aug; 2 Corrie-Sannox 10 Aug; 1 Machrie 13 Aug; 1 Blackwaterfoot 18 Aug, 2 on 26, 27 Aug, 3 on 7 Sep; 1 Dougrie 1 Oct; 2 Whiting Bay 8 Nov; 4 Lochranza 4 Dec.

Black-throated Diver 1 Brodick 3 Jan; 5 Whiting Bay 14 Feb; max 16 Whiting Bay, 11 Largybeg 16 Feb; 1 Catacol 12 Mar; 1 Imachar 13 Mar, 27 Apr; 2 Lamdash 28 Mar; 8 Imachar-Machrie 13 Apr; 3 Lamdash 14 Apr; 1 Whiting Bay 28 Apr - 3 May; 1 Largybeg 29 Apr - 4 May; 5 Drumadoon 28 Apr; 1 Pirmill 30 Apr; 1 Dougrie-Imachar 4,5 May; 3 Machrie 14 May; 1 on 23 May, 4 Jul; 1 Thundergay 16 Jun; 1 Sannox 15 Oct; 3 Pirmill 6 Dec; 1 Whiting Bay 18 Dec; 1 Dougrie 19 Dec.

Great Northern Diver 2 Catacol, 1 Lochranza 12 Mar; 2 Whitefarland 27 Mar; 2 Corriegills 31 Mar; 2 Machrie-Imachar 13 Apr; 1 Machrie 26,30 Apr; 1 Catacol 19,27 Apr, 24 May; 3 Drumadoon 28 Apr; 1 Kildonan 29 Apr; 1 Pirmill 30 Apr; 1 Whiting Bay 11 May; 1 Lochranza 30 Apr,14, 27 May; 2 Machrie 23 May; 1 Imachar 24, 27 May; 1 Machrie 7 Jun-4 Jul, 1 Oct; 2 Lochranza 4 Dec; 1 Sannox 6 Dec; max 6 Drumadoon 8 Dec.

Little Grebe 1 Whiting Bay 23 Sep; 2 Brodick 25 Nov; 1 Lochranza 4 Dec.



Red-necked Grebe

Red-necked Grebe 1 Catacol 11,12 Mar, summer plumage (RHH), 1 Catacol 4 Dec (NWB).

Fulmar 205 occupied sites is fewer than last year. Only 1 egg seen Drumadoon, 1 Brown Head 26 Jun, where another site predated. 2 yng Machrie 13 Aug, 2 yng Catacol 16 Aug were only yng seen.

Sooty Shearwater 1 flushed off sea by ferry 20 mins from Brodick 21 Aug (JMT)

Manx Shearwater 250+ Blackwaterfoot 5 Jul; 100 Dougrie 19 Jul; 200+ Brodick 20 Jul; 250 S/hr Corrie 11 Aug; 300 S/hr Whiting Bay 14 Aug; 50 S Blackwaterfoot 18 Aug; 85 Brodick-Ardrossan 21 Aug.

Storm Petrel 1 Ardrossan-Brodick 18 Aug; 2 on return crossing 21 Aug (JMT)

Gannet 6 Fallen Rocks 7 Jan, 40-50 diving offshore summer. 50 Machrie 28 Jul; 200 S/hr Whiting Bay 15 Aug; thousands S Whiting Bay 29,30 Sep. Late one Catacol 4 Dec.

Cormorant 8 Lamlash 8 Jan; 6 Blackwaterfoot 26 Jan; 4 Corrie 12 Feb, 6 on 25 May; 7 Kildonan, 5 Cleiteadh 6 Sep; 5 Kildonan 3 Dec; 4 Whiting Bay 18 Dec.

Shag Breeding colony Holy Isle not checked. Lower numbers generally. Counts inc: 200 Kildonan 17 Jan; 110 Benman 25 Feb; 200 Kildonan 19 Jun; 70 Blackwaterfoot 2 Sep; 27 Cleiteadh 6 Sep; 14 Kilpatrick 10 Sep; 32 Corrie 2 Oct; 39 Hamilton Rock 12 Nov; 14 Whiting Bay 18 Dec.

Grey Heron 14 occupied nests with yng, success not known, juv Rosa Brodick 11 Sep. Singles throughout year round island. 4 Lamlash 9 Sep; 2 Machrie 1 Oct; 8 Brodick 4 Oct; 4 Lochranza 26, 27 Oct; 2 Whiting Bay 1 Dec; 6 Machrie 3 Dec; 6 Lochranza 9 Dec, 4 Benlister Dec; 6 Kingscross frequent near fish farm.

Mute Swan 3 prs wintered Whiting Bay, Lamlash, Brodick. 1 pr Lochranza most of year did not breed, sometimes seen singly: 1 Catacol 26 Apr, 14 May, 1 Lochranza May-Jun, 2 again 23 Jun; 4 Whiting Bay 23 Nov - 9 Dec.

Whooper Swan 6 NW Corriegills 5 Jan; 3 N Brodick-Ardrossan 1 Apr; 8 in sea Corrie-Rubha Salach 22 Oct; 2 W Kildonan calling 29 Oct, 4 W on 18 Nov; 2 Urie Loch 13 Dec.

Pink-footed Goose 1 Blackwaterfoot 29 Sep (JL)

Greylag Goose 9 Shiskine 29 Jan; 400 Shiskine 16 Feb, 220 on 28 Mar; 80 N Drumadoon 25 Apr; 2 N Brodick 8 May; 10 Shiskine 14 Oct, 200 on 5 Nov, 175 on 26 Nov; 400 Machrie 6 Dec.

Canada Goose 3 hybrids remain Brodick

Shelduck 35 prs Arran Mar-Apr. 9 prs reared 35 yng. First of year Clauchlands 1 Jan; early return Kildonan 25 Nov.

Wigeon 52 Lamlash 9 Jan; 45 Machrie, 15 Port na Fennaiche 28 Jan; 23 Kildonan 7 Mar; 9 Machrie 10 Sep increasing to 100 on 21 Dec; 2 Lamlash 20 Sep increasing to 45 on 23 Dec. Pr Brodick-Carlo Nov-Dec.

Teal 18 Machrie 28 Jan, 3 on 13 Apr; 4 Kilpatrick 31 Aug, 6 on 2 Sep; 3 Machrie 10 Sep; 4 Cleiteadh 26 Nov.

Mallard 10 prs reared 38 yng. Counts inc: 12 Whiting Bay 17 Jan; 26 Merkland 25 Feb; 13 Lochranza 1 Mar; 36 Kilpatrick 31 Aug; 27 Brodick 4 Oct; max 44 Machrie 16 Oct; 14 Clauchlands 17 Dec.

Eider 41 f seen with 87 yng Jun reduced Aug. Counts inc: 27 Whiting Bay 12 Feb; 122 Lamlash 15 Feb; 48 North Sannox 21 Feb; 90 Machrie-Lochranza 13 Apr; 100 Kildonan 14 Apr; 124 Machrie-Pimmill 18 Apr; 60 in moult Machrie Jul-Aug.

Long-tailed Duck 1 imm Clauchlands 8-9 Apr (AW,MHD).

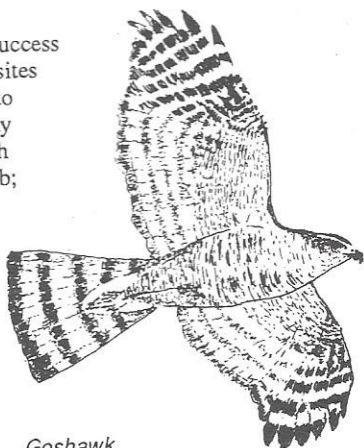
Common Scoter 1 m Machrie Bay 28 Aug (SB)

Goldeneye 2 Brodick 3 Jan; 2 Blackwaterfoot 4 Jan; 7 Lamlash 6 Jan, 15 Feb; 3 Corrie, 1 Cleiteadh 7 Jan; 1 Whiting Bay Jan-Mar, 4 on 12 Feb; 6 Merkland 24 Jan; 2 Kildonan 12 Feb; 1 Largybeg 14 Feb; 14 Lamlash 16 Feb; 9 Cordon 20 Feb, 25 Mar; 6 Clauchlands 24 Feb; 2 Tormore 26 Feb; 7 Lochranza 1 Mar; 3 Kildonan 7 Mar; 20 Lochranza-Machrie 13 Mar inc pr displaying Catacol; 10 Corriecravie 27 Mar; 2 Whiting Bay 28 Mar; 4 Merkland 7 Apr; 8 Imachar 14 Apr; 1 imm m Clauchlands 14 May; 5 Machrie 8 Sep; 1 Brodick 4, 17 Oct; 1 Cleiteadh 6 Nov; 6 Clauchlands 23 Nov; 7 Blackwaterfoot 26 Nov; 15 Cordon-Kerr's Port 17 Dec; 5 Thundergay 6 Dec; 2 Carlo 15 Dec; 2 Whiting Bay 18 Dec; 11 Lochranza-Machrie, 8 Sannox-Merkland 19 Dec.

Red-breasted Merganser 7 prs reared 45 yng - no change. Counts inc: 24 Lamlash 15 Feb; 16 Blackwaterfoot 16 Feb, 17 on 30 May; 20 Kilpatrick 10 Jun; 22 Thundergay 15 Jun; 82 Pimmill 18 Jun; 36 Whiting Bay 27 Jun; max 88 Machrie-Dougrie 29 Jun; 20 King's Cave 22 Jul; 80 Machrie 28 Aug, 68 on 3 Sep; 21 Torrylinnwaterfoot 2 Sep; 86 Pimmill 3 Sep; 22 Lamlash 17 Sep; 35 Largybeg 18 Sep; 32 Kildonan 1 Oct, 43 on 3 Oct; 23 Brodick 4 Oct; 17 Whiting Bay 8 Nov.

Hen Harrier Only 4 prs reared yng; success possible at a fifth site; no yng at other sites checked. Low numbers probably due to shortage of voles and other prey. Away from usual areas winter inc: f Cleiteadh 7 Jan; m Brodick Country Park Jan-Feb; f Kildonan 17 Jan-30 Mar; m Blackwaterfoot 8 Dec; f to Holy Isle 14 Dec; m Largybeg 18 Dec.

Goshawk Adult m pursued prey N Lochranza 23 Sep, missed, flew back E giving excellent views (Alistair Duncan et al).



Goshawk

Sparrowhawk 16 territories min. Pr Brodick Country Park throughout year, no yng; 1 imm f Ross 10 Aug; f forced to ground by Carrion Crow Kerr's Port 11 Oct; many singles near bird tables in winter.

Buzzard 17 prs reared 9 yng. Many sightings all year inc: pr Cleiteadh 7 Jan, 10 Mar; 3 Auchencaim 25 Sep; 4 Gortonallister Nov.

Golden Eagle Pr A: nest failed. Pr B: non breeders. Imm preying on yng of Common Gulls 14 Jun was harassed by a Buzzard which landed on its back; 3 Shiskine 7 Jun; 4 South Arran 12 Jul; imm above Urie Loch 13 Dec; m displaying to f North Arran 14 Dec.

Kestrel 9 prs with 15 yng from 18 territories. Not a good vole year.

Merlin 2 possibles Imachar 1 Mar; 1 Largybeg 22 Mar; 2 possibles Glaister 17 May; f West Arran 29 May; 1 E Goatfell towards mainland 30 Jul; 1 Benlister 27 Sep; 1 Largybeg Sep-Dec.

Peregrine Attempted breeding at 8 sites; 1 pr reared 3 yng; singles and prs present other sites and away from breeding areas.

Red Grouse Pr Beinn Bharrain 7 Feb; 1 Glen Rosa 10 Feb, 4 Jun; 1 Gleann Diomhan 26 Mar, 14 Dec; 1 Cock of Arran 28 Mar; 5 A Chruach 30 Aor; 1 Coire Nuis 21 May; 1 Meall Breac 11 Jun, 5 on 17 Sep; 1 Cul nan Creagan 12 Jun; heard Goatfell and Dougrie 22 Jun; 3 Glenrigh-Cnocan Loch 14 Nov; 4 Loch na Leirg 16 Dec.

Ptarmigan Pr, 3 yng Goatfell 31 Jul (PM); pr Goatfell 22 Nov (LM); pr Mulloch Buidhe seen twice Dec (NM).

Black Grouse 1 m near Cnocan Loch 14 Nov (TS) is first seen since 1985.

Red-legged x Chukar Partridge 1 Dougrie 8 Jun, 17 Jul; 70 released Clauchlands Aug; 3-4 Clauchlands 4, 6, 11 Oct, 9 on 15 Nov.

Grey Partridge 2 Glen Iorsa 23 May; 1 Glen Shurig 26 May; 2 Machrie 25 Sep; 4 Clauchlands 15 Nov.

Pheasant Very numerous Dougrie, Machrie, Glen Rosa, Brodick Country Park although scarce during Jun. 3 Kingscross 21 May; 2 Glenscorradale 26 Jun; 24 Glenrigh 6 Sep; 30+ Machrie autumn.

Water Rail 1 Clauchlands 7 Dec (MM)

Corncrake 1 calling Shiskine 1 Jun; probably same one calling 30 Sep.

Moorhen Pr Shiskine 12 Feb (HH)

Coot 1 in sea Cordon 22 May (IS)

Crane (*Grus grus*) 2 Shiskine Blackwater Valley 26 Sep - 1 Oct is first record for Arran (HH, MHD, AW, JK, VI, JL et al).

Oystercatcher 46 nests round island 5-18 Jun, 23 yng by 18 Jun; breeding numbers similar May-Jul; counts inc: 80 Machrie 25 Jan, 104 on 25 Feb; 75 Lamash 22 Feb; 70 Sliderry 30 Mar; 31 Kilpatrick 22 Jul; 31 Merkland 16 Sep; 43 Kildonan 3 Dec; 50 Whiting Bay 18 Dec.

Ringed Plover 25 prs reared 13 yng, some eggs cold probably due to disturbance. Counts inc: 100 Whiting Bay 7 Jan, 102 on 17 Sep; 38 Kildonan 17 Jan; 11 Lochranza 8 Aug; 33 Blackwaterfoot, 58 Machrie 1 Sep; 39 Torrylinnwaterfoot 2 Sep; 40 Brodick, 11 Sannox 3 Sep; 32 Lamash, 13 Catacol 7 Sep; 20 Cleiteadh 26 Nov; max 310 Arran 26 Aug-7 Sep.

Golden Plover 8 prs, 6 fledged yng min. 1 on territory Beinn Bhreac 10 Feb; 2 Machrie 23 Feb; 8 Catacol 26 Apr; 2 Corriegills 25 Aug; 6 Machrie 29 Sep; 40 West Bennan 18 Oct.

Lapwing 12+ prs bred, 5 yng, 4 eggs at one site 7 Jun. Counts inc: max 145 Machrie-Dougrie 24 Feb; 40 Kildonan 28 Oct; 61 Machrie 21 Dec.

Knot 3 juv Sliderry 25 Aug; 2 juv Kildonan 9 Sep, 1 only on 13 Sep; 1 Whiting Bay 18 Oct; 1 Kildonan 3 Dec.

Sanderling 1 Kildonan 31 Aug (MHD) only one seen.

Purple Sandpiper 1 Drumadoon Pt 26 Feb, 26 Mar, 2 on 31 Dec.

Dunlin More than usual in full summer plumage. 1 Whiting Bay 9 May, 21 May; 1 Machrie 22 May, 2 on 27 May, 1 on 9 Jun, 2 on 22 Jul, possible attempted breeding Machrie Moor; 2 Kildonan 28 May, 1 early Jun; 1 Kingscross Pt 1 Jun. Autumn: 2 Brodick 2 Aug; 1 Kildonan 4 Aug, 13 from 25-31 Aug, 5 on 2 Sep, 3 on 9 Sep, 1 on 1 Oct, 8 Dec; 4 Blackwaterfoot 13 Aug, 3 on 25 Aug, 14 on 31 Aug, 9 on 2 Sep, 2 on 10 Sep; 5 Machrie 28 Aug, 1 Sep, 4 on 8 Sep; 2 Torrylinnwaterfoot 2 Sep; 2 Carlo 3 Sep; 4 Machrie 8 Sep; 2 Whiting Bay 17 Sep; 1 Brodick 4 Oct.

Snipe 2 drumming Boguille 5-18 Jun; 2 Glenloig, 1 Sliderry 30 Apr may have bred. Singles Boguille 8 Feb, Clauchlands 12 Mar, 16 Oct, 23 Nov, 9 on 25 Nov, 13 on 7 Dec; 1 Kildonan 4 Aug, 9 Sep; 1 Blackwaterfoot 20 Aug; max 20 Machrie 11 Sep, 1 on 16 Oct; 10 E Auchencairn 13 Sep, 3 on 8 Dec; 4 above Cnocan Loch 10 Sep.

Woodcock Roding birds: 2 Kingscross 24 May, 1 Lochranza 18 Jun, 2 separate Brodick Country Park 26 Jun roding regularly until end Jul, nest 4 eggs in forestry 9 Apr, min 8 in Park inc 3 roding together. 2 The Heights 12 Feb; 1 String 26 Feb; 1 Glen Catacol 5 Aug; 3 Glen Rosa 2 Sep; 2 String 4 Dec; 3 Clauchlands 7 Dec; 2 Loch na Davie 14 Dec.

Black-tailed Godwit 1 Torrylinnwaterfoot 11 Jul (JMcC).

Bar-tailed Godwit Only 1 Clauchlands 22, 23 Aug (AW) is poor compared to last year.

10 **Whimbrel** First 1 Whitefarland 27 Mar; 1 Drumadoon 25 Apr; 2 Clauchlands 6

May; 1 Tormore 9 May; 3 Machrie 15 May, 2 on 23 May; 1 Sliderry 26 May; 1 Lochranza 3 Aug; 1 Kilpatrick 27 Aug; 1 Cordon 1 Sep; 1 Whiting Bay 29 Sep; total 15 birds.

Curlew 8 prs in breeding territories but probably more. 1 nest 4 eggs Dougrie 7 Jun. Counts inc: 100 Kilpatrick 7 Jan; 100 Merkland 16 Feb; 130 Machrie 24 Feb; 60 Corriecravie 27 Mar, 160 on 29 Jun; 114 Clauchlands 27 Aug; 85 Kilpatrick 2 Sep; 102 Machrie 16 Nov; 27 Kingscross 23 Nov; 90 Merkland 18 Dec.

Redshank 2 prs possibly bred. 5-13 Clauchlands except summer; 5 Sliderry 30 Mar; 17 Whiting Bay 21 Mar, 20 on 17 Sep; up to 7 frequent Merkland; 4 Brodick 12 Jul inc 2 juvs; max 22 Kildonan 9 Sep, probably same 22 Machrie 3 Oct.

Greenshank 1 Machrie 29 Jan, 26 Feb, 28 Aug.

Common Sandpiper Arr: 18 Apr Brodick. 49 territories is big increase. Samples: pr Carlo 4 yng, 1 survived; nest 4 eggs Catacol 11 Jun; pr 1 yng Merkland 28 Jun. Last late single Rosa Burn 2 Oct.

Turnstone 26 Whiting Bay 12 Feb; 12 Catacol 1 Mar; 8 Drumadoon 26 Apr; 20 Pladda 12 Jun; 18 Machrie 1 Sep; 12 Clauchlands 16 Sep, 16 Oct; max 32 Whiting Bay 18 Aug, 17 Sep.

Grey Phalarope 1 possible Brodick Bay in storm 23 Mar (Dr.J.R.A.B.)

Arctic Skua 1 S Catacol 4 Jul; 1 Brodick-Ardrossan 27 Aug; 1 Ardrossan-Brodick 22 Sep.

Great Skua 1 Ardrossan-Brodick 3 Aug; 1 Brodick-Ardrossan 21 Aug; 1 Catacol 7 Sep.

Black-headed Gull None present 14-21 May. 1 Dougrie 1 Jun; 2 Thundergay 9 Jun; small numbers summered, but no nests Dougrie at usual colony. Ringing recovery of 5 yr bird Aviemore, ringed as 1 yr old Arran 200 km S of its breeding area. Counts inc: 21 Cordon 15 Sep; 17 Brodick 25 Sep; max 50 Catacol 5 Oct; 30 Kildonan 21 Oct; 20 Whiting Bay 21 Nov.

Common Gull 40 nests Machrie-Dougrie; 3 nests Kilpatrick, all with eggs 10 Jun; 7 nests Boguille 11 Jun; 6 nests with yng Glen Catacol 14 Jun. No word from Holy Isle or Pladda. Counts inc: 150 Cleiteadh 7 Jan; 200 Brodick 10 Feb; 138 Blackwaterfoot 26 Feb; 140 Catacol 29 Mar; 74 Clauchlands 9 Apr; 100 Dougrie 6 May; 200 Catacol 5 Oct; 100+ Lamlash 5 Nov; 200 Shiskine 19 Nov; 250 Brodick 30 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull 4 Whiting Bay 12 Feb first of year. 350 Machrie 13 Mar; 25 Catacol 29 May; 90 Iorsa 22 Jun; bred Holy Isle and Pladda. 86 Whiting Bay 14 Aug; 300 Machrie 8 Sep; 250 Cordon-Lamlash 15 Sep; last 2 Lochranza 28 Oct.

Herring Gull Large numbers bred Holy Isle and Pladda, 7 nests, eggs and yng Glen Catacol. 71 Catacol 29 May; 17 Glen Shurig 31 May; 30 Iorsa 22 Jun. Counts inc:

105 Whiting Bay 17 Jan; 95 Port na Fennaiche 28 Jan; 400 Brodick 10 Feb; 1,000 Brodick coup 17 Jul; 120 Sannox 14 Sep; 60 Kildonan 17 Sep; 520 Whiting Bay 19 Nov; 200 Machrie 25 Nov; 600 Whiting Bay 8 Dec; 400 Catacol 19 Dec.

Great Black-backed Gull Singles Merklund, Catacol 5-6 Jun; 2-7 Lamlash all year, max 10 on 15, 17 Dec. 4-5 Whiting Bay all year except 75 on 3 Nov. 17 Machrie 24 Sep; 55 Brodick 25 Sep; 50 Whiting Bay 8, 24 Nov. Only 1 Brodick 30 Nov.

Kittiwake 5 Catacol 26 Mar; 3 North Sannox 7 Jun; 18 Whiting Bay 14 Aug, 225 on 9 Sep, 500 on 29 Sep, 700 on 7 Oct, 25 still present 17 Dec; 7 Torrylin waterfoot 2 Sep; 200 Machrie 3 Sep; 300 Brodick 25 Sep, 1 Oct.

Sandwich Tern Arr: 2 Drumadoon 25 Apr; 1 Kildonan, 2 Lamlash 29 Apr; 3 Kingscross Pt, 2 Torrylin waterfoot 30 Apr; 4 Kildonan 1 May, 2 on 4 May; 2 Merklund 6 May; 6 Blackwaterfoot 26 May; autumn stopover passage: 2 Machrie 7 Aug; 5 Clauchlands 9 Aug, 4 on 2 Sep; 6 Tormore 13 Aug; 1 Blackwaterfoot 2 Sep; 7 Whiting Bay 7 Sep, 4 on 9 Sep; 2 Kildonan 9 Sep; 3 Brodick 23 Sep.

Common Tern 200 unidentified tern species Ardrossan-Brodick 4 May; 1 pr mating Pirmill 25 May; 2 south of Imachar 27 May; 1 nest Pladda 12 Jun.

Arctic Tern Arr: Pladda 11 May; 28 prs present Kildonan 21 May, nesting began Pladda 25 May, 12 nests on 12 Jun; 2 Machrie 14 May; 2 Dougrie 22 May, 18 Jun; 1 Lochranza 25 May. Success not known.

Little Tern Single with 12 Common Gulls Clauchlands 8 Oct (AW).

Guillemot Counts inc: 40 off Catacol 13 Mar, 29 on 13 Jun, 22 on 19 Dec. Those seen on Brodick-Ardrossan crossing: 42 on 3 May in small groups, 9 on 15 Jul, 8 on 25 Jul, 6 on 30 Sep, 4 on 6 Oct; singles and prs seen closer inshore round island throughout year.

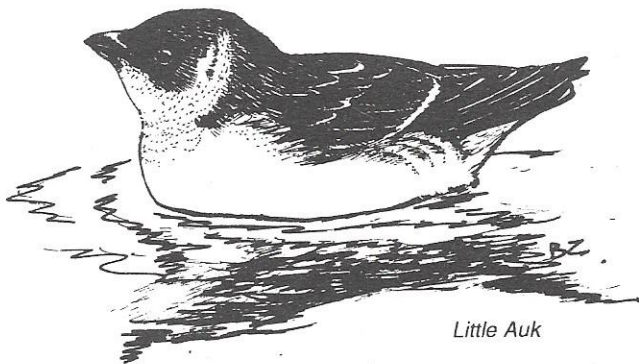
Razorbill 2 Whiting Bay 7 Feb; 1 Brodick 10 Feb; 2 Catacol 1 Apr; 8 Cock of Arran 13 May; 1 dead Machrie 1 May, 1 dead Dougrie 6 Jul; 2 groups adults and yng Catacol 7 Sep; 3 Whiting Bay 18 Dec; 2 Lochranza 19 Dec.

Black Guillemot Pr 2 eggs Lochranza pier 16 Jun (sadly now dismantled) reared 1 yng; pr nest 2 eggs Pladda 12 Jun; pr nest 2 eggs near King's Cave 12 Jun. Singles and prs round island throughout year. Counts inc: 4 Fallen Rocks, 3 Lochranza 30 Apr; 3 Blackwaterfoot 31 May; 4 Catacol 4 Dec.

Little Auk 1 N Machrie 16 Nov; 1 S Pirmill 27 Mar.

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon 16 prs with nests, 2 nests with 3 yng in cliffs and caves thought to be Rock Doves; 50 Ferals Lamlash old church. Counts: 20 Cleiteadh 7 Jan; 9 Machrie 5 May; 8 Kilpatrick 23 Jul; 6 Imachar 8 Aug; 8 Machrie 3 Oct; 15 Shiskine 19 Nov.

Stock Dove 1 footpath to Fallen Rocks 14 Jun (LB)



Little Auk

Woodpigeon Counts inc: 14 Cleiteadh 7 Jan; 40 Kildonan 17 Jan, 44 on 14 Feb; 47 Tormore 28 Jan; 10 Catacol 5 Aug; 24 Lochranza 14-15 Sep; 20 Kingscross 26 Sep; max 73 Shiskine 19 Nov. Larger numbers than last three years.

Collared Dove 37 prs probably bred. Counts: 8 Shiskine 7 Jan; 12 Whiting Bay 10 Jan; 10 Lamlash 4 Mar; 15 Gortonallister Oct.

Cuckoo Arr: 1 Machrie, 1 Glen Shurig 27 Apr. Territories: 1 Glen Cloy 3 May, 1 Lochranza, 1 Auchencairn 4 May, 1 Machrie Forestry, 1 Kingscross 5 May, 1 North Sannox 6 May, 1 Sliddery 21 May, 1 Glen Creagag, 1 Dereneneach, 1 Glaister, 1 Dougrie, 1 Monamore 22 May, 1 Ross 23 May, 3 Glen Iorsa 25 May, 2 Sliddery 27 May, pr Machrie Moor 28 May, 2 Glen Scaftigill, 1 Tormore, 1 Whiting Bay 30 May; 1 yng Machrie-Torbeg 10 Jun; 1 Corrie 11 Jun, 3 Glen Rosa 12 Jun, 1 Glen Sannox 13 Jun, 1 Ballikine 18 Jun. Last 1 Glen Rosa 4 Jul. 25 calling m is increase.

Barn Owl 9 sites: pr reared 1 yng Dougrie; nest box used Brodick Country Park, no yng seen; pr nested Merkland; 1 Kildonan 9 Jan; 1 Kingscross 11 Jan to May; 1 Machrie 24 Feb; 1 Port Leacach Mar; 1 Gortonallister 24 Mar; 1 Corriecravie 27 Mar; 1 dead Whiting Bay after weeks of severe weather 7 Apr; 1 Monamore 18 Apr; 1 Brodick 6 Sep; 1 West Bennan 17 Oct; 1 Kingscross 22 Nov.

Tawny Owl Calling Brodick Country Park 26 Jun, Glen Rosa 2 Oct, Lamlash 26 Nov.

Long-eared Owl 1 Clauchlands 1 Mar (IS)

Short-eared Owl 10 prs but success known at only 1 site Boguille, 5 yng 7 Jun, 3 yng 12 Jun; 1 Auchareoch 28 Jan; 4 Boguille 10 Feb probably reflects success of previous year; 3 Machrie Moor 19 Apr.

Nightjar Arr: 2 churring Merkland 30 May 5am. 1 seen Brodick Country Park 31 May, 2 heard 7 Jun; 4 m holding territory.

Swift First 1 passage Kildonan 9 May, 2 on 5 Jun, 3 on 12 Jun; 1 Brodick 8 Jun; 3 S Corrie 11 Jun; 1 Lochranza 15 Jun; 1 Lamlash 19 Jun; 1 Kildonan 7 Jul, 2 on 21 Jul; 1 Kilpatrick 18 Jul.

Kingfisher More sightings than usual. 1 Torrylinnwater 29 Apr; 1 Pirmill 30 Apr; 1 Blackwater 8 Jul; 1 Rosa burn 2 Oct; 1 Lamlash 11 Nov.

Skylark 22 prs again noted. Counts: 200 Kilmory 7 Jan; 50 Kildonan 14 Feb; 30 Kingscross 24 Feb; 20 Machrie 19 Apr.

Sand Martin Arr: 1 Pirmill 27 Mar, 3 Brodick 31 Mar. 10 pr at colony Auchencar; 3 Dougrie 13 Apr, 6 May; 6 feeding Slidderlywater 28 May, 5 on 21 Jun, no nestholes found; 2 Glen Iorsa 29 May, old colony not used; 1 Machriewater 20 Aug; 25 North Sannox 1 Sep is most seen for several years.

Swallow Arr: 1 Slidderly 27 Mar, 2 Lochranza, 1 Dougrie 1 Apr, 3 Kildonan 13 Apr, 2 Brodick 16 Apr, 1 Gortonallister 18 Apr, 2 Kilmory 19 Apr, 1 Lamlash 22 Apr; still only small numbers by beginning May; 20 Auchencarm 6 May; many nests failed; counts inc: 38 Glenrigh 6 Sep; 15 Lochranza 24 Sep; 9 Machrie 28 Sep; 6 Auchencarm 25 Sep, 3 Oct; max 105 Whiting Bay Sep; 1 Lamlash 19 Oct; last 1 Brodick 17-24 Nov.

House Martin Arr: 2 Brodick 31 Mar; 2 Auchencarm 18 Apr; 1 Lamlash 1 May; few until 20 May; 17 nests Sannox House; 6 nests Glen Sannox; 20 nests Lamlash Hospital. Counts inc: 4 Slidderlywater 28 May; 4 North Sannox 1 Sep; 15 inc adults from 2 nests Lamlash 5 Sep; 12 Shiskine 27 Sep; only 25 Whiting Bay end Sep is poor.

Tree Pipit Arr: 1 Cordon 16 Apr, 1 Catacol 19 Apr; 4 singing North Sannox 6 May; 3 singing String-Machrie 14 May; 1 Glen Creagag, 1 Slidderly 21 May; 1 Glen Rosa 24 May; pr North Thundergay, pr Benlister 25 May; brood North Sannox 7 Jun; 2 singing Corrie 11 Jun; 1 Ross 21 Jun; last 1 Brodick Country Park 3 Sep.

Meadow Pipit 100 Brodick Country Park 9 Apr; in territories 13 Apr; 15 Blackwaterfoot, 7 Glen Scaftigill 30 May; 2 nests Boguille 8 Jun; large movement 500+ Blackwaterfoot-Kilpatrick 28 Aug-1 Sep, 50 only by 2 Sep; 37 Kildonan 2 Sep; 30+ Brodick Country Park 3 Sep; 20 Lochranza 26 Oct.

Rock Pipit 60+ Drumadoon 11 Mar; 8 territories Kildonan-Bennan 15 Apr; 2 nests each 5 yng Dougrie 28 May; 4 prs Kilmory 4 Jun; nest 4 eggs Kilpatrick 10 Jun; nest 4 eggs Bennan 12 Jun; fledged yng Lochranza 16 Jun; 4 prs Whitefarland-Imachar 18 Jun; 4 prs 4 yng Slidderlywaterfoot 21 Jun; broods Drumadoon 26 Jun, Corrie 17 Jul, Machrie 13 Aug. Counts: 24 Kildonan-Bennan 4 Jul; 27 Blackwaterfoot 2 Sep; 30 Kildonan 30 Sep; 10 Clauchlands 21 Oct

Grey Wagtail 23 territories at: Bennan-Kildonan (2), North Sannox, Glenashdale, Ross Glen (2), Monamore, Kingscross, Brodick, Auchencarm, Port Leacach, Clauchlands (2), Altachorvie, Glen Rosa, Carlo, Corrie, Glen Sannox, Glen Easan, Lagg, Slidderlywaterfoot (2), Blackwaterfoot; 6 juvs total noted. Counts: 30 Brodick coup 8 Aug is a large number for this species; 3 Whiting Bay 2 Sep; 5 Corrie 8 Sep; 4 Kildonan 9 Sep; 6 Glenashdale 15 Sep; 3 Lamlash 16 Oct; 2 Pirmill 19 Dec.

Pied Wagtail Very good season. Counts: 25 Drumadoon 12 Mar; 100 Brodick 8 Aug; 50 Kildonan 25 Aug, 79 on 2 Sep; 25 Blackwaterfoot 2 Sep; 30 Kilmory 6 Sep;

19 Dougrie 5 Oct; M.a.alba: 8 Bennan 15 Apr; 2 Kildonan 23 Apr; 3 Machrie 29 Apr, 12 on 1 May; 4 Bennan 4 May; return: 4 Kildonan 25 Aug-6 Sep; 1 Kilmory 6 Sep.

Dipper 14 prs. 2 prs Glenashdale, 2 prs Machriewater; only 1 juv Lamlash 3 Jun; single prs Sliderrywater, Glencloy, Monamore, Benlister, Douglas, Garbh Allt, Torrylinnwater, North Glen Sannox, Glen Rosa, Millburn.

Wren 5 prs bred Brodick Country Park; 4 prs Corrie wood; 3 prs Glen Catacol, one with brood 5 Aug; pr broods Carlo, Corriegills, Whitefarland, Blackwaterfoot, Kingscross, common and widespread.

Dunnock Some people have missed Dunnocks, others say just as common. Those noted: pr with yng Kingscross Pt 1 Jun; 1 Whiting Bay 28 Jul; 1 Brodick Country Park 30 Jul; 3 in garden Lamlash Dec

Robin Very common. 10 prs bred Brodick Country Park; 3 prs Corrie wood, 1 yng; 2 prs one garden Kingscross reared 2 yng; 5 prs reared 7 yng Imachar, Whitefarland, North Sannox, Machrie Farm; 20 Glen Rosa 1 Oct.

Redstart m Corrie wood 11 Jun; f North Sannox with yng 11 Jul, f 1 yng on 16 Jul; 1 Corrie 5 Aug; 1 Lochranza 10 Aug.

Whinchat Arr: North Sannox 6 May; 41 min territories located, many with fledged yng, is increase, but probably more in young forestry. Autumn: 2 Claulchlands 24 Aug; 2 Kildonan 2 Sep; last 1 Glen Rosa 14 Oct.

Stonechat 54 territories is better than ever, 30 yng noted. Samples: 6 prs Glen Iorsa; 5 prs Kilpatrick-Cleiteadh shore; 3 prs Brown Head; 2 prs Bennan; 6 prs Ross. Counts inc: pr Kerr's Port 10 Jan; m Kilpatrick, f Machrie 28 Jan; m Auchenhew 7 Mar; pr Lochranza 12 Mar; 8 Glen Scorrodale 6 Sep; 6 Blackwaterfoot 24 Sep; 10 Glen Rosa 1 Oct; 12 Goatfell 2 Oct; 15 Ross 6 Oct; 2 North Sannox 5 Nov; 4 Bennan 3 Dec; 2 Glen Catacol 14 Dec.

Wheatear Arr: 1 Brodick, 2 Dunfion 23 Mar; 1 Corriegills 26 Mar; 3 Pirmill 27 Mar; 3 Millstone Pt, 2 Boguille 28 Mar; max 24 Kildonan-Bennan, 1 Glen Catacol 29 Mar; 2 Machrie, 2 Brodick 1 Apr. Breeding: 55 prs located with 15 broods, 37 yng. Autumn: 3 Blackwaterfoot 19 Aug, 2 on 10 Sep; 2 Corriegills 25 Aug; 2 Kildonan 6 Sep; singles Machrie 13 Aug, 11 Sep, Brodick 10 Sep, Lamlash 11 Oct. Last 1 Kerr's Port 30 Oct.

Ring Ouzel Pr Glen Dhiobhan, pr Squiler; 1 heard Coire Daingean.

Blackbird Many prs reared yng. 10 prs bred Brodick Country Park; white f still present Lamlash. 8 Claulchlands 14 Dec.

Fieldfare 14 Torbeg 1 Jan; 68 Ross 7 Jan; 21 Glaister 12 Feb; 50 Corriegills 30 Mar; 2 Kildonan 23 Apr; 300 Glen Sannox 30 Oct and probably same 300 Sannox 5 Nov; 200+ Glenloig 16 Nov; 500 Gortonallister, Kingscross, Auchencairn 18 Nov; 150 Kingscross 5 Dec; 70 Claulchlands 7 Dec; 20 Monamore 13 Dec; 200 Corrie-North Glen Sannox 17 Dec; 12 Imachar, 11 Lochranza 19 Dec.

Song Thrush Good numbers holding territories. 5 prs bred Brodick Country Park; 5 prs Margnaheglis; very scarce Oct..

Redwing 6 Torbeg 1 Jan; 1 Glaister 12 Feb; 30 Glen Rosa 15 Oct; 40 Lochranza 28 Oct; 3 Glenloig 16 Nov; 20 Kingscross 5 Dec; 8 Imachar 19 Dec. Very low numbers compared to Fieldfares.

Mistle Thrush 18 prs located, 9 yng. Counts inc: 20 Auchencairn 28 Aug; 8 String 3 Sep; 5 Kingscross, 6 Ross 6 Sep; 6 Dippen 24 Sep; 6 Glen Rosa 1 Oct; 3 Brodick 2 Oct; 2 Kildonan, 1 Cleiteadh 26 Nov; 10 Clauchlands 7 Dec.

Grasshopper Warbler 8 singing m is more than usual. Arr: 19 Apr Lamlash, 3 singing same area 6 May; 1 Kingscross Pt 26 Jun; 3 Torbeg 27 Jun; 1 Goatfell path 1 Jul.

Sedge Warbler Arr: Clauchlands 6 May, 3 singing 14, 16 May, 10 Jun, 3 Jul; 1 singing Kingscross 8 May is first here since 1983; 1 Kingscross Pt 1 Jun. Territories: 1 Kildonan 10 May, 3 singing 26 May; 1 Dougrie 14 May; 1 Port Leacach May; 1 Tormore 30 May; 1 Blackwaterfoot 30, 31 May; pr Prospect Hill 2 Jun; 1 Slidery, 3 Torbeg 26 Jun; 2 Kilpatrick 28 Jun; 1 Kings Cave 27 Jun; 1 Blackwaterfoot 27 Jun, 27 Jul; 2 prs Corriecravie 29 Jun; 2 Cordon 4 Aug. 22 territories is good increase. Last 1 Clauchlands 5 Sep.

Common Whitethroat Arr: 1 Clauchlands 3 May; 43 territories more than keeps pace with previous year. Nest predated Brodick Golf Course; 6 singing Kingscross 6 May; pr reared 4 Dippen; pr reared at least 2 Kingscross. Last 1 Clauchlands 23 Sep.

Garden Warbler Arr: 1 Gortonallister 24 Apr; 1 Clauchlands 19 May; 1 Brodick, 1 Catacol 7, 10 Jun; 1 Brodick coup 18 Jun; 1 Ross 20 Jun; 1 Corrie 8 Aug.

Blackcap 14 singing m located. Arr: 1 Largybeg, 1 Dippen 10 May; wintering birds: m Margnaheglis 5 Jan; f Kildonan 12 Jan; m Glenashdale 28 Nov; 1 Glen Cloy Dec.

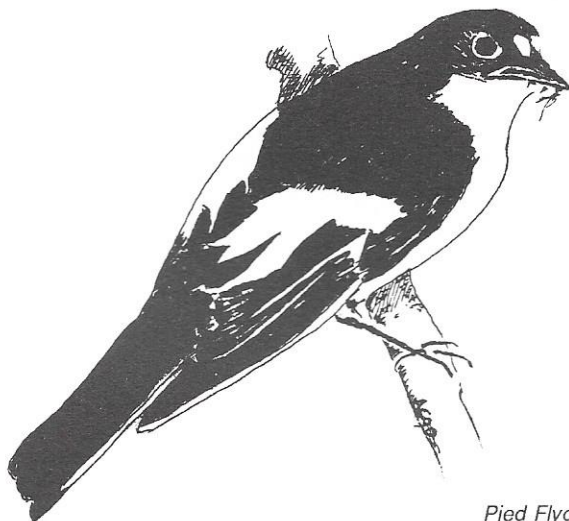
Wood Warbler Arr: 1 Brodick Country Park 28 Apr where only 1 pr bred; only 9 territories located, but at least two not visited; 3 Corrie, 1 Lagg, 1 Glenashdale, 1 Glencloy, 1 Cordon, 1 Glen Rosa.

Chiffchaff Arr: 1 Whitefarland 27 Mar; 1 North Sannox, 1 Brodick 28 Mar; 1 Lochranza 30 Mar; 1 Lamlash 31 Mar; 19 territories with 5 Whiting Bay inc Glenashdale, 6 Lamlash-Cordon, 2 Brodick Country Park, singles elsewhere. Last 1 North Sannox 25 Sep.

Willow Warbler Arr: 1 Lochranza 1 Apr; 1 Kingscross 8 Apr; 1 Carlo 10 Apr; 1 Glaister 13 Apr; 1 Kildonan 14 Apr; many by 15 Apr; sample breeding: 5 prs Corrie wood; 2 prs Largybeg; 2 prs Merkland; pr 2 yng Corriecravie; pr 2 yng Margnaheglis; 2 prs Auchencar; last 1 Kingscross 14 Sep.

Goldcrest 8 prs bred Brodick Country Park; pr 3 yng Corrie wood 11 Jun; pr 2 yng Glen Cloy 22 Jun; pr 2 yng Kingscross 9 Aug; counts inc: 6 Kingscross 16 Sep; 7 Fallen Rocks 2 Oct.

Spotted Flycatcher Arr: 1 Monamore 7 May; 24 prs reared 22 yng; 3 yng North Sannox; 2 yng Sannox; 3 yng Kingscross; 2 yng Corrie; 4 yng Brodick; 2 yng Catacol; 1 yng Machrie; 1 yng Margnahegligh; 4 yng Newton. Last 4 Brodick Country Park 3 Sep, 2 Kingscross 13 Sep.



Pied Flycatcher

Pied Flycatcher m singing in oak trees Lochranza 25 May (JD) is first since 1983.

Long-tailed Tit Family parties summer: 12 Brodick, 6 Corrie, 9 Goatfell path, 8 Shiskine, 6 Glencloy, 4 Sliddery, 4 Knockankelly, 18 Glen Sannox. Autumn-winter: 13 Margnahegligh, 15 Port Leacach, 15 Kildonan possibly same, 12 Kingscross, 10 Glenashdale, 12 West Bennan, 20 Carlo, 10 Brodick Country Park.

Coal Tit Only 14 prs, 10 yng noted, but many more in forestry. Counts inc: 9 Brodick Country Park 2 Jul; 6 Glen Rosa 1 Oct; 20 Goatfell path 2 Oct; 5 Lamblash 30 Oct.

Blue Tit 2 prs bred nest boxes Kingscross; 6 prs Brodick Country Park; 2 prs Corrie; 3 prs Carlo; pr 4 yng Cordon; pr 3 yng Margnahegligh; pr 3 yng North Sannox. 12 Glen Rosa 1 Oct.

Great Tit 3 prs bred Brodick Country Park; 10 prs noted elsewhere. 4 Glen Rosa 1 Oct; 10 Goatfell path 2 Oct.

Treecreeper 12 prs bred: North Sannox (1), Corrie (2), Brodick Country Park (1), Strabane (1), Machrie wood (1), Lagg (1), Glen Rosa (1), High Corrie (1), Monamore (1), Glenashdale (1), Corriegills (1), Merkland (1); 1 Margnahegligh 5 Jan, 19 Dec; 1 Lamblash 17 Nov; 1 Whiting Bay 30 Nov.

Great Grey Shrike 1 North Sannox 26 Dec (TMcK, MMcK et al)

Jackdaw 26+ prs bred Drumadoon. Many bred Catacol, Corriecravie, Dippen, Corriegills. Counts inc: 100 Cleiteadh 7 Jan; 120 Kildonan 20 Jan; 100 Shiskine 28 Jan; 100 Pirmill, 120 Machrie 18 Apr; 200 Brodick 17 Jul; 140 Blackwaterfoot 30 Aug; 101 Catacol 1 Sep; 200 Blackwaterfoot 10 Sep; 100 Kildonan 13 Sep.

Rook 1 Shiskine 28 Jan, 50 on 26 Feb; 48 High Fiorline 29 Sep; 40 Blackwaterfoot 8 Nov; 180 Shiskine 19 Nov.

Carrion Crow 20+ prs bred, many reared 2 yng. Counts inc: 40 (mixed Hooded Crows) Lamlash 10 Jan; 7 Shiskine 28 Jan; 7 Glen Shurig 26 May; 13 + 4 Hybrids Kildonan 13 Sep; 7 Kingscross 2 Oct; 5 Kilmory 1 Dec.

Hooded Crow Only 8 nests noted, but larger counts than Carrion: 10 Ross, 20 Cleiteadh, 18 Kilpatrick 7 Jan; 10 + 3 Hybrids Shiskine 28 Jan; 40 Kilmory 10 Mar; 8 Kildonan 13 Sep; 17 High Fiorline 29 Sep; 8 Lamlash 4 Oct; 6 Ross 6 Oct; 20 Kilmory 1 Dec.

Raven 13 prs reared 22 yng. Counts inc: 4 Machrie Moor 24 Feb; 4 Lochranza 11 Mar; 5 Cock of Arran Jul; 6 Am Binnein 5 Jul, Goatfell 7 Aug. 1 nest shot.

Starling Counts inc: 300 Blackwaterfoot 2 Sep; 300 Kildonan 6-13 Sep; 120 Kilmory 6 Sep; 40+ Clauchlands autumn/winter; 250 Shiskine 19 Nov.

House Sparrow 50+ Auchencairn most of year; 40+ Lamlash 3 Aug; 20 Blackwaterfoot 10 Sep.

Tree Sparrow 1 with House Sparrows Lamlash 3 Aug (AW)

Chaffinch 11 prs Brodick Country Park; 4 prs Corrie wood. Counts inc: 70 Kilpatrick, 40 Cleiteadh 7 Jan; 100 Kingscross 4 Feb; 60 Lamlash 18 Feb.

Greenfinch 18 prs. Max count: 50 Kingscross 30 Aug.

Goldfinch 16 prs. Counts inc: 17 The Heights 15 Jan; 10 Whiting Bay 17 Jan; 35 Blackwaterfoot 27 Aug; 24 Lamlash 4 Nov.

Siskin Common at nuts Mar, Apr. First brood Gortonallister end Apr, second brood end Jun; also bred Kingscross, Monamore, Margnaeglish, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Kildonan, North Sannox, Merkland, Machrie, Glen Sannox. Counts: 5 Margnaeglish 21 Mar; 16 Glenashdale Apr; 5 Merkland 4 Jun; "flock" Brodick Country Park 4 Sep; 6 Kingscross 25 Sep; 12 North Sannox 25 Sep. Many widely spread, but flocks smaller.

Linnet 21 prs located. Counts inc: 80 Machrie 20 Aug, 1 Sep; 30 Kilpatrick 27 Aug; 20 Kildonan, 10 Torrylinnwaterfoot 2 Sep; 45 Kerr's Port 9 Sep; 70 Cleiteadh 6 Sep; 40 Kilpatrick 10 Sep; 55 Machrie 28 Sep; 42 Clauchlands 4 Oct; 6 Blackwaterfoot 27 Nov. Increase in numbers.

Twite 2 prs Drumadoon, 5 yng 26 Jun; pr Machrie 17 Jul; 1 High Corrie 4 Aug; 15 Machrie 7 Aug; 5 Kilpatrick 31 Aug, 10 Sep; 25 Machrie 1-24 Sep; 14 Blackwaterfoot 2-30 Sep.

Redpoll Very few. 2 Brodick Country Park forestry 22 May; 2 Clauchlands 18 Jun; 1 Shiskine 26 Jun; 2 High Corrie 31 Jul.

Crossbill No comments received.

Bullfinch 12 prs located. Mainly singles and prs. Max 3 North Sannox 25 Sep; 4 Kingscross 2 Dec.

Snow Bunting 2 Machrie 23 Feb, 11 Apr; 1 Cir Mhor 15 May; 1 Cioch na h Oiche 6 Aug; 2 Torr Nead an Eoin 27 Dec.

Yellowhammer 11 prs. Counts: 7 Clauchlands 24 Jan; 10 Kilmory 10 Mar; 1 Machrie 1 Oct; 4 Blackwaterfoot 16 Oct; 1 Shiskine 19 Nov; 5 Kilmory 1 Dec.

Reed Bunting 8 territories is slight increase: 2 prs Machrie, 1 pr Clauchlands, 1 pr Maol Donn; single m singing Blackwaterfoot, Torbeg, Ross Glen, North Glen Sannox.

Corrections and Additions to Previous Report

Records sent too late to be included in last year's report.

Whooper Swan 9 S Kildonan end Sep (PT).

Corncrake 1 Benlister Lamlash Jul (MJB)

Knot 3 Sliderry 25 Aug (Dr.N.J.B.A.Branson)

Bar-tailed Godwit 2 Sliderry 3 Sep

Whimbrel 1 Sliderry 3 Sep

Curlew 120 Sliderry 7 Apr

Turnstone 34 Sliderry 7 Apr

Summer Migrant Arrival Dates

Lesser Black-backed Gull	Whiting Bay	2 Feb
Wheatear	Brodick	23 Mar
Whimbrel	Whitefarland	27 Mar
Sand Martin	Pirnmill	27 Mar
Swallow	Sliderry	27 Mar
Chiffchaff	Whitefarland	27 Mar
House Martin	Brodick	31 Mar
Willow Warbler	Lochranza	1 Apr
White Wagtail	Kildonan	15 Apr
Tree Pipit	Cordon	16 Apr
Common Sandpiper	Brodick	18 Apr
Grasshopper Warbler	Lamlash	19 Apr
Sandwich Tern	Drumadoon	25 Apr
Cuckoo	Glen Shurig	27 Apr
Wood Warbler	Brodick	28 Apr
Common Whitethroat	Clauchlands	3 May
Whinchat	North Sannox	6 May
Sedge Warbler	Clauchlands	6 May
Spotted Flycatcher	Monamore	7 May
Swift	Kildonan	9 May
Blackcap	Largybeg	10 May
Arctic Tern	Pladda	11 May
Garden Warbler	Clauchlands	19 May
Pied Flycatcher	Lochranza	25 May
Nightjar	Brodick	30 May
Corncrake	Shiskine	1 Jun

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

Red-throated Diver	RC	Crane	V	Rock Pipit	RC
Black-throated Diver	R*/PC	Oystercatcher	RC	Yellow Wagtail	S*U
Great Northern Diver	S**U/WU/PC	Ringed Plover	RC	Grey Wagtail	RC
Little Grebe	WU	Dotterel	PO	White Wagtail	B*/PC
Great Crested Grebe	WO	Golden Plover	SU/WU/PU	Pied Wagtail	RC
Red-necked Grebe	WO	Grey Plover	PU	Waxwing	WO
Slavonian Grebe	WO	Lapwing	RC	Dipper	RC
Black-necked Grebe	WO	Knot	PC	Wren	RC
Fulmar	SC/WU	Sanderling	PU	Duncock	RC
Cory's Shearwater	V	Curlew Sandpiper	V	Robin	RC
Sooty Shearwater	V	Purple Sandpiper	WU	Black Redstart	WU/PU
Manx Shearwater	SU/PC	Little Stint	V	Redstart	SU
Storm Petrel	PC	Dunlin	SU/WC/PC	Whinchat	SC
Leach's Petrel	V	Ruff	V	Stonechat	RC
Gannet	S**C/WU	Jack Snipe	WO	Wheatear	SC/PC
Cormorant	RC	Snipe	RC	Ring Ouzel	SU
Shag	RC	Woodcock	RC	Blackbird	RC
Bittern	V	Black-tailed Godwit	PO	Fieldfare	WC/PC
Grey Heron	RC	Bar-tailed Godwit	WO/PU	Song Thrush	RC
Spoonbill	V	Whimbrel	PC	Redwing	WC/PC
Chilean Flamingo	V	Curlew	PO	Mistle Thrush	RC
Mute Swan	R*C	Spotted Redshank	PO	Grasshopper Warbler	SC
Whooper Swan	WU/PC	Redshank	RC	Sedge Warbler	SC
Pink-footed Goose	WO	Greenshank	WU/PU	Lesser Whitethroat	V
White-fronted Goose	WU/PU	Green Sandpiper	V	Whitethroat	SC
Greylag Goose	WC/PC	Common Sandpiper	SC	Garden Warbler	SC
Canada Goose	R*/PO	Turnstone	S**U/WC/PC	Blackcap	SC/WU
Barnacle Goose	WO	Grey Phalarope	V	Wood Warbler	SC
Brent Goose	WO	Red-necked Phalarope	V	Chiffchaff	SC/PC
Shelduck	RC	Pomarine Skua	V	Willow Warbler	SC/PC
Wigeon	S*O/WC	Arctic Skua	S**U/PC	Goldcrest	RC
Teal	SU/WC	Great Skua	S**U/PC	Spotted Flycatcher	SC
Mallard	RC	Little Gull	PO	Pied Flycatcher	S**U
Pintail	PO	Sabine's Gull	V	Long-tailed Tit	RC
Shoveler	B*	Black-headed Gull	RC	Willow Tit	O
Pochard	WO	Common Gull	RC	Coal Tit	RC
Tufted Duck	PU	Lesser Black-backed Gull	SC/WU	Blue Tit	RC
Scaup	WO	Herring Gull	RC	Great Tit	RC
Eider	RC	Glaucous Gull	SU/PU	Treecreeper	RC
King Eider	S**U	Iceland Gull	O	Golden Oriole	V
Long-tailed Duck	SO/WO	Great Black-backed Gull	RC	Red-backed Shrike	V
Scoter	SO/WO	Kittiwake	B*SU/WC/PC	Great Grey Shrike	V
Velvet Scoter	WO	Ivory Gull	V	Jay	B*/PO
Goldeneye	WC	Sandwich Tern	S**C/PC	Magpie	B*/PO
Smew	WO	Roseate Tern	B*O	Chough	B*
Red-breasted Merganser	RC	Common Tern	SC/PC	Jackdaw	RC
Goosander	S*/PU	Arctic Tern	SC/PC	Rook	B*/WC
Red Kite	B*	Little Tern	V	Carrion Crow	RC
White-tailed Eagle	B*V	Guillemot	R**C	Hooded Crow	RC
Marsh Harrier	V	Razorbill	R**C	Raven	RC
Hen Harrier	RC	Black Guillemot	RC	Starling	RC
Goshawk	S**/PO	Little Auk	PO	House Sparrow	RC
Sparrowhawk	RC	Puffin	PU	Tree Sparrow	B*
Buzzard	RC	Pallas's Sandgrouse	V	Chaffinch	RC
Rough-legged Buzzard	V	Rock Dove	RC	Brambling	WU
Golden Eagle	RC	Stock Dove	RU	Greenfinch	RC
Osprey	B*/PO	Woodpigeon	RC	Goldfinch	RC
Hobby	V	Collared Dove	RC	Siskin	RC
Kestrel	RC	Turtle Dove	V	Linnets	RC
Merlin	RU	Cuckoo	SC	Twite	RU
Peregrine	RC	Barn Owl	RC	Redpoll	SC/PU
Red Grouse	RC	Tawny Owl	RC	Crossbill	RU
Partridge	RU	Long-eared Owl	RU	Bullfinch	RC
Black Grouse	RU	Short-eared Owl	RU	Hawfinch	V
Capercaillie	B*	Nightjar	SU	Snow Bunting	WU
Red-legged Partridge	I	Swift	S*U/PC	Yellowhammer	RC
Grey Partridge	R*U	Kingfisher	R*U	Reed Bunting	RC
Quail	B*/V	Kingfisher	R*U	Corn Bunting	B*
Pheasant	RC	Kingfisher	R*U	Red-headed Bunting	POE
Lady Amherst's Pheasant	V	Great Spotted Woodpecker	R*O		
Water Rail	RU	Skyllark	RC		
Spotted Crane	V	Sand Martin	SC		
Corncrake	S*U	Swallow	SC		
Moorhen	RU	House Martin	SC		
Coot	WO	Tree Pipit	SC		
		Meadow Pipit	RC		

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EIDERS



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

STUDIO 4

LAMLASH