



# Report on Rare birds in Great Britain in 1993

*M.J.Rogers and the Rarities Committee*  
*With comments by Graham P. Catley and Michael J. Rogers*

## Systematic list of accepted records

The principles and procedures followed in considering records were explained in the 1958 Report (Brit. Birds 53: 155-158). The systematic list is set out in the same way as in the 1992 report (86: 447-540). The following points show the basis on which the list has been compiled:

1. The details included for each record are (1) county; (2) locality; (3) number of birds if more than one, and age and sex if known (in the case of spring and summer records, however, the age is normally given only where the bird concerned was not in adult plumage); (4) if photographed or tape-recorded (and this evidence seen or heard by the Committee); (5) if trapped or found dead and where specimen is stored, if known; (6) date(s); and (7) observer(s), up to three in number, in alphabetical order.
2. In general, this report is confined to records that are regarded as certain, and 'probables' are not included. In the cases of the very similar Long-billed *Limnodromus scolopaceus* and Short-billed Dowitchers *L.griseus*, however, we are continuing to publish indeterminate records, and this also applies to those of pratincoles *Glareola*, albatrosses *Diomedea* and frigatebirds *Fregata*.
3. The sequence of species, English names and scientific nomenclature follow the '*British Birds' List of English Names of Western Palearctic Birds* (1993). Any sight records of subspecies (including those of birds trapped and released) are normally referred to as 'showing the characters' of the race concerned.
4. The three numbers in parentheses after each species' name refer respectively to the total number of individuals recorded in Britain & Ireland (excluding those 'At sea') (i) to the end of 1957, (ii) for the period since the formation of the Rarities Committee in 1958, but excluding (iii) the current year. The decision as to how many individuals were involved is often difficult and rather arbitrary, but the consensus of members is indicated by 'possibly the same' (counted as different in the totals), 'probably the same' (counted as the same in the totals), or 'the same' when evidence is certain or overwhelming. An identical approach is applied to records of the same species recurring at the same locality after a lapse of time, including those which occur annually at the same or a nearby site. In considering claims of more than one individual at the same or adjacent localities, the Committee usually requires firm evidence before more than one is counted in the totals. A detailed breakdown of the figures for previous years is held by the Honorary Secretary.
5. Irish records, assessed and accepted by the Irish Rare Birds Committee, are included separately, by special permission of the IRBC, following the subheading IRELAND.

## **White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* (18, 135, 8)**

**Devon** Start Point, adult, 16<sup>th</sup> May (N.Lever, L.Lock).

**Highland** Stoer Head Light, Sutherland, adult, 6<sup>th</sup> November (D.G.Davenport).

**Kent** Dungeness, adult, 23<sup>rd</sup> April (M.Grace, D.Walker, N.E.Wall *et al.*).

**Northumberland** Druridge Bay, age uncertain, 11<sup>th</sup> October (F.Hopkin).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, adult, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May (D.A.Fairhurst, N.Ward *et al.*).

**Shetland** Burravoe, North Roe, adult, 17<sup>th</sup> April, photo. (J.Swale, M.Tait, A.Williamson *et al.*). Fetlar, age uncertain, 23<sup>rd</sup> January (B.H.Thomason).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey Bay, age uncertain, 21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March (S.Cochrane, C.C.Thomas *et al.*).

**At sea** Solway Firth, off Maryport, adult, 1<sup>st</sup> May, photo. (J.K.Manson, P Ullrich *et al.*).

**1986 Yorkshire, North** Filey, adult, dead, 18<sup>th</sup> February, photo. (T.Keuchel), mounted specimen retained by observer.

**1987 Highland** Sandside and Melvich Bays, first-year, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> August (Brit. Birds 86: 540), now accepted (J.Corbett, S.A.M.Manson, E.W.E.Maughan *et al.*).

**1991 Hampshire** Near Lymington, adult, 14<sup>th</sup> February (J.J.Garr).

Five in English waters sets a new annual record. The Yorkshire bird is the sixteenth accepted for that county, while the Shetland tally reaches 42. The two adults on spring passage up the English Channel are noteworthy. The late 1986 bird takes that year's total to a record 13.

## **Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* (0, 16, 0)**

**Cornwall** Argal Reservoir, since 14<sup>th</sup> November 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 452) to 28<sup>th</sup> March; same, Stithians Reservoir, 2<sup>nd</sup> April to 1994 (per S.M.Christophers).

**Northumberland** Druridge Pool, since 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 452) to 19<sup>th</sup> January, 24<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (A J.Booth, A.D.Mould *et al.*); same, Warkworth Lane Pond, 30<sup>th</sup> April to 14<sup>th</sup> May (T.Blake, D.Robertson *et al.*), 12<sup>th</sup> to at least 21<sup>st</sup> December (per B.N.Rossiter).

The long-residence record is held by the first in Somerset at over 4 ½ years (from 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1963 to 5<sup>th</sup> July 1968), so these two still have some way to go, but at well-watched localities even their local movements are well monitored.

## **Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophris* (2, 26, 0)**

**Shetland** Hermaness, Unst, individual last recorded 30<sup>th</sup> June 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 452), 7<sup>th</sup> April to 13<sup>th</sup> July (per D.Suddaby).

**At sea** Sea area Wight, about 54 km southeast of Newhaven, East Sussex, 17<sup>th</sup> October (B.M.Utton).

**1990 At sea** Sea area Viking, 60°00'N 02°00'E, 30<sup>th</sup> January, photo. (A.Campbell).

If 'Albert' is the same individual as that at the Bass Rock (1967-69), then he or she will be at least thirty – middle-aged or elderly even for an albatross – so the chances of his or her annual return must be declining as a consequence. Records away from Shetland in the North Sea are taken as probably referring to this individual, as could that in the English Channel, but there may be other individuals at sea. The statistics may well, however, overstate the albatross presence in British and Irish waters.

## **Albatross *Diomedea* (3, 45, 0)**

**1988 Dorset** Hengistbury Head, 29<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 82: 508), now considered inadequately documented.

## **Soft-plumaged Petrel superspecies *Pterodroma mollis/madeira/feae* (0, 3, 0)**

**1989 Cornwall** Porthgwarra, 12<sup>th</sup> August (Brit. Birds 85: 510), second-named observer was D.J.W.Taylor.

## **Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis* (5, 84, 1)**

**1988 Dorset** Hengistbury Head, 29<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 82: 508), now considered inadequately documented.

**1992 Merseyside** River Mersey, off Seaforth, 5<sup>th</sup> September (C.Kehoe).

## IRELAND

**Cork** Cape Clear Island, 26<sup>th</sup> August.

**1991 Clare** Bridges of Ross, 30<sup>th</sup> September.

None in Britain, but one off Cape Clear Island on a typical date. This species continues to cause the BBRC severe headaches, since most descriptions just fail to provide that convincing element of proof. The Committee acknowledges, however, that this is a difficult species to prove on paper and one which, by its nature, seldom gives observers a second chance.

## Wilson's Storm-petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* (4, 13, 0)

**At sea** Sea area Fair Isle, 61°04'N 01°49'W, about 50 km northwest of Ramna Stacks, Shetland, 8<sup>th</sup> August, photo. (P.V.Harvey *et al.*). Sea area Sole, 48°56'N 07°05'W, about 58 km SSW of Bishop Rock, Scilly, five, 1<sup>st</sup> August, all photo. (R.Howell, R.Pyefinch, Dr A.Wander, M.D.Wilson *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 111 & 112); 49°06'N 07°15'W, two, 15<sup>th</sup> August (N.W.Hagley, J.McLoughlin, J.F.Ryan *et al.*); another, 49°37'N 06°58'W, 15<sup>th</sup> (N.P.Barlow *et al.*); 49°54'N 07°52'W, 20<sup>th</sup> August (M.Fischer *et al.*); 49°13'N 06°39'W, 25<sup>th</sup> August (J.F.Ryan *et al.*).

## IRELAND

**At sea** 20 km south of Cape Clear Island, Co Cork, 25<sup>th</sup> August.

Another flush of records from pelagics into the Southwest Approaches, but just how many individuals are attracted to different trawlers and chum slicks is hard to say. The first record from Shetland waters is particularly noteworthy and sets a new latitudinal record for the British Isles. (Note that 'At sea' records are not included in the annual totals.) Dr Adrian Wander's photograph showing the yellow on the feet of one of the 1<sup>st</sup> August individuals (Brit. Birds 87: plate 111) won this year's Carl Zeiss Award (Brit. Birds 87: 434-435).

## Swinhoe's Storm-petrel *Oceanodroma monorhis* (0, 3, 0)

**Tyne & Wear** Tynemouth, female, trapped, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> July, photo., same as 1992 below (M.P.Carruthers, M.G.Cubitt).

**1989 Tyne & Wear** Tynemouth, female, trapped 23<sup>rd</sup> July, photo. (M.P.Carruthers, M.G.Cubitt, L.Hall, A.Hutt); female, trapped 26<sup>th</sup> July, photo., sound-recorded (M.P.Carruthers, M.G.Cubitt, A.Hutt).

**1990 Tyne & Wear** Tynemouth, female, trapped, night of 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> July, photo., sound-recorded (M.P.Carruthers, M.G.Cubitt, D.Hirst), also 1991, 1992, 1993.

**1991 Tyne & Wear** Tynemouth, female, trapped, night of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> July (M.P.Carruthers, M.G.Cubitt, P.Harris *et al.*), same as 1990.

**1992 Tyne & Wear** Tynemouth, female, trapped, night of 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> July, photo., sound-recorded, blood sample taken (M.P.Carruthers, M.G.Cubitt, A.Hutt), same as 1991.

Exemplary research and documentation involving worldwide enquiries, covering the very difficult group of seabirds to which this species belongs, enabled both the BBRC and the BOURC to accept this remarkable series of identifications without undue heartache. It still begs the question concerning how many may really be visiting British waters on a regular basis, if three individuals of this distant species can be tape-lured at this one locality in the space of two years. The reappearance of the 1990 bird in three subsequent years is maybe not so remarkable for a 'lost' seabird (cf. Ancient Murrelet *Synthliboramphus antiquus*, Lesser Crested *Sterna bengalensis* and Bridled Terns *S.anaethetus* and, of course, Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophris.*). Surely it is only a matter of time before another East Coast tape attracts the species?

## Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* (150, 172, 3)

**Avon** Chew Valley Lake, male, 23<sup>rd</sup> June (K.E.Vinicombe *et al.*).

**Cornwall** Skewjack, male, 17<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May (R.Andrew, D.S.Flumm *et al.*).

**Lancashire** Leighton Moss, male, 23<sup>rd</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May (J.W.Bateman, B. & Mrs M.Holden, Miss J.C.Horrabin *et al.*).

**1990 Cumbria** Cark-in-Cartmel, female, 25<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April (Miss C.Halliday, F.Tinker).

## IRELAND

**1992 Cork** Sherkin Island, male, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April.

**1992 Wexford** Carnsore Point, male, 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**1989 Cork** Inchigaggin Marsh, male, 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Three overshooting males all in the West, presumably originating from Iberia. The Dutch population crashed to just two pairs in 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 37) and that in France has also declined, which will no doubt reduce British East Coast occurrences accordingly. Although there were eight in 1988, three is about the average in recent years. The early female in 1990 followed close on the heels of a dead female at Ballycotton, Co. Cork, on 16<sup>th</sup> March, and, intriguingly, three of the four March records since 1987 have involved females.

## Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* (165, 324, 6)

**Cornwall** St Ervan, adult, 10<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> April (S.M.Christophers, C.Moncaster, P.O'Shea).

**Devon** Kingsbridge, second-summer, 25<sup>th</sup> March to 30<sup>th</sup> April (A.S.C.Barker, D. & S.Churchill *et al.*).

**Hampshire** See 1992 Hampshire below.

**Kent** Dungeness, second-summer, 26<sup>th</sup> May (G.Hollamby, R.J.Price, D.Walker *et al.*).

**Orkney** Loch of Hundland, Mainland, adult, 28<sup>th</sup> March, dead 29<sup>th</sup> (R.G.Adam, K. & Mrs J.Johnston, E.R.Meek *et al.*), specimen retained by E.R.Meek.

**Shetland** Ronas Voe, remains of adult, 20<sup>th</sup> June (P.V.Harvey, D.Suddaby, A.Williamson *et al.*), now at Royal Scottish Museum.

**Sussex, East Rye**, adult, 10<sup>th</sup> September (D.J.Funnell).

**1990 Cumbria** Dalston, juvenile, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> October, photo. (J.Hamer, D.Hickson, B.Marrs).

**1992 Durham** Chester-le-Street, first-winter, 13<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (E.Appleby).

**1992 Hampshire** Woodmill, Southampton, juvenile, 15<sup>th</sup> November to at least 9<sup>th</sup> February 1993 (Brit. Birds 86: 454), to 8<sup>th</sup> December only; relocated Itchen Valley Country Park late January to 10<sup>th</sup> February (per D.J.Unsworth).

## IRELAND

**1990 Cork** Minane Bridge, adult, 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> March.

An erratic overshoot. The 1990 total reaches 64, but there were only three in 1991. A notable lack of juveniles and first-summerers this year.

## Green Heron *Butorides virescens* (1, 2, 0)

In the Channel Islands, an immature was at Grouville Marsh, Jersey, from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August 1992 and at St Martin's, Guernsey, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September 1992. With the three recent West Palearctic records at five-year intervals (1982, 1987 and 1992), will the next be in 1997?

## Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (2, 71, 3)

**Avon** Littleton, 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> April (M.P.Lawlor, A.J.Musgrove, T.Williamson *et al.*).

**Kent** Dungeness, 1<sup>st</sup> May (M.C.Buckland, B.E.Wright); presumed same, Sandwich Bay, 2<sup>nd</sup> (K.B.Ellis *et al.*).

**Leicestershire** Rutland Water, 3<sup>rd</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April (Mr & Mrs D.Charles, Mr & Mrs H.V.Higgins, L.Rowley *et al.*).

**1992 Gwynedd** Aberdaron, 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> May (R.Bashford, A.Dodd, N.Goodyear *et al.*).

**1992 Hampshire** Farlington Marshes, 22<sup>nd</sup> May (I.Lakin, C.M.C.Patrick).

The two 1992 records nearly complete documentation of the influx in that year: a Humberside record remains outstanding. The pattern of occurrence of this species reflects its erratic dispersions, with a peak of 14 in 1986 (mainly in autumn and winter), then just four in the next five years before the record 20 in 1992, now followed by three more spring overshoots in 1993.

The presence of an individual of the race *B.i.coromandus* in Mid and South Glamorgan during 18<sup>th</sup> May to 5<sup>th</sup> June provided an identification pitfall for some observers; it had probably originated from a collection in North Devon. A long-staying Worcestershire bird of late 1993 has yet to be dealt with.

## **Great White Egret *Egretta alba* (10, 51, 9)**

**Devon** Slapton Ley, 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> April (R.Behenna *et al.*), also in Dorset. Braunton, 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (C.A.Chivers, E.F.Davis, J.G.Smale), same, Taw Estuary, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> December (per P.W.Ellicott).

**Dorset** Chesil Fleet, 17<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April (D. & J.Scragg *et al.*), also in Devon.

**Durham/Yorkshire, North** Hutton Magna, 16<sup>th</sup> May (G.D.Moore), same as North Yorkshire below.

**Lincolnshire** Gibraltar Point, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July, photo. (Mr & Mrs Wallis, K.M.Wilson *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Cley, intermittently, 26<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May, photo. (S.J.M.Gantlett, M.A.Golley *et al.*), also at Blakeney, Holkham, Brancaster and Titchwell (per G.E.Dunmore). Feltwell Anchor, 22<sup>nd</sup> December to 13<sup>th</sup> February 1994 (J.B.Kemp, D.King, D.Roper *et al.*).

**Scilly** Tresco, 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April, photo. (R.Handy, R.J.Hathway *et al.*).

**Somerset** Steart, 19<sup>th</sup> September (N.E. & Mrs B.K.Wall). Sutton Bingham Reservoir, 22<sup>nd</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup> October (I.Tinsley, B.J.Widden *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Hutton Magna, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May (G.D.Moore, N.J.Morgan, T. & Mrs J.A.Wright *et al.*), same, Aldborough St John, 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> (per N.J.Morgan).

**1992 Tayside** Loch of Kinnordy, 2<sup>nd</sup> June (S.Taylor), presumed same as Ythan Estuary, Grampian, 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 86: 457).

Even allowing for some duplication, this seems to be a record year. The two wintering individuals in 1992/93 and 1993/94 follow the recent trends in Belgium and the Netherlands, no doubt all connected with the record wintering population in southern France.

## **Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* (26, 82, 9)**

**Cornwall** St Buryan, adult, 24<sup>th</sup> August (A.Frisby, D.J.Odell). Porthcurno and Porthgwarra area, immature, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (P. & S.Palmer, G.C.Stephenson *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 127).

**Hampshire** Sleaford and Frith End area, Alice Holt Forest, immature, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> July (C.Rose, M.F.Wearing, L.Whittle).

**Kent** Cliffe, age uncertain, 21<sup>st</sup> July (P.J.Casselton, S.Rowland).

**Somerset** Shapwick Heath, juvenile, 18<sup>th</sup> August (J.A.McGeoch *et al.*), possibly same as Isle of Wight. Sharpham, second-year, 13<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (G.Rix).

**Sussex, East** Icklesham, 16<sup>th</sup> September (J.Coatesworth per O.Mitchell), same as West Sussex.

**Sussex, West** Shoreham-by-Sea, age uncertain, 16<sup>th</sup> September (R.H.Eyre-Walker); same, Pagham Harbour, 16<sup>th</sup> (T.J.Edwards), same as East Sussex.

**Wight, Isle of** Bembridge, juvenile, 26<sup>th</sup> August to 4<sup>th</sup> September (Dr D.T.Biggs, J.M.Cheverton, G.Sparshott *et al.*). Alum Bay, age uncertain, 4<sup>th</sup> October (M.James).

**1991 Dyfed** Skokholm, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 85: 512), same, Skomer, 29<sup>th</sup> (W.Bush, J.Paterson, J.Waddington *et al.*).

**1991 Norfolk** Santon Downham, 3<sup>rd</sup> July (Brit. Birds 85: 512), same, Swanton Novers, 4<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> (D.J.Holman *et al.*).

Earlier presumptions elsewhere that the August Cornwall and Isle of Wight sightings were of the same bird were not borne out by the observed bare-part coloration (dull red bill and legs on the Cornish bird, but the Wight individual manifestly juvenile and more closely resembling that in Somerset a few days earlier). All the records were in autumn (July-October), with a blank in spring, but estimating just how many were involved is difficult, even with such a large and obvious species; different individuals can appear at the same locality within a few days or weeks, such as the Somerset ones listed here.

## **Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (many, 61, 0)**

**1991 Norfolk** Ouse Washes, 12<sup>th</sup> January (J.A Rowlands), same as 19<sup>th</sup> December 1990 (Brit. Birds 84: 458).

**1992 Norfolk** Burgh St Peter Marshes, 8<sup>th</sup> May (T.W.Fairless per P.R.Allard), same as Suffolk.

**1992 Suffolk** Minsmere, 6<sup>th</sup> May; same, Carlton Marshes, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 86: 457); same, Walberswick, 6<sup>th</sup> (C.Waller per P.W.Murphy).

No residents, no new birds; the first total absence since 1971.

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

### ***B. b. nigricans* (1, 57, 1)**

Individuals showing characters of the North American and East Siberian race *B.b.nigricans* were recorded as follows:

**Hampshire** See West Sussex.

**Norfolk** Lynn Point, adult, 14<sup>th</sup> February (C.Donner), presumed same as 1992 below. Burnham Norton and Burnham Overy, adult, 3<sup>rd</sup> February to 6<sup>th</sup> March (S.Lane, Dr R.Riddington, J.P.Taylor *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Felixstowe, adult, 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> January (S.H.Piotrowski), presumed same as 1992 below.

**Sussex, West** Thorney Island, adult, 16<sup>th</sup> October to at least 6<sup>th</sup> March 1994 (C.B.Collins *et al.*), also Hayling Island, Hampshire, presumed same as 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 459).

**1989 Norfolk** Lynn Point, adult, 29<sup>th</sup> January to 12<sup>th</sup> February (D.J.Holman *et al.*), presumed same as 1988 (Brit. Birds 83: 448).

**1989 Strathclyde** Loch Gruinart, Islay, adult, 30<sup>th</sup> November to at least 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1990, possibly since late October (R.H.Hogg, Dr M.A.Ogilvie *et al.*).

**1990 Norfolk** Salthouse, adult, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January (K.E.Vinicombe *et al.*).

**1990 Strathclyde** See 1989 Strathclyde above.

**1991 Dorset** The fleet, adult, 23<sup>rd</sup> November to at least 31<sup>st</sup> December (B.Spencer *et al.*).

**1992 Essex** Crouch Estuary, adult, 17<sup>th</sup> January (J.Torino).

**1992 Norfolk** Lynn Point, adult, 19<sup>th</sup> January to 22<sup>nd</sup> March (C.Donner per G.E.Dunmore), presumed same as 1989 above.

**1992 Suffolk** Felixstowe, adult, since 8<sup>th</sup> December 1991 (Brit. Birds 86: 459), to 14<sup>th</sup> January only.

A pretty standard set of returnees, the Islay bird presumably originating from Nearctic stock. Also an adult at Havre des Pas and Goose Green Marsh, Jersey, Channel Islands, from 14<sup>th</sup> November 1992 to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1993, presumed a returning individual last recorded 6<sup>th</sup> February 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 459).

## Red-breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis* (15, 25, 1)

**Cumbria** Burgh Marsh, adult, intermittently, 25<sup>th</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> March; same, Rockcliffe Marsh, 22<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> April (per T.Dean), presumed returning individual last recorded as first-winter, Rockcliffe Marsh, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 459).

**Dumfries & Galloway** Southwick, adult, 1<sup>st</sup> January; same, Mersehead, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, Caulkerbush, 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, Caerlaverock, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> February, 25<sup>th</sup> September to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 30<sup>th</sup> December to 1994 (S.Cooper, R.Hesketh *et al.* per P.N.Collin) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 128), same as Cumbria.

**Essex** Old Hall Marshes, adult, 12<sup>th</sup> January to 12<sup>th</sup> February (I.Hawkins, D.Low, D.Wood *et al.*), also in Kent.

**Kent** Sheppey, adult, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> December (D.S-H.Coates *et al.*), same as Essex.

**1992 Dumfries & Galloway** Individual first seen in 1991 (Brit. Birds 86: 459) was at Caulkerbush and Mersehead, 18<sup>th</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> December (per P.N.Collin).

The second and third winters for the Solway bird, and a newcomer with Brent Geese *B.bernica* on the East Coast, where most of the other recent ones have occurred. Following a run of records during 1984-87, we appear to be seeing another surge of records, but escapes are a problem and two presumed escapees were an adult at Amberley Wild Brooks, West Sussex, from 18<sup>th</sup> to at least 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1993 and one at Fisherwick, Staffordshire, on 31<sup>st</sup> August and 17<sup>th</sup> October 1992.

## American Wigeon *Anas americana* (22, 241, 4)

**Cornwall** Hayle, male, 23<sup>rd</sup> May (A.S.C.Barker, J.Healan *et al.*).

**Fife** Burntisland, male, since 10<sup>th</sup> October 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 460), 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> January, 1<sup>st</sup> February (D.E.Dickson, M.Ramage); presumed same, Stenhouse Reservoir, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> March (per D.E.Dickson); first-winter male, 5<sup>th</sup> January, presumed same as 30<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 460); male, since 30<sup>th</sup> October 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 460), 5<sup>th</sup> January (D.E.Dickson); two males, 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October, presumed same as above; one or other, Lochore Meadows, 17<sup>th</sup> to at least 20<sup>th</sup> November (per D.E.Dickson).

**Humberside** Flamborough Head, male, 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> May (D.Beaumont, B.Richards *et al.*).

**Kent** Minnis Bay, male, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> January (M.J.Baldock, D.C.Gilbert), probably same as 1992 Kent below.

**Lancashire** Martin Mere, male, 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> March (D.J.Rigby *et al.*), presumed same as 1992 below.

**Shetland** Fetlar, male, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> February (B.H.Thomason).

**1975 Lancashire** Martin Mere, male, 23<sup>rd</sup> December (A.Blee, S.J.Riley, D.Wilkinson).

**1990 Kent** Elmley, male, 11<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April (C.G.Bradshaw, A.J.Fossey, R.Gomes *et al.*).

**1992 Central Region** Gartmore Dam, male, 10<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> October (J.Calladine, C.Wernham).

**1992 Grampian** Loch of Skene, male, 14<sup>th</sup> November to at least 19<sup>th</sup> December (G.F.Allen, J.Oates *et al.*).

**1992 Kent** Elmley, male, 13<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> December (R.Gomes, J.A.Rowlands *et al.*), presumed same as 1990 above; also 1991 (Brit. Birds 85: 514).

**1992 Lancashire** Martin Mere, male, 24<sup>th</sup> February (C.G.Tomlinson).

**1992 Strathclyde** Balgray Reservoir, male, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> August (J.J.Sweeney *et al.*).

## IRELAND

**Cork** Rosscarbery, male, 17<sup>th</sup> January to March and from October to 1994.

**Fermanagh** Lower Lough Erne, male, 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**1992 Cork** Rostellan and Whitegate, Cork Harbour, male, 29<sup>th</sup> November to 1993.

With several males and an unknown number of females obviously permanently lost and associating with flocks of Eurasian Wigeons *A.penelope*, the possibility of hybrid origin for some claims seems set to develop into a probability. One trapped British bird has already been exposed as a hybrid, and others have been suspected in the field. Assessing the origins and movements of wildfowl is even more difficult than for Asiatic passerines.

## Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* (19, 163, 3)

**Avon** Blagdon Lake, female, 1<sup>st</sup> May to 10<sup>th</sup> October, photo., paired with Northern Shoveler *A.clypeata*, mating observed, 1<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> May (A.H.Davies, A.J.Musgrove *et al.*). Chew Valley Lake, first-winter male, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October (K.E.Vinicombe *et al.*).

**Gloucestershire** Slimbridge, male, 29<sup>th</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (R.Homan, D.B.Paynter *et al.*).

**1992 Hampshire** Dibden Bay, female, 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May (R.P.Bowman).

The comparable lengths of stay of the Blagdon and Slimbridge birds are of interest and may raise the question of their being escapes. Mating with Northern Shoveler was also recorded in Cambridgeshire in 1988, when young were reared (Brit. Birds 86: 462).

## Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris* (1, 323, 8)

**Cleveland** Hartlepool, male, 8<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (M.J.Gee *et al.*), probably same as Durham.

**Cornwall** Drift Reservoir, male, since 14<sup>th</sup> October 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 462), to 5<sup>th</sup> March, same, Stithians Reservoir, 13<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> May, 28<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October, Argal Reservoir, 14<sup>th</sup> March, Loe Pool, 16<sup>th</sup> January, 25<sup>th</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> September, 15<sup>th</sup> October to 1994 (per S.M.Christophers).

**Cumbria** River Kent, Kendal, male, from 25<sup>th</sup> November 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 462), intermittently, 1<sup>st</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> April, same, Killington Reservoir, intermittently, 2<sup>nd</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> May, same, Whinfell Tarn, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> January, same, Fisher Tarn, intermittently, 12<sup>th</sup> March to 20<sup>th</sup> April, same, Birds Park Reservoir, 4<sup>th</sup> April (I.R.Kinley, J.Lishman, C.Raven *et al.*), presumed same, River Kent, Kendal, 25<sup>th</sup> November to 1994 (per T.Dean). Earlier presumption that this is same as regular Lancashire individual (Brit. Birds 86: 462) now invalid.

**Durham** Hurworth Burn Reservoir, male, 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May (R.M.Ward), probably same as Cleveland.

**Greater Manchester** Heaton Park, male, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> January (P.Berry, P.Robinson), same, Amberswood Lake, Wigan, 7<sup>th</sup> April (per Mrs A.J.Smith), same, Doffcocker Lodge, 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April (J.Palfreman *et al.*), same, Horrocks' Flash, Wigan, 3<sup>rd</sup> June (Mrs A.J.Smith), same, High Rid Reservoir, Horwich, 27<sup>th</sup> November (G.Leather). Also in Lancashire.

**Hampshire** Timsbury Gravel-pit, male, since 14<sup>th</sup> October 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 462), to 7<sup>th</sup> March (J.Lewis, D.A.Thelwell *et al.* per J.M.Clark), 17<sup>th</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> June, there or Fishlake Meadows, 3<sup>rd</sup> November to at least 31<sup>st</sup> December (per J.M.Clark), same, Mockbeggar Lake, Blashford, 27<sup>th</sup> March (R.P.Bowman). Fleet Pond, male, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May (G.Rowland, M.Scott *et al.*), possibly same as Hertfordshire.

**Hertfordshire** Stocker's Lake, male, 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (R.Drew *et al.*), possibly same as Fleet Pond, Hampshire.

**Highland** Inverdrue, male, 17<sup>th</sup> April (D.M.Pullan), presumed same, Loch Morlich, 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> October (D.M.Pullan), 4<sup>th</sup> December (per Z.Bhatia), same as 1992 below.

**Lancashire** Wayoh, Lower Rivington and Short Clough Reservoirs and Birkacre Lodge, male, intermittently, since 1992 (see below) to 19<sup>th</sup> April, presumed same, Hoddlesden, Holden Wood and Wayoh Reservoirs, intermittently, 12<sup>th</sup> September to 1994 (per M.Jones). Also in Greater Manchester.

**Lincolnshire** Covenham Reservoir, male, 24<sup>th</sup> April (L.Marshall *et al.*), probably same as Norfolk.

**Norfolk** Wroxham Broad and Strumpshaw Fen, male, intermittently, 8<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> March (D.J.Holman, J.R.Williamson *et al.*), same as 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 462), same, Wroxham and Hoveton Great Broads, 28<sup>th</sup> December to 1994 (N.Bowman, P.J.Heath *et al.*), probably same, Welney, 13<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> April (J.B.Kemp *et al.*), Titchwell, 25<sup>th</sup> (A.I.Bloomfield *et al.*), probably same as Lincolnshire.

**Strathclyde** Loch an Torr, Mull, male, 30<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June (R.Barnes, D. & L.Primrose).

**Tyne & Wear** Marine Park Lake, South Shields, female, 8<sup>th</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> November (per A.L.Armstrong), presumed returning individual last recorded Tynemouth Park, 29<sup>th</sup> September 1990 (Brit. Birds 84: 462).

**Western Isles** Loch an Tiumpán, male, 8<sup>th</sup> November (P.Cunningham, R.D.Wemyss).

**1978 Dyfed** Pembroke, male, 26<sup>th</sup> February (R.Elliott), presumed same as Bosherton Pond, 1977 to 5<sup>th</sup> February (Brit. Birds 72: 514-515).



**1986 Western Isles** Loch Bee, South Uist, male, 4<sup>th</sup> May (S.Dix).

**1989 Yorkshire, West** Pungey's Gravel-pit, male, at least 24<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 83: 452), same, Swillington Park Lake, 31<sup>st</sup> March (Brit. Birds 84: 462), presumed same, Fairburn Ings, 26<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May, Allerton Bywater, 3<sup>rd</sup> July (J.A Rowlands *et al.*), subsequently elsewhere (Brit. Birds 84: 462); 1992 and 1993 details for this individual not yet received.

**1990 Tyne & Wear** Marine Park Lake, South Shields, male, 6<sup>th</sup> April (R.M.Patient), previously not accepted (Brit. Birds 86: 539), probably same as 11<sup>th</sup> April to 7<sup>th</sup> May and later (Brit. Birds 84: 462).

**1992 Cumbria** River Kent, Kendal, male, 25<sup>th</sup> November to 1993 (Brit. Birds 86: 462), same, Fisher Tarn, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> December (per T.Dean).

**1992 Highland** Loch Morlich, male, last recorded Loch Insh, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1991 (Brit. Birds 85: 515), 15<sup>th</sup> January (I.Rowlands), 30<sup>th</sup> (per Z.Bhatia), same, Loch Vaa, early March (J.Stacey per D.M.Pullan), Loch Morlich, intermittently, 29<sup>th</sup> October to 5<sup>th</sup> December (D.M.Pullan). Also in 1993 above.

**1992 Lancashire** Holden Wood and Short Clough Reservoirs, male, 12<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> May, same, Wayoh Reservoir, 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> January (per M.Jones), presumed same as Wayoh Reservoir, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1991 (Brit. Birds 85: 515), same, Holden Wood and Short Clough Reservoirs, 19<sup>th</sup> October to early December, Wayoh Reservoir, 30<sup>th</sup> December to 1993 (per M.Jones).

## IRELAND

**Cork** Dunmanway, male, 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> December.

**Donegal** Dunfanaghy, male, 14<sup>th</sup> April and 26<sup>th</sup> October.

**Fermanagh** Lough Acrussel, Enniskillen, male, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February.

**1992 Kerry** Killarney, male, 17<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 86: 463), also present on 7<sup>th</sup> June and from 26<sup>th</sup> October to 1993.

**1990 Armagh** Ellis's Gut, Lough Neagh, male, 12<sup>th</sup> May.

In Britain, seven 'residents', four spring migrants, just one new autumn arrival and a return to male dominance. Records of this species will no longer be considered by the BBRC with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> December 1993; full details and descriptions of all birds should, of course, still be submitted to county recorders for 1994 and subsequent records.

## Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* (0, 5, 2)

**Leicestershire** Rutland Water, male, age uncertain, 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> February, possibly since 23<sup>rd</sup> January (J.A.Forryan, R.M.Fray, S.M.Lister *et al.*).

**Shetland** Loch of Spiggie, first-year male, 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May (M.Mellor *et al.*).

## IRELAND

**Down** Male first reported in February-April 1988 again present at a number of sites, as in all intervening winters.

With seven records since 1987, compared with only five of Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris* between the first in 1955 and 1963, one wonders what the future may hold; but are they all as wild as we would like to believe? If the Shetland bird was that from Rutland Water, was it on northbound spring migration or heading for home?

## King Eider *Somateria spectabilis* (62, 70, 4)

**Fife** Tayport, male, discontinuously, 8<sup>th</sup> February to 6<sup>th</sup> March (R.McCurley *et al.*); presumed same, 13<sup>th</sup> November (R.Harvey per D.E.Dickson), presumed returning 1992 individual (Brit. Birds 86: 464), also in Grampian.

**Grampian** Burghead, male, 19<sup>th</sup> January (R.J.Evans), presumed same as Lossiemouth. Lossiemouth, male, since 6<sup>th</sup> December 1992 (see below) to March (per M.J.H.Cook *et al.*). Spey Bay, male, 29<sup>th</sup> May to 9<sup>th</sup> June (M.J.H.Cook, D.M.Pullan), same as Lossiemouth. Ythan Estuary, male, 23<sup>rd</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> July (G. & R.P.Clay, J.C.Lowen *et al.*), presumed long-standing returning individual last recorded end of May 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 464). Donmouth, male, 13<sup>th</sup> May (I.A.Roberts), presumed same, Ythan Estuary, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> June (Dr I.M.Phillips, K.D.Shaw *et al.*), probably same as second 1992 individual last recorded end of May (Brit. Birds 86: 464). Blackdog, male, 5<sup>th</sup> December (T.Pizzari), presumed same as Ythan Estuary above.

**Highland** Brora, male, since 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 464), 27<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> February, 24<sup>th</sup> December (S.Blamire, D.M.Pullan *et al.*).

**Shetland** Sand Voe, female, dead, 20<sup>th</sup> January (H.R.Harrop, J.Poyner, D.Suddaby *et al.*). Ronas Voe, second-winter female, 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May (P.M.Ellis *et al.*). Raewick, Redayre and Tresta area, male, since 26<sup>th</sup> November 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 464) to 6<sup>th</sup> June, 10<sup>th</sup> November to 1994 (per D.Suddaby), presumed same, Lang Sound, Burra, 11<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> September (J.M.Drew, M.Williamson *et al.*).

**Strathclyde** Salum Bay, Tiree, male, 26<sup>th</sup> April to 7<sup>th</sup> June (R.A.Broad, G.Evans *et al.*). Port Ellen, Islay, male, 13<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (R.Seifert, U.Steschulat).

**1989 Highland** Loch Fleet and Embo, male (Brit. Birds 83: 454), presumed same, Brora, 28<sup>th</sup> June (J.A.Rowlands *et al.*).

**1992 Grampian** Lossiemouth, male, 27<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October (Brit. Birds 86: 464), 6<sup>th</sup> December to 1993 (per D.M.Pullan), thus not same as Embo, Highland. Ythan Estuary, males, 24<sup>th</sup> March to end of May, 3<sup>rd</sup> to end of May (Brit. Birds 86: 464), both presumed returning 1991 individuals (Brit. Birds 85: 519).

Two new females from Shetland, a few long-lived males and possibly the same male on Tiree and Islay. The excellent report of this last bird by two Swedes left Committee members wondering how well they would be able to report a rarity in Swedish. The radical reduction from the 1958-91 total of 165 (Brit. Birds 86: 464) to that of only 70 for 1958-92 (above) is in line with the recommendations set out by D.Suddaby, K.D.Shaw, P.M.Ellis and Keith Brockie (Brit. Birds 87: 418-430). Certain adjustments to the 1991 total of ten (Brit. Birds 85: 519), now reduced to six, and that for 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 464), down from four to two, will be detailed in next year's Report.

## Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

### *M. n. americana* (0, 5, 0)

Individuals showing the characters of the North American and East Siberian race *M.n.americana* were recorded as follows:

**Highland** Dornoch, male, 21<sup>st</sup> April (S.Blamire, D.M.Pullan), presumed returning 1991 individual below.

**1979 Grampian** Findhorn, male, 29<sup>th</sup> December (Brit. Birds 75: 495) now considered inadequately documented.

**1980 Cornwall** Stithians Reservoir, male, 16<sup>th</sup> September (Brit. Birds 75: 495) now considered inadequately documented.

**1982 Cheshire** Frodsham, male, 5<sup>th</sup> February (Brit. Birds 81: 549) now considered inadequately documented.

**1990 Highland** Dornoch, male, at least 15<sup>th</sup> April (R.J.Evans *et al.*), presumed same as Culbin Bar, 1989 (Brit. Birds 83: 455).

**1991 Dyfed** Newgale, male, 25<sup>th</sup> December to 9<sup>th</sup> February 1992 (D.J.Astins *et al.*).

**1991 Highland** Embo and Dornoch, male, 23<sup>rd</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> May (P.J.Benstead, W.J.Brame, L.Cox *et al.*), presumed same, Dornoch, 11<sup>th</sup> December (D.M.Pullan, I.T.Rowlands), presumed same as 1990 above.

**1992 Dyfed** See 1991 Dyfed above.

**1992 Highland** Burghead Bay, male, at least 8<sup>th</sup> December (R.J.Evans *et al.*), possibly same as 1990-91 Highland.

With the reassessment of the first three previously accepted claims, noted above, that in Lothian on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1987 to 1<sup>st</sup> January 1988 becomes the first, and the total becomes five. Regular appearances with flocks of our usual nominate race may well be expected, however, as with Surf Scoter *M.perspicillata*, but, to repeat previous warnings: good views and precise notes are needed to exclude bright-billed nominate males.

## Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (5, 171, 17)

**Cleveland** Wilton, 16<sup>th</sup> June (M.A.Blick).

**Cornwall** Porthgwarra, 27<sup>th</sup> May (W.R.Wilkins, L.P.Williams).

**Devon** Prawle Point, 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April (D.Hemsley, P.J.Holmes *et al.*).

**Essex** Walton-on-the-Naze, 20<sup>th</sup> April (A.D.Beardwell). Hadleigh Downs, 24<sup>th</sup> June (J.Saward).

**Hampshire** Harefield, Southampton, 30<sup>th</sup> April (D.A.Christie). Beaulieu Road, 7<sup>th</sup> May (W.Percy), probably same, Burley, 8<sup>th</sup> (Mrs J.Corway).

**Kent** Dover, 26<sup>th</sup> May (M.Kennett). Grain, 29<sup>th</sup> May (P.A.Gammage, Dr A.M.Hanby, G.C.Stephenson). Worth, 16<sup>th</sup> June (J.Buegg, R.H.Lawrence, J.H.Van der Dol). St Margaret's, 20<sup>th</sup> June (C.G.Bradshaw, A.Brown, M.May *et al.*). Bishopstone, 11<sup>th</sup> July (D.C.Gilbert). Dungeness, 7<sup>th</sup> August (D.Walker *et al.*).

**Lincolnshire** Gibraltar Point, 30<sup>th</sup> April (D.W.Buckingham); 16<sup>th</sup> May (Dr R.Riddington, R.K.Watson), possibly same as Norfolk.

**Norfolk** Blakeney, 20<sup>th</sup> April (M.E.S.Rooney), presumed same, High Kelling, 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wells, Burnham Norton, Burnham Deepdale, 23<sup>rd</sup> (per G.E.Dunmore), Little Snoring, 25<sup>th</sup> (D.Bryant, T.C.Davies, R.Walker *et al.*). Holkham Meals, 16<sup>th</sup> May (A.I.Bloomfield *et al.*), same, Brancaster and other north-coast localities, 16<sup>th</sup> (J. & P.McOwat *et al.*), probably same, Ringstead, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> (D.A & Mrs J.Bridges, Miss B.Vevers, Miss P.F.Walton *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Aldeburgh, 22<sup>nd</sup> April (R.N.Macklin).

**1991 Hampshire** Farlington Marshes, 27<sup>th</sup> April (G.H. & R.P.Clay).

**1992 Dorset** Durlston, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June (Brit. Birds 86: 465), was photographed, observers were P.Coe, Dr G.P.Green, G.Walbridge *et al.*

**1992 Kent** Stodmarsh area, 24<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 466), 25<sup>th</sup> (G.J.A.Burton *et al.*).

A fairly standard set of records, with good tracking of those in north Norfolk, where blanket coverage is becoming the norm. The one in Norfolk in May was presumably that seen flying south at Gibraltar Point on the first date.

## **White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* (many, 21, 3)**

**Borders** Coldingham, first-year, 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September, possibly since 19<sup>th</sup> (P.R.Gordon).

**Dyfed** Skomer, second-winter or third-winter, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> November (J.Poole, S.J.Sutcliffe, D.Vaughan *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Grimwith Reservoir, Grassington, immature, 30<sup>th</sup> December (A.J.Musgrove, M.G.Prince *et al.*).

Those in Yorkshire and Borders may well have been the same individual. Records from Scotland are not usually dealt with by this Committee as they are assumed to refer to birds from the reintroduction scheme, but the Borders bird, which was not wing-tagged, arrived on the East Coast during a flood of Honey-buzzards *Pernis apivorus* and other large raptors of presumably Scandinavian origin, which suggests that it was more likely to be a genuine vagrant. With recent record populations in Scandinavian countries (e.g. Brit. Birds 87: 4), we must surely be set for more regular passage and wintering. Only seven have occurred in the previous seven years, 1986-92.

## **Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus* (3, 0, 0)**

The assessment of five separate reports in 1993 (Highland in May, Essex in June, and Humberside, Shetland and Leicestershire all in September: Brit. Birds 87: 458) is still in train. With the most recent previous record as long ago as 1952, and the species therefore currently in Category B, the significance of these five reports is obvious. The Scottish male in May was in display in Hen Harrier *C.cyanus* territories, which has a precedent in the Netherlands (Dutch Birding 9: 21-24). The arrival of two on 15<sup>th</sup> September coincided with a big East Coast arrival of large raptors associated with a strong easterly airstream from Scandinavia and produced the icing on the cake for yet another superb Shetland purple patch and the high point of several years' birding for one observer in Leicestershire. There were comparable influxes of Pallid Harriers into most north and eastern European countries in 1993, with a male nest-building in Germany and a successful mixed pairing with a Montagu's Harrier *C.pygargus* in Finland.

## **Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* (100, 508, 4)**

**Hampshire** Lower Test Marshes, female, 21<sup>st</sup> June (P.Combridge, S.King).

**Kent** St Margaret's, female, 29<sup>th</sup> June (J.R.Chantler, R.Heading).

**Norfolk** Wolferton, female, 11<sup>th</sup> June (P.Fisher).

**Wight, Isle of** Sandown, first-summer male, 5<sup>th</sup> June (D.J.Hughes).

**1986 Dorset** Portland, male, 9<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 80: 531), now considered inadequately documented.

**1989 Cambridgeshire** Little Paxton, first-summer male, at least 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 84: 467), 2<sup>nd</sup> June (J.A.Rowlands).

**1989 Gloucestershire** Cotswold Water Park, male, 25<sup>th</sup> May (D.Rhymes).

**1989 Norfolk** Cley and Wiveton, male, 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June (L.G.R.Evans, S.J.M.Gantlett, D.J.Holman *et al.*).

**1991 Dorset** Hengistbury Head, male, 28<sup>th</sup> May (E.D.Lloyd). Yetminster, male, 16<sup>th</sup> October (B.J.Matthews).

**1992 Bedfordshire** Thurleigh, female, 13<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (P.S.Jarman).

**1992 Cambridgeshire** King's Ripton, female, 17<sup>th</sup> May (S.M.Elsom). Upware Marshes and Wicken Fen, male, 26<sup>th</sup> May (J.L.F.Parslow). Ouse Washes, male, 16<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 466), first noted Sutton Gault, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, then Ouse Washes, 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> (R.M.Patient), also same as Welney, Norfolk, 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> (Brit. Birds 86: 469) (per R.J.Allison). Ouse Washes, first-summer male, 16<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 466), first noted Sutton Gault, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, then Ouse Washes, 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> (per R.J.Allison), same, Earith, 1<sup>st</sup> June (J.L.F.Parslow). Ouse Washes, female, 16<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 466), locality was Sutton Gault, present to 17<sup>th</sup> (per R.J.Allison).

**1992 Cleveland** Teesmouth, female, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (F.Bailey, M.A.Blick, T.G.Francis *et al.*).

**1992 Cleveland/North Yorkshire** Dan by Beacon and Scaling Dam area, second-summer male, 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (P.A.A.Baxter, W.Irving, I.Munson *et al.*).

**1992 Essex** Barling, female, 22<sup>nd</sup> May (S.Arlow).

**1992 Hampshire** Beaulieu Road area, first-summer male, 17<sup>th</sup> May (P.E.Hutchings, A.Pink). Ocknell Plain, male, 22<sup>nd</sup> May (M.Baker), presumed same as Bishop's Dyke, 17<sup>th</sup>, Ashley Walk, 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 86: 467).

**1992 Kent** Minnis Bay, first-summer male, 14<sup>th</sup> May (N.Hando). Dungeness, first-summer male, 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> September (N.E.Robinson, D.Walker *et al.*).

**1992 Norfolk** Blakeney Point, female, 14<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 469), not same as Cley, 14<sup>th</sup>. Salthouse Heath, first-summer female, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May (D.E. & M.J.Saunt, J.R.Williamson *et al.*). Welney, male, 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 469), see 1992 Cambridgeshire above. Swanton Novers and Guist area, first-summer female, 31<sup>st</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> June (D.J.Holman, H.P.Medhurst, J.P.Taylor *et al.*).

**1992 Orkney** St Ola, first-summer female, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May (E.R.Meek, E.J. & S.J.Williams).

**1992 Scilly** St Martin's, first-summer female, 19<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 469), first noted 18<sup>th</sup> (R.D.Penhallurick).

**1992 Yorkshire, North** See 1992 Cleveland/North Yorkshire above.

Just four, and all in June: a rather abrupt return to rarity status. The record 1992 total (see Brit. Birds 87: 223-231) rises to 120 with late acceptances herein.

The Committee is grateful to D.J.Holman for providing details on a number of records of various species which can now appear in this Report, but which may otherwise have gone unrecorded forever in these pages.

## **Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus* (many, 106, 1)**

**Grampian** Ben Macdui area, Cairngorm, male, white-morph, 14<sup>th</sup> April (I.T.Rowlands *et al.*).

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**1992 Londonderry** Magilligan Point, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 86: 474), first seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

One on spring passage on the Cairngorm tundra, or had it wintered on that little-watched massif?

The publication of three colour morphs (white or grey) relating to the records of this species was abandoned as scientifically unnecessary after 1972. Recent renewed interest in this aspect, however, now prompts the update below, which is confined to those which can be ascribed unequivocally to white-morph individuals. (Owing to the lack of extant information, it is not at present possible to ascribe to this, or to the grey form, records at Glen Tanar, Grampian, on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1973, on Tiree, Strathclyde, during 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> December 1973, and At sea off Western Isles in February 1973.) The following were all white-morph individuals:

Forties Oilfield, North Sea, 5<sup>th</sup> January 1975 (Brit. Birds 69: 333); Williamston, Grampian, 24<sup>th</sup> November 1977 (Brit. Birds 71: 497); Sullom, Shetland, 20<sup>th</sup> January, same, Lunna, 12<sup>th</sup> February 1979; Foula, Shetland, 5<sup>th</sup> April 1979; Isle of May, Fife, 13<sup>th</sup> April 1979; Folkestone, Kent, 28<sup>th</sup> April 1979 (Brit. Birds 73: 502-503); Achiltibuie, Wester Ross, Highland, 5<sup>th</sup> October 1980; At sea, North Atlantic, 57°00'N 20°00'W, 13<sup>th</sup> March 1980; near Balranald, North Uist, Western Isles, 27<sup>th</sup> May 1980 (Brit. Birds 74: 465); Scatsta, Shetland, at least 15<sup>th</sup> March 1981 (Brit. Birds 75: 497); Fair Isle, Shetland, 9<sup>th</sup> December 1982 (Brit. Birds 76: 490); Rubh' Ard Mhicheil, South Uist, Western Isles, 7<sup>th</sup> April 1983; At sea, Sea area Forties, North Sea, 58°44'N 01°22'E, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1982; At sea, North Atlantic, about 51°N 18°W, about 800 km west of Scilly, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> December 1982 (Brit. Birds 77: 519); Trotternish, Skye, Highland, 17<sup>th</sup> June 1984; Graemsay, Orkney, at least 27<sup>th</sup> January 1984; Rendall and Evie, Orkney, 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April 1984 (Brit. Birds 78: 541); St Agnes, Scilly, 2<sup>nd</sup> January, Tresco, 6<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> January, St Mary's, 12<sup>th</sup> February 1985, probably same, Tresco, 7<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 79: 541); Berry Head, Devon, 31<sup>st</sup> March to 9<sup>th</sup> April 1986, probably same, Lundy, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 81: 522); Penlee Point, Cornwall, 16<sup>th</sup> October 1986 (Brit. Birds 80: 532); Orphir, Orkney, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1989; Gerinish and Drimsdale, South Uist, Western Isles, 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April 1989, presumed same, Griminish, North Uist, 24<sup>th</sup>; Poolewe, Wester Ross, Highland, 17<sup>th</sup> October 1989 (Brit. Birds 83: 459); Trondra and Tingwall, Shetland, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April 1990; Hoy, Orkney, 24<sup>th</sup> May to at least 7<sup>th</sup> June 1990 (Brit. Birds 84: 468).

## **Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* (many, 10, 0)**

**1976 Glamorgan, South** Llantwit Major, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> February (Brit. Birds 71: 497; 72: 518), 8<sup>th</sup> only.

**1990 Hampshire** Lymington, 17<sup>th</sup> March, caught by cat, released unharmed, photo. (B.S.Duffin, E.J.Wiseman *et al.*).

With only five records during the 31 years 1958-88, the five in the five years since then suggest that this species is still rare, but possibly a regular vagrant. Note, however, that, of the last five, four have been found self-trapped or dead. Are we failing to detect singing males in spring? This March record takes the 1990 total to a record two and was presumably associated with the extraordinary March arrivals of Alpine Swifts *Apus melba*, Black-winged Stilts *Himantopus himantopus*, Night Herons *Nycticorax nycticorax* and Woodchat Shrikes *Lanius senator*.

## **Common Crane *Grus grus* (many, over 1242, -)**

**1986 Cheshire** Burton Point, at least 25<sup>th</sup> August (M.G. & Dr J.E.Turner *et al.*), presumed same as Shotwick and Shotton, Clwyd, 17<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 80: 532).

## **Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (98, 183, 11)**

**Cheshire/Clwyd** Inner Marsh Farm, pair and one other, intermittently, 22<sup>nd</sup> April to 13<sup>th</sup> May (K.G.Roberts *et al.*).

**Cheshire** Sandbach Flashes, three, 25<sup>th</sup> April (N.Carter *et al.*), same, Frodsham, 25<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> June (per A.M.Broome), same as Cheshire/Clwyd, also in Oxfordshire.

**Cleveland** Teesmouth, intermittently, 23<sup>rd</sup> April to 4<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (T.Farooqi, I.J.Foster *et al.*), also in Durham.

**Clwyd** See Cheshire/Clwyd above.

**Cornwall** Goonhilly Downs, 20<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> April (D.Lyne, A R. & Mrs H.C.Pay *et al.*).

**Devon** Braunton Marsh, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, photo. (J.M.Breeds).

**Durham** Hurworth Burn Reservoir, 30<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May (A.L.Armstrong, N.Urwin *et al.*), same as Cleveland.

**Greater Manchester** Hollingworth Lake, 3<sup>rd</sup> June (I.Kimber *et al.*), presumed one of Cheshire/Clwyd individuals.

**Humberside** See Yorkshire, North, below.

**Kent** Dungeness, 8<sup>th</sup> June (P.G.Akers, R.J.Price, D.Walker *et al.*), also in Suffolk.

**Lancashire** Leighton Moss, 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June (S.J.Dodgson *et al.*), also in Oxfordshire.

**Lincolnshire** North Coates, 21<sup>st</sup> April (W.Sterling), probably same as Cleveland.

**Norfolk** Hardley flood, 4<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (L. & M.Butler, D.Lovatt). Snettisham, 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> August, photo. (M.Missin, J.Shepherd, R.Q Skeen *et al.*), same, Hunstanton, 26<sup>th</sup> (S.Gillings, G.Hamlett, C.Jones), Scolt Head, 27<sup>th</sup> to mid September, 10<sup>th</sup> October (D.J.Holman, M.G. & Mrs L.Oxlade *et al.*), Holme, 18<sup>th</sup> September, 14<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> October (per G.E.Dunmore), Thornham and Titchwell, 17<sup>th</sup> September to 1994 (per G.E.Dunmore), presumed same as Northumberland.

**Northumberland** Druridge Pool, 31<sup>st</sup> July to 16<sup>th</sup> August, photo. (M.P.Frankis *et al.*), also in Norfolk.

**Oxfordshire** Shipston-on-Cherwell, 8<sup>th</sup> June (J.W.Brucker *et al.*), same as Lancashire. Radley, three, 8<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June (T.G.Ball *et al.*), presumed same as Cheshire/Clwyd.

**Suffolk** Minsmere, 22<sup>nd</sup> April (D.T.Ireland). Shingle Street, 9<sup>th</sup> June (P.V.Harvey), same, Trimley Marshes, 10<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> (W.A.Last, M.T.Wright *et al.* per P.W.Murphy), same as Kent.

**Yorkshire, North** Wheldrake Ings, three, 6<sup>th</sup> May (R.S.Slack *et al.*), presumed same as Cheshire/Clwyd, presumed same, Welton Water, near Hull, Humberside, 5<sup>th</sup> (per P.J.Dunn).

**1987 Leicestershire** Warton, pair, 3<sup>rd</sup> June (S.M.Andrews), same as Warwickshire, 28<sup>th</sup> May to 4<sup>th</sup> June (Brit. Birds 82: 521).

**1990 Kent** Cliffe, 18<sup>th</sup> May (P.Whiteman, B.E.Wright *et al.*).

Tracking these great wanderers around the country is made easier when they are in recognisable parties or bear colour rings. The Shipston-on-Cherwell, Oxfordshire, individual had the same unique colour combination as that in Lancashire, and had been ringed as a nestling at Beauvoir-sur-Mer, Vendée, France, on 16<sup>th</sup> June 1989. The Dungeness bird had only three rings (there were four on the previous bird), and was the same as that subsequently seen in Suffolk. It is understood that, although no documentation has been received yet, the Cheshire/Clwyd trio, which showed advanced breeding behaviour, was first seen at Cemlyn Bay, Anglesey, Gwynedd, during 10<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April. The Oxfordshire connection with the records in the Northwest is remarkable. Occasional breeding attempts well outside the normal breeding range are a feature of this species' biology, and a paper detailing recent breeding records in the Netherlands and also mixed pairing of an escaped Black-necked Stilt *H.(h.).mexicanus* with a Black-winged Stilt has appeared in Dutch Birding (15: 193-197).

## **Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* (0, 2, 1)**

**Norfolk** Gimingham, 14<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June, photo. (D.J.Holman, D.Nicholson, C.Payne, J.Self *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 129 & 130), same, Weybourne, 3<sup>rd</sup> (per G.E.Dunmore), Blakeney Point, 4<sup>th</sup> (R.G.Millington *et al.*), Burnham Norton, 5<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> July to 13<sup>th</sup> August (B.Bland, V.Eve *et al.*), Titchwell and Thornham, 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> (per G.E.Dunmore).

The coincidence of occurrence in time and locality of the Norfolk bird with the Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus* mirrors the events of 1981. On the basis of the three records, a long stay seems to be the order of the day with this species. Owing to late submission, a report of what may have been the Norfolk bird in East Sussex during 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> August is still under consideration.

## **Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni* (5, 21, 3)**

**Avon** Blagdon Lake, juvenile, 28<sup>th</sup> August (R.Abram, R.M.Andrews, A.Bone *et al.*), presumed same, Chew Valley Lake, 28<sup>th</sup> (S.Predry *et al.*).

**Cornwall** Sennen, juvenile, 10<sup>th</sup> October, probably since 9<sup>th</sup>, photo. (P.Aley, B.R.Field, P.A.St Pierre *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Livermere and Troston area, age uncertain, 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (T.R. & Mrs J.Dean, J.R.Hunter, T.Stopher *et al.*).

Traditionally this species has been an autumn vagrant to Britain, so the three here are fairly typical. The Cornish bird represents the second successive autumn record for that county and there can be little doubt that a not-fully-identified pratincole in the nearby Nanquidno area on 9<sup>th</sup> October was the same bird as that at Sennen. It is worth noting that there was also a Collared Pratincole *G.pratincola* in Cornwall in October 1986.

## **Killdeer Plover *Charadrius vociferus* (9, 39, 1)**

**Shetland** Hillwell and Brake area, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> March (A.Fitchett, D.Suddaby *et al.*).

Still an exceptional rarity on this side of the Atlantic, with just six in the eight years 1985-92. The out-of-season occurrence pattern and catholic choice of habitat may well mean that a lesser percentage of those occurring is found than with other Nearctic shorebirds. One well twitched on Anglesey has yet to be reported with documentation.

## **Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii* (0, 11, 0)**

**1992 Norfolk** Cley, female or first-summer, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> August (A.M.Stoddart *et al.*), presumed same as Essex and Kent (Brit. Birds 86: 477).

Sadly, no notes were ever submitted by the original Norfolk finders of this bird, a colour photograph of which was published in the 1992 Report (Brit. Birds 86: 475, plate 156).

## **Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* (3, 24, 1)**

**Humberside** South Ferriby area, adult, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July (G.P.Catley, S.Routledge *et al.*).

**1990 Clwyd** Oakenholt Marsh, adult, 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> August, photo. (I.Higginson *et al.*).

**1992 Devon** Bowling Green Marsh and Exe Estuary, adult, 29<sup>th</sup> July to 4<sup>th</sup> August (R.W.White *et al.*).

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**1991 Cork** Kinsale Marsh, adult, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> October.

The occurrence of an adult at the same locality in South Humberside as an adult American Golden Plover *P.dominica* five days later in mid summer echoes the events of July 1986 at Tetney, where the two species appeared in the same tidal creek at the same time. It is easier to search for bright breeding-plumaged Pacifics and Americans within mid summer flocks of European Golden Plovers *P.apricaria* on the East Coast than to look for juveniles in the four-figure and five-figure flocks of Europeans in October, and this no doubt goes some way to explaining the imbalance between the high totals of summer adults and the relative lack of autumn juveniles (of both species) in the East. The 1991 Irish record is of particular significance, being a late-autumn adult.

## **American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica* (3, 165, 4)**

**Humberside** South Ferriby, adult, 24<sup>th</sup> July (J.Atkin, S.Lindop, K.Roberts *et al.*).

**Scilly** St Mary's, juvenile, 14<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (M.A.Hardwick, D.R.Middleton *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 131); presumed same, St Agnes, 26<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (C. & T.K.Bradshaw, M.Eccles, J.Gilbody).

**Western Isles**, West Gerinish, South Uist, first-summer, 3<sup>rd</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (T.J.Dix, R.Taylor *et al.*).

**1990 Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September (S.J.Holloway), previously accepted as either American or Pacific Golden Plover (Brit. Birds 85: 525).

**1991 Cheshire** Penketh, juvenile, 13<sup>th</sup> October (A.Clarke).

**1991 Northamptonshire** Pitsford Reservoir, juvenile, 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 86: 477), 22<sup>nd</sup> (F.C.Smith).

**1992 Devon** Northam Burrows, juvenile, 10<sup>th</sup> October (D.Murdoch, R.W.White).

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**Cork** Harbour View, juvenile, 26<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> October.

**1991-92 Tyrone** The record for Annaghroe (Brit. Birds 86: 477) was entered as an accepted record, when in fact it had been rejected, and it should now be deleted.

A spring first-summer, summer adult and two autumn juveniles: a good mix, but a poor total. The 1991 total reaches 12. The results of an extensive review of past British records of this and the previous species will be published shortly, when the statistics will be adjusted accordingly.

## **American or Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica/P.fulva* (6, 198, 5)**

**1990 Cambridgeshire** Ouse Washes, adult, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> July (S.Elsom, J.A.Rowlands, R.Spowage).

**1990 Western Isles** See American Golden Plover.

**1992 Kent** Dungeness, adult, 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> July (P.G.Akers, R.J.Price, R.Turner *et al.*).

The 1990 Cambridgeshire bird was most probably a Pacific Golden Plover, but contradictory aspects within the notes made specific acceptance impossible. The totals include those specifically identified.

Two spring records continue the recent trend, and include the first for Orkney.

## **Sociable Lapwing *Chettusia gregaria* (5, 31, 1)**

**Derbyshire** Egginton, 17<sup>th</sup> April (J.S.Thornhill), presumed same as Lincolnshire, Norfolk.

**Lincolnshire** Kirkby-on-Bain and Coningsby area, 30<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June (K.D.Durose *et al.*), 12<sup>th</sup> June (A.G.Ball), presumed same as Norfolk.

**Norfolk** Cley, 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April (S.R.Mawby, A.N.Mellor *et al.*), same, Holkham, 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> (A.E.Bloomfield, R.Peck *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 132 & 133), Burnham Norton, 30<sup>th</sup> (V.Eve), North Wootton, 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> May (P.Fisher, R.A.Image).

Presumably, all the spring records in 1993 referred to the same stunning summer-plumaged adult. The majority of British records are in autumn (September/October), but most of those on the near-Continent are, like this bird, in spring (cf. Dutch Birding 6: 1-8).

## **Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* (2, 65, 4)**

**Cornwall** Bude, juvenile, 20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September, photo, (G.J.Conway, B.T.Craven, G.P.Sutton *et al.*).

**Orkney** Stronsay, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (J.F.Holloway, M. & Mrs L.Johnson, Miss J.Maples).

**Scilly** Tresco, adult, 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August, photo. (R.J.Hathway, M.G. & Dr J.E.Turner *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: page 525 fig.1; Brit. Birds 86: plate 230).

**Suffolk** Trimley Marshes, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May (M.C.Marsh, N.Odin, B.J.Small *et al.*).

Two spring records continue the recent trend, and include the first for Orkney.

## **Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri* (1, 5, 0)**

**1975 Cheshire** Sandbach Flashes, 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September (Brit. Birds 70: 447) now considered inadequately documented.

The total falls back to six, and avid wader-watchers await a long-staying mainland record of this, by far the rarest of the Nearctic peeps.

## **Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* (6, 28, 1)**

**Cornwall** Hayle, juvenile, 22<sup>nd</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (P.Mollatt, J.F.Ryan *et al.*) (Brit. Bird 87: plate 134).

Following a run of six early-autumn adults in 1988 and 1991, this is the first juvenile in Britain since 1983 (excluding the first-winter in Cornwall in winter 1986). The date and locality are typical, but the species remains scarce by comparison with Semipalmated Sandpiper *C.pusilla*.



## **White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis* (24, 322, 8)**

**Grampian** Loch of Strathbeg, adult, 4<sup>th</sup> July (P.D.Bloor, J.D.Poyner, S.A.Reeves *et al.*).

**Humberside** South Ferriby, adult, 5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> August (G.P.Catley *et al.*). Tophill Low, age uncertain, 4<sup>th</sup> September (B.Beilby, F.Moffatt, T.Richardson).

**Scilly** St Mary's, first-winter, 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September (W.H.Wagstaff *et al.*).

**Shetland** Pool of Virkie, adult, 31<sup>st</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August (M.Mellor *et al.*).

**Sussex, East** Pett Level, age uncertain, 19<sup>th</sup> September (J.Ashbee, J.A.B.Gale, D.F.G.Kennard).

**1992 Cornwall** Godrevy Cove, juvenile or first-winter, 27<sup>th</sup> November (P.A.Rutter).

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**Londonderry** Bann Estuary, juvenile, 18<sup>th</sup> September.

**Wexford** Tacumshin, 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

An exceptional August flock in the Azores (Ardeola 39: 78) possibly hints at the reasons behind the preponderance of early-autumn adults in Britain compared with late-autumn juveniles. The first-noted Humberside bird, often feeding at long range, tested many birders' optics and identification abilities to the limit, and maybe led to some dubious ticks. The 1992 Cornish bird is the latest ever; there was one at Marazion, Cornwall, on 19<sup>th</sup> November 1986, but no doubt both had made earlier landfall elsewhere.

## **Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* (4, 159, 3)**

**Devon** Dawlish Warren and Bowling Green Marsh, juvenile, 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August (S.Preddy, C.R.Wills *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Snettisham, adult, 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August, photo. (P.J.Heath, J.B.Kemp *et al.*), same, Titchwell, 25<sup>th</sup> (T.R.Dean, D.E.Horton *et al.*).

**Shetland** Scatness, juvenile, 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September, photo. (G.J.Hinchon *et al.*).

The pre-1958 total is reduced by one with the deletion of the record of one allegedly shot in Norfolk in 1903 (Brit. Birds 86: 22; Ibis 136: 253). Was the Norfolk adult herein the returning bird of 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 478)? The years 1988 and 1989 were good (with 13 and 12 respectively), but three a year is about average.

## **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* (5, 15, 1)**

**Shetland** Scatness, adult, 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (M.Mellor *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 135).

The first since 1987, the first for Shetland, typically an adult, and on the same small pool as a Baird's Sandpiper *C.bairdii* four days later.

## **Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* (23, 141, 6)**

**Humberside** Blacktoft Sands, 21<sup>st</sup> June (J.T.Oakes, K.Proud).

**Norfolk** Breydon, 7<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May (P.R.Allard, K.R.Dye *et al.*). Cley, juvenile, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September (M.A.Golley, D.J.Holman *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Minsmere, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> June (G.R. & Mrs H.J.Welch *et al.*).

**Sussex, West** Sidlesham, 1<sup>st</sup> May (A Dare *et al.*).

**Western Isles** Sollas, North Uist, 31<sup>st</sup> May (M.S.Cran, E.A.Hunter *et al.*).

The spring records are now expected, but that in the Western Isles is only the second there, following one at Balranald during 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> June 1983, and only the third for western Scotland. The autumn juvenile was noteworthy, but one wonders why we do not get more at that season.

## **Great Snipe *Gallinago media* (180, 68, 5)**

**Humber** Spurn, 19<sup>th</sup> September (L.J.Degnan *et al.*).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, 17<sup>th</sup> August (J.Reid *et al.*); 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October (J.Reid, S.D.Stansfield *et al.*).

**Shetland** Out Skerries, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September (A.Clifton, J. & Mrs I.Miller *et al.*).

**Yorkshire**, **North** Filey, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September (A.Botterill, P.J.Dunn, C.C.Thomas *et al.*).

**1989 Dorset** Stanpit Marsh, 25<sup>th</sup> August (Brit. Birds 85: 527), now considered inadequately documented.

There were five in 1987 (but four of them were on Fair Isle) and 1989, so the five here equal the best since 1976. Close attention to detail in flight views is required with this species.

## **Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus* (9, 158, 5)**

**Cheshire/Ciwyd** Inner Marsh Farm, juvenile, 24<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November, photo. (C.E.Wells *et al.*).

**Gwynedd** Porthmadog, juvenile, 17<sup>th</sup> to at least 26<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (K.H.Jones, R.Jones *et al.*).

### **IRELAND**

**Down** Strand Lough, adult, 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> August.

**Tipperary** Ashton's Callow, Little Brosna, adult, 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September.

**Wexford** Tacumshin, juvenile, 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September.

A coincident arrival of two typically dated juveniles in the same area in Britain is a familiar pattern; indeed, two have been noted together on several past occasions. A species prone to odd good years, such as 1985 and 1987 (with 15) and 1990 (with 14), but also to regular troughs, so five is about average.

## **Upland Sandpiper *Bartramia longicauda* (15, 28, 2)**

**Scilly** St Mary's, juvenile, 6<sup>th</sup> October to 6<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (per W.H.Wagstaff), presumed same, Tresco, 16<sup>th</sup> October (J. & Mrs I.Miller *et al.*).

**Shetland** Foula, juvenile, 22<sup>nd</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October, photo., dead 18<sup>th</sup> November (M.J.McKee, G.W.Petrie, Mrs F.Ratter *et al.*).

Two at opposite ends of our archipelago and at respective peak periods (September and October). This grassland species must be overlooked in less-well-watched West Coast habitats. Just five in the previous eight years shows its true vagrant status, a fact masked by the long stays of many of those which are found.

## **Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (12, 66, 2)**

**Kent** Dungeness, 9<sup>th</sup> May (P.G.Akers, R.J.Price *et al.*). Cliffe, 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 21<sup>st</sup> August, photo. (B. & N.P.Moore *et al.*).

**1992 Sussex, East** Icklesham, 4<sup>th</sup> July (Brit. Birds 86: 481), same, Rye Harbour LNR, 4<sup>th</sup> (D.Allen, A.Parker, M.Tickner).

A short-stayer in spring and a long-stayer in autumn. With the exception of nine in 1990, this is still a very rare wader in Britain, while its occurrences on the near-Continent and in eastern Europe continue to increase.

## **Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* (35, 192, 1)**

**Dorset** Radipole and Lodmoor, juvenile, 11<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (P.J.Barden, P.Edmonds *et al.*).

After a spring surge in 1992, another dismal year for this elegant shank. It will not have escaped many people's attention that there has been no acceptable record of its Greater cousin *T.melanoleuca* since the three in 1985.

## **Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* (6, 100, 2)**

**Cambridgeshire** Fen Drayton, juvenile to first-winter, 7<sup>th</sup> October to 1994, photo. (R.Allison, J.L.F.Parslow, P.L.Varney *et al.*).

**Scilly** St Martin's, juvenile, 21<sup>st</sup> October, photo. (K.Hewitt).

**Somerset** Burnham-on-Sea, since 27<sup>th</sup> October 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 484) to 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**1992 Yorkshire, West** New Swillington Ings, 27<sup>th</sup> May, apparently paired with Common Sandpiper *A.hypoleucos* (S.P.Singleton), presumed same, River Calder, near Castleford, 29<sup>th</sup> May to 14<sup>th</sup> June (W.J.Hesketh *et al.*), presumed returning individual, last recorded Welbeck, Southern Washlands NR, 30<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> July 1991, when accompanied by Common Sandpiper and three full-grown young (Brit. Birds 85: 528); also Elland Gravel-pits, 31<sup>st</sup> May to 25<sup>th</sup> June 1990, when apparently paired with Common Sandpiper (Brit. Birds 84: 473); conceivably also same as Worsborough Reservoir, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, 29<sup>th</sup> July to 5<sup>th</sup> August 1984 (Brit. Birds 79: 551).

Wintering by this species is not unusual, but the apparent pairing with a Common Sandpiper by the Yorkshire bird looks set to raise more subjects for the hybrid-wader analysts.

## **Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor* (1, 251, 0)**

**1990 Cheshire** Burton Marsh, juvenile to first-winter, 5<sup>th</sup> October (B.Rimmer *et al.*).

**1991 Cambridgeshire** Ely, 16<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September (P.Atkinson *et al.*).

**1991 Clwyd** Point of Air, 6<sup>th</sup> September (A.Duckers).

**1991 Fife** Eden Estuary, 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September (Brit. Birds 86: 485), finder was R.McCurley.

**1991 Sussex, West** Sidlesham, 3<sup>rd</sup> June (C.M. & Mrs B.James, D.I.Smith *et al.*).

A species prone to good and bad years, but, unless any records remain outstanding, 1993 will be the first blank year since 1960.

## **Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* (2, 61, 0)**

**1977 Suffolk** Wherstead, 13<sup>th</sup> November, presumed same, Felixstowe, 29<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> December (Brit. Birds 71: 506), now considered inadequately documented.

**1991 Clwyd** Point of Air, second-winter, 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> December (P.E.Kenyon, D.Quinn *et al.*).

A recent issue of Dutch Birding (12: 109-164) listed all West Palearctic records of all Nearctic gull species, with an interesting discussion and useful analyses of occurrence patterns in Europe related to migration patterns and timing in the Americas.

## **Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* (0, 27, 1)**

IRELAND

**Kerry** Black Rock, Ballyleige, 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May.

None in Britain, but the first, long-overdue Irish record.

## **Bonaparte's Gull *Larus philadelphia* (11, 69, 1)**

**Cornwall** Marazion, adult, 31<sup>st</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> February (D.S.Flumm *et al.*).

**1990 Merseyside** Seaforth, adults, 6<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May (Brit. Birds 84: 475), first individual to 19<sup>th</sup> (T.Vaughan), finder of second T.Vaughan.

**1992 Devon** Plymouth Sound and River Plym, adults, 14<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May, two, 15<sup>th</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May (R.W.White *et al.*), one or other same as St John's Lake, Cornwall, 22<sup>nd</sup> April (Brit. Birds 86: 489) and one or other presumed returning individual last recorded Plym Estuary, 7<sup>th</sup> May 1991 (Brit. Birds 85: 529).

Just one is well below par.

## Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

### *L. a. smithsonianus* (0, 14, 0)

IRELAND

**1992 Sligo** Sligo, first-winter, 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> March.

All records to date have been in Ireland.

## Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides*

### *L. g. kumlieni* / *L. g. thayeri* (0, 16, 2)

Individuals showing the characters of one or other of the western races *L.g.kumlieni* or *L.g.thayeri* were noted as follows:

**Devon** Plymouth area, adult, 26<sup>th</sup> January to 24<sup>th</sup> February (P.J.Cruttenden *et al.*).

**Grampian** Banff, adult, at least 23<sup>rd</sup> March (G. & R.P.Clay, J.C.Lowen), presumed returning 1991 individual (Brit. Birds 86: 489), also in Highland.

**Highland** Inverness, adult, 27<sup>th</sup> February (S.J.Aspinall, C.J.McInerny, J.F.McConnell), presumed same as 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 489).

**Shetland** Scatness, adult female, moribund, 15<sup>th</sup> January, photo. (H.R.Harrop, M.Heubeck, M.Mellor), now at Royal Scottish Museum.

**1979 Cornwall** Penzance, adult, 3<sup>rd</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March, photo. (W.R.Hirst, L.P.Williams).

**1990 Grampian** Banff Bay and Harbour, adult, 5<sup>th</sup> January to 26<sup>th</sup> March (P.D.Bloor, R.Maver, R.Proctor *et al.* per A.Webb), presumed same as 1989 (Brit. Birds 83: 466).

The 1979 Cornish record becomes the first to be accepted for Britain. The taxonomy of this group remains vexed and apparently open to question, but with a generally agreed clinal variation in plumage characteristics it becomes difficult if not impossible to assign any one individual to any given population. Adults are the easiest to identify, but several birds in younger plumages are under consideration and, logically, first-winters should outnumber adults by a considerable margin, as with nominate Icelanders.

## Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea* (2, 53, 7)

**Tayside** Tay Estuary, off Monifieth, adult, 31<sup>st</sup> December (M.S.Scott).

**Grampian** Fraserburgh, adult, 17<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> January, photo. (the late A.G.Clarke, P.S.Crockett *et al.*); adult, 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> January (the late A.G.Clarke, P.S.Crockett, A.W.Thorpe *et al.*); adult, 24<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> January (the late A.G.Clarke, P.S.Crockett, R.Noble-Nesbitt *et al.*).

**Shetland** Skaw, Unst, adult, 21<sup>st</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (M.J.McLeod, M.G.Pennington *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 137).

**Tyne & Wear** North Shields, adult, 30<sup>th</sup> January (K.W. & L.Regan).

**Western Isles** Stornoway, adult, 31<sup>st</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February, photo. (P.Cunningham, R.D.Wemyss *et al.*).

The unprecedented arrival of five, including the first 'flock' in Grampian, during a prolonged period of northwesterly gales in January 1993, along with exceptional numbers of Iceland Gulls *L.glaucoides*, including several of the races *L.g.kumlieni/thayeri*, was one of the highlights of the year. There were also records in Finland and Sweden in the same period. Also noteworthy is the recent increase in autumn records, whereas there were only three at that season prior to 1988.

## **Ivory Gull *Pagophila eburnea* (76, 37, 3)**

**Shetland** Collafirth, first-winter, 12<sup>th</sup> December (K.Lund, E.Mowat, J.Swale), probably same, Lerwick, 14<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, photo. (H.R.Harrop, M.Mellor *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 136). Whalsay, first-winter, 13<sup>th</sup> December (J.L.Irvine, Dr B.Marshall).

**Western Isles** Balranald, North Uist, adult, 29<sup>th</sup> December, photo. (T.J.Dix, C.O'Nians).

With a whole seal (Phocidae) on offer, the Western Isles adult might have been expected to stay longer, but maybe there was a more tasty corpse a few kilometres farther south. Also, a first-winter found dead at St Brelade, Jersey, Channel Islands, on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1993. An excellent paper on this species, with stunning colour photographs, appeared in the ABA's journal, *Birding* (25: 331-338).

## **Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (52, 189, 4)**

**Dorset** Stanpit Marsh, 5<sup>th</sup> October (D.N.Smith).

**Glamorgan, West** Penrice, Hangman's Corner and Knelston, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> July, photo. (D.C.Bolt, W.Howard, O.J.Leyshon *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Waxham, 26<sup>th</sup> June (J.R.Binstead, J.R.Hopkins).

**1974 Suffolk** Sizewell, 10<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 68: 321), now considered inadequately documented.

### **IRELAND**

**Cork** Ballycotton, 29<sup>th</sup> April.

A two-day stay is one day longer than usual for this rather elusive species, which remains high in the rejection ratings. Last year's comment regarding Orkney was incorrect: the first there was in 1913.

## **Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia* (30, 197, 4)**

**Derbyshire** Willington, 11<sup>th</sup> May (R.W.Key, S.P.Warford *et al.*), probably same as Warwickshire, Nottinghamshire.

**Humberside** Spurn, 29<sup>th</sup> July (J.Cudworth), presumed same as Norfolk.

**Norfolk** Hickling and Breydon, 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, photo. (J.S.Hampshire, R.Handley, I. & S.Smith *et al.*). Bacton, 28<sup>th</sup> July (M.Fischer), presumed same, Blakeney Point, 29<sup>th</sup> (J.M. & P.J.Dolton), Brancaster, 29<sup>th</sup> (V.Eve *et al.*), and in Humberside. Sheringham, 22<sup>nd</sup> August (M.T.Elliott, M.P.Lee, M.Young-Powell *et al.*).

**Nottinghamshire** Lound, 12<sup>th</sup> May, photo, (P.Palmer *et al.*), probably same as Derbyshire.

**Warwickshire** Dosthill Lake, 10<sup>th</sup> May (J.A.Astbury), probably same as Derbyshire.

**1992 Leicestershire** Thornton Reservoir, 20<sup>th</sup> June (Brit. Birds 86: 539), now considered acceptable (A.D.Smith), probably same as Staffordshire.

**1992 Staffordshire** Belvide Reservoir, 21<sup>st</sup> June (M.Fox, M.W.Russon *et al.*), probably same as Leicestershire above.

Tracking these magnificent beasts around the country is not easy, but it could be that only three were involved in 1993. The statistics may overstate the number of individuals which have occurred in the past.

## **Lesser Crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis* (0, 4, 0)**

**Borders** St Abb's Head, 16<sup>th</sup> May (M.Collinson, J.F.McConnell, R.D.Murray), presumed same as Northumberland.

**Lincolnshire** Saltfleetby, female, 20<sup>th</sup> June, photo., mating with colour-ringed Sandwich Tern *S.sandvicensis* (G.P.Catley *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Scolt Head, 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> July (D.J.Holman *et al.*); same, Thornham, 11<sup>th</sup> (per G.E.Dunmore). Sheringham, 22<sup>nd</sup> August (K.B.Shepherd, S.C.Votier, M.C.Young-Powell *et al.*).

**Northumberland** Farne Islands, female, intermittently, 3<sup>rd</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> August, presumed returning 1992 individual, paired with same Sandwich Tern as 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 492), mating observed 31<sup>st</sup> May (per B.N.Rossiter).

The Farnes bird was very mobile in 1993, appearing in Borders, Northumberland, Humberside (Easington: details not yet received) and Lincolnshire. In each locality, apart from Borders, she was noted as being paired with a colour-ringed Sandwich Tern, ringed on the Farnes in 1986. Without full dates from the Farnes and Humberside, it is impossible to say at this time whether the July one in Norfolk was a different individual.

## **Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri* (0, 21, 0)**

IRELAND

**Wexford** Wexford Harbour, 17<sup>th</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

**1992 Wexford** Wexford Harbour, adult, 4<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September.

An almost exclusively Irish rarity in recent years; presumably, the same individual recorded at the same locality in 1987/88.

## **Bridled Tern *Sterna anaethetus* (3, 13, 3)**

**Highland** Eigg, 21<sup>st</sup> July (J.Chester).

**Northamptonshire** Earl's Barton Gravel-pits, 29<sup>th</sup> May (A.P.Borley, P.A.Britten, S.G.D.Cook *et al.*).

**Sussex, East Rye**, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (N. & Mrs C.Winterman, Dr B.J.Yates *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 138 & 139).

**1992 Humberside** Flamborough Head, 18<sup>th</sup> August (A.M.Allport), presumed same as Northumberland below.

**1992 Northumberland** Coquet Island, 14<sup>th</sup> August, photo. (H.Paget-Wilkes, D.C.Richardson).

The two 1992 records, presumed to be of the same individual, continue the unbroken run since 1988, but just how many individuals are being recorded is another matter. Two were together in the Netherlands and Belgium in July 1989, when one was in Northumberland, so at least three were on the North Sea coasts at that time, but it must be just a possibility that most of the records since 1988 refer to only three or four very mobile individuals. The Northamptonshire record was an excellent inland find, recalling that at Rutland Water in June 1984, and Northamptonshire becomes the first inland county to have recorded both Sooty *S.fuscata* and Bridled Terns.

The Committee also spent many hours studying a record of a tern, on the Isle of May, Fife, on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1989, but was unable to arrive at a firm conclusion as to which of these two species it belonged.

## **Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus* (20, 86, 2)**

**Essex** Abberton Reservoir, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> July, photo. (S.Grimwade, B.Smith, J.Summers *et al.*)

**Gwynedd** Llyn Traffwll, Anglesey, 19<sup>th</sup> June, same, Cemlyn Bay, 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, photo. (P.E.Kenyon, D.Quinn *et al.*).

**1991 Leicestershire/Northamptonshire** Stanford Reservoir, first-winter, 22<sup>nd</sup> October (J.M. & K.A.Wilson).

An erratic vagrant: none in 1990, only the one here in 1991, none in 1992 and two in 1993. Good years were 1987 (with nine) and 1988 (with ten). With large numbers now wintering in southern France, and two wintering in the Netherlands in 1991/92, could we yet see one in late autumn hang on in a mild winter?

## **White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* (50, 589, 15)**

**Berkshire** Theale, 21<sup>st</sup> May (R.Crawford, B.Uttley *et al.*).

**Cambridgeshire** Purl's Bridge, 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (C.A.E.Kirtland, C., M. & P.Smout *et al.*), presumed same as Lincolnshire.

**Cheshire** Neumann's Flash, Pickmere and Budworth Mere, juvenile, 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September (J.Gregory, P.E.Kenyon, D.M.Walters *et al.*).

**Cheshire/Clwyd** Inner Marsh Farm, adult, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July (N.Friswell, C.Wells).

**Clwyd** See Cheshire/Clwyd above.

**Cornwall** Hayle, juvenile, 9<sup>th</sup> September (J.H.Hawkey).

**Cornwall/Devon** Tamar Lakes, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May (P.F. & Mrs J.Goodfellow, F.H.C.Kendal, R.Pettitt *et al.*).

**Devon** See Cornwall/Devon above.

**Grampian** Loch Spynie, 15<sup>th</sup> May (C.A.Gervaise, R.Proctor *et al.*).

**Kent** Dungeness, 22<sup>nd</sup> May (P.G.Akers, R.J.Price *et al.*).

**Lancashire** Marton Mere, second-summer, 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June (A.Leeming, D.McGrath, D.Quinn *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: page 534 fig.2).

**Lincolnshire** Saltfleetby, 21<sup>st</sup> June, photo. (W.Gillat, J.T.Harriman), presumed same as Cambridgeshire.

**Merseyside** Seaforth, juvenile to first-winter, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September, photo.; juvenile, 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, photo. (G.Thomas, S.J.White *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, West** Anglers Country Park, Wakefield, juvenile, 13<sup>th</sup> September (P.L.Mountain, J.M.Turton); same, New Swillington Ings, 13<sup>th</sup> (per P.J.Dunn).

**1990 Kent** Dartford, juvenile, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> September (B.E.Wright *et al.*), presumed same as Essex (Brit. Birds 84: 477).

**1992 Berkshire** Theale, adult, 18<sup>th</sup> May (T.Marlow, B.Uttley); second-summer, 18<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86.493), 19<sup>th</sup> (B.Uttley *et al.*); adult, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> August (D.H.Russell *et al.*).

**1992 Cleveland** Scaling Dam, juvenile, 19<sup>th</sup> August (I.Bousted, D.Page *et al.*).

**1992 Hampshire** Alresford Pond, adult, 3<sup>rd</sup> September (G.Thompson). Keyhaven, juvenile, 6<sup>th</sup> September (M.C. & P.Combridge).

**1992 Staffordshire** Blithfield Reservoir, adult, 11<sup>th</sup> September (P.A.J.Newman, S.Wood *et al.*).

**1992 Tayside** Forfar Loch, 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May (G.Addison, M.S.Scott *et al.*).

## IRELAND

**Down** Belfast Harbour Pools, adult, 1<sup>st</sup> September.

**Fermanagh** Lough Melvin, adult, 28<sup>th</sup> July.

The year 1992 moves farther in front, with 49 records, so 15 seems poor by comparison, but is about average.

## **Brünnich's Guillemot *Uria lomvia* (2, 26, 1)**

**Lothian** Musselburgh, 27<sup>th</sup> March (S.W.Anderson, P.Bould, B.A.Hickman).

Another live bird, but it appeared to be in less-than-perfect health. The ratio of corpses to live birds suggests that these auks come in close only when they are 'on the way out'.

## **Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis* (2, 3, 0)**

**1973 Cornwall** Land's End, 5<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 67: 328, 352-354), now considered inadequately documented.

**1975 Lincolnshire** Donna Nook, 25<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 70: 448), now considered inadequately documented.

**1978 Cornwall** St Ives, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 72: 528) now considered inadequately documented.

The five records which remain extant are of specimens obtained in North Yorkshire in 1889 and Norfolk in 1946 and field identifications in Scilly in 1960, on Fair Isle, Shetland, in 1974 and at Spurn, Humberside, in 1975.

## **Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* (6, 30, 1)**

**Scilly** St Martin's, probably first-summer, 11<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April (V.Jackson, W.H.Wagstaff *et al.*).

Given a breath of warm air from the south, March arrival seems now to be a good possibility.

## **Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus* (22, 35, 0)**

### **IRELAND**

**1989 Donegal** Tory Island, 6<sup>th</sup> October.

This late record takes the 1989 total to four.

## **Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops* (64, 20, 0)**

**1985 Orkney** See 1986 below.

**1986 Orkney** Papa Westray, 24<sup>th</sup> June to 11<sup>th</sup> July, dead 12<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 86: 496), was in 1985.

Contrary to last year's statement, this was Orkney's fifth.

## **Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca* (many, 106, 6)**

**Highland** Moss of Wester, immature, 18<sup>th</sup> to at least 31<sup>st</sup> January, photo. (H.Clark, J.L.Ryrie, W.Watt *et al.*). Near Halkirk, 5<sup>th</sup> September (A. & Mrs J.Macintosh).

**Orkney** Rousay, female, probably juvenile, 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> July, photo. (S.Scott *et al.*).

**Shetland** Eshaness, female, 29<sup>th</sup> April (D.Coutts), presumed same, Ronas Rill, 3<sup>rd</sup> May (J.N.Dymond), Skerries, 20<sup>th</sup> June (E.Tait), Fetlar, 18<sup>th</sup> September (B.Thomason) (all details per D.Suddaby), presumed one or other of 1992 individuals (Brit. Birds 86: 496).

**Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, male, probably first-year, 11<sup>th</sup> April (D.Clark, T.J.Dix, J.Vaughan). Balranald, North Uist, female, 14<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> June (D. & M.Washington *et al.*), presumed same, Bornish, South Uist, 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> April, 23<sup>rd</sup> June to July, Drimsdale, South Uist, 2<sup>nd</sup> August (per T.J.Dix).

**1992 Western Isles** Balranald, North Uist, male, 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May (Brit. Birds 86: 496) was female.

### **IRELAND**

**Donegal** Aranmore Island, 24<sup>th</sup> June.

**1992 Mayo** Achill Island, 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**1986 Donegal** Tory Island, three days in November.

Though the Fetlar group seems now to be on the verge of extinction, the Western Isles may, just possibly, be the next focus of attention for this beautiful creature.

In the Channel Islands, a male was on Alderney during 5<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> April and at three localities on Guernsey during 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, and 1992 reports have now been received of a female or immature in the Castel area of Guernsey from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June, after brief sightings at Chouet on 14<sup>th</sup> April, on Herm on 16<sup>th</sup> and at Les Hanois and Pleinmont on 20<sup>th</sup> May. All present a somewhat puzzling series of occurrences so far south and at such a season. Another intriguing record, although not strictly British, was of one which boarded a ship in the North Atlantic at 46°30'N 32°30'W, 680 nautical miles east of Newfoundland, on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1992 and eventually departed in the direction of Folkestone, Kent, in Sea area Dover, on 29<sup>th</sup>, never to be seen again.

## **Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus* (0, 0, 1)**

**Norfolk** Cley, 30<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (A.M.Brown, S.J.M.Gantlett *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 144 & 145).

This species occurs in the Seychelles in autumn, so perhaps this bird strayed to Africa in autumn and came north with our Common Swifts *A.apus*. This record closely parallels that of one caught on an oil-platform 45 km off Norfolk on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1981 (Brit. Birds 83: 43-46; Ibis 134: 212) and spring records of White-throated Needletail Swifts *Hirundapus caudacutus*.



## **Alpine Swift *Apus melba* (150, 325, 19)**

**Avon** Aust Cliff, 11<sup>th</sup> April (S.Hale).

**Cheshire** Sandbach, 9<sup>th</sup> October (P.Lunt, D.Norbury, P.Swallow).

**Cornwall** Near Polzeath, 26<sup>th</sup> March (G.J.Conway, R.L.Smith). Stithians Reservoir, 15<sup>th</sup> October (D.N.Arnold, J.D.McMillan).

**Devon** Torcross, 8<sup>th</sup> April (D.Cope, A.D.Smith).

**Dyfed** Borth, 9<sup>th</sup> April (H.W.Roderick, R.Thomas, B.G.Twigg).

**Essex** Fingringhoe Wick, 13<sup>th</sup> June (A.Kettle, D.Leach, T.Mole *et al.*). Bradwell, adult, recently dead, 19<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (G.R.Ekins).

**Humberside** Goxhill, South Humberside, 11<sup>th</sup> June (D.L.Kirby).

**Kent** Worth, 16<sup>th</sup> April (R.Dunwoody). Reculver, two, 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April (D.M.Allan, D.C.Gilbert, C.H.Hindle *et al.*); another, 2<sup>nd</sup> May (B.Matlock).

**Norfolk** Beeston and Sheringham area, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, photo. (G.Herriven, D.J.Holman *et al.*).

**Northamptonshire** Ditchford Gravel-pit, 21<sup>st</sup> March (N.M.Butler). Ravensthorpe Reservoir, 15<sup>th</sup> May (R.F.Burrows).

**Strathclyde** Campbeltown, Kintyre, 15<sup>th</sup> April (M.Campbell, D.Garratt *et al.*).

**Sussex, West** Sompting, 1<sup>st</sup> August (P.M.Brayshaw).

**Yorkshire, South** Denaby Ings, 21<sup>st</sup> March (T.Feltham).

**At sea** Irish Sea, 53°55'N 03°34'W, 30<sup>th</sup> May (G.Brown).

**1978 Leicestershire** Rutland Water, 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> August (Brit. Birds 72: 546), now accepted (T.P.Appleton, M.J.Pearce *et al.*).

**1992 Kent** Foreness, 3<sup>rd</sup> October (S.D.W.Mount).

**1992 Lancashire** Caton, 25<sup>th</sup> May (D.Barber, P.J.Marsh).

**1992 Norfolk** Cley and other north-coast localities, 24<sup>th</sup> April (M.A.Golley, A.N.Mellor *et al.*).

**1992 Strathclyde** Balgray Reservoir, 2<sup>nd</sup> May (J.Coyle, V.Wilson).

**1992 Wight, Isle of** Seaview, 25<sup>th</sup> May (D.G.H.Mills).

### IRELAND

**1986 Cork** Glandore, 20<sup>th</sup> May.

An average year, but only three in March.

## **Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus* (0, 7, 1)**

**1992 Humberside** Flamborough Head, 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July (D.Beaumont, D.R.Middleton, B.Richards *et al.*).

### IRELAND

**Dublin** Howth Head, 8<sup>th</sup> August, found dead later the same day.

The Committee is of the view that, in distinguishing this species from pale, aberrant Common Swifts *A.apus*, over reliance on reputed differences in structure and flight can be risky. An accurate account of plumage characters, taking into consideration light conditions at the time, is essential. A 1993 record from Norfolk remains under consideration. The Irish record is the first there, but an earlier one is still under assessment.

## **European Roller *Coracias garrulus* (135, 87, 1)**

**Cleveland** South Care, adult, 11<sup>th</sup> September, video-recorded (P.A.Doherty).

**1991 Suffolk** Orfordness, juvenile, 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September (Brit. Birds 86: 500), 13<sup>th</sup> (per P.W.Murphy).

A chance-fly-by captured on video-tape by one of our leading photographers.

## **Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* (40, 374, 18)**

**Devon** Lundy, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> May (R.Bower, L.Lock, R.W.White *et al.*).

**Dorset** Portland, 13<sup>th</sup> May (M.Cade *et al.*).

**Fife** Isle of May, trapped 4<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (J.Conner, L.Swift).

**Kent** Dungeness, 29<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (G.J.A Burton, B.A.Ryan *et al.*).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, 24<sup>th</sup> April (P.J.Donnely *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: page 541 fig. 3).

**Scilly** Tresco, 12<sup>th</sup> May (G.M.Haig). St Mary's, 3<sup>rd</sup> October (K.C.Osborne *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, 3<sup>rd</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May (R.Jameson, P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch *et al.*). Bannaminn, West Burra, 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May (M.Mellor *et al.*). Grutness, 28<sup>th</sup> May (Dr C.F.Mackenzie). Noss, 29<sup>th</sup> May (W.E.Oddie). Fetlar, 6<sup>th</sup> June (B.H.Thomason *et al.*); 18<sup>th</sup> September (B.H.Thomason).

**Somerset** Berrow, 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> April (B.Rabbitts, A.M. & B.E.Slade *et al.*).

**1991 Scilly** St Agnes, 5<sup>th</sup> October (P.A.Dukes).

### **IRELAND**

**Cork** Ballycotton, 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April. Dursey Island, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> May; 1<sup>st</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> June. Cape Clear Island, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June.

**1992 Wexford** Great Saltee, 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Four June records – two in Ireland and two in Scotland – are somewhat out of the ordinary.

## **Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica* (7, 237, 5)**

**Essex** East Tilbury, 26<sup>th</sup> September (D.Jobbins, A.J.Kane, C.Rose).

**Kent** St Margaret's, 5<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (A.R.Lawson, L.Pritchard, B.E.Wright *et al.*). Isle of Grain, 25<sup>th</sup> September (K.J.Thornton).

**Orkney** Near Dounby, Loch of Harray, 16<sup>th</sup> June (R.G.Adam).

**Sussex, East** Beachy Head, 2<sup>nd</sup> May (D. & J.F.Cooper).

**1992 Humberside** Spurn, 5<sup>th</sup> May (M.G.Oxlade). Flamborough Head, 28<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (M.S.Chapman, D.Marsden, J.Martin *et al.*).

An average year and no late-autumn occurrences. The 1992 acceptances take that year's total to 13.

## **Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* (1, 148, 31)**

**Cornwall** Polgigga, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October (Dr A.M.Hanby *et al.*). St Levan, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October (S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall).

**Humberside** Flamborough Head, 14<sup>th</sup> October (M.R.Miles, R.Taylor); 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 23<sup>rd</sup>, photo. (D.I.M.Wallace *et al.*).

**Kent** Sandwich Bay, 6<sup>th</sup> October (T.Bagworth, C.Solly).

**Lothian** Barns Ness, 3<sup>rd</sup> October (A.Brown).

**Norfolk** Holkham Meals, 24<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November, photo. (M.Cocker, D.J.Holman, J.B.Kemp *et al.*).

**Orkney** Stronsay, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October (M.Baynes, M.Doughty, J.F. & Mrs S.M.Holloway).

**Scilly** Tresco, 16<sup>th</sup> October (R.J.Hathway, J.F.Ryan *et al.*). St Agnes, 25<sup>th</sup> October, probably since 23<sup>rd</sup> (C.Bradshaw, J.Gilbody *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, 29<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October, possibly to 6<sup>th</sup> (S.J.M.Gantlett, D.M.Harris *et al.*); three, 4<sup>th</sup> October (S.Holloway); 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October (P.V.Harvey, A.J.Leitch *et al.*). Exnaboe, 29<sup>th</sup> September (J.Clifton, D.Thymes). Norwick, Unst, two, 30<sup>th</sup> September, one to 3<sup>rd</sup> October (P.M.Ellis, P.V.Harvey *et al.*). Voe, 30<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October (M.S.Chapman, R.Proctor *et al.*). Whalsay, 1<sup>st</sup> October (A.M.Stoddart); 24<sup>th</sup> October (Dr C.F.Mackenzie). Scatness, 2<sup>nd</sup> October (G.J.Hinchon, T.Lawrence). Culswick, 2<sup>nd</sup> October (Dr C.F.Mackenzie), presumed same, 5<sup>th</sup> (C.D.R.Heard). Stove, Sandwick, 5<sup>th</sup> October (T.M.Brereton, D.M.Pullan *et al.*). Fetlar, 6<sup>th</sup> October (R.H.Thomason). Noss Hill, near Spiggie, 6<sup>th</sup> October (G.J.Fitchett). Helendale, Lerwick, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> October (T.P.Drew *et al.*). Out Skerries, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October (J.M. & T.P.Drew, P.M.Ellis *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey, 1<sup>st</sup> October (P.J.Dunn, D.A.Rushforth); 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October (L.Gillard, A.Norris *et al.*).

**1991 Kent** Locality in north, taken into care injured sometime prior to October, still in care January 1993, photo. (M.J.Orchard, Mrs R.Woolmer *et al.*).

**1992 Norfolk** Holkham Meals, 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 86: 504), first seen 4<sup>th</sup> (J.A.White). Stiffkey, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> October (D.J.Holman, R.G.Millington *et al.*).

## IRELAND

**Cork** Cape Clear Island, 17<sup>th</sup> October.

The flood of occurrences in Shetland rivals that of 1990. Elsewhere, the spread was typical of events in recent years. The saga of the Kent bird found in 1991 is astonishing.

## **Pechora Pipit *Anthus gustavi* (13, 29, 2)**

**Grampian** St Fergus, 11<sup>th</sup> October (P.Doyle).

**Shetland** Foula, 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (J.M. & T.P.Drew, M.J.McKee, D.J.Rigby).

Two typical records, though this is usually a Fair Isle speciality.

## **Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* (3, 265, 8)**

**Devon** Bolberry Down, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> October (P.H.Aley, C.J.Cox, R.W.White *et al.*).

**Essex** Bradwell-on-Sea, 17<sup>th</sup> September (B.O'Dowd); 5<sup>th</sup> October (J.C.Sutherby).

**Greater London** Rainham Marsh, 19<sup>th</sup> September (M.K.Dennis).

**Humber** Spurn, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September (J.Hewitt *et al.*).

**Scilly** St Mary's, at least one, 10<sup>th</sup> October (S.Breasley, D.M.Lamacraft, A.F.Mears *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, 17<sup>th</sup> September (K.Pellow, A Slack, J.R.Todd *et al.*); 29<sup>th</sup>, presumed same to 3<sup>rd</sup> October (T.R.Cleeves, R.E.Harbird *et al.*).

**1992 Humber** Flamborough Head, 25<sup>th</sup> May (J.C.Laplough, P.A.Lassey, M.Newsome).

**1992 Norfolk** Blakeney Point, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May, two, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 86: 505), third individual, 25<sup>th</sup> (S.C.Joyner, A.M.Stoddart *et al.*), presumed same, 28<sup>th</sup> (S.Betts, A.Chamberlain, J.Eaton *et al.*).

**1992 Northumberland** Newbiggin, 17<sup>th</sup> September (A.T.Forster).

**1992 Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, 18<sup>th</sup> July (J.Vaughan *et al.*).

It is gratifying to note that some observers are now making real efforts to describe the voice of this species, especially when seeking to establish fly-over records. Nevertheless, previous experience remains an important factor.

## Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

### *M. f. feldegg* (0, 10, 0)

The following records, previously accepted as showing the characters of the black-headed Southwest Asian and Southeast European race *M.f.feldegg*, are now considered unacceptable, mostly owing to possible confusion with *M.f.thunbergi*:

**1964 Cornwall** Marazion, male, 29<sup>th</sup> June (Brit. Birds 58: 368).

**1969 Shetland** Out Skerries, male, 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (Brit. Birds 63: 288).

**1974 Shetland** Fair Isle, male, 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 68: 329).

**1976 Gwynedd** Bardsey, male, 8<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 70: 439).

**1978 Cornwall** Polzeath, male, 5<sup>th</sup> June (Brit. Birds 72: 532).

The three pre-1958 records (Dumfries & Galloway, 1925; Shetland, 1936; and Lothian, 1952) have also been reviewed by the BOU Records Committee and are now deemed unacceptable (Ibis 135: 496). The situation concerning four other records (1958, 1960, 1974 and 1978) remains to be clarified.

### Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* (2, 59, 5)

**Hampshire** Fleet Pond, first-summer male, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (J.N.Dixon *et al.*) (Brit. Bird 87: plate 140). Farlington Marshes, first-winter, 30<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September (K.Betton, A.J.B.Lester, G.Thompson *et al.*).

**Scilly** Tresco, juvenile, 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> August (R.Gleadle, R.J.Hathway, W.H.Wagstaff *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, first-winter, 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August (I.Barton, P.A.Jenks, K.Rosewarne *et al.*); first-winter, 18<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September (M.R.Lawn, A.J.Leitch, P.A.Jenks *et al.*).

The Hampshire record in spring matches that of a first-summer male in Leicestershire on 18<sup>th</sup> May 1991 (Brit. Birds 85: 536).

### Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos* (0, 2, 0)

**1982 Cornwall** Saltash, 30<sup>th</sup> August (E.Griffiths).

**1988 Essex** Hamford Water, 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> May, photo. (J.Backhouse, Dr S.Cox, J.Miller).

A somewhat dishevelled individual on Blakeney Point, Norfolk, on 20<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August 1971 is considered to have been a probable escape from captivity, whilst one well photographed on Worms Head, Gower, West Glamorgan, from 24<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> August 1978 is considered unlikely to have been a genuine vagrant and is therefore afforded category D status (Ibis 135: 496).

### Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris* (29, 8, 1)

**Devon** Lundy, 8<sup>th</sup> May (J.K.Allen, K.Wimbush *et al.*).

Warm easterly weather at the time meant that this came as no great surprise; another good possibility would have been a Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis*.

### Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia* (2, 97, 5)

**Fife** Isle of May, first-summer, trapped 27<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (J.J.Sweeney *et al.*); first-summer, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May, trapped 27<sup>th</sup>, photo. (J.Calladine, J.J.Sweeney *et al.*).

**Lancashire** Heysham, trapped 25<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (P.J.Marsh *et al.*).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, trapped 21<sup>st</sup> May (P.J.Donnolly, M.Gray, N.Ward *et al.*).

**Shetland** Helendale, Lerwick, in song, 20<sup>th</sup> May (A.J.McCall *et al.*).

**1992 Shetland** Fair Isle, 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September (Brit. Birds 86: 507), observers included H.R.Harrop.

First-summer birds, still short of migratory experience, seem particularly vulnerable to easterly winds on their way back to Scandinavia in spring. Two in a day on the Isle of May emulates Fair Isle. Contrary to last year's statement, the two on Orkney in 1992 were the third and fourth there.

## **Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus* (3, 8, 2)**

**Dorset** Winspit, probably first-winter, 30<sup>th</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (M. & T.Langman, N.G.Morris *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: page 546 fig.6, plate 150).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, first-winter, trapped 16<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (H.J.Burgess, M.R.Lawn, A.J.Leitch *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 151).

At last, the monopoly of the North has been broken, but, if other southern records follow, will the escape bugbear rear its ugly head? A female or immature was reported from Ouessant, Finistère, France, on 27<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 87: 321), a great deal closer to Dorset than is Fair Isle.

## **Common Stonechat *Saxicola torquata***

### ***S. t. maura* / *S. t. stejnegeri* (1, 191, 17)**

Individuals showing the characters of one or other of the eastern races *S.t.maura* or *stejnegeri* were recorded as follows:

**Humberside** Spurn, female or first-winter, 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September (M.L.Denton, J.McLoughlin *et al.*); female or first-winter, 14<sup>th</sup> October (J.Cudworth, B.Fendley); presumed same, Kilnsea, 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> (L.J.Degnan *et al.*); female or first-winter, 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October, trapped 31<sup>st</sup>, photo. (T.Collins, L.J.Degnan, N.P.Whitehouse *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 152 & 153).

**Kent** Dungeness, female or first-winter, 1<sup>st</sup> November (D.Okines, D.Walker).

**Norfolk** Cley, female or first-winter, 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> October (P.Ball, K.W.Lodge, D.H.Sutton).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, male, 4<sup>th</sup> October (P.J.Donnelly) (Brit. Birds 87: page 545 fig. 4); female or first-winter, 8<sup>th</sup> (J.Reid, S.D.Stansfield *et al.*); female or first-winter, 12<sup>th</sup> (J.Reid) (Brit. Birds 87: page 547 fig. 7); female or first-winter, 23<sup>rd</sup> (P.J.Donnelly, M.Gray, S.D.Stansfield) (Brit. Birds 87: page 545 fig. 5). South Ronaldsay, first-winter male, 9<sup>th</sup> October (E.R.Meek, E.J. & S.J.Williams).

**Shetland** Whalsay, female or first-winter, 25<sup>th</sup> September (J.L.Irvine, Dr B.Marshall, A.M.Stoddart). Toab, female or first-winter, 25<sup>th</sup> September (D.Rhymes). Fair Isle, male, age uncertain, 29<sup>th</sup> September to at least 8<sup>th</sup> October (D.Suddaby *et al.*); male, age uncertain, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October (P.V.Harvey, K.D.Shaw, A.S.Vials *et al.*); male, age uncertain, 10<sup>th</sup> October (K.D.Shaw); female or first-winter, 10<sup>th</sup> (L.Farrell, N.J.Riddiford, N. & P.Thomson). Out Skerries, female or first-winter, 9<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October (J.M. & T.P.Drew, P.M.Ellis, E.Tait *et al.*).

**1991 Yorkshire, North** Filey Brigg, first-winter male, trapped 29<sup>th</sup> September (T.L.Hobson, D.J. & P.M.Scanlan *et al.*).

**1992 Essex** Hanningfield Reservoir, female or first-winter, 4<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (D.Acfield, J.Miller, L Steward).

**1992 Norfolk** Salthouse Heath, female or first-winter, 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> October (D.J.Holman, R.G.Millington *et al.*).

The Committee is currently studying the problem of startlingly white-rumped Stonechats with bright wing-flashes which tend to turn up on spring passage, but may merely be extreme examples of *S.t.hibernans*.

## **Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka* (3, 25, 2)**

**Dyfed** Ramsey Island, male, 25<sup>th</sup> October (K.Dobbs, D.Thomas, D.Woodhead) (Brit. Birds 87: page 550 fig. 8).

**Grampian** Donmouth, female, 8<sup>th</sup> October (S.L.Agnew, D.M.Pullan).

The Dyfed observation was supported by an excellent series of sketches (fig. 8, on page 550). The only previous Welsh record was on Skokholm, Dyfed, on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1968 (Brit. Birds 62: 477).

## **Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica* (15, 38, 1)**

**Norfolk** Stiffkey, first-winter male, 24<sup>th</sup> October to 1<sup>st</sup> November, photo. (S.Harris, D.J.Holman *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 154).

**1990 Dyfed** Skomer, male, 4<sup>th</sup> May (Mrs A.C.Sutcliffe).

Pale Northern Wheatears *O.oenanthe* continue to present pitfalls for less experienced birders in both spring and autumn, and any autumn claims still call for the utmost care.

## **Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* (11, 31, 2)**

**Norfolk** Horsey, 29<sup>th</sup> October (A.C.Frost). Hunstanton and Heacham, female, 16<sup>th</sup> November to 7<sup>th</sup> December, photo. (C.Gomersall, A.Hay *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 155).

Two more typical late-autumn records.

## **White's Thrush *Zoothera dauma* (29, 16, 3)**

**Shetland** Seafield, Lerwick, 1<sup>st</sup> October (G.W.Petrie *et al.*).

**Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, 21<sup>st</sup> September (J.Vaughan).

### **IRELAND**

**Down** Copeland Island, 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> April.

Two records in the 'peak' period for this species. The St Kilda bird gave its lone observer the run-around along perilous cliffs. It seems possible that the Irish bird had wintered in Western Europe.

## **Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus* (0, 3, 1)**

**Scilly** Tresco, 11<sup>th</sup> October (C.McLure), presumed same, 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, photo. (P.D.Bowerman, R.F.Reader *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 156).

Scilly's third, the previous two being in 1984 and 1987. Crowd behaviour after its rediscovery was said by some to have stretched propriety to its very limits.

## **Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus* (1, 17, 1)**

**Orkney** Holm, Mainland, trapped 21<sup>st</sup> October, photo. (R.G.Adam, E.J.Williams *et al.*).

One of these, but no Grey-cheeked *C.minimus* this year. Nonetheless, within three days of Flamborough Head's Blackpoll Warbler *Dendroica striata*.

## **Eyebrowed Thrush *Turdus obscurus* (0, 14, 1)**

**Scilly** St Mary's, first-winter, 7<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (per W.H.Wagstaff) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 157), presumed same, St Agnes, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, photo. (D.Booth, N.J.Hallam *et al.*).

Yet another on the Scilly scorecard. Surely they must turn up on the mainland? Sifting through flocks of newly arrived Redwings *T.ilicacus* may one day bear fruit.

## **Dark-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis* (3, 21, 4)**

**Norfolk** Sheringham, first-winter female, *T.r.atrogularis*, trapped 31<sup>st</sup> October, photo. (D.H.Sadler, K.B.Shepherd, M.C.Young-Powell *et al.*), presumed same, Sheringham Park, 31<sup>st</sup> (D.E. & M.J.Saunt, J.R.Williamson *et al.*).

**Scilly** St Martin's, first-winter female, *T.r.atrogularis*, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (P.Clark, M.Coath, A.W.F.Hearn *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, first-winter, probably male, *T.r.atrogularis*, 11<sup>th</sup> October (P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch, N.J.Riddiford *et al.*). Whalsay, probably first-winter female, *T.r.atrogularis*, 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October (Dr B.Marshall *et al.*).

The Norfolk bird was a nice find for members of the new ringing venture at this site.

## **Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata* (9, 45, 3)**

**Norfolk** Sheringham, first-winter, trapped 29<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (D.Riley, K.B.Shepherd, S.C.Votier *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, first-winter, trapped 17<sup>th</sup> September (P.A.Jenks, M.R.Lawn, A.J.Leitch *et al.*). Sumburgh, 27<sup>th</sup> September (P.A.Dennis, A.V.Moon, S.A.Webb *et al.*).

Strong suspicions that this species may turn up occasionally in Norfolk, for instance in 1985, are now borne out, albeit in the hand. Two of the three previous records in England were in November (Lincolnshire, 1909; Tyne & Wear, 1984), but a trapping in Hampshire on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1979 (Brit. Birds 74: 484) comes closer to this one. The Shetland records were typical.

## **River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis* (0, 13, 3)**

**Shetland** Fair Isle, male, 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May, trapped 25<sup>th</sup> (I.Brown, P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch *et al.*); first-winter, 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> September, trapped 26<sup>th</sup>, photo. (T.R.Cleeves, Dr S. & Mrs P.Cox, A.J.Leitch *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 158). Out Skerries, first-winter, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 9<sup>th</sup>, photo. (J.M. & T.P.Drew, P.M.Ellis, E.Tait *et al.*).

Shetland records now total nine, the last in 1984.

## **Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* (2, 19, 2)**

**Shetland** Fair Isle, 31<sup>st</sup> May (N.J. & Mrs E.A.Riddiford, M.Stout, E.Thomson *et al.*); probable adult, 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September, trapped 8<sup>th</sup> (G.Anderson, P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch *et al.*).

**1992 Humberside** Flamborough Head, first-winter, trapped 27<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (P.A.Lassey, D.I.M.Wallace, P.J.Willoughby *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 141).

### **IRELAND**

**At sea** First-winter, came aboard fishing boat 254 miles (409 km) southwest of Ireland, 14<sup>th</sup> September, died a few days later.

**1991 Cork** Galley Head, first-winter found dead, 13<sup>th</sup> October.

Previous spring records were on Fair Isle, Shetland, in 1984 and 1992, on the Isle of May, Fife, and in Suffolk in 1988. Owing to an unfortunate breakdown in communications, an autumn record from Norfolk has yet to be dealt with. In the Channel Islands, one was trapped and photographed at La Claire Mare, Guernsey, on 19<sup>th</sup> August (Brit. Birds 87: plate 142). Germany's second-ever, on 5<sup>th</sup> October, provided a distraction for the members attending the Association of European Rarities Committees' meeting on Heligoland (Brit. Birds 87: 322, 355-359).

## **Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* (9, 11, 7)**

**Northumberland** Bamburgh, first-winter, trapped 25<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (M.Bell, M.S.Hodgson *et al.*).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, trapped 19<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (P.Doyle, A.E.Duncan, Dr K.F.Woodbridge *et al.*).

**Shetland** Out Skerries, first-winter, 9<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 9<sup>th</sup>, photo. (J.M. & T.P.Drew, P.M.Ellis, E.Tait *et al.*). Fair Isle, first-winter, trapped 22<sup>nd</sup> October, then Sumburgh 23<sup>rd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October, dead 31<sup>st</sup>, photo. (P.M.Ellis, H.R.Harrop, K.Osborn *et al.*), now at Royal Scottish Museum.

**Suffolk** Fagbury Cliff, first-winter, trapped 19<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (G.L.Mortimer, N.Odin, S.H.Piotrowski *et al.*); first-winter, trapped 4<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (G.L.Mortimer, S.H.Piotrowski *et al.*).

**Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, first-winter, 4<sup>th</sup> October, dead 7<sup>th</sup> (T.J.Dix, K.Douglas, J.Vaughan *et al.*).

The influx of at least seven in 1912 now seems less astonishing. We must sympathise with the hapless trainee ringer on Fair Isle who, with commendable concern for a bird with an apparently slight scalp injury, decided on prompt release without noticing the true identity of his prize capture. Who can boast of having never 'thrown away' a good bird?

## **Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (23, 150, 5)**

**Kent** Lydd, in song, 23<sup>rd</sup> May (M.Farrow). Elmley, in song, 27<sup>th</sup> May to at least 5<sup>th</sup> June, tape-recorded (J.A.Rowlands *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Titchwell, in song, 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (J.Feeney, R.Q Skeen *et al.*).

**Northumberland** Bamburgh, adult, trapped 3<sup>rd</sup> October, photo. (M.Bell, M.S.Hodgson, B.Mecrow *et al.*).

**Shetland** Geosetter, trapped 22<sup>nd</sup> May (K.Osborn, D.Suddaby *et al.*).

**1989 Dorset** Hengistbury Head, 24<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October, trapped 24<sup>th</sup> (J.H.Morgan *et al.*).

**1992 Devon** Axmouth, in song, 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May (J.Wagstaffe *et al.*).

A typical year, though October records are very rare.

## **Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata* (1, 36, 12)**

**Cleveland** Marske-by-the-Sea, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (R.C.Hart, D.Money, J.J.Turner *et al.*).

**Dyfed** Skokholm, 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (J.E. & J.W.Donovan, I. & K.Johnson *et al.*).

**Grampian** Newtonhill, 23<sup>rd</sup> October to 19<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (K.D.Shaw, J.L.Swallow *et al.*).

**Humberside** Flamborough Head, trapped 7<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (D.Hursthouse, P.J.Willoughby *et al.*). Spurn, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September, trapped 16<sup>th</sup>, photo. (D.J.Bowes, L.J.Degnan *et al.*).

**Kent** Between Margate and Broadstairs, 12<sup>th</sup> September (B.E.Wright *et al.*). Isle of Grain, 18<sup>th</sup> September (Dr A.M.Hanby).

**Scilly** St Martin's, first-winter, 19<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 20<sup>th</sup>, photo. (M. & Mrs L.Love *et al.*). St Agnes, 27<sup>th</sup> September (P.A.Dukes *et al.*).

**Shetland** Sumburgh, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> September (G.J.Hinchon, T.Lawrence *et al.*). Seafield, Lerwick, 22<sup>nd</sup> October to 9<sup>th</sup> November, trapped 24<sup>th</sup>, photo. (W.Jackson, K.Osborn *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (C.G.Thomas *et al.*).

This plethora of records seems to match the timing of occurrences of the largely sympatric Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola*. Those in Cleveland and Grampian were found in suburban gardens.

## **Marmora's Warbler *Sylvia sarda* (0, 2, 1)**

**Borders** St Abb's Head, in song, 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (T.P.Drew, K.J.Rideout *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 159).

Quite how and why this diminutive and allegedly short-distance Mediterranean migrant should yet again reach Britain is a real mystery, although Saharan winds may have something to do with it.

## **Spectacled Warbler *Sylvia conspicillata* (0, 1, 0)**

**1992 Yorkshire, North** Filey, male, in song, 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May, trapped but not ringed 24<sup>th</sup>, photo. (P.J.Dunn, R.E.Harbird, C.C.Thomas *et al.*).

The species returns to the British List (Ibis 136: 254) with, this time, a wholly indisputable identification.

## **Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* (12, 276, 24)**

**Cornwall** Bonython, The Lizard, male, 21<sup>st</sup> April (P.Greenstreet). Polgigga, male, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October (G.C.Stephenson *et al.*).

**Cumbria** Milnthorpe, male, 12<sup>th</sup> April (D.Bowers, H.Howard, C.Scott).

**Devon** Lundy, male, trapped 3<sup>rd</sup> May, photo. (R. & Mrs F.Castle *et al.*).

**Dorset** Hengistbury Head, male, 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April, photo. (B.Shaw *et al.*). Portland, male, *S.c.albistriata*, 24<sup>th</sup> May (N.Edgell, G.Walbridge *et al.*).



**Dyfed** Ramsey Island, male, *S.c.albistriata*, 12<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (I.D.Bullock, A.Elley, K.Luxford *et al.*).

**Essex** Walton-on-the-Naze, male, 15<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September, photo. (Dr S. & Mrs P.Cox, J.Ball, T.H.Watson *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 161).

**Grampian** Rattray Head, first-summer male, 17<sup>th</sup> April (T.W.Marshall, R.A.Schofield, M.K.Watson *et al.*).

**Humberside** Spurn, male, 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September (A.Archer, D.J.Standring, I.D.Walker *et al.*).

**Kent** Lydd, male, 30<sup>th</sup> April (M.J.Lawson *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Sidestrand, in song, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April (J.Twell, M.A.Golley *et al.*).

**Northumberland** High Newton, male, 11<sup>th</sup> October (P.R.Davey, G.Platman).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, first-summer male, trapped 24<sup>th</sup> April (A.J.Leitch, B.Stammers); first-summer female, trapped 24<sup>th</sup> May (A.J.Leitch *et al.*). Foula, male, *S.c.albistriata*, 10<sup>th</sup> May, dead 27<sup>th</sup> June (Miss P.Gear, Mrs F.Ratter, D.Suddaby *et al.*), now at Royal Scottish Museum. Quendale Mill, female, 30<sup>th</sup> May (J.Clifton *et al.*). Skeld, male, *S.c.albistriata*, 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June (S.Blamire, P.Hall, A Roberts *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Weybread, male, *S.c.albistriata*, 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> April (A.Green, P.Vincent, R.Walden *et al.*). Trimley St Mary, first-summer male, 16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May, trapped 16<sup>th</sup> (G.Mortimer, S.H.Piotrowski *et al.*). Landguard, female and first-summer female, both trapped, 28<sup>th</sup> May (M.C.Marsh, G.Mortimer, N.Odin *et al.*).

**Sussex, West** Sidlesham, male, 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October (Mrs N.Petrie-Hay *et al.*).

**Western Isles** Loch Eynort, South Uist, male, *S.c.albistriata*, in song, 9<sup>th</sup> May (S.L Green, R.Taylor).

**1992 Dorset** Redcliffe Point, Weymouth, male, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June (J.H.Blackburn).

**1992 Wight, Isle of** Bembridge, male, 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> April (Brit. Birds 86: 515), third-named observer was M.J.Sparshott, co-finder was G.Sparshott.

A typical spread of records with, as usual, a predominance of males. After a gap of some years, the Committee returns to publishing racial identifications as *S.c.albistriata* when these are clearly established.

## **Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* (1, 32, 5)**

**Dorset** Portland, female, 2<sup>nd</sup> June (M.Cade *et al.*).

**Kent** Dungeness, male, 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May, trapped 28<sup>th</sup>, photo. (D.Okines, D.Walker *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey, first-summer male, 27<sup>th</sup> June to 16<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 30<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (S.Cochrane, P.J.Dunn, P.M.Scanlan *et al.*).

**1992 Humberside** Flamborough Head, female, 13<sup>th</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 29<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (P.A.Lassey, J.M.Pearson, P.J.Willoughby *et al.*).

### **IRELAND**

**Cork** Cape Clear Island, male, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> April. Knockadoon Head, male, 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April.

A typical trio in Britain, including yet another long-stayer. The 1992 total rises to eight. The Irish records were the first there.

## **Desert Warbler *Sylvia nana* (0, 9, 1)**

**Norfolk** Blakeney Point, in song, 27<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June, photo. (A.Berst, M.A.Golley *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 160).

This enigmatic species continues to provide surprises. This, the first in spring, was even seen carrying nesting material.

## **Orphean Warbler *Sylvia hortensis* (2, 4, 0)**

**1991 Cornwall** Saltash, in song, 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May (E.Griffiths).

A not unfamiliar song first drew attention to this loner, which eventually gave good enough views to prove its identity and add one more to 1991's crop of rare warblers.

## **Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* (13, 230, 7)**

**Dorset** Verne Common, in song, 1<sup>st</sup> June (C.E.Richards).

**Kent** St Margaret's Bay, in song, 12<sup>th</sup> June (Mrs K.McGill, L.Mulford, A.J.L.Smith *et al.*). Dungeness, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August (P.G.Akers, R.J.Price *et al.*).

**Man, Isle of** Calf of Man, 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June, trapped 21<sup>st</sup>, photo. (N.V. & Mrs M.McCanch).

**Norfolk** Holkham Meals, 28<sup>th</sup> August (C.H. & D.K.Lamsdell *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Lowestoft, 9<sup>th</sup> May (G.J.Etherington, S.Fairburn *et al.*).

**1990 Scilly** Tresco, 9<sup>th</sup> October (D.J.D.Hickman *et al.*).

**1991 Yorkshire, North** Filey, trapped, 10<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 85: 540), was not accepted and was published in error.

### **IRELAND**

**Cork** Cape Clear Island, adult, 19<sup>th</sup> October.

After the deluge in 1992, a return to normality, but the spring trend continues. It is, perhaps, interesting that this is not happening with the following species.

## **Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* (19, 160, 13)**

**Cornwall** Kelynack, 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October (G.J.Etherington, R.Johnson *et al.*).

**Devon** Start Point, 5<sup>th</sup> September (V.R. & Mrs S.Tucker *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Blakeney Point, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> September, photo. (B.J. & Mrs S.Small *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: page 558 fig.9, plate 143).

**Shetland** Sumburgh, first-winter, trapped 26<sup>th</sup> August (P.M.Ellis, Dr C.F.Mackenzie *et al.*). Fair Isle, 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September, trapped 1<sup>st</sup> (S.Brown, P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch *et al.*); first-winter, trapped 23<sup>rd</sup> September (D.M.Harris *et al.*). Fetlar, 6<sup>th</sup> September (N.Milligan). Scatness, 27<sup>th</sup> September (P.Naylor *et al.*). Northdale, Unst, 30<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October (P.M.Ellis, P.V.Harvey *et al.*). Dale of Walls, 1<sup>st</sup> October (Dr C.F.Mackenzie).

**Staffordshire** Blithfield Reservoir, 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September (E.S.Clare, A.Latham, W.J.Low *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Fagbury Cliff, 30<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October, trapped 30<sup>th</sup> (M.D.Crewe, S.H.Piotrowski *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, photo. (D.Bywater, R.Crofton *et al.*).

A third good year; the Yorkshire record was a bit on the late side and that in Staffordshire was the first ever away from coastal and island localities. Pallas's Leaf Warblers *P.proregulus* were found in Worcestershire and Shropshire in 1987.

## **Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi* (1, 136, 4)**

**Humberside** Flamborough Head, 22<sup>nd</sup> October (M., S. & Mrs S.Bartlett, J.Carroll, P.E.Kenyon *et al.*).

**Kent** St Margaret's, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> November (A.J.Greenland, I.P.Hodgson, P.Laurie *et al.*).

**Northumberland** Newbiggin, 7<sup>th</sup> November (T.R.Cleeves, S.Sexton, J.G.Steele *et al.*).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, 3<sup>rd</sup> October (M.Gray, S.D.Stansfield *et al.*).

**1987 Kent** See Dusky Warbler.

**1991 Norfolk** Kelling, 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October (D.J.Holman).

**1992 Kent** Kingsgate, 11<sup>th</sup> October (K.D.Lord).

**1992 Shetland** Sumburgh, first-winter, trapped 29<sup>th</sup> September (J.Coutts, K.Osborn, G.W.Petrie *et al.*).

Nothing untoward this year.

## **Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* (1, 120, 11)**

**Kent** Foreness, 1<sup>st</sup> November (S.D.W.Mount *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Between Blakeney and Morston, 1<sup>st</sup> November (D.J.Holman, K.Warrington *et al.*).

**Orkney** Stronsay, 10<sup>th</sup> October (J.Cooper, J.F. & Mrs S.M.Holloway, Miss J.Maples).

**Shetland** Voe, 3<sup>rd</sup> October (K. & Mrs K.Osborn). Fair Isle, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October (P.V.Harvey *et al.*). Sumburgh, 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October (H.R.Harrop, C.Hill, I.A.Roberts *et al.*). Quendale Mill, 27<sup>th</sup> October (J.Clifton). South Exnaboe, 4<sup>th</sup> November (Dr C.F.Mackenzie). Sullom, 5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> November, trapped 6<sup>th</sup>, photo. (J.M.Drew, G.W.Petrie).

**Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, 4<sup>th</sup> October (T.J.Dix, K.Douglas, J.Vaughan).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey, 23<sup>rd</sup> October (R.E.Harbird, C.C.Thomas *et al.*).

**1987 Kent** Dungeness, first-winter, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> October, trapped 20<sup>th</sup>, photo. (S.D.McMinn, K.Mullarney *et al.*), previously accepted as Radde's Warbler *P.schwarzi* (Brit. Birds 81: 585), now withdrawn as such by observers.

**1989 Northumberland** Farne Islands, 29<sup>th</sup> October, presumed same, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> November (D.C.Richardson, I.T.Sims *et al.*).

A good crop for Shetland this year. Resolution of the Dungeness, Kent, problem involved a lot of sweat and toil for all concerned and served to demonstrate that even trapped birds of this and the previous species always demand particular attention.

## **Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli* (3, 121, 3)**

**Cornwall** Land's End, 23<sup>rd</sup> September (J.F.Ryan *et al.*).

**Scilly** St Mary's, 25<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September (J.Dustow, P.A.Maker, S.Rogers *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Scarborough, 17<sup>th</sup> August (R.H.Appleby).

**1992 Scilly** St Martin's, 24<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> October (W.H.Wagstaff *et al.*).

**1992 Shetland** Fair Isle, 30<sup>th</sup> September (Brit. Birds 86: 521), finders included H.R.Harrop, D.Stobbart.

### **IRELAND**

**1990 Cork** Liss Ard, 12<sup>th</sup> September.

With the northern limit of France's huge breeding population not far distant from Britain, it is surprising that spring-migration overshoots should remain so rare, only 18 in all.

## **Short-toed Treecreeper *Certhia brachydactyla* (0, 16, 1)**

**Kent** Dungeness, first-winter, trapped 19<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (D.Okines, D.Walker *et al.*).

Cast-iron identification of this ever-difficult species remains a challenge to even the most experienced ringer, but, for those with keen hearing, the distinctive call-note is emerging as a good field character.

## **Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus* (0, 63, 10)**

**Cornwall** Land's End, female, two juveniles, 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (P.H.Aley, S.Cox, P.A.St Pierre *et al.*), presumed one of same, Porthgwarra, 13<sup>th</sup> (D.J.D.Hickman).

**Kent** Dungeness, adult, two juveniles, 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November; adult, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>; juvenile, 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> (D.Jones, C.Lock, R.J.Price *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Titchwell, male, 23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April, photo. (P. & Mrs L.Shooter *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 166).

**Scilly** Tresco, male and juvenile, 15<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (G.C.Bond, J. & Mrs I.Miller *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Minsmere, male, 25<sup>th</sup> July (A Scott).

**1989 Dorset** Swineham, 10<sup>th</sup> January (P.A.Williams).

**1992 Cleveland** Teesmouth, adult, trapped 17<sup>th</sup> July, photo. (D.Clayton, R.T.McAndrew *et al.*).

A typical scattering of appearances and a better-than-usual autumn passage. In the Channel Islands, a pair with a juvenile, was seen at Vale Pond, Guernsey, on 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* (1, 35, 2)**

**Fife** Fife Ness, first-winter, 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (D.E.Dickson, R.Shand *et al.*).

**Kent** Worth, 24<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (I.Fisher, P.Littler *et al.*).

Photographs, whenever possible, are of singular value in the recording of this species.

## **Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* (32, 110, 4)**

**Dyfed** Near St David's, 24<sup>th</sup> June (E. & G.P.Liddell), presumed same, Skomer, 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> July (C.Keightley, S.J.Sutcliffe, G.Walker *et al.*).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, 12<sup>th</sup> May (P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch, B.Stammers *et al.*). Norwick, Northdale and Skaw, Unst, first-winter, 30<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October (P.M.Ellis, P.V.Harvey *et al.*).

**Tyne & Wear** Backworth, 23<sup>rd</sup> May (J.Woodward).

### **IRELAND**

**1992 Wexford** Hook Head, adult female, 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Fortunate is any birder who stumbles across this rather unpredictable species. A slightly above-average year.

## **Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor***

### ***L. e. pallidirostris* (1, 5, 1)**

An individual showing the characters of the eastern race *L.e.pallidirostris* was recorded as follows:

**Wiltshire** Swindon, first-winter, taken into care injured, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, released 24<sup>th</sup>, present to 28<sup>th</sup>, photo. (S.Langsbury, R.Packham, N.Pleass *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 167).

Although fate took a hand in producing this record, it served to demonstrate that, even in inland counties, almost anything can happen.

## **Rosy Starling *Sturnus roseus* (160, 229, 8)**

**Cornwall** Nanquidno, juvenile, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September (J.F.Ryan *et al.*). Mullion, juvenile, 12<sup>th</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> February 1994, photo. (A.R. & Mrs H.C.Pay *et al.*). St Levan, juvenile, 19<sup>th</sup> October (M.C.Hall, S.M.Lister).

**Grampian** Newburgh, juvenile, 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October, video-recorded (A Anderson, P.Doyle, F.White).

**Northumberland** Farne Islands, juvenile, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September (W.Makin, J.Riley, J.Sneyd).

**Shetland** Sumburgh, juvenile, 6<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> October (D. & J.Coutts) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 163).

**Suffolk** Landguard Point and South Felixstowe area, juvenile, 4<sup>th</sup> to at least 9<sup>th</sup> September (G.J.Jobson, N.Odin *et al.*).

**1990 Scilly** St Mary's, juvenile, 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September (M.Goodey, D.J.D.Hickman *et al.*).

**1991 Scilly** St Martin's, adult, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 26<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> October, presumed same, St Mary's, 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November (R.P.Clay, D.J.D.Hickman *et al.*). Gugh and St Agnes, juvenile, 9<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October (D.J.D.Hickman *et al.*). St Mary's, juvenile, 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 85: 548), present 5<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> (per W.H.Wagstaff).

**1991 Yorkshire, North** Grassington, adult, 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July, photo. (Mr & Mrs K.Draycott).

**1992 Humberside** Laytham, adult, 27<sup>th</sup> June (P. & R.Dove).

**1992 Orkney** North Ronaldsay, juvenile, 3<sup>rd</sup> October (M.Gray, S.McLean, C.Rennison *et al.*).

1992 **Strathclyde** Coll, adult, 15<sup>th</sup> July to 19<sup>th</sup> August, dead 20<sup>th</sup>, photo. (K. & Mrs P.Graham *et al.*).

1992 **Yorkshire, North** Cloughton, adult, 31<sup>st</sup> May, photo. (I.Glaves *et al.*).

## IRELAND

**Cork** Cape Clear Island, juvenile, 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September.

1989 **Clare** Shannon, adult, 16<sup>th</sup> July.

Not one adult this year, which is unusual, especially for Scotland. A juvenile was seen at Fort le Crocq, Guernsey, Channel Islands, on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis* (0, 3, 2)

**Dyfed** Martin's Haven, male, 18<sup>th</sup> May (K.J.S.Devonald, K.Evans).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, male, 11<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> August, trapped 11<sup>th</sup>, photo. (A.E.Duncan, J.Reid, S.D.Stansfield *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: page 561 fig. 10, plate 162).

None since October 1977, but now two in one year. Did the Dyfed bird keep flying northwards?

## Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* (1, 74, 3)

**Cornwall** Penberth, 9<sup>th</sup> October (J.F.Ryan).

**Scilly** Bryher, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> October (C.J.Timmins *et al.*). Gugh, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October (D.Price *et al.*).

1989 **Scilly** St Mary's, 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September (G.Green, R.Simpson *et al.*).

1990 **Humberside** Kilnsea, 30<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October (Brit. Birds 86: 525), had already been published as accepted (Brit. Birds 84: 499).

Still very difficult to find, a tell-tale first glimpse being all-important. This year's arrivals were matched in timing by Ireland's two *Dendroica* warblers.

## Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni* (30, 254, 9)

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, 11<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (M.J. & P.J.Donnolly, M.Gray, C.Tulloch) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 120). Rendall, 8<sup>th</sup> November (J.B.Ribbands).

**Shetland** Fair Isle, 31<sup>st</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> February (I.Eunson, N.J.Riddiford, A.Wilson); 31<sup>st</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June (P.V.Harvey, Dr R.Riddington *et al.*). Northdale, Unst, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October (M.J.McLeod, M.G.Pennington *et al.*). Burray, Yell, 22<sup>nd</sup> October (R.J.Tulloch *et al.*). Norwick, Unst, 30<sup>th</sup> October (G.Gray per M.G.Pennington). Sullom, 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (J.M.Drew *et al.*). Baltasound, Unst, 24<sup>th</sup> November (M.G.Pennington).

1987 **Nottinghamshire** Warsop, 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> January (A.Ashley, D.Morton, P.Naylor *et al.*).

1989 **Hertfordshire** Stanstead Abbots, 25<sup>th</sup> February (A.Harris, D.Vaughan, A.D.Wilson *et al.*).

1989 **Shetland** Fetlar, two, 14<sup>th</sup> October (M.J.Preece).

1989 **Suffolk** Martlesham, 11<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January (Brit. Birds 86: 525), observers should be J.A Davies, D.C.Marsh *et al.*

1990 **Humberside** Spurn, 3<sup>rd</sup> November, photo. (D.J.Bowes *et al.*).

1992 **Shetland** Noness, 17<sup>th</sup> October (J.M. & T.P.Drew).

Just to make life more difficult, it has now been brought to our notice that individuals of the *islandica* race of Common Redpoll *C.flammea* may look identical in the field to Arctic Redpolls of the *exilipes* race. This caveat may well need to be applied to a number of past and currently accepted records.

## **Yellow-rumped Warbler *Dendroica coronata* (1, 16, 1)**

IRELAND

**Cork** Cape Clear Island, first-winter, 7<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> October (Brit. Birds 87: plate 165).

The first since the six in 1985-87.

## **Blackpoll Warbler *Dendroica striata* (0, 29, 2)**

**Humberside** Flamborough Head, first-winter, 24<sup>th</sup> October to 1<sup>st</sup> November, photo. (S.Chalders, P.J.Willoughby *et al.*).

IRELAND

**Waterford** Brownstown Head, 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

The first of this genus amongst the very few New World passerines ever to reach the East Coast.

## **White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis* (1, 18, 0)**

**Lincolnshire** Willingham, since 5<sup>th</sup> December 1992 (Brit. Birds 86: 530), to 28<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis* (1, 15, 1)**

**Dorset** Dorchester, male, 7<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November, trapped 8<sup>th</sup>, photo. (E.Flatters, S.Hales *et al.*).

Not far removed in time or place from the Portland bird first seen on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1989 (Brit. Birds 83: 490).

## **Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica* (34, 228, 44)**

**Borders** St Abb's Head, male, 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May (T.P.Drew, L.G.R.Evans, K.J.Rideout *et al.*).

**Cleveland** South Gare, 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September, trapped 16<sup>th</sup>, photo. (D.Money, S.C.Norman).

**Devon** Lundy, first-winter female, trapped 8<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (M.Ashman, J.M.B.King, C.Matthews *et al.*).

**Dyfed** Skokholm, male, 20<sup>th</sup> May (P.Goddard *et al.*).

**Fife** Isle of May, two males, 21<sup>st</sup> May (J.Calladine, J.Graves, M.A.Robinson).

**Grampian** Rattray Head, male, 1<sup>st</sup> June (T.W.Marshall, S.A.Reeves *et al.*).

**Highland** Achreamie, Caithness, 13<sup>th</sup> November (J.M.Gunn, S.A.M.Manson, E.W.E.Maughan).

**Kent** Wierton, Maidstone, female or first-summer male, 19<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March (D.W.Taylor *et al.*).

**Lincolnshire** Gibraltar Point, male, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (D.W.Buckingham, K.M.Wilson *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Holkham Meals, sex uncertain, 18<sup>th</sup> May (K.Evans). Horsey Gap, 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September (P.R.Allard, K.R.Dye *et al.*). Sheringham, 16<sup>th</sup> September (K.B.Shepherd *et al.*).

**Northumberland** Farne Islands, male, 9<sup>th</sup> May (J.Sneyd *et al.*).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, male, 31<sup>st</sup> May (D.A.Fairhurst *et al.*).

**Scilly** St Agnes, 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (R.D.Bannister, M.W.Seaford *et al.*). Treco, 11<sup>th</sup> October (M.A.Hardwick *et al.*). St Mary's, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October (I.Prophet *et al.*). (Brit. Birds 87: plate 122).

**Shetland** Hillwell, male, 16<sup>th</sup> May (J.Clifton *et al.*). Grutness and Virkie, two females, 28<sup>th</sup> May (D.Suddaby *et al.*). Fair Isle, six: 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September (J.Coutts, A.J.Leitch, D.Ross *et al.*); first-winter female, 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September, trapped 20<sup>th</sup> (S.M.Dean, A.J.Leitch *et al.*); 29<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October (G.Anderson, P.A.Jenks, B.Stammers *et al.*); 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> (G.Anderson, P.A.Jenks, D.Suddaby *et al.*); 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> (P.A.Jenks *et al.*); 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, photo. (R.E.Harbird *et al.*). Northdale, Unst, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September (P.V.Harvey, B.P.Whittle *et al.*); two, 1<sup>st</sup> October (I.Spense). Fetlar, 23<sup>rd</sup> September (B.Thomason). Foula, 25<sup>th</sup> September (J.M. & T.P.Drew, M.J.McKee, D.J.Rigby). Toab, 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September (M.Barlow, S.W.Holmes, D.Rhymes *et al.*). Whalsay, 30<sup>th</sup> September (Dr B.Marshall, A.M.Stoddart). Skaw, Unst, 30<sup>th</sup> September (P.M.Ellis, P.V.Harvey *et al.*); 3<sup>rd</sup> October (P.V.Harvey *et al.*). Scalloway, 2<sup>nd</sup> October (Dr C.F.Mackenzie). Quendale, 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> October (H.R.Harrop *et al.*). Scatness, 8<sup>th</sup> October (H.R.Harrop *et al.*). Out Skerries, 9<sup>th</sup> October (J.M. & T.P.Drew, P.M.Ellis, E.Tait).

**Tyne & Wear** Marsden Quarry, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (S.McLean *et al.*); 16<sup>th</sup> September (C.N.Gibbins, R.B.Stidolph *et al.*).

**Western Isles** Hirta, St Kilda, 5<sup>th</sup> October (J.Vaughan).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey Dams, sex uncertain, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> April (K.Senior, H.J.Whitehead).

**1986 Dorset** Portland, 30<sup>th</sup> May (Brit. Birds 80: 566), now considered inadequately documented.

**1992 Hampshire** New Milton, male, 20<sup>th</sup> March (P.A.Stancliffe).

What on earth is going on? The previous best years were 1987 (19), 1990 (17) and 1992 (15). The increase in spring records is roughly in proportion to that for the autumn passage, which suggests that the two are linked in some way. The early-spring records (together with a long-staying late-winter bird in the London area, which has yet to be fully reported, and a Cambridgeshire bird in early 1994) give a strong indication that more than a few may well be wintering far to the west of this species' normal winter range, perhaps in western Europe, perhaps in western Africa. It remains to be seen whether this is only a temporary phenomenon.

## Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* (93, 481, 41)

**Borders** St Abb's Head, three: 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May (J.F.McConnell, R.D.Murray, K.J.Rideout *et al.*); two, 15<sup>th</sup> May (D.K.Graham).

**Cornwall** Porthgarra, 7<sup>th</sup> May (J.F.Ryan); 16<sup>th</sup> October (B.R.Cox, J.Flynn, R.Watts).

**Dorset** Lewell, first-winter, trapped 7<sup>th</sup> October; first-winter, trapped 9<sup>th</sup> November; first-winter, trapped 25<sup>th</sup> November, all photo. (E.Flatters).

**Fife** Kilminning, 20<sup>th</sup> September (D.E.Dickson).

**Grampian** Girdleness, 10<sup>th</sup> September (S.A.Reeves, B.J.Stewart).

**Merseyside** Ecclestone Mere, 26<sup>th</sup> December to 19<sup>th</sup> March 1994, trapped 26<sup>th</sup> December (C.Davies, A.Jones *et al.*).

**Norfolk** Blakeney Point, 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September (per D.J.Holman). Blakeney and Morston Marshes, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> November (A.P.Benson *et al.*).

**Northumberland** Farne Islands, 29<sup>th</sup> September (W.Makin, J.Riley, J.Sneyd).

**Orkney** North Ronaldsay, five: 27<sup>th</sup> September (P.Cosgrove, P.Doyle); 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> October (P.J.Donnolly *et al.*); 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, trapped 9<sup>th</sup> (J.Reid *et al.*); 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> (A.Mitchell, J.Reid, S.D.Stansfield *et al.*); 5<sup>th</sup> November (J.Reid). Stronsay, 30<sup>th</sup> October to at least 31<sup>st</sup> December, photo. (J.F. & Mrs S.M.Holloway, Mr & Mrs N.Kent).

**Oxfordshire** Near Letcombe Bassett, 18<sup>th</sup> February to 8<sup>th</sup> March (N.J.Hallam, A.Tomczynski, S.A.Young *et al.*).

**Shetland** Scatness, 12<sup>th</sup> September (P.M.Ellis *et al.*). Fair Isle, six: first-winter, trapped 24<sup>th</sup> September (P.A.Jenks, A.J.Leitch, B.Stammers *et al.*); 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September (J.V.Brighten, A.Hall, M.Henty *et al.*); first-winter, 24<sup>th</sup> September to at least 5<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 24<sup>th</sup>, photo. (J.M.Bayldon, M.D.Hobbs, S.Williams *et al.*); 26<sup>th</sup> September (P.A.Jenks *et al.*); 26<sup>th</sup> September (T.M.Melling, K.D.Shaw *et al.*); first-winter, trapped 28<sup>th</sup> (J.M.Bayldon, S.M.Elsom, A.J.Leitch *et al.*). Northdale, Unst, 25<sup>th</sup> September (C.Donald, K. & Mrs K.Osborn). Foula, 27<sup>th</sup> September to at least 5<sup>th</sup> October (J.M. & T.P.Drew, M.J.McKee, D.J.Rigby). Sumburgh, 29<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October (R.Proctor *et al.*); 30<sup>th</sup> October (P.Sclater *et al.*). Grutness, 30<sup>th</sup> September to at least 3<sup>rd</sup> October (A.V.Moon, S.A.Webb *et al.*). Grutness and Sumburgh, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October (P.M.Ellis, H.R.Harrop *et al.*). Fetlar, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> October (B.Thomason). Wester Skeld, 7<sup>th</sup> October (C.D.R.Heard). Seafield, Lerwick, 9<sup>th</sup> October (Dr C.F.Mackenzie). Sullom, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> November, trapped 6<sup>th</sup> (J.M.Drew, G.W.Petrie *et al.*).

**Somerset** Parrett Estuary, 14<sup>th</sup> October (N.E.Wall).

**Surrey** Beddington Sewage-farm, 12<sup>th</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> April, photo. (S.J.Aspinall, Beddington Farm Bird Group *et al.*).

**Yorkshire, North** Filey, 22<sup>nd</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (D.Bywater, J.Harwood, A.Norris *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 121).

**1991 Scilly** St Mary's, 21<sup>st</sup> October (D.J.D.Hickman *et al.*).

**1991 Tyne & Wear** Tynemouth, 11<sup>th</sup> October (G.P.Bull, I.Moorhouse *et al.*).

**1992 Cornwall** Bude, 2<sup>nd</sup> February to 8<sup>th</sup> March (F.H.C.Kendall *et al.*).

**1992 Orkney** North Ronaldsay, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> October (P.J.Donnely *et al.*); 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> October, trapped 4<sup>th</sup> (A.E.Duncan, L.Wells *et al.*).

Desk-weary birders in the Northern Isles and elsewhere will be relieved that this species has finally passed the statistical test whereby it ceases to be a national rarity at the end of 1993. For all that, two late-winter records this year, together with the additional record from 1992, keep interest in trends alive, particularly in comparison with the previous species. The Dorset trio was caught in a field purposely sown with millet and maize. Worth a try in your own garden?

## **Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* (10, 150, 8)**

**Devon** Bolberry Down, probably first-winter male, 7<sup>th</sup> November (B.R.Field, P.A.St Pierre).

**Dorset** Portland, female or first-winter, 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (M.Cade, P.A.Coe, M.Rogers *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plate 164).

**Northumberland** Farne Islands, female or first-winter, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (W.Makin, J.Riley, J.Sneyd).

**Orkney** Stronsay, female or first-winter, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> September, photo. (K.A.D.Cutting, J.F.Holloway).

**Scilly** St Agnes, female or first-winter, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September (W.H.Wagstaff *et al.*). St Mary's, female or first-winter, 1<sup>st</sup> October (P.Allison, R.A.Hopkinson, M.A.Newell *et al.*).

**Suffolk** Landguard, female or first-winter, 4<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (C.Allen, P.Kitchener *et al.*), presumed same, Fagbury Cliff, 6<sup>th</sup> (J.M.Cawston). Landguard, female or first-winter, 14<sup>th</sup> September, photo. (C.Allen, B.J.Small *et al.*).

Whilst occurrences in the Southwest are not without precedent (eight since 1961), the only previous records in East Anglia were in 1905, 1907, 1913 and 1992. Seven English records in one year is totally atypical and not since 1970 (a blank year in Britain as a whole) has none been seen on Fair Isle. That in Devon was the first ever to be recorded after early October. It is to be hoped that the Continental bird-markets have nothing to do with all this.

## **Pallas's Reed Bunting *Emberiza pallasii* (0, 3, 0)**

**1990 Sussex, East** Icklesham, first-winter male, trapped 17<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (D.P.Butterfield, J.P.Moulton) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 148 & 149).

A shock record, not least for the ringers who, on seeing Colin Bradshaw's paper on Black-faced Bunting *E.spodocephala* (and Pallas's Reed Bunting) (Brit. Birds 85: 653-665), suddenly realised the true identity of a bunting they had photographed in the hand two years previously.

## **Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala* (9, 96, 10)**

**Cambridgeshire** Chesterton, male, 24<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (L.Attwood, G.M.S.Easy, C.A.E.Kirtland).

**Cornwall** Rame Head, male, 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May (K.Pellow *et al.*). Delabole, male, 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May, photo. (S.Barrow, A.Bond, G.P.Sutton).

**Devon** Ottery St Mary, male, 27<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (C.M.Saunders). Newton Ferrers, male, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> June (S.Bird, Mr & Mrs Lawrence).

**Hampshire** Purbrook, male, 28<sup>th</sup> May, photo. (Mr & Mrs P.Gawthorpe, G.M. & H.A.Wearn).

**Kent** Dungeness, male, 30<sup>th</sup> May (C.D.Abrams, M.Pocock).



**Strathclyde** Bruichladdich, Islay, male, 7<sup>th</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> July, photo. (Dr T.ap Rheinallt, Dr M.A.Ogilvie, Mrs M.Perrons).

**Suffolk** Oulton, male, 30<sup>th</sup> May (P.Belton, J. & K.Halls).

**Western Isles** Likisto, Harris, male, 1<sup>st</sup> July (A.Campbell, A.Poot), same, Shadrer, mid July, photo. (per P.Cunningham).

**1992 Clwyd** Llanarmon-yn-Ial, male, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June, photo. (L.W.Hawkins, J.Reddy *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 87: plates 146 & 147).

Although weather patterns differed, this spring arrival matches the nine in 1992. In Hampshire, a male near Grateley from mid March until found dead on 4<sup>th</sup> April has to be regarded as likely to have been an escape. In the Channel Islands, there was a male at Vale, Guernsey, on 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> June.

## **Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus* (0, 21, 1)**

**Scilly** Tresco, first-winter male, 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> October, photo. (A.W.Benton, A.G.Gough, S.Saddington *et al.*).

Cumbersome in the bushes, but fleet of wing, this was the first record of this attractive creature since 1988. Scilly's ninth.

## Appendix 1. Category D species accepted (see Ibis 136: 253)

### White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* (not known, 16, 0)

**1972 Berkshire/Surrey** Wraysbury Reservoir, two adults, 10<sup>th</sup> November (C.D.R.Heard), same, Kempton Park, Surrey, 11<sup>th</sup> (per C.D.R.Heard), presumed same as Dungeness, Kent, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 73: 530).

**1972 Surrey** See above.

**1975 Warwickshire** Little Packington, adult, 17<sup>th</sup> July (J.M.Bayldon), presumed same as Essex, 6<sup>th</sup>, Kent, 11<sup>th</sup>, Humberside, 16<sup>th</sup> (Brit. Birds 70: 443).

**1989 Glamorgan, West** Whiteford, 24<sup>th</sup> September, probably since 21<sup>st</sup> (R.J.Reigdon).

A pelican of uncertain species was seen at Woolverstone, Suffolk, on 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> September 1991.

### Marbled Duck *Marmaronetta angustirostris* (0, 3, 1)

**Kent** Dungeness, 3<sup>rd</sup> May (R.J.Price, D.Walker *et al.*).

**1973 Staffordshire** Belvide Reservoir, 29<sup>th</sup> April (A.R.Dean *et al.*).

**1984 Avon** Chew Valley and Blagdon Lakes, 24<sup>th</sup> August to 5<sup>th</sup> January 1985; also at Cheddar Reservoir, Somerset (A.J.Merritt, A.D.Whatley *et al.*).

**1984 Somerset** See above.

**1985 Avon** See above.

**1985 Somerset** See above.

**1990 Yorkshire, South** Potteric Carr, 14<sup>th</sup> September (T.Rhodes, the late A.Smith *et al.*).

Although amongst the commonest of ducks in captivity in Britain, this species may well be visiting us naturally and is therefore now included in category D1 (Ibis 135: 497). All occurrences should continue to be reported.

### Falcated Duck *Anas falcata* (0, 10, 0)

**1975 Leicestershire** Cropston Reservoir, male, 27<sup>th</sup> December to at least 27<sup>th</sup> March 1976 (R.E.Davis *et al.*).

**1976 Leicestershire** See above.

**1981 Warwickshire** Kingsbury Water Park, male, 24<sup>th</sup> October to 6<sup>th</sup> December (A.Keatley *et al.*).

**1984 Yorkshire, South** Potteric Carr, male, 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> February (A.J.Sinclair).

**1986 Norfolk** Welney, male, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> December (J.B.Kemp), 27<sup>th</sup> (R.Neale).

**1987 Kent** Motney Hill, male, 6<sup>th</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> March (M.C.Buckland, J.Harflett *et al.*), presumed same, Lower Rainham, 26<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> May (M.C.Buckland).

**1987 Norfolk** Welney, male, 20<sup>th</sup> August to 8<sup>th</sup> October (J.B.Kemp *et al.*), presumed same as 1986 above.

**1987 Northamptonshire** Pitsford Reservoir, male, 15<sup>th</sup> February to 5<sup>th</sup> April (D.J.Burges, M.H.Rogers *et al.*), presumed same, Thrapston Gravel-pit, 12<sup>th</sup> December (D.Caswell), there or Ringstead Gravel-pit to 6<sup>th</sup> March 1988 (per R.W.Bullock).

**1988 Cambridgeshire** Buckden, male, 1<sup>st</sup> April (C.A.E.Kirtland).

**1988 Norfolk** Cley, male, 7<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May (P.J.Heath, D.J.Holman *et al.*).

**1988 Northamptonshire** See 1987 Northamptonshire above.

**1989 Norfolk** Cley, male, 11<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May (N.E.Gammon, C.R.Keightley, Mrs P.Walton *et al.*); presumed same as 1988 above.

**1989 Warwickshire** Middleton, first-winter or eclipse male, 5<sup>th</sup> November (J.Asbury, A.R.Dean, D.Long).

**1991 Devon** Kenwith, male, 19<sup>th</sup> October to 6<sup>th</sup> December (D.Churchill *et al.*).

The species is common in captivity and the possibility of escape is always present. Although unlikely, natural occurrences cannot be ruled out and the species is now included in category D1 (Ibis 135: 497). All records remain welcome.

### **Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos* (0, 3, 0)**

**1978 Glamorgan, West Worms Head, Gower, 24<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> August, photo. (H.E.Grenfell).**

The statistics include the two category A records which appear earlier in this Report but not the likely escape listed in Appendix 3. The possibility of assisted passage across the Atlantic requires a selective approach in categorising occurrences of this species, especially as it is not a long-distance migrant (Ibis 135: 496).

### **Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica* (0, 1, 0)**

**1992 Shetland Fair Isle, first-summer, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> July, trapped, photo. (P.V.Harvey *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 85: plate 297).**

Allocation of this species to category D1 was explained recently (Ibis 136: 254-255; Brit. Birds 87: 247-252).

### **Mugimaki Flycatcher *Ficedula mugimaki* (0, 1, 0)**

**1991 Humberside Stone Creek, first-winter, 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November, photo. (R.T.Parrish, G.J.Speight, J.M.Turton, J.Ward *et al.*).**

Allocation of this species to category D1 was explained recently (Ibis 136: 255; Brit. Birds 87: 247-252).

### **Painted Bunting *Passerina ciris***

This species has been common in captivity and is considered an unlikely natural vagrant here. It is now removed from category D (Ibis 136: 255); past published records are listed in Appendix 3.

## Appendix 2. List of records not accepted

This list contains all current records not accepted after circulation to the Committee. It does not include (a) those withdrawn by the observer(s) without circulation, after discussion with the Honorary Secretary; (b) those which, even if circulated, were not attributed by the observer(s) to any definite species; (c) those mentioned in 'Seasonal reports', 'The ornithological year' or 'Recent reports' in *British Birds* if full details were unobtainable; or (d) certain escapes.

In the vast majority of cases, the record was not accepted because we were not convinced, on the evidence before us, that the identification was fully established; in only a very few cases were we satisfied that a mistake had been made.

**1993 Little Bittern** Near Tonbridge, Kent, 29<sup>th</sup> July; Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, 3<sup>rd</sup> October. **Night Heron** Valleyfield, Fife, 26<sup>th</sup> April. **Great White Egret** Tyttenhanger Gravel-pit, Hertfordshire, 26<sup>th</sup> November. **Glossy Ibis** Glazebury, Greater Manchester, 12<sup>th</sup> May. **American Wigeon** Hayle, Cornwall, female, 23<sup>rd</sup> May; Loch Spynie, Grampian, 13<sup>th</sup> October. **Blue-winged Teal** Chew Valley Lake, Avon, 20<sup>th</sup> August. **King Eider** Sanday, Orkney, 9<sup>th</sup> May. **Black Kite** Westport Lake, Staffordshire, 11<sup>th</sup> April; Great Bentley, Essex, 30<sup>th</sup> April; Long Green, Hereford & Worcester, 23<sup>rd</sup> May; Belvide Reservoir, Staffordshire, 29<sup>th</sup> May; Holme (village), Norfolk, 9<sup>th</sup> June; Fleet, Hampshire, 3<sup>rd</sup> July; East Mersea, Essex, 19<sup>th</sup> August. **White-tailed Eagle** Navax Point, Cornwall, 11<sup>th</sup> September. **Lesser Kestrel** Pershore, Hereford & Worcester, 31<sup>st</sup> August. **Red-footed Falcon** Stewartby, Bedfordshire, 8<sup>th</sup> May; Portland, Dorset, 11<sup>th</sup> May; Stanpit Marsh, Dorset, 21<sup>st</sup> May; Minsmere, Suffolk, 23<sup>rd</sup> May; Grimsby, Lincolnshire, 30<sup>th</sup> May; Rye, East Sussex, 10<sup>th</sup> August; Portbury Wharf, Avon, 25<sup>th</sup> September; Westonzoyland, Somerset, 13<sup>th</sup> October. **Eleonora's Falcon** Sandwich Bay, Kent, 6<sup>th</sup> October. **Gyr Falcon** Cairngorm, Grampian, 13<sup>th</sup> April; Upton Warren, Hereford & Worcester, 18<sup>th</sup> June; Wistow, Leicestershire, 6<sup>th</sup> July; Leden Urquhart, Fife, 16<sup>th</sup> December. **Little Crake** Priory Country Park, Bedfordshire, 4<sup>th</sup> September. **Cream-coloured Courser** Colonsay, Strathclyde, 17<sup>th</sup> October. **Collared Pratincole** Sundridge and Bessels Green, Kent, 2<sup>nd</sup> July. **American Golden Plover** Ythan Estuary, Grampian, 28<sup>th</sup> October. **Pacific Golden Plover** St John's Loch, Highland, 22<sup>nd</sup> September. **Sociable Lapwing** Ditchford Gravel-pit, Northamptonshire, 29<sup>th</sup> May. **Semipalmated Sandpiper** Ynyslas, Dyfed, 4<sup>th</sup> May; Northam Burrows, Devon, 9<sup>th</sup> September. **White-rumped Sandpiper** Rossall Point, Lancashire, 16<sup>th</sup> September. **Great Snipe** Spurn, Humberside, second individual, 19<sup>th</sup> September. **Marsh Sandpiper** Wroxham Broad, Norfolk, 19<sup>th</sup> April. **Lesser Yellowlegs** Hunstanton, Norfolk, 21<sup>st</sup> March; Camel Estuary, Cornwall, 6<sup>th</sup> September. **Spotted Sandpiper** Stonar, Kent, 23<sup>rd</sup> June. **Wilson's Phalarope** Northam Burrows, Devon, 11<sup>th</sup> September. **Laughing Gull** Ramsgate, Kent, 3<sup>rd</sup> February; Carsphairn, Dumfries & Galloway, 8<sup>th</sup> February. **Bonaparte's Gull** Bainton, Cambridgeshire, 12<sup>th</sup> February; Earl's Barton, Northamptonshire, 10<sup>th</sup> October; Addlestone, Surrey, 13<sup>th</sup> November. **Slender-billed Gull** Marlow, Buckinghamshire, 6<sup>th</sup> October. **Ross's Gull** Portishead, Avon, 24<sup>th</sup> January; Flamborough Head, Humberside, 31<sup>st</sup> January; Whitburn, Tyne & Wear, 15<sup>th</sup> March. **Gull-billed Tern** Bowmore, Islay, Strathclyde, 6<sup>th</sup> August; Seaview Duver, Isle of Wight, 10<sup>th</sup> October. **Caspian Tern** Evie, Orkney, 15<sup>th</sup> June. **Bridled Tern** Seaford, East Sussex, 30<sup>th</sup> May. **Whiskered Tern** Wilstone Reservoir, Hertfordshire, 13<sup>th</sup> August. **White-winged Black Tern** Minsmere, Suffolk, 3<sup>rd</sup> September; Draycote Water, Warwickshire, 10<sup>th</sup> September; Pennington Flash, Greater Manchester, 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> September; Blagdon Lake, Avon, 16<sup>th</sup> September; Sheringham, Norfolk, 27<sup>th</sup> September. **Brünnich's Guillemot** Glynde Gap, East Sussex, 9<sup>th</sup> January. **Snowy Owl** Gedgrave, Suffolk, 1<sup>st</sup> January. **Pallid Swift** Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoirs, South Glamorgan, 6<sup>th</sup> June. **Alpine Swift** Dinton Pastures, Berkshire, 29<sup>th</sup> April; Ashford, Surrey, 29<sup>th</sup> April; Birstall, Leicestershire, 14<sup>th</sup> May; St Mary's, Scilly, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> June; Selsey, West Sussex, 10<sup>th</sup> July. **Calandra Lark** Great Orme, Gwynedd, 17<sup>th</sup> August. **Short-toed Lark** Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex, 5<sup>th</sup> December. **Crag Martin** Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, 19<sup>th</sup> September. **Red-rumped Swallow** Witheridge, Devon, 21<sup>st</sup> April; Stolford, Somerset, 22<sup>nd</sup> August; Rye, East Sussex, 16<sup>th</sup> October. **Red-throated Pipit** Stronsay, Orkney, 15<sup>th</sup> September; Merryton, Strathclyde, 2<sup>nd</sup> October; Reddish Vale, Greater Manchester, 20<sup>th</sup> October. **'Siberian' Stonechat** Barn's Ness, Lothian, 13<sup>th</sup> May; Dunnet Head, Highland, 22<sup>nd</sup> September; Pennington Marsh, Hampshire, 9<sup>th</sup> October. **Isabelline Wheatear** Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, 8<sup>th</sup> October. **Black-eared Wheatear** Church Norton, West Sussex, 21<sup>st</sup> March; Southam, Warwickshire, 14<sup>th</sup> April; Skokholm, Dyfed, 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September. **Desert Wheatear** Ginst Point, Dyfed, 16<sup>th</sup> November. **Dusky Thrush** Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, 18<sup>th</sup> November. **Dark-throated Thrush** St Mary's, Scilly, 15<sup>th</sup> October. **Marmora's Warbler** Newtown, Isle of Wight, 19<sup>th</sup> August. **Subalpine Warbler** Skokholm, Dyfed, 4<sup>th</sup> May. **Greenish Warbler** Cot Valley, Cornwall, 6<sup>th</sup> October. **Arctic Warbler** St Margaret's, Kent, 28<sup>th</sup> August; Burravoe, Yell, Shetland, 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August, 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September. **Bonelli's Warbler** Hengistbury Head, Dorset, 10<sup>th</sup> August; Warden Point, Sheppey, Kent, 29<sup>th</sup> August; Marton Mere, Lancashire, 15<sup>th</sup> November. **Collared Flycatcher** Weston-on-Trent, Derbyshire, 9<sup>th</sup> May. **Nutcracker** Thrapston, Northamptonshire, 22<sup>nd</sup> January; Sidmouth, Devon, August. **Rosy Starling** Martin Mere, Lancashire, 27<sup>th</sup> September. **Parrot Crossbill** Kielder Forest, Northumberland, 9<sup>th</sup> December. **Rustic Bunting** Lunna Ness, Shetland, 25<sup>th</sup> May. **Little Bunting** Barns Ness, Lothian, 12<sup>th</sup> September. **Yellow-breasted Bunting** The Naze, Essex, 16<sup>th</sup> September.

**1992 White-billed Diver** Inch Indaal, Islay, Strathclyde, 6<sup>th</sup> April; Sinclair's Bay, Highland, 20<sup>th</sup> May; Turnberry Point, Strathclyde, 19<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> December. **Black-browed Albatross** Between Anstruther and Isle of May, Fife, 13<sup>th</sup> June. **Little Shearwater** Blakeney Point, Norfolk, 7<sup>th</sup> September. **Soft-plumaged Petrel** Cley, Norfolk, 26<sup>th</sup> March. **Great White Egret** Mull, Strathclyde, 8<sup>th</sup> June. **Glossy Ibis** Weir Wood Reservoir, East Sussex, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. **Black Kite** Ruxley, Kent, 17<sup>th</sup> April; Stackpole, Dyfed, 27<sup>th</sup> May; Brome, Suffolk, 7<sup>th</sup> August. **Red-footed Falcon** Sturminster Newton, Dorset, 7<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> May; Fen Drayton, Cambridgeshire, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> June, 20<sup>th</sup> September; Little Paxton, Cambridgeshire, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2<sup>nd</sup> June; Teesmouth, Cleveland, male, 11<sup>th</sup> June; Laugharne, Dyfed, 22<sup>nd</sup> September. **Collared Pratincole** Thorntonmoor Reservoir, West Yorkshire, 28<sup>th</sup> July. **Pacific Golden Plover** Warsash, Hampshire, 21<sup>st</sup> August. **White-rumped Sandpiper** Eden Estuary, Fife, 10<sup>th</sup> October. **Broad-billed Sandpiper** Point of Air, Clwyd, 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May; Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, 17<sup>th</sup> May. **Dowitcher** Flamborough Head, Humberside, 9<sup>th</sup> August. **Spotted Sandpiper** Thursley Common, Surrey, 30<sup>th</sup> August. **Laughing Gull** Hunstanton, Norfolk, 1<sup>st</sup> September. **Gull-billed Tern** Minsmere, Suffolk, 28<sup>th</sup> June. **Aleutian Tern** Rye, East Sussex, 16<sup>th</sup> July. **White-winged Black Tern** Shibdon Pond, Tyne & Wear, 11<sup>th</sup> September. **Bimaculated Lark** Thornham Point, Norfolk, 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September. **Olive-backed Pipit** Niton, Isle of Wight, 4<sup>th</sup> October. **Red-throated Pipit** Colne Point, Essex, 19<sup>th</sup> September; Whitburn, Tyne & Wear, 28<sup>th</sup> September. **Isabelline Wheatear** Hawkser, North Yorkshire, 31<sup>st</sup> October. **Black-eared Wheatear** Keyhaven, Hampshire, 25<sup>th</sup> April; Kettlewell Point, North Yorkshire, 19<sup>th</sup> September. **River Warbler** Tresco, Scilly, 28<sup>th</sup> September. **Booted Warbler** St Martin's, Scilly, 6<sup>th</sup> October. **Greenish Warbler** Cot Valley, Cornwall, 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October. **Arctic Redpoll** Tynninghame, Lothian, 12<sup>th</sup> January; Foula, Shetland, 16<sup>th</sup> February to 3<sup>rd</sup> April; Cupar, Fife, 29<sup>th</sup> March; Stove, Shetland, 14<sup>th</sup> May; Isle of May, Fife, 16<sup>th</sup> October; Rousay, Orkney, 31<sup>st</sup> December to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1993. **Pine Grosbeak** Bucknell, Shropshire, 28<sup>th</sup> February. **Pine Warbler** St Mary's, Scilly, 10<sup>th</sup> October. **Rustic Bunting** Donnington Bridge, Oxfordshire, 7<sup>th</sup> December. **Little Bunting** Icklesham, East Sussex, 8<sup>th</sup> November. **Yellow-breasted Bunting** Hengistbury Head, Dorset, 19<sup>th</sup> September.

**1991 Bulwer's Petrel** Keyhaven, Hampshire, 30<sup>th</sup> May. **Little Shearwater** Point of Air, Clwyd, 18<sup>th</sup> September, 16<sup>th</sup> October. **Asiatic Dowitcher** Point of Air, Clwyd, 22<sup>nd</sup> September. **Wilson's Phalarope** Near Rhyl, Clwyd, 2<sup>nd</sup> August. **Gull-billed Tern** Kennack Sands, Cornwall, 21<sup>st</sup> April. **Caspian Tern** Point of Air, Clwyd, 26<sup>th</sup> August. **White-winged Black Tern** St John's Loch, Highland, 15<sup>th</sup> October. **Red-throated Pipit** St Mary's, Scilly, 12<sup>th</sup> October. **Desert Wheatear** Lowestoft, Suffolk, 12<sup>th</sup> October. **American Robin** Leigh Park, Hampshire, 10<sup>th</sup> February. **Olivaceous Warbler** St Mary's, Scilly, 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September. **Greenish Warbler** Filey, North Yorkshire, 10<sup>th</sup> October. **Arctic Redpoll** Norwich, Norfolk, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> January.

**1990 Night Heron** Rye, East Sussex, 6<sup>th</sup> May; Tregaron, Dyfed, 3<sup>rd</sup> June. **King Eider** Dawlish Warren, Devon, 21<sup>st</sup> February to 3<sup>rd</sup> March. **Peregrine Falcon** *brookei* Laindon, Essex, 28<sup>th</sup> April. **American Golden Plover** Sidlesham, West Sussex, 3<sup>rd</sup> July. **Baird's Sandpiper** Witham Mouth, Lincolnshire, 16<sup>th</sup> September. **White-winged Black Tern** Oare, Kent, 28<sup>th</sup> August; 7<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October. **Alpine Swift** Lymington, Hampshire, 21<sup>st</sup> March. **Red-rumped Swallow** Worthing, West Sussex, 23<sup>rd</sup> April; Littlehampton, West Sussex, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. **Black-eared Wheatear** Filsham, East Sussex, 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> August. **Collared Flycatcher** Loch Druidibeg, South Uist, Western Isles, 1<sup>st</sup> June; Lundy, Devon, 24<sup>th</sup> October. **Nutcracker** Camberwell, Greater London, early March. **Two-barred Crossbill** Sandringham, Norfolk, first-year male, 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September; Rhinefield, Hampshire, 2<sup>nd</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> November. **Parrot Crossbill** Sandringham, Norfolk, 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**1989 Black Kite** Beachy Head, East Sussex, 28<sup>th</sup> May. **Spotted Sandpiper** Lower Rivington Reservoir, Lancashire, 22<sup>nd</sup> December. **Oriental Turtle Dove** Portland, Dorset, 24<sup>th</sup> October. **Lesser Grey Shrike** Bishop Monkton, North Yorkshire, 1<sup>st</sup> November. **Little Bunting** Skomer, Dyfed, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2<sup>nd</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May.

**1988 Sooty Tern** Long Nanny, Northumberland, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> July. **Desert Wheatear** Flamborough Head, Humberside, 28<sup>th</sup> August. **Spectacled Warbler** Lepe, Hampshire, 15<sup>th</sup> April. **Spanish Sparrow** North Ronaldsay, Orkney, 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June.

**1979 Black-browed Albatross** Mingulay, Western Isles, 4<sup>th</sup> July. **Black-eared Wheatear** Mingulay, Western Isles, 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> June.

**1977 Pacific Golden Plover** Cley, Norfolk, 20<sup>th</sup> August.

**1975 American Wigeon** Martin Mere, Lancashire, female, 23<sup>rd</sup> December. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** Westbere, Kent, 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June.

### Appendix 3. List of records not accepted but identification proved

This list provides a permanent record of those occurrences which, usually on the grounds of likely escape from captivity, find no place in any category, but which may, at some future date, merit further consideration. It does not include (a) any record of a species for which natural vagrancy is wholly unlikely or (b) those records of presumed escapes already mentioned in the main text of this or earlier Reports. The decisions have been taken by this Committee unless otherwise shown.

**Ross's Goose** *Anser rossii* Meikle Loch area, Grampian, 17<sup>th</sup> March 1985, presumed same, Lunan Valley, Tayside, 25<sup>th</sup> January to 8<sup>th</sup> February 1986, Slains, Grampian, 10<sup>th</sup> March 1988, Lossiemouth, Grampian, 23<sup>rd</sup> March to 16<sup>th</sup> April 1991 (Ibis 136: 254). **Emperor Goose** *Anser canagica* Handa Island, Highland, three, 4<sup>th</sup> July 1984. **Baikal Teal** *Anas formosa* Exton, Leicestershire, female, 5<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September 1990. **Cape Teal** *Anas capensis* Coatham Marsh, Cleveland, two, 18<sup>th</sup> May 1986. **White-headed Duck** *Oxyura leucocephala* Bough Beech Reservoir, Kent, female, 28<sup>th</sup> February to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1979, 28<sup>th</sup> December 1979 to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1980; Chew Valley Lake, Avon, female, 9<sup>th</sup> June to 6<sup>th</sup> July 1985 (Ibis 135: 497). **Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis* Hampstead Heath, Greater London, 14<sup>th</sup> October 1993. **Grey-headed Gull** *Larus cirrocephalus* Wilstone Reservoir, Hertfordshire, adult, 10<sup>th</sup> February 1991, same, Brogborough Lake, Bedfordshire, 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. **Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* Eastleigh, Hampshire, 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> April 1984; Thornham, Norfolk, 13<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August 1985. **Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus aureus* Isle of May, Fife, female, 29<sup>th</sup> April 1988, dead 30<sup>th</sup> (Ibis 135: 220-222; Brit. Birds 86: 359-366). **White-cheeked Starling** *Sturnus cineraceus* Flamborough Head, Humberside, 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May 1990 (Ibis 135: 221). **Red-fronted Serin** *Serinus pusillus* Landguard, Suffolk, 6<sup>th</sup> June 1992 (Ibis 136: 255). **Desert Finch** *Rhodospiza obsoleta* Spalding, Lincolnshire, 11<sup>th</sup> November 1990 to at least 31<sup>st</sup> March 1991. **Pallas's Rosefinch** *Carpodacus roseus* North Ronaldsay, Orkney, first-year male or female, 2<sup>nd</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> July 1988 (Ibis 135: 498; Brit. Birds 87: 247-252). **Long-tailed Rosefinch** *Uragus sibiricus* St Abb's, Borders, male, 10<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May 1993. **Yellow-billed Grosbeak** *Eophona migratoria* Cheddington, Buckinghamshire, first-summer male, 10<sup>th</sup> June 1990. **Japanese Grosbeak** *Eophona personata* Ollaberry, Shetland, 13<sup>th</sup> June 1992, later taken into captivity. **Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina amoena* Holm, Orkney, 31<sup>st</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> June 1964; Isle of May, Fife, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1971; Foula, Shetland, 12<sup>th</sup> July 1975; Murrayton, Cornwall, 15<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September 1990 (Ibis 136: 255). **Painted Bunting** *Passerina ciris* Voe, Shetland, male, 28<sup>th</sup> May 1972 (Brit. Birds 71: 528); Carnforth, Lancashire, male, 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> April 1974 (Brit. Birds 72: 544); St Mary's, Scilly, male, 25<sup>th</sup> June 1978; Burravoe, Yell, Shetland, male, 9<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> July 1978 (Brit. Birds 73: 531); Fair Isle, Shetland, female, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> July 1979 (Brit. Birds 79: 585); Noss, Shetland, male, 8<sup>th</sup> June 1981 (Brit. Birds 75: 532; Ibis 136: 255). **Black-headed Grosbeak** *Pheucticus melanocephalus* Staveley, Cumbria, 6<sup>th</sup> May 1978. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* Leighton Moss, Lancashire, male, 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> August 1964; Seaton Burn, Northumberland, male, 17<sup>th</sup> July to 14<sup>th</sup> August 1965; Sandbach Flashes, Cheshire, male, 20<sup>th</sup> September 1970; Unst and Yell, Shetland, male, 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May 1987; Fair Isle, Shetland, first-year male, 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> April 1990 (Ibis 136: 255).