



Report on Rare birds in Great Britain in 2001

M.J.Rogers and the Rarities Committee
With comments by John McLoughlin and Jimmy Steele

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 the 2000 report (94:452-504). 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 video-recorded, tape-recorded or photographed (and this evidence assessed by the Committee); (5) if trapped or found dead and where specimen is stored, if known; (6) date(s); and (7) observer(s), in alphabetical order.
2. In general, this report is confined to records, which are regarded as certain, and 'probables' are not included. In the cases of the very similar American *Pluvialis dominica* and Pacific Golden Plovers *P.fulva*, Long-billed *Limnodromus scolopaceus* and Short-billed Dowitchers *L.griseus*, and Eastern *Phylloscopus orientalis* and Western Bonelli's Warblers *P.bonelli*, however, we publish indeterminate records, and this also applies to those of pratincoles *Glareola*, albatrosses *Diomedea* and frigatebirds *Fregata* (but see Brit. Birds 94: 395).
3. The sequence of species, English names and scientific nomenclature follow the '*British Birds' List of Birds of the Western Palearctic* (1997).
4. The three numbers in parentheses after each species' name refer specifically to the total number of individuals recorded (i) in Britain & Ireland to the end of 1957, (ii) in Britain only for the period since the formation of the Rarities Committee in 1958, but excluding (iii) those listed here for the current year. The decision as to how many individuals were involved is often difficult, but a consensus view is represented 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 a particular species recurring at the same or a nearby locality after a lapse of time. In considering claims of more than one individual at the same or adjacent localities, the Committee requires firm evidence before more than one is accepted.

White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* (18, 201, 2)

Norfolk Titchwell, age uncertain, 14th January (P.Etherington, P.J.Milford).

Northumberland Farne Islands, adult, 16th November, photo. (T.Sykes *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 281).

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* (0, 35, 1)

Cornwall/Devon Upper Tamar Lake, 8th January to 24th February (S.M.Christophers, B.M.Phillips *et al.*).

Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophris* (2, 13, 2)

Kent Dungeness, age uncertain, 4th May (M.C.Buckland, G.Taylor, A.Wraithmell *et al.*).

At sea Sea area Rockall, *M.F.V.Celnius*, 57°25'N 13°28'W, second calendar-year or younger, 3rd-4th August, photo. (D.O'Driscoll).

The Dungeness sighting proves that the eternal optimism of seawatchers reaps its rewards.

Madeira/Cape Verde Petrel *Pterodroma madeira/feae* (0, 20, 1)

At sea Sea area Sole, 49°49'N 06°11 'W, about 12 km S of St Mary's, Scilly, 8th July, video., photo. (E.A.Fisher, R.L.Flood, N.Wheatley *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 221).

1999 Scilly About 1.5 km S of Bishop Rock, 24th August (R.L.Flood).

1999 Yorkshire, East Flamborough Head, 12th June (B.Richards).

The Scilly bird was one of half a dozen reported in Britain during the year, but was the only record submitted prior to the publishing deadline. Some controversy still surrounds the at sea identification of this species pair, although the observers of the Scilly bird confidently identified it as *Pterodroma feae*.

Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis* (5, 56, 0)

2000 Cleveland Hartlepool, 15th July (M.N.Sidwell, R.C.Taylor).

This is arguably the most controversial species considered by the Committee. For some observers, the blank year in 2001 reflects the species' true status in British waters! A review of British records is probably long overdue.

Wilson's Storm-petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* (4, 281, 18)

At sea Sea area Sole, 19.5 km SW of Bishop Rock, Scilly, 5th June (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 10 km S of St Mary's, Scilly, 7th June, video. (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 12-14 km S of St Mary's, 13th July, video., photo. (E.A.Fisher *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 222); 10 km S of St Mary's, 21st July, video. (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 10 km S of St Mary's, 22nd July, video. (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 11 km S of St Mary's, 23rd July (P.A.Stancliffe *et al.*); 10 km S of St Mary's, 29th July (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 10-12 km S of St Mary's, 3rd August (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 10 km S of St Mary's, 5th August (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 12 km S of St Mary's, 5th August (R.L.Flood *et al.*); 12-14 km S of St Mary's, 10th August (N.Wheatley *et al.*); *M.V.Scillonian*, 49°09'N 06°45'W, two, 12th August (D.S.Flumm, J.F.Ryan *et al.*); 10 km S of St Mary's, 15th August, video., photo. (E.A.Fisher *et al.*); 12 km S of St Mary's, 16th August (R.L.Flood *et al.*); 10-13 km S of St Mary's, 20th August (R.L.Flood *et al.*); 11-13 km S of St Mary's, 20th August, photo. (R.L.Flood *et al.*); 16 km S of St Mary's, 2nd September (R.L.Flood *et al.*).

2000 At sea Sea area Lundy, 51°33'N 05°34'W, about 32 km SW of Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, 7th August (D.C.Palmer *et al.*).

Red-billed Tropic bird *Phaethon aethereus* (0, 0, 1)

At sea Sea area Sole, sailing vessel *Marg a Rita*, 49°38'N 06°08'W, about 32 km SSE of Scilly, adult, 7th June, photo. (R.Barnes, P.Fraser, G.Legg, M.White) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 282).

This species has been accepted on to Category A of the British List (see www.bou.org.uk). The discovery of this bird was well documented in the birding press, and amazing pictures were also published on the Internet soon after its discovery. This was a truly major find but was not, unfortunately, seen by any other birders! It, or another, was seen off Jaonneuse, Guernsey, on the 16th September 2001. For a full assessment of previous claims of Red-billed Tropic bird in Britain see Brit. Birds 87: 480-487.

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* (150, 190, 0)

2000 Northumberland St Mary's Island, Whitley Bay, male, 18th March (J.D.McElwee).

2000 Sussex, East Filsham, male, 29th May (K.M.Johnston, S.C.Richardson).

Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* (165, 418, 5)

Cambridgeshire Nene Washes, age uncertain, 25th May (S.P.Dudley).

Cornwall Church Cove, Lizard, adult, 11th April (M.Tunmore). Goonhilly Downs, first-summer, 29th April (S.F.Elton).

Devon Stover Country Park, first-summer, 12th-13th April, dead, 15th, photo. (J.Avon, L.Whitehouse *et al.*).

Dorset Portland Bill, first-summer, 24th June (M.Cade *et al.*).

2000 Staffordshire Rolleston-on-Dove, first-summer, 31st March, photo. (P.Jones *et al.*).

BBRC will not consider records of this species occurring after 1st January 2002 (see Brit. Birds 94: 290). A paper covering the identification pitfalls and assessment problems of this species has been published in British Birds (84: 145-148).

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

Lincolnshire Messingham Quarry, 24th September to 2nd October, photo. (A.Stanworth, A.Travis *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 316).

The first live Green Heron since 1982 arrived during an incredible spell of rarities, with species from all points of the compass entertaining the nation's twitchers.

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* (95, 46, 1)

Norfolk Bacton, Brograve Levels and Horsey Mere area, first-winter, 27th September to 10th December, photo. (P.J.Heath, A.J.Kane *et al.*).

Although the arrival date of the Norfolk bird is not unprecedented, the duration of its stay so late in the autumn is exceptional.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (2, 104, 7)

Dorset Middlebere, 29th-30th July (S.Smith, E.Thorpe). Radipole, 23rd-24th November, 7th-14th December (C.E.Richards, S.Taylor *et al.*); same, Portesham area, 28th November to 2nd December (N.Tomlinson *et al.*). Morden Bog, 30th December (E.D.Lloyd).

Greater London Wetland Centre, Barnes, 18th August (H.Bradshaw, S.Elliott *et al.*).

Hampshire Sowley Pond, 11th August; presumed same, Normandy Marsh, 15th-19th, photo. (M.P.Moody *et al.*).

Suffolk Dunwich and Blyth Estuary area, 26th August to 16th September (S.J.Catley, P.Dodds, J.H.Grant, D.Hatton *et al.*).

Sussex, West Greatham Bridge, 20th January to at least 11th March, photo. (E.Sears *et al.*).

2000 Lancashire & North Merseyside Marshside Marsh, 20th July (T.Baker, B.McCarthy, B.Woolley).

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* (0, 0, 1)

Argyll Balvicar, Seil Island, age uncertain, 5th-25th November, probably since 30th October, also in 2002, photo. (J.M.Dickson, W.Jackson *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 346; 95: plates 113, 283, 284); also in Ayrshire.

Ayrshire Ardrossan, 22nd-23rd December and in 2002 (per R.H.Hogg); same as Argyll. Steventon, 26th December to 2002 (per R.H.Hogg); same as above.

The discovery of this long-awaited 'first' for Britain highlighted the increasing importance of the Internet as a tool in rare-bird identification. Many digital images of rarities are now displayed on various websites soon after they are found, thus enabling the rapid confirmation of identification, age, state of moult etc. Long gone are the days when one travelled overnight to Cornwall on a hunch!

Great White Egret *Egretta alba* (10, 133, 8)

Borders Walkerburn, 28th October (D.J & Mrs J.Methven, J.Simmonds).

Cleveland Teesmouth, 24th June to 12th October, photo. (P.Hindess *et al.*); presumed same as Lothian below.

Flintshire Flint Sands, 12th August to at least 5th November (A.G.Stamp).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Banks Marsh, 16th to at least 21st October, photo. (T.Baker *et al.*); same, Mere Sands Wood, 17th October (J.Hindle).

Lothian Tynninghame, 21st June (I.J.Andrews, V.Hughes *et al.*); also in Cleveland.

Sussex, East Arlington Reservoir, 16th August (J. & P.R.Cullen).

Sussex, West Sidlesham Ferry, 17th February (S.J.Patton).

Yorkshire, East Spurn, 31st October (P.J.Alker, A.J.Gramauskas *et al.*).

Yorkshire, North North Stainley, 12th-15th November, photo.; presumed same, dead, Neasham, Co. Durham, near Darlington, end November, specimen retained by local taxidermist (P.K.Bowman, J.R.Mather, C.Slater *et al.*).

2000 Greater London Kempton Park, 7th October (Brit. Birds 94: 458), locality was Kempton Park Nature Reserve, Surrey (per C.Lamsdell).

2000 Hampshire Farlington Marshes, 1st May (J.Crook *et al.*).

2000 Surrey See 2000 Greater London above.

With 45 pairs breeding at Oostvaarderplassen, the Netherlands, in 2002, and with nesting pairs now reported in France, we wonder how long it will be until this species is discovered breeding in Britain. Following the bumper year of 2000, however, the eight accepted records in 2001 constitute a more 'average' year. The rejection rate for this species remains high, and the number of flight-only claims seems to be increasing. Observers of a putative Great White Egret in flight need to convincingly eliminate the potential confusion risk of both Little Egret *E.garzetta* and aberrant egrets, such as the one at Stanpit, Dorset, in 1998 (Birding World 11: 318-320).

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* (26, 115, 2)

Devon South Brent, 26th-30th August (Sister M.Bridget, S.Hopper *et al.*).

Scilly St Agnes and St Mary's, 27th August (D.Page *et al.*).

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (many, 70, 1)

Kent Dungeness, 24th-25th October, photo. (S.Busuttil, G.Lyons *et al.*).

1996 Norfolk Tallents Meadow Lake, 23rd May (J.Dove *et al.*).

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

North American and E Siberian race *B. b. nigricans* (1, 99, 21)

Essex Foulness, 18th February (E.Lewington, C.Lewis). Brightlingsea, 21st-25th February, video. (P.O'Toole *et al.*). Bathside Bay, Harwich, 31st March (C.S.Balchin, J.D.Rowland). Old Hall Marshes, 2nd-20th December, two, 9th, 19th (N.J.Ransdale, C.J.Tyas *et al.*); see also 2000 Essex below.

Hampshire Langstone Harbour and Farlington Marshes, 14th November to 1st December (J.Crook *et al.*). Pennington and Keyhaven Marshes area, 25th November to 2002, photo. (R.B.Wynn *et al.*). Needs Ore area, 2nd to at least 31st December, photo. (M.J.W.Hay, P.D.Winter *et al.*). Beaulieu Estuary, 2nd December (P.D.Winter, R.B.Wynn *et al.*), present 1st-20th. Hurst Beach, 27th December to 2002, photo. (S.King, R.B.Wynn *et al.*).

Kent See 2000 Kent below.

Lincolnshire Holbeach Marsh, 7th January (A.H.J.Harrop).

Norfolk Burnharn Deepdale, 11th-22nd January, photo. (A.I.Bloomfield, J.R.McCallum). Ousemouth, 13th January (P.M.Wilson); presumed same, 21st (A.D.Collins); presumed same, Lynn Point, 13th April (A.D.Collins). Wells Harbour, 26th March (M.A.Ward). Blakeney Harbour, 29th April to 13th May (A.M.Stoddart *et al.*). Cley, two, from December 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 460) to at least end January, photo., one to 10th March (per G.E.Dunmore).

Suffolk Trimley Marshes, 18th January (P.Beeson, N.Odin). Kingsfleet/Felixstowe Ferry, two, 18th January (W.J.Brame, J. & K.Garrod). Levington, 27th November to 25th January 2002, photo. (W.J.Brame *et al.*).

Sussex, West Selsey, 13th January (M.Jones, O.Mitchell); presumed same as Sidlesham, 2000 West Sussex below. Thorney Deep, 17th January (C.B.Collins); presumed same as Selsey above. West Wittering, 28th January to at least 10th February (G.P.Green, P.M.Harris, E.D.Urquhart *et al.*); presumed returning individual of 17th-22nd January 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 460); presumed same, at least 15th December, photo. (J.Reaney, E.D.Urquhart). Apuldram, Chichester Harbour, 10th-11th February, 3rd March (O.Mitchell *et al.*). Pagham Harbour, 15th-16th November (B.F.Forbes *et al.*); probably same as Selsey and Sidlesham above.

Yorkshire, East Spurn, intermittently, 20th January to 23rd May, photo. (G.Featherstone *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 53).

1997 Kent High Halstow, 3rd-8th March, photo. (M.J.McKee); presumed same as Egypt and St Mary's Bays, 16th-23rd February (Brit. Birds 91: 464).

2000 Essex Old Hall Marshes, 29th November; presumed same, 28th February, 7th March 2001 (C.J.Tyas, D.Wood *et al.*). South Woodham Ferrers, 30th December to 2001 (Brit. Birds 94: 460), not noted in 2001 (per H.Vaughan).

2000 Kent Shellness, 2nd-29th October; same, with another, near Whitstable, 4th November; both, Seasalter/Reculver area, to 2001, one or other to 3rd March (G.W.Allison *et al.*).

2000 Suffolk Falkenham Marshes, 8th, 26th December (Brit. Birds 94: 460), first named observer should be P.Dodds.

2000 Sussex, West Sidlesham Ferry, intermittently, 4th November to at least 27th December (I.J.J.Faichnie, S.J.Patton *et al.*); also in 2001 above.

Red-breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis* (15, 47, 6)

Angus & Dundee Montrose Basin, 29th March to 8th April (G.M.Addison *et al.*).

Argyll Loch Gruinart, Islay, adult, 10th November (A.W.Reid); present since 27th October.

Dumfries & Galloway Caerlaverock, adult, 15th-17th February, photo. (A.W.Reid *et al.*).

Fife Powmill, adult, 27th January (D.E.Dickson *et al.*); also in Perth & Kinross.

Norfolk Egmere and West Barsham, since 27th December 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 460-461), last seen near Docking, 10th January (per G.E.Dunmore). Cantley, adult, at least 20th January (R.A.Frost, J.C.Harris *et al.*); same, Hickling, at least 29th January (A.J.Kane, S.Prowse *et al.*); same, Wickhampton Marshes, 11th February (P.R.Allard). Lynn Point, adult, 22nd March (A.D.Collins, D.Hennessey, D.Noble).

Perth & Kinross Balgedie/Loch Leven, adult, 21st-23rd January (A.Whewell *et al.*); same, Powmill area, 26th to end of April (I.Munro, A.W.Reid, K.D.Shaw *et al.*); also in Fife above.

2000 Norfolk Thetford, adult, 27th-30th November, photo. (S.Holloway, A.Musgrove *et al.*).

2000 Suffolk Waldringfield, first-winter, 4th January (W.J.Brame); present 3rd-18th.

One seen at various localities in north Norfolk between August and the end of the year was generally considered to be of captive or feral origin. As with other records of wildfowl in this report, acceptance of a bird's identification does not necessarily mean that it is wild. Birds which are obviously of captive origin are excluded from the statistics but others are generally given the benefit of the doubt.

American Wigeon *Anas americana* (22, 321, 14)

Argyll Loch A'Phuill, Tiree, male, 3rd-9th October (S.Bearhop, J.Bowler, S.C.Votier). Crinan, male, at least 5th October (S.Bearhop, S.C.Votier); presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 461).

Cheshire Frodsham, male, 20th-21st February (F.Duff *et al.*).

Cornwall Hayle, male, 22nd November to 2002 (L.P.Williams *et al.*); presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 461).

Leicestershire Eyebrook Reservoir, male, 12th November intermittently to January 2002, photo. (J.Wright *et al.*); also in Northamptonshire (Brit. Birds 95: 485 fig. 1).

Moray & Nairn Lossie Estuary, male, since 11th November 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 461) to 3rd March, again, 19th November (per M.J.H.Cook). Loch Flemington, male, 5th to at least 30th March (R.Proctor *et al.*). Loch Oire, male, 27th October to 22nd November (M.J.H.Cook *et al.*).

Northamptonshire Blatherwyke Lake, male, 6th December intermittently to 2002 (G.Watola *et al.*); same as Leicestershire.

Northeast Scotland Loch of Strathbeg, male, 8th-26th March (J.Harrison *et al.*).

Northumberland Fenham Flats, male, 26th November to 17th January 2002 (M.P.Frankis, A.D.McLevy *et al.*); presumed returning individual first noted Elwick, 4th November 1998 (Brit. Birds 92: 563).

Orkney St Peter's Pool, Deerness, male, 2nd October to 26th November, video. (K.E.Hague). Sands of Evie, male, 14th November (E.J.Williams).

Outer Hebrides Hougharry, North Uist, male and female, 3rd-7th May (B.Rabbitts *et al.*).

Shetland Loch of Spiggie, male, 1st January to 24th April (P.M.Ellis, P.V.Harvey, R.Riddington *et al.*); Loch of Gards/Loch of Hillwell, three males, since 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 462) to at least 21st April; Loch of Hillwell, male, 8th September to 2002 (P.V.Harvey, R.Riddington *et al.*), presumed one of above returning; Loch of Gards, male, 25th October to 2002 (P.M.Ellis *et al.*), presumed one of above returning.

Suffolk Minsmere, male, 20th-21st September, photo. (D.Fairhurst *et al.*). Southwold, female, 22nd October (W.J.Brame).

Yorkshire, North Nosterfield, male, 28th September to 3rd October, photo. (S.Warwick *et al.*).

2000 Dorset Butterstreet Cove, male, 26th-28th November (D.Croxon); presumed same, Abbotsbury, male, 5th December (S.A.Groves).

2000 Moray & Nairn Kingston, male, 24th September to 15th October (per M.J.H.Cook); presumed same as Lossie Estuary, 11th November to 2001 (Brit. Birds 94: 461).

2000 Orkney St Peter's Pool area, first-winter, male, 13th February to 8th April, video. (K.E.Hague).

BBRC will not consider records of this species occurring after 1st January 2002 (see Brit. Birds 94: 290). A paper covering the identification of this species, in particular the problems associated with females and hybrids, will be published shortly in British Birds.

Black Duck *Anas rubripes* (1, 22, 2)

Argyll Loch A'Phuill, Tiree, male, 15th June (J.Bowler, A.J.Leitch).

Cornwall Colliford Reservoir, male, last noted 7th February 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 463), at least 18th January, June to 21st July, 1st November; two hybrid males, intermittently throughout year (S.M.Christophers); see also 2000 Cornwall below. Loe Pool, male, 8th September to 9th October (S.F.Elton *et al.*); presumed returning individual of 1st September 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 463); see also 2000 Cornwall below. Stithians Reservoir, male, since 2000 (see 2000 Cornwall below), to at least 17th January.

Devon Slapton Ley, male, since 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 463), to at least July, photo. (A.S.C.Barker, P.M.Mayer *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 111); same, West Charlton Marsh, 30th July to 24th August; same, Slapton Ley, 26th September; same, Bowcombe Creek, 4th October to 2nd November, photo. (per M.R.Langman) (Brit. Birds 95: plates 285 & 286).

Pembrokeshire Heathfield Gravel-pits, male, 20th, 28th January, 10th, 14th March (S.E.Berry, M.Young-Powell).

1999 Cornwall Crowdy Reservoir, female or first-winter male, 24th-30th September (P.R.Aley, J.F.Babbington *et al.*).

2000 Cornwall Colliford Reservoir, two hybrid males, 4th November, one intermittently to 1st March 2001; one of same, Crowdy Reservoir, 14th November. Par Beach Pool, hybrid male, through 2000, 2001. Stithians Reservoir, male, to end of year; same, Loe Pool, 1st September (Brit. Birds 94: 463); now not regarded as same.

The Committee appreciates the assistance received from County Recorders in assessing the numbers of individuals involved in the influx of this species since 1998. Note the occurrence of at least two male hybrids in Cornwall during 2000-01.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* (19, 199, 4)

Dorset Stanpit Marsh, male, 13th-15th September, photo. (D.N.Smith *et al.*).

Essex Abberton Manor, Roman River Valley, male, 20th-26th May (D.Rhymes *et al.*).

Northamptonshire Earl's Barton Gravel-pits, male, 25th February to 1st March (A.F.Coles, I.Dobson, M.Wells *et al.*).

Suffolk Trimley Marshes, male, 7th-9th September (N.Odin *et al.*).

2000 Staffordshire Blithfield Reservoir, male, 6th August to 8th September (Brit. Birds 94: 463), to 14th (per G.J.Jones).

Canvasback *Aythya valisineria* (0, 4, 0)

Essex Abberton Reservoir, male, since 12th November 2000 to 13th February (Brit. Birds 94: 463).

Kent Dungeness, male, since 18th November 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464) to 8th March.

Redhead *Aythya americana* (0, 1, 1)

Glamorgan Kenfig Pool, male, 7th November to 5th February 2002, photo. (D.C.Bolt, S.J.Moon *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95 plate 287).

The first for Wales and only the second for Britain, following the first in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire in 1996/97, which proved a popular bird during the winter months. It has been suggested that its appearance in Wales may have been linked with a hurricane which devastated parts of Cuba and the Caribbean. The bird's appearance changed quite dramatically depending on light conditions. In bright sunlight there seemed little difference in mantle colour between it and accompanying Pochards *A.ferina*, and identification largely relied on the blue-grey bill. In duller light, however, the darker back was much more obvious.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* (many, 252, 9)

Avon Chew Valley Lake, female, intermittently 19th May to 28th June, photo. (K.E.Vinicombe *et al.*); presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464).

Bedfordshire Elstow, female, at least 10th February to at least 7th March, photo.; presumed same, 7th November to at least 1st December (B.Squires *et al.*).

Berkshire Burghfield Gravel-pits, male, 2nd December to 22nd February 2002 (C.D.R.Heard, C.Lamsdell *et al.*); presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464).

Cambridgeshire Godmanchester Gravel-pits, male, 13th-22nd January (J.S.Clark *et al.*); presumed same as Fen Drayton Gravel-pits, 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464). Ouse Washes, male, 15th January (S.Croft *et al.*).

Dorset Abbotsbury, first-winter female, 3rd-4th December (S.A.Groves *et al.*). Morden Park, male, 27th-30th December; presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464).

Essex Donyland Gravel-pit, Colchester, first-winter male, 9th January (R.Allen) (Brit. Birds 95: 488 fig. 2). Netherhall Gravel-pit, male, 6th to at least 15th October (M.Dent, N.May, H.Vaughan *et al.*). Near Boreham, Chelmsford, male, 2nd, 9th December (D.Rhymes *et al.*).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Fairhaven Marine Lake, male, since 27th November 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464), to 11th February, photo. (Brit. Birds 94: plate 50); same, Leighton Moss, 18th September to 19th October; same, Fairhaven Marine Lake and Marton Mere, 20th October to 2002 (per S.J.White).

Lincolnshire Barton-on-Humber, male, 16th February to 18th April, photo. (G.P.Catley *et al.*).

Norfolk Flitcham, male, 18th-20th June (S.H.Bryan, P.A.Jeffery, J.Lovett *et al.*).

Somerset Ham Wall, female, since 14th November 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464), to February (per B.D.Gibbs).

Sussex, East Rye Harbour, first-winter male, since 26th November 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 464), to 27th January (per J.A.Hobson); presumed same, as adult, 1st-19th November (P.M.Troake *et al.*).

Yorkshire, East Watton Nature Reserve, male, 27th January (M.G.Hodges, M.A.Underwood *et al.*).

1999 Essex Lea Valley Country Park, female, 28th October to at least 14th November (Brit. Birds 93: 523), locality was Seventy Acres Pit, Cheshunt Gravel-pits (per A.Wilson).

1999 Northamptonshire Blatherwyke Lake, first-winter male, 20th December to 27th February 2000 (A.H.J.Harrop *et al.*).

2000 Cambridgeshire Fen Drayton Gravel-pits, male, 23rd December to 1st January 2001 (Brit. Birds 94: 464), observer was J.Oates.

2000 Greater London Kempton Park, male, 22nd May (Brit. Birds 94: 464), locality was Kempton Park Reservoir Nature Reserve, Surrey (per C.Lamsdell).

2000 Hampshire Allington Gravel-pits, male, 19th March to 1st April (Brit. Birds 94: 464), first noted 1st January (D.J.Unsworth *et al.* per J.M.Clark).

2000 Northamptonshire See 1999 Northamptonshire above.

2000 Surrey Hedgecourt Lake, female or first-winter, 15th-23rd January, photo. (K.E.Noble *et al.*).

It is interesting to note that there is a distinct winter bias to this species' occurrence in Britain, which suggests a genuine wild origin for most of the individuals involved. Ferruginous Duck is a partial migrant with many remaining to winter in Europe following dispersal from breeding areas in September and October. This is an endangered species and is given priority status under Annex 1 of the European Birds Directive.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* (0, 44 3)

Caithness St John's Pool, Brough, male, 23rd June, photo. (C.Jones, J.Smith).

Cheshire Redes Mere, male, 13th-24th April, photo. (I.Blagden *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 144).

Dorset Swineham Gravel-pits and Studland, first-winter male, 11th November to at least 31st December, photo. (S.Robson *et al.*).

King Eider *Somateria spectabilis* (62, 100, 2)

Cornwall Newquay, first-summer male, at least 10th May (S.M.Christophers *et al.*). Pentire Point, first-summer male, 20th-30th August, photo. (S.M.Christophers, J.Pearce *et al.*). Marazion, first-summer male, 19th September (C.C.Barnard, D.S.Flumm *et al.*); presumed same as Pentire Point.

Fife Tayport, male, 14th January to 7th February (per D.E.Dickson), presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 466); same, Methil, 2nd December. Leven, female, 2nd February, 8th April, 3rd to at least 6th August (K.D.Shaw *et al.*); presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 466); also in Lothian.

Lothian Aberlady, female, 1st-14th May, 15th June to 23rd July, photo. (per D.J.Kelly); presumed same as Fife. See also 1999 Lothian and 2000 Lothian below.

Moray & Nairn Kingston, male, at least 11th April (per M.J.H.Cook); presumed same as Spey Bay, 21st April to 20th May 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 466).

Northeast Scotland Ythan Estuary, male, 18th April (per R.A.Schofield); presumed same as 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 466).

Shetland Bluemull Sound/off Fetlar/off Belmont, Unst, second-winter male, 13th January to 23rd May (P.V.Harvey, M.Heubeck, I.Sandison *et al.*); presumed same as Sullom Voe, 14th November 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 466). Dales Voe, second-winter male, 27th January to at least 16th April (per K.Osborn); same as Rova Head, Lerwick, 2nd August to 16th September 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 466).

1999 Lothian Aberlady Bay, female, 21st April to 11th May (I.M.Thomson per I.J.Andrews); presumed same, 12th-21st June (C.Scott *et al.*); presumed same as 1998 (Brit. Birds 92: 567); also in Fife 1999.

2000 Lothian Aberlady Bay, female, 4th-17th May, 9th-11th July (I.M.Thomson); same, Musselburgh, 22nd June (D.Allen, B.A.Hickman per I.J.Andrews); presumed same as 1999 Lothian above; same as 2000 Fife (Brit. Birds 94: 466).

2000 Shetland Bluemull Sound/off Linga, Unst, first-year male, at least 29th March (B.Thomason *et al.*).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

North American and E Siberian race *M. n. americana* (0, 6, 0)

Caernarfonshire Llanfairfechan and Penmaenmawr, male, 19th-20th, 28th January, 17th-31st December (per D.Barnes); presumed same as 1999 (Brit. Birds 94: 466).

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (5, 294, 5)

Anglesey Llyn Lywenan, 20th April (D.Herringshaw, M.J.Pont).

Berkshire West Ilsley, 26th June (C.D.R.Heard).

Cornwall Nanjizal, 16th-17th December (M.D.Warren, K.A.Wilson); same as Scilly.

Norfolk Welney, 29th June (J.B.Kemp, C.Mitchell, D.Stevens).

Scilly St Agnes, St Mary's and Gugh, 15th December; again, 19th-20th (D.Page *et al.*); also in Cornwall.

Suffolk Sizewell, 8th May; same, Minsmere, 9th (L.Woods, J.Zantboer).

1975 Shetland Unst, 11th June (Brit. Birds 70: 447), now considered inadequately documented.

1999 Kent Dungeness, 21st May (W.Attridge *et al.*).

1999 Orkney North Ronaldsay, 14th May (P.A.Brown *et al.*).

1999 Scilly Tresco, 23rd April (W.H.Wagstaff *et al.*).

2000 Sussex, East Pebsham, 8th May (K.M.Johnston).

2000 Wight, Isle of Ventnor Down, 7th May (C.Dinsdale, J.Morris, D.Swensson *et al.*).

The very late migrant on St Agnes, and later elsewhere, was unprecedented and provided the island's postman with an early Christmas box! Of those reports submitted for 2001, approximately 70% of Black Kite records were not accepted, and poorly seen individuals and incomplete descriptions continue to cause assessment headaches for the Committee.

Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus* (3, 7, 1)

Shetland Brow Marsh, juvenile, 8th-15th September, photo. (P.V.Harvey, B.Marshall, R.Riddington *et al.*).

Another speciality of the Northern Isles; a long-staying individual on the mainland would be well received!

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* (100, 614, 12)

Cambridgeshire Wicken Fen, female, 21st-23rd May, photo. (J.Oates *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 177).

Cornwall Goonhilly Downs, first-summer female, 3rd-9th June (S.F.Elton *et al.*). Predannack, juvenile, 8th October (A. & C.D.Abrams, S.Pilbeam *et al.*).

Essex Stansted Airport Lagoons, male, 27th May (S.Patmore).

Greater Manchester Horwich, female, age uncertain, 6th-7th July (K.Haydock, J.Mills *et al.*),

Kent St Margaret's Bay, first-summer male, 12th May (P.J.Chantler, N.Jarman *et al.*).

Norfolk Cley, first-summer female, 9th July (S.J.Aspinall, A. & J.G.Threadgold).

Northeast Scotland Forvie, male, 20th-23rd May, photo. (D.J.Wozencroft *et al.*).

Northumberland Farne Islands, juvenile, 21st-22nd September, photo. (S.Davies, T.Sykes *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 288).

Outer Hebrides Claddach Valley, North Uist, first-summer female, 24th June to 8th July (B. & A.Rabbitts *et al.*).

Worcestershire Westwood Pool, female, 15th May (A.Warr, S.M.Whitehouse).

Yorkshire, East Bampton, male, age uncertain, 22nd June, photo. (J.Horton, D.Mansell *et al.*).

2000 Kent Collard's Lake, female, 11th-14th May, two, 14th (M.P.Wilson *et al.*).

Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus* (many, 116, 1)

At sea Sea area Forties, oil installation *Elgin*, 57°00'N 01°50'E, female, 3rd-6th March when exhausted; died in care, Aberdeenshire, 6th, photo., specimen sent to Monks Wood Laboratories (S.Buchan, P.Doyle, M.Wood *et al.*).

1999 Orkney Moss of the Whitestanes, Roy, dark phase, long dead, 15th May (E.J.Williams).

Little Crake *Porzana parva* (68, 31, 0)

2000 Caernarfonshire Conwy, juvenile, 27th September (I.Higginson *et al.*).

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* (many, 13, 2)

Kent Oare Marshes, in song, 26th June to 6th July, sound-recorded (C.D.Abrams, M.C.Buckland *et al.*).

Shetland Maywick, juvenile, caught exhausted, 18th October, released in good health, 19th, photo. (H.R.Harrop, D.Parham *et al.*).

The singing bird in Kent recalls a similar record in the same county in 1999.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (98, 193, 1)

Kent Dungeness, 9th-10th May (P.G.Akers *et al.*).

Norfolk Titchwell, since 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 468), throughout year, photo. (per G.E.Dunmore).

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* (31, 53, 1)

Sussex, West Pagham Harbour, 26th-31st May (J.W.P.Bacon *et al.*).

1977 **Lancashire & North Merseyside** Marton Mere, 30th May to 1st June, photo. (J.P.Guest, H.Shorrock, E.Stirling *et al.*), previously accepted as Pratincole sp. only (Brit. Birds 72: 519).

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni* (5, 28, 2)

Anglesey Mona, 4th-20th July, photo. (K.G.Croft, S.Culley *et al.*). (Brit. Birds 94: plates 223, 252); possibly same as Gwent.

Gwent Goldcliff Pools, 25th June (J.A.Rowlands *et al.*); possibly same as Anglesey.

Collared/Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola pratincola/nordmanni* (36, 107, 4)

Cumbria Grune Point and Skinburness Marsh, 26th, 29th August (M.Sargent, D.G.H.West).

American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica* (6, 210, 13)

Argyll Sandaig, Tiree, juvenile, 4th-9th October (S.Bearhop, J.Bowler, S.C.Votier *et al.*).

Cambridgeshire Swaffham Prior Fen, age uncertain, 5th-8th October; another, 6th-18th, photo. (O.Kelly, J.Oates *et al.*).

Cornwall The Lizard, juvenile, 18th September to 1st October, video. (A.R.Pay). Men-an-Tol, juvenile/first-winter, 24th-27th October, photo. (A.Crutchley, G.Riley *et al.*). Crowdy Reservoir, juvenile, 1st November (S.M.Christophers).

Lothian Musselburgh, juvenile, 8th October to 2nd November, photo. (C.N.Davison, K.Gillon *et al.*).

Northamptonshire Earl's Barton Gravel-pits, age uncertain, 11th-16th May, video. (M.R.Alibone, R.W.Bullock, G.Pullan *et al.*).

Nottinghamshire Gringley Carr, juvenile, 27th October to about 7th November (J.Hepworth, S.Lindop *et al.*).

Orkney Holm, juvenile, 10th October, video. (K.E.Hague). Grimness, South Ronaldsay, juvenile, 3rd November (T.Dean). Deerness, juvenile, 25th November to 11th December, video. (K.E.Hague *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides West Gerinish, South Uist, juvenile, 20th-23rd October (A.Stevenson *et al.*).

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* (3, 44, 1)

Outer Hebrides North Boisdale, South Uist, adult, 14th October to 4th November (W.A.K.Neill, B.Rabbitts, A.Stevenson *et al.*).

2000 Outer Hebrides Peninerine, South Uist, adult, 31st July, photo. (D.B.Jackson, B.Rabbitts, A.Stevenson *et al.*)

American/Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica/fulva* (9, 277, 14)

2000 Kent Yantlet Creek, adult, 8th May (D.L.Davenport).

As from January 2002, BBRC no longer considers 'either/or' species records for some groups, such as this, except in cases where the identification criteria are uncertain or impossible to establish in field conditions (Brit. Birds 94: 395). For the sake of completeness, we will continue to publish any outstanding records from before this date.

Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius* (5, 35, 1)

Sussex, East Pett Level, first-winter, 1st October (K.R.Burch); present 30th September to at least 4th October, photo; presumed same, Pevensey Levels, 15th-23rd December, photo. (I.T.Barnard, A.D. & I.J.Whitcomb *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 38).

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* (2, 63, 3)

Glamorgan Ogmere Estuary, juvenile, 3rd-4th September (D.C.Bolt, S.J.Moon, P.D.Roberts *et al.*).

Shetland Uyeasound, Unst, adult, 16th June (S.C.Votier).

Sussex, East Rye, adult, 9th-11th July, photo. (S.Smith, P.M.Troake, D.Walker *et al.*); possibly same as 11th-29th August 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 470).

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* (0, 5, 1)

Cambridgeshire Somersham Gravel-pits, adult, 21st-22nd September, photo. (J.Oates *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 317).

Only the sixth for Britain and one of the year's major surprises, given the location.

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis* (24, 317, 7)

Avon Severn Beach, adult, 4th August, photo (J.P.Martin *et al.*)

Lancashire & North Merseyside Leighton Moss, adult, 29th August to 1st September, photo. (Mr & Mrs M.Anderson, R.Hobbs, J.Reddish *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 282).

Norfolk Cley, adult, 5th August (T.C. & G.E.Davies *et al.*). Cantley, adult, 4th-5th September (T.Lowe *et al.*).

Orkney Cata Sound, Sanday, juvenile, 3rd October (I.A.Dillon).

Outer Hebrides Near Balgarva, South Uist, adult, 3rd-16th August (B.Rabbitts, A.Stevenson).

Shetland Pool of Virkie, adult, 31st August to 6th September (P.V.Harvey, R.Riddington *et al.*).

1995 Norfolk Snettisham, adult, 31st July to 2nd August (B.Bland, I.Fisher, R.Q.Skeen *et al.*).

1999 Dorset Ferrybridge, adult, 26th July (M.Cade, C.E.Richards *et al.*).

2000 Cheshire Hoylake and Red Rocks, adult, 2nd September; another, 9th-11th (M.G. & J.E.Turner *et al.*).

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* (5, 155, 8)

Anglesey Alaw Estuary, juvenile, 25th August (K.G.Croft).

Avon Blagdon Lake, juvenile, 12th-23rd September, photo. (N.J.Voaden *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 318; 95: plate 289).

Cornwall Longrock Beach, Marazion, juvenile, 16th September to 7th October, photo. (P.A.Fraser *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 290).

Devon Dawlish Warren, juvenile, 19th September to 7th October, photo. (L.Collins *et al.*).

Northeast Scotland Loch of Strathbeg, juvenile, 15th-26th September (R.Coleman, A.G.Knox *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Loch Paible, North Uist, juvenile, 16th-17th September (B.Rabbitts *et al.*); another, 21st-22nd (R.H.Hogg, B.Rabbitts, A.Stevenson *et al.*).

Shetland Foula, juvenile, 18th-21st September, photo. (M.A.Wilkinson *et al.*).

This represents an influx of juveniles comparable to those in 1998 and 1999. In 2001, however, unlike the previous influxes, only one juvenile Semipalmated *Calidris pusilla* and one juvenile White-rumped Sandpiper *C.fuscicollis* arrived with them, although over 30 juvenile Pectoral Sandpipers *C.melanotos* were found during September and the late autumn saw an influx of at least ten juvenile American Golden Plovers *Pluvialis dominica*

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* (23, 174, 0)

1976 Shetland Whalsay, 3rd November (Brit. Birds 71: 501), now considered inadequately documented.

2000 Clyde Endrick Mouth, 17th May (J.Duncan, J.Graham, A.K.McNeil).

2000 Lincolnshire Read's Island/South Ferriby, 29th-31st May (G.P.Catley, N.Drinkall, C.Nimmick *et al.*).

The first blank year since 1971.

Great Snipe *Gallinago media* (180, 110, 1)

Shetland Fair Isle, 29th May (H.E.Maggs *et al.*).

2000 Shetland Fair Isle, 22nd September, presumed same, 24th (Brit. Birds 94: 472), now presumed different (per D.N.Shaw).

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus* (9, 156, 0)

Kent Oare Marshes, adult, 7th July to 5th September, photo. (per C.G.Bradshaw); presumed same as Elmley, 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 473).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Seaforth, first-winter, since 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 473), to 6th April; also 22nd April only (per S.J.White).

This is the first blank year for Long-billed Dowitcher in the BBRC report since 1972

Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris* (0, 1, 0)

1998 Northumberland Druridge Pools. first-summer. probably female, 4th-7th May. video., photo. (T.R.Cleeves *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plates 164-165, 169-170, 178, 185-187).

The appearance of this diminutive curlew in a flock of Eurasian Curlews *N.arquata* was, for many, the highlight of their birding careers. Considered by BirdLife International to be a globally threatened species and critically endangered, this became the single most important record that BBRC has ever had to assess. Although dogged by controversy since its appearance, in-depth research by the Committee established new identification criteria, leaving no doubt that the identification as Slender-billed Curlew, albeit in poorly known first-summer plumage, was correct. That Slender-billed Curlew bred somewhere in 1997 is of major conservation significance, leading to hopes that the species may still exist somewhere. Details of this truly remarkable record can be found in Brit. Birds 95: 272-278 & 279- 299.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (12, 101, 0)

2000 Yorkshire, North Filey Darns, 30th July (C.C.Thomas) .

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* (35, 184, 6)

Carmarthenshire Laugharne, first-winter, since 12th November 2000 to at least 18th April (Brit. Birds 94: 474).

Cornwall Camel Estuary, adult, 9th-21st September (S.M.Christophers).

Devon Roadford Reservoir, juvenile, 16th-17th September, photo. (J.Tidball *et al.*); same as Cantley/Breydon, Norfolk.

Essex Manningtree, adult, 10th-11th October, photo. (C.S.Balchin, J.D.Rowland *et al.*); also in Suffolk.

Norfolk Welney, adult, 28th September (I.Barton, J.B.Kemp *et al.*). Cantley, juvenile/first-winter, 6th-9th October, photo. (J.R.Lansdell *et al.*); same, Breydon, 17th-21st (P.R.Allard *et al.*); same as Devon.

Pembrokeshire Fishguard, adult/first-winter, 13th December (M.Betts); same, Pembroke, 15th (T.Purcell, G.Thompson).

Suffolk Brantham, adult, 11th October (J.Zantboer *et al.*); same as Essex.

Yorkshire, East Tophill Low, juvenile/first-winter, 2nd-4th November, photo. (I.Forsyth, P.Izzard, F.X.Moffat *et al.*).

2000 Cornwall Hayle, age uncertain, at least 3rd October (L.P.Williams *et al.*).

Photographic evidence confirmed that the sightings in Devon and Norfolk referred to the same individual, which showed a distinctive pattern of moult of the upperparts.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus* (3, 54, 2)

Norfolk Snettisham, adult, 21st July to at least 9th August, probably since 18th July, photo. (J.Scott *et al.*).

Northumberland Long Nanny Burn, High Newton, adult, 24th-25th June, photo. (R.Craig, I.Fisher, S.Sexton *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 291).

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* (6, 114, 2)

Essex Hanningfield Reservoir, first-winter, 30th December, photo. (J.T.Smith *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 292).

Northumberland Stag Rock, near Bamburgh, adult, 24th August (T.Mitcham).

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor* (1, 205, 2)

Cleveland Coatham Marsh, first-winter, 27th-29th September, photo. (J.Birch, R.Caygell *et al.*).

Essex Old Hall Marshes, female, 18th-19th May (B.Churches *et al.*); presumed same, 23rd July to 18th August, photo. (T.J.Mendham *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 284).

Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* (2, 89, 3)

Bedfordshire Stewartby Lake, first-winter, 27th January to 4th February, photo. (K.B.Shepherd *et al.*); also in Wiltshire.

Outer Hebrides Eoligarry, Barra, first-summer/second-winter, 22nd, 29th September, 8th October (R.H.Hogg, A.Stevenson, R.Vernon *et al.*). Ardivachar Point, South Uist, second-winter, 22nd October (A.Dawe, B.Rabbitts).

Wiltshire Swindon, first-winter, 9th-13th January, photo. (M.G.Prior *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 52); also in Bedfordshire.

1999 Avon Bedminster, Bristol, adult, 28th June, 7th July (M.T.Elliott *et al.*).

A wandering first-winter appeared first in Wiltshire and, as so often happens with rare gulls, was relocated elsewhere, this time in Bedfordshire.

Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* (0, 40, 0)

Devon Tor Bay, first-winter, 19th-28th January; same, Broadsands Bay, February to 17th March; same, Hope's Nose and Teign Estuary, 31st March (per M.R.Langman); presumed same as Paignton, 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 477).

2000 Essex Southend, adult or second-winter, 29th December (T.Jones). See also 2000 Greater London below.

2000 Greater London Thamesmead, second-summer, 13th-16th April, photo. (G.Hewett *et al.*); also in Barking, Essex; presumed same as Avon, Dorset, Somerset 2000 (Brit. Birds 94: 476-477).

A bird first claimed as a Franklin's Gull at Boddington Reservoir, Northamptonshire, in March 2001 was later thought to be a hybrid Mediterranean *L.melanocephalus* x Common Gull *L.canus*. Study the photographs of another such individual at Rimac, Lincolnshire, in June 2002 on the Lincolnshire Bird Club website www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk

Bonaparte's Gull *Larus philadelphia* (11, 96, 6)

Cornwall Penzance, adult, 30th April (D.S.Flumm *et al.*).

Devon Exe Estuary and Bowling Green Marsh, first-summer, 19th-23rd May (D.Smallshire *et al.*).

Kent Dungeness, adult, 10th June, photo. (A.Parker, D.Walker, A.S.Wraithmell *et al.*).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Rowley Lake, Burnley, adult, 25th October, photo. (R.Ashworth, P.Grice, A.Holmes *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 293).

Outer Hebrides Ardivachar Point, South Uist, adult, 7th-9th May, photo. (B.Rabbitts, A.Stevenson *et al.*).

Somerset Hinkley Point, adult, 3rd February to 7th March, photo. (T.Maynard *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 65).

1999 Yorkshire, East Bridlington Bay, adult, 27th November (P.Piringer); rejected Brit. Birds 93: 566, now considered acceptable.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

North American race *L. a. smithsonianus* 'American Herring Gull' (0, 6, 0)

1998 Devon Plym Estuary, first-summer, 26th April (M.K.Ahmad).

A number of other records remain under consideration. A set of criteria for assessment of this variable form is close to completion, which will hopefully speed up the process in future.

Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea* (2, 72, 1)

Northeast Scotland Peterhead, adult, 4th March (P.A.A.Baxter, C.N.Gibbins *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: 498 fig. 3).

Ivory Gull *Pagophila eburnea* (76, 39, 3)

Angus & Dundee Montrose Basin, first-winter, 27th December to 4th January 2002 (D.Ackers, G.Christer *et al.*).

Caithness Castlehills, adult, 22nd-26th December, photo. (M.Ellwell, N.Money *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 41).

Shetland Scalloway, first-winter, taken into care exhausted, 12th November, released in good health, Lerwick, 20th, present to 2nd December (L.Dalziel, J.D.Okill, K.Osborn *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 13).

1983 Shetland Muckle Flugga, Unst, first-summer, 6th June (Brit. Birds 77: 535), now considered inadequately documented.

1999 Suffolk Aldeburgh and Southwold, first-winter, 5th-31st December (Brit. Birds 93: 537), correct first date 7th.

Perhaps *the* event of the early winter was the influx of these three Ivory Gulls. Another three were discovered in February 2002.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica* (52, 214, 1)

Norfolk Titchwell, first-winter, 16th-27th November, photo. (R.Kimber *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plates 14, 294).

2000 Kent Yantlet Creek, 5th May (D.L.Davenport, S.J.Gatley).

A very late and popular individual in Norfolk gave many their first opportunity to study a bird in this plumage (transitional moult from juvenile to first-winter).

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia* (30, 230, 5)

Buckinghamshire Linford Gravel-pits, 11th May (A.R.Frost, T. & W.R.Tunncliffe); same, Willen Lake, 11th, photo. (E.J.Reed, C.Ward *et al.*).

Dorset Ferrybridge, 11th May (H.G.Wood Homer). Stanpit Marsh, 23rd July, photo. (P.Donaldson, I. & J.Southworth *et al.*).

Norfolk Strumpshaw Fen and Buckenham, 16th June (M.A.Chipperfield, A. & M.A.Snelling *et al.*); same, Cantley and Breydon, 17th, photo. (per G.E.Dunmore).

Suffolk Burgh Castle, 17th June (L.Woods, J.Zantboer); same as Norfolk.

Sussex, West Worthing, 12th May (P.M.Brayshaw).

The target bird for gravel-pit watchers across the land!

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (20, 96, 3)

Bedfordshire Stewartby Lake, first-winter, 31st October (K.B.Shepherd, P.Wright *et al.*); also in Buckinghamshire.

Buckinghamshire Willen Lake, first-winter, 29th-31st October, photo. (A.V.Harding, W.R.Tunncliffe *et al.*); same as Bedfordshire (Brit. Birds 95: plates 295 & 296).

Kent Stodmarsh, 13th May (J.Farnham, R.H.Lawrence).

Northeast Scotland Meikle Loch, adult, 27th-29th June, 1st-3rd July (P.S.Crockett, K.Gillon *et al.*); same, Loch of Strathbeg, 30th June (M.B.Cowie, I.J.Kelman *et al.*).

Scotland's second Whiskered Tern was well received, since the first one was way back in May 1894!

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* (50, 690, 16)

Avon Blagdon Lake, second-summer, 4th-10th August (N.Milbourne *et al.*).

Cambridgeshire Fen Drayton Gravel-pits, juvenile, 24th September (J.S.Clark).

Carmarthenshire Sandywater Park, Llanelli, juvenile/first-winter, 16th-17th October, photo. (G.Harper *et al.*).

Cleveland Saltholme Pools, 4th-10th June, photo. (T.Francis *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 200).

Cumbria Port Carlisle, second-summer, 11th-22nd July (D.G.H.West *et al.*).

Fife Kilconquar Loch, 14th-16th May, photo. (J.L.S.Cobb, M.Oksien).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Marshside Marsh, 19th-21st June (T.Baker, G.Clarkson *et al.*); first noted Martin Mere, 18th, photo. (A.P.Bunting *et al.* per S.J.White).

Norfolk Kelling Quag, second-summer, 20th-27th July, photo. (D.A.Bridges, A.J.L.Smith *et al.*); same, Cley, 23rd (per G.E.Dunmore). Cley, adult, 3rd-5th August, photo. (J.V.Bhalarao *et al.*). Blakeney Point, juvenile, 24th August (C.Gooddie, G.Hogan, G.Rosenberg).

Orkney Herston, South Ronaldsay, adult, 8th July (R.J.Simpson). Loch of Tankerness, first-summer, 9th July, photo. (K.E.Hague).

Suffolk Sizewell, juvenile, 22nd August (M.L.Cornish, R.Drew *et al.*).

Warwickshire Kingsbury Water Park, juvenile, 26th August (T.Jones, M.Preece, J.Winsper *et al.*).

Yorkshire, East Hornsea Mere, juvenile/first-winter, 1st-28th October, photo. (E.Clubley, A. & N.Hart, R.V.Moat *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 347; 95: plates 297 & 298).

Yorkshire, South Old Moor Wetlands, juvenile/first-winter, 20th October (N.W.Addey, J.W.Thompson, D.M.Waddington *et al.*).

1998 Yorkshire, West Astley Lake, first-winter, 30th October (G.Leach, N.Smith *et al.*); presumed same as Dewsbury, 11th October (Brit. Birds 94: 480).

1999 Staffordshire Belvide Reservoir, adult, 3rd August (S.Nuttall *et al.*).

2000 Cambridgeshire Grafham Water, juvenile, 28th August, photo. (O.R. & M.Marks *et al.*).

2000 Cheshire Frodsham, 21st May (R.Cockbain).

2000 Essex Barking Bay, adult, 14th July (P.Street *et al.*).

2000 Kent Dungeness, 6th May (N.A.Driver *et al.*).

Brünnich's Guillemot *Uria lomvia* (2, 33, 1)

Orkney North Ronaldsay, first-winter, recently dead, 29th January, photo., now at National Museum of Scotland (M.Gray *et al.*).

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* (6, 34, 2)

Cornwall Land's End, first-summer, 25th March, video. (C.C.Barnard *et al.*).

Kent Sandwich Bay, first-summer, 7th March, photo. (O.Slessor *et al.*).

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

2000 Cornwall St Levan, 12th-13th October (Brit. Birds 94: 480), found/identified by A.Clifton, L.Hopkins, G.N.Smith.

Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops* (65, 25, 1)

Shetland Cunningsburgh, 14th May, photo. (J.Nicolson, J.D.Okill, K.Osborn *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 174; 95: plate 299).

The Northern Isles have a good record for this southern species, although most have been seen in Orkney. To add to the list is an additional pre-1958 record of one found dead on 23rd June 1954 at Northdale, Fetlar, Shetland, which now resides in a private collection.

Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca* (many, 154, 2)

Cumbria Kentmere Valley, 14th September (S.Allen, C.H.Fry *et al.*).

Suffolk Felixstowe, first-winter male, 24th October to 6th December, photo. (M.Case, E.W.Patrick *et al.*); same, Waldringfield, 8th-9th December (per D.F.Walsh).

The Suffolk bird was linked to an 'arrival' of several Snowy Owls which landed on a ship off the coast of Canada and then disembarked in the southern North Sea, with several seen in the Low Countries at this time. Given its location and the layer of oily filth on its plumage, it is highly likely that this was part of the same arrival. The one in Cumbria is the first there in the modern era and is a most unusual record.

Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* (0, 12, 1)

Scilly St Mary's, 28th October, video. (R.L.Flood, K.Webb *et al.*); same, St Martin's, 29th (C.Robson per P.A.Stancliffe).

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba* (50, 401, 6)

Cornwall St Ives, 8th April (J.Clarke *et al.*).

Devon Berry Head, 1st October (M.R.Langman *et al.*).

Essex Hooks Marsh, Lea Valley Country Park, 13th October (H.Vaughan).

Norfolk Docking, 11th June (R.Q.Skeen).

Sussex, East Eastbourne, dead, 26th March, photo. (G.Rumsey).

Yorkshire, North Burniston, 27th June (S.Wignill).

1999 Gower Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, 13th May (M.Bailey-Wood).

After last year's poor showing this is not much of an improvement.

Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus* (0, 25, 9)

Essex Cudmore Grove Country Park, 18th October (A.Thompson, D.Urquhart *et al.*).

Kent Dungeness, 31st October (B.Chambers, D.Walker *et al.*).

Norfolk West Runton and Cromer, 20th October (G.J.Etherington *et al.*).

Northumberland Hauxley, 20th October (M.J.Carr, I.Fisher). Tynemouth, 24th-25th October (M.Hepple, C.Kehoe *et al.*); possibly same, Widdrington, 25th (N.Foggo *et al.*).

Pembrokeshire Porthgain, 5th-7th October, video. (B.D.Gibbs *et al.*).

Shetland Fair Isle, 2nd October (J.M.Reid, D.N.Shaw).

Yorkshire, North Filey, 24th October (P.J.Dunn, G.V.Watola *et al.*).

There were just ten records of this species before 1998, but 12 in 1999 and another nine in 2001 takes the total up to 34. It is very difficult to work out how many individuals are involved in situations like those in northeast England, where there were three sightings some distance apart during a short period of time. For a fast-flying species like this, all of these could relate to the same individual but equally, as we have seen before, multiple arrivals can happen, and late autumn is the time for them. This year's influx was linked with a warm, unsettled spell associated with an arrival of southern air. We know when and where to look and there is no doubt that birders are getting better at identifying Pallid Swift, but Common Swifts *A.apus* can occur in late autumn too.

Little Swift *Apus affinis* (0, 16, 1)

Nottinghamshire Netherfield Lagoon, 26th-29th May, photo. (T.Lister, A.Przesnak *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 176; 95: plate 300).

This was a well-watched, very obliging and extremely popular bird. It had the good grace to arise rather late from its overnight roost, eliminating the need for a very early start for those who wanted to see it, not that many admirers took that for granted.

European Roller *Coracias garrulus* (135, 93, 1)

Pembrokeshire Skokholm, first-winter, 26th October, photo. (T.Purcell, G.Thompson).

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica* (7, 342, 16)

Cambridgeshire Ouse Washes, 20th May, photo. (C.Carson, P.Herkenroth *et al.*).

Cheshire Sandbach Flashes, 15th May (A.G.Goodwin *et al.*).

Cornwall Nanjizal, 11th May (K.A.Wilson). Land's End, 12th May (D.Eva *et al.*).

Gloucestershire Slimbridge, 5th April (L.P.Alder, M.J.McGill *et al.*).

Norfolk Eccles-on-Sea, 3rd November, photo. (J.V.Bhalerao *et al.*). Winterton, 4th November (P.Cawley *et al.*).

Scilly St Mary's, 21st-23rd May, photo. (E.A.Fisher, R.L.Flood, R.J.Walker *et al.*).

Worcestershire Westwood Pool, 17th April (W.Dutton *et al.*).

Yorkshire, East Southfield Reservoir, 17th May (S.Mitchell). Spurn, two, 19th May (the late N.A.Bell *et al.*); another, 19th (P.R.Massey, R.Swales *et al.*); another, 23rd (M.G.Stoyle); another, 19th June (the late N.A.Bell *et al.*); 28th October (A.Hutt *et al.*).

2000 Devon Hallsands, 30th April (P.J.Barden).

2000 Orkney Rendall, 12th May (I.A.Dillon, J.B.Ribbands *et al.*).

2000 Yorkshire, East Tophill Low, 9th May (T.M.Richardson).

Spurn enjoyed a pretty remarkable run of records, accounting for over a third of those seen in 2001.

Cliff Swallow *Hirundo pyrrhonota* (0, 8, 1)

Scilly St Agnes, first-winter, 26th October, photo. (M.Hicks, D.Page *et al.*); same, St Martin's, 26th-27th (per P.A.Stancliffe); same, St Mary's, 28th-30th, photo. (R.L.Flood *et al.*).

2000 Hampshire Titchfield Haven, 1st October (B.S.Duffin, D.R.R.Powell *et al.*); possibly same as Portland, Dorset, 29th-30th September (Brit. Birds 94: 483).

Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii* (1, 9, 0)

1999 Norfolk Happisburgh, 25th to at least 28th September (M.Fischer, P.J.Heath, A.J.Kane *et al.*).

The views of this bird were rather poor but fortunately it called frequently (and distinctively) in flight.

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* (1, 222, 18)

Lincolnshire Gibraltar Point, 26th September (K.M.Wilson).

Lothian Thorntonloch, 15th October (C.N.Davison, K.Gillon *et al.*).

Norfolk Holkham Meals, 26th September (C.D.R.Heard *et al.*).

Northumberland Farne Islands, 28th-29th September (S.Davies *et al.*); 14th-15th October, photo. (S.Davies, R.M.Harvey, T.Sykes). Prior's Park, 23rd October (M.P.Carruthers, C.Kehoe).

Orkney North Ronaldsay, 28th September, photo. (D.H.Hatton *et al.*); another, 28th (P.J.Donnely, D.H.Hatton *et al.*); 30th September (P.A.Brown *et al.*); 3rd October (H.Bell, A.E.Duncan *et al.*).

Pembrokeshire Skomer, 24th April (D.P.Boyle).

Scilly St Agnes, 12th-17th October (D.Scattergood, B.J.Small, N.Topliss *et al.*).

Shetland Fair Isle, 6th May (P.R.French, D.N.Shaw *et al.*); 8th October (S.E.Duffield, M.Maher); intermittently, 17th-24th October (H.E.Maggs *et al.*); another, 26th-27th (D.N.Shaw *et al.*). Kergord, 25th-27th September, photo. (P.S.Crockett, K.Gillon, D. & N.Hall *et al.*). Symbister, Whalsay, 8th October (P.V.Harvey, B.Marshall).

2000 Shetland Williamsetter, 10th November (H.R.Harrop).

Eighteen constitutes another big year after 16 last year. The records were well spread, but with a Shetland bias, which is fairly typical.

Pechora Pipit *Anthus gustavi* (13, 53, 1)

Shetland Fair Isle, 4th October, probably same 8th (P.R.French *et al.*).

With a couple of Pallas's Grasshopper Warblers outside Shetland in 2001, appetites will be whetted down the east coast for a parallel performance from this equally difficult Northern Isles speciality. In the meantime, however, there is really only one place to go if you want to optimise your chances of seeing one in Britain.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* (30, 378, 4)

Cornwall Nanjizal, 22nd-23rd May (K.A.Wilson).

Scilly St Mary's, 22nd-28th October, photo. (J.P.Martin *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 348).

Shetland Fair Isle, in song, 16th-18th June (H.E.Maggs *et al.*).

Yorkshire, North Filey, 13th May (P.Cunningham, J. & T.Davies *et al.*).

2000 Dorset Hengistbury Head, 24th August (D.N.Smith, I.Southworth).

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* (2, 129, 5)

Cornwall Land's End, first-summer female, 15th-16th May (K.A.Wilson *et al.*).

Lothian Musselburgh, first-summer male, 22nd-24th June, photo. (D.J.Britton, S.Hunter *et al.*).

Shetland Quendale, juvenile, 2nd to at least 17th September (A.Fitchett, P.V.Harvey, R.Riddington *et al.*).
Bakkasetter, Spiggie, juvenile/first-winter, 9th-20th September (A.Fitchett, P.V.Harvey, M.Mellor *et al.*); juvenile/first-winter, 12th-21st, photo. (P.M.Ellis, P.Sclater, K.D.Shaw *et al.*).

2000 Orkney North Ronaldsay, first-winter, 21st-24th September (A.E.Duncan, P.R.French, R.McGregor); additional to 22nd-28th (Brit. Birds 94: 485).

Those in south Mainland Shetland caused a few problems when trying to work out just how many individuals there were, but a combination of careful recording and some photographic evidence helped us to clarify that there were three birds present simultaneously, a previously unparalleled performance.

Grey Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis* (0, 0, 1)

Anglesey South Stack, 4th-5th October (K.G.Croft *et al.*).

Not the most obliging bird but a 'first' for Britain, although there was one in Ireland in early November 1986 and one in Jersey from October to December 1975.

Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia* (2, 136, 2)

Lincolnshire Gibraltar Point, in song, 15th May, sound-recorded (K.M.Wilson *et al.*).

Yorkshire, East Spurn, first-summer, 12th-13th May, photo. (the late N.A.Bell, D.R.Middleton, B.R.Spence *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 178).

1996 Caithness Wick, 22nd May (P.Miller, J. & R.Smith).

Siberian Rubythroat *Luscinia calliope* (0, 2, 1)

Shetland Hulma Lees, Bixter, male, probably first-winter, freshly dead on road, 25th October, photo., specimen retained by D.Coutts (D.Coutts, J.A.Johnson *et al.*).

How galling would that be: finding a pristine male Siberian Rubythroat - dead! Dead or alive, they still look superb. There was some controversy over this bird's age but the presence of some pale wing-covert tips strongly suggested a bird of the year.

Siberian Blue Robin *Luscinia cyane* (0, 1, 1)

Orkney North Ronaldsay, first-winter male, 2nd October, photo. (P.A.Brown *et al.*).

2000 Suffolk Minsmere, female or first-winter, 23rd October (M.L.Cornish, K.Foster, P.L.Varney *et al.*).

After such a long wait, the first two appear in consecutive years. The Suffolk bird was accepted by BBRC before the one in Orkney appeared.

Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus* (3, 22, 1)

Cleveland Skinningrove, female or first-winter, 25th September (N.Jackson, D.A.Money *et al.*)

The finders came across a Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* almost simultaneously. It does not get much better for mainland rarity hunters.

Common Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

Eastern race *S. t. maura* (1, 281, 13)

Cleveland Boulby Cliffs, female or first-winter, 26th September (I.Bousted, D.J.Britton, D.Hursthouse).

Cornwall Bass Point, Lizard, first-winter male, 13th October, possibly since 12th, video. (E.Cook, P.A.Fraser).

Devon Start Point, female or first-winter, 26th September (M.R.Langman, B.Macdonald) (Brit. Birds 95: 506 fig.4).

Northumberland Holy Island, female or first-winter, 20th-21st September, video/photo. (A.D.McLevy, N.F.Osborne); first-winter female, 21st (M.Richardson *et al.*); one or other to 22nd. Snab Point, Cresswell, first-winter male, 21st to at least 22nd September, photo. (I.Fisher, S.Sexton *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 320). St Mary's, Whitley Bay, female or first-winter, 25th September to 12th October, photo. (C.G.Knox *et al.*); another, 4th-12th October, possibly since 25th September (A.Curry, I.Fisher, K.W.Regan *et al.*).

Shetland Sumburgh, female or first-winter, 21st-22nd September (P.M.Ellis, D.Houghton *et al.*); first-winter male, 6th-9th October (P.M.Ellis, R.Riddington, K.D.Shaw *et al.*).

Sussex, East Sheepecote Valley, first-winter male, 16th-17th October (A.D. & I.J.Whitcomb).

Yorkshire, North Scalby Lodge, Scarborough, male, 22nd-23rd September (M.Francis, J.Hewitt *et al.*). Castle Hill, Scarborough, female or first-winter, 25th September (N.W.Addey, E. & S.Wignill).

A good year, with a flurry of peachy rumps on the coasts of northeast England in late September.

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* (1, 16, 2)

Shetland Funzie, Fetlar, age/sex uncertain, 14th-15th September, photo. (D.Houghton, J.Moore *et al.*).

Suffolk Landguard, female or first-winter, trapped 21st September, photo. (W.J.Brame, N.Odin *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 321).

Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka* (3, 40, 1)

Scilly St Mary's, first-winter male, 14th-18th October, photo. (J.Bartlett, K.Colcombe, C.Wells *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 349; 95: plate 301).

Given the date and the location, this was a popular and well-watched bird, although it caused a great deal of debate about the potential confusion with 'Eastern' Black-eared Wheatear *O.hispanica melanoleuca*.

Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica* (15, 43, 0)

2000 Dorset Upton Heath, first-summer, *O.h.melanoleuca*, 25th-26th June, photo. (C.Button, J.Lidster *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: 487); sex was male not female.

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* (11, 65, 0)

1998 Kent Folkestone Warren, male, 28th March (D.A. & J.A.Gibson, I.A.Roberts); possibly same as Reculver, 29th (Brit. Birds 93: 550).

Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus* (1, 39, 1)

Orkney Stromness, first-winter, 14th-16th October, trapped 16th, photo. (K.Fairclough, K.Smith *et al.*).

This species has a wide spread of records for an American vagrant, with several previous records in the Northern Isles. A good garden find which survived longer than many of its predecessors, a large proportion of which have provided a lean but tasty snack for local cats.

Eyebrowed Thrush *Turdus obscurus* (0, 17, 1)

Outer Hebrides Hirta, St Kilda, first-winter, 1st-2nd October, photo. (A.Robinson *et al.*).

Dark-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis* (3, 23, 1)

Shetland Fair Isle, *T.r.atrogularis*, age/sex uncertain, 14th-17th April (D.N.Shaw *et al.*).

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella certhiola* (3, 21, 3)

Norfolk Blakeney Point, first-winter, 22nd-24th September, photo. (S.C.Joyner, A.M.Stoddart *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plates 322-323; 95: plate 302).

Northumberland Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, first-winter, 29th September (S.J.McElwee, J.G.Steele *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: 509 fig.5).

Shetland Fair Isle, first-winter, trapped 19th October, photo. (D.N.Shaw *et al.*).

Three in a year has only been exceeded once, in 1998, when there were four, all of them on Fair Isle. Two records of this enigmatic skulker in mainland England is completely unprecedented, only the third and fourth English records, and the first to be genuinely twitchable. Both provoked a rapid response, and though for many it was a frustrating experience, the Norfolk individual at least allowed the visitors a decent look and some cracking photographs.

Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata* (9, 80, 3)

Shetland Fair Isle, 23rd September (P.R.French, P.V.Harvey, P.Walsh *et al.*); another, 24th-25th, video. (D.N.Shaw, P.Walsh *et al.*). Sumburgh, 14th October (R.Riddington).

With this species, the almost total domination of Shetland continues. This is a very difficult species to confirm, one which requires careful attention to detail, and very good views are usually required. Lots of experience of finding them also helps.

Savi's Warbler *Locustella luscinioides* (many, 601, 8)

Avon Chew Valley Lake, in song, 9th-10th May (K.E.Vinicombe *et al.*).

Gloucestershire Frampton on Severn, in song, 20th May to 4th June, sound-recorded (M.J.King *et al.*).

Kent South Swale Nature Reserve, in song, 23rd May (A.W.Swandale). Grove Ferry, in song, 26th May (B.E.Wright *et al.*); present 23rd-26th.

Norfolk Holme/Thornham, in song, 15th-31st May, photo. (G.F.Hibberd *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 179). Strumpshaw Fen, in song, 11th-22nd June (M.Chipperfield, P.J.Heath, T.Strudwick *et al.*). Hickling, in song, 14th-24th June (P.J.Heath, A.J.Kane *et al.*).

Yorkshire, South Old Moor Wetlands, in song, 23rd-29th April, trapped 29th, photo. (N.W.Addey, J.Hewitt, D.M.Waddington *et al.*).

2000 Sussex, East Locality withheld, in song, 29th April (observer's name withheld).

Since its readmission in 1999 to the list of species considered by the Committee there have been 20 records in three years, and all have been of birds in potential breeding habitat. A non-singing coastal migrant is a major rarity, much rarer than Lanceolated *L.lanceolata* or even Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler *L.certhiola*.

Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* (2, 43, 1)

Cornwall Cot Valley, first-winter, 15th November (M.K.Ahmad, M.T.Elliott *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: 510 fig.6).

1997 Scilly St Mary's, 9th to at least 10th June (Brit. Birds 91: 505), now considered inadequately documented.

2000 Hampshire Titchfield Haven, first-winter, trapped 1st October, photo. (D.A.Bell, T.D.Codlin, B.S.Duffin *et al.*).

A well-watched bird on Scilly in October (Brit. Birds 94: plate 350) has not yet been submitted.

Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* (9, 34, 5)

Dorset Portland Bill, first-winter, trapped 12th November, photo. (M.Cade, P.J.Morgan *et al.*).

Fife Fife Ness, trapped 28th September, photo. (J.L.S.Cobb *et al.*).

Orkney North Ronaldsay, first-winter, 25th-26th September, trapped 25th, photo. (D.H.Hatton, S.J.Holloway, S.A.Stirrup, T.Wilson *et al.*).

Shetland Foula, first-winter, 22nd September to 1st October, trapped 22nd, photo. (J.M. & T.P.Drew, A.R.Mainwood, M.A.Wilkinson). Hoswick, first-winter, trapped 27th September, possibly present since 24th (P.M.Ellis, R.Riddington *et al.*).

1975 Yorkshire, North Filey Brigg, 30th August (Brit. Birds 69: 348), now considered inadequately documented.

1996 Orkney North Ronaldsay, first-winter, 22nd-27th September (Brit. Birds 90: 499), was trapped 22nd.

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (23, 185, 1)

Cleveland Coatham Marsh, in song, 15th-16th May (M.A.Blick, T.Francis *et al.*).

2000 Shetland Virkie, date uncertain, late May, video. (J.Kay per P.V.Harvey, I.S.Robertson).

Details of one in Lincolnshire in late May are still to be received.

Thick-billed Warbler *Acrocephalus aedon* (1, 1, 1)

Shetland Out Skerries, first-winter, trapped 14th September, photo. (P.M.Ellis, P.V.Harvey, R.Riddington, K.D.Shaw *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plates 285-286; 95: plate 303).

Long awaited since the last, way back in 1971. This bird was dug out on a quiet day on the Out Skerries, but did not stick around long enough to be seen by more than a few lucky locals. A full account of the record can be found in Birding World 14: 372-373.

Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata* (1, 86, 2)

Scilly St Agnes, 26th-29th August (D.Bradshaw, D.Gandy, D.Page *et al.*). Treco, 19th October, video. (R.M. & R.P.Fray, A.J.Mackay).

The August record on Scilly was the earliest ever away from the east coast. BBRC has undertaken a detailed review of some earlier records that may have shown characteristics of 'Sykes's Warbler' *H.(caligata)rama*. Safe identification of this form generally requires careful measurement and in-the-hand assessment. Further details will be published in due course.

Marmora's Warbler *Sylvia sarda* (0, 3, 2)

Norfolk Scolt Head, in song, 12th, 18th May (N.M.Lawton *et al.*).

Suffolk Sizewell, male, 29th May, video., photo. (J.Davies, A.Miller, C.Powell *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: 513 fig. 7) .

Two in one year is unprecedented. It is, of course, possible that these two records may relate to the same individual, but given the distance and direction of movement, as well as the skulking nature of the species, it seems more likely that two birds were involved. If that is the case, then others may have been missed. It is likely that all the British records are of the nominate form sarda, but the Committee is about to examine the files to confirm this.

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* (12, 443, 17)

Cornwall Nanjizal, male, 14th-16th April (K.A.Wilson).

Devon Wembury, male, 8th April (C. & R.Rhodes).

Dorset Portland Bill, first-summer female, trapped 12th April, photo. (M.Cade, P.J.Morgan *et al.*). Southwell, Portland, male, 17th April, photo. (P. & D.Saunders per M.Cade).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Lytham St Anne's, male, 13th June (M.Jones *et al.*).

Norfolk Blakeney Point, male, 24th-25th May (M.L.Cornish, J.Reid, D.Wood). Wells Wood, first-winter male, 27th October to 1st November, photo. (A.I.Bloomfield, P.A. & S.J.A.Gluth *et al.*).

Orkney Birsay, male, 18th-22nd May (L. & H.Leek *et al.*).

Pembrokeshire Skokholm, female or first-summer male, 2nd-9th April (G.Thompson *et al.*); female or first-winter, 3rd November (T.Purcell, G.Thompson).

Scilly St Mary's, first-winter, 19th to about 28th October, photo. (D.H.Hatton, S.J.Holloway, A.D.Mills *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 351; 95: plate 304). Tresco, female or first-winter, 2nd-3rd November, video. (R.L.Flood *et al.*).

Shetland Fair Isle, female, 22nd-30th May, photo. (P.R.French, D.N.Shaw *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 202). Aith, Fetlar, male, 23rd May (D.Houghton, M.Smith *et al.*).

Yorkshire, East Spurn, male, 26th-29th April, photo. (M.G.Stoyle *et al.*); male, 3rd May (the late N.A.Bell *et al.*); female, trapped 23rd May (A.J.Gramauskas, P.R.Massey *et al.*).

1997 Devon Lundy, male, trapped 2nd May, photo. (D.Clifton, C.McShane *et al.*).

2000 Suffolk Sizewell, female, freshly dead, 9th November (M.L.Cornish, S.Massey).

2000 Yorkshire, East Spurn, male, 4th September (J.Grist, A.Roadhouse).

A good proportion of spring males can be assigned to a particular race with some, but not complete, confidence.

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* (1, 55, 3)

Kent St Margaret's, male, 10th-15th April (I.P.Hodgson, D.Wrathall *et al.*).

Norfolk Bacton, female, 20th May (M.Fischer).

Somerset Brean Down, male, 14th-22nd October (P.Bowyer, P.Chapman, H.Taffs *et al.*).

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* (13, 333, 3)

Dorset Weston, Portland, in song, 1st-2nd July (G.Walbridge *et al.*).

Shetland Out Skerries, 31st August (P.V.Harvey, R.Riddington, P.Sclater). Northdale, Unst, first-winter, trapped 22nd September, photo. (M.G.Pennington).

2000 Angus & Dundee Ethie Mains, 27th-28th August (K.Edwards, R.Shand, G.M.Smith *et al.*).

2000 Shetland Isle of Noss, 1st September (M.Maher, A.Upton).

A very poor showing, the worst since 1985.

Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* (19, 223, 2)

Cornwall Nanquidno, 20th-26th October, photo. (J.D.Swann, M.D.Warren, K.A.Wilson *et al.*).

Shetland Sandwick, adult, 15th-16th September (P.M.Ellis, K.Osborn).

2000 Yorkshire, East Spurn, 31st August to 2nd September (D.P.Boyle *et al.*).

Hume's Warbler *Phylloscopus humei* (0, 44, 3)

Cornwall Porthgwarra, 23rd December (M.D.Wallace, K.A.Wilson).

Dorset Portland Bill, 15th-17th November, trapped 15th, photo. (M.Cade, P.J.Morgan *et al.*).

Northumberland East Chevington, 20th-22nd October, photo. (D.Elliott *et al.*).

2000 Northumberland Tynemouth, 7th-9th November (C.Kehoe *et al.*).

The Northumberland record takes the total for 2000 to ten. The appearance of Hume's Warbler in the field, particularly the brightness of the plumage and strength of wing-bars, is quite variable, so a careful evaluation of any calls is still very important.

Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi* (1, 221, 13)

Cleveland South Gare, 27th-28th September (J.Regan *et al.*).

Dorset Portland Bill, trapped 24th September, photo. (M.Cade, P.J.Morgan, B.C.Sheldon *et al.*).

Fife Isle of May, 28th September (K.M.Morton *et al.*).

Norfolk Blakeney Point, 25th September (R.F.Porter *et al.*). Happisburgh, 26th September (C. & J.R.Appleton *et al.*).

Northumberland Low Hauxley, 26th September (M.J.Carr). Hauxley, 7th October (I.Fisher, A.S.Hart).

Shetland Fair Isle, 23rd September (T.R.Cleeves, P.R.French, P.R.Gordon *et al.*). Sandwick, 24th September (P.M.Ellis *et al.*). Foula, 25th-26th September (J.M. & T.P.Drew, M.A.Wilkinson *et al.*). Grutness, 14th October (P.M.Ellis *et al.*). Kergord, 14th October (P.V.Harvey).

Yorkshire, East Spurn, trapped, 26th September (P.Day, J.Dixon *et al.*).

2000 Durham South Shields, 14th October (R.Ahmed *et al.*).

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* (1, 218, 24)

Cleveland Cattersby Gill, Skinninggrove, 25th-26th September (N.Jackson, D.A.Money *et al.*).

Cornwall St Levan, 20th-28th October (G.Q.A.Anderson, R.B.Bradbury, S.A.J.Thompson). Sennen, 16th November to end December (M.D.Warren *et al.*).

Dorset Southwell, Portland, 13th-14th October (P.A.Coe, G.Walbridge *et al.*).

Fife Fife Ness, trapped 23rd October, photo. (H.Bell, J.L.S.Cobb, M.Oksien *et al.*).

Kent Reculver, 25th-26th September (F.Smith *et al.*). Dungeness, first-winter, 29th September to 3rd October, trapped 29th, photo. (P.Burness, D.Walker *et al.*). Foreness, 23rd October (R.Boulden).

Lincolnshire Donna Nook, 25th-26th September, photo. (F.J.Maroevic, R.Watts *et al.*).

Norfolk Kelling, 22nd September (M.I.Eldridge). Sea Palling, 22nd September (P.J.Heath). Waxham, at least 26th September (G.J.Etherington, D.Farrow, K.Langdon *et al.*). Winterton, 15th-16th October (P.Cawley *et al.*).

Northeast Scotland Foveran, trapped 20th October, photo. (C.N.Gibbins, R.Rae *et al.*).

Northumberland Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, 22nd-23rd October (S.Sexton, A.Tilmouth *et al.*).

Scilly Bryher, 13th-14th October (D. & J.Bridges *et al.*). Treco, 3rd November (E.A.Fisher, R.L.Flood, E.Webb).

Shetland Fair Isle, 24th September to 4th October, trapped 24th, photo. (P.A.A.Baxter *et al.*). Houll, Fetlar, 19th October (B.Thomason). Uyeasound, Unst, 21st October (P.V.Harvey *et al.*).

Suffolk Southwold, 14th-15th October (R.Walden *et al.*). Landguard, 23rd-29th October, photo. (N.Odin *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 352).

Yorkshire, East Aldbrough, 10th-11th October (J.M.Bayldon, A.F.Johnson, D.R.Middleton *et al.*).

Yorkshire, North Ness Point, Whitby, 14th October (B. & J.A.Beaumont, R.S.Slack).

An exceptional year, the best ever, which means that the total number of records of this species remain neck and neck with Radde's Warbler *P.schwarzi*. Although many birders are now familiar with both species we still have problems with descriptions from time to time, and observers are respectfully asked to pay attention to detail, particularly when it comes to describing bare-part structure, subtle colour tones and call.

Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus brehmii* (0, 6, 0)

2000 Oxfordshire Great Tew, in song, 27th April to at least 15th May, video., sound-recorded (M.Adkins, I.Dobson, U.Fenton *et al.*).

To date, all British records are of singing birds, and we await the results of further research into the species' biometrics to establish whether there is any other way of identifying Iberian Chiffchaff safely when it is not in song. In the meantime, a recording is a pre-requisite for acceptance.

Short-toed Treecreeper *Certhia brachydactyla* (0, 20, 1)

Kent Dungeness, 27th-30th March, photo. (S.Dixon, D.Walker *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 112).

1970 Dorset Pennsylvania Castle, Portland, 23rd November to 21st March 1971 (the late F.R.Clafton, Gunnar Lid, G.Rabol *et al.*); previously rejected (Brit. Birds 70: 452).

The long-staying Dorset bird has now been re-evaluated, 30 years on, and found to be acceptable.

Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus* (0, 150, 2)

Norfolk Weybourne, male, 1st April, photo. (M. & M.Preston *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 147).

Sussex, East Icklesham, first-winter, trapped 27th October, photo. (S.Findley, I.Hunter, T.Squire *et al.*).

2000 Dorset Hengistbury Head, age/sex uncertain, 4th November (S.Simmonds).

2000 Suffolk Minsmere, juvenile, 1st November (G.R.Welch).

The bird in Norfolk carried a red colour ring, but the source has not yet been identified.

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* (0, 2, 1)

Scilly Bryher, first-winter, 24th-28th September, photo. (per Surfbirds) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 345).

Just like buses, Siberian Blue Robins and Black-faced Buntings, you can wait for years and then they all come at once. After the one on Fair Isle in 2000 (not to mention one in Ireland, in Co. Kerry during 1999) comes another, this time on Scilly. This bird was identified retrospectively after it appeared on Surfbirds (www.surfbirds.com) labelled as a Red-backed Shrike *L.collurio*. These two are not always the easiest species to separate, particularly first-winters in autumn, and the identification history of this individual would suggest that a fair number may have been overlooked in previous years. The images clearly showed a number of key features though, including the very short outer tail feathers and short primary projection. The bird was relatively pale underneath but with some rather warm colour tones on the upperparts, and particularly the crown, suggesting the nominate race *L.c.cristatus*. As is often the case with racial identification of individual vagrants, however, this is more of an educated guess than a confident statement about its geographical origins.

Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* (1, 56, 3)

Devon Lundy, male, age uncertain, 28th August (P.Davies).

Gloucestershire Cotswold Water Park, first-winter, 28th October, photo. (G.R.Avery, A.D.Hawkins *et al.*).

Kent Dungeness, first-winter male, 29th September to 5th October, photo. (S.Message, D.Walker *et al.*).

BBRC has now completed a review of the racial identity of all records of adults of this species. Birds of this age can often be assigned to race with a high degree of confidence, with records of both *L.i.isabellinus* (formerly *L.i.speculigeris* and sometimes called 'Daurian Shrike') and *L.i.phoenicuroides* (sometimes called 'Turkestan Shrike') determined in the review. The first record of each will now be considered by BOURC for admission to the British List. The majority of British records relate to first-winter birds, however, and it is more difficult to be confident about the taxon involved at this age, though some classic individuals are probably still identifiable. The findings of the review will be published in the near future.

Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* (32, 126, 0)

2000 Shetland Catfirth, first-winter, 12th September (A.Graham).

One in Northeast Scotland remains under review, but this is potentially the first blank year for this species since 1963.

Rosy Starling *Sturnus roseus* (160, 397, 57)

Anglesey Cemlyn Bay, 9th June (J.Buckles *et al.*).

Angus & Dundee Easthaven, 7th-10th June (D.A.Carmichael, P.Gaff, R.McCurley *et al.*). Forfar, 17th July (N.Scott *et al.*).

Ceredigion Llanrhystud, juvenile, 6th October (H.A.Williams *et al.*).

Clyde Islands Kildonan, Arran, adult, 10th September (F. & R.Davies).

Cornwall Kynance Cove, 9th June, photo. (R.Kemp, R.C.Loader). Wadebridge, 10th-14th June, photo. (S.M.Christophers, Mr & Mrs J.Crago *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 203). Helston, adult, 20th-26th August (E.C. & V.James). Launceston, juvenile, 28th October, photo. (B.Craven, D. & S.Wilson). Sennen and Land's End, juvenile, 29th October (M.D.Warren).

Derbyshire Hilton, 19th July, video. (M.Rudge).

Devon Paignton, first-summer, 11th-17th June, photo. (M. & B.P.Vagg). Leemor, 14th June (R.Lillicrap).

Dorset Bridport and Cogden Beach, 15th-18th June (R.Hawkins, B.Hunt, B.Spencer *et al.*). Portland, various localities, juvenile, at least 7th September (G.R.Avery *et al.*).

Hampshire Keyhaven, adult, 3rd September (R.B.Wynn *et al.*); present since 26th August.

Herefordshire Puton, juvenile, 8th-9th November (R. & J.Mellish).

Lancashire & North Merseyside Lytham St Anne's, 6th July (G. & P.Ashworth).

Lincolnshire Chapel St Leonards, juvenile, 30th September, photo. (S.P.Botham, B.Sellars *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 305).

Norfolk Frettenham, 11th June, photo. (G.Coxall). Waxham, adult, 25th August; juvenile, at least 1st September (R.C. & S.C.McIntyre). Ormesby St Margaret, adult, 27th August (D.S. & L.J.Mullard).

Northeast Scotland Girdleness, 18th June (P.A.A.Baxter *et al.*). St Cyrus, 22nd June (L.Reid, H.I.Scott *et al.*). Pitmedden, first-summer, 13th August (W.Johnston, R.A.Schofield *et al.*); present 10th-15th. Peterculter, juvenile, 23rd November (W.J.Mitchell, G.Rebecca, R.A.Schofield *et al.*); present 15th to at least 25th.

Orkney Quanterness, Mainland, 29th June (L.Inkster).

Outer Hebrides Stinky Bay and Liniclate, Benbecula, adult, 27th July to 4th August, photo. (C. & H.Pelchen *et al.*). Eoligarry, Barra, first-summer, 3rd August (G.Evans *et al.*). New Tolsta, Lewis, first-summer, 10th-15th August, photo. (Mr & Mrs R.Smith, R.D.Weymss). North Loch Eynort, South Uist, adult, 22nd-23rd September (R.H.Hogg, A.Stevenson, R.Vernon).

Pembrokeshire Strumble Head, 17th June (M.Deans, L.Gregory, D.K.Underwood).

Scilly St Mary's, three, 5th June, one to 6th, video. (R.L.Flood *et al.*); juvenile, 28th-31st August, photo. (R.L.Flood *et al.*). Bryher, 6th-10th July, photo. (R.L.Flood *et al.*); juvenile, 6th October, photo (R.L.Flood); present 23rd September to 26th October. St Agnes, juvenile, 16th-21st September (F.H.D.Hicks *et al.*).

Shetland Fair Isle, 16th June (L.Grieve, H.E.Maggs *et al.*); adult, 25th August to 12th September (D.N.Shaw *et al.*). Haroldswick, Unst, 4th-5th July, photo. (M.G.Pennington, C.Vickery *et al.*). Baltasound, Unst, adult, 13th-26th July, trapped 22nd (M.G.Pennington *et al.*). Scalloway, adult, 4th-5th August when killed by cat, photo. (R.A.C.Johnson). Bigton, adult, 12th-15th August, photo. (L.Johnson). Tingwall, adult, 25th August (D.Coutts, I.Sandison). Toab, juvenile, 28th September (P.S.Crockett, K.Gillon, J.R.W.Gordon).

Staffordshire Fradley, Lichfield, 9th-12th June, photo. (B.J. & L.J.Watson *et al.*).

Suffolk Landguard, 12th June (J.Zantboer); juvenile, 16th-17th October (P.Collins, N.Odin *et al.*). Carlton Colville, first-summer, 30th-31st July, photo. (C.Butter, T.Tarbox *et al.*).

Surrey New Malden, juvenile, 6th October (D.Millington).

Sussex, East Beachy Head, juvenile, 3rd-6th October (J.F. & D.R.Cooper *et al.*).

Sussex, West East Preston, 1st-2nd June (J.Floodgate, Y.B.Smith).

Yorkshire, North Near Murton, 22nd June (B.G.Pepper). Haxby, 30th June (N. & E.N.Moran).

1994 Dorset The Grove, Portland, 8th June (M.Small, D.Walbridge).

1999 Dumfries & Galloway Twynholm, juvenile/first-winter, 22nd November to 2000 (Brit. Birds 93: 561), to 21st January (per P.N.Collin).

1999 Suffolk Hollesley, adult, 20th June (Brit. Birds 94: 497), observer was R.Johnson.

2000 Devon Lundy, adult, 9th to at least 14th June, photo.; another, 3rd-12th August (L.Cole, D.Kightley, A.J.Parsons *et al.*).

2000 Dumfries & Galloway See 1999 Dumfries & Galloway above.

2000 Essex Colchester, juvenile, 17th-20th October (C.Poole) .

2000 Moray & Nairn See 2000 Northeast Scotland below.

2000 Northeast Scotland Buckie, adult, 18th June (Brit. Birds 94: 496), actual locality was in Moray & Nairn.

2000 Orkney Rendall, 10th June (I.A.Dillon); present 9th-11th.

2000 Pembrokeshire St David's, 20th-21st June (Mr Jones, L.Lomax, O.Roberts *et al.*).

A huge year again, but BBRC members will breathe a mighty sigh of relief that the species was dropped from the rarity list at the end of 2001, just before the third significant summer invasion in a row, in June 2002. Records of this species are usually straightforward to evaluate, and the fuzzy bird-table photographs accompanied by economic but accurate and honest descriptions from inexperienced observers are a feature of the species. Surprisingly, however, there can be pitfalls, even with adults, and an article covering the assessment of records of this species will appear in due course.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* (1, 93, 2)

Cornwall Porthgwarra, 7th-18th October, photo. (I.M.McKercher *et al.*); another, 13th only (M.D.Wallace).

Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni* (30, 757, 9)

Cambridgeshire Woodwalton Fen, 23rd-27th December (R.M.Patient *et al.*).

Norfolk Swanton Novers, 8th January (M.P.Taylor). Titchwell, male, 15th December to 2002, photo. (M.A.Golley, A.M.Stoddart *et al.*); two females or first-winters, 17th December to 2002 (A.M.Stoddart *et al.*).

Shetland Fair Isle, first-summer *C.h.exilipes*, 13th-17th May, trapped 15th, photo. (A.J.Bull, P.R.French, D.N.Shaw *et al.*). Near Aith, Fetlar, 11th June (D.Houghton, R.Levett *et al.*). West Yell, Yell, 29th September to 1st October (P.V.Harvey, M.Heubeck). Scatness, male, 18th October (P.M.Ellis).

1995 Yorkshire, West Fairburn Ings, first-winter male, 20th December (G.Taylor); presumed same, 27th-31st (J.Glending, G.Taylor).

1996 Yorkshire, West Fairburn Ings, 3rd February to 31st March (J.Glending *et al.*).

2000 Outer Hebrides Stilligary, North Uist, 13th December (Brit. Birds 94: 498), locality is on South Uist. Shetland continues to dominate. Meanwhile, records from the invasion of 1995/96 still continue to trickle in.

Two-barred Crossbill *Loxia leucoptera* (40, 84, 3)

Northumberland Farne Islands, male, 10th July, photo. (T.Sykes *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 306).

Shetland Fair Isle, female, 5th-9th July, photo. (H.E.Maggs *et al.*). Peerie Voe, Spiggie, first-summer male, 22nd July (P.V.Harvey, L. & P.Hollinrake, R.Riddington *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: 519 fig. 8).

Three in July constitutes a mini-influx. These midsummer arrivals tend to appear in treeless places, allowing the good views required in order to secure the identification. They must brighten up a dull July day no end.

Ovenbird *Seiurus aurocapillus* (0, 2, 1)

Herefordshire Near Much Marcle, 20th December to 16th February 2002, photo. (observers' names withheld).

One of the finds of 2001. While clearly intrigued by the bird feeding under the rose bushes beside the resident Robins *Erithacus rubecula* and Hedge Accentors *Prunella modularis* in their garden, the finders quite understandably wanted to keep their private garden private.

White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis* (1, 19, 1)

At sea Sea area Dogger, oil installation *Maerske Curlew*, 56°44'N 01°17'E, 6th June, photo. (L.Simpson).

Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala* (0, 2, 2)

Devon Lundy, 12th October, photo. (S.L.Cooper, R.M.Patient *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 307).

Shetland Fair Isle, 20th-24th October, photo. (P.R.French *et al.*).

One in winter/spring 1994, one in October 1999, a spring bird in 2000 and now two in October 2001: Black-faced Buntings are suddenly becoming common! There is no problem with the identification of the male on Spurn in May 2000 but, given the bird's condition, doubts have been expressed about its origins. As such, the record is effectively still pending and is not included in the statistics.

Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica* (34, 396, 10)

Norfolk Winterton, 24th September (J.R.Appleton *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Grimsay, male, 10th June (K.Macleod, M.Price).

Shetland Baltasound, Unst, male, 12th May; presumed same, Haroldswick, 15th (S.E.Duffield). Fair Isle, male, 15th May (H.E.Maggs *et al.*); 28th September to 7th October, photo. (P.A.A.Baxter, B.Orr, H.I.Scott *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 324); 30th September to at least 1st October (C.Scott, H.I.Scott *et al.*). Out Skerries, 22nd-23rd September, photo. (P.Forrest, M.J.McKee) (Brit. Birds 95: plate 308). Foula, 27th September (J.M. & T.P.Drew, M.A.Wilkinson). Fetlar, 30th September to 1st October (P.V.Harvey, B.Thomason).

Yorkshire, North Filey, male, 26th to at least 31st March, photo. (H.J.Whitehead *et al.*).

1999 Orkney North Ronaldsay, 1st October (Brit. Birds 93: 563), now considered inadequately documented.

2000 Durham Marsden, 21st October (R.Ahmed *et al.*).

2000 Shetland Hoswick, 23rd-25th September (P.S.Crockett, R.A.Mavor *et al.*).

Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* (10, 199, 3)

Scilly St Agnes, female or first-winter, 5th-9th October, photo. (A.Disley, D.Page *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 353; 95: plate 309).

Shetland Fair Isle, female or first-winter, 29th-30th August, photo. (H.E.Maggs *et al.*). Skaw, Unst, female or first-winter, 29th August to 2nd September (J.N.Dymond *et al.*).

2000 Shetland Isle of Noss, female or first-winter, 27th August (M.Maher, A.Upton).

2000 Yorkshire, East Spurn, female or first winter, 3rd September, photo. (J.T.Harriman).

The individual on Spurn in 2000 was a very unusual bird, with heavy and coarse markings that generated considerable debate. Although the overall appearance of the bird did not comply with our usual image of the species in autumn at any age, the individual details of the plumage were all consistent with Yellow-breasted Bunting. After considerable discussion and consultation, the conclusion was that it could only relate to this species. The potential for individual variation in a species is often underestimated. No matter how good the illustrations are in the book, there are always some individuals that do not quite match.

Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala* (9, 151, 4)

Anglesey South Stack, male, 18th-20th May, video., photo. (K.G.Croft, S.Culley *et al.*).

Pembrokeshire Freshwater West, near Castle Martin, male, 16th May (N. & L.Baker).

Shetland Fair Isle, male, 16th June (C.C.Rodger *et al.*); female, 11th-26th September, trapped 11th, 15th, photo. (R.Nowicki, D.N.Shaw *et al.*).

1994 Pembrokeshire Skomer, male, age uncertain, 8th May (P.Goddard *et al.*).

2000 Highland Creag Meadgaith Nature Reserve, Badenoch & Strathspey, male, 15th June (P.Duncan).

2000 Merionydd Aber Dysynni, male, 25th-28th June (A. & P.Gaunt).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus* (0, 18, 2)

Devon Lundy, first-winter male, 6th-9th October, photo. (S.L.Cooper, R.M.Patient *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 354; 95: plate 310).

Scilly St Martin's, first-winter male, 13th-14th October, photo. (T.J.Humpage, M.A.Warburton *et al.*).

These are the first since 1998 and are a welcome return.

Bobolink *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (0, 21, 2)

Devon Prawle Point, first-winter, 9th-15th October, photo. (P.M.Mayer *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 94: plate 355; 95: plate 311).

Yorkshire, East Long Bank, Easington, age uncertain, 27th October, photo. (J.Law, R.Swales *et al.*).

Exceptional away from the far west, the one at Easington was the first for Yorkshire.

Appendix 1. Category D species accepted (see Ibis 136: 253)

White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

Herefordshire/Radnorshire Near Hay-on-Wye, 23rd October (A. & I.Evans).

One of the problems with some Category D species, particularly obvious ones like pelicans, is that sometimes the description does not exclude similar species which may possibly escape. Frequently, descriptions of pelicans go out of their way to exclude both Dalmatian *P.crispus* and Pink-backed Pelicans *P.rufescens* but do not consider the problem of escaped American White Pelican *P.erythrorhynchos*. Difference in the pattern of the primary coverts, bill colour and the amount of contrast in the wing all hold good, irrespective of the time of year, while the lump on the bill of a breeding male American White Pelican helps identification in summer.

Baikal Teal *Anas formosa*

Suffolk Minsmere, first-winter male, 18th November to 29th December, photo. (P.Green, W.Miles *et al.*) (Brit. Birds 95: plates 12, 312).

Back in the 1960s and 1970s, Baikal Teal was considered a very difficult bird to keep and breed in captivity. Things have changed substantially and, in the 2001 census, it was the fifth most common waterfowl in captivity, based upon the number of keepers. Consequently, perceptions of the likelihood of escape may need to be revised for this species. Unfortunately, the age of the bird is not a particularly helpful pointer to its origins. Although first-year birds are the most likely vagrants, they are also the most likely to escape, since most adult waterfowl in breeding collections are pinioned. It is interesting, however, that 30% of European records have occurred during November.

Marbled Duck *Marmaronetta angustirostris*

Suffolk Minsmere, two adults, 13th-15th October, photo. (N.Calbrade, P.Green, W.Miles *et al.*).

There are records of Marbled Duck in most years, and who can say whether they are escapes or not. There has been a dramatic population decline in the twentieth century but numbers have apparently increased in Britain. This may, however, be due to better observer coverage. While their appearance well to the north of the breeding range may seem unusual, numbers do disperse when wetlands dry out in summer and they occur quite regularly in northern Spain in late summer (BWP). Vagrants from the eastern part of the range might be regarded as more likely to occur in late autumn but we will probably need a ringing recovery or a major and sustained change in status for this species to be accepted on to Category A.

Hooded Merganser *Lophodytes cucullatus*

2000 Outer Hebrides Oban Trumisgarry and Voiskinish, North Uist, age/sex uncertain, 23rd October to 1st November, video. (G.Evans, B.Rabbitts, A.Stevenson *et al.*).

With the expanding range of this species in North America, there is bound to be recurrent questioning of the place of Hooded Merganser on Category D. The arguments and counter-arguments have already been discussed (e.g. Birding World 13: 506-517), with location and age being the principal points of discussion. The presence of a presumed first-year bird at an east-coast site this year will fuel the debate further.

Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus*

1999 Kent St Margaret's, 28th September (J.R.Chantler, D.Wrathall); also in other counties in 1999/2000, below.

1999 Cornwall Porthgwarra and Drift Reservoir area, 26th October to 6th November, probably since 23rd (S.M.Christophers, A.J.Harris *et al.*); same, Marazion, 8th-9th November, Tremethick Cross, 11th (D.S.Flumm *et al.*); same as 1999 Kent.

2000 Avon Chew Valley Lake area, 11th-12th February, photo. (A.Britton, Mr & Mrs R.M.Curber *et al.*); same as 1999 Kent.

2000 Kent Dungeness, 7th April (R.J.Price); same, Cliffe, 8th (P.Larkin, R.O'Reilly); same as 1999 Kent.

2000 Orkney North Ronaldsay, 22nd June (P.J.Donnelly); same as 1999 Kent.

2000 Somerset Avalon Marshes, 6th-9th February, probably since 2nd, photo. (J.A.Hazell *et al.*); same as 1999 Kent.

For many people this was the highlight of the 1999/2000 winter, despite its place now on Category D. Given the increasing frequency of large raptors in the Low Countries, it seems only a matter of time before an acceptable bird is seen in circumstances which do not cast some doubt on its origins. The reasons for the decision on this individual have already been discussed by BOURC (www.bou.org.uk).

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 Hon. Secretary; b) those which, even if circulated, were not attributed by the observer(s) to any definite species; c) those mentioned in '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 that the identification was fully established; only in a very few cases were we satisfied that a mistake had been made.

2001 White-billed Diver Hornsea, East Yorkshire, 8th May; Tiumpan Head, Lewis, Outer Hebrides, 12th May; Annstead Point, Northumberland, 17th September. **Sooty Albatross** *Phoebastria fusca* 5 km SE of Ramsey Sound, Pembrokeshire, 30th August. **Little Shearwater** Pendeen, Cornwall, 30th August; St Ives, Cornwall, 9th October. **White-faced Storm-petrel** *Pelagodroma marina* 3 km W of Cemaes Head, Pembrokeshire, 19th August. **Squacco Heron** West Bexington, Dorset, 30th April. **Great White Egret** Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, 18th March; Cliffe, Kent, 13th April; West Sedgemoor, Somerset, 3rd May; Ikencliff, Suffolk, two, 18th May; Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire, 10th, 13th August; Penrhos, Anglesey, 24th October. **Black Stork** Blakeney, Norfolk, 10th October. **'Black Brant'** West Runton, Norfolk, 21st October. **Red-breasted Goose** Bexhill, East Sussex, 3rd February. **American Wigeon** Tregaron, Ceredigion, 12th January; Loch Mor, Colonsay, Argyll, 14th April. **Ferruginous Duck** Gosforth, Northumberland, 10th June. **Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* R. Dyfi near Glandyfi and William Condry Reservoir, Montgomeryshire, 25th February. **Common Scoter** *M.n.americana* St Andrew's, Fife, 27th January. **Hooded Merganser** Leverburgh, Outer Hebrides, 20th April. **Black Kite** Near Brecon, Breconshire, 15th April; Stanpit Marsh, Dorset, 15th April; St Mary's, Scilly, 20th April; Horsey, Norfolk, 26th April; March, Cambridgeshire, 8th May; Warlingham, Surrey, 24th May; Isle of Dogs, Greater London, 25th May; Winteringham, Lincolnshire, 26th May; Ventnor, Isle of Wight, 3rd June; Kilfinichan Bay, Mull, Argyll, 17th July; Flitcham, Norfolk, 18th August; Paignton, Devon, 19th September. **Pallid Harrier** Kenfig, Glamorgan, 3rd November; Spurn, East Yorkshire, 4th November. **Red-footed Falcon** Beachy Head, East Sussex, 30th April; Grimley Old Workings, Worcestershire, 15th May; Robertsbridge, East Sussex, 16th May; Trowell, Nottinghamshire, 13th June. **Gyr Falcon** Owston Ferry, Lincolnshire, 26th January. **Little Crake** Kenfig, Glamorgan, 5th November. **Black-winged Pratincole** Goodrich, Herefordshire, 19th July. **American Golden Plover** Hirta, St Kilda, Outer Hebrides, 30th September to 3rd October. **Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus* Peninerine and Howmore Estuary, South Uist, Outer Hebrides, 16th-17th September. **Semipalmated Sandpiper** Chichester Gravel-pits, West Sussex, 25th August. **White-rumped Sandpiper** Inverugie, Northeast Scotland, 23rd April. **Great Snipe** Fazakerley, Lancashire & North Merseyside, 17th February; Ellerton, East Yorkshire, 4th April; North Ronaldsay, Orkney, 25th August; Out Skerries, Shetland, 30th September to 1st October. **Dowitcher sp.** Hornsea, East Yorkshire, 14th December. **Lesser Yellowlegs** Loch of Strathbeg, Northeast Scotland, 15th September. **Bonaparte's Gull** Seaforth, Lancashire & North Merseyside, 15th July. **Kelp Gull** *Larus dominicanus* Dungeness, Kent, 16th July. **Ross's Gull** Reculver, Kent, 11th January; Whitstable, Kent, 28th January. **Gull-billed Tern** Flamborough Head, East Yorkshire, 21st July; Fife Ness, Fife, 23rd September. **Caspian Tern** Winterton, Norfolk, 25th April. **Sooty Tern** *Sterna fuscata* 4 km W of Lundy, Devon, 5th June; Aldringham, Suffolk, 23rd August. **Whiskered Tern** Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire, 2nd September; Irvine, Ayrshire, 17th October. **White-winged Black Tern** Meare Heath, Somerset, 17th September. **Alpine Swift** Eastbourne, East Sussex, 24th March; Farnborough, Hampshire, 12th May; Bexhill, East Sussex, 1st July; Cawood, North Yorkshire, 7th October. **Pallid Swift** St Agnes, Scilly, 3rd June; Beachy Head, East Sussex, 22nd September; Gribbin Head, Cornwall, 21st October. **Little Swift** Lunan Bay, Angus & Dundee, 11th May; Pett Level, East Sussex, 27th May. **European Roller** Andoverford, Gloucestershire, 16th July; Mount Edgecombe Country Park, Cornwall, 20th July. **Red-rumped Swallow** St Mary's, Scilly, 29th May; Porthgwarra, Cornwall, 2nd November. **Cliff Swallow** Sandwich Bay, Kent, 4th November. **Olive-backed Pipit** Out Skerries, Shetland, 29th-30th September. **Red-throated Pipit** Out Skerries, Shetland, 27th September. **Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava feldegg* Calow, Derbyshire, 26th May; Farne Islands, Northumberland, 16th June. **Citrine Wagtail** Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, 30th July. **Common Stonechat** *S.t.maura* Skokholm, Pembrokeshire, 15th March; St Agnes, Scilly, 6th October; Huntsham, Devon, 24th October. **Siberian Thrush** *Zoothera sibirica* Tregaron Bog, Ceredigion, 26th February. **Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* Strumble Head, Pembrokeshire, 24th August. **Lanceolated Warbler** Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, 19th September. **Savi's Warbler** Farlington Marshes, Hampshire, 29th September; Combe Haven, East Sussex, 27th October. **Booted Warbler** St Mary's, Scilly, 25th August; St Martin's, Scilly, 14th-15th October. **Sardinian Warbler** Farne Islands, Northumberland, 20th August. **Hume's Warbler** Woodford Green, Greater London, 19th November to 26th December. **Western Bonelli's Warbler** *Phylloscopus bonelli* Nantfyllon, Maesteg, Glamorgan, 28th-29th August. **Western/Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** *P. bonelli/orientalis* Manorbier, Pembrokeshire, 16th July. **Iberian Chiffchaff** Bembridge, Isle of Wight, 29th July to 25th August. **Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica* Out Skerries, Shetland, 24th September. **Rosy Starling** Torpoint, Devon, 6th January; Borth, Ceredigion, 10th August; Helston, Cornwall, juvenile, 26th October to 25th November. **Trumpeter Finch** *Bucanetes*

githagineus Rackwick Glen, Hoy, Orkney, 31st October. **Evening Grosbeak** *Hesperiphona vespertina* Walton on the Naze, Essex, 21st October. **Northern Parula** *Parula americana* Torside Clough, Derbyshire, 13th October. **House Bunting** *Emberiza striolata* Kenfig, Glamorgan, 8th April. **Yellow-breasted Bunting** North Ronaldsay, Orkney, 21st October. **Baltimore Oriole** *Icterus galbula* Horsley, Gloucestershire, 9th May.

2000 White-billed Diver Ness Point, Whitby, North Yorkshire, 3rd September. **Southern Giant Petrel** *Macronectes giganteus* Skokholm, Pembrokeshire, 16th August. **Night Heron** Ventnor Down, Isle of Wight, 25th January; Stocksbridge, South Yorkshire, 10th May. **Great White Egret** Hartshill, Warwickshire, 28th May; Runcorn, Cheshire, 28th June. **'Black Brant'** Colne Point, Essex, 24th-25th November. **American Wigeon** Seaton Gravel-pits, Kent, 5th-6th February; Kinnaber, Northeast Scotland, 21st May; Loch Spynie, Moray & Nairn, 29th November. **Lesser Scaup** Farmoor, Oxfordshire, 24th March. **Black Kite** North Warren, Suffolk, 14th April; Forest Row, East Sussex, 6th June. **Booted Eagle** Prawle Point, Devon, 12th March. **Red-footed Falcon** Wimbledon Park, Surrey, 14th May. **Saker Falcon** *Falco cherrug* Combe Haven, East Sussex, 23rd September. **Broad-billed Sandpiper** Nosterfield, North Yorkshire, 15th-16th September. **Great Snipe** North Ronaldsay, Orkney, 24th September; Fazakerley, Lancashire & North Merseyside, 18th-21st November; Doxey Marshes, Staffordshire, 19th November. **Marsh Sandpiper** Snettisham, Norfolk, three, 6th May. **Lesser Yellowlegs** Nosterfield, North Yorkshire, 26th July. **Spotted Sandpiper** Steart, Somerset, 31st August to 3rd September. **Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri* Holyhead area, Anglesey, 6th December. **White-winged Black Tern** Queen Mother Reservoir, Berkshire, two, 7th May; Llangorse Lake, Breconshire, 17th September. **Common Nighthawk** *Chordeiles minor* Nympsfield, Gloucestershire, 1st October. **Alpine Swift** Nanjizal, Cornwall, 10th May. **Red-rumped Swallow** Beachy Head, East Sussex, 19th June. **Red-throated Pipit** Goldcliff Pill, Gwent, 24th September; Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, 29th September. **Yellow Wagtail** *M.f.feldegg* Ripon, North Yorkshire, 12th May. **Citrine Wagtail** Lymington, Hampshire, 12th October. **Thrush Nightingale** North Ronaldsay, Orkney, 1st-2nd September. **American Robin** *Turdus migratorius* Prestwood, Buckinghamshire, 14th December. **Savi's Warbler** Darsham Marsh, Suffolk, 18th May. **Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus fuscus* Rostherne Mere, Cheshire, 2nd September. **Booted Warbler** Shoeburyness, Essex, 19th September; Brora, Highland, 28th September; Scarborough, North Yorkshire, 28th September. **Western Bonelli's Warbler** New Forest, Hampshire, 15th May. **Western/Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** Skokholm, Pembrokeshire, 30th April. **Penduline Tit** Farnborough, Hampshire, 12th October. **Rosy Starling** Out Skerries, Shetland, 18th August. **Blackpoll Warbler** *Dendroica striata* Isle of Noss, Shetland, 14th September.

1999 Little Shearwater St Mary's, Scilly, 18th September. **American Wigeon** Gwent Levels, Gwent, 28th-30th September. **Blue-winged Teal** St Mary's, Scilly, male, 26th October. **Red-footed Falcon** Gaywood/King's Lynn, Norfolk, 3rd June. **American Golden Plover** Wrangle Marsh, Lincolnshire, 17th July. **Oriental Lark** *Alauda gulgula* Stronsay, Orkney, at least 22nd October. **Yellow Wagtail** *M.f.feldegg* Maylandsea, Essex, 24th May to 24th June. **Common Stonechat** *S.t.maura* Spurn, East Yorkshire, 16th September. **Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva albicilla* St Agnes, Scilly, 6th-10th October.

1998 Blue-winged Teal Bough Beech Reservoir, Kent, 29th March. **Lesser Scaup** Ham Road Gravel-pits, Kent, 17th December to 2nd January 1999. **Black Kite** Hill Head, Hampshire, 30th April. **Isabelline Wheatear** Bryher, Scilly, 29th October to 1st November. **Reed Warbler** *A.s.fuscus* Fife Ness, Fife, 1st October; Beachy Head, East Sussex, 3rd October.

1997 Red-throated Pipit St Mary's, Scilly, 10th October; Porthgwarra, Cornwall, 22nd-23rd October.

1996 American Golden Plover Witham Mouth, Lincolnshire, 10th March; same, Butterwick Marsh, 24th.

1995 Blyth's Pipit St Mary's, Scilly, 9th-10th October. **Arctic Redpoll** North Ronaldsay, Orkney, further individual, 8th December.

1994 Alpine Swift St Osyth, Essex, 3rd May.

1993 Red-necked Stint Blacktoft Sands, East Yorkshire, at least 5th August.

1992 Reed Warbler *A.s.fuscus* Hartlepool Headland, Cleveland, 26th September.

1987 Rustic Bunting St Martin's, Scilly, 23rd April.

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.

White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala* Walthamstow Reservoirs, Essex/Greater London, female or immature, 11th September 1999; probably same, 20th February 2000.

Appendix 4. List of selected records still under consideration

This list is not intended to be complete. Some decisions may have been arrived at and notified to County Recorders/observers prior to the publication of this report.

2001 White-billed Diver Rerwick Point, Tankerness, Orkney, 30th April. **Madeira/Cape Verde Petrel** Berry Head, Devon, 17th July; Hopes Nose, Devon, 17th July; Walney Island, Cumbria, 22nd July; Flamborough Head, East Yorkshire, 23rd September. **Night Heron** Chew Valley Lake, Avon, 10th May; Brandon Marsh, Warwickshire, 13th May. **Lesser Scaup** Loch an Eilean, South Uist, Outer Hebrides, 27th January; Wilstone Reservoir, Hertfordshire, 4th-7th November. **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata* Pegwell Bay, Kent, 15th August; Grove Ferry, Kent, 30th August. **Forster's Tern** Tingwall and Eynhallow Sound area, Orkney, 24th-27th October. **Little Swift** Off Porthcurno, Cornwall, 24th May. **Citrine Wagtail** Callernish, North Uist, Outer Hebrides, 31st August. **Blyth's Reed Warbler** Locality withheld, Greater London, 6th-28th October. **Booted Warbler** Netherstone, Deerness, Orkney, 20th August. **Lesser Grey Shrike** Girdle Ness, Northeast Scotland, 10th October. **Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* Filey, North Yorkshire, 3rd March.

2000 White-billed Diver Dungeness, Kent, 30th April. **Canvasback** Loch of Rummie, Sanday, Orkney, 21st-23rd June. **Gyr Falcon** Goonhilly Downs, Cornwall, 3rd March; Cape Cornwall, Cornwall, 5th-23rd March; Dava Moor, Moray & Nairn, 19th March. **Slender-billed Gull** *Larus genei* Cley, Norfolk, 22nd May (Brit. Birds 94: 503-504). **Dark-throated Thrush** *T.r.atrogularis* Foula, Shetland, 23rd September. **Iberian Chiffchaff** Portland Bill, Dorset, 11th May; Bardsey, Caernarfonshire, 2nd October (Brit. Birds 94: 504). **Collared Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicollis* Bardsey, Caernarfonshire, 26th September (Brit. Birds 94: 504).

1998 'Wilson's Snipe' *Gallinago (gallinago) delicata* St Mary's, Scilly, 9th October to 1999 (Brit. Birds 94: 504).

1997 'Wilson's Snipe' St Mary's, Scilly, 19th October (Brit. Birds 94: 504).

1996 South Polar Skua Dawlish Warren, Devon, January, February; presumed same, West Bexington, Dorset, January, February (Brit. Birds 94: 504).

1993 South Polar Skua Sea area Sole, 26th August (Brit. Birds 94: 504).

1962 Olivaceous Warbler *Hippolais pallida* St Agnes, Scilly, 30th September to 2nd October (Brit. Birds 94: 504).

1961 Olivaceous Warbler St Agnes, Scilly, 3rd-4th October (Brit. Birds 94: 504).



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Chairman Colin Bradshaw, 9 Tynemouth Place, Tynemouth, Tyne & Wear NE30 4BJ

Secretary M. J. Rogers, 2 Churchtown Cottages, Towednack, St Ives, Cornwall TR26 3AZ

BBRC members Paul Harvey, John McLoughlin, John Martin, Doug Page, Adam Rowlands, Brian Small, Jimmy Steele, John Sweeney, Reg Thorpe, Grahame Walbridge

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