

# Samphire Hoe Bird Report for 2016



**Samphire Hoe is owned by Eurotunnel and managed together with the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership.**

The recording of the birds of Samphire Hoe provides information about the site's ecological development and its use as a migratory stopping point and a wintering ground.

The birds of Samphire Hoe are recorded on a casual basis by general observations. The breeding birds are monitored by an annual Common Bird Census, this plots out bird territories. The recording area is Samphire Hoe itself, the sea, the cliffs behind the Hoe and the east and west ends.

**124 species** were recorded during the year, 23 species held territory in the recording area. The bird report includes a monthly summary and then a systematic list of species seen in 2016. The information given under the species name is the bird's status at Samphire Hoe.

**Thanks** go to Derek Smith who has compiled the report and all the contributors, in particular all the volunteer Rangers, Phil Smith, Tony Prentice, Roger Card and Les Collins, also to all the other observers including Ian Roberts and Geoff Burton.

**Photo credit:** Paul Holt and Phil Smith.



## MONTHLY ASPECTS OF THE YEAR 2016

### January

The year began on the Hoe with two unusual visitors in the form of two **Jays** on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6 **Little Gulls** were recorded off the Hoe on the 4<sup>th</sup> along with 14 **Rock Pipits** on the west beach. A small movement of 12 **Goldcrests** on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Five **Guillemots** offshore on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 8 **Fulmars** along the cliffs between the Hoe and Shakespeare Cliff on the 12<sup>th</sup>. 2 **Ravens** noted on the 15<sup>th</sup> and a **Shag** on the 18<sup>th</sup> followed by a **Razorbill** on the 19<sup>th</sup>. 3 **Common Scoter** flew west on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

### February

100 **Common Gulls** flew west on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, a **Red Legged Partridge** noted on the Hoe also on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. A scarce sighting on the Hoe in the form of a **Purple Sandpiper** on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Five **Shag** noted offshore on the 14<sup>th</sup>. 9 **Long Tailed Tits** on the 16<sup>th</sup> plus one of the *Caudatus* race, 5 **Red Throated Divers** offshore on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Two **Black Redstarts** noted at the Eastern end of the Hoe on the 26<sup>th</sup>. **Buzzards** recorded on three dates.

### March

12 **Rock Pipits** on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8 **Black Tailed Godwits** flew east on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The first **Chiffchaff** of the year was noted on the 10<sup>th</sup>, a **Red Breasted Merganser** flew past on the 11<sup>th</sup>. 200 **Brents** flew east on the 21<sup>st</sup>. 20+ **Meadow Pipits** recorded on the Hoe on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. A **Water Rail** noted on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The first **Wheatear** of the year was recorded on the 24<sup>th</sup> and a **Blackcap** on the 30<sup>th</sup>. 2 **Firecrests** noted on the 31<sup>st</sup> also 3 **Coal Tits** of the continental race and 1 **Brambling**.

### April

**Firecrest** on the 1<sup>st</sup>. 30 **Sandwich Terns** flew east on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. A **Water Rail** noted on the 11<sup>th</sup> and a **Black Throated Diver** on the 10<sup>th</sup>. The 12<sup>th</sup> turned up the first **Ring Ouzel** of the spring; a **Yellow Wagtail** flew in off the sea and the first **Willow Warbler** of the year, a **Yellowhammer** was also recorded on that day. A **Red Kite** noted on the 14<sup>th</sup>. First **Common Whitethroat** of the year recorded along with **Swallows** and **House Martins**, a **Lesser Whitethroat** on the 24<sup>th</sup>. 9 **Manx Shearwaters** recorded on the 29<sup>th</sup> also 130 **Common Scoters** flew E. 2 **Ravens** + 2 young noted east of the Hoe also on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### May

**Willow Warbler** plus a **Coal Tit** on the 1<sup>st</sup> a pair of **Yellowhammers** also noted. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> birds recorded included **Brents** going east, 5 **Manx Shearwaters** 2 **Gadwall**, 2

**Dunlin**, 30 **Bar Tailed Godwits**, 50 **Sandwich Terns**, 70 **Commic Terns** all going east, 5 **Yellow Wagtails** seen to fly in off the sea. A **Grasshopper Warbler** recorded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and a **Reed Warbler** on the 4<sup>th</sup>. A **Great Bustard** was seen coming in off the sea on the 4<sup>th</sup> presumably a bird returning to the reintroduction scheme in Wiltshire, 3 **Black Throated Divers** flew east on the 5<sup>th</sup>. 5 **Whimbrel** on the 6<sup>th</sup> 12 **Common Scoter** flew east along with 3 **Pomarine Skuas**. Seven **Common Sandpipers** on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 2 **Swifts** on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

## June

A **Wheatear** noted on the first, a **Little Egret** on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. On the 5<sup>th</sup> the **Little Grebes** were seen on the main pond an adult with 5 young, the first successful breeding recorded on the Hoe. One **Shag** was recorded on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 adult **Black Redstarts** with 3 juveniles noted on the 11<sup>th</sup>, **Peregrine** with one chick on the 15<sup>th</sup>. A family group of 5 **Whitethroats** recorded on the 16<sup>th</sup>. A **Chiffchaff** and a **Blackcap** seen on the 19<sup>th</sup>. A **Lapwing** flew over the site on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## July

**Hobby** observed over the Hoe on the 4<sup>th</sup>. A Juvenile **Common Redstart** was noted on the 14<sup>th</sup>, A **Honey Buzzard** flew over on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 15 **Swifts** on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Two **Sand Martins** flew west on the 21<sup>st</sup>. A **Common Gull** offshore on the 25<sup>th</sup>. 10 **Rock Pipits** recorded on the west beach on the 26<sup>th</sup>, also on the same day the first **Green Woodpecker** since April was in Woody Gully. 6 **Black Redstarts** noted on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 40 **Med Gulls** offshore. First of the returning **Willow Warblers** observed on the 31<sup>st</sup> plus a **Shag** offshore. A **Reed Warbler** was present throughout the month.

## August

A **Marsh Harrier** flew over on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 13 **Kittiwakes** flew west on the 3<sup>rd</sup> plus 45 **Common Terns**. A **Hobby** noted on the 8<sup>th</sup> and a **Sparrowhawk** on the 10<sup>th</sup> plus three **Sedge Warblers**. The first **Whinchat** of the autumn was recorded on the 21<sup>st</sup> and a **Wryneck** was discovered on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Six **Yellow Wagtails** flew over on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Seven **Black Redstarts** recorded on the 30<sup>th</sup> plus 8 **Wheatears**. 350 **House Martins** were feeding along the cliffs on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

## September

A **Water Rail** was noted on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10 **Wheatears** recorded on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 30 **Gannets** offshore and the first **Brents** of the autumn on the 17<sup>th</sup>. A **Yellow Browed Warbler** was found in Gate Scrub on the 18<sup>th</sup>. A **Swift** flew over on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 2 **House Sparrows** were recorded. 50+ **Chiffchaffs** and 12 **Blackcaps** were recorded on the 20<sup>th</sup>, 24 **Rock Pipits** on west beach on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 12 **Stonechats** on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

## October

27 **Chiffchaffs** noted on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3 **Rooks** flew over the site. A **Firecrest** was seen on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. An **Arctic Skua** was observed offshore on the 9<sup>th</sup>. A **Yellow Browed Warbler** was recorded on the 10<sup>th</sup> also the first **Short Eared Owl** of the autumn was noted and 7 **Ring Ouzels**. A **Red Throated Diver** offshore on the 11<sup>th</sup>. 12 **Wigeon** flew east on the 28<sup>th</sup> and ten Med Gulls were seen offshore on the 29<sup>th</sup> plus 30 **Brents** flying west.

## November

Two **Swallows** reported flying past the Hoe on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2 **Chiffchaffs** noted also on the 1<sup>st</sup>. A **Woodcock** was put up on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. 85 **Auks** mainly **Guillemots** offshore. Six **Fieldfares** on the Hoe on the 3<sup>rd</sup> a **Redshank** also noted. Two **Ravens** on the 6<sup>th</sup>. A small fall of **Chaffinches** recorded on the 7<sup>th</sup>. A **Little Gull** offshore on the 8<sup>th</sup> and a **Black Redstart** seen on the same day. 19 **Red Throated Divers** flew past on the 13<sup>th</sup>, three **Little Egrets** noted on the 15<sup>th</sup>. An unexpected visitor, a **Long Eared Owl** was recorded by C.C.TV cameras resting on security fencing on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Two **Greenfinches** were seen on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

## December

A **Cattle Egret** was observed in the field above the entrance to the Hoe, on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, only the second record since 2006. Another surprise was the very late **Wheatear** on the Hoe on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Four **Brambling** on the 7<sup>th</sup>. 9 **Wren** recorded on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 150 **Cormorants** flew E on the 20<sup>th</sup>, 200 **Great Black Backed Gulls** resting on the rocks to the west of the Hoe. 30 **Gannets** were noted offshore on the 24<sup>th</sup> and six **Guillemots** on the 25<sup>th</sup>, two **Shags** on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 2016

### GREYLAG GEESE

*Anser anser*

Passage bird

One flew west on 8<sup>th</sup> March; One on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

### BRENT GEESE

*Branta bernicla bernicla*

Common passage bird

One on 12<sup>th</sup> and two on 18<sup>th</sup> January. 20 east on the 21<sup>st</sup>. 17 on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. 40 east on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 130 on the 15<sup>th</sup>, 200 on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 40 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. 40 flew east on 5<sup>th</sup> April, two on the west pond on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 630 flew east on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. 32 on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 20 on the 5<sup>th</sup>. First birds of the winter were 3 on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 28 east on the 18<sup>th</sup>. 77 going east on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 6 on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and 128 going E on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 30 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. 15 on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 48 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. 31 flew east on 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### SHELDUCK

*Tardorna tardorna*

Passage bird

Two flew east on 7<sup>th</sup> March. Two on 17<sup>th</sup> April and 6 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Two flew west on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

### GADWALL

*Anas strepera*

Passage bird

Two flew past the Hoe on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

### TEAL

*Anas crecca*

Passage bird

One on the main pond on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 6 flew west on 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

## MALLARD

*Anas platyrhynchos*

Peak monthly total

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
13	14	9	6	6	3	2	8	2	2	6	10

10 ducklings noted on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 20 on the 10<sup>th</sup> down to two by the 15<sup>th</sup>. Female with six ducklings on 13<sup>th</sup> July.

## WIGEON

*Anas Penelope*

Passage bird

Twelve flew east on 28<sup>th</sup> October.

## PINTAIL

*Anas acuta*

Passage bird

One recorded on 10<sup>th</sup> April, one female on the main pond on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

## COMMON SCOTER

*Melanitta nigra*

Passage migrant

Three flew west on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Easterly movement noted in April with 62 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 50 on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 130 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Last of the spring migration were 12 going E on 6<sup>th</sup> May. First birds of the winter were 5 flying E on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 12 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Seven on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

## RED BREASTED MERGANSER

*Mergus Serrator*

Passage bird

One flew past the Hoe on 11<sup>th</sup> March, three on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

## RED LEGGED PARTRIDGE

*Alecitoris rufa*

Occasional visitor

One on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Single on three dates in March, two on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Two on 1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April, one on the 5<sup>th</sup>. One on 8<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June, two on 18<sup>th</sup> July. Three recorded on 29<sup>th</sup> August and two on 9<sup>th</sup> September.



### **GREY PARTRIDGE**

*Perdix perdix*

One on 16<sup>th</sup> April and 2 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Singles on 30<sup>th</sup> May and 12<sup>th</sup> September.

### **PHEASANT**

*Phasianus colchicos*

Occasional visitor

One male seen on the cliff face on 9<sup>th</sup> February, single on four dates in March and on nine dates in April, 3 seen on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Single sightings on several dates in May, June and July, Male and one chick noted on 10<sup>th</sup> June. Two on three dates in September and October and singles on five other dates, two on 1<sup>st</sup> November and 11<sup>th</sup> December.

### **RED THROATED DIVER**

*Garvia stellate*

Winter visitor

One offshore on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 2 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Three noted on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2 on the 10<sup>th</sup>. 41 flew east on the 18<sup>th</sup>. First of the winter was of a single on 11<sup>th</sup> October. 19 flew past the Hoe on 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### **BLACK THROATED DIVER**

*Garvia arctica*

Winter visitor

One offshore on 10<sup>th</sup> April and 3 flew east on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

### **FULMAR**

*Fulmarus glacialis*

Resident/Summer breeder

Four on 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January, 8 on the 12<sup>th</sup>, three on 7<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February, four on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Eight on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 14 on 19<sup>th</sup>, 2-3 on other dates. Two at the west end of the Hoe on 1<sup>st</sup> April, eight on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 6 on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 1-4 on nine other dates during the month. Eight on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, four on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. 1-2 throughout June and 6 on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Four on 26<sup>th</sup> July. Four on 29<sup>th</sup> August. One on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September. First of the returning birds was seen on 5<sup>th</sup> December, three on the 14<sup>th</sup> and six on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. One seen at the west end of the Hoe on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **MANX SHEARWATER**

*Puffinus puffinus*

Passage bird

Nine flew past the Hoe on 29<sup>th</sup> April; one on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.



## GANNET

*Morus bassanus*

Winter visitor/passage migrant

Seven on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 8 on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 25 offshore on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Seven on 7<sup>th</sup> and 10 on 19<sup>th</sup> March. 87 flew east on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, four on the 31<sup>st</sup>. 3 adults and 1 juvenile seen off the Hoe on 26<sup>th</sup> June. 14 flew west on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, four on the 7<sup>th</sup>. 30 seen offshore on 17<sup>th</sup> September, One on the 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. 15 offshore on 29<sup>th</sup> October and 20 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. 10 recorded on 13<sup>th</sup> November. 30 offshore on 24<sup>th</sup> December and 10 on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## CORMORANT

*Phalacrocorax carbo*

Resident/Non breeder

### Peak Monthly totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
12	25	5	4	3	3	4	6	7	13	11	150

150 flew east on 20<sup>th</sup> December.

## SHAG

*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Winter visitor

Five were recorded on 14<sup>th</sup> February and three on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Single noted on four dates in March and two on three other dates. One recorded on 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April. One on 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May. One on 9<sup>th</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> July. Single on 4<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September, two on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Four noted on 11<sup>th</sup> October, one on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Single on 26<sup>th</sup> November plus two on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Two on 7<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> December.

### CATTLE EGRET

*Bubulcus ibis*

One recorded amongst the cattle in the field above the entrance to Samphire Hoe on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Only the second record from the local area.



### LITTLE EGRET

*Egretta garzetta*

Occasional visitor to the Hoe

Two on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> January, three on the 5<sup>th</sup>, singles on six other dates. One seen walking around back car park on the 7<sup>th</sup> (*but did not purchase car park ticket*). Singles on five dates in February and three in March. Just the single sighting in April. Single sightings in May, June, August and September. Three noted on 4<sup>th</sup> October, four on the 24<sup>th</sup> and two on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Single on eight dates in November, three on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Two records in December with singles noted on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

### GREY HERON

*Ardea cinerea*

Passage bird

One flew past on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January. Three recorded on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. One on 11<sup>th</sup> March. Two flew E on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June. One going E on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July and again on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Two flew past on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Singles recorded four times in August and on seven dates in September, five noted on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Single sightings on five dates in October, two on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. One on a few dates in November and December.

### **LITTLE GREBE**

*Tachybaptis ruficollis*

Normally a non-resident

First sighting was of one on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Not recorded again until a pair were seen on 3<sup>rd</sup> May after that there were six single sightings during the rest of the month. Two adults and two young were present on the main pond on 8<sup>th</sup> June this turned out to be the first successful breeding attempt, the following day the two adults were seen with five chicks, One adult and three chicks were noted on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1-3 recorded throughout July, four on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Two were recorded on eight dates in August and one on six dates. Three noted on 5<sup>th</sup> September and two on the 6<sup>th</sup>, several single sightings up and till the end of the month then nothing.



### **GREAT CRESTED GREBE**

*Podiceps cristatus*

Mainly a winter visitor

One offshore on 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January. Two on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> February. Twelve offshore on 7<sup>th</sup> March, five on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 10 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Last of the winter was of a single on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### **HONEY BUZZARD**

*Pernis apivorus*

Rare passage migrant



One observed coming in off the sea on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

### **RED KITE**

*Milvus milvus*

Rare passage migrant

One noted on 14<sup>th</sup> April.

### **MARSH HARRIER**

*Circus aeruginosus*

Passage migrant

One seen to fly over the Hoe on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

### **SPARROWHAWK**

*Accipiter nisus*

Not a resident frequent visitor

One on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 29<sup>th</sup> March and again on 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April. Sightings continued to be of single observations throughout May, August and September. Single sightings on six dates throughout October. One on 6<sup>th</sup> November and again on 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> December.

## COMMON BUZZARD

*Buteo buteo*

Mainly a passage migrant

Single on 15<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> February, two on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, two flew E on the 20<sup>th</sup>, three flew west on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and six on the 31<sup>st</sup>. One on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Four recorded on the 12<sup>th</sup> and two on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Single on five dates in May, four dates in July. Two noted on 15<sup>th</sup> September plus singles on two dates. One on 17<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October. Three recorded on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

## KESTREL

*Falco tinnunculus*

Resident

1-2 Recorded on many dates throughout the first six months of the year, ten single sightings recorded in July. 1-2 throughout August, four on 9<sup>th</sup> September and three on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Three on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October. The last two months of the year saw twenty one single sightings.

## HOBBY

*Falco subbuteo*

Summer visitor

First bird of the year was of a single on 4<sup>th</sup> July, the next sightings was again of a single on 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> August. Disappointing year for this species seeing that dragonflies were plentiful around the main pond.

## PEREGRINE FALCON

*Falco peregrinus*

Resident

1-2 recorded from the east end of the Hoe throughout the first four months of the year, one noted at the western end of the Hoe on 1<sup>st</sup> May, two on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Two plus one chick recorded on 15<sup>th</sup> June at the east end of the Hoe and a juvenile noted at the west end. Single on six dates in July and on ten dates in August, two on 5<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August plus three on the 13<sup>th</sup>. During the last three months of the year there were sixteen days of single sightings and two on 4<sup>th</sup> November and two on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

## WATER RAIL

*Rallus aquatious*

Rare visitor

Single on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, One on 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April. The last record for the year was of one on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

## MOORHEN

*Gallinula chloropus*

Resident and winter visitor

### Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
2	3	2	2	5	4	4	3	4	3	2	2

Nest discovered on 11<sup>th</sup> April. Two adults and four young noted on 1<sup>st</sup> May, One adult and four juveniles on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. One adult and three juveniles on 11<sup>th</sup> June. The odd chick or two recorded on several dates in July.

## OYSTERCATCHER

*Haematopus ostralegus*

Passage bird

One flew past the Hoe on 19<sup>th</sup> February. Single flying E on 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April. Seven going E past the Hoe on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Two flew west on 19<sup>th</sup> July and four on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## GREY PLOVER

*Pluvialis squatarola*

Passage bird

Three flew E on 5<sup>th</sup> May, then three on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## LAPWING

*Vanellus vanellus*

Passage bird

One present on the Hoe on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Two seen on the seawall on 6<sup>th</sup> July. One recorded on 11<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November.

## WHIMBREL

*Numenius phaeopus*

Passage migrant

First of the spring migration was of a single bird flying E on 13<sup>th</sup> April, Further E movements were of nine on the 27<sup>th</sup> and three on the 29<sup>th</sup>. One E on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, five on the 4<sup>th</sup> and one on the 6<sup>th</sup>. The only other records were of one flying NE on 14<sup>th</sup> July and on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## CURLEW

*Numenius arquata*

Passage bird

18 flew E on 13<sup>th</sup> March, two on the 20<sup>th</sup>. One recorded flying E on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### **BAR TAILED GODWIT**

*Limosa lapponica*

Passage migrant

One flew E on 21<sup>st</sup> April. 30 recorded flying E on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

### **Black Tailed Godwit**

*Limosa limosa*

Passage migrant

Eight seen flying E on 9<sup>th</sup> March.

### **DUNLIN**

*Calidris alpina*

Passage migrant

Two flew east past the Hoe on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. One on the west beach on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

### **COMMON SANDPIPER**

*Actitis hypoleucos*

Passage migrant

First passage bird of the year was a single on 26<sup>th</sup> April, seven on the west beach on 10<sup>th</sup> May. First of the returning birds were 2 recorded on 1<sup>st</sup> August, two on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Two noted on 12<sup>th</sup> September and the last bird of the year was a single sighting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **PURPLE SANDPIPER**

*Calidri maritime*

Winter visitor

One on 9<sup>th</sup> February, an unusual visitor to the Hoe, one would have thought there would have been more records from the site seeing that they are recorded to the east of the site and a bit further to the west.

### **REDSHANK**

*Tringa tetanus*

Passage bird

One on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> August, the only other record was of one flying east on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

### **WOODCOCK**

*Scolopax rusticola*

Scarce winter visitor

One on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November.



### **COMMON SNIPE**

*Gallinago gallinago*

Passage bird

One on 24<sup>th</sup> March and another on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

### **POMARINE SKUA**

*Stercorarius pomarinus*

Passage migrant

Three flew east past the Hoe on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

### **ARCTIC SKUA**

*Stercorarius parasiticus*

Passage migrant

First sightings of the year were of singles on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May, last bird of the year was the one seen on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

### **GREAT SKUA**

*Stercorarius skua*

Passage migrant

One flew east on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, two on the 10<sup>th</sup> and one on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **RAZORBILL**

*Alca torda*

Winter visitor

A very quiet winter of the Hoe for this species with just the single sighting on 19<sup>th</sup> January and on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. First birds of the autumn were five just offshore on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

### **GUILLEMOT**

*Uria aalge*

Mainly a winter visitor

As for the previous species it was a quite winter for sightings. A single recorded on 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January, five offshore on the 10<sup>th</sup>. One on 4<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February and then on 6<sup>th</sup> March. First bird of the autumn was of a single on 1<sup>st</sup> October, two on the 24<sup>th</sup>. 85 recorded offshore on 4<sup>th</sup> November and then one on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Single on four dates in December and 6 on the 25<sup>th</sup> plus two on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **SANDWICH TERN**

*Sterna sandvicensis*

Passage migrant

First birds of the year were 30 flying east on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, two on the 14<sup>th</sup> and six on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 45 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. 50 flew east on 2<sup>nd</sup> May then four on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Two seen flying west on 12<sup>th</sup> July, two offshore on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Very poor autumn migration recorded just the single on 9<sup>th</sup> October. One recorded on 4<sup>th</sup> December off the Hoe.

### **COMMON TERN**

*Sterna hirundo*

Passage migrant

One on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April. 5 east on 10<sup>th</sup> May. 45 flew west on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

### **COMMIC TERN**

102 flew east on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 70 also flying east on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

### **BLACK HEADED GULL**

*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

Passage/winter visitor

Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
60	500	30	10	13	1	15	60	40+	80	50	100

500 on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **LITTLE GULL**

*Hydrocoloeus minutus*

Passage bird

Six offshore on 4<sup>th</sup> January, three on the 7<sup>th</sup> and one on the 10<sup>th</sup>. One on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

### **MEDITERRANEAN GULL**

*Larus melanocephalus*

Passage bird

One on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, two on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Singles on 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March. Two on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. 40 on 29<sup>th</sup> July. Seven recorded on 2<sup>nd</sup> August and two on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Seven flew west on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Six noted offshore on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and then 10 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. One recorded on 12<sup>th</sup> November, two on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Eight on 7<sup>th</sup> December and two on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **GREAT BLACK BACKED GULL**

*Larus marinus*

Passage bird

#### Peak Monthly Counts

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
4	10	5	6	4	2	5	6	50	9	37	200

Two adults and two juveniles recorded on 28<sup>th</sup> July. 50 flew west on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Three double figure counts of 30 and 37 in November. 200+ resting on the rocks on the west side of the Hoe.

### **COMMON GULL**

*Larus canus*

Passage bird

Ten seen offshore on 4<sup>th</sup> January, five on the 12<sup>th</sup> and two on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. 100+ flying west on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. 1-5 noted during the rest of the month. Two on 21<sup>st</sup> March, one on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 25<sup>th</sup> May and 18<sup>th</sup> of August. One on 24<sup>th</sup> October and two on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Three on 15<sup>th</sup> November and four on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Singles on three dates in December plus two on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **LESSER BLACKED BACKED GULL**

*Larus fuscus*

Mainly a passage bird

#### Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1	3	2	2	2	6	7	3	2	3	6	6

### **HERRING GULL**

*Larus argentatus*

Resident/Breeder

#### Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
20	100	20	100	50	40	30	100	50	45	100	100

At least two pairs nest in the security compound.

### STOCK DOVE

*Columba palumbus*

*Resident breeder*

One on 12<sup>th</sup> January. Two on 9<sup>th</sup> March and a single on the 14<sup>th</sup>. One recorded on five dates in April. One on 1<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> July and 17<sup>th</sup> September.

*One territory held.*

### WOOD PIGEON

*Columba palumbus*

*Resident*

#### Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
125	66	10	10	8	20	9	15	12	16	25	30

### COLLARED DOVE

*Streptopelia decaocto*

*Scarce visitor*

Just the one record this year and that was of one on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

### CUCKOO

*Cuculus canorus*

*Scarce migrant*

One on 7<sup>th</sup> June was the only record for the year.

### LONG EARED OWL

*Asio otus*

*Rare visitor*

One captured by security cameras in the early hours of the morning resting on the compound fencing this was on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### SHORT EARED OWL

*Asio flammeus*

*Mainly a winter visitor*

One seen to come in off the sea on 30<sup>th</sup> March. One remained on the Hoe from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> April. One on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

### **GREAT BUSTARD**

*Otis tarda*

Very rare vagrant

One seen to come in off the sea on 4<sup>th</sup> May, a totally unexpected sighting, presumably returning to the re-introduction scheme in Wiltshire the first ever record for Samphire Hoe.

### **SWIFT**

*Apus apus*

Summer migrant

First birds of the year were two on 12<sup>th</sup> May, four on the 24<sup>th</sup> and one on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. 25 recorded on 13<sup>th</sup> June and 30 on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Ten noted on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 15 on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Single on 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August. Four recorded on 7<sup>th</sup> September. Last bird of the year was a single on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

### **RYNECK**

*Jynx torquilla*

Scarce summer migrant

One reported by a visiting birder on 22<sup>nd</sup> August it remained in the area of the back car park for a further two days before disappearing.



### **GREEN WOODPECKER**

*Pica viridis*

Occasional visitor

One on 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January. Single on four dates in February. One on 3<sup>rd</sup> March and 26<sup>th</sup> July. The only other record was of one on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

**MAGPIE***Pica pica*

Resident breeder

## Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
6	8	12	10	11	10	11	7	10	10	10	8

**JAY***Garrulus glandulus*

Passage bird

Two on 31<sup>st</sup> January.**JACKDAW***Corvus monedula*

Resident

## Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
24	18	20	24	8	20	6	12	40	59	30	6

Breeds mainly in holes in the cliff face just off the Hoe.

**ROOK***Corvus frugilegus*

Occasional passage bird

Three flew west on 1<sup>st</sup> October.**CARRION CROW***Corvus corone*

Resident

## Peak Monthly Totals

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
16	20	15	20	20	32	12	18	30	50	45	25

50 on the west beach on 24<sup>th</sup> October. Breeding not proved this year.

## RAVEN

*Corvus corax*

Now breeds

One on 6<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January. Four noted on 7<sup>th</sup> February, two recorded on six other dates. 1-2 throughout March one bird seen carrying nesting material on the 6<sup>th</sup>, three recorded on two other dates. Up to two recorded throughout April and seen to be carrying food on 10<sup>th</sup> April. Two plus two young seen on 1<sup>st</sup> May, Two plus two fledged young on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2-4 sightings throughout the rest of the month. 2-3 noted during July and August. 1-2 on eighteen dates in October. 1-2 recorded throughout November and December.

## GOLDCREST

*Regulus regulus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor

A small movement of 12 birds was recorded on 6<sup>th</sup> January, single seen on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Four logged on the 24<sup>th</sup>, one on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 2 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Last winter sightings were one on 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April, and two on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. First birds of the autumn were 8 on 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October and five on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## FIRECREST

*Regulus ignicapilla*

Passage migrant

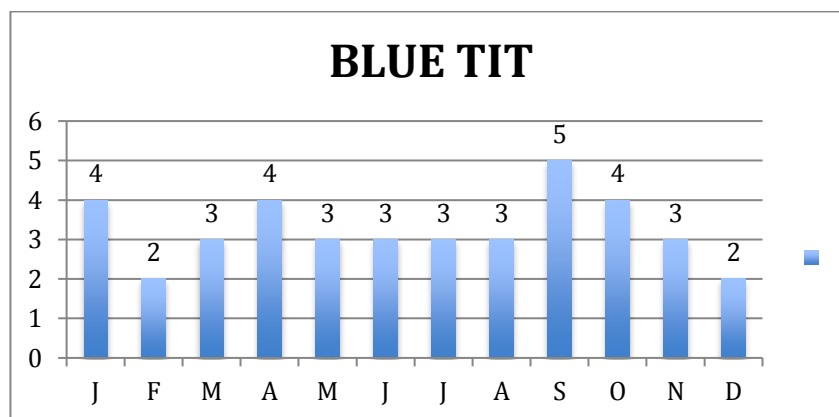
Two on 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March, one on the 28<sup>th</sup> and four on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Single noted on 1<sup>st</sup> April. First bird of the autumn was recorded on 2<sup>nd</sup> October followed by one on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

## BLUE TIT

*Cyanistes caeruleus*

Resident



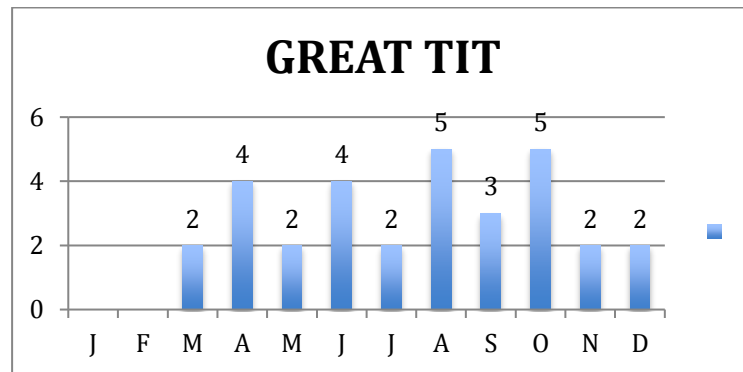
No proof of breeding obtained this year



### **GREAT TIT**

*Parus major*

Resident



One pair held territory

### **COAL TIT**

*Periparus ater*

Three of the Continental race (*ater ater*) recorded on the Hoe on 31<sup>st</sup> March, one on 1<sup>st</sup> April, two on the 12<sup>th</sup> and one on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

### **SKYLARK**

*Alauda arvensis*

Resident breeder

During the first quarter of the year 1-2 were recorded on a regular basis. One logged on five dates in April, two on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Three on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Between June and September 1-2 were regularly logged. Twelve were seen to fly in off the sea on 29<sup>th</sup> October. Four in off the sea on 3<sup>rd</sup> November then a further seven on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **SAND MARTIN**

*Riparia riparia*

Passage migrant

Two flew over the Hoe on 21<sup>st</sup> July. The next record was of one on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, followed by 10 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> which proved to be the last sighting of the year.

## SWALLOW

*Hiundo rustica*

Summer visitor

First sighting of the year was a single on 16<sup>th</sup> April followed by four seen to come in off the sea on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 15 flew west on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Highest days total in May was 12 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and in June three was the highest for the month. One on three dates in July, four recorded on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Twelve noted on 23<sup>rd</sup> August then eight on the 29<sup>th</sup>. 20 logged on 17<sup>th</sup> September and a further 20 flew west on the 21<sup>st</sup>. 50 recorded flying west on 10<sup>th</sup> October and 45 on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Last birds of the year were two on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

## HOUSE MARTIN

*Delichon urbicum*

Summer visitor

One recorded just off the west end of the Hoe on 31<sup>st</sup> March, but not noted again until two were seen on 16<sup>th</sup> April then six on the 26<sup>th</sup>. 20 on May the 1<sup>st</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 30 on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and c40 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. 50 on the 4<sup>th</sup> June, 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July. Numbers increased in August with 100 on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 350 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. 350 on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 200 on the 17<sup>th</sup> and c500 on the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> plus 300 on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Thirty noted on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 12 on the 11<sup>th</sup> then 40 seen flying east on the 12<sup>th</sup> were the last of the year.

Large numbers of Hirundines on 18<sup>th</sup> September between Samphire Hoe and Hythe Ranges a conservative estimate was of 500 Swallows and 2,000 House Martin flying E.  
*26 nest sites at the West end of the Hoe and 18 at the East end.*

## LONG TAILED TIT

*Aegithalos caudatus*

Occasional visitor

Nine recorded on 16<sup>th</sup> February and two on the 29<sup>th</sup>. One of the northern race on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Four on 14<sup>th</sup> March

## YELLOW BROWED WARBLER

*Phylloscopus inornatus*

Vagrant

One recorded in Gate Scrub on September the 18<sup>th</sup>, one on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

### CHIFFCHAFF

*Phylloscopus collybita*

Passage migrant

First bird of the year was a single on 10<sup>th</sup> March followed by three on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Ten were recorded on 5<sup>th</sup> April, four on the 8<sup>th</sup>, five on the 11<sup>th</sup> and four on the 12<sup>th</sup>, with single sighting on five other dates. Just the one sighting in June, nothing for July. First of the returning birds was of one in song on 25<sup>th</sup> August followed by a single on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and two on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Four on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of September. A movement was noted through the Hoe with 50+ on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 40 on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 20 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A small movement of 27 was recorded on 1<sup>st</sup> October, six on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 15 on the 11<sup>th</sup>, one on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Last birds of the year were two on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

### WILLOW WARBLER

*Phylloscopus trochilus*

Passage migrant

First bird of the year was recorded on 12<sup>th</sup> April followed by one on the 10<sup>th</sup> then four on the 19<sup>th</sup> then a single on the 25<sup>th</sup>. One on 1<sup>st</sup> May and again on 31<sup>st</sup> July. During August three were logged on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and four on the 9<sup>th</sup> and seven on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Two noted on 1<sup>st</sup> September, one on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and the last of the autumn were five on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

### BLACKCAP

*Sylvia atricapilla*

Summer visitor

First bird of the year was a single on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March. Singles on 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April. Four recorded on May the 3<sup>rd</sup>. One on 19<sup>th</sup> June. One on four dates in August. Small autumn passage noted with 9 on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 12 on the 20<sup>th</sup>, six on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and seven on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Four recorded on 1<sup>st</sup> October, five on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and four on the 10<sup>th</sup>, the last sighting of the autumn was a single on 30<sup>th</sup> October

### LESSER WHITETHROAT

*Sylvia curruca*

Summer visitor

First bird of the year was one on 24<sup>th</sup> April followed by one on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, three noted on the 28<sup>th</sup>. 1-2 throughout May. One on three dates in June. Five recorded on 19<sup>th</sup> July. Two on 24<sup>th</sup> August plus one on four other dates. Last bird of the year was noted on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### COMMON WHITETHROAT

*Sylvia communis*

Summer visitor

First bird of the year occurred on 16<sup>th</sup> April followed by two on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, five on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Six in song on 1<sup>st</sup> May, six birds noted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1-3 throughout the rest of the month. 2-3 on most dates in June, family group of 5 on the 16<sup>th</sup>, six on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Up to four recorded throughout July five on the 18<sup>th</sup>. 1-4 on several dates in August plus five on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 on the 8<sup>th</sup> then 8 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Three recorded on 4<sup>th</sup> September, four on the 6<sup>th</sup> and five on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Last birds of the year were two on 18<sup>th</sup> September.

6 Territories held.

### GRASSHOPPER WARBLER

*Locustella naevia*

Passage migrant

Two records: one on 3<sup>rd</sup> May and one in the autumn on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

### SEDGE WARBLER

*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Passage migrant

Two recorded on August the 8<sup>th</sup> followed by three on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the last of the autumn migration was one on 30<sup>th</sup> August.

### REED WARBLER

*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

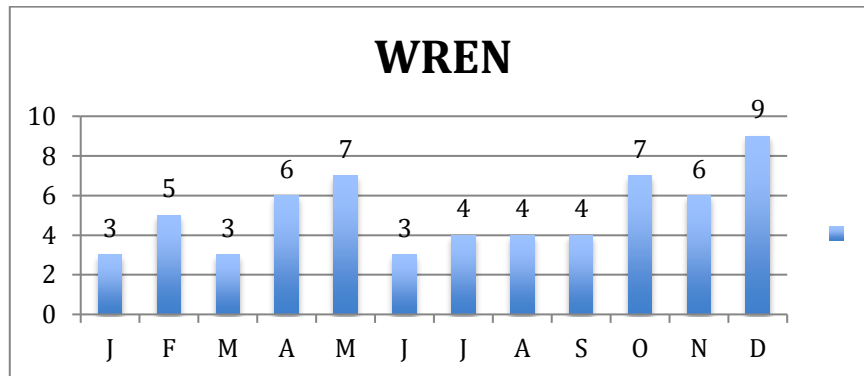
Passage migrant

First birds of the year were 2 on 8<sup>th</sup> April followed by two on the 10<sup>th</sup> then a single on the 16<sup>th</sup>. One recorded on 11<sup>th</sup> May and again on June the 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. One noted on nine dates in July, two on the 15<sup>th</sup>, was an attempt made to breed? Two recorded on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August were the last sightings of the autumn migration.

## WREN

*Troglodytes troglodytes*

Resident



8 territories held.

## STARLING

*Sturnus vulgaris*

Passage migrant/Winter visitor

Absent from the Hoe during the first six months of the year. First birds to appear were 25 on 8<sup>th</sup> July, then 26 on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 30 on the 26<sup>th</sup>. During August numbers increased with figures of 60+ on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, then c100 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. 40-50 on several other dates. Counts of 40-50 throughout September. 60 noted coming in off the sea on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 130 flew east on the 30<sup>th</sup>. 200 flew west on 17<sup>th</sup> November. Five on the Hoe on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## RING OUZEL

*Turdus torquatus*

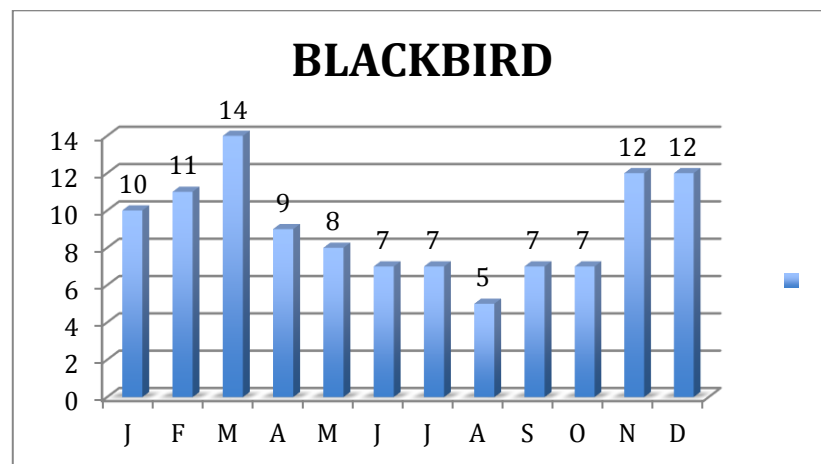
Passage migrant

One on 12<sup>th</sup> April was the first bird of the year followed by one on the 24<sup>th</sup>. One on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. First of the returning birds were two on 2<sup>nd</sup> October followed by four on the 7<sup>th</sup>, seven on the 10<sup>th</sup> and five on the 12<sup>th</sup>. A further four noted on the 13<sup>th</sup> and the last bird of the year was recorded on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## BLACKBIRD

*Turdus merula*

Resident and winter visitor



10 territories held.

No great numbers this year certainly no autumn influx, Double figures recorded in mid-winter only.

## FIELDFARE

*Turdus pilaris*

Winter visitor

First bird of the autumn was a single on 12<sup>th</sup> October followed by one on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Six recorded on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Single sightings on 4 dates this month.

## SONG THRUSH

*Turdus philomelos*

Passage migrant/winter visitor

One on 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January three on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Three on four dates in February. One on four dates in March and 2 on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Three on 12<sup>th</sup> April. Singles on several dates during the next five months. Three noted on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and again on the 17<sup>th</sup>, two on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Two seen to come in off the sea on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Four on 29<sup>th</sup> November. 1-2 on eight dates in December, 4 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 3 on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

## REDWING

*Turdus iliacus*

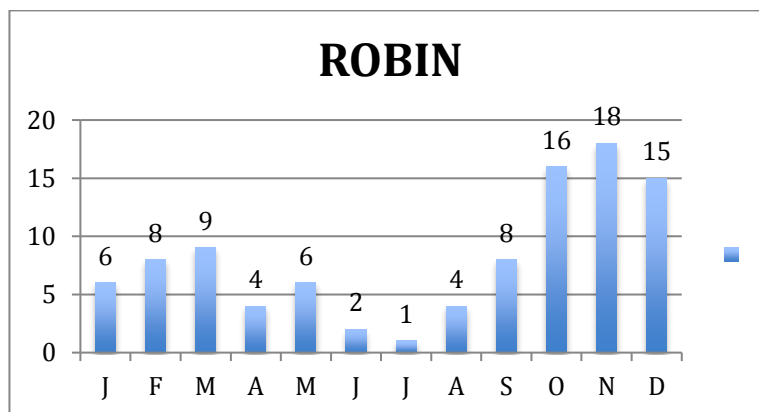
Winter visitor

Last of the winter birds were six on 18<sup>th</sup> March, one on the 17<sup>th</sup> and two on the 24<sup>th</sup>. First birds of the winter were one on 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October, two on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Four on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Three on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## ROBIN

*Erithacus rubecula*

Resident/winter visitor



*One territory held.*

Seen carrying food on 27<sup>th</sup> April. One juvenile noted on 24<sup>th</sup> May, three fledged young on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Double figures recorded on eight dates in October.

## COMMON REDSTART

*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Passage migrant

One juvenile recorded on 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## BLACK REDSTART

*Phoenicurus ochruros*

Passage migrant/Summer Breeder

No records for January. First records of the year were of a single bird on 16<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February at the eastern end of the Hoe. One on five dates after 18<sup>th</sup> March. Two on 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April, two in song in the vicinity of the security compound on the 18<sup>th</sup>, Single sightings on seven other dates. 1-2 at the eastern end throughout May, Two plus four juveniles on 4<sup>th</sup> June, two adults and three juveniles on the 8<sup>th</sup>, one male and 3 juveniles on the 11<sup>th</sup>. One adult carrying food on the 19<sup>th</sup>. 1-3 on eleven dates in July, 5 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 6 on the 28<sup>th</sup>. 2-4 throughout August, seven on the 30<sup>th</sup>, seven of which were by the wood pile. 2-4 throughout September, 5 on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Four on 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1-3 on twelve other dates, one noted at the western end of the Hoe on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Last record of the year was of one at the eastern end of the Hoe on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

*One possible two territories held*



## WHINCHAT

*Saxicola rubetra*

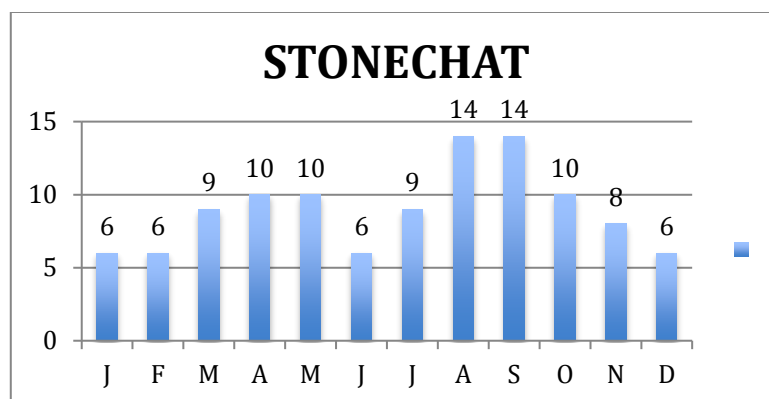
Passage migrant

First of the returning birds was a single on 21<sup>st</sup> August followed by one on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August, five on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, two on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Singles on six dates in September, 4 on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 2 on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Last record of the autumn was a single sighting on 21<sup>st</sup> September.

## STONECHAT

*Saxicola torquata*

Resident/passage bird



Seven territories held

Nine on 30<sup>th</sup> March seven of which were males. Recorded feeding young on June the 15<sup>th</sup>, family group of five on the 16<sup>th</sup>. 14 on 22<sup>nd</sup> August and again on 13<sup>th</sup> September.



## WHEATEAR

*Oenanthe oenanthe*

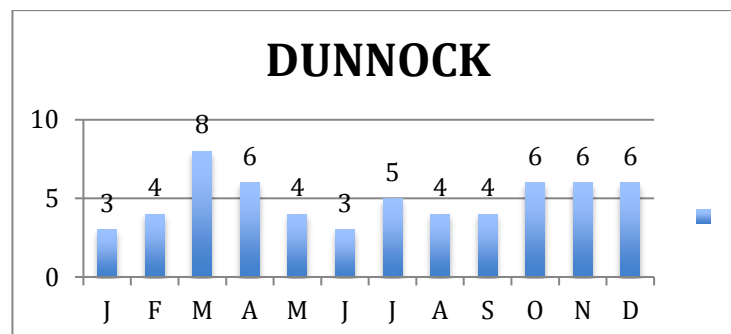
Summer visitor

First bird of the year was recorded on 24<sup>th</sup> March followed by one on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. One on six dates in April plus three on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Three on 1<sup>st</sup> May then 4 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. First of the returning birds was noted on 15<sup>th</sup> June. Two on five dates in August plus eight on the 30<sup>th</sup> and seven on the 31<sup>st</sup>. During September there were counts of 9 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, seven on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10 on the 6<sup>th</sup> plus six on four dates. 1-3 on eight dates in October. A very late bird was discovered on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

## DUNNOCK

*Prunella modularis*

Resident Breeder



Six territories held

## HOUSE SPARROW

*Passer domesticus*

Infrequent visitor

The two on 19<sup>th</sup> September was the only record for the year.

## YELLOW WAGTAIL

*Motacilla flava*

Passage migrant

First bird of the spring migration was recorded on 12<sup>th</sup> April, One noted coming in off the sea and over the Hoe on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Two recorded on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Five observed coming in off the sea on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. One seen flying east on 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> July. Six moving west on 24<sup>th</sup> August. One on 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September.

## GREY WAGTAIL

*Motacilla cinerea*

Passage bird

One on 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> May then on 19<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September. Last record of the year was of two on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

### WHITE WAGTAIL

*Motacilla alba*

Passage bird

One on 17<sup>th</sup> April and again on 10<sup>th</sup> October probably an under recorded species.

### PIED WAGTAIL

*Motacilla yarrellii*

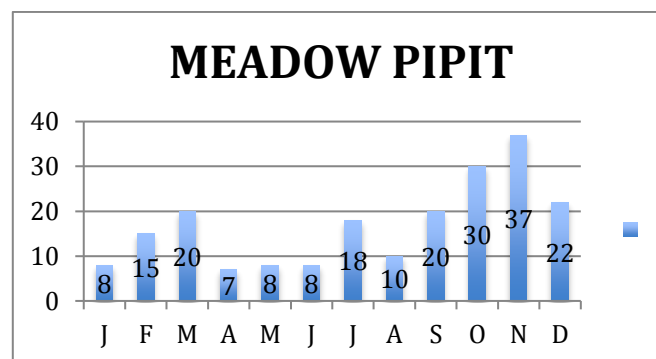
Summer and winter visitor

Single sightings on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January, then 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> February and again on 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March. One on 19<sup>th</sup> July and two on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Two months passed before the next records which were a single on 1<sup>st</sup> October and again on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Five on 1<sup>st</sup> November then 1-3 on eight other dates. One recorded on eight dates in December.

### MEADOW PIPIT

*Anthus pratensis*

Resident breeder



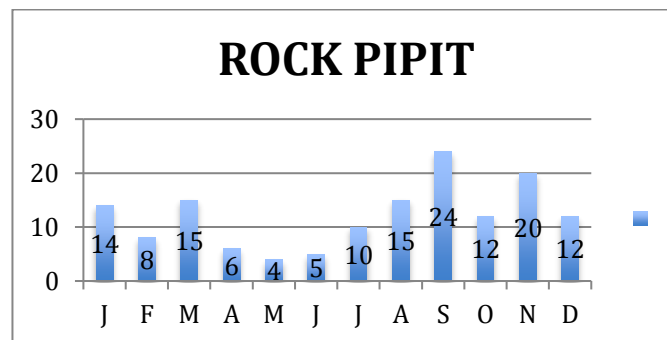
9 territories held

Four plus two Juveniles on 31<sup>st</sup> March, seen carrying food on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Highest count this year was of 37 on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

### ROCK PIPIT

*Anthus petrosus*

Resident but mainly a winter visitor



Pair seen feeding young at the Eastern end of the Hoe on 11<sup>th</sup> June. 21 on two dates in September. Two territories held, one at the eastern end of the Hoe and one west at the west end.

### CHAFFINCH

*Fringilla coelebs*

Passage bird, has bred

Three on 18<sup>th</sup> January and six on the 19<sup>th</sup>. 1-2 throughout February but six on the 16<sup>th</sup>. 2-3 up until the third week in March. Two on three dates in April and three on two dates. Four recorded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. Not recorded again until three were noted on August the 7<sup>th</sup>. A small influx was noted on 10<sup>th</sup> October when 15 were recorded, 6 on the 11<sup>th</sup> then 1-3 on seven other dates. Another small influx when 30+ plus were seen on 7<sup>th</sup> November. Six recorded on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

*One territory held.*

### BRAMBLING

*Fringilla montifringilla*

Passage migrant

An outgoing bird was recorded on 31<sup>st</sup> March. First bird of the autumn was a single on 3<sup>rd</sup> October followed by two on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Four were recorded on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## GOLDFINCH

*Carduelis carduelis*.

Mainly a passage bird

Four logged on 12<sup>th</sup> January then two on four dates in February. During the period of March to June numbers ranged between 2 and 4. Eight were noted on 12<sup>th</sup> July and again on the 26<sup>th</sup>. 6-10 throughout August. Thirty were recorded on 26<sup>th</sup> September. Birds appeared to be moving through in October with 40 recorded on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 120 on the 7<sup>th</sup>, then 40 on the 10<sup>th</sup> followed by 50+ on the 18<sup>th</sup>. 25 noted on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 7 on 1<sup>st</sup> December, five on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

*Two adults and one juvenile recorded on 11<sup>th</sup> June.*

## SISKIN

*Carduelis spinus*

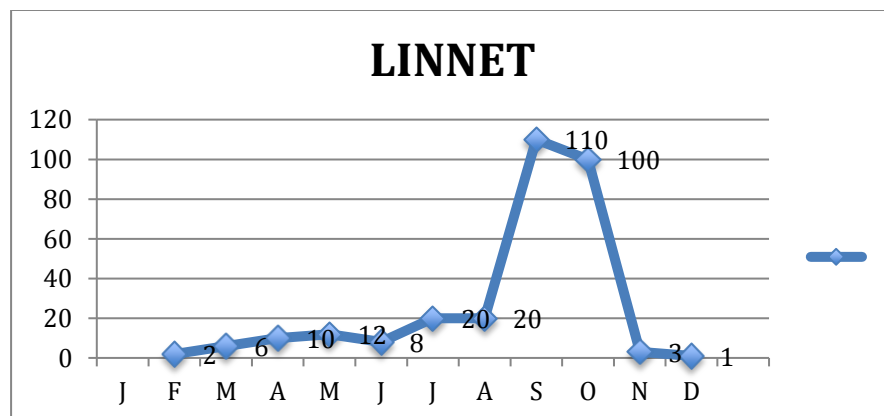
Mainly a passage migrant

Little evidence of spring migration with just 8 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March and 2 on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Good numbers moving through the Hoe on 12<sup>th</sup> October with 20. 30+ moving east on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## LINNET

*Carduelis cannabina*

Part resident/passage migrant.



*4 territories held.*

110 moving through the Hoe on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 100 on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

## YELLOWHAMMER

*Emberiza citronella*

Uncommon visitor

One recorded on 12<sup>th</sup> April then a pair noted on 1<sup>st</sup> May, two on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **REED BUNTING**

*Emberiza schoeniclus*

Passage bird

Five records of this species this year, 2 on 24<sup>th</sup> March, one on 1<sup>st</sup> May then again on 26<sup>th</sup> June and 18<sup>th</sup> July, the final record was of one on 1<sup>st</sup> October.