

# Arran Bird Report 2006

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Compiled by Jim Cassels.

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## Introduction

Welcome to the *Arran Bird Report for 2006*. This is the twenty seventh consecutive annual bird report for the Isle of Arran and the first one compiled by me.

This report would not have been possible without the support and encouragement of a number of individuals whose input I would like to acknowledge publicly: Audrey Walters, the previous bird recorder, Terry Southall, our resident ringer, John Rhead for his local knowledge of raptors, and Bernie Zonfrillo, the bird recorder for the Clyde Area. The input of the local "volunteers" involved in the monthly shore bird count for the national Wetlands Bird Survey has been a valuable source of information. It has also been helpful to be given permission to access the Arran records submitted to BirdTrack, [www.bto.org/birdtrack](http://www.bto.org/birdtrack). At the writing stage, the advice of the committee of the Arran Natural History Society, and the editing and proof reading skills of Angela Cassels, Alan Hollick and Rod Smith were invaluable. Having said that, I accept full responsibility for all omissions, and errors. My thanks also to the following photographers for giving me permission to use their images to illustrate the report: David Keates, Robert Lambie, Carl Reavey and Graham Ross. Finally there would be no report without the input of the contributors listed at the beginning.

Over this first year I have been encouraged by the number of people, locals and visitors, who have contacted me by phone, email and letter. Some with one sighting, others, like a visitor, had over one hundred sightings in a week. All contacts have been welcome. I am not just interested in rare or unusual birds, but common birds, where there are significant numbers of common birds, which birds come to the garden at different times of the year, where breeding birds have been seen, when our summer or winter visitors have arrived or departed, and what sightings have given individuals particular pleasure. I know that a number of people keep for their own interest all sorts of bird notes, and I would encourage these people to share this information with me, so that the basis of our annual Arran Bird Report can be as comprehensive as possible.

In 2006 over sixty contributors submitted over two thousand records on one hundred and fifty two species. These records have been distilled and I have tried to provide a readable Chronological Summary and a Systematic List that should provide a useful record of the bird life on Arran in 2006.

The Chronological Summary gives the highlights for each month. The Systematic List is in Voous order in line with the Clyde Report. For each species, as well as the common name, the (new) official name and its scientific name have been given. This is followed by a brief statement giving the status of each bird on Arran, which can be markedly different from the status of the same bird on the adjacent mainland.

As for 2007, please send any bird notes with "what, when, where" to me before Monday 14 January 2008, at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or telephone 01770 860316 (you can leave a message), or email me at [james.cassels@virgin.net](mailto:james.cassels@virgin.net).

I look forward to hearing from you.

Jim Cassels

## Chronological Summary

### January

In January the weather was unusually dry, with only 18mm of rain in the first half of the month and 42mm in the second half. With the exception of the very stormy period around the middle of the month, it was very settled.

Observations reported included: fifty Lapwings on Kilpatrick shore on 1st; a female Merlin at Dyemills on 2nd; fifty Golden Plover at Machriewaterfoot and one Pink-footed Goose with two hundred and fifty Greylag Geese in the Shiskine Valley on 4th; close sightings of winter plumage Black Guillemots from a canoe in Lamlash Bay on 7th; three Goldfinch on Kilpatrick shore, a female Hen Harrier at Shiskine Cemetery, and sixteen Redshanks at Blackwaterfoot on 8th. After the storms, seventeen pairs of Fulmars were on the cliffs at Drumadoon on 15th; a pair of Bullfinches stripping buds from trees in Whiting Bay on 23rd; on 28th three Knot, two Purple Sandpipers, and a Dunlin on the shore at Blackwaterfoot, along with the more common shore birds like Oystercatchers and Ringed Plover and an immature Sea Eagle giving a demonstration of flying to paragliders on Dun Fionn on 28 January.

### February

In February the unusually dry and settled period of weather continued and the month finished with cold winds from the north.

Observations reported included: on 1st one hundred and forty three Oystercatchers at Machriewaterfoot and twenty six Turnstone at Blackwaterfoot; on 3rd a male Goshawk at Dougarie; on 4th a Great Spotted Woodpecker at Castle Park Fields in Brodick Country Park and on 6th four adult Whooper Swans at Whiting Bay. On 11th there were three Yellowhammers, an increasingly rare bird on the island, at a bird table in Shiskine; on 12th a Black Throated Diver at Newton Point, a Little Grebe at the fish farm in Lamlash Bay and one hundred and twelve Teal at Kilpatrick shore. Also on 12th three Long Tailed Tits and a Treecreeper were on the same tree at Clauchlands; on 13th a flock of thirty Fieldfares in the Shiskine valley and on 14th two Redpolls in Merkland Wood. On 18th the elusive Moorhen at Machrie Pond made a brief appearance; also on 18th there were ten Goldfinch at feeders in Machrie and on 19th fifty seven Wigeon at Machriewaterfoot. Meanwhile at Brodick Pier, contrary to Cal Mac bye-laws, on 20th and 21st a Kingfisher was fishing; also on 21st there was a male Merlin in Glenloig and on 26th a flock of fifty Redwings in High Kildonan. Finally, there were a number of sightings of Bullfinches in twos and threes at Torbeg on 10th, Shore Lodge Brodick Country Park on 16th, Marganaheglish on 17th and Maol Donn on 21st.

From these observations, while winter visitors like Wigeon, Teal, Redwing and Fieldfare were still around, there were some small signs that spring was on the way with birds more associated with summer making an appearance, such as Lesser Black Backed Gull, with singles seen at Drumadoon on 12th and Kildonan on 26th, and Gannets, with singles at Kildonan on 8th, Lamlash on 11th, Sannox on 15th and Machrie on 18th.

## **March**

In March the main weather feature was cold winds from the north and east and this may have had an impact on the arrival of the spring migrants. The first Wheatear was reported on 27th, a fortnight later than 2005. This was followed on 28th by the first Swallow and on 29th the first House Martin. Normally Chiffchaff and Sand Martin would have been reported in March, but not this year.

As well as the summer visitors other observations reported included: on 3rd a Golden Eagle pair displaying in Glen Cloy and a Goshawk in Cordon; on 4th two Rooks in Shiskine; then on 6th ninety Golden Plover at Machriewaterfoot and two Robins in Brodick Co-op. Birds can be watched anywhere! On 10th there were eight Black-throated Divers in Whiting Bay and two Crossbill at Cladach. On 12th there was a Twite at Clauchlands; on 14th two Redpoll in Merkland Wood; on 18th a Red Kite at Kingscross and on 22nd a Peregrine at Dun Fionn. On 25th three Black Guillemots were in Brodick harbour. On 27<sup>th</sup> two Little Grebes were at Lochranza and twenty one Wigeon, winter visitors, were still at Machriewaterfoot. There were more reports of Yellowhammers at feeders in gardens in Shiskine and at Dippen on 27th. An over-wintering Blackcap was seen in a garden in Lamblash on 28th and Great Spotted Woodpeckers seem to be establishing themselves, with sightings from Glen Cloy on 3rd, Kingscross on 5th, Brodick Country Park on 26th and near Duchess Court on 30th.

Also in March, there was a visitor from the Arctic. It was first seen in Pirnmill on 8th and then in Lamblash and Whiting Bay up to and including the 26th. It was a first winter Glaucous Gull.

## **April**

In April, after the middle of the month when the winds swung more to the south, our summer visitors appeared in numbers throughout the island.

The first Wheatear, Swallow, and House Martin had been reported by the end of March. Summer visitors continued to arrive in April with the following "firsts": Sand Martin at Strabane on 2nd; Chiffchaff in Lagg Wood on 4th; Sandwich Tern at Machrie on 7th; Willow Warbler at Kildonan on 14th; White Wagtail at Kildonan on 17th; Cuckoo on 19th in Glen Sannox; Common Sandpiper at Merkland shore on 22nd; Grasshopper Warbler at Kilmory on 25th and Sedge Warbler and Whitethroat at Auchenhew on 30th.

In addition, some of our winter visitors hung around into April with the following "last" reports: two Fieldfares in High Kildonan on 2nd; six Pink-footed Geese in Shiskine Valley on 4th; two Goldeneye at Clauchlands on 5th and two large skeins of Greylag Geese heading north off Kilpatrick Shore on 10th.

As well as these arrivals and departures, other observations reported included: on 2nd a pair of Goosander at Ashdale Bridge and a small group of Linnet on Cleats shore. Linnet seem to leave the island in winter. On 4th an Osprey over flew Kilmory. On 9th a Common Scoter was in Machrie Bay and a Water Rail was heard in Corriecravie. On 18th small groups of Manx Shearwater were off Brodick Bay. On 21st a male Tufted Duck turned up at Port-na-Lochan. This is a rare bird for the island. One was last seen in the same place in 2000. However a greater Arran rarity appeared on 23rd, when two Yellow Wagtails were seen at Cleats shore. These were last recorded in 1986. On 24th a Black Redstart was in a Shiskine garden. Also on 28th a Redpoll was in a garden in Balmichael estate. Finally on 30th April fifteen Whimbrel were in Auchenhew Bay.

## **May**

The weather in May was dominated by cool northerly winds. Although there were many bright days, the rainfall of over 140mm on the west of Arran was high.

This may have encouraged birds who breed further north, to linger, including on 2nd a Whooper Swan at Whiting Bay. On 10th there were fifteen Turnstone at Dougarie and five Common Scoter in Machrie Bay. On 14th thirty two Dunlin and a Whimbrel were at Kildonan.

Summer visitors continued to arrive. The first sightings included Lesser Whitethroat on 1st at Auchenhew; Whinchat on 6th on Machrie Moor; Corncrake on 9th at Port-na-Lochan; Wood Warbler on 10th in Merkland Wood; Spotted Flycatcher also on 10th at Moss Farm; Tree Pipit on 16th in Brodick Country Park and Arctic Tern on 20th in Whiting Bay.

The Corncrake only stayed for a few hours but treated those who heard it to its repetitive rasping call. Its systematic name, "Crex crex", encapsulates this call !

As well as these arrivals and departures other observations reported included: more Redpoll visiting feeders in Kilpatrick and in Machrie on 5<sup>th</sup>; a Short-eared Owl on Machrie Moor on 11th and a Puffin seen from a boat to the north of Arran and in Kilbrannan Sound on 27th.

## **June**

After a cool May, June started with a warm settled spell. Our summer visitors continued to arrive. The first Garden Warbler was reported in woodland between Lamlash and Brodick on 3rd. Swifts were sighted, with three over Kildonan on 4th, three over Dippen on 7th, eight over Kildonan and four over the Ross Road on 8th and thirteen over Bannan Head on 26th.

The main business of the month was raising young, with lots of reports of activity around garden feeders, with adults carrying food and feeding young birds, including Greenfinches, Blackbirds, Song Thrushes and Blue, Coal and Great Tits. Spotted Flycatchers in Lamlash and Whiting Bay gave pleasure to their human hosts with their endless activity catching insects for their young.

On the coast there were reports of Mute Swans with six cygnets in Lamlash on 7th and seven on 8th at Machriewaterfoot. The largest group of Shelduck were ten young on Kildonan on 18th. Fifteen pairs of Arctic Terns were reported on Pladda.

On the hills and moors, there were reports of birds of prey hunting, perhaps to feed their young, with Merlin in Glen Chalmadale on 7th and Short-eared Owl in Machrie on 13th.

Other observations received included: two Sanderling at Kilmory on 4th; a Puffin close to the Ardrossan-Brodick ferry on 5th; a Bar-tailed Godwit at Blackwaterfoot on 8th and two hundred Manx Shearwaters in Kilbrannan Sound on 11th.

Interestingly, a white Starling was first reported from Machrie on 9th June and later on 15th it was seen near the Greannan in Blackwaterfoot. This young bird was part of a group of normal coloured birds.

## **July**

The weather in July was mainly hot and dry. Those species that have more than one brood, like Swallows and Tits, may have benefited from this settled weather and the abundance of insects. On the other hand, ground feeding birds, like Blackbird and Song Thrush, may have found it more difficult to extract worms from hard-baked lawns and would welcome the ripening of soft fruits and berries.

Perhaps as a result of this fine spell, a Hoopoe, a bird more associated with sunny Mediterranean groves, made an appearance in a garden in Thunderguy on 25th. This is only the third record of this bird on the island. There was one on Corriegills Farm on 16th September 1995 and another in Lamlash on 4-5th September 1987.

A Goosander with one fairly large young was reported at Machriewaterfoot between 5th and 9th. This is the second breeding record in recent years, the other occasion being in 2003.

July marks the end of the breeding season for some birds and after breeding many birds begin to change their feathers. Ducks of various kinds gather together for this moult. On 2 July there were one hundred and thirty Red-breasted Mergansers in Machrie Bay.

Other observations received included: ten Golden Plover at Machriewaterfoot on 5th; two adult Whinchats with two young on Machrie Moor on 7th; four Lapwing in Kildonan on 14th; a Grasshopper Warbler in Shiskine on 19th; twelve Kittiwakes in Whiting Bay on 18th and a flock of Crossbills in Kilmory on 24th.

## **August**

Towards the end of August, there was a hint in the weather of the approach of autumn.

One of the birding highlights of the month was the report of a Kingfisher from an area that it has never been reported from before. It was fishing in the mouth of the burn at Lochranza on 18th. Despite being a very colourful bird, it can be overlooked and it is often under reported.

Sightings of young birds reported this month included: Red Grouse at Clachan on 13th; Fulmar on Cleiteadh Buidhe on 14th; Moorhen on Machrie Pond on 18th and Treecreeper in a Machrie garden on 19th.

After breeding, a number of species begin to flock together, some in preparation for migration. Flocks included: eighteen Goldfinch at Lamlash on 13th; forty eight Turnstone on 15th at Machriewaterfoot; twenty Meadow Pipit at Machrie on 15th; fifty Linnets on Cleats shore on 22nd and twenty four Kittiwake in Whiting Bay on 24th.

Other birds on their migration included: seven Dunlin at Machriewaterfoot and a Whimbrel at Kilpatrick shore on 13th; a Great Skua off Lochranza and a Sanderling at Machrie on the 19th and a report of a Curlew Sandpiper, a very rare vagrant to Arran, on 27th.

## **September**

September, although warm, was unsettled at times with almost twice as much rain as September 2005.

Unfortunately, this month a number of dead immature Guillemots were reported, including five at Whiting Bay on 14th and four at Drumadoon on 16th. This seems to have occurred throughout the Clyde region and is thought to be connected to shortage of food. In the same vein, two dead Barn Owls were found at a nest box near Lamlash on 23rd.

In September a range of birds was reported, including summer visitors like three Spotted Flycatchers at Machrie Moor standing stones on 1st; a Blackcap at Bennan Head on 25th and winter visitors like seven Rooks at Braehead Farm on 16th and three at Cleats shore on 18th.

Other sightings included: a Knot at Blackwaterfoot and a Puffin between Kildonan and Pladda on 7th; a Dipper at Glenree on 13th and another at Auchenhew on 25th; and two Golden Eagles on Burrican Hill on 3rd and one at the head of Balmichael Glen on 23rd.

Birds continued to flock together after breeding. Flocks included: five Snipe and seven Grey Herons at Cosyden on 10th; seven hundred Kittiwake at the mouth of Glenashdale Burn on 14th; seventy Teal on the pond by Kings Cave path on 15th; three hundred Linnet with around one hundred Goldfinches on Braehead Farm on 16th; twenty nine Eider at Machriewaterfoot, four Goldcrests in a garden in Machrie and two hundred Starlings at Kilpatrick on 30th.

By the end of September migration was well under way. For example, throughout the month Meadow Pipits, White Wagtails and Wheatear were moving through, including Greenland Wheatears, five of which were ringed on 16th on Slidery shore. Although Swallows were reported feeding young in Corrie on 27th, and seen in small numbers in Balnacoole, Kilpatrick and Machrie on 30th, the vast majority had gone. Indeed 45,000 Swallows were reported heading west from Reculver in Kent in three hours on 28th.

## **October**

October was warmer than normal with only a few unsettled days.

A wide variety of birds was reported throughout this month of Autumn migration, including two very scarce visitors: a Red-necked Grebe in Whiting Bay on 23rd and 24th; and a Turtle Dove in a garden in Brodick from 20th to the end of the month. The dove was with a group of up to fifteen Collared Doves. All were enjoying the bird seed being put out by the householders. There have only been six previous records on Arran this century, five in June/July and one in September. This one was certainly the longest staying.

Other sightings included: a Kingfisher at Port-na-Lochan on 10th; a Little Grebe in Lochranza and seventeen Common Scoter in Machrie Bay on 14th; an Arctic Skua off Cordon on 15th; a Great Skua off the Fallen Rocks on 21st and twenty Long-tailed Tits in Pirnmill on 28th.

The first report for Greylag Geese was six in the Shiskine Valley on 17th.

The latest reports for some summer visitors were three Sandwich Terns in Whiting Bay on 13th; a Wheatear in Lamlash on 16th; a Willow Warbler in Shiskine on 24th and four Gannets off Clachlands on 25th.

The first reports for some winter visitors were two Wigeon at Cleats shore on 1st; twenty six Rooks in South Feorline on 7th; twelve Redwings in Brodick Country Park on 13th; two Whooper Swans in Whiting Bay on 20th; eleven Pink-footed Geese in Lagg on 22nd and up to one hundred Fieldfares at Thunderguy on 25th.

With the hedgerows almost red with haws and other berries, the wintering thrushes, the Redwings and Fieldfares from the north, had plenty to feed on. On 22nd up to one thousand Redwings in seven or eight large flocks were seen in north Corrie and on 31st there were three to four hundred Redwings in Slidery. The Whooper Swans were also reported from various places on the island including thirty seven flying over Balnacool, and sixteen at Pirnmill both on 21st; seventeen at Cleats shore on 22nd; nine at Kildonan on 23rd; twenty west of Lagg on 24th and nineteen flying over High Kildonan on 25th. Most of these groups, other than the two in Whiting Bay, seemed to be passing through.

## **November**

During this month of unsettled weather, a number of scarce passage migrants were reported including a Slavonian Grebe in Whiting Bay on 4th; a Purple Sandpiper at Drumadoon Point on the 9th and a Black Redstart on the shore at Blackwaterfoot on 18 November. A Black Redstart was reported in the same area around the same time last year.

Also a Magpie, a rare bird for Arran but not the adjacent mainland, was reported from several areas around the island. It was first reported from Auchencairn in Whiting Bay on 4th. The next day there were reports from Slidery. Ten days later there was a report from Auchencar, before there was another sighting from Whiting Bay the next day. The last report for November was on 22nd from Auchencar. This is only the sixth record of Magpie on Arran in the last twenty five years.

The first returning Shelduck report was from Clachlands on 9th and the first Goldeneye was from Whiting Bay on 14th. Interestingly there were sightings of birds more associated with summer, including Gannet off the south end on 5th, and a Swallow over Shiskine Golf Course on 12th.

Other sightings included: thirty Twite at South Feorline on 1st; twelve Skylark at Drumadoon Farm on 3rd; six Goldcrests at Dyemill on 9th; a family of Whooper Swans at Whiting Bay on 14th; a male Blackcap in a garden in Machrie on 15th and a female in a garden in Shiskine on 16th; a Yellowhammer in Shiskine on 22nd and two Treecreepers in North Sannox on 27th.

Finally, giving some insight into the movement of birds, a dead female Blackbird was found with a ring on in a garden in Auchencairn on 4 November. It had been ringed on an island off the south of Norway earlier in the autumn.



## **December**

During December the unsettled weather continued. There were further sightings of the Magpie, which had been reported in November. The last sighting was from Corriecravie on 9 December. Another bird, which was first reported in November and again in December was a male Mandarin Duck. It was last reported from the Rosa Burn at the golf course on 7th. The Mandarin Duck breeds in eastern Siberia, China, and Japan and winters in southern China and Japan. While it was once widespread in eastern Asia it is now becoming endangered because of large scale exports and the destruction of its habitat. In the UK there is a free-flying population stemming from the release of captive bred ducks.

Other sightings included: a Kingfisher on Corriegills shore on 3rd; fifty Wigeon at Kildonan on 1st and forty three at Machrie on 17th; also on 17th a Great Crested Grebe in Whiting Bay; forty two Lapwing at Kilpatrick on 1st and a much larger group of around eighty were in the Shiskine Valley on 27th.

The year ended with a severe storm on Hogmanay, the 31 December, and a Shag, a bird more associated with the coast, was found on high ground on the top of the String Road.

## Summer Migrant Arrival Dates

	<b><i>"Earliest" Recorded Date</i></b>	<b>Recorded Arrival Date for 2006</b>
<b>Wheatear</b>	<i>13-Mar-05</i>	27-Mar-06
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	<i>17-Mar-05</i>	04-Apr-06
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	<i>20-Mar-94</i>	14-Apr-06
<b>Sand Martin</b>	<i>22-Mar-05</i>	02-Apr-06
<b>Swallow</b>	<i>23-Mar-05</i>	27-Mar-06
<b>House Martin</b>	<i>28-Mar-05</i>	29-Mar-06
<b>Common Sandpiper</b>	<i>29-Mar-98</i>	22-Apr-06
<b>Whinchat</b>	<i>01-Apr-88</i>	06-May-06
<b>Sandwich Tern</b>	<i>03-Apr-05</i>	07-Apr-06
<b>White Wagtail</b>	<i>07-Apr-96</i>	17-Apr-06
<b>Tree Pipit</b>	<i>07-Apr-90</i>	16-May-06
<b>Cuckoo</b>	<i>10-Apr-01</i>	19-Apr-06
<b>Garden Warbler</b>	<i>12-Apr-95</i>	03-Jun-06
<b>Whitethroat</b>	<i>17-Apr-06</i>	17-Apr-06
<b>Arctic Tern</b>	<i>18-Apr-99</i>	18-Apr-06
<b>Manx Shearwater</b>	<i>18-Apr-06</i>	18-Apr-06
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	<i>19-Apr-02</i>	28-Apr-06
<b>Grasshopper Warbler</b>	<i>19-Apr-89</i>	25-Apr-06
<b>Corncrake</b>	<i>20-Apr-90</i>	09-May-06 only date recorded
<b>Common Tern</b>	<i>21-Apr-93</i>	None recorded in 2006
<b>Spotted Flycatcher</b>	<i>24-Apr-87</i>	28-Apr-06
<b>Wood Warbler</b>	<i>26-Apr-96</i>	10-May-06
<b>Pied Flycatcher</b>	<i>28-Apr-98</i>	None recorded in 2006
<b>Lesser Whitethroat</b>	<i>30-Apr-02</i>	01-May-06
<b>Redstart</b>	<i>03-May-02</i>	None recorded in 2006
<b>Swift</b>	<i>05-May-97</i>	04-Jun-06
<b>Nightjar</b>	<i>23-May-94</i>	None recorded in 2006

## Systematic List 2006

### **Red-throated Diver** *Gavia stellata*

#### **Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

2 adults with 2 juveniles Machrie Bay 15 August; one adult and one juvenile off Carlo 6 September; and one juvenile off Slidderwaterfoot on 16 September. Groups included 5 in Whiting Bay on 30 March and 5 off Rubha Airidh Bheirg on 15 October.

### **Black-throated Diver** *Gavia arctica*

#### **Passage migrant with records from January to May and September to November 2006. Site of national importance for birds in autumn.**

Groups included 8 in Whiting Bay on 10 March, some in breeding plumage, 8 off Dougarie on 15 March, and two groups, one of 7 and one of 12, off Kings Cave on 6 May.

### **Great Northern Diver** *Gavia immer*

#### **Passage migrant. Records from January to May and September to December 2006.**

Groups included three off Dougarie on 10 May and three off South Feorline on 25 October.

### **Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

#### **Overwinters.**

One Rosa Burn 14 January and 5 December; one Fish Farm Lamlash Bay 12 February; one Port-na-Lochan from 9 to 30 December; and occasionally 2 at Lochranza 27 March, 14 October, 21 October; 8 November, 27 November. No evidence of breeding but one was reported displaying on an upland lochan on 28 April. (JR)

### **Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

#### **Occasional winter and passage migrant.**

One Whiting Bay 17 December. (MHD)

### **Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps grisegena*

#### **Occasional winter and passage migrant.**

One Whiting Bay 23-24 October. (MHD)

### **Slavonian Grebe** *Podiceps auritus*

#### **Occasional winter and passage migrant.**

One Whiting Bay 5 November. (J&AC)

### **Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis*

#### **Occasional winter and passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one Whiting Bay 15 December 2003.

**Fulmar** ( Northern Fulmar) *Fulmarus glacialis*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Nest areas included 15 Cleiteadh Buidhe 9 March; 3 Dun Fionn 15 March; 4 Catacol 28 March; 8 Kildonan 30 April; 5 Brown Head 4 May; 21 Drumadoon 4 May. There was only one reported large young, Cleiteadh Buidhe 14 August.

**Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris diomedea*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one off Porta Leacach 18 January 1997.

**Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one off Largymore 24 August 1996.

**Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus*

**Passage migrant with records from 18 April to 16 October.**

Large groups included 200 in Kilbrannan Sound on 11 June and 150 passing through Whiting Bay in an hour on 28 June.

**Mediterranean Shearwater** ( Balearic Shearwater) *Puffinus mauretanicus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one off Corriecravie 14 October 1990.

**Storm Petrel** (European Storm Petrel) *Hydrobates pelagicus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one off Cock of Arran 14 August 2004.

**Leach's Petrel** (Leach's Storm Petrel) *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one off Pirnmill 24 September 1991.

**Gannet** (Northern Gannet) *Morus bassanus*

**Nearest breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year but much more common in summer with records from 14 January to 17 December.**

Groups included 30 off Pirnmill 17 March, 65 in Whiting Bay 19 June and 78 off Dippen Head 18 October.

**Cormorant** (Great Cormorant) *Phalacrocorax carbo*

**No breeding records. Common round coast all year but less common than Shag.**

Groups included 34 Lamlash 15 January, 39 Lamlash 13 August and 42 Blackwaterfoot on 17 October.

**Shag** (European Shag) *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Nest area on Pladda 17 July 70-80 pairs and good numbers of young. Groups included 140 in Brodick Bay 1 January, 111 in Whiting Bay 4 August and 91 Blackwaterfoot on 11 August.

**Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was a dead one found in Shiskine on 10 March 1996.

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula*

**One record of this American species.**

It was recorded over the winter of 2001-02 mainly in the Cloy/Rosa burn area. Last record was on 28 March 2002 at Carlo/Corrie.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Nest areas in 2006 included 2 at Whitehouse Lamplash on 11 April and one at Lagg on 9 May. Groups included 5 at Machriewaterfoot on 8 August, 7 at Cosyden on 9 September and 6 at Machrie on 15 September.

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Pairs with young in August included 3 young at Lochranza on 3rd, 5 at Cleats shore on 8th, one at Machriewaterfoot on 8th, 5 at Clauchlands on 16th, 5 at Sannox on 17th, 5 at Newton on 17th, and 5 at Whiting Bay on 23rd. There were 7 pairs with young between Blackwaterfoot and Lochranza on 23 August. Winter groups included 24 between Cordon and Kings Cross on 31 January and 16 in Whiting Bay on 12 February.

**Bewick's Swan** (Tundra Swan) *Cygnus columbianus*

**Rare winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record was one at Lagg 6 January 1991.

**Whooper Swan** *Cygnus cygnus*

**Winter visitor and passage migrant**

Up to 6 adults and up to 4 young in Whiting Bay between 6 January and 24 April, a single remained until 4 May. Also in Whiting Bay there were 2 on 2 October, 4 on 4 November and 6 on 20 December. Passage groups included 29 in Kilbrannan Sound on 30 March, 37 at Balnacoole on 21 October and 24 West Lagg on 24 October.

**Pink-footed Goose** *Anser brachyrhynchus*

**Winter visitor and passage migrant.**

Two with Greylags in Shiskine Valley on 13 February increased to 30 by 20 March. 11 in fields in west Lagg from 22 to 31 October.

**White-fronted Goose** (Greater White-fronted Goose) *Anser albifrons*

**Occasional winter visitor.**

One bird with identification collar with Greylags in Shiskine Valley on 4 March.

**Greylag Goose** *Anser anser*

**Winter visitor**

Up to 400 in Shiskine Valley between 4 January and 30 March. Up to 300 in fields Sliderry and Lagg from 31 October to 12 December. 90 in Shiskine Valley on 6 December.

**Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*

**Occasional visitor.**

Seven on Pladda on 24 June (DK).

**Barnacle Goose** *Branta leucopsis*.

**Occasional winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record 8 Clachaig Farm 24 October 2005.

**Brent Goose** *Branta bernicla*

**Occasional winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record 16 in Brodick Bay on 6 October 2005.

**Shelduck** (Common Shelduck) *Tadorna tadorna*

**Breeding. Common round coast from January to July and November to December.**

Pairs with various numbers of young included: 10 young in Carlo on 17 May; 5 and 4 both in Clauchlands on 4 June; 6 in Kilpatrick on 18 June and 10 in Kildonan on 1 July. Groups included 21 in Machrie Bay on 1 July. First return after moult was one in Clauchlands on 5 November.

**Mandarin** *Aix galericulata*

**Introduced species which has bred regularly at Loch Eck, Cowal, Argyll in recent years.**

Male in Rosa and Cloy burns by Brodick Golf course from 14 November to 7 December.

**Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

**Winter visitor with records from January to March and October to December.**

Groups included 47 Auchenhew Bay on 18 February, 80 Machriewaterfoot on 9 March, 2 Clauchlands on 25 October, one Kilpatrick on 25 October and 50 Kildonan on 1 December.

**Teal** (Common Teal) *Anas crecca*

**Breeding and winter visitor. Common round coast from January to April and September to December.**

Pair with one young Machriewaterfoot 25 July. Groups included 112 on Kilpatrick shore on 12 February, 36 Machriewaterfoot on 27 March, 83 Torr Righ Beag on 19 October and 130 on Sliderry shore on 29 October.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Females with young included 12 in Brodick bay on 30 April, 9 in Blackwaterfoot on 6 May, 8 in Strabane on 8 May and 11 Machrie pond on 13 May. Groups included 70 at Cosyden on 1 February and 66 on Kilpatrick shore on 20 August.

**Pintail** ( Northern Pintail) *Anas acuta*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one on Machrie pond on 14 August 1994.

**Shoveler** (Northern Shoveler) *Anas clypeata*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 males at Machrie on 18 August 1996.

**Pochard** (Common Pochard) *Aythya ferina*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Lamlash on 21 March 1984.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

**Occasional visitor.**

Male in Blackwaterfoot and Port-na-Lochan from 21 April to 4 May and then in Lamlash Bay on 15 May.

**Scaup** (Greater Scaup) *Aythya marila*

**Occasional winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record a pair on Port-na-Lochan on 2 January 2003.

**Eider** (Common Eider) *Somateria mollissima*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Three females with 13 young at Corrie on 4 June, 2 females with 7 young Pirnmill on 14 July, and 3 females with 7 young at Cleats shore on 8 August. Groups included 20 Clauchlands on 12 February, 51 Whiting Bay on 14 May, 30 Machrie on 12 August and 29 Rubha Airigh Bheirg on 15 October.

**King Eider** *Somateria spectabilis*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record was a long staying drake in Lochranza with no records after 26 April 1980.

**Long-tailed Duck** *Clangula hyemalis*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Blackwaterfoot on 27 April 1998.

**Common Scoter** (Black Scoter) *Melanitta nigra*

**Occasional visitor.**

All sightings in Machrie Bay, one male on 9 April, 5 birds on 10 May and 17 on the 14 October.

**Velvet Scoter** *Melanitta fusca*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 off Catacol on 5 April 1998.

**Goldeneye** (Common Goldeneye) *Bucephala clangula*

**Winter visitor with records from January to May and November to December.**

Groups included 9 at Clauchlands on 12 February, and five in Brodick bay on 15 March. Latest spring record a female at Machriewaterfoot on 4 May and first autumn record a male at Glenashdale burn mouth on 14 November.

**Smew** *Mergellus albellus*

**Occasional winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record a male off Pirnmill on 28 November 2004.

**Red-breasted Merganser** *Mergus serrator*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year. Site of national importance.**

Female with 5 young in Machrie and female with 3 young Creag Dubh on 16 July. Groups included 130 at Machrie on 2 July and 40 at Pirnmill on 12 July.

**Goosander** *Mergus merganser*

**Breeding. First breeding record since 2003.**

Female with one young reported in Machriewaterfoot and Iorsa between 5 July and 1 September. Other sightings male Benlister burn 18 January, pair at Machriewaterfoot on 19 March, pair in Glenashdale burn on 2 April and pair at Machriewaterfoot on 7 December.

**Red Kite** *Milvus milvus*

**Occasional Visitor.**

One seen 18 March in Sandbraes and again in the same area on 12 April.



**Marsh Harrier** (Eurasian Marsh Harrier) *Circus aeruginosus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last recorded juvenile Lamlash 19 August 2004.

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*

**Resident. Breeding widespread. Internationally important area with five percent of UK breeding population.**

Poor breeding year. Weather and food supply implicated. Numerous widespread sightings including male and female in Kilpatrick on 10 February; 2 males on Machrie Moor 11 April; 2 males on Boguille 27 May; a food pass observed on Kilmory moor 3 June and male and female in North Sannox on 20 October.

**Goshawk** (Northern Goshawk) *Accipiter gentilis*

**No confirmed breeding.**

Singles recorded Dougarie on 3 February; Cordon on 3 March and on 15 April; Glen Rosa on 9 April and Machrie on 1 May.

**Sparrowhawk** (Eurasian Sparrowhawk) *Accipiter nisus*

**Resident. Breeding widespread.**

Numerous sightings throughout the year including 3 display flying over Machrie on 9 April.

**Buzzard** (Common Buzzard) *Buteo buteo*

**Resident. Breeding widespread.**

Numerous sightings throughout the year including 3 over Ross Road on 31 May; 7 over the String Road on 8 August and 3 over Machrie Golf Course on 11 August.

**Rough-legged buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last recorded Cleats shore 10 November 1974.

**White-tailed eagle** *Haliaeetus albicilla*

**Rare vagrant.**

Juvenile Dun Fionn 28 January. Adult at Sandbraes flew off towards Holy Isle 18 March.

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*

**Resident. Breeding.**

All territories occupied. Three young fledged.

Pair on Boguille on 14 January; pair over String Road on 2 April; pair in Glen Chalmadale on 9 April; one over the distillery Lochranza on 27 May; pair in Balmichael Glen on 3 September; a pair over the Witches Step on 18 October and one hunting hares on 6th fairway at Corrie Golf Course on 25 November.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

**Occasional passage migrant.**

One over flying Kilmory 4 April. (JR)

**Kestrel** (Common Kestrel) *Falco tinnunculus*

**Resident. Breeding widespread.**

Numerous sightings throughout the year. Pair on Shiskine Golf Course on 5 January; pair at Corriecravie on 30 May; pair feeding two fledglings at Machrie 6 July and a pair in Glen Rosa on 30 October.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*

**No confirmed breeding, possibly underreported. More widely distributed in winter and on passage.**

One female in Lamlash from 2 January to 9 March; a male in Glenloig on 21 February; a female in Dippen on 27 February; a female in Sannox on 7 March; a male in Glen Chalmadale on 7 June; a female Cleats shore on 10 September and a female by the Boguillie on 17 October.

**Hobby** (Eurasian Hobby) *Falco subbuteo*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last recorded Largiemore on 24 May 2002.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*

**Resident. Breeding widespread at inland and coastal sites.**

All territories occupied. Five young fledged. Numerous sightings throughout the year including a male at Clauchlands on 12 February, three climbing out to sea on thermals east of Maol Donn on 16 April, a male over Shiskine Golf Course on 23 April, one over Lochranza on 27 May, a pair near Corriecravie on 4 June, one flying over Shiskine on 14 October, a female at Catacol on 15 October and a female in Glen Sannox on 19 October.

**Red Grouse** (Willow Ptarmigan) *Lagopus scoticus*

**Resident. Breeding. Underreported.**

Coveys of up to 10 in Balmichael Glen area on 23 September.

**Ptarmigan** *Lagopus mutus*

**Very localised.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 Beinn Bhreac on 30 January 2005.

**Black Grouse** *Tetrao tetrix*

**Previously bred.**

No records for 2006. Last record a female in High Glen Cloy on 18 February 2000.

**Red-legged Partridge** *Alectoris rufa*

**Introduced species.**

Adult with 3 young Home Farm, Brodick on 22 July. Single pairs in Glen Cloy on 1 March, Dougarie on 11 March, Balmichael on 30 March and Lamlash on 9 April. Group of 24 released birds in Lamlash on 7 August.

**Grey Partridge** *Perdix perdix*

**Previously bred.**

One at Auchencar on 2 November. (MHD)

**Quail** (Common Quail) *Coturnix coturnix*

**Previously bred.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Kilpatrick plantation on 30 May 1995.

**Pheasant** (Common Pheasant) *Phasianus colchicus*

**Introduced species. Long-established, widespread, and common resident breeding bird,**

Reports from all areas including two leucistic birds in Kilpatrick.

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*

**Resident. No confirmed breeding,**

One calling Corriecravie ponds on 9 April and one calling from reed beds near Sliderry shore on 29 October.

**Spotted Crake** *Porzana Porzana*

**One historical record.**

One found dead by Pladda lighthouse on 24 October 1895.

**Corncrake** *Crex crex*

**Rare summer visitor. Previously bred.**

One calling Port-na-Lochan on 9 May. (GH)

**Moorhen** ( Common Moorhen) *Gallinula chloropus*

**Localised resident. Breeding.**

One adult with a young bird Machrie pond on 18 August. One juvenile on Port-na-Lochan pond from 7 November to 15 December.

**Coot** (Common Coot) *Fulica atra*

**Occasional visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Machrie pond on 21 April 2002.

**Crane** (*Grus grus*)

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 in Shiskine valley on 26 September 1989.

**Oystercatcher** (Eurasian Oystercatcher) *Haematopus ostralegus*

**Resident. Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Nests recorded Kilpatrick, Dougarie, Machrie, Clauchlands, Sandbraes, Cleats shore, Kildonan, Pladda.

Groups included 143 at Machriewaterfoot on 1 February, 60 at Kilpatrick on 8 October, 63 at Kildonan on 18 October and 112 at Machriewaterfoot on 8 December.

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*

**Resident. Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Nests recorded Kilpatrick, Dougarie, Machrie, Kilmory, Clauchlands, Sandbraes, Cleats, Kildonan.

Groups included 49 at Machriewaterfoot on 14 January, 62 at Blackwaterfoot on 12 February, 71 at Machriewaterfoot on 27 September, 51 at Kilmory on 17 October and 57 at Catacol on 21 October.

**Golden Plover** (European Golden Plover) *Pluvialis apricaria*

**Breeding and winter visitor. Common Machrie shore from January to April and July to December.**

Five successful territories in north western moor land. Groups at Machriewaterfoot included 126 on 24 April and 132 on 10 November. Other areas: 35 in Shiskine Valley on 4 March.

**Dotterel** *Charadrius morinellus*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one female Beinn Nuis/Beinn Tarsuinn on 6 May 1996.

**Grey Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Kilpatrick shore on 15 April 2005.



**Lapwing** (Northern Lapwing) *Vanellus vanellus*

**Breeding and winter visitor.**

One breeding record: adult with chicks Bennecarrigan 22 June. Groups included 45 at Port na Feannaiche on 29 January, 100 on Kilpatrick shore on 14 February, 30 at Corriecravie on 6 March and 80 in Shiskine Valley on 27 December.

**Knot** (Red Knot) *Calidris canutus*

**Passage migrant.**

Two on Blackwaterfoot shore on 14 February, one on Blackwaterfoot shore on 7 September and one on Cleats shore on 18 October.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*

**Passage migrant.**

Two on Kilmory beach on 4 June and one on Machrie beach on 19 August.

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 3 Machriewaterfoot on 8 September 2002.

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

One on Kildonan shore on 27 August. (AF)

**Purple Sandpiper** *Calidris maritima*

**Winter visitor.**

Groups included 7 on Kildonan shore on 29 January, one Blackwaterfoot shore on 18 February, 7 Kildonan shore on 27 February, one at Drumadoon Point on 9 November and 13 on Kildonan shore on 20 November.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*

**Passage migrant with records from most months of the year. No breeding records.**

Groups included 14 at Blackwaterfoot and 32 at Kildonan on 14 May, 7 at Drumadoon on 13 June and 10 at Cleats shore on 10 October.

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 Kildonan on 26 August 1987.

**Jack Snipe** *Lymnocyptes minimus*

**Uncommon winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record 3 Kilmory on 28 December 2005.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

**Resident but underreported breeder.**

No breeding records. Groups included 2 at Port na Feannaiche on 29 January, 5 at Cosyden on 9 September, 3 at Machriewaterfoot on 8 November and 2 at Kildonan on 22 December.

**Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus*

**One record of this American species.**

One juvenile was at Sliderrywaterfoot from 15 to 17 September 1990.

**Woodcock** (Eurasian Woodcock) *Scolopax rusticola*

**Resident but underreported breeder.**

No breeding records. Pairs flying at dusk at Brodick Country Park on 2 March, at North Kiscadale on 3 March, at Dyemill on 22 April, over Machrie Moor on 11 May and at Monamore burn on 10 June.

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Kildonan on 27 September 2005.

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

One on Blackwaterfoot shore on 8 June. (J&AC)

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

**Passage migrant and occasional winter visitor.**

Groups included 9 at Auchenhew bay on 22 April, 15 at Kildonan on 28 April, 2 at Sliderrywaterfoot on 9 May and one at Machriewaterfoot on 1 November.

**Curlew** (Eurasian Curlew) *Numenius arquata*

**Resident but unreported breeder.**

No breeding records. Short billed young birds in group of 29 on Cleats shore on 8 August. Other groups included 44 at Kilpatrick and at Kildonan shore on 15 January, 100 in Shiskine valley on 15 March, 80 on Corriecravie shore on 18 September and 60 at Machriewaterfoot on 8 December.

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erthropus*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Lamlash on 21 August 2004.

**Redshank** (Common Redshank) *Tringa totanus*

**Passage migrant with records from most months of the year. No breeding records.**

Groups included 16 at Blackwaterfoot on 7 January, 30 at Kildonan on 15 January, 39 at Whiting Bay on 16 August, 6 at Cleats shore on 18 October.

**Greenshank** (Common Greenshank) *Tringa nebularia*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 at Blackwaterfoot on 18 August 2005.

**Green Sandpiper** (*Tringa ochropus*)

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Kildonan on 1 August 2003.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

**Summer visitor with records from April to August. Breeding.**

Nest with four eggs at Drumadoon on 13 May. Pairs with 2 young at Drumadoon on 10 June, 2 young at Fallen Rocks on 27 June, 3 young Machrie on 3 July and 2 young on Kilpatrick shore on 14 August.

**Turnstone** (Ruddy Turnstone) *Arenaria interpres*

**Passage migrant with records from most months of the year.**

Groups included 26 at Machrie on 2 January, 28 at Whiting Bay on 12 February, 48 at Machriewaterfoot on 15 August, 53 at Kildonan on 22 October and 33 at Blackwaterfoot on 12 November.

**Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 in Wineport area of Brodick bay on 28 August 1983.

**Grey Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicarius*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Brodick bay on 23 March 1989.

**Pomarine Skua** *Stercorarius pomarinus*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one off Pirnmill on 3 October 1991.

**Arctic Skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

One off Cordon on 15 October. (AF)

**Great Skua** *Stercorarius skua*.

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

One off Lochranza on 19 August and one off Fallen Rocks on 21 October.

**Mediterranean Gull** *Larus melanocephalus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Catacol on 30 December 1992.

**Little Gull** *Larus minutus*

**Uncommon irregular visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Whiting Bay on 27 June 2005.

**Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus*

**Non breeding. Present round coast most of the year.**

Groups included 20 in Blackwaterfoot on 27 March, 20 in Lamlash on 16 July, 31 in Lamlash on 8 October, 30 in Whiting Bay on 16 October.

**Common Gull (Mew Gull)** *Larus canus*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Twenty eight nests at Dougarie on 7 June and 20 nests on Pladda on 24 June. Groups included 87 at Kildonan on 27 February.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** *Larus fuscus*

**Breeding. Common round coast from February to October.**

Two hundred plus pairs with some flying young on Pladda on 17 July. Other groups included 40 at Catacol on 19 August.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

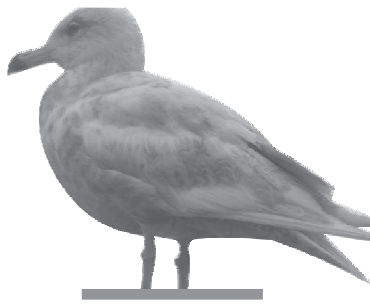
Groups included 200 on slurrried fields in Shiskine Valley on 26 January.

**Iceland Gull** *Larus glaucooides*

**Uncommon winter visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Kildonan on 3 March 2002.





**Glaucous Gull** *Larus hyperboreus*

**Uncommon winter visitor.**

A bird in first winter plumage was first reported north of Pirnmill on 8 March. On the 12 March it was in Whiting Bay. On 23 March it was in Lamlash. Last reported 30 March Whiting Bay.

**Great Black-backed Gull** *Larus marinus*

**Breeding. Common round coast all year.**

Two hundred plus pairs with some flying young on Pladda on 17 July. Six pairs on Pladda on 26 June. Groups included 27 on Brodick beach by golf course on 8 March.

**Sabine's Gull** *Larus sabini*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Brodick bay on 31 December 1994.

**Kittiwake** (Black-legged Kittiwake) *Rissa tridactyla*

**Non breeding. Present round coast with records from January to March and May to December.**

Large groups in Whiting Bay included 134 on 22 August, 700 on 14 September, 548 on 22 October and 200 on 20 November.

**Ivory Gull** *Pagophila eburnea*

**One historical record.**

One shot in Lamlash bay in 1895. There was one at Greanan near Ayr on the Ayrshire coast from 13 December 2006 to 3 January 2007.

**Ross's Gull** *Rhodostethia rosea*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Kildonan on 21 November 1995.

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Pirnmill on 12 September 1992.

**Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii*

**Rare summer visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record two at Dougarie on 5 May 1984.

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*

**Uncommon summer visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Blackwaterfoot on 4 August 2005.

**Arctic Tern** *Sterna paradisaea*

**Summer visitor. Breeding.**

On Pladda 15 pairs with 6 young on 24 June. Other sightings included one at Blackwaterfoot on 18 April, 3 at Kildonan on 28 May, 8 at Whiting Bay on 17 July, 5 at Kildonan on 12 July and 3 on Whiting Bay on 4 August.

**Little Tern** *Sterna albifrons*

**Uncommon summer visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Largiemore on 19 July 2005.

**Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicencis*

**Summer visitor. Non breeding.**

Groups included 7 at Whiting Bay on 25 April, 8 at South Feorline shore on 4 May, 6 at Whitefarland on 7 May, adult feeding 2 young at Blackwaterfoot on 19 August, 4 adults with 2 young at Whiting Bay on 23 August and 6 at Kildonan on 17 September.

**Little Auk** *Alle alle*

**Scarce and irregular winter visitor, usually seen after severe gales.**

No records for 2006. Last record one dead at Sandbraes on 7 January 2002.

**Razorbill** *Alca torda*

**Nearest breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year but more sightings in summer.**

Groups included 70 off Pirnmill on 21 January, 100 off Pirnmill on 16 February and 30 in Whiting Bay on 4 July.

**Guillemot** (Common Guillemot) *Uria aalge*

**Nearest breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year but more sightings in summer.**

Groups included 70 in Whiting Bay on 29 June, 270 off Catacol on 21 October and 500 off Pirnmill on 3 November.

**Black Guillemot** *Cepphus grylle*

**Breeding. Round coast all year.**

Two nests Kilpatrick on 4 May, one nest Brodick pier on 18 May, 5 nests Pladda on 24 June. Young bird with 2 adults in Whiting Bay on 14 June. Other groups included 3 Pirnmill on 9 February, 3 Brodick pier on 25 March, 16 between Drumadoon and Kings Cave on 6 May, 7 Thunderguy and 6 between Catacol and Lochranza on 12 July and 4 off Cleiteadh Buidhe on 16 August.

**Puffin** (Atlantic Puffin) *Fratercula arctica*

**Nearest breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year but more sightings in summer.**

Singles seen off the north of Arran on 30 April; off the Fallen Rocks and in Kilbrannan Sound on 27 May; from the Ardrossan ferry on 4 June; between Arran and Pladda on 7 December; and the body of an immature bird was on the shore at Slidery on 17 December.

**Pallas's Sandgrouse** *Syrhaptes paradoxus*

**One historical record.**

One mention in one source of being present in Arran during the irruption from Asia to Western Europe in 1888. No further details.

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia*

**Resident. Breeding.**

Groups included 6 Cleiteadh Buidhe on 29 March, 14 at Brown Head on 4 May, 29 at Dougarie on 16 August and 74 at Thunderguy on 17 October.

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*

**Very scarce.**

No records for 2006. Last record one on footpath to Fallen Rocks on 14 June 1989.

**Woodpigeon** (Common Woodpigeon) *Columba palumbus*

**Resident. Breeding.**

Groups included 33 at Machrie on 21 January, 20 at Sandbraes on 20 March and 32 in West Lagg on 12 November.

**Collared Dove** (Eurasian Collared Dove) *Streptopelia decaocto*

**Resident. Breeding.**

Present around all villages. Groups included 9 in Shiskine on 25 April and 15 in Brodick on 25 October.



**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*

**Occasional Visitor.**

One with a group of Collared Doves in Brodick from 25 October to 8 November. (N&HD)

**Cuckoo**(Common Cuckoo) *Cuculus canorus*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread.**

First one reported calling in Glen Sannox on 19 April. There was a group of three in Glen Rosa on 1 June.

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Most territories occupied: at least 3 pairs raised young. Poor breeding season in general. Sightings from Lochranza, Balmichael, Dougarie, Kilmory, String Road, Ross Road, Brodick, Lamlash and Corrie.

**Tawny Owl** *Strix aluco*

**Only records were from one long lived introduced bird in Brodick Country Park.**

**Long-eared Owl** *Asio otus*

**Resident possibly underreported. No confirmed breeding.**

Pair Machrie forest 19 January. (RL)

**Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus*

**Resident. Breeding.**

Poor year. Only one breeding record – minimum of three fledglings, Machrie. One Torbeg on 19 April; one Thunderguy on 26 April; one Machrie Moor on 11 May and one Cnoc Ballygowan on 25 June.

**Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*

**Summer visitor, previously bred.**

No records in 2006. Last record Maol Donn on 24 May 1998.

**Swift** (Common Swift) *Apus apus*

**Summer visitor and passage migrant. No breeding records. All reports from June and July.**

Groups included 3 over Dippen on 4 June, 8 over Kildonan on 8 June, 4 over the Ross Road on 8 June and 13 over Bennan Head on 26 June.

**Kingfisher** (Common Kingfisher) *Alcedo atthis*

**Resident. No confirmed breeding.**

One on Brodick pier on 20 February, one in Lochranza on 18 August, one Port-na-Lochan on 10 October; one Strathwillan shore on 24 November and one Doonan on 3 December



**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

**Vagrant.**

One photographed in a garden in Thunderguy on 25 June. (GR)

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised.**

Regularly seen at feeders by nature centre in Brodick Country Park from January to April. Also one north Glen Cloy on 3 March, one Kings Cross on 5 March, one near Home Farm Brodick 30 March, one Lamlash 10 April and one Merkland Wood on 20 April.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*

**Uncommon passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record in Sannox on 25 September 1997.

**Skylark** (Sky Lark) *Alauda arvensis*

**Resident with increased numbers in winter. Breeding.**

Breeding territories occupied in Machrie, Kilpatrick, Drumadoon, Torrylinn, and Sannox. Groups included 7 at Sliderry on 16 September and 12 at Drumadoon on 3 November.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised.**

Breeding territories occupied in Strabane, Sannox, Auchencar and Kilpatrick with up to 20 tunnels being used in Sannox on 11 June. Groups included 12 over Port-na-Lochan on 5 April and 32 in Glen Sannox on 29 April.

**Swallow** (Barn Swallow) *Hirundo rustica*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread.**

Thirty occupied nests in Kilpatrick on 17 August. Groups included 40 over the Heights on 22 April, 100 over Kildonan on 7 August, 45 over Auchengallon on 16 August. Last one Shiskine Golf Course on 12 November.

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread.**

Numbers of occupied nests included 14 at Lamlash Hospital on 6 July, and 16 at Corriecravie on 7 July. Groups included 20 over Sliderrywaterfoot on 9 May, 30 over Corrie on 4 July, 60 over Kildonan on 7 August and 100 over Whiting Bay on 13 August.

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*

**Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported. No breeding records.**

Singles at Brodick Country Park on 16 May, above Gaery Slip on 30 May, on Ross Road on 4 June and at Auchenhew on 6 August.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pair carrying food Kilpatrick on 8 June. Groups included 50 at Clauchlands on 12 February, 50 in Brodick Castle park fields on 20 April, 30 at Cleats shore on 10 September, as well as groups passing south along Machrie shore throughout September.

**Rock Pipit** *Anthus petrosus*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread along the coast.**

Adults with small young at Kildonan on 29 May. Pair carrying food Kilpatrick on 8 June. Groups included 14 Cleats shore on 23 August, 20 Drumadoon on 8 October, 21 Lochranza on 14 October and 80 at Kildonan on 20 November.

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*

**Scarce passage migrant.**

Two flying south over Cleats shore on 23 April. (TS)

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised.**

Pair carrying food at Auchenhew on 26 May and at South Feorline on 29 May. Nest with 5 chicks at Kildonan on 2 June. Family of 4 Shiskine on 4 July and family of 7 in Slidderlywaterfoot on 8 August. Other groups included 2 at Clauchlands on 1 January and 3 at Machriewaterfoot on 27 March.

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pair carrying food at Kilpatrick on 25 May, at Auchenhew on 26 May, and at Dippen on 7 June. Family of 5 in Slidderlywaterfoot on 8 August. Groups included 14 at Blackwaterfoot on 15 August and 18 at Kildonan on 18 October.

**White Wagtail** *Montacilla alba*

**Passage migrant.**

Groups included 8 Auchenhew on 22 April, 12 Cleats shore on 23 April, 5 Blackwaterfoot on 4 May, 52 Cleats shore on 10 September, 25 Cleats shore on 24 September, 8 Kilpatrick on 8 October, as well as groups passing south along Machrie shore throughout September.

**Waxwing** (Bohemian Waxwing) *Bombycilla garrulus*

**Irruption winter visitor in varying numbers; not seen every year.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Pirnmill on 27 December 2005.

**Dipper** (White-throated Dipper) *Cinclus cinclus*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pairs recorded at Rosa, Monamore, Margnaheglish and Ashdale burns. Also pairs at Auchenhew, Slidderlywater, Machriewater and Lochranza. Tend to move towards coast in winter.

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Records from varied habitats through out the island. Groups included two adults with 8 young on Kilpatrick shore on 8 June.

**Dunnock** (Hedge Accentor) *Prunella modularis*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pair carrying food at Kilpatrick on 8 June, at Machrie on 11 June and at Whiting Bay also on 11 June.

**Robin** (European Robin) *Erithacus rubecula*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pair feeding young at Whiting Bay on 7 July, Kilpatrick on 16 August and Lamlash 19 August. Group of 4 in Corrie on 24 October.

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*

**Scarce passage migrant.**

Male in a Shiskine garden on 24 April. Juvenile on Blackwaterfoot shore on 8 November.

**Redstart** (Common Redstart) *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

**Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported, previously bred.**

No records for 2006. Last record male in High Kildonan on 7 August 2004.

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised.**

Pairs and singles recorded Glenscorradale, Machrie moor, Glen Rosa, Auchenhew and Laggan.

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pairs with young; 4 young at Auchenhew on 4 May, 4 at Bennan Head on 6 May, 3 at Brown Head on 29 May, 2 at Kildonan on 29 May. Groups included 11 at Kildonan on 9 October, 12 between Lagg and North Sannox on 4 July and 6 between Kilpatrick and Drumadoon on 17 December.

**Wheatear** (Northern Wheatear) *Oenanthe oenanthe*

**Summer visitor and passage migrant. Breeding. Widespread.**

First reported: a male at Machrie on 27 March. Pair carrying food Kilpatrick shore 8 June. 2 juveniles Cleats on 22 July, and 2 juveniles at Machrie on 15 August. Family of 5 Cleats shore on 8 August. On passage a group of 5 "Greenland" Wheatears ringed on Sliderry shore on 16 September.

**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*

**Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported.**

Single bird calling east side of Cir Mhor 9 June. (MW)

**Blackbird** (Common Blackbird) *Turdus merula*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pairs reported from all villages. Largest group 11 at Clauchlands on 9 July.

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*

**Winter visitor with records from January to April and October to November.**

Groups, sometimes with Redwings, included 20 at Torbeg on 4 February, 100 Shiskine on 4 March, 200 Home Farm Brodick on 9 October, and 200 Machrie on 14 November. A few mixed flocks with Redwing each about 100-200 birds passed over trees below North High Corriecroft in five minutes on 22 October. Estimated at about 1000 birds in all.

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pairs reported from all villages. Largest group 6 at Ferry Rock on 24 October.

**Redwing** *Turdus iliacus*

**Winter visitor with records from February to March and November to December.**

Groups, sometimes with Fieldfares included 100 High Kildonan 26 February, 200 Lochranza on 21 October, and 31 Sliderry on 31 October. A few mixed flocks with Fieldfares each about 100 to 200 passed over trees below North High Corriecroft in five minutes on 22 October. Estimated at about 1000 birds in all.

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Carrying food Brodick Country Park on 15 May. Groups included 4 at Kilpatrick on 6 March, 4 at Machrie on 11 May and 30 at Sannox on 11 September.

**Grasshopper Warbler** (Common Grasshopper Warbler) *Locustella naevia*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Records from April to July.**

Records included one reeling at Kilmory from 25 April, one Auchenhew on 1 May, one Maynish on 5 May, one Balnacoole on 7 May, one Kildonan on 10 July and one Shiskine on 19 July.



**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread. Records from April to August.**

Records included 2 singing Auchenhew on 28 April, one at Port-na-Lochan on 9 May, 4 at Kildonan on 3 June, one at Corriecravie on 7 June, one at Clauchlands on 14 June, and 6 in Auchenhew Bay on 2 July.

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*

**Scarce summer visitor. No breeding records.**

Two birds singing at Auchenhew Bay from 1 to 6 May.

**Whitethroat** (Common Whitethroat) *Sylvia communis*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread. Records from April to September.**

Pairs feeding young at Port-na-Lochan on 5 June, Cleats shore on 22 August and at Clauchlands on 23 August. Other records included 3 at Auchenhew on 30 April, one Machrie on 6 May, one Benlister on 18 May, one Kildonan on 29 May and one Dougarie on 8 June.

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*

**Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported.**

A single singing between Lamlash and Brodick on 3 June and a single at Auchenhew Bay on 23 September.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*

**Summer visitor and winter visitor. Breeding. Widespread. Records from March to December.**

Records included male in Lamlash on 28 March, male in Cladach on 22 April, 2 males and a female in Whiting Bay on 28 April, a male in Pirnmill on 29 April, 4 singing males in Brodick Country Park on 10 May, male in Machrie on 15 November, a female in Shiskine on 18 November and a male in Dippen on 13 December.

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*

**Very rare and irregular passage migrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Kilmory on 11 December 1995.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Records from May to June.**

With the exception of 2 singing in birch wood at entrance to Glen Rosa on 1 June all records were from Merkland where there were sightings between 10 May and 6 June.

**Chiffchaff** (Common Chiffchaff) *Phylloscopus collybita*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Records from April to June.**

Records included one Lagg wood on 4 April, one Home Farm, Brodick, on 14 April, 2 in Merkland wood on 21 April, 3 in Brodick Country Park on 8 May and one in Whiting Bay on 24 May.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread. Records from April to October.**

Pairs feeding young at Machrie on 8 June, on Machrie moor, on 25 June, in Kilpatrick on 29 July.

Other records included one Kildonan on 14 April, one Sandbraes on 16 April, one Clauchlands on 20 April, 6 in Brodick Country Park on 8 June, 1 in Machrie on 14 October and one in a Shiskine garden 24 October.

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Family group with 2-3 young Fallen Rocks on 27 May, adults feeding young Sannox on 22 June. Other records included one Kilpatrick on 7 January, one Whiting Bay on 13 January, one Glen Shurig on 17 May, one Pirnmill on July, 5 in Brodick Country Park on 6 August, 1 Corrie on 25 December.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*

**Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Records from April to September.**

Nest with 4 eggs in Whiting Bay on 13 May, and nest with 5 eggs Dyemill on 7 June. Adult feeding young bird at Corrie on 11 August. Other records included 2 in Shiskine on 28 April, 2 in Machrie on 15 August and 6 at Home Farm, Brodick on 12 September.

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

**Irregular summer visitor.**

No records for 2006. Last record one on Newton shore on 28 April 1998.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 8-9 young by Fallen Rocks path on 27 May. Other records included 7 in Lamlash on 2 March, 5 in Glen Ashdale on 5 August, 20 in Pirnmill on 28 October and 12 in Corriegills on 5 December.

**Willow Tit** *Parus montanus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one North Sannox on 13 May 2004.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 2 young at Machrie on 26 June and 2 young at Kilpatrick on 6 August. Reports from all villages of birds visiting garden feeders.

**Blue Tit** *Parus caeruleus*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 2 young at Kilpatrick on 18 June and 1 young at Margnaheglish on 19 June. Reports from all villages of birds visiting garden feeders.

**Great Tit** *Parus major*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 4 young at Kilpatrick on 18 June and 3 young at Margnaheglish on 19 June. Reports from all villages of birds visiting garden feeders.

**Nuthatch** (Wood Nuthatch) *Sitta europea*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Corrie on 25 June 2002.

**Treecreeper** (Eurasian Treecreeper) *Certhia familiaris*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Family group of 5 in Glen Ashdale on 5 August. Other records of single birds includes Dyemill on 21 January, Merkland on 2 February, Clauchlands on 12 February, Machrie on 19 August, and Sannox on 27 November.

**Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record a female in Lochranza on 7 June 1979.

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record a male at Kildonan on 27 September 1997.

**Great Grey shrike** *Lanius excubiter*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one at Sannox on 30 October 2000.

**Jay** ( Eurasian Jay) *Garrulus glandarius*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Brodick Country Park on 24 October 1985.



**Magpie** (Black-billed Magpie ) *Pica pica*

**Vagrant. Only six previous records in last twenty five years.**

A bird was first reported at Auchencairn on 4 November. The following day it was reported from Sliderry. From 15 November until 3 December it was at Auchencar. Last reported at Corriecravie ponds on 9 December.

**Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

**Rare vagrant, previously bred.**

No records for 2006. Last record 5 in Lochranza on 5 July 2001.

**Jackdaw** (Eurasian Jackdaw) *Corvus monedula*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

At Drumadoon 8 nests on 2 May. Groups included 111 High Kildonan on 18 March. 120 in Kilpatrick on 28 August and 80 Pirnmill on 8 December.

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*

**Winter visitor.**

Groups included 3 in Shiskine on 9 April, 7 on Braehead Farm on 16 September, 3 Cleats shore on 18 September, 26 in South Feorline on 7 October, and 2 at Lochranza on 15 October.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone* : **Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix*

**Both species including intermediates are common residents. Breeding. Widespread.**

No breeding records. Groups included 120 at Cleats shore on 28 February, and 100 in the Roddin on 12 November.

**Raven** (Common Raven) *Corvus corax*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Pairs at Dun Fionn on 4 February, Brown Head on 9 March, Cnocan on 15 April, Corriecravie on 4 May, Bennan Head on 10 May and Brodick Country Park on 14 August. Largest group 16 in Glen Rosa on 23 October.

**Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one adult in Brodick on 28 June 2002.



**Starling** (Common Starling) *Sturnus vulgaris*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Nests reported included 2 Pirnmill on 11 April and 2 Kildonan on 21 May. A young leucistic bird reported in Machrie on 9 June and Shiskine Valley on 15 June. Groups included 150 Kilpatrick on 6 March, 150 in Blackwaterfoot on 22 October and 400 in Sliderry on 29 October.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 4 young in Shiskine on 22 May, 3 young in Machrie on 27 May, and 3 young in Kilpatrick on 8 June. Groups included 10 in Corrie on 15 February, 16 at Balmichael on 1 May, 30 in Whiting Bay on 20 July, 25 in Lamlash on 16 September and 20 in Kildonan on 18 October.

**Tree Sparrow (Eurasian Tree Sparrow)** *Passer montanus*

**Rare vagrant, previously bred.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 in Brodick on 17 June 1997.

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 2 young in Kilpatrick on 18 June. Groups included 35 in Shiskine on 19 March, 60 at Balmichael on 8 August, 100 in Brodick Country Park on 18 August, 30 in Sannox on 4 September, 60 in Machrie on 7 October and 44 at Auchrannie on 19 October.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*

**Irruptive winter visitor in varying numbers; not seen every year.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 in Strathwhillan on 13 December 2005.

**Greenfinch (European Greenfinch)** *Carduelis chloris*

**Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.**

Adults feeding 4 young in Kilpatrick on 18 June, and 3 young in Kildonan on 27 June. Groups included 15 in Kilmory on 17 October, 30 in Lochranza on 22 October, 200 in Sannox on 23 October and 100 in Shiskine Golf Course on 8 December.

**Goldfinch (European Goldfinch)** *Carduelis carduelis*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread. No records in December.**

Pair with 2 young in Brodick Country Park on 24 June. Groups included 7 at Shiskine on 7 February, 18 in Kilpatrick on 13 August, 50 in Clauchlands on 15 September, 100 Braehead Farm on 16 September, 120 Shiskine Golf Course on 19 October and 12 in South Feorline on 25 October.

**Siskin (Eurasian Siskin)** *Carduelis spinus*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Most records between January and June.**

Adults feeding 2 young in High Kildonan on 29 May and 4 young at Torbeg on 8 August. Groups included 3 in Whiting Bay on 14 February, 6 in Kilpatrick on 25 April, 20 in Torbeg on 8 August and 20 in Corrie on 26 November.

**Linnet** (Common Linnet) *Carduelis cannabina*

**Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Most records between April and November.**

Adults with young on Cleats shore on 24 June. Groups included 25 at Drumadoon on 7 August, 70 on Cleats shore on 13 September, 300 on Braehead Farm on 16 September, 50 at Clauchlands on 17 September and 120 on Shiskine Golf Course on 19 October.

**Twite** *Carduelis flavirostris*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised. Most records in spring and autumn.**

No breeding records. Records included a male singing Auchenhew on 1 April, 2 adults at Clauchlands on 4 April, 4 at Cleats shore on 23 April, 6 at Torbeg on 14 August, 2 at Fallen Rocks on 24 October and 30 on South Feorline shore on 9 November.

**Redpoll** (Lesser Redpoll) *Carduelis cabaret*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised. Most records in spring.**

No breeding records. Records included 2 in Merkland wood on 14 March, one in Brodick on 29 April, one in Kilpatrick on 5 May, 3 in Machrie on 23 June and one in Corrie on 26 November.

**Crossbill** (Common Crossbill) *Loxia curvirostra*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised.**

No breeding records. Records included 2 at Home Farm, Brodick, on 10 March, a male near the Auchrannie on 5 July and 6 in Glenrickard on 20 December.

**Scarlet Rosefinch** ( Common Rosefinch) *Carpodacus erythrinus*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one juvenile at High Kildonan on 24 October 1999.

**Bullfinch** (Common Bullfinch ) *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised.**

Adults feeding 1 young in Whiting Bay on 5 April, and 2 young in Torbeg on 18 August. Groups included 3 males in Brodick Country Park on 16 February, a female and 4 males at Merkland Point on 3 March and 2 females and 2 males in Sannox on 3 October.

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

**Rare vagrant.**

No records for 2006. Last record one Margnaheglish on 26 April 2000.

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

**Varying numbers on passage and in winter.**

No records for 2006. Last record one in Glen Rosa on 13 December 2005.

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised. Most records between January and March and in November and December.**

No breeding records for 2006. Records included one at Braehead farm on 13 January, 2 males and a female in Shiskine on 11 February, 4 in Shiskine on 21 March, 2 in Dippen on 27 March and 2 males and a female in Shiskine on 13 December.

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*

**Resident. Breeding. Localised.**

No breeding records. Records included a female at Port na Feannaiche on 29 January, a male at Port-na-Lochan on 8 April, a pair at Machrie pond on 23 April, a male at Drumadoon on 23 April, a female at Braehead farm on 16 September and a male on Cleats shore on 18 October.

**Corn bunting** *Miliaria calandra*

**Rare vagrant, previously bred.**

No records for 2006. Last record 2 in Brodick area on 7 October 1984.

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