

Arran Bird Report 2010



Published by the Arran Natural History Society in 2011.

Compiled by Jim Cassels, Bird Recorder for the Arran Natural History Society

| Contents | Page |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Arran Natural History Society | Inside front cover |
| Contents | (i) |
| List of Contributors | (ii) |
| Introduction | 3 |
| Chronological Summary | 4 |
| Weather | 14 |
| Summer Migrant Arrival Dates | 15 |
| Bird Atlas 2007-2011 | 16 |
| Wetland Bird Survey | 17 |
| Eider Survey | 18 |
| Arran Moors SPA | 19 |
| Barn Owl Project | 20 |
| Black Grouse Report | 21 |
| Bird Ringing on Arran | 23 |
| Systematic List | 26 |
| Species requiring a description | 57 |
| Index by Common Name | 58-60 |
| Birdwatchers Code | Inside back cover |

List of Contributors 2010

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| M. Allan | M. Currie | H. Hamilton | S. McMahon | K. Sampson |
| J. & B. Anthony | E. Dale | L. Hartley | J. McManus | K. Sayer |
| S. Archer | J. Daniels | P. Heivers | T. McNeish | D. Scott |
| T. Baboolal | N. & H. Davidson | D. Henderson | D. Macniven | S. Scott |
| M. Baillie | D. Dee | N. Henderson | D. McQueen | J. Sills |
| R. Baker | M. Devine | F. Hoban | P. McWatters | G. Small |
| T. & S. Bambridge | A. Dinwoodie | C. Hocking | R. Mair | T. & C. Southall |
| A. Banks | J. Dinwoodie | L. Hocking | L. Mansfield | A. Stefanuti |
| G. Bannatyne | C. Drennan | K. & A. Hogge | K. Mawson | A. Stevenson |
| S. Bannatyne | F. Dowell | L. Holburn | N. May | E. Stevenston |
| J. Baraclough | H. Driver | A. & J. Hollick | B. & R. Mearns | B. Stewart |
| R. Barnden | A. Duncan | F. & L. Hopkins | E. Miller | R. & M. Stewart |
| A. Barr | M. Dunn | M. Howes | J. Milller | S. Strachan |
| R. Besant | A. Elliot -Walker | J. Howie | R. Milligan | I. Struthers |
| D. Bevan | P. Emsley | G. Hulme | C. Mills | B. Swann |
| A. Bigrigg | A. Fannin | A. & S. Hume | P. & G. Moon | W.B. & M.G. Tait |
| J. Bonthron | I. Farquharson | M. Iutz | D. Morrison | F. Tait |
| C. Boon | V. Firminger | A. & C. Irving | J. Morrison | S. Talbot |
| M. Boothman | J. & J. Fitzpatrick | J. & G. Jackson | J. Murchie | E. Taylor |
| M. Boyett | A. Fallows | S. Jackson | M. Murchie | A. & R. Thompson |
| I. Boyle | S. Ferris | P. Jardine | J. Nelson | P. & A. Thompson |
| B. Brock | Lady J. Fforde | M. Jeeves | A. Nicol | S. & K. Thompson |
| D. Brookes | J. Fish | D. & P. Johnston | J. Nichol | N. & B. Thomson |
| F. Brown | R. Flannagan | H. Kemp | C.G. Norman | J. Totty |
| H. & H. Brown | A. Fletcher | M. Kerr | North Ayr. RSPB Group | D. & T. Turner |
| K. Brown | M. Flynn | S. Kerr-Hunter | M. & D. Oakes | C. & D. Turbett |
| S. Bullen | J. Ford | B. & E. Kinnaird | N. Page | R. & M. Tweedsdale |
| S. Bunyan | S. & J. Ford | S. King | D. & M. Parker | D. Underdown |
| G. Bussell | Z. Frayne | H. Knight | V. & S. Pierce | W. Vanderveken |
| M. Burton | S. & A. Freear | F. Laing | J. Plenderleith | H. Vernon |
| K. Calman | D. Freeman | R. Lambie | P. Potter | A. Walker |
| A. & C. Cameron | N. Frost | S. Lambie | V. Price | B. Walker |
| J. Cameron | A. Fyffe | B. Latham | A. Prince | G. Walker |
| D. Campbell | R. & A. Garratt | A. Latona | D. Proctor | L. Walker |
| E. Campbell | N. Garraway | J. Lees | L. Proudfoot | H. Walker |
| J. Campbell | D. Gilby | P. Lock | F. Rae | G. & J. Wallace |
| A. & J. Cassels | R. & J. Gibson | R. Logan | D.F Reid | L. & S. Wallace |
| L. Cassels | F. Gillies | M.H. Lyth | J. Rhead | J. & A. Walsh |
| C. Chalmers | N. Gillies | C. McAllister | J. Richardson | D. Walsh |
| R. Cheshire | M. Given | A. McBain | B. Roberts | A. Walters |
| T. Church | J. Glenscorrodale | T. McCann | L. Robertson | N. Wells |
| Z. Clelland | C. Goekeritz | C. & C. McCort | A. Robinson | A. White |
| B. Cochrane | M. Granger | J. McDonald | C. Robinson | M. Whitmore |
| S. Collins | D. Grant | M. McGinty | C. & A. Robinson | J. Wilkinson |
| B. Couper | J. & I. Grant | A.J. McGowan | M. Robinson | J. Williams |
| D. Cowan | J. Gray | J. Mackenzie | G. Ross | J. Wilson |
| S. & R. Cowan | J. Green | J. McKillop | J. & J. Sale | P. Wright |
| B. & J. Cowell | S. Hall | J. McKinnon | D. Samuels | T. & M. Young |
| A. & V. Cross | E. Hamilton | M. McLelland | A. Sallow | B. Zonfrillo |

Introduction

Welcome to the Arran Bird Report for 2010. This is the thirty first consecutive annual bird report for the Isle of Arran and the fifth 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: Terry Southall, our resident ringer, Andy Walker and Malcolm Whitmore for their local knowledge of raptors, Robert Logan for his work on Barn Owls and Bernie Zonfrillo, the bird recorder for the Clyde Islands. The input of the local "volunteers" involved in the BirdAtlas survey and in the 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 and to BirdGuides www.birdguides.com. At the writing stage, the advice of the committee and the editing and proof reading skills of Angela Cassels and Alan Hollick 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: Angela Cassels, Brian Couper, Norma Davidson, Robert Lambie, Dennis Morrison, Carl Reavey, G Wallace and Walter Vanderveken. Finally, my thanks to the contributors. There would be no report without their input.

Over the year I have been encouraged by the number of people, locals and visitors, who have contacted me by email, letter and phone. 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 encourage everyone to share their bird sightings with me, so that the basis of our annual Arran Bird Report can be as comprehensive as possible.

In 2010, almost three hundred contributors submitted nearly five thousand records on one hundred and fifty seven 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 2010.

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.

For 2011, please send any bird notes with "what, when, where" to me before Monday 9 January 2012, at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or telephone 01770 860316 (you can leave a message), or email me at james.cassels@virgin.net.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Jim Cassels, the Bird Recorder of the Arran Natural History Society

Chronological Summary

January

The exceptional cold weather that saw out 2009 continued into 2010, with a prolonged cold spell for the first ten days or so of January, then a little respite before overnight frosts returned to end the month. December and January were one of the coldest in Scotland since records began.

This cold spell impacted on bird life on Arran. Sources of food for some species of bird became scarce. For example one observer reported dead birds including Robin in Auchenhew Bay on 2 January, while another observer watched twelve Robins following a harvester that was disturbing the ground in Dyemill forest. As frost penetrated the ground, areas to feed became restricted and areas where some food was available became popular. Another example was a field in Kildonan on 14th that had over ten species of bird including four species of thrush in one small area. In addition, the numbers of some resident species seem to have been increased by birds from the colder continent seeking the relatively milder climate on Arran. These included twenty Blackbirds in High Kildonan on 7th and eight Jack Snipe by Kilpatrick pond on 14th. Reports of Lapwing were widespread with sightings from Lochranza to Kildonan and from Shiskine to Brodick, with the largest group being around one hundred in Shiskine on 25th. Woodcock was another species with lots of reports in January, including nine in a garden in Shannochie on 13th.

In the cold weather, some unusual birds turned up in gardens, including two Waxwing in Lamlash on 2nd, three Bullfinches in Cladach on 3rd, a female Brambling in High Kildonan on 8th, a male Blackcap in Whiting Bay on 19th and two male and three female Yellowhammers in Shiskine on 31st. Also from Shiskine was the largest of a number of reports of Siskin, with nine on 31st. In addition, flocks of wintering thrushes were widespread, including one hundred and twenty Fieldfare in High Kildonan on 16th and over one hundred Redwing in Kilmory on 26th.

Other winter groups included: four Goldeneye off Corrie on 1st, two Great Northern Divers off Kilpatrick on 1st, four Whooper Swans at Sandbraes on 4th, twenty Twite on Cleats Shore on 5th, one hundred and fifty Chaffinches at High Kildonan on 7th, eleven Purple Sandpipers at Kildonan on 14th, fifty Woodpigeon in Shiskine on 23rd, three hundred Greylag Geese in Shiskine on 23rd, four Red-throated Divers off Blackwaterfoot on 24th, one hundred Teal at Kilpatrick Point on 24th, eight Black-throated Divers in Lochranza on 25th, one hundred and forty Starlings in Kilmory on 26th and fifteen Wigeon by Torr nan Uair also on 26th.

Other bird sightings in January included: nine Red Grouse on A'Chruach on 2nd, a Bar-tailed Godwit in Kildonan on 8th, a Water Rail calling in Kildonan on 24th and Kingfisher at Fisherman's Walk Brodick on 2nd and at the mouth of the Glenashdale Burn on 8th.

There were signs of approaching spring with Gannet off Kildonan from 1st to 24th, a Fulmar on the cliff at Bennan Head on 26th and a Lesser Black-backed Gull in Kilmory shore also on 26th. But the winter was not over.

February

In February the cold protracted spell of weather continued, with generally dry bright days and frosty nights. Winds were light and predominantly from the east. The mean temperature for the month was half the mean temperature of February 2009.

This cold spell of almost three months had an impact on the bird life on Arran. The extent of this may only be revealed in the months and years ahead. Here is one initial example of a comparison between November and February in the number of birds seen on identical timed inland walks. In several two hour walks, the number of species of birds seen was down by around 80% and the number of birds seen was down by around 90%. Birds like the Stonechat are known to migrate from higher ground to lower ground in winter, but for February I have no records at all for Stonechat on Arran. Previous studies of Stonechat by our resident bird ringer have shown that, while some Stonechats remain on Arran over the winter, others migrate to southern Europe and North Africa. The latter group had chosen the better survival strategy this winter.

With sources of food for some species of bird becoming scarce, gardens were havens for many species including Long-tailed Tit, who delighted garden birdwatchers in a wide range of gardens including in Auchencairn, Brodick, Cordon, Kildonan, Lamlash, Pirmill, Strabane and Whiting Bay. Other unusual garden birds included a Great Spotted Woodpecker in Pirmill on 3rd, nine Goldfinches in Lamlash on 5th, six Yellowhammers in Shiskine on 7th, up to thirty Chaffinches in Kilpatrick on 9th, Reed Bunting in Shiskine on 10th, Grey Wagtail in Whiting Bay on 13th, a male Blackcap in Whiting Bay on 14th and Bullfinch in Pirmill on 16th.

Winter visitors were to the fore including twelve Goldeneye at Kilmory on 14th, a Merlin in North Feorline on 15th, fourteen Redwing at Bennecarrigan on 16th, thirty Fieldfare in High Kildonan on 17th, eleven adult and two juvenile Whooper Swan in Whiting Bay on 20th, fifty Golden Plover at Shiskine and one Little Grebe on the Rosa Burn on 21st. Also on 21st in Cosyden there were forty one Teal and twenty eight Wigeon, with Purple Sandpiper at Dhunan on 22nd and two hundred and fifty Greylag and seventy Lapwing on Cleats Shore on 28th.

The predominantly calm sea was good for sea watching, with good numbers of all three divers reported including four Red-throated Divers in Whiting Bay on 10th, six Black-throated Divers off Fairy Dell on 16th and four Great Northern Divers off Drumadoon on 21st. In addition a Great Crested Grebe was reported off Kingscross on 17th. While widespread in some parts of the UK, this species is an occasional winter and passage migrant on Arran. Other sightings included a Goshawk in Kildonan on 9th and two male Goosanders at Machriewaterfoot on 21st.

Finally, there were some signs of approaching spring with reports of garden birds in song throughout the island, including Greenfinch in Lochranza on 11th, six pairs of Fulmars on the cliffs at Catacol on 18th and a pair of Golden Eagles displaying over Lochranza in a clear blue sky on 28th.

March

The dry cold spell of January and February continued well into March. On Sunday 7 March a group of five Ptarmigan were reported on the east side of the ridge of Coire nam Meann on the approach to Goatfell summit. Arran is one of the most southerly areas for this species and this is the largest group reported on the island since 1995. On Monday 8 March a group of around twenty Snow Buntings was reported on the approach to Goatfell summit just below the summit. This is a very large group for Arran. The extreme weather in the north may have driven these species south onto Arran.

Around the 17 March, more unsettled weather with winds from a southerly direction seemed to encourage the arrival of the first of the spring migrants. The first Wheatear was reported on 20th at Clauchlands Point. On the same day a single Sand Martin was hawking flies over the trees in High Kildonan. These arrival dates are a few days later than the arrival dates in 2009 and may reflect the impact of the colder weather this year.

In March, winter visitors were still present including: a Rook in Kilpatrick on 4th, a Greenshank at Clauchlands on 10th, a pair of Goldeneye on Torr Righ pond on 11th, around fifty Fieldfare in High Kildonan on 14th, two Barnacle Geese in Brodick Bay on 17th, three Pink-footed Geese with the flock of wintering Greylags in Shiskine on 18th, a Brambling in a garden in Pirmill on 21st and a female Merlin in Kingscross on 21st.

A highlight from the month's sightings was a juvenile White-tailed Eagle on 16th. At 11.00 in the morning the bird was seen "cruising" below the cliff tops from west to east from Bennan Head towards Auchenhew.

Other sightings included: three Canada Geese on Sliderry Shore on 5th, two Short-eared Owls by Machrie standing stones on 7th, twelve Black Guillemots by Brodick pier on 9th, four Bullfinches in Brodick on 9th, two Crossbills in High Kildonan on 14th, six Gannets in Whiting Bay on 17th and a Yellowhammer in Lochranza on 21st.

April

April is the month when spring migration gets underway with arrivals and departures of birds, all seeking their best breeding territories. After the deluge at the end of March, April was mainly dry with cold winds often from a northerly direction. As a result migrants generally arrived a few days later than in 2009.

The April "firsts" for Arran summer migrants were: Chiffchaff in Whiting Bay on 4th, Swallow in Corriecravie on 7th, House Martin in Kildonan on 7th, Willow Warbler in Sliderry on 10th, White Wagtail in Blackwaterfoot on 11th, Sandwich Tern in Blackwaterfoot on 16th, Common Sandpiper in Blackwaterfoot on 17th, Cuckoo in Shiskine on 18th, Manx Shearwater in Brodick Bay on 22nd, Sedge Warbler and Grasshopper Warbler in Auchenhew on 24th, Garden Warbler in Whiting Bay on 25th, Spotted Flycatcher in Lochranza on 25th, Whitethroat in Sliderry on 25th, Whinchat in Glen Rosa on 26th, Lesser Whitethroat in Auchenhew on 27th and Wood Warbler in North Sannox on 30th.

Other birds passing through to breeding grounds further north included: ten Fieldfare in Kilpatrick on 4th, a Merlin at Shiskine on 5th, a pair of Goldeneye in Lamlash on 8th, eight Whooper Swans over Shiskine also on 8th, four Purple Sandpipers on Hamilton Rocks on 11th, thirty six Turnstone in Machrie on 17th, an Osprey over Kingscross on 18th and

twenty Whimbrel at Auchenhew on 23rd. As well as these sightings, an Arctic Skua off Drumadoon on 4th may have indicated the start of the passage of skuas.

Here are a few highlights from the many that have been shared with me in April. A Firecrest was reported at Dhunan on 9th. If accepted by the Rarities Committee this will only be the second record for Arran. On 16th a Grey Plover was on the shore at Blackwaterfoot. There was only one report for this species in 2009 and this also was on Blackwaterfoot shore on 6 October 2009. Following on from the report of a juvenile White-tailed Eagle in March this year, an adult bird resplendent with its white tail was over Machrie and Dougarie on 21st. On 25th a 2nd winter into 3rd year Iceland Gull was photographed with Herring Gulls on the shore just north of Brodick Castle entrance. There were no records of this species on Arran in 2009.

There were three reports of Puffin in Brodick bay on 8th, 11th and 12th. After the work done under the direction of Dr Bernie Zonfrillo of Glasgow University to exterminate the rats on Ailsa Craig, it has been encouraging to see an increase in the sighting of this species around Arran in recent years. Unfortunately on 11th witnesses watched in horror from the "Caledonian Isles" as one was killed by a jet skier following the ferry. The matter was reported to Constable Frazer Mitchell, our local wildlife crime officer.

May

May was mainly dry with about a quarter of the rain of May 2009. Winds were often from a northerly direction. Summer visitors continued to arrive, usually a bit later than in 2009. Swift over High Kildonan on 4th and Arctic Tern on Pladda on 11th were "firsts".

In May breeding was well underway for many species including: Lapwing defending territory in Kilmory on 10th, a pair of Shelduck with twelve young at Clauchlands on 13th, a pair of Woodcock roding over Glen Cloy on 14th, ten pairs of Fulmars on Drumadoon Cliff on 14th, eight recently fledged Long-tailed Tit at the Dyemill on 21st, two pairs of Common Sandpiper both with fledged young by the Fallen Rocks on 31st and new nest boxes for Black Guillemot at Brodick pier were in use on 18th. There were over forty reports of Cuckoo from Lochranza in the north to Kildonan in the south and from Machrie in the west to Whiting Bay in the east. In addition, there were lots of reports of garden birds carrying food and, again from garden sightings, widespread reports of Goldfinches and Siskins, but only two reports of Redpolls, one from High Kildonan on 4th and one from Knockinkelly on 28th.

Species who breed further north continued to pass through including: thirty nine Whimbrel on Cleats Shore on 8th, three Dotterel on Beinn Bhreac on 10th, a Bar-tailed Godwit at Kilmory also on 10th, six Dunlin on Kildonan on 13th, three Sanderling at Drumadoon on 14th and eleven Great Northern Divers and four Black-throated Divers in Machrie Bay on 16th. Over one hundred species of birds were reported to me in May.

Here are a few more highlights: one of the Black Grouse from the re-introduction programme in a Corrie garden on 1st, four Crossbills in High Kildonan on 4th, a Short-eared Owl over Machrie Moor on 9th, a Lesser Whitethroat at Auchenhew on 16th, two Canada Geese at Clachaig on 17th, two Goosanders by the Fisherman's Walk in Brodick on 19th, a Long-eared Owl in Sannox on 20th and thousands of Manx Shearwaters passing through Whiting Bay on 24th.

June

The dry settled spell in May continued throughout June.

Raising young was the priority during the long daylight hours in June, and the settled spell in June seemed to have benefited the breeding birds. There were many reports of fledged birds in gardens. In addition, there were five pairs of Shelduck with forty eight young on Cleats Shore on 5th, a Barn Owl with four eggs at Bennan on 14th, a Mistle Thrush with fledged young on Whiting Bay Golf Course on 21st, a flock of three hundred Starlings with many young birds in High Kildonan also on 21st, four fledged Redpolls at Bennecarrigan on 22nd, two pairs of Whinchat in Glen Iorsa on 24th and four pairs of Common Sandpipers holding territory at Clauchlands on 28th. On the negative side, there was a reduction in reports of Stonechat and Grey Wagtail. They may have been badly affected by the prolonged cold weather earlier in the year.

Cuckoos, whose decreasing numbers are a cause for concern nationally, seem to be thriving on Arran. Throughout May and June there were many widespread reports.

Other reports included: two Puffin in Brodick Bay on 2nd, a pair of Golden Eagles over Lochranza on 10th, Great Spotted Woodpecker at Cnoc na Dail on 21st, Garden Warbler in Brodick Country Park on 22nd, a male Hen Harrier over Machrie Moor on 23rd, Crossbills in Glen Iorsa on 24th, a pair of Short-eared Owls at Machrie also on 24th, a Swift over High Kildonan on 26th and a Little Grebe in breeding plumage at Port na Lochan from 28th. On Arran, Little Grebe is mainly a passage migrant and winter visitor. Summer records are rare. There were no reports this year of Common Tern, Corncrake or Nightjar and only one report of Redstart.

Finally, species who breed further north continued to pass through including: two Whimbrel at Clauchlands on 2nd, two Bar-tailed Godwit at Drumadoon on 5th, three Turnstone at Machrie on 20th and twelve Sanderling at Blackwaterfoot on 1st. One of these Sanderlings had coloured rings on its legs and when the details were passed on to "Euring" the organisation that coordinates ringing information, it was revealed that this bird had been ringed in Ghana.

July

After a dry May and June, July was wet, with more than twice as much rain in July as had fallen in May and June together. On the west coast there was over 100mm of rain and only five days with no rain.

In July, raising young continued to be a priority. Reports of breeding included: fledged Common Sandpiper at Kilpatrick Point on 6th, fledged Bullfinch in Lamlash on 7th, fledged Whinchat at North Newton on 8th, fledged Linnet at High Feorline on 18th and a flock of sixteen Eider including young at Machriewaterfoot on 19th and on 30th a young Great Spotted Woodpecker in a garden in Kilmory. This is the first breeding record of this species in Kilmory. There were no successful breeding records of Fulmar.

July marks the end of the breeding season for some birds. Birds, which have been breeding further north, appeared again on their migration south including over the weekend of 17th and 18th: a Bar-tailed Godwit at Machriewaterfoot, a Greenshank at Clauchlands, two Golden Plover at Machriewaterfoot, three Lapwing including one young at Kilpatrick, a Redshank at Machriewaterfoot and a Whimbrel at Kildonan.

Highlights included other dispersing birds. A male Tufted Duck was on the pond at Port-na-Lochan on 9th. This is the first record of this species on Arran since 2006. A solitary Red Kite was in the Shiskine Valley with reports on 14th and again on 18th. The last report of this species on Arran was on 4 July 2008.

Other observations received included: four Swifts over High Kildonan on 10th, six Crossbills in High Kildonan on 11th, two Arctic Tern off Pladda on 12th, two Great Northern Divers at Machriewaterfoot on 18th, a Sandwich Tern in Kildonan on 18th, two Black-throated Divers in Whiting Bay on 20th, one hundred Manx Shearwaters in Whiting Bay on 29th, a Moorhen at Port-na-Lochan on 24th and three Red-throated Divers off Whitefarland on 29th.

August

August was drier than July with less than half the rainfall of last August. With clear skies and low temperatures at night there was more than a hint of the approach of autumn.

Having said that, summer visitors were still to the fore including the latest report of Cuckoo, a young bird in Garbh Allt on 13th, a family of Spotted Flycatchers in the walled garden of Brodick Castle Gardens on 17th, two Whitethroat in Blackwaterfoot on 21st, a Whinchat on the Ross Road on 28th and between forty and fifty Swallows pursuing a Sparrowhawk over Kilpatrick on 25th.

Other signs of successful breeding this month included: a family of five Kestrels on the Kings Cave walk on the 3rd, three juvenile Shelduck on Cleats Shore on 4th, thirty two Ringed Plover including many young in Blackwaterfoot on 15th, three juvenile Lapwings on Slidery shore on 27th, juvenile Golden Eagles in the skies over Arran this month and lots of reports of flocks of House Sparrows with young, including twenty five in High Kildonan on 21st and fifty in Blackwaterfoot on 22nd.

In August, breeding is coming to an end and after breeding a number of species began to flock together, some in preparation for migration. These included: thirty eight Red-breasted Mergansers at Auchencar on 3rd, fourteen Twite on Cleats Shore on 4th, five hundred Manx Shearwaters in Brodick Bay on 5th, one hundred and fifty Jackdaws in the Shiskine Valley on 8th, a mixed flock of ten Long-tailed Tit, four Coal Tit and two Goldcrest at the Dyemill on 14th, fifty Linnets at Clauchlands on 15th, two hundred Kittiwake in Whiting Bay on 20th, five Sandwich Terns in Blackwaterfoot on 22nd and over one hundred Goldfinch on Cleats Shore on 25th.

Shore birds on migration included: three Dunlin at Blackwaterfoot on 2nd, a Spotted Redshank at South Feorline on 5th (the first Arran record since one was reported on Lamlash shore in August 2004), two Greenshanks at Cordon on 9th, ten Whimbrel at Kilpatrick Point on 15th, over sixty Golden Plover at Machriewaterfoot on 16th, five Sanderling at Drumadoon on 24th, four Bar-tailed Godwit at Torrylinn on 25th and four Knot at Torrylinn on 26th.

There were two early reports of birds that are considered to be winter visitors: a Wigeon at Cleats Shore on 25th and a flock of around ten Rooks in Shiskine on 31st.

Other birding highlights this month included: thirty six Canada Geese at low tide on a sand bank off Pirnmill on 14th, a Black-throated Diver in breeding plumage off

Machriewaterfoot on 15th and a female Merlin on the slopes of Beinn Tarsuinn plus a Long-eared Owl in Glenloig both on 25th.

Finally, on the morning of 5 August two Kingfishers were reported in the Rosa Burn in Brodick. The sighting is unusual on two accounts. Firstly this is the first report that I have had of two Kingfishers together on Arran. Secondly this is an early report of Kingfisher on Arran. Most records are in the autumn and winter. To date there are no confirmed breeding records of Kingfisher on Arran. Most sightings are considered to be dispersing young birds. Young are expelled from breeding territories leading to sightings in non-breeding areas from July onwards.

September

September was wetter than August due in part to several days of very heavy rain. These were interspersed with a number of dry bright days.

September sees the start of the peak migration season when many birds are on the move. It is the time to expect the unexpected. While this year did not have some of the highlights of recent years like the adult Sabine's Gull and a Cory's Shearwater in 2009, there were a number of unusual reports including an Osprey at Garbh Allt on 15th, Dotterel on Caisteal Abhail on 17th, the first autumn record since 1981, and Ring Ouzel by the Narachan Track on 25th. The last report was also at this time of year in 2009.

Other birds on migration included from the coast: a Whimbrel at Kildonan, eighty seven Golden Plover at Machrie and hundreds of Manx Shearwaters off Cosyden all on 19th. In addition there were small numbers of White Wagtail among the numerous Pied Wagtail at Blackwaterfoot on 3rd, two Wheatear on Cleats Shore on 23rd, eight Skylark on Slidery shore on 24th and two Sandwich Tern in Whiting Bay on 25th. A female Merlin, no doubt also on migration, was hunting the migrants on the shore at Kildonan on 19th.

At this time of year, birds begin to flock together, often in preparation for migration. Reports included: thirty Gannet in Whiting Bay on 1st, one hundred Starling at Kilpatrick on 3rd, twenty four Long-tailed Tit on Whiting Bay Golf Course on 17th, eighty Chaffinch at Kildonan on 19th, one hundred Goldfinch at Kilpatrick also on 19th, thirty Linnets at Slidery on 24th and eighteen Twite at Kilpatrick on 29th.

With the approach of winter some birds move to the milder coast. Dipper was reported at the mouth of the Rosa on 20th and Torrylinnwaterfoot on 22nd and Kingfisher was reported from near the mouth of the Cloy burn on 20th and from Cordon on 21st. Other birds more associated with winter included eight Wigeon at Machrie on 19th and around fifty Greylag Geese flew up the Shiskine Valley on 21st.

Having said that, some summer visitors were still around including: four House Martins at Lochranza on 27th, a Willow Warbler at High Kildonan on 29th and small numbers of Swallow still around Kilpatrick on 30th.

Other sightings this month included: four Black-throated Diver at Machrie on 19th, a Puffin in Whiting Bay on 22nd, two Moorhen at Port na Lochan on 23rd and a number of coveys of Red Grouse on high ground including one of fourteen birds.

October

October was mainly dry but the month finished with a few very wet days.

The last sighting of Swallow was four at Sandbraes on 27th. Other late dates for summer visitors included: a Whitethroat at Kilpatrick on 11th, a Chiffchaff at Auchenhew on 12th, a Wheatear at Cleats Shore on 14th and eight House Martins in Lamblash also on 14th.

In October, migration continued with reports of various wildfowl on Arran including: forty eight Greylag Geese at Machriewaterfoot on 10th, three Pink-footed Geese at Shiskine on 11th, twenty three Barnacle Geese on Cleats Shore on 14th, five Brent Geese in Brodick Bay also on 14th and ten Wigeon on Cleats Shore on 22nd. In Shiskine on 29th there were thirteen Whooper Swans including four juveniles and thirty five Greylag.

With the hedgerows heavy with haws and other berries, there were widespread reports of Fieldfare and Redwing with the largest groups being one hundred Redwing in North Newton on 12th and three hundred Fieldfare at Balmichael on 23rd.

The highlight of the month was Waxwings. There were widespread reports from Pirnmill to Kildonan starting with five at Invercloy on 21st. By the end of the month groups of one hundred were being reported at the Auchrannie.

Other sightings included: four Common Scoters from the "Caledonian Isles" on 8th, two hundred and fifty Golden Plover in High Kildonan on 11th, twenty Twite at Whitefarland on 12th, twenty five Goldcrest at Auchenhew on 12th, two reports of Merlin on 13th a female at Corriecravie and a male on Cleats Shore, five Snow Bunting at Cioch na h-Oighe on 19th, a Kingfisher at Cnocan Burn Cladach on 20th, fourteen Bullfinches at the top of the Lamblash to Brodick Road on 23rd, two Crossbills in the forestry above Arran High School on 27th and several reports of Brambling including ten at Kingscross on 28th and twelve, mainly males, at Mayish on 30th.

November

November was drier but much colder than November 2009. In the cold dry spell in the last ten days of the month, temperatures fell to minus six degrees Celsius even in the milder west.

In the prolonged cold spell this month there was a wide variety of birds reported, over ninety species in total.

Among the wintering birds, as in October, Waxwings were still to the fore with widespread reports from Pirnmill to Kildonan. The largest group was eighty in Brodick on 7th. Other winter visitors included: twelve Whooper Swans in Shiskine on 1st, six Rooks in Sliderry on 7th, fifty plus Fieldfares and Redwings in Shannochie on 10th, a Greenshank at Clauchlands on 11th, seven Purple Sandpipers at Kildonan on 14th and two Goldeneye at Balliekine on 29th. The wintering geese in the Shiskine Valley included two hundred and fifty Greylag on 16th, eighteen Pink-foot on 18th and two White-front also on 16th. The last report of White-fronted Goose on Arran was in March 2008.

Not only was there a great variety of birds reported in November but some of the groups were unusually large for Arran, perhaps reflecting the severity of the weather on the continent and the adjacent mainland, with birds seeking the more snow free habitats of the island. These included: eight Blackbirds at Porta Leacach on 10th, a thousand Starlings at Kilpatrick also on 10th, twenty three Black-headed Gulls at Kildonan on 16th, four Little Grebe at Lochranza on 25th, six Moorhen at Port na Lochan on 29th and fifty two Lapwing at Corriecravie on 29th.

Other sightings in November included: over twenty Snow Bunting in Corrie Lan near the top of Mullach Buidhe on 10th, a Kingfisher by the well named Fisherman's Walk in Brodick on 21st, a male Goosander in Loch Ranza on 24th, a Short-eared Owl on the Boguillie on 25th and a Great Crested Grebe at Auchenhew Bay on 21st. This is only the third record of this species on Arran this year.

All three divers were reported round the coast. For example on Sunday 14 November all three divers were in the bay at Cosyden south of Machriewaterfoot. There was a group of twelve Black-throated Divers, two Red-throated Divers as well as eight individual Great Northern Divers.

Gardens were safe refuges during the wintry month and at bird feeding stations, as well as the more common species, there were reports of five Brambling at Balnacool on 18th and three Yellowhammers in Shiskine on 22nd. Long-tailed Tits graced many gardens including twelve in Lamlash on 24th. Blackcaps were reported in gardens in Dhunan on 7th, High Kildonan on 13th and Shiskine on 17th.

Blackcaps used to be considered as a summer visitor to the UK, but in the nineteen eighties increasing numbers were reported in the winter time. From information from ringed birds that have been recovered, the birds that are here in the winter are not necessarily the same birds that are here in the summer. The birds that are here in the summer seem to migrate south to southern Europe and North Africa. The birds that are here in the winter seem to be coming from central and northern Europe and are migrating to the milder UK for the winter.

December

December was one of the coldest on record for the UK. For Arran the weather was also exceptional. The generally northerly wind led to a prolonged cold spell for most of the month. There were negative day time temperatures as well as overnight frosts. During the month there were falls of snow with snow lying even at low levels.

During this prolonged cold spell many birds moved to the relatively milder Arran. This is reflected in the following bird notes. For example throughout the month there were widespread reports of Brambling, the northern relative of Chaffinch. There were reports from Pirnmill to Shannochie and from Blackwaterfoot to Whiting Bay. The largest groups were twelve at Lamlash on 18th and up to twenty at Mayish on 25th. There were more reports of this irruptive winter visitor in December than there had been in the previous three winters combined.

The number of reports of some other birds like Lapwing, Woodcock, Snipe and Jack Snipe, was also larger than usual, with birds moving from the even colder continent and mainland to the relatively mild climate of Arran. Jack Snipe were reported from Port-na-

Lochan on 18th, High Kildonan on 20th, Auchengallon on 24th, Drumadoon on 25th and East Bennan on 28th.

A wide variety of winter visitors were reported including: one hundred Fieldfare at Lochranza on 6th, a male Black Redstart at Margnaheglish on 11th, eight Redwing at Lamlash on 28th, a Grey Plover at Kildonan on 29th and on 30th seven Rooks and six Goldeneye at Blackwaterfoot.

Other winter visitors included geese. There were thirty four Barnacle Geese at Clauchlands on 2nd. This is the largest group recorded on Arran in the last thirty years. Among the four hundred and thirty Greylag in the Shiskine valley on 5th was one with an orange/red neck collar. The bird was an Icelandic bird which over the last five winters had wintered in Donegal. Also in Shiskine were six Pink-footed Geese on 23rd. In addition a Pale-bellied Brent Goose made a brief appearance at Clauchlands on 13th. The observer was able to photograph what was only the second record of this species on Arran this year.

As well as the marked goose, there was also a Buzzard with wing tags at Clauchlands on 6th. The bird had been tagged as part of a study in Perthshire in 2007.

A White-tailed Eagle, a rare vagrant to Arran, was seen being mobbed by Buzzards over Kingscross on 1st. In addition this month there were two unusual records from Lamlash, Water Rail on 14th and Moorhen on 30th.

In December there was a wide range of other species reported including: three male Goosanders in Loch Ranza on 5th, a Kingfisher in the Rosa Burn on 8th, fifteen Long-tailed Tits in Lamlash on 11th, Crossbill at Fallen Rocks on 12th, fifty Reed Buntings by Machrie standing stones on 12th, two Little Grebe in Loch Ranza on 19th, four Dipper at Glenashdalewaterfoot on 21st, a female Yellowhammer in Corriecravie on 27th, a male Stonechat at Kildonan on 29th and two Great Northern Divers off Kilpatrick on 30th.

From the above summary it has again been an interesting birding year on Arran.

Later in this annual report there are notes on a number of the projects on Arran which are contributing to increasing our understanding of birds on Arran.

The Weather 2010

The weather influences the timing of bird migration. After the heavy rain at the end of March, April was mainly dry with cold winds often from the north. As a result migrants generally arrived a few days later than in 2009.

The weather influences the timing of breeding. In comparison with May 2009, May 2010 was cooler with the winds often from a northerly direction. This may have delayed the timing of the breeding of some of our summer visitors.

The weather influences the success of breeding. The heavy rain in July, with more than twice as much rain in July as had fallen in May and June together, may have had an impact on the poor breeding records for some of our raptors.

The weather influences survival. December was one of the coldest on record for the UK. For Arran the weather was also exceptional. The generally northerly wind led to a prolonged cold spell for most of the month. There were negative day time temperatures as well as overnight frosts. During the month there were falls of snow with snow lying even at low levels.

It is because weather has such a marked impact on the lives of birds that data on weather is included in the annual bird report.

Here is a summary of weather data for 2010 from our weather station at Kilpatrick on the west of the island.

| | Temperature (degrees C) | | | Rainfall (mm) | Rainfall (mm) | Wind Speed (mph) and Direction | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|------|------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|------|-----------|
| | Mean | High | Low | | BCG | Average | High | Dom. Dir. |
| January | 2.8 | 11.9 | -5.1 | 62.7 | 85.4 | 6.5 | 47 | N |
| February | 2.8 | 9.8 | -5.2 | 109.7 | 115.5 | 5.2 | 43 | E |
| March | 5.4 | 14.3 | -4.4 | 131.1 | 154.9 | 8.0 | 48 | N |
| April | 8.4 | 13.0 | 3.9 | 65.8 | 111.1 | 6.9 | 42 | N |
| May | 10.2 | 21.8 | 0.1 | 21.8 | 24.8 | 4.3 | 30 | NNW |
| June | 14.4 | 23.3 | 5.7 | 24.2 | 29.9 | 4.1 | 35 | SSE |
| July | 14.3 | 20.9 | 8.9 | 107.9 | 225.9 | 4.9 | 33 | SSE |
| August | 13.9 | 22.2 | 4.8 | 74.2 | 123.1 | 4.1 | 32 | W |
| September | 13.3 | 22.1 | 1.7 | 99.2 | 156.1 | 4.7 | 41 | SSE |
| October | 10.4 | 20.6 | -0.6 | 101.3 | 208.5 | 6.2 | 40 | SSW |
| November | 5.6 | 13.4 | -5.8 | 119.2 | 239.4 | 6.8 | 51 | ENE |
| December | 2.2 | 10.1 | -6.4 | 44.2 | 91.6 | 3.9 | 33 | SE |

Dom.Dir. – dominant direction

Also included for comparison is the rainfall data from Brodick Castle Gardens (BCG) provided by Colin Totty, Head Gardener. This clearly demonstrates variation from the Kilpatrick data. As well as a variation in rainfall, during the prolonged cold spell in December the lowest temperature recorded in Kilpatrick in the west of Arran was negative seven degrees Celsius, whereas in Brodick Castle Gardens in the east of Arran the lowest temperature was negative eleven degrees Celsius.

In future bird reports, the Arran Natural History Society would like to include weather data. Not just the data from one weather station but, knowing that the weather does vary across the island, the data from a range of weather stations across Arran.

If you are keeping records of the weather where you live on Arran and would like to share these records with me for inclusion in the "Arran Bird Report". Please get in touch.

Summer Migrant Arrival Dates

| | "Earliest" Recorded Date | Recorded Arrival Date for 2010 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wheatear | <i>13-Mar-05</i> | 20 March |
| Chiffchaff | <i>17-Mar-05</i> | 04 April |
| Sand Martin | <i>18-Mar-09</i> | 20 March |
| Willow Warbler | <i>20-Mar-94</i> | 10 April |
| Swallow | <i>23-Mar-05</i> | 07 April |
| White Wagtail | <i>24-Mar-08</i> | 11 April |
| House Martin | <i>28-Mar-05</i> | 07 April |
| Common Sandpiper | <i>29-Mar-98</i> | 17 April |
| Whinchat | <i>01-Apr-88</i> | 26 April |
| Sandwich Tern | <i>03-Apr-09</i> | 16 April |
| Tree Pipit | <i>07-Apr-90</i> | 28 April |
| Cuckoo | <i>10-Apr-01</i> | 18 April |
| Garden Warbler | <i>12-Apr-95</i> | 25 April |
| Arctic Tern | <i>16-Apr-09</i> | 11 May |
| Whitethroat | <i>17-Apr-06</i> | 25 April |
| Manx Shearwater | <i>18-Apr-06</i> | 22 April |
| Sedge Warbler | <i>19-Apr-09</i> | 24 April |
| Grasshopper Warbler | <i>19-Apr-89</i> | 24 April |
| Corncrake | <i>20-Apr-90</i> | None recorded in 2010 |
| Common Tern | <i>21-Apr-93</i> | None recorded in 2010 |
| Spotted Flycatcher | <i>24-Apr-87</i> | 25 April |
| Wood Warbler | <i>25-Apr-09</i> | 30 April |
| Lesser Whitethroat | <i>27-Apr-10</i> | 27 April |
| Pied Flycatcher | <i>28-Apr-98</i> | None recorded in 2010 |
| Swift | <i>01-May-09</i> | 04 May |
| Redstart | <i>03-May-02</i> | 26 April only spring record |
| Nightjar | <i>23-May-94</i> | None recorded in 2010 |

Bird Surveys on Arran

Bird Atlas 2007-2011 and the Arran Bird Atlas

Bird Atlas 2007-2011 is being organised by the British Trust for Ornithology. It aims to produce maps of distribution and relative abundance for all bird species breeding and wintering in Britain and Ireland. It will allow changes in bird distributions to be assessed since previous breeding atlases in 1970 and 1990 and since the last winter atlas of the early 1980s.

The survey work spans four winters and four breeding seasons and started on 1 November 2007. The intention is that the whole of Britain and Ireland will be surveyed.

This will give information that will lead to the production of maps of distribution and relative abundance for all bird species breeding and wintering in Britain and Ireland.

In addition the Arran Natural History Society is intending to produce a local Arran Bird Atlas.

Two methods of recording are being used.

1. Roving Records – whatever you see, whenever, wherever.

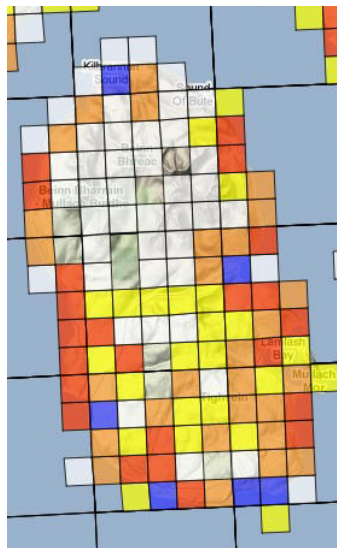
All bird sighting records submitted to me are added to the Bird Atlas records for Arran.

2. Timed Tetrad Visits – concentrating on an area

Arran is covered by ten 10km squares on the Ordnance Survey Map. Each of these 10km squares has up to 25 tetrads (group of four 1km squares).

In winter the tetrad is surveyed for two timed visits, one early in the winter and one late. In the breeding season the tetrad is surveyed for two timed visits, one early in the breeding season and one late, noting signs of breeding.

All Arran tetrads have been allocated. The current species richness for each tetrad in the breeding season is shown below, the darker the colour the more species recorded.



If you would like more information on the developing Arran Bird Atlas use this link <http://arranbirding.blogware.com/blog/ArranBirdAtlas>

For information on the national Bird Atlas go to the website www.birdatlas.net

Wetland Bird Survey

On one designated Sunday each month all the waterbirds at identified sites across the UK are counted as part of the Wetland Bird Survey. This is a joint scheme involving the British Trust for Ornithology, the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee to monitor non-breeding waterbirds in the UK. The survey is dependent on the thousands of volunteers. Eight of these sites are on Arran, the coastlines at Brodick, Lamlash, Whiting Bay, Kildonan, Blackwaterfoot, Machrie, Pirmill and Lochranza.

These surveys provide information on the size of waterbird populations, the trends in numbers and the importance of individual sites. For example, Arran is a site of national importance for Red-breasted Merganser.

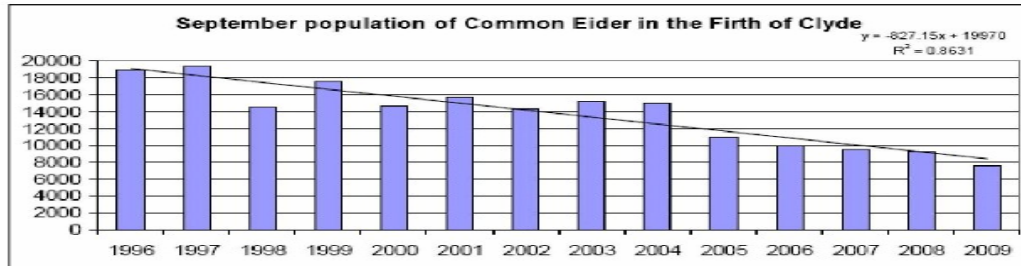
This is the summary of the results for the eight sites in Arran in 2010.

| Species | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Mute Swan | 24 | 19 | 24 | 23 | 19 | 29 | 28 | 20 | 18 | 37 | 32 | 19 |
| Whooper Swan | 0 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Greylag Goose | 40 | 45 | 41 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 25 | 45 | 29 | 48 | 63 | 46 |
| Shelduck | 4 | 34 | 26 | 46 | 19 | 25 | 23 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Wigeon | 43 | 47 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 13 | 16 | 9 |
| Teal | 40 | 61 | 51 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 34 | 34 | 46 | 35 |
| Mallard | 95 | 195 | 99 | 69 | 67 | 77 | 52 | 85 | 194 | 199 | 183 | 118 |
| Eider | 27 | 74 | 57 | 169 | 49 | 35 | 29 | 8 | 40 | 36 | 107 | 18 |
| Goldeneye | 8 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Red-breasted Merganser | 28 | 60 | 39 | 51 | 31 | 47 | 62 | 24 | 37 | 48 | 50 | 28 |
| Goosander | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Red-throated Diver | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Black-throated Diver | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 2 |
| Great Northern Diver | 2 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Little Grebe | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Cormorant | 10 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 29 | 11 | 14 | 7 |
| Shag | 39 | 20 | 25 | 47 | 26 | 33 | 16 | 26 | 76 | 98 | 71 | 46 |
| Grey Heron | 7 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 7 |
| Oystercatcher | 343 | 356 | 293 | 248 | 231 | 203 | 212 | 245 | 302 | 307 | 151 | 161 |
| Ringed Plover | 95 | 99 | 40 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 7 | 48 | 97 | 303 | 108 | 43 |
| Golden Plover | 0 | 15 | 1 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 62 | 87 | 110 | 110 | |
| Lapwing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 31 |
| Sanderling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Purple Sandpiper | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| Dunlin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Snipe | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 7 |
| Bar-tailed Godwit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whimbrel | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 36 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Curlew | 44 | 31 | 52 | 8 | 13 | 9 | 48 | 61 | 80 | 85 | 108 | 30 |
| Redshank | 24 | 32 | 24 | 15 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 33 | 30 | 32 | 45 | 15 |
| Greenshank | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Common Sandpiper | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Turnstone | 89 | 46 | 24 | 44 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 40 | 66 | 96 | 46 | 13 |

If you would like to find out more the Wetland Bird Survey visit www.bto.org/survey/webs

Annual Eider Survey

Eiders are familiar birds around the Arran coast but their numbers are declining not only around Arran but in the Firth of Clyde as a whole. See graph below.



Chris Waltho, a past president of the Scottish Ornithologists Club, has organised September surveys in the Clyde for about twenty years. Chris's data clearly shows that the post breeding population of Eiders in the Firth of Clyde is in decline and has more than halved in the last ten years.

In the Victorian era there was a major expansion of Eider in western Scotland and this led to the colonisation of the Firth of Clyde, which began at the beginning of the twentieth century. With an annual population growth of around ten percent by the late 1990s the Firth of Clyde held around 25-30% of the Scottish population.

The reason for the marked decline in recent years is not clear. The Clyde Ringing Group and Glasgow University have ringed approximately 1500 females over the last decade. These results suggest some decline in annual survival rate, but there is little evidence of mass mortality events or of any major displacement within or out of the Clyde. Mussels, crabs, starfish and other seabed creatures are the main food sources and with many different pressures and influences operating in different parts of the Firth, there is no single cause for the decline. This decline is likely to be the cumulative effect of multiple causes that have an overall chronic impact on the population. It is important to continue to monitor the situation.

One of the ways that this is done is through Chris's annual survey. While the trend on Arran reflects the overall figures, there has been considerable variation on the Arran figures from over six hundred in 1999 to six in 2008. In 2009 the total figure from the census done on 18-26 September was seventy six.

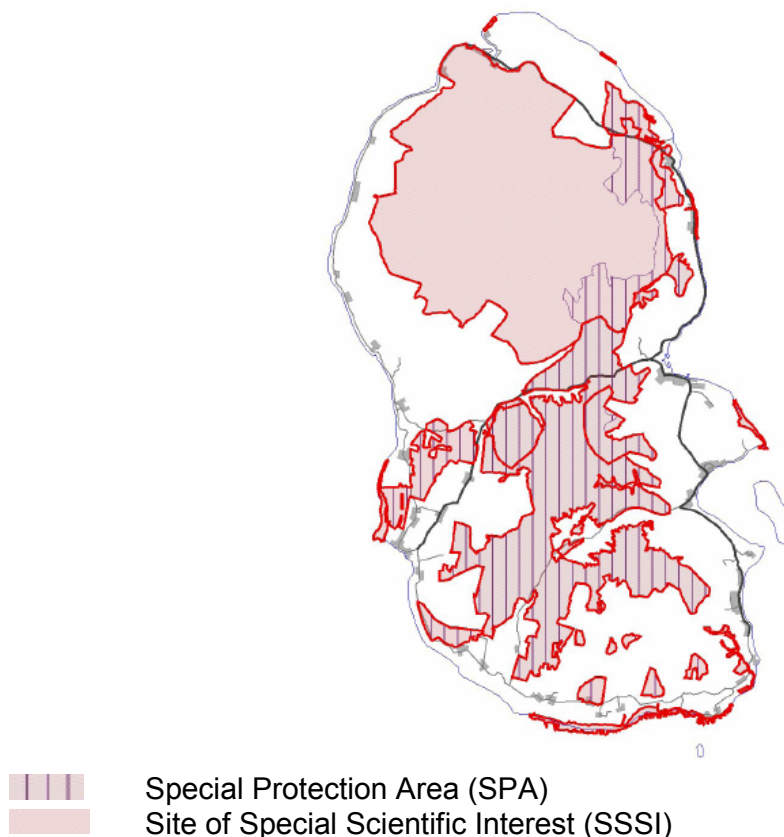
In addition, the Clyde Ringing Group has been colour ringing females for several years. All Clyde colour-ringed birds have a white ring on the right leg. On the left leg is a bigger colour ring, which indicates its nesting colony. If you see any of these ringed Eiders around Arran, please take a note of the colours plus where and when you saw the bird and forward the details to me. All the information will be forwarded to Chris Waltho.

Arran Moors Special Protection Area

The Arran Moors Special Protection Area (SPA) and the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), as shown in the map below, cover an extensive area of Arran.

It is of outstanding interest for its variety of upland habitats and breeding birds. There are large tracts of blanket bog, wet and dry heath and upland grassland. With small areas of broad-leaved woodland and several small lochs, this diversity of habitats supports a rich variety of moorland breeding birds.

The area is internationally important for its breeding Hen Harriers. Around five percent of the UK breeding population of Hen Harriers are found in Arran. In addition the area is nationally important for Red-throated Divers, Golden Eagle, Peregrine and Short-eared Owl.



The knowledge of the Hen Harrier population on the island is due to the many years of effort put in by the resident member of the South Strathclyde Raptor Study Group, John Rhead. The SPA status was eventually granted in 2003.

As reported in the 2009 Arran Bird Report, in 2009 the Arran Hen Harrier project entered a new phase with the wing tagging of young Hen Harriers and the satellite tracking of two of these birds. For the first time this enabled information to be gathered on the movements of Arran Hen Harriers. This was supported by Scottish Natural Heritage and Forestry Commission Scotland. Unfortunately both birds died in their first winter on Arran.

Report from Forestry Commission Barn Owl Nest Box Project

For twenty two years Barn Owl nest boxes have been put up and monitored in Arran by Rab Logan, Wildlife Ranger of the Forestry Commission (Scotland).



The annual breeding success is to a large extent dependent on the vole population. In 2010, although the vole population was not at peak levels, there were 18 active nest boxes throughout the forest and a total of 73 eggs were laid. Only one of the nest sites did not produce any fledglings. Overall the conversion from eggs to fledglings in 2010 was around 40%.

Young in the nest have been ringed by Terry Southall and in recent years Barn Owls ringed on Arran have turned up in Skye and in Campbeltown. This may reflect the ongoing success of the project in helping to maintain a high density of this Schedule 1 Species on Arran.

Report from the Arran Black Grouse Group

In 2010, after an absence of over thirty years, there are Arran bred Black Grouse on the moors of Arran again.

Arran was once a stronghold for the Black Grouse, with large numbers regularly recorded all over the Island. Within living memory the Black Grouse was a familiar bird.

Historically the Black Grouse received special protection in Arran. In 1703 in the book "A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland" by M. Martin, it is stated that: "The blackcock is not allowed to be killed here without a permit; the transgressors are liable to a fine." In the nineteenth century this was no longer the case with large numbers being shot. In 1956 J.A. Gibson in his publication "The Birds of the Island of Arran" wrote: "Until relatively recently it was a common breeding species and was well distributed throughout the island." Numbers continued to fall and the last record was a single female in High Glen Cloy on 18 February 2000.

This decline was happening in almost all of western and central European countries, with Black Grouse numbers starting to fall in the latter half of the 19th century, accelerating from 1970 to 1990. In the early 1990s it was estimated that about 25,000 males were present in the UK, but in 1995 and 1996 the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the Game Conservancy Trust (GCT) and Forest Enterprise (FE) conducted a ground survey which established a revised estimate of 6,500 males.

The main reasons thought to have contributed to the decline of Black Grouse include: loss of habitat through intensive sheep grazing, agricultural improvements, changes in agricultural practices, overshooting and increased numbers of predators such as foxes, especially where Black Grouse numbers are already low.

Several Black Grouse recovery projects have been initiated in the UK. The Arran Black Grouse Group is one of them. While most of the other projects are focussing on attempts to enhance surviving populations the Arran project is unique in its attempt to re-introduce the birds to a part of their range where they became extinct. Much has changed on the island since the birds died out and the group feels that the island now has the right balance of habitat to give the birds the best chance of survival. The group is very much a local group with a wide range of representation including conservationists, estate managers, farmers, foresters and gamekeepers. This almost unique partnership of local people including the Arran Natural History Society with the support of Scottish Natural Heritage and the National Trust for Scotland, is committed to Black Grouse reintroduction. In addition through the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and the Scottish Species Action Framework there has been much appreciated advice from Forestry Commission (Scotland).

After years of negotiation and planning, in the autumn of 2007 three pairs of Black Grouse were bought to be used as breeding stock. In the first breeding season, problems occurred with egg viability resulting in no Arran chicks for 2008. In the autumn of 2008, ten more pairs of grouse were bought to increase the breeding stock. In April 2009, eight 'spare' male Black Grouse were released into the wild but within three weeks all had died, mainly of starvation. In the 2009 breeding season, problems with the eggs were solved and it was the first successful breeding season. In the autumn of 2009, the Arran Black Grouse Group had an offer of 40 more birds, mainly males, from a breeder who was retiring. Some were kept to replenish breeding stock, but most were

released into the wild. Conditioning of the birds prior to release, and supplementary feeding on the hill meant that despite the harshest winter on Arran in many years, 20% were still alive in the spring.

In April 2010, the first wild lek of Black Grouse on Arran was reported in over thirty years. In fact in the spring of this year, the released birds that survived the severe winter, both males and females, were observed at more than one lek site on Arran. In addition, building on the success of the previous breeding season, more than twice the number of chicks were raised by the Arran Black Grouse Group during 2010 and at the end of August 2010 the first Arran-bred Black Grouse were released onto the Arran moors.

This has been a significant step towards the goal of re-establishing a breeding population of Black Grouse on Arran. As you can tell from the summary above, along the way there have been many trials and tribulations. Breeding Black Grouse has been challenging. A great deal has been learned about the breeding and rearing of these birds. With the help of the University of Glasgow, released birds have been radio tracked in the wild. The Arran Black Grouse Group is determined to build on this experience and achieve the goal of a viable wild breeding population.

How can you help?

You can help the Arran Black Grouse Group by keeping a look out if you are walking on the Arran Moors. If you see a Black Grouse, or even a covey of Black Grouse, please take note of when and where. If possible take a photograph to help confirm the sighting and contact Kate Sampson, Brodick Country Park, Tel: 01770 302462

You can help the Arran Black Grouse financially by making a donation. All funds, no matter how small, are gratefully received. Cheques made payable to the Arran Black Grouse Group can be sent to Kate Sampson at the Ranger Centre at Brodick Country Park. Donations can also be made on line through this website:
<http://arranblackgrouse.com/Donations.html> .

Bird Ringing

Bird ringing in Britain and Ireland is organised and co-ordinated by the British Trust for Ornithology. A network of over 2,400 trained and licensed volunteers currently ring over 800,000 birds every year. On average only one in every 50 birds ringed are subsequently found and reported, so **every report of a ringed bird is of value.**

Why ring birds?

Much has been discovered about birds by watching and counting them, but such methods rarely allow birds to be identified as individuals. This is essential if we are to learn about how long they live and when and where they move, questions that are vital for bird conservation. Placing a lightweight, uniquely numbered, metal ring around a bird's leg provides a reliable and harmless method of identifying birds as individuals. Each ring also has an address so that anyone finding a ringed bird can help by reporting where and when it was found and what happened to it. Some ringing projects also use colour rings to allow individual birds to be identified without being caught.

The main focus of the Ringing scheme today is monitoring bird populations. Ringing allows us to study how many young birds leave the nest and survive to become adults, as well as how many adults survive the stresses of breeding, migration and severe weather. Changes in survival rates and other aspects of birds' biology help us to understand the causes of population declines.

Does ringing affect the birds?

The simple answer is no. Ringing is carried out by skilled ringers with the utmost consideration for the birds' welfare.

How are birds caught for ringing?

Birds are caught for ringing in a variety of ways. About twenty percent are ringed as chicks in the nest; this is valuable because their precise age and origin are then known. The method most frequently used to catch fully-grown birds is the mist net. This is a fine net erected between poles, and is designed to catch birds in flight. This method is very effective but birds can only be removed safely from mist nets by experienced ringers who have received special training.

Learning to ring

The skills necessary to become a ringer can only be learnt by practice under the close supervision of experienced ringers; effectively an apprenticeship. For more information on how to become a ringer use this link. <http://www.bto.org/ringing/ringinfo/become-a-ringer.htm>

Bird Ringing on Arran in 2010

On Arran there is one licensed volunteer ringer, Terry Southall from High Kildonan. This report is based on Terry's data for 2010 when 1,125 birds were ringed.

| Species | Full-grown | Pulli | Retraps | Total |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Great Northern Diver | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Red-throated Diver | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Mute Swan | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Kestrel | 0 | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| Merlin | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Oystercatcher | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Whimbrel | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Common Gull | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Rock Dove | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Barn Owl | 1 | 18 | 0 | 19 |
| Swallow | 14 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| House Martin | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Meadow Pipit | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Rock Pipit | 21 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Grey Wagtail | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Pied/White Wagtail | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Dipper | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| Wren | 20 | 0 | 1 | 21 |
| Duncock | 24 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Robin | 38 | 0 | 4 | 42 |
| Whinchat | 0 | 23 | 0 | 23 |
| Stonechat | 6 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| Wheatear | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Blackbird | 68 | 0 | 9 | 77 |
| Fieldfare | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Songthrush | 9 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Redwing | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Grasshopper Warbler | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Sedge Warbler | 23 | 15 | 3 | 41 |
| Lesser Whitethroat | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Common Whitethroat | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Blackcap | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Chiffchaff | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Willow Warbler | 161 | 0 | 3 | 164 |
| Goldcrest | 71 | 0 | 4 | 75 |
| Spotted Flycatcher | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Long-tailed Tit | 29 | 0 | 2 | 31 |
| Coal Tit | 6 | 0 | 2 | 8 |
| Blue Tit | 40 | 0 | 7 | 47 |
| Great Tit | 31 | 7 | 6 | 44 |
| Treecreeper | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Starling | 9 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| House Sparrow | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Chaffinch | 73 | 0 | 3 | 76 |
| Brambling | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Greenfinch | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Goldfinch | 96 | 0 | 15 | 111 |
| Siskin | 99 | 0 | 19 | 118 |
| Linnet | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Twite | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Bullfinch | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Reed Bunting | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 956 | 89 | 80 | 1125 |

Selected List of Recoveries

Birds ringed on Arran and recovered in 2009 and 2010

Birds ringed on Arran and recovered in 2010

| Species | Date Ringed | Date recovered | Time lapsed in days | Where recovered | Distance from place ringed |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sparrowhawk | 06/07/09 | 01/09/10 | 412 | Kingarth, Bute | 181km |
| Barn Owl | 12/06/04 | 23/07/10 | 248 | Dingwall, Ross-shire | 248km |
| Common Gull | 21/06/03 | 01/05/10 | 2506 | Cambletown, Argyll | 8km |
| Common Gull | 22/06/02 | 10/01/10 | 2759 | Cambletown, Argyll | 24km |
| Herring Gull | 24/06/06 | 28/06/10 | 1465 | West Kilbride, Ayrshire | 34km |
| Goldfinch | 28/03/09 | 23/12/09 | 270 | Cookstown, Co Tyrone | 144km |
| Goldfinch | 03/04/10 | 13/04/10 | 10 | Leswalt, Dumfries | 56km |
| Siskin | 06/03/09 | 05/04/09 | 30 | Kettlestone, Norfolk. | 488km |
| Siskin | 01/04/09 | 24/04/09 | 23 | Hednesford, Staffs | 366km |

Sparrowhawks have been observed moving off Arran in autumn, the recovery of the bird above ringed as a chick shows this movement.

The Barn Owl is normally a sedentary bird normally only moving short distances after fledging, although some birds do undertake longer movements.

Both Common and Herring Gulls were ringed as chicks and show their mainly sedentary nature being recovered in the Firth of Clyde.

The Goldfinch and Siskin movements fall within movements to the south although some birds do move over the Irish Sea in these migrations.

Birds ringed elsewhere and recovered on Arran in 2009 and 2010

| Species | Date ringed | Date recovered | Time lapsed in days | Where ringed | Distance from place ringed |
|-----------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Goldfinch | 04/02/07 | 05/04/09 | 791 | Carlisle, Cumbria | 165km |
| Siskin | 03/04/09 | 25/04/09 | 22 | East Grinstead, Sussex | 587km |
| Siskin | 28/06/08 | 08/05/09 | 314 | Thetford, Norfolk | 510km |
| Siskin | 03/04/09 | 05/04/09 | 66 | Down, Northern Ireland | 93km |

Again these birds were ringed during their movements to the south.

If you find a ringed bird

The details on the ring can be reported on line using this link <http://blx1.bto.org/euring/main/>. If you find a ringed bird on Arran please share this information with Jim Cassels, Bird Recorder of the Arran Natural History Society. The contact details are at the beginning of the report.

Systematic List 2010

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Successful breeding on several hill lochans. Groups on sea included 4 off Blackwaterfoot on 24 January, 5 off Clauchlands on 6 March, 4 off Pirnmill on 16 May, 4 in Whiting Bay on 21 May, 3 off Whitefarland on 29 July and 2 in Brodick Bay on 21 December.

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*

Passage migrant with records in every month of the year in 2010. Arran is a site of national importance for birds in autumn.

The largest groups were a group of 8 in Loch Ranza on 25 January, 10 off Blackwaterfoot on 9 May, 10 off Drumadoon on 27 September and 12 off Cosyden on 14 November.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*

Passage migrant. Records from January to May and July to December 2010.

Groups included 4 off Drumadoon on 23 February, 3 off Slidery on 5 March, 11 in Machrie bay on 16 May, 3 off Cock of Arran on 17 May and 3 off Kilpatrick on 30 December.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Passage migrant and winter visitor.

Groups included 2 Rosa Burn on 15 January, 2 Kingscross on 13 March and 4 Loch Ranza on 25 November. There was an unusual summer record, Port-na-Lochan on 28-30 June.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Occasional winter and passage migrant.

One off Kingscross on 17 February, one off Corrie on 19 April and one off Auchenhew on 21 November. These are all the records for 2010.

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*

Occasional winter and passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one in Whiting Bay on 9 March 2009.

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*

Occasional winter and passage migrant.

One Lamlash Bay on 6 March (ToCh).

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Occasional winter and passage migrant.

One Whiting Bay on 30 October (MHD).

Fulmar (Northern Fulmar) *Fulmarus glacialis*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Nest areas included 10 Drumadoon on 14 May, 12 Pladda on 17 May, 9 Catacol on 12 June and 3 Cleiteadh Buidhe on 14 June. There were no reports of fledged young.

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Brodick Bay on 3 September 2009.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record seven in Machrie Bay on 6 September 2009.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

Passage migrant with records from 14 April to 25 September.

Large groups included over 1000 in Whiting Bay on 24 May, over 500 off Pirmill on 28 July, over 500 in Brodick Bay on 5 August and over 500 off Cosyden on 19 September.

Mediterranean Shearwater (Balearic Shearwater) *Puffinus mauretanicus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one off Corriecravie 14 October 1990.



Storm Petrel (European Storm Petrel) *Hydrobates pelagicus*

Rare vagrant.

One from Brodick to Ardrossan ferry on 21 August (MMcG) .

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

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one off Pirmill 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 1 January to 8 October.

Groups included 30 in Whiting Bay on 1 September and 100 in Machrie Bay on 7 October.

There were fewer reports of large groups than in recent years.

Cormorant (Great Cormorant) *Phalacrocorax carbo*

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

Groups included 3 off Kilmory on 26 January, 5 off Lochranza on 21 March, six off Cleats Shore on 22 October and 3 off Sliderywaterfoot on 15 November.

Shag (European Shag) *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Nest area on Pladda in May, 50-60 pairs. Groups included 20 at Drumadoon Point on 14 May, 150 on Pladda on 4 August, 17 Pirrmill on 10 August, 20 Holy Isle on 26 September and 20 in Brodick Bay on 30 October.

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. 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 2010 included 7 at Whitehouse, Lamlash on 6 March, two at Lagg on 10 May and one at Lochranza on 7 July. Groups included 4 South Feorline on 17 July, 4 Lamlash on 9 August and 4 Machriewaterfoot on 19 August .

Spoonbill (Eurasian Spoonbill) *Platalea leucorodia*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one at Corrie on 13 October 1978.

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Pairs with young included 3 young Lamlash on 15 July, 6 young Machrie on 18 July, 4 young Corrie on 10 August and two young Cleats Shore on 21 September.

Winter groups included 6 adults and 10 juveniles in Whiting Bay on 30 March.

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

Rare winter visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record was one at Lagg 6 January 1991.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

Winter visitor and passage migrant.

Up to 11 adults with two juveniles in Whiting Bay between 1 January and 8 April. Also in Whiting Bay there were up to 7 adults from 16 October to the end of the year.

Passage groups included 30 in Kildonan on 29 March, 12 in Shiskine on 1 November and 7 Cleats Shore on 7 November.

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Winter visitor and passage migrant.

Reports included two on Cleats Shore on 1 January. All other reports were from Shiskine where the largest group was 18 on 22 November.

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

Occasional winter visitor.

Two with Greylags in Shiskine on 16 November (SKT).

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Winter visitor with small feral population in Lamlash Bay.

Up to 300 in Shiskine Valley between 1 January and 22 March. Up to 430 in Shiskine Valley between 10 October and end of year. Other groups included 300 at Clachaig on 12 January and 24 November. Largest count of feral population in Lamlash Bay was 50 on 4 August. Nest with eggs on Pladda on 17 May.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

Occasional visitor.

Increasing reports including 5 Corriecravie on 24 January, 4 Kilmory on 14 February, 8 Cleats Shore on 28 February, 3 Sliderry on 7 March, 2 Clachaig on 17 May and 36 at Pirnmill on 14 August.



Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*.

Occasional winter visitor.

Two in Brodick Bay on 17 March, 23 on Cleats Shore on 14 October and 34 at Clauchlands on 2 December. These are all the records for 2010.

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

Occasional winter visitor.

Four Brodick Bay on 14 October and one at Clauchlands on 13 December. These are all the records for 2010.

Shelduck (Common Shelduck) *Tadorna tadorna*

Breeding. Common round coast from January to August and November to December.

Pairs with various numbers of young including 13 at Clauchlands on 21 May, 6 at Sliderry on 24 May, 8 at Machrie on 18 July and 58 with five pairs on Cleats Shore on 5 June.

Mandarin *Aix galericulata*

Introduced species. Nearest breeding group is at Loch Eck, Cowal, Argyll.

No records for 2010. Last record Rosa and Cloy Burns in Brodick on 27 March 2009.

Wigeon *Anas penelope*

Winter visitor and passage migrant with records from January to March and August to December.

Groups included 15 Kilmory on 26 January, 12 at Kildonan on 5 February, 16 at Cleats Shore on 28 February, 30 at Machrie on 14 March and 10 at Corriecravie on 17 November.

Teal (Common Teal) *Anas crecca*

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

Groups included 100 at Kilpatrick on 24 January, 57 at Corriecravie also on 24 January, 24 at Machrie on 10 October and 50 at Port na Feachie on 17 November.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Females with young included 4 Largymore on 12 May, 3 Corriecravie on 13 May, and 12 Pirnmill on 20 May. Groups included 31 Fisherman's Walk, Brodick on 30 January, 26 Sandbraes on 13 February, 60 Glen Rosa 14 October and 65 Kilpatrick on 10 November.

Pintail (Northern Pintail) *Anas acuta*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record pair Kildonan shore on 4 January 2009.

Shoveler (Northern Shoveler) *Anas clypeata*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record a male in Shiskine pond on 3 April 2009.

Pochard (Common Pochard) *Aythya ferina*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Lamlash on 21 March 1984.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Occasional visitor.

One male on Port na Lochan on 9 July (GB).

Scaup (Greater Scaup) *Aythya marila*

Occasional winter visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record a pair on Port na Lochan on 2 January 2003.



Eider (Common Eider) *Somateria mollissima*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Breeding included females with 5 young Kildonan on 23 May, 12 young Blackwaterfoot on 20 June and 12 young Sliderry on 20 June. Groups included 58 Clauchlands on 16 April, 64 Cosyden on 14 November and 113 in Lamlash Bay on 24 November.

King Eider *Somateria spectabilis*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was a long staying drake in Lochranza in April 1980.

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Blackwaterfoot on 27 April 1998.

Common Scoter (Black Scoter) *Melanitta nigra*

Occasional visitor.

Four from Ardrossan ferry on 8 October (AF).

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 off Catacol on 5 April 1998.

Goldeneye (Common Goldeneye) *Bucephala clangula*

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

Groups included 4 Corrie on 1 January, 12 at Kilmory on 14 February and 6 Blackwaterfoot on 30 December. First autumn record a female at Port na Lochan on 14 October.

Smew *Mergellus albellus*

Occasional winter visitor.

No records for 2010. 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.

Breeding included female with 8 young in Loch Ranza on 25 June, 4 young Machrie on 19 July and 5 young Pirnmill on 8 August. Groups included 53 Machriewaterfoot on 15 July, 38 Dougarie on 2 August and 38 Cosyden on 3 September.

Goosander *Mergus merganser*

Breeding. Localised.

No confirmed breeding in 2010. Sightings included a pair at Machriewaterfoot on 11 April, a pair at Fisherman's Walk Brodick on 19 May, a male and two females in Sannox Burn on 29 October, 3 Loch Ranza on 5 December and 2 Glenashdalewaterfoot on 30 December.

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis*

Introduced species which first bred in Ayrshire in 2001.

No records for 2010. Male on Port na Lochan on 21 April 2007 was a first for Arran.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

Occasional visitor from British reintroduction projects.

One Shiskine valley on 14-18 July and one Lagg on 28 August are all the records for 2010.

Marsh Harrier (Eurasian Marsh Harrier) *Circus aeruginosus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was a juvenile in Lamlash 19 August 2004.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

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

A poor season with around twenty chicks fledged. A cool wet May followed by cold winds in June and heavy rain in July may have had an impact on breeding success. Numerous widespread sightings including female Clauhan Glen on 24 January, female Machrie on 10 February, pair North Glen Sannox on 8 April, pair Machrie Moor on 7 October, female South Feorline on 15 November and female Glen Chalmadale on 10 December.

Goshawk (Northern Goshawk) *Accipiter gentilis*

No confirmed breeding.

One bird Kildonan on 9 February and Auchenhew on 10 December. These are all the records for 2010.

Sparrowhawk (Eurasian Sparrowhawk) *Accipiter nisus*

Resident. Breeding widespread.

A very poor breeding season with only 5 fledged from 2 successful nests. 12 sites were checked but only 5 were found to be occupied. 2 broods were located. Numerous sightings throughout the year.

Buzzard (Common Buzzard) *Buteo buteo*

Resident, Breeding widespread.

Numerous widespread sightings throughout the year including 3 Kilmory on 26 January, 4 Bennecarrigan on 16 February, 3 Clauchan Glen on 11 May, 4 Balmichael on 16 July, 3 on String on 11 August, 3 on Ross Road on 7 October and 2 Carlo on 12 December.

Rough-legged buzzard *Buteo lagopus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last recorded Cleats Shore 10 November 1974.

White-tailed eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*

Rare vagrant.

An immature by Bennan Head on 16 March. An adult between Machrie and Dougarie on 21 April and an adult at Kingscross on 1 December. These are all the records for 2010.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

Resident. Breeding.

All territories occupied. At least 2 young fledged. Sightings included a pair over Catacol on 1 January, a pair in Glen Rosa on 19 February and a pair over Lochranza on 28 February. Immature birds sighted over Lochranza on 12 September, above Glen Sannox on 17 September and over An Tunna on 27 November.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Occasional passage migrant.

One Kingscross on 18 April and one Garbh Allt on 15 September.

These are all the records for 2010.

Kestrel (Common Kestrel) *Falco tinnunculus*

Resident. Breeding widespread.

Numerous widespread sightings throughout the year including 2 Clauchlands on 17 February, 2 Lochranza on 3 April, 2 Drumadoon on 4 April, 5 Glenshant on 27 July, 5 Kings Cave on 3 August and 2 Glen Rosa on 28 October.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

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

Singles recorded included a male at Kildonan on 21 February, a female at Kingscross on 21 March, a male in Shiskine on 5 April, a female in Corriecravie on 13 October, a male over Cleats Shore on 13 October and a male Glen Cloy on 31 October.

Hobby (Eurasian Hobby) *Falco subbuteo*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last recorded Largymore on 24 May 2002.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

Resident. Breeding widespread at inland and coastal sites.

Continue to hold territories around the coast with several inland sites. Successful fledging was reported from most of those occupied. Numerous sightings throughout the year including one Bennan Head on 26 January, one Glen Catacol on 21 March, one Boguille on 24 April, one Kildonan on 19 September and one Drumadoon on 28 October.

Red Grouse (Willow Ptarmigan) *Lagopus scoticus*

Resident. Breeding. Underreported.

Groups included 9 on A'Chruach on 2 January, 6 on Cnoc na Croise on 26 January, 8 Cir Mhor on 11 July, 40 Windy Hill on 25 September and 6 Sheans on 5 December .

Ptarmigan *Lagopus mutus*

Very localised.

Five Coire nam Meann ridge on Goatfell on 7 March (StSt).



Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix*

Previously bred.

See pages 20-21 for report on Arran Black Grouse Group reintroduction programme. The above photograph is one of this year's young.

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

Scarce and local introduced resident.

Sightings included 2 in Machrie on 13 March, 2 in Slidery on 20 April, 2 in Lamlash on 24 April and 2 in Kingscross on 6 October.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

Previously bred.

No records for 2010. Last record, excluding released birds in the 1990s, was 4 at Claulands on 15 November 1989.

Quail (Common Quail) *Coturnix coturnix*

Previously bred.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Kilpatrick plantation on 30 May 1995.

Pheasant (Common Pheasant) *Phasianus colchicus*

Common introduced resident

Reports from all areas including a leucistic bird in Shiskine valley.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Localised breeding Resident,

One calling Kildonan on 24 January and one in Lamlash on 14 December.

These are all the records for 2010.

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.

No records for 2010. Last record one calling Port na Lochan from 7 to 9 May 2008.

Moorhen (Common Moorhen) *Gallinula chloropus*

Localised breeding resident.

One in Brodick on 17 December and 2 in Lamlash on 30 December. All other records in 2010 were from Port na Lochan pond with up to 6 birds on 25 December.

Coot (Common Coot) *Fulica atra*

Occasional visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record one Machrie pond on 21 April 2002.

Crane (*Grus grus*)

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. 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 54 at Blackwaterfoot on 18 April, 48 Kilmory on 10 May, 52 at Machriewaterfoot on 15 August and 100 at Clauchlands also on 15 August.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Resident. Breeding. Common round coast all year.

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

Groups included 38 at Blackwaterfoot on 24 January, 80 at Clauchlands on 15 August, 100 at Machrie on 10 October and 60 in Whiting Bay on 2 November.

Golden Plover (European Golden Plover) *Pluvialis apricaria*

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

Sixteen successful territories in north western moorland.

Groups included 110 at Machriewaterfoot on 10 October, 250 on High Kildonan on 11 October, 50 on Cleats Shore on 14 October and 50 at Shannochie on 19 October.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*

Uncommon passage migrant.

Three north of Bein Bhreac on 10 May and one on Caisteal Abhail on 17 September. These are all the records for 2010.

Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Uncommon passage migrant.

One on South Feorline shore on 16 April and one on Kildonan shore on 29 December. These are all the records for 2010.

Lapwing (Northern Lapwing) *Vanellus vanellus*

Breeding and winter visitor.

Two possible breeding areas one in Shiskine Valley and the other in Kilmory. Groups included 47 High Kildonan on 1 January, 50 Sliderry on 22 January, 100 on Cleats Shore on 28 February, 52 in Corriecravie on 29 November and 40 at Kilpatrick on 27 December.

Knot (Red Knot) *Calidris canutus*

Passage migrant.

Two Blackwaterfoot on 22 August, 4 Torrylinn on 26 August, 3 Machrie on 28 August and one Drumadoon Point on 2 October. These are all the records for 2010.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Passage migrant.

Three Drumadoon on 14 May, 2 Brodick on 20 May, 12 Blackwaterfoot on 1 June, 3 Whiting Bay on 21 August, 5 Drumadoon on 24 August and 2 Sliderry on 26 November. These are all the records for 2010.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record 3 Machriewaterfoot on 8 September 2002.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one on Kildonan shore on 27 August 2006.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Passage migrant and winter visitor.

Groups included 3 Kilpatrick on 1 January, 11 Kildonan on 14 January, 4 Clauchlands on 11 April, one Blackwaterfoot on 11 May and 7 Kildonan on 14 November.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

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

Groups included 6 Blackwaterfoot on 13 May, 6 Kildonan also on 13 May, 2 Brodick on 20 May, one Lamlash on 15 August and one Whitefarland on 12 October.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 Kildonan on 26 August 1987.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Uncommon winter visitor.

One record from start of year: 8 Kilpatrick pond on 14 January. All other records were single birds in December these included Port na Lochan on 18th, High Kildonan on 20th, Lamlash on 20th, Auchengallon on 24th, Drumadoon on 25th and East Bennan on 28th.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Resident but underreported breeder.

No confirmed breeding records. Sightings included 3 Cleats Shore on 5 January, 3 Rubha Salach on 12 January, 10 Clauchlands on 19 March, 3 Corriecravie on 5 October, 6 Kilpatrick Point on 10 November and 2 Sannox on 11 December.

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaeceus*

One record of this American species.

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

Woodcock (Eurasian Woodcock) *Scolopax rusticola*

Resident but underreported breeder. Numbers increase in winter.

Pairs flying at dusk over Clauchlands 23 March, Whiting Bay 19 April, Machrie 9 May, Brodick 1 June, Ross Road on 21 June and Dyemill on 11 July. Groups included 9 Shannochie 13 January, 20 Clauchlands 15 November and 7 Brodick Hill 11 December.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one at Kildonan on 27 September 2005.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Uncommon passage migrant.

Records included one Kildonan on 8 January, 2 Blackwaterfoot on 5 June, one Machriewaterfoot on 18 July and 4 Torrylinn on 25 August.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Passage migrant and occasional winter visitor.

Groups included 4 Kilpatrick on 17 April, 6 Kildonan on 18 April, 20 Auchenhew on 23 April, 39 on Cleats Shore on 8 May, 4 Kilmory on 10 May and 4 Machrie on 16 May.

Curlew (Eurasian Curlew) *Numenius arquata*

Resident but unreported breeder.

No confirmed breeding records. Groups included 50 Corriecravie on 22 January, 33 Blackwaterfoot on 24 January, 30 Machrie on 21 February, 34 Kingscross on 9 March, 30 Cleats Shore on 5 July, 100 Clauchlands on 15 August and 48 Cosyden on 14 November.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Uncommon passage migrant.

One South Feorline shore on 5 August (JRTC).

Redshank (Common Redshank) *Tringa totanus*

Passage migrant with records from every month of the year. No breeding records.

Groups included 5 Sandbraes on 13 February, 4 Slidery on 23 February, 12 Lochranza on 10 August, 11 Whiting Bay on 14 August and 10 Lamlash on 4 September.

Greenshank (Common Greenshank) *Tringa nebularia*

Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor.

One wintering bird (occasionally two) at Clauchlands from January to 10 March returning 18 July to end of year. These are all the records for 2010.

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*)

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record High Thunderguy by track to Coire Fhionn Lochan on 1 August 2008.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Summer visitor with records from April to August. Breeding.

Breeding records included nests Machrie and Dougarie on 20 May and pairs each with young Fallen Rocks on 31 May, Merkland on 8 June, North Sannox on 9 June, Brodick Wineport on 11 June, Kilmory on 14 June and North Newton on 16 June.

Turnstone (Ruddy Turnstone) *Arenaria interpres*

Passage migrant and winter visitor with records from most months of the year.

Groups included 20 Cleats Shore on 28 February, 36 Machrie on 17 April, 17 Blackwaterfoot on 16 September and 20 Whiting Bay on 2 November.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 in Wineport area of Brodick Bay on 28 August 1983.

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Brodick Bay on 23 March 1989.

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 off Kildonan on 16 May 2009.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Uncommon passage migrant.

One off Drumadoon on 4 April (RB).

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*.

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one from ferry in Brodick Bay on 15 October 2009.

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one at Catacol on 30 December 1992.

Little Gull *Larus minutus*

Uncommon irregular visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Whiting Bay on 27 June 2005.



Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

Non breeding. Present round coast from January to May and August to December.

Groups included 6 Sandbraes on 13 February, 14 Lamlash on 9 August, 6 Brodick on 27 October and 23 Kildonan on 14 November.

Common Gull (Mew Gull) *Larus canus*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Nests included 20 Dougarie on 8 May, 40 Machriewaterfoot on 16 May, 50 Pladda on 17 May and 70 on Holy Isle on 30 June. Groups included 100 Blackwaterfoot on 24 January, 100 Lochranza on 23 June and 200 Whiting Bay on 19 November.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Breeding. Common round coast from February to October.

Groups included 400 Pladda on 23 May, 60 Cnoc na Croise on 31 May, 70 Whiting Bay on 4 August and 70 Brodick on 9 August.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Groups included 900 Pladda on 23 May, 20 Cnoc na Croise on 31 May, 100 in Lochranza on 23 June, 93 Brodick Bay on 9 August and 200 Whiting Bay on 19 November.

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides*

Uncommon winter visitor.

One second winter into third winter gull on Merkland shore on 25 April (DJG).

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*

Uncommon winter visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record one first winter gull South Feorline on 4 February 2008.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Breeding. Common round coast all year.

Groups included 15 Lochranza on 13 January, 8 Lagg on 7 February, 20 Pladda on 23 May, 5 Whiting Bay on 4 August and 5 Blackwaterfoot on 11 August.

Sabine's Gull *Larus sabini*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one adult Brodick Bay on 3 September 2009.

Kittiwake (Black-legged Kittiwake) *Rissa tridactyla*

Nearest breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year.

Groups included 300 Whiting Bay on 19 September, 50 Blackwaterfoot on 6 October, 50 Rubha Glas on 8 October and 300 Catacol on 10 October.

Ivory Gull *Pagophila eburnea*

One historical record.

One shot in Lamlash Bay in 1895.

Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one at Kildonan on 21 November 1995.

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one Pirnmill on 12 September 1992.

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

Rare summer visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 at Dougarie on 5 May 1984.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Uncommon summer visitor.

No records for 2010. Seven north of the Cock of Arran on 10 August 2008.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

Summer visitor. Breeding colony Pladda.

All sightings were from on or around Pladda between 19 May and 12 July with the maximum number reported 4 on 9 May.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*

Uncommon summer visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record one in Brodick Bay on 11 August in 2007.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicencis*

Summer visitor. Non breeding.

Groups included 6 Blackwaterfoot on 26 April, 4 Whiting Bay on 4 May, 5 including two juveniles Blackwaterfoot on 22 August and 3 Machrie on 19 September .

Little Auk *Alle alle*

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

No records for 2010. Last record one in Brodick Bay on 31 March 2008.

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year. Most sightings in summer.

Groups included 50 off Pladda on 19 May, 200 in Whiting Bay on 24 May, 100 off Rubha Glas on 8 October and 300 off Pirmill on 14 October.

Guillemot (Common Guillemot) *Uria aalge*

Breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year. Most sightings in summer.

Groups included 100 off Pladda on 19 May, 150 in Whiting Bay on 24 May, 50 Brodick Bay on 8 August and 50 off Rubha Glas on 8 October.



Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*

Breeding. Round coast all year.

Breeding included one nest Corrie on 15 April, 4 nests Kings Cave on 8 May, 4 nests Brodick Pier on 18 May and 3 nests Imachar on 4 July. Numbers and sightings are increasing. Groups included 8 Kingscross on 9 March, 12 Brodick Pier also on 9 March, 60 Pladda on 18 April, 8 Machrie on 15 August and 15 Pirmill on 9 October.

Puffin (Atlantic Puffin) *Fratercula arctica*

Breeding colony Ailsa Craig. Round coast all year. Most sightings in summer.

Numbers and sightings are increasing. From Brodick Bay 2 between 8-14 April, 2 on 19 May, 2 on 22 May, one on 24 May, 2 on 2 June and one on 6 June. From other areas 2 off Pladda on 19 May, 6 off Corrie on 23 May, one in Whiting Bay on 22 September and one off Holy Isle on 26 September. These are all the records for 2010.

Pallas's Sandgrouse *Syrrhaptes 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 10 Balmichael on 10 February, 20 Lochranza on 11 February, 6 Cleiteadh Buidhe, 30 Kilpatrick on 4 August and 6 Port na Feachie on 15 November.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

Very scarce.

No records for 2010. Last record one on footpath to Fallen Rocks on 14 June 1989.

Woodpigeon (Common Woodpigeon) *Columba palumbus*

Resident. Breeding.

Groups included 50 Shiskine on 23 January, 15 Bennan Head on 26 January, 8 Glenree on 28 May, 26 Glen Cloy on 12 August and 11 Lochranza on 12 December.

Collared Dove (Eurasian Collared Dove) *Streptopelia decaocto*

Resident. Breeding. First bred in Britain in 1955.

Present around all villages. Groups included 5 Shiskine on 31 January, 6 Sandbraes on 13 February, 17 Whiting Bay on 4 October and 6 Brodick on 21 December.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

Occasional passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one with a group of Collared Doves in Brodick from 25 October to 8 November 2006.

Cuckoo(Common Cuckoo) *Cuculus canorus*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread.

First one reported calling at Kingscross on 17 April. Later reports from around the island. The last one reported was a young bird seen on Garbh Allt on 13 August.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Most territories occupied. Good breeding season. Sightings from Auchangallon, Auchencar, Balmichael, Corrie, Brodick, Cladach, Dougarie, Glenkiln, Kilmory, Kilpatrick, Lamlash, Lochranza, Mayish, Pirnmill, Ross Road, Shiskine, String and Whiting Bay.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

Only recent records are from one long lived introduced bird in Brodick Country Park.

No records for 2010

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

Resident possibly underreported. Breeding.

One Sannox on 20 May, one Glenloig on 25 August and one top of String on 3 December.

These are all the records for 2010.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Resident. Breeding.

Poor year with few breeding records.

Sightings included 2 Machrie Moor on 7 March, one Cnoc na Croise on 31 May, one Bouguille on 16 June, one Urie Loch on 19 June and 2 An Tunna on 23 June.

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Summer visitor. Previously bred.

No records for 2010. Last record Maol Donn on 24 May 1998.

Swift (Common Swift) *Apus apus*

Summer visitor and passage migrant. No breeding records. Reports from May to August.

Sightings included 2 Shannochie on 29 June, 4 High Kildonan on 10 July, one Machrie on 15 July and one Whiting Bay on 22 July.

Kingfisher (Common Kingfisher) *Alcedo atthis*

Resident. No confirmed breeding. Most records dispersing birds in winter.

Regular reports from Fisherman's Walk area in Brodick from 5 August to end of year.

Other sightings one Glenashdale Burn on 8 January and one Cnocan Burn on 20 October.

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

Vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one photographed in a garden in Thunderguy on 25 June 2006.



Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

Resident. Breeding. Localised but spreading.

Regularly heard drumming in Brodick Country Park and Merkland Wood from January to April. From this stronghold, birds have now spread. Other reports included Pirnmill on 3 February, Sannox on 3 April, Margnaheglish on 9 April, Benlister on 9 May, Cnoc na Dail on 14 May, Kilmory on 30 July and Fallen Rocks on 12 December.

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*

Uncommon passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record in Sannox on 25 September 1997.

Skylark (Sky Lark) *Alauda arvensis*

Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor

Breeding territories occupied in Ard Bheinn, Cnoc Dubh, Coire na Ciche, Corriecravie Moor, Drumadoon, Glen Cloy, Kilmory, Kilpatrick, Machrie, Pirnmill and Sannox. Groups included 50 Cleats Shore on 5 January, 20 High Kildonan on 8 January, 8 Sliderry Shore on 24 September and 6 Port na Feachie on 15 November.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised.

Breeding territories occupied in Auchencar, Kilpatrick, Strabane and Sannox with up to 50 birds in Sannox on 23 April. Other sightings included one High Kildonan on 20 March, 17 Auchencar on 26 April, 12 Clauchlands on 20 May and 8 Kilpatrick on 7 July.

Swallow (Barn Swallow) *Hirundo rustica*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread.

At least twenty occupied nests in Kilpatrick in August. First report was Corriecravie on 7 April. Groups included 150 Auchenhew on 29 April, 100 Kilpatrick on 4 September, 100 Dyemill on 6 September and 30 Lakin on 19 September. Last one Sandbraes on 27 October.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread.

Numbers of occupied nests included 16 at Corriecravie on 5 June and 9 Whiting Bay on 28 June. Groups included 30 Port na Lochan on 13 April, 12 Glenree on 28 May, 30 High Kildonan on 10 July and 30 Dyemill on 6 September. Last record Lamlash on 14 October.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported.

Birds holding territories in Benlister, Brodick Country Park, Glen Rosa, Kilmory and Lamlash. Sightings included one Brodick Country Park on 28 April, one Benlister on 16 May, pair Glen Rosa on 15 June and one Lamlash on 7 October.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Breeding resident, widespread, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Groups included 20 Corrie on 18 January, 30 Machrie Golf Course on 22 March, 60 High Kildonan on 2 April and 20 Blackwaterfoot on 6 October.

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

Breeding resident, widespread along the coast, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Numerous breeding records including pairs carrying food at Auchenhew, Cosyden, Dougarie, Drumadoon, Machrie and Whiting Bay in May/June. Groups included 16 Bennan Head on 26 January, 40 Pladda on 23 May and 50 Kildonan on 19 September,

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Scarce passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record two Cleats Shore on 23 April 2006.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Resident. Breeding. Localised.

Breeding records included adults carrying food High Kildonan on 30 May and Kilmory 5 June plus fledged young Dyemill on 11 July and Kilpatrick on 3 August. Other groups included 6 Corrie 18 January, 12 Clauchlands 25 August and 4 Brodick on 28 November.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

Breeding resident, widespread, passage migrant and winter visitor

Breeding records included adults carrying food Drumadoon on 14 May, High Kildonan on 23 May plus fledged young Sannox on 18 June and Pirnmill on 6 July. Other groups included 30 Machrie on 22 March and 30 Cleats Shore on 25 August.

White Wagtail *Montacilla alba*

Regular passage migrant.

Sightings included 18 Kildonan on 11 April, 40 Auchenhew on 23 April, 12 Kilmory on 26 August and 6 Blackwaterfoot on 3 September.



Waxwing (Bohemian Waxwing) *Bombycilla garrulus*

Irruptive late autumn and winter visitor.

2010 was an exceptional year for Waxwings. Although there were reports of 2 in Lamlash on 2 January and 2 at Auchencar on 4 January, from 21 October to 21 November there were widespread reports including 30 Whiting Bay on 23 October, 40 Brodick on 25 October, 28 Pirnmill on 26 October, 100 by the Auchrannie on 31 October, 50 Invercloy on 1 November, 4 Glenloig on 7 November and 40 Cordon on 9 November.

Dipper (White-throated Dipper) *Cinclus cinclus*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Pairs recorded at Benlister, Glenashdale, Monamore and Rosa Burns. Also pairs at Catacol, Cordon, Dyemill, Glen Cloy, Glenree, Kildonan, Kilmorywater, Lagg, Lochranza, Machriewater and Slidderlywater. Tend to move towards coast in winter.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Records from varied habitats through out the island from high tops to shore. Groups included winter roosts of 36 in Sannox on 2 January, 12 in Shannochie on 13 January and 18 in Blackwaterfoot on 31 January.

Dunnock (Hedge Accentor) *Prunella modularis*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Fledged young included reports from Kilpatrick and Brodick on 25 June, Whiting Bay on 26 June, Pirnmill on 6 July, and High Kildonan on 18 July. Other groups included 3 Bennan on 26 January, 3 Shiskine on 31 January and 5 Kingscross on 13 February.

Robin (European Robin) *Erithacus rubecula*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Fledged young included reports from High Kildonan on 8 June, Kilpatrick, Lamlash and Mayish on 25 June, Whiting Bay on 26 June, Pirnmill on 6 July and Lochranza on 3 August. Other groups included 12 Dyemill on 6 January and 6 Porta Leacach on 10 November.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Scarce passage migrant.

Male at Margnaheglis on 11 December (JN).

Redstart (Common Redstart) *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported. Previously bred.

Pair at Roddin on 26 April and a male at Kildonan on 14 August were all the records.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Passage migrant.

Breeding territories included Boguille, Glen Iorsa, Glen Rosa, Machrie Moor, Ross Road, Sightings included 2 Boguille 8 May, 2 Machrie Moor 13 May, 10 Glen Rosa 15 June, 4 North Newton 8 July and 2 Ross Road 28 August.



Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Fewer confirmed breeding than 2009. Breeding reports included 2 Drumadoon 3 May, 2 Glenscorrodale 12 May, 2 Burrigan Hill 22 May, 2 Shannochie 2 June, 3 fledged young Auchenheugh Bay on 9 June and fledged young Clachlands on 22 July.

Wheatear (Northern Wheatear) *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

First reported was a male at Clachlands on 20 March. Breeding reports included Auchencar 26 April, Glen Catacol and Auchenheugh 29 April, Kilpatrick 12 May and Glen Iorsa 24 June. Last report "Greenland" bird Cleats Shore 14 October.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported.

Male on Beinn a'Chliabhiann on 21 April. Female by Narachan track Lochranza on 25 September. These are all the records for 2010.

Blackbird (Common Blackbird) *Turdus merula*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Pairs reported from all villages. Large groups included 12 Shiskine on 31 January, 14 Clachen Glen on 14 May, 18 Kilmory on 5 June, 18 Pirmill on 1 December, 30 High Kildonan on 19 December and 10 Lochranza on 25 December.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

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

Groups, sometimes with Redwings included 120 High Kildonan on 16 January, 150 Kilmory on 26 January, 300 Ross Road on 22 October, 300 Balmichael on 23 October and 320 Lochranza on 25 October.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Pairs reported from all villages. Largest group 20 High Kildonan on 17 October.



Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Winter visitor with records from February to March and October to December.

Groups, sometimes with Fieldfares included 120 Kilmory on 26 January, 100 North Newton on 12 October, 300 High Kildonan on 27 October and 100 Whiting Bay on 29 October.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Dyemill on 26 April, Kings Cave 12 May, Glen Catacol 17 June and Whiting Bay 21 June. Groups included 30 High Kildonan on 17 February, 7 South Feorline on 15 October and 8 Lochranza on 10 November.

Grasshopper Warbler (Common Grasshopper Warbler) *Locustella naevia*

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

Reports of reeling birds include 3 Auchenhew 27 April, one Brodick Country Park on 30 April, one Glen Cloy 14 May, one Glenashdale 16 May, one Machrie 17 May, one Shiskine on 22 May and 2 Kilmory on 20 July.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

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

Records included 5 Auchenhew 16 May, 2 Corriecravie ponds on 18 May, 4 Bennecarrigan on 24 May, 2 Burrigan Hill on 21 June and one Clauchlands on 23 June.

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

Scarce summer visitor. No breeding records.

Male singing Auchenhew Bay on 27 April and 16 May. These are all the records for 2010.

Whitethroat (Common Whitethroat) *Sylvia communis*

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

Records included 3 Sliddery Shore on 25 April, 4 Newton on 8 May, 6 Claulands on 20 May, 2 Catacol on 22 June and one "late" record one Kilpatrick on 11 October.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Scarce summer visitor, possibly underreported.

Singles reported from Whiting Bay on 25 April, Kildonan on 5 May, Kilmory on 10 May and Brodick Country Park on 21 June. These are all the records for 2010.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Summer visitor. Widespread. Breeding. Overwinters in small numbers .

Records included males singing in Kildonan, Brodick Country Park and Lamlash all on 18 April and 3 Glen Cloy on 16 May. Winter records included singles in Whiting Bay on 19 January, Dhunan on 7 November and Shiskine on 17 November .

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Very rare and irregular passage migrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one in Whiting Bay from 4 to 6 December 2007.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

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

Records included male singing North Sannox on 30 April and one Corrie Golf Course on 10 May. These are all the records for 2010.

Chiffchaff (Common Chiffchaff) *Phylloscopus collybita*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Records from March to October.

Records included males singing Whiting Bay 4 April, North Sannox 10 April, Margnaheglish 16 April, Lochranza 24 April, Merkland Wood on 14 May, Brodick Country Park 30 May and one "late" record one Auchenhew on 12 October.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

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

Records included males singing Lamlash 9 April, Sliddery 10 April, Drumadoon 11 April, Kildonan 12 April, Whiting Bay 14 April, Lochranza 14 April, Corrie 15 April, Balmichael 18 April, Catacol 14 May, Auchenhew 16 May and Glenree 28 May.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Records included 4 Dyemill 14 August, 12 Ross Road 28 August, 7 Glenashdale 26 September, 25 Auchenhew 12 October and 7 Brodick Castle Gardens on 31 October.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*

Very rare and irregular passage migrant.

One Dhunan on 9 April (DMP). Only other Arran record: Whiting Bay 17 November 2007.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Summer visitor. Breeding. Localised. Records from May to August.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Newton 23 May, Strathwillan 23 May, High Kildonan 30 May, Glen Cloy 30 May, North Sannox 15 June, Brodick Country Park 21 June, Machrie 31 July and Lamlash 16 August.

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Irregular summer visitor.

No records for 2010. Last record one on Newton Shore on 28 April 1998.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Groups included 13 Lamlash 8 January, 14 Whiting Bay on 19 January, 14 Balmichael on 24 January, 10 Dyemill on 14 August, 24 Whiting Bay Golf Course on 17 September, 21 Auchenhew on 12 October and 15 Lamlash on 11 December.

Willow Tit *Parus montanus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record at Mill House Lamlash from 16 to 18 May 2009.

Coal Tit *Parus ater*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Reports from all villages of birds visiting garden feeders. Confirmed breeding included reports from Lamlash 22 June, Pirnmill 6 July, Brodick 28 July, Dhunan 29 July and Margnaheglish on 2 August. Largest group was 14 in Margnaheglish on 31 January.

Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Reports from all villages of birds visiting garden feeders. Confirmed breeding included reports from High Kildonan 30 May, Lamlash 23 June, Whiting Bay 26 June, Pirnmill 6 July, Brodick 28 July and Lochranza 29 July. Largest group was 8 in Shiskine on 7 August.

Great Tit *Parus major*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Reports from all villages of birds visiting garden feeders. Confirmed breeding included reports from Whiting Bay 1 May, Lamlash 2 May, High Kildonan 29 May, Shiskine 7 June, Lochranza 15 June and Pirnmill 6 July. Largest group was 14 in Glenree on 12 February.

Nuthatch (Wood Nuthatch) *Sitta europea*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one Corrie on 25 June 2002.

Treecreeper (Eurasian Treecreeper) *Certhia familiaris*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Confirmed breeding included Lochranza 26 April, Lamlash 13 May, Kilmory 5 June and Dhunan 23 July. Singles reported included Merkland Wood 24 March, Dyemill 12 April, Brodick Country Park 24 September and Pirnmill 7 November.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record a female in Lochranza on 7 June 1979.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record a male at Kildonan on 27 September 1997.

Great Grey shrike *Lanius excubiter*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record was one in Fairy Glen, Lochranza on 24 October 2007.

Jay (Eurasian Jay) *Garrulus glandarius*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one Brodick Country Park on 24 October 1985.

Magpie (Black-billed Magpie) *Pica pica*

Vagrant. Before 2008 only seven records in last twenty five years.

No records for 2010. One long staying bird was first reported from Corriegills on 20 April 2008. Reports continued mainly from the Brodick Golf Course area until 1 April 2009.

Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

Rare vagrant. Previously bred.

No records for 2010. Last record 5 in Lochranza on 5 July 2001.

Jackdaw (Eurasian Jackdaw) *Corvus monedula*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Groups included 110 Drumadoon on 10 January, 50 Cleats Shore on 28 February, 150 Shiskine Valley on 8 August and 120 Machrie on 19 October.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

Winter visitor.

One Kilpatrick Point on 4 March, 10 Shiskine on 31 August, 6 Slidery on 7 November, 2 Kilpatrick on 20 December, 2 Corriecravie on 23 December, 6 Drumadoon on 25 December and 7 Blackwaterfoot on 30 December. These are all the records for 2010.

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

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

Groups included 20 Kildonan on 14 January, 43 Bennan 26 January, 30 Cleats Shore 28 February, 40 Kilmory on 10 May, 70 Glenree on 28 May and 150 Glenkiln on 8 November.



Raven (Common Raven) *Corvus corax*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Pairs included Bennan Head on 26 January, Brown Head on 4 March, Alt Gobhlach on 8 April, Ben Tarsuinn 21 April and Eas Mor 12 May. Largest group 55 Glenree 12 February.

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one adult in Brodick on 28 June 2002.

Starling (Common Starling) *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Shiskine 10 May, Lochranza 17 May, High Kildonan 22 May, Shannochie 23 May, Lamlash 24 May and Kilpatrick 29 May. Larger groups included 140 Kilmory on 26 January and 1,000 Kilpatrick on 10 November.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread.

Confirmed breeding included reports Whiting Bay 2 May, Corriecravie 14 May, Shannochie and Auchenhew 23 May, Lamlash 4 June, Lochranza 14 June and Brodick 25 June. Larger groups included 112 Drumadoon on 12 August and 40 Shiskine on 27 October.

Tree Sparrow (Eurasian Tree Sparrow) *Passer montanus*

Rare vagrant. Previously bred.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 in Brodick on 17 June 1997.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Confirmed breeding included reports Whiting Bay 1 May, Machrie 10 May, Kilmory 11 May, Lamlash 17 May, Lochranza 22 May, Catacol 22 June and Brodick 25 June. Larger groups included 150 High Kildonan on 7 January and 60 Pirnmill on 7 November.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

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

Female High Kildonan on 7 January, female Pirnmill on 21 March and male Shiskine 30 March were all the records in first part of year, By contrast the start of winter 2010/2011 was remarkable with widespread reports from 26 October to end of year including 10 Kingscross 28 October, 5 Balnacoole 18 November, 12 Lamlash 18 December, 6 High Kildonan 19 December, 3 Pirnmill 20 December and 20 Mayish on 25 December.

Greenfinch (European Greenfinch) *Carduelis chloris*

Common resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Brodick 10 May, Blackwaterfoot 23 May, High Kildonan 2 June, Lochranza 20 June, Shiskine 28 June, Pirnmill 6 July, Lamlash 15 July and Clauchlands 18 July. Largest group 50 in Blackwaterfoot on 13 January.

Goldfinch (European Goldfinch) *Carduelis carduelis*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Lochranza 14 April, Kildonan 1 May, Auchenhew 16 May, Clauchlands 18 June, Eas Mor 27 June and Brodick 28 June. Larger groups included 100 Kilpatrick 19 September and 100 Cleats Shore on 14 October.

Siskin (Eurasian Siskin) *Carduelis spinus*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.

Most records between January and June.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Lamlash 23 April, Brodick 7 May, Whiting Bay 17 May, Dhunan 19 May, High Kildonan 28 May, Kilpatrick also 28 May and Machrie 4 June. Largest group 250 in Merkland Wood on 23 October.

Linnet (Common Linnet) *Carduelis cannabina*

Resident. Breeding. Widespread. Passage migrant.,

Most records between April and November.

Confirmed breeding included reports from High Kildonan 5 May, Shiskine Golf Course 13 May, Bennan 23 May and Corriecravie 14 June. Larger groups included 60 Clauchlands on 16 August and 50 on Cleats Shore on 14 October.

Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*

Resident. Breeding. Localised. Passage migrant..

No breeding records. Groups included 20 Cleats Shore 5 January, 16 Drumadoon 12 August, 8 Kilpatrick 29 September, 20 Whitefarland 12 October, 15 Pirnmill on 26 October and 65 Machrie 27 October.

Redpoll (Lesser Redpoll) *Carduelis cabaret*

Resident. Breeding. Localised. Passage migrant. Most records in spring.

Confirmed breeding included reports from Kildonan 4 June, Knockinkelly 21 June and Bennecarrigan 22 June. Groups included 3 Glenashdale 11 May, 6 Holy Isle 21 July, 3 Dougarie 10 August, 15 Corriecravie 13 October and 4 Cleats Shore also on 13 October.

Crossbill (Common Crossbill) *Loxia curvirostra*

Resident. Breeding. Localised.

No breeding records. Groups included 2 Glen Iorsa 22 June, 15 High Kildonan 17 October, 2 Benlister 27 October and 2 Fallen Rocks on 12 December.

Scarlet Rosefinch (Common Rosefinch) *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one juvenile at High Kildonan on 24 October 1999.

Bullfinch (Common Bullfinch) *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Resident. Breeding. Localised.

Confirmed breeding included reports from High Kildonan 1 May, Merkland Wood 14 May and Dyemill 27 May. Groups included 5 Cnoc na Dail 26 January, 4 Brodick 9 March, 7 Lamlash 23 April, 14 top of Lamlash/Brodick road 23 October and 8 Glen Sannox 23 November.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Rare vagrant.

No records for 2010. Last record one Margnaheglish on 26 April 2000.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Varying numbers on passage and in winter.

Twenty summit Goatfell on 9 March, 5 Cioch Na H-Oighe on 19 October, 3 Goatfell on 3 November and 20 Corrie Lan on 10 November. These are all the records for 2010.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

Once common resident currently in decline. Most records in winter.

No breeding records for 2010. Records included 6 Shiskine 7 February, one Brodick 17 March, one Auchenhew 16 October, 2 High Kildonan 24 December and one Corriecravie 27 December.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Resident. Breeding. Localised. Passage migrant.

Confirmed breeding included Machrie 9 May, Auchenhew 9 June and Glen Rosa 15 June. Groups included 4 Kilpatrick 1 January, 3 Cleats Shore 5 January, 4 Balmichael 15 April and 50 (fifty) by Machrie standing stones on 12 December.

Corn bunting *Miliaria calandra*

Rare vagrant. Previously bred.

No records for 2010. Last record 2 in Brodick area on 7 October 1984.

Species to be submitted to Scottish and Local Record Committees

Records of the following species will only be accepted if a satisfactory description is submitted. Descriptions of species listed in bold type will be referred to the Scottish Birds Records Committee. Others will be considered by the Clyde Bird Records Panel. Under certain circumstances a description may be required for a species not on the list.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Black-throated Diver | Temminck's Stint | Melodious Warbler |
| White-billed Diver | White-rumped Sandpiper | Reed Warbler |
| Black-necked Grebe | Pectoral Sandpiper | Icterine Warbler |
| Cory's Shearwater | Buff-breasted Sandpiper | Barred Warbler |
| Great Shearwater | Red-necked Phalarope | Dartford Warbler |
| Sooty Shearwater | Grey Phalarope | Subalpine Warbler |
| Balearic Shearwater | Pomarine Skua (immature) | Greenish Warbler |
| Wilson's Petrel | Long-tailed Skua | Pallas's Warbler |
| Storm Petrel | Mediterranean Gull (except adult) | Yellow-browed Warbler |
| Leach's Petrel | Sabine's Gull | Radde's Warbler |
| Night Heron | Ring-billed Gull | Dusky Warbler |
| Cattle Egret | Yellow-legged Gull | Firecrest |
| Little Egret | Caspian Gull | Red-breasted Flycatcher |
| Great White Egret | Iceland Gull - form <i>L. g. kumlieni</i> | Bearded Tit |
| Purple Heron | known as 'Kumlien's Gull' | Willow Tit |
| White Stork | White-winged Black Tern | Marsh Tit |
| Spoonbill | Roseate Tern | Nuthatch |
| Bean Goose | Little Owl | Golden Oriole |
| American Wigeon | Nightjar | Woodchat Shrike |
| Green-winged Teal | Alpine Swift | Chough |
| Ring-necked Duck | Bee-eater | Rose-coloured Starling |
| Ferruginous Duck | Lesser Spotted Woodpecker | Serin |
| Surf Scoter | Short-toed Lark | Common (Mealy) Redpoll |
| Honey Buzzard | Woodlark | Arctic Redpoll |
| Black Kite | Red-rumped Swallow | Scarlet Rosefinch |
| Red Kite | Richard's Pipit | Bullfinch (Northern) |
| Montagu's Harrier | Tawny Pipit | Hawfinch |
| Rough-legged Buzzard | Red-throated Pipit | Parrot Crossbill |
| Goshawk | Rock Pipit (Scandinavian race) | Girl Bunting |
| Red-footed Falcon | Water Pipit | Ortolan Bunting |
| Hobby | Yellow Wagtail (continental races) | Rustic Bunting |
| Crane | Nightingale | Little Bunting |
| Stone Curlew | Bluethroat | Corn Bunting |
| Little Ringed Plover | Cetti's Warbler | |
| Kentish Plover | Aquatic Warbler | |
| American Golden Plover | Marsh Warbler | |

Descriptions of the above species (or races/forms) and national rarity descriptions for the *British Birds* Rarities Committee (BBRC) should be sent preferably by email to the Assistant Local Clyde Recorder, Val Wilson wilsonval@btinternet.com or by post to 76 Laigh Road, Newton Mearns, G77 5EQ as soon as possible after the date of observation.

Index by Common Name

| Common Name | Page | Common Name | Page |
|------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| Auk, Little | 42 | Finch, Chaffinch | 54 |
| Bittern | 28 | Finch, Goldfinch | 54 |
| Blackbird | 48 | Finch, Greenfinch | 54 |
| Blackcap | 50 | Finch, Hawfinch | 55 |
| Brambling | 54 | Finch, Scarlet Rosefinch | 55 |
| Bunting, Corn | 56 | Firecrest | 51 |
| Bunting, Reed | 56 | Flycatcher, Pied | 51 |
| Bunting, Snow | 55 | Flycatcher, Spotted | 51 |
| Buzzard | 33 | Fulmar | 27 |
| Buzzard, Rough-legged | 33 | Gannet | 27 |
| Chiffchaff | 50 | Godwit, Bar-tailed | 38 |
| Chough | 52 | Godwit, Black-tailed | 38 |
| Coot | 35 | Goldcrest | 50 |
| Cormorant | 28 | Goldeneye | 31 |
| Crake, Corn | 35 | Goosander | 32 |
| Crake, Spotted | 35 | Goose, Barnacle | 29 |
| Crane | 35 | Goose, Brent | 29 |
| Crossbill | 55 | Goose, Canada | 29 |
| Crow, Carrion | 53 | Goose, Greylag | 29 |
| Crow, Hooded | 53 | Goose, Pink-footed | 29 |
| Cuckoo | 43 | Goose, White-fronted | 29 |
| Curlew | 38 | Goshawk | 32 |
| Dipper | 47 | Grebe, Black-necked | 26 |
| Diver, Black-throated | 26 | Grebe, Great Crested | 26 |
| Diver, Great Northern | 26 | Grebe, Little | 26 |
| Diver, Red-throated | 26 | Grebe, Red-necked | 26 |
| Dotterel | 36 | Grebe, Slavonian | 26 |
| Dove, Collared | 43 | Greenshank | 38 |
| Dove, Rock | 43 | Grouse, Black | 34 |
| Dove, Stock | 43 | Grouse, Red | 34 |
| Dove, Turtle | 43 | Guillemot | 42 |
| Dowitcher, Long-billed | 37 | Guillemot, Black | 42 |
| Duck, Long-tailed | 31 | Gull, Black-headed | 40 |
| Duck, Mandarin | 30 | Gull, Common | 40 |
| Duck, Ruddy | 32 | Gull, Glaucous | 40 |
| Duck, Tufted | 31 | Gull, Great Black-backed | 40 |
| Dunlin | 37 | Gull, Herring | 40 |
| Dunnock | 47 | Gull, Iceland | 40 |
| Eagle, Golden | 33 | Gull, Ivory | 41 |
| Eagle, White-tailed | 33 | Gull, Lesser Black-backed | 40 |
| Egret, Snowy | 28 | Gull, Little | 39 |
| Eider | 31 | Gull, Mediterranean | 39 |
| Eider, King | 31 | Gull, Ross's | 41 |
| Falcon, Peregrine | 34 | Gull, Sabine's | 41 |
| Fieldfare | 49 | Harrier, Hen | 32 |
| Finch, Bullfinch | 55 | Harrier, Marsh | 32 |

| Common Name | Page | Common Name | Page |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Heron, Grey | 28 | Redpoll | 55 |
| Hobby | 34 | Redshank | 38 |
| Hoopoe | 44 | Redshank, Spotted | 38 |
| Jackdaw | 52 | Redstart | 48 |
| Jay | 52 | Redstart, Black | 48 |
| Kestrel | 33 | Redwing | 49 |
| Kingfisher | 44 | Ring Ouzel | 48 |
| Kite, Red | 32 | Robin | 47 |
| Kittiwake | 41 | Rook | 53 |
| Knot | 36 | Ruff | 37 |
| Lapwing | 36 | Sanderling | 36 |
| Linnet | 54 | Sandgrouse, Pallas's | 42 |
| Magpie | 52 | Sandpiper, Common | 39 |
| Mallard | 30 | Sandpiper, Curlew | 37 |
| Martin, House | 45 | Sandpiper, Green | 38 |
| Martin, Sand | 45 | Sandpiper, Purple | 37 |
| Merganser, Red-breasted | 32 | Scaup | 31 |
| Merlin | 33 | Scoter, Common | 31 |
| Moorhen | 35 | Scoter, Velvet | 31 |
| Nightjar | 44 | Shag | 28 |
| Nuthatch | 52 | Shearwater, Cory's | 27 |
| Oriole, Golden | 52 | Shearwater, Manx | 27 |
| Osprey | 33 | Shearwater, Mediterranean | 27 |
| Owl, Barn | 43 | Shearwater, Sooty | 27 |
| Owl, Long-eared | 44 | Shelduck | 30 |
| Owl, Short-eared | 44 | Shoveler | 30 |
| Owl, Tawny | 43 | Shrike, Great-grey | 52 |
| Oystercatcher | 35 | Shrike, Red-backed | 52 |
| Partridge, Grey | 35 | Siskin | 54 |
| Partridge, Red-Legged | 34 | Skua, Arctic | 39 |
| Petrel, Leach's | 27 | Skua, Great | 39 |
| Petrel, Storm | 27 | Skua, Pomarine | 39 |
| Phalarope, Grey | 34 | Skylark | 45 |
| Phalarope, Red-necked | 39 | Smew | 32 |
| Pheasant | 35 | Snipe | 37 |
| Pintail | 30 | Snipe, Jack | 37 |
| Pipit, Meadow | 46 | Sparrow, House | 53 |
| Pipit, Rock | 46 | Sparrow, Tree | 53 |
| Pipit, Tree | 46 | Sparrowhawk | 33 |
| Plover, Golden | 36 | Spoonbill | 28 |
| Plover, Grey | 36 | Starling | 53 |
| Plover, Ringed | 36 | Starling, Rose-coloured | 53 |
| Pochard | 30 | Stint, Little | 37 |
| Ptarmigan | 34 | Stonechat | 48 |
| Puffin | 42 | Swallow | 45 |
| Quail | 34 | Swan, Bewick's | 28 |
| Rail, Water | 35 | Swan, Mute | 28 |
| Raven | 53 | Swan, Whooper | 29 |
| Razorbill | 42 | Swift | 44 |

| Common Name | Page | Common Name | Page |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Teal | 30 | Woodpigeon | 43 |
| Tern, Arctic | 41 | Wren | 47 |
| Tern, Black | 41 | Wryneck | 45 |
| Tern, Common | 41 | Yellowhammer | 55 |
| Tern, Little | 41 | Wren | 47 |
| Tern, Roseate | 41 | Wryneck | 45 |
| Tern, Sandwich | 49 | | |
| Thrush, Mistle | 49 | | |
| Thrush, Song | 49 | | |
| Tit, Blue | 51 | | |
| Tit, Coal | 51 | | |
| Tit, Great | 51 | | |
| Tit, Long-tailed | 51 | | |
| Tit, Willow | 51 | | |
| Treecreeper | 52 | | |
| Turnstone | 39 | | |
| Twite | 55 | | |
| Wagtail, Grey | 46 | | |
| Wagtail, Pied | 46 | | |
| Wagtail, White | 46 | | |
| Wagtail, Yellow | 46 | | |
| Warbler, Garden | 50 | | |
| Warbler, Grasshopper | 49 | | |
| Warbler, Sedge | 49 | | |
| Warbler, Willow | 50 | | |
| Warbler, Wood | 50 | | |
| Warbler, Yellow-browed | 50 | | |
| Waxwing | 46 | | |
| Wheatear | 48 | | |
| Whimbrel | 38 | | |
| Whinchat | 48 | | |
| Whitethroat | 50 | | |
| Whitethroat, Lesser | 49 | | |
| Wigeon | 30 | | |
| Woodcock | 37 | | |
| Woodpecker, Great Spotted | 45 | | |