

DAWLISH WARREN BIRD REPORT 2021



DWRG

DAWLISH WARREN RECORDING GROUP



Many thanks to all observers who submitted records to the Recording Group, Teignbridge District Council and Devon Birds, this report would not be possible without their co-operation. Unfortunately, the hide remained closed all year and due to continuing erosion, there continues to be no public access to the surrounding viewing areas. The Recording Group would like to thank the Warren Golf Club and Devon Wildlife Trust for allowing access enabling monitoring efforts to continue.

A total of 184 species were recorded on site this year with 36 species confirmed breeding, including six pairs of Cirl Bunting, six pairs of Stonechat, two pairs of Little Grebe and a pair of Bullfinch. After last year's absence Reed Bunting made a welcome return.



There were no new species recorded, with the annual total average for the last five years. 2021 highlights including new site record counts of the critically endangered Balearic Shearwater (271 in Aug), Cattle Egret (68 in Nov), Kittiwake (2,022 in Oct), Woodpigeon (111,500 in Nov), Siberian Chiffchaff (five in Dec), Jay (62 in Oct) and Cirl Bunting (15 in Jan).

Rarities included the first Dotterel since 1961, 3rd Ruddy Shelduck, 5th Red-rumped Swallow, 7th Caspian Gull, 8th Barred Warbler, 12th Cetti's Warbler, 13th Marsh Tit and 14th Whooper Swan and Great White Egret.

Omissions from the year list included Storm Petrel, Red-necked Grebe, Velvet Scoter, Long-tailed Duck, Goosander, Green Sandpiper and Yellowhammer with regular no shows from Black-throated Diver and Coot.

DARK-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE *Branta b. bernicla*

Status. Abundant autumn and early winter, uncommon in spring, rare in summer

Last and first. 7 Jun and 18 Sep.

First winter. Max 327 on 31 Jan. Last a single on 7 Jun.

Second winter. Max 527 on 19 Dec, feeding offshore at low tide. Five in the estuary on 18 Sep were the first returners, with the first 3-fig count on 15 Oct.

Juveniles. Another poor breeding season, just one juvenile in 463 birds on 31 Oct, with four in 168 birds on 14 Nov and four in 121 birds on 12 Dec.

DARK-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE – Monthly maxima

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	327	308	290	11	3	1	-	-	53	463	361	527
WeBS total	nc	nc	98	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	216	122



9 May © Kevin Rylands

PALE-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE *B. b. hrota*

Status. Annual spring & autumn migrant, fewer in winter

Last and first. 17 May and 22 Sep.

First winter. One from 2020 with the Dark-bellied flocks on 24 Jan & 9 Feb.

Spring passage. Max. 70 on 19 Apr. Other records: Mar; one on 3-6th, two on 7th and four on 27th; Apr; three on 4th, two on 9th, 44 on 13th, two on 14th, 20 on 20th, 25 on 24th, one on 28th; May; 27 on 4th and the last two on 17th.

Autumn passage. Max. 24 on 22 Sep, the first returners. Other records: Oct; one on 2nd, two on 6th, four on 12th, three on 21st and six on 31st.

Second winter. Small numbers were occasionally present with a max of three on 6-7 & 14 Nov.

PALE-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1	1	4	70	27	-	-	-	24	6	3	2
Days	1	1	6	8	2	-	-	-	1	5	8	7

CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

Status. Common, often abundant, in autumn and early winter; regular breeder

Breeding. Three prs, only one of which fledged young.

Max counts. The largest counts came from roosting birds, with a typical late summer peak of 263 on 7 Sep and the max 340 on 14 Nov, a large flock that arrived after being flushed off Starcross GC.

CANADA GOOSE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	41	44	11	29	11	21	40	40	263	213	340	294
WeBS total	nc	nc	6	2	-	-	3	10	2	62	340	-

BARNACLE GOOSE *Branta leucopsis*

Status. Rare wild migrant and winter visitor, infrequent feral/escapee

2021 record. A lone bird offshore on 28 Nov was the only record.

BAR-HEADED GOOSE *Anser indicus*

Status. Escapee; rare

2021 record. One with Canada Geese on 3 Oct, the first since 2015.

SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens*

Status. Escapee; rare

2021 record. The Exe resident was with Canada Geese in the estuary on 5-8 Aug and 2 Oct. The 2nd site record, a returning bird from 2020.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser a. albifrons*

Status. Rare migrant and winter visitor

2021 record. A flock of nine flew in off the sea and headed north early morning on 2 Jan, the first record since Oct 2018.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

Status. Resident in small numbers, common in autumn, scarce early year, has bred

Breeding. Although a pr was present during spring, and saw off a 2nd pr on 23 Mar, there was no repeat of last year's breeding.

Max count. A welcome return of the autumn gatherings with 51 on 29 Sep.

Ringling recoveries. A new Abbotsbury ringed bird was present in Mar with last year's breeding male, also from Abbotsbury present through the year.

MUTE SWAN – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	3	2	7	2	22	12	10	30	51	46	13	3
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	-	6	3	6	22	32	44	-	-

BLACK SWAN *Cygnus atratus*

Status. *Escapee; rare annual visitor*

2021 records. Two reported on 21 Mar and 12 Sep.

WHOOPEE SWAN *Cygnus cygnus*

Status. *Rare autumn & winter migrant, very rare in summer*

2021 record. Three ads flew out to sea on 6 Mar before returning and undertaking a tour of the estuary. The 14th site record.



6 Mar © Ben Lucking

EGYPTIAN GOOSE *Alopochen aegyptiaca*

Status. *Rare feral visitor/escapee*

2021 records. A record year with five sightings. Two on Finger Point on 27 Apr, two N over the Visitor Centre on 26 Jun, four flew in off the sea on 11 Oct, a new site maxima, one on Bull Hill on 5 Dec; and three flew south over Shutterton Creek on 31 Dec.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

Status. *Common in winter, uncommon to June, scarce late summer, has bred.*

Breeding. A pr were a rare sight on the Main Pond on 4 May, but despite prs present through the summer there was no evidence of breeding.

First winter. Max on 109 on 9 Jan.

Second winter. Max on 117 on 29 Dec.

Ringling recoveries. One from Belgium and two from Seaton, Devon were recorded in the first winter period, with one Seaton bird remaining until May. Both Seaton birds returned in the second winter.

SHELDUCK – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	109	83	27	18	21	30	14	1	16	39	93	117
WeBS total	nc	nc	25	7	10	19	-	1	-	-	75	110

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferrugina*

Status. *Feral vagrant/escapee; four previous records*

2021 record. On 4 Apr one was picked up heading S with two Shelduck, before circling back round into the estuary. It was relocated in Shutterton Creek before flying N up the estuary an hour later. It was later relocated on Exminster Marshes where it remained for several weeks with a brief return visit on 29 Apr. The British Ornithologist's Union is currently reviewing records of this species; depending on the outcome of this review this could be the second or third acceptable record for the Warren following one in Jul 1995 and five in off the sea on 7 Oct 2003.



29 Apr © Lee Collins

SHOVELER *Spatula clypeata*

Status. *Annual autumn migrant and winter resident, rare in summer*

First winter. Seven in estuary on 1 Jan, all other records came from the Main Pond, with a max of 12 on 1 Jan, and the last, three on 28 Mar.

Second winter. First one on 21 Sep in the estuary. One offshore on 6 Nov. Female back on the Main Pond on 23 Nov with a max of three there until the year end. Away from the pond, a drake in the estuary on 18 Dec with three (mff) the next day.

SHOVELER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	12	11	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	6

GADWALL *Mareca strepera***Status.** Annual spring & autumn migrant, scarce in winter**2021 record.** Continuing a run of poor years, the only record was a pr on the Main Pond on 13 Apr.**WIGEON** *Mareca penelope***Status.** Very abundant late autumn and early winter, scarce late winter & spring**Last and first.** 18 Feb and 24 Aug.**First winter.** Max of 120 on 1 Jan.**Summer.** A drake in the saltmarsh on 22 Jun was only the second June record in the last 20 years.**Second winter.** Max of 1,543 on 9 Oct. A flock of nine on 24 Aug were the first returners, with the first 3-fig count on 19 Sep.**WIGEON – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	120	17	-	-	-	1	-	9	496	1543	800	628
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	867	708	555

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos***Status.** Common late autumn and winter visitor, resident breeder**Breeding.** Six prs, including one nesting adjacent to the railway at Langstone Rock. Largest numbers roost on the Main Pond, spending the day on Dawlish Water.**MALLARD – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	12	34	6	6	9	8	10	9	9	8	4	7

Domestic Mallard

Two from Dawlish Water occasionally came to roost on the Main Pond with other Mallard. Two drakes present through most of the year on the Golf Course were likely birds released for shooting.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta***Status.** Uncommon in autumn & winter, rare in spring**Last and first.** 11 Feb and 18 Sep.**First winter.** Jan; three on 1st, singles on 3rd & 21st, four on 31st; Feb; pr on 11th.**Second winter.** Sep; one on 18th, four on 21st, one on 26th; Oct; single on 6th; three on 8th, singles on 16th and 26th, 13 on 30th, the max count, eight on 31st; Nov; four on 3rd, 20 on 4th, one on 7th, two on 28th; Dec; one on 4th.**PINTAIL – Number of Birds and days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	13	20	1
Days	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	4	-

TEAL *Anas crecca***Status.** *Very abundant late autumn & winter, scarce spring, rare in summer***Last and first.** 27 Mar and 18 Jul.**First winter.** Max 459 on 1 Jan. Last one on the Main Pond on 27 Mar.**Second winter.** Max 864 on 4 Dec. First return on the Main Pond on 18 Jul, with the first 3-fig count on 18 Sep.**TEAL – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	459	72	22	-	-	-	1	8	190	480	600	864
WeBS total	nc	nc	22	-	-	-	-	3	-	426	498	613

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula***Status.** *Annual in autumn & winter, rare at other times***2021 records.** A female in the estuary on 25-26 Mar, a male over on 6 Jun and one S on 5 Sep.**TUFTED DUCK – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

SCAUP *Aythya marila***Status.** *Near-annual winter visitor and rare autumn migrant***2021 record.** A female flew past the seawall on 19 Dec.**EIDER** *Somateria mollissima***Status.** *Varying annual numbers, can be absent to common throughout the year.***2021 records.** Only two records for this increasingly rare visitor. Two were reported offshore on 17 Feb, with a flock of 14 (eight adult male, four female, two 1st w male) off John's Watch on the 1 Apr. This flock flew E past Portland Bill the next day.**COMMON SCOTER** *Melanitta nigra***Status.** *Annual variation, common sometimes abundant throughout the year***2021 summary.** A very poor year with very few offshore in both winter periods.**Max counts.** 84 on 6 Jun, a flock that had been present since late May. The winter peak was 43 on 2 Jan.**COMMON SCOTER – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	43	-	4	24	75	84	30	18	21	19	37	6

GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula***Status.** *Uncommon in winter, rare at other times, declining***Last and first.** 17 Feb and 5 Nov.**First winter.** A continuing decline with records limited to one on 3 Jan, three on 1 Feb, two on 12-15 Feb and the last one on 17 Feb.**Second winter.** The first return was one, unusually offshore, on 5 Nov. The first back in the estuary was on 28 Nov with a max of three on 5 & 31 Dec.

GOLDENEYE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

Status. *Previously common in winter, now scarce; occasional in summer, has bred*

Last and first. 20 Apr and 21 Oct.

First winter. Max 13 in Jan & Apr was barely 10% of the numbers recorded only a few years ago and a stark contrast to the site maximum of 204 in Dec 2000. Last two on 20 Apr.

Second winter. First returns three on 21 Oct. Max of 26 on 26 Dec.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	13	8	12	13	-	-	-	-	-	4	9	26
WeBS total	nc	nc	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	10

PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

Status. *Most/all records derive from releases, occasional breeding*

2021 summary. One to three birds present all year, with four on 8 Oct, but no evidence of breeding.

RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE *Alectoris rufa*

Status. *Very rare visitor, most/all records derive from released birds*

2021 record. One on 30 Mar, no doubt a released bird, but within the expected spring arrival window for the site.

INDIAN PEAFOWL *Pavo cristatus*

Status. *Escapee; rare*

2021 record. The distinctive footprints of this species were found in a bunker on 18 Mar. The 2nd site visit from the illegally released birds in the village.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Status. *Rare in spring and autumn*

2021 records. A male on 25 & 31 May in Dead Dolphin Wood was likely a lingering individual, due to poor weather, mirroring other local records at the time. In autumn one was recorded on 21 Aug. The 17th & 18th records, and the first since Aug 2015.

SWIFT *Apus apus*

Status. *Common in late spring & summer, rare at other times*

First and last. 24 Apr and 10 Sep.

Spring. Max 182 on 12 Jun. One on 24 Apr was a typical first date, only four double-fig counts in Apr-May with a peak of 22 on 19 May. In Jun, 182 on 12th and 11 on 19th.

Autumn. Max 72 on 24 Jul. First double-fig count was 20 on 4 Jul, with seven others including peaks of 72 on 24 Jul, 61 on 10 Jul and 49 on 1 Aug. There were three other Aug records, with the last two on 10 Sep.

SWIFT – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	13	22	182	72	49	2	-	-	-

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

Status. Uncommon in spring, rare in autumn, has bred

2021 records. Just three brief sightings, the first on 18 Apr, a singing male on 8 May and one, presumably already heading south, on 19 Jun.

FERAL PIGEON *Columba livia*

Status. Resident around Langstone Rock, birds overhead likely racing pigeons

2021 summary. Up to eight birds all year around Langstone Rock where breeding was again attempted. Far fewer birds recorded overhead, linked to a decline in cross channel pigeon races?

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas*

Status. Regular in spring & summer in small numbers, rarely common in late autumn

2021 summary. The majority of records come from the Railway Saltmarsh. The first of the year was on 9 Mar with two intermittently 18 Apr - 9 May. Then singles on 30 May, 17 Jun & 3 Jul, with two on 29-31 Jul and four on 10 Sep.

Visible migration. Oct; five on 15th, three on 27th, eight on 30th and two on 31st; Nov; 72 on 2nd, 10 on 3rd, 100+ on 4th, 154 on 5th, 77 on 6th and 112 on 13th.

STOCK DOVE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	1	2	2	1	2	-	4	8	154	-

WOODPIGEON *Columba palumbus*

Status. Common breeding resident, can be a very abundant in late autumn

Breeding. Up to 20 territories, with birds present throughout the year.

Visible migration. Oct; 217 on 13th and 2,267 on 30th; Nov; 25,520 on 2nd, 111,500 on 4th almost doubling the site record, 7275 on 5th, 120 on 7th and 2055 on 13th.

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

Status. Infrequent visitor throughout the year in small numbers, now regular breeder

2021 summary. Regular throughout the year with three breeding pairs for the first time. Max count of just six on several dates. Two were seen heading E and landing in Exmouth on 24 May.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur*

Status. Previously an annual migrant, once common now rare

2021 record. One was in the Golf Course Spinney briefly before flying W over Warren Point on 9 Oct, the first since Oct 2017 and only the 8th record in the last 10 years.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

Status. Uncommon, rarely common in winter, rare in summer, has bred

Last and first. 8 Apr and 31 Jul.

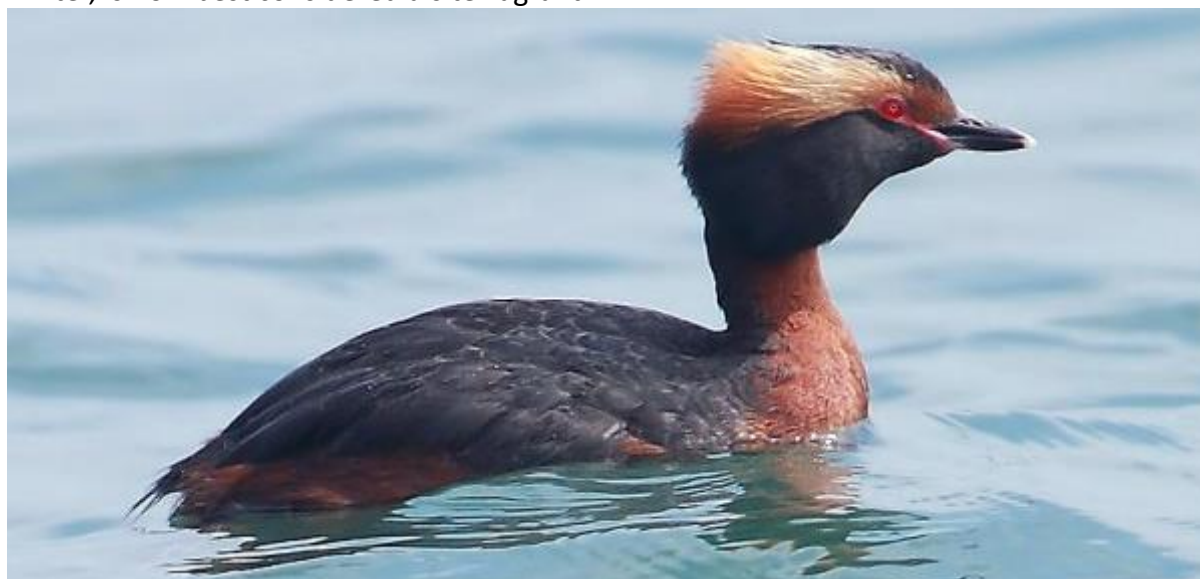
2021 summary. Present in low numbers around the ponds and saltmarsh during the autumn and winter, max six on 1 Jan and 24 Dec.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus***Status.** Common breeding resident**Breeding.** Five prs, three at the Main Pond and singles at the First and Golf Course Ponds.**MOORHEN – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	10	10	10	7	6	4	3	2	10	6	5	6

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis***Status.** Regular breeder and virtually resident on Main Pond, scarce on estuary in winter**2021 summary.** Two prs on the Main Pond, both had three broods, fledging at least 10 young between them. Absent 8 Aug – 21 Oct. One in the estuary in Jan-Feb & Oct-Dec.**GREAT CRESTED GREBE** *Podiceps cristatus***Status.** Common in winter, scarce in spring and autumn**First winter.** Max 86 on 22 Jan.**Summer.** Two on 4 Jun, with singles 6th & 19th.**Second winter.** Max 66 on 16 Dec. First return 11 Jul.**GREAT CRESTED GREBE – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	86	39	11	8	3	2	2	3	1	10	38	66

SLAVONIAN GREBE *Podiceps auritus***Status.** Once common in winter and spring, now rare**2021 record.** After 14 years of residence and becoming the oldest ever recorded Slavonian Grebe, 'Herbert' was last seen here during a period of cold weather and easterly gales on 8 Feb. Initially picked up exhausted and covered in blood on 18 Feb 2007, it was taken to RSPCA West Hatch and released back here on 23 Feb 2007. During its stay it became obvious it had a damaged wing which prevent anything but short flights but obviously didn't hamper feeding, it also never moulted fully into winter plumage. With only one other individual since Mar 2017, this species, which was once present in nationally important numbers each winter, is now best considered a site vagrant.

RIP Herbert 18 February 2007(at least) – 8 February 2021 28 Jun 2009 © James Packer

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

Status. Near-annual winter visitor and scarce migrant

2021 record. Two were found in the estuary off Exmouth in late November being first seen in the Recording Area on 3 Dec, they were then present on and off until 31 Dec.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus*

Status. Very abundant in autumn and winter, common in summer, has bred

First winter. Low numbers with max of just 800 in Jan/Feb.

Autumn. Max of 1750 on 25 Sep.

Second winter. Max of 1375 on 10 Oct, probably still including some passage birds.

Ringed birds. A total of 251 different Exe ringed birds were recorded during the year. Please submit any sightings to exeoystercatchers@gmail.com.

OYSTERCATCHER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	800	800	330	312	219	261	322	1062	1750	1375	1040	900
WeBS total	nc	nc	178	312	150	261	322	1060	1102	1375	1040	394



Oystercatcher 8 Oct © Kevin Rylands

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Status. Scarce in autumn & winter, rare in spring

2021 records. Cold weather in Feb saw one on the 11th with three the next day, two on 14th and one until the 18th. In autumn a flock of 11 were present on 5 Sep. The only late winter record was an injured bird on 3-5 Dec.



5 Sep © Lee Collins

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

Status. Scarce in winter, rarely abundant in cold weather, rare at other times, has bred

First winter. One bird in the estuary, 31 Jan – 22 Feb and 21 over on 15 Feb.

Second winter. One in the estuary on 3-5 & 20 Nov, with four on 6 Nov and three on 12 Dec.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria*

Status. Infrequent in autumn & winter, rare in spring & summer

2021 records. Singles in the estuary on 6 & 30-31 Jan and 4 Mar. In autumn singles on 3 & 13 Oct with four over on 26th. Further flyovers in Nov with singles on 2nd & 5th with two on 4th. The last of the year was one in the estuary on 15 Dec.



18 Dec © Dave Jewell

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

Status. Abundant in winter, scarce but regular at other times

First winter. Max 198 on 5 Feb, linked to cold weather.

Second winter. Max 155 on 31 Dec.

GREY PLOVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	163	198	95	28	6	3	4	6	5	37	99	155
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	9	1	-	2	-	-	6	45	59

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

Status. Abundant in autumn, common in winter, decreasing; has bred

First winter. Max 34 on 5 Feb.

Spring. A small passage noticeable with a max of just 23 on 10 Apr.

Autumn. Max 267 on 5 Sep. First juv on 11 Jul, first 3-fig count on 7 Aug.

Second winter. Max 39 on 13-14 Nov and 5 Dec.

Ringed recoveries. A German ringed bird was present in Jan-Feb and returned to winter in Aug. Aug also saw birds from Belgium, Holland and Wales pass through.

RINGED PLOVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	33	34	11	23	20	1	30	190	267	56	39	39
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	4	3	-	-	176	149	8	-	23



'3C' 7 Aug © Lee Collins

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

Status. Rare in spring and scarce in autumn

First and last. 18 Apr and 24 Aug.

Spring. One over on 18 Apr was the only record.

Autumn. A better showing than average with two juvs on 4 Jul, with three on 6-13 Jul, two until 17th, one till the 18th. Then singles 24th, 31 Jul-1 Aug, 8-10 Aug and the last on 24 Aug.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-



9 Aug © Dave Jewell

DOTTEREL *Charadrius morinellus*

Status. Vagrant; five previous records.

2021 record. Probably the bird of the year, a juvenile was found in the Bight over the evening tide on 18 Sep, the first site record for 60 years. It was on the mudflats with Ringed Plover and Dunlin before roosting with them around the shore of the Bight, repeating this tidal pattern until 22 Sep.

The last Warren record was seen briefly on 10 Sep 1961 and before that one in Jun 1867 with three other undated Victorian records.



21 Sep © Lee Collins

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus***Status.** Common in spring & autumn**First and last.** 10 Apr and 9 Oct.**Spring.** Max 104 on 6 May. The first were three on 10 Apr.**Autumn.** Max 71 on 27 Jul, an autumn site record. Last one on 9 Oct.**Ringed birds.** Spring passage saw birds from France, Wales and Iceland. The Welsh bird 'Yellow D63', being recorded for the 5th time in six years on spring migration.**WHIMBREL – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	83	104	9	71	47	3	1	-	-
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	19	1	2	1	6	3	-	-	-

CURLEW *Numenius arquata***Status.** Abundant in late summer, autumn & winter, scarce in spring**2021 summary.** Max 470 on 1 Oct. Present throughout the year, a count of 58 on 17 Jun was the first sign of return passage, rapidly climbing to 204 by 29 Jun.**Ringing recoveries.** A 1st year bird from Suffolk summered, an ad from Aberdeenshire was present in Jul & Sep and a head-started bird released in Norfolk was present in Sep.**CURLEW – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	165	117	158	208	3	204	356	394	406	470	200	146
WeBS total	nc	nc	34	34	2	20	218	155	293	129	189	136

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica***Status.** Abundant in winter, common in spring & autumn**First winter.** Max of 210 on 12 Feb coinciding with a period of cold weather.**Spring.** Max 84 on 23 Apr.**Autumn.** The first juvenile appeared on 10 Aug.**Second winter.** Max 140+ on 6 & 20 Dec.**Ringing recoveries.** Single birds from France, Norway and Poland were present in the first winter period, a French bird was present for a week mid May and two Norwegian birds were recorded in mid Sep, having also been ringed at the same site a few weeks before.**BAR-TAILED GODWIT – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	181	210	166	84	16	5	8	7	53	73	112	140
WeBS count	nc	nc	-	41	4	1	-	-	8	3	11	24



20 Apr © Lee Collins

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa islandica*

Status. Common, occasionally abundant, in autumn & winter

Last and first. 27 Mar and 8 Jul.

First winter. Max 130 on 2 Jan. Singles usually present with 34 on 5 Feb.

Second winter. Max 573 on 30 Oct. The first returning birds were two on 8 Jul with passage max of 30 on 20 Sep. A flock of 19 on 1 Sep were all juveniles. Increased numbers in Oct & Nov, with 100+ on several dates up to 27 Nov.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	130	34	1	-	-	-	6	6	30	573	278	187
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	130	-

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

Status. Common on passage, sometimes abundant in winter

First winter. Max 70 on 7 Mar, with three other counts >50.

Second winter. Max 139 on 3 Nov, with two other counts >100.

TURNSTONE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	20	61	70	14	34	15	14	4	32	120	139	78
WeBS total	nc	nc	70	5	8	-	-	1	3	29	54	25

KNOT *Calidris canutus*

Status. Common in autumn & winter, scarce in spring

First winter. Max 206 on 9 Jan. No sign of any cold weather movement with an almost identical count on 6 Feb.

Autumn. Max 29 on 9 Sep. A flock of 21 on 1 Sep included 20 juvs.

Second winter. Max 116 on 24 Dec.

Ringing recoveries. A French ringed bird was present in Feb.

KNOT – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	206	205	58	30	11	1	4	11	29	7	82	116
WeBS total	nc	nc	4	16	2	-	3	-	16	-	30	25

RUFF *Calidris pugnax*

Status. Annual in autumn, rare in spring & winter

2021 records. The first was on 7 Apr, only the second April record this century, with other singles on 13 May, 22 Aug, 9 Sep and two on 5 Sep.

RUFF – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Total	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-



9 Sep © Lee Collins

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

Status. Uncommon, rarely common in autumn, scarce in spring, rare in winter

2021 records. A below average year, with just two records. The first was an early juvenile on 12 Aug which remained until the 19th. A second juvenile was present intermittently 5-21 Sep.



19 Aug © Lee Collins

SANDERLING *Calidris alba***Status.** Common in winter, occasionally very common in spring & autumn**First winter.** Max 34 on 14 Feb.**Spring.** Max 162 on 22 May.**Autumn.** Max 72 on 25 Jul. A high percentage of juveniles in flocks.**Second winter.** Max 26 on 18 Dec.**'Sanderbling'.** A Belgian ringed bird overwintered, last being seen in Feb. Spring passage saw two new birds from Mauritania pass through on their way to Greenland. In autumn, singles from Orkney and Norway, in Jul & Sep respectively.**SANDERLING – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	30	34	17	15	162	20	72	44	51	15	13	26
WeBS total	nc	nc	2	2	5	-	2	19	38	15	6	-

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina***Status.** Very abundant in winter, common in spring & autumn**First winter.** Max 1800 on 31 Jan.**Spring.** Max 580 on 19 May, with four other counts >100.**Autumn.** Max 556 on 5 Sep. A flock of 230 on 22 Aug, consisted of 90% juvs.**Second winter.** Max 2200 on 11 Nov.**Ringing recoveries.** Three Polish, a Swedish and a Welsh bird were present in the first winter period, four Welsh and an Irish bird in spring, a 6th Welsh and a German bird in autumn and one of the Polish birds returned for a third winter. A total of 37 birds ringed on the Exe by the Devon & Cornwall Wader Ringing Group were resighted.**DUNLIN – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1800	1500	1000	111	580	9	130	382	556	509	2200	1730
WeBS total	nc	nc	530	35	28	-	40	83	282	189	1709	439

PURPLE SANDPIPER *Calidris maritima***Status.** Rare in late autumn & winter, very rare at other times**2021 records.** A very good year with six records; two at Langstone Rock on 2 Jan, one with Dunlin in the Bight on 9 May, a juvenile with Sanderling on the beach on 1 Sep, one flew past Langstone Rock with Turnstone on 10 Oct, and one in flight offshore on 26 Oct. The last was one on the seawall on 27 Nov.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta***Status.** Scarce in autumn, very rare at other times**2021 records.** An adult on 13 May was the first May record since 2009. Another poor autumn with a juv on 4-7th & 11 Sep and a late bird on 31 Oct.**WOODCOCK** *Scolopax rusticola***Status.** Scarce in winter during hard-weather, rare in autumn**2021 records.** One flushed from behind the Main Pond on 2 Jan and a migrant in the same area on 5 Nov.**SNIPE** *Gallinago gallinago***Status.** Common, rarely abundant in winter, uncommon in autumn**Last and first.** 13 Apr and 25 Jul.**First winter.** Max 100+ on 30 Jan. Last 13 Apr on the Main Pond.**Second winter.** Max 110 on 24 Dec. First return 25 Jul.**SNIPE – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	100	60	2	1	-	-	1	1	3	9	18	110
WeBS total	nc	nc	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	18	1

JACK SNIPE *Limnocryptes minimus***Status.** Scarce in winter, rare in spring & autumn**2021 records.** Two on 1 Jan, in the saltmarsh and Greenland Lake with another in Greenland Lake on 13 Feb and one at the Golf Course Pond on 19-20 Mar.**GREY PHALAROPE** *Phalaropus fulicarius***Status.** Very scarce in autumn, rare in winter**2021 records.** Singles past the seawall on 28 Sep and 2 Oct, with one reported along the beach on 11 Nov; the first records since Sep 2017.**COMMON SANDPIPER** *Actitis hypoleucos***Status.** Uncommon in autumn, scarce in spring, rare in winter**First and last.** 27 Apr and 11 Sep.**Spring.** One flying along the beach on 27 Apr was the only record.**Autumn.** The first returning bird was on 4 Jul, with peaks of seven on 31 Jul and 13 on 9 Aug. Most records from the estuary but the 31 Jul birds were at Langstone Rock.**COMMON SANDPIPER – Number of Birds and days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	1	-	-	17	22	4	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	3	4	-	-	-

REDSHANK *Tringa totanus***Status.** Abundant in autumn & winter, uncommon in spring**Last and first.** 18 Apr and 24 Jun.**First winter.** Max 50 on 15 Jan. Last two on 18 Apr.**Second winter.** Max 355 on 10 Oct. First returning bird on 24 Jun with first 3-fig count on 31 Jul.

REDSHANK – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	50	42	35	26	-	22	202	345	344	355	243	118
WeBS total	nc	nc	27	4	-	1	100	68	90	355	213	64

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

Status. *Rare in autumn, very rare in spring*

2021 record. One flying around the saltmarsh on 1 Aug was the 44th site record.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus*

Status. *Rare in autumn & winter*

2021 records. One on 27 Jan south of Cockwood Harbour on the dropping tide, was the first Warren record since Nov 2014. In autumn a juvenile was present in the estuary on 5 -19 Sep before moving to Mudbank Lane, Exmouth. It returned briefly on 3 & 12 Oct and 3 Nov.



With Greenshank 11 Sep © Lee Collins

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

Status. *Uncommon in autumn & winter, scarce in spring*

Last and first. 14 May and 30 Jun.

First winter. Max seven on 1 & 2 Jan with the last on 14 May in Greenland Lake.

Second winter. Max 23 on 21 Nov. The first returning bird was on 30 Jun with a passage max of 11 on 31 Jul.

Ringing recoveries. One on 13-14 May had been ringed at Farlington Marshes, Hampshire in Sep 2013.

GREENSHANK – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	7	5	6	5	1	1	11	9	11	20	23	16
WeBS total	nc	nc	6	1	-	-	-	7	11	8	16	28

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla***Status.** Regular in summer, autumn & winter, especially after storms**2021 summary.** Low numbers in the early year with around 100 feeding offshore during the first week of May with maxima of 101 on 9th and 110 on 23 May. The first juvenile was offshore on 7 Aug with continuing low numbers, until 346 on 28 Sep and a new site record on 2 Oct when a seven hour watch tallied 1439 Kittiwake south, 1127 in the first hour of daylight. This record was however eclipsed when at least 2022 flew south in the first hour on 30 Oct.**KITTIWAKE – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	30	nc	nc	20	110	51	30	30	346	2022	15	2

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Chroicocephalus ridibundus***Status.** Abundant in autumn & winter; uncommon in spring & summer**First winter.** Max 156 on 6 Feb.**Spring.** Max 40 on 9 May.**Autumn.** Max 1250 S on 2 Oct.**Second winter.** Max 430 on 4 Nov & 29 Dec.**Ringling recoveries.** Two German ringed ads were present in Feb, with one returning in Jul, when birds were also recorded from Germany, Poland (3), Berkshire, Essex and West Sussex.**BLACK-HEADED GULL – monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	nc	156	nc	14	40	75	600	504	300	1250	430	430

LITTLE GULL *Hydrocoloeus minutus***Status.** Scarce in autumn & winter, scarce in spring**2021 records.** In the first winter period an adult off Warren Point on 14 Feb and in the saltmarsh on 16th. In autumn a 2nd winter was present between 7-11 Sep with a 1st winter on 13 Oct.

16 Feb © Lee Collins

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus*

Status. *Uncommon but increasing in autumn & winter, scarce in spring*

First winter. Max just two on several dates.

Spring. Max six E on 27 Apr.

Autumn. Max 46 on 16 Oct. First juv on 15 Jul. Low late summer numbers with a max of 31 on 23 Jul.

Second winter. Max 10 on 4 Nov.

Ringling recoveries. Despite the lower numbers, a total of eight ringed birds were recorded in Jul-Aug from Belgium (2), France, Germany, Ireland, Poland and Hampshire.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	2	2	-	6	5	5	31	13	11	46	10	3

COMMON GULL *Larus canus*

Status. *Common in autumn & winter, scarce in summer*

First winter. Max 110 on 29 Jan.

Spring. Max 23 on 13 Mar.

Autumn. First juvenile on 23 Jul.

Second winter. Max 84 on 18 Dec.

COMMON GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	110	107	23	12	8	1	3	4	3	18	52	84

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus*

Status. *Common non-breeding resident, occasionally abundant in autumn*

2021 summary. Max of 97 on 2 Oct, with 87 on 20th; a far cry from the regular three-fig counts in autumns past, the site record of 855 in Aug 2006 is now unimaginable.

Ringling recoveries. First winter records came from Denmark, France, Isle of Man and Norway. Aug records came from Alderney and France. 'White P:87B' a chick from Portland Harbour, Dorset in Jul 2015 was present in Jan-Feb, May, Jul-Sep, Nov-Dec & in the process being recorded for the 150th time on site!

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	11	28	8	6	8	11	16	34	57	97	29	52

HERRING GULL *Larus. a. argenteus*

Status. *Abundant, rarely very abundant, non-breeding resident, has bred*

2021 summary. Max 2770 on 31 Mar. Recorded on every visit regardless of weather, but counts or estimates rarely made. The peak count was an evening roost offshore.

HERRING GULL - Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	385	52	2770	40	nc	54	80	55	1000	1000	800	800

CASPIAN GULL *Larus cachinnans*

Status. *Vagrant, mostly winter*

2021 record. A first winter flew in from the southwest and roosted on Bull Hill on the evening of 10 Dec. The 7th Warren record.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus michahellis***Status.** *Uncommon but increasing in autumn, scarce in winter***2021 records.** All juv/first winters. Singles on 25 & 29 Jul, two on 31 Jul, and singles on 1, 15, 17 & 21 Aug.**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** *Larus fuscus graellsii***Status.** *Uncommon throughout the year, can be common in spring & autumn***2021 summary.** Typically low numbers during the winter, with spring max of 46 on 25 Apr and an autumn peak of 35 on 19 Aug.**Ringling recoveries.** A Welsh ringed juvenile was present on 8 Aug.**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	2	10	3	46	5	2	6	35	20	14	18	2

SANDWICH TERN *Thalasseus sandvicensis***Status.** *Common in spring & summer, abundant in autumn, rare in winter, declining***First and last.** 6 Mar and 29 Oct.**Spring.** Max 108 on 28 Apr. After the first on 6 Mar numbers were lower than normal, apart from an influx on 28 Apr with 70 the next day.**Autumn.** Max 151 on 4 Sep. The first juvenile arrived 6 Jul, but there were again low numbers. In Oct a late influx peaked at 57 on 10th.**Ringling recoveries.** Another good year with 38 different ringed birds identified, including several returning and long-staying birds. Birds came from Denmark, Germany (2), Holland (7), Ireland (5), Scotland (2), Spain, Sweden, Wales (10) and Cumbria, Hampshire (3), Teesside and West Sussex (4)). The Swedish bird is only the second UK Sandwich Tern recovery from that country. One bird recorded on 29 Aug 'Yellow HP7', was ringed in Holland in 2018, was first seen here as a juvenile in 2018 and also recorded in Guinea-Bissau, West Africa in winter 2019. These fit the well-established pattern of bird from the English Channel, Irish and North Sea coasts all using Dawlish Warren as a key staging post on migration.**SANDWICH TERN – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	18	108	16	45	76	110	151	57	-	-

LITTLE TERN *Sternula albifrons***Status.** *Uncommon in spring & autumn***First and last.** 28 Apr and 11 Sep.**Spring.** Just three records, five on 28 Apr; one on 4 May and three on 12 May.**Autumn.** Slightly better showing but no Aug records. Jul: single on 3rd, two on 4th & 31st; Sep: a juv on 9th, and four on 10-11th.**LITTLE TERN – Number of Birds and days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	5	4	-	5	-	5	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	-	3	-	-	-



4 Jul - Little Tern and three Roseate Tern amongst Sandwich Tern © David Flack

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii*

Status. *Rare in spring, uncommon in late summer*

2021 summary. Again no spring birds but a welcome, if slight, increase in autumn. The first were three on 4 Jul, with another on 10 Jul remaining until the 12th with two on 11th. A new unringed bird was present on 24 Jul, with the last two on 29 Jul.

Ringling recoveries. Two new Irish ringed birds, both from Rockabill in Dublin Bay, both were 2nd summer, a feature of many Warren records.



11 Jul © Lee Collins

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

Status. Usually common in summer, rarely abundant in autumn, has bred

First and last. 25 Apr and 28 Sep.

Spring. Max two 27 Apr-1 May. The latest ever first date with one eventually offshore on 25-26 Apr. Two birds were present on 27 Apr-1 May with singles on 3 & 29 May completing another very poor spring for this species.

Autumn. Max 980 on 5 Sep. The first was a single on 27 Jun, with two on 7 Jul, then present until the end of the Aug, mostly in single figures with peaks of 27 on 24 Jul, 22 on 7 Aug and 20 on 28 Aug. A large influx in early Sep seemed to be linked to good feeding conditions far out in Lyme Bay with birds roosting in the estuary. These peaked at 980 on the 5th with three-figs present until the 12th. This was the highest Sep count since 1961. A sample of 338 birds on 1 Sep showed 90% were juveniles. Thereafter, just a single 18-21 Sep and two on 28 Sep.

Ringing recoveries. One from Dublin Bay, Ireland was present on 5 Aug.

COMMON TERN – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	2	2	1	27	22	980	-	-	-



11 Jul © Lee Collins

ARCTIC TERN *Sterna paradisaea*

Status. Scarce in spring and late summer, rare in autumn

First and last. 3 May and 10 Sep.

Spring. The first record on 3 May was followed by 11 more on 4th with one on 27 May the only other sighting.

Autumn. The first returning bird was on 10 Jul, with singles on 15th & 30th and seven S on 31st. As with Little Tern there were no Aug records but seven flew into the estuary with the tern influx on 1 Sep with at least three the next day and singles on 5th & 10th.

ARCTIC TERN – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	-	13	-	10	-	8	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	4	-	-	-

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

Status. *Rare in spring and scarce in autumn*

2021 records. One east past the seawall on 1 Sep, was the first since Aug 2019. Further birds arrived with the tern influx, two on 5 Sep and singles on 4 and 10 Sep.

Unidentified and mixed TERNS *Sterna* sp.

In spring a distant flock of 14 'commic' Tern on 27 Apr were probably Arctic and in autumn three more 'commic' Tern on 8 Aug.

GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua*

Status. *Uncommon in autumn, scarce in spring & winter*

2021 records. A very poor year with just five sightings. Two were offshore on 23 Apr, with singles the following two days. In autumn singles on 2 Sep and 27 Oct.

GREAT SKUA – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Days	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus*

Status. *Scarce in spring & autumn, very scarce in winter*

First winter. A pale phase ad on 15 Jan and 2 Feb was presumably one of the birds wintering in Torbay.

Spring. Single ads, some fully spooned, flew E on 23 & 24 Apr and S on 15 May. Two were seen briefly on 20 May, taking off the sea to investigate a flyby Spoonbill, and six, the year's peak lingering offshore on 23 May before heading south late evening.

Autumn. A subadult was the first returner on 11 Jul, with birds S on 8 Aug, 28 Sep (2) and 2 Oct.

POMARINE SKUA – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Total	1	1	-	2	8	-	1	1	2	1	-	-
Days	1	1	-	2	3	-	1	1	1	1	-	-

ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Status. *Uncommon in spring & autumn, very rare in winter*

First and last. 23 Apr & 15 Oct.

Spring. The first was lingering offshore chasing Sandwich Terns on 23 Apr. Sightings almost daily 14-25 May with a max of two on several dates. Singles on 26 Jun, 4 & 30 Jul.

Autumn. Several birds lured in by feeding terns, others passing straight through with five on 15 Aug and 13 on 28 Sep, the year's peak. A late influx, no doubt following the tern flocks saw 12 on 2 Oct with the last three on 15th.

ARCTIC SKUA – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	2	12	1	2	8	22	15	-	-
Days	-	-	-	2	7	1	2	3	7	2	-	-

Unidentified Skua sp. *Stercorarius* species

Pomarine/Arctic: Singles on 23 & 30 May with four on 30 Sep.

GUILLEMOT *Uria aalge*

Status. Regular through the year but rarely common

2021 summary. Max 34 on 8 May, with only other counts >20; 30 on 3 Jan & 3 May, and 28 on 10 May.

Guillemot – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	30	-	1	4	34	20	2	-	5	20	3	14

RAZORBILL *Alca torda*

Status. Regular through the year, occasionally very common in winter

2021 summary. Max 150 on 3 Jan, otherwise very low numbers with max 20 on 21 Nov.

RAZORBILL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	150	-	1	3	5	5	3	-	2	15	20	11

PUFFIN *Fratercula arctica*

Status. Rare in spring, very rare at other times

2021 record. One S on 27 Jun was the only record of the year.

Auk sp.

Two counts 40+ on 11 May & 21 Nov, former likely Guillemot, latter likely Razorbill.

RED-THROATED DIVER *Gavia stellata*

Status. Common in winter & spring, rare in summer

Last and first. 20 May and 4 Jul.

First winter. Max 14 on 9 Jan, otherwise low numbers. An incredible record of one on the Main Pond on 19 Apr, sadly found dead the next day.

Summer. One offshore on 4 Jul.

Second winter. Max 13 on 16 Dec. First on 4 Sep, then singles on 2 & 27 Oct, with birds remaining until the end of the year.

RED-THROATED DIVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	14	2	2	2	1	-	1	-	1	1	5	13



19 Apr © Luke Harman

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER *Gavia immer*

Status. *Uncommon in winter and spring, scarce at other times*

Last and first. 20 Jul and 1 Sep.

First winter. Max six on 21 Mar.

Spring/summer. Max 15 on 20 May, with 10 on 16 & 21 May. Two summering birds, an ad & a 2nd yr, one until 20 Jul.

Second winter. Max 47 on 3 Dec. The first return was on 1 Sep, with singles on 9, 12 & 31 Sep, 2 & 27 Oct, then regular until the years end.

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	3	3	6	7	15	4	2	-	1	1	17	47



10 Jun © Alan Keatley

Diver sp. *Gavia* species

One 13 May.

FULMAR *Fulmarus glacialis*

Status. Regular in spring and autumn, rarely common, scarce at other times

2021 summary. Max 20 on 3 May, only one other double figure count, 11 on 8 May.

FULMAR – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1	-	8	5	20	4	5	8	3	-	-	2

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Ardenna grisea*

Status. Rare in autumn

2021 record. One S on 2 Oct was the only record.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus*

Status. Common in spring & summer, rare in autumn & winter

First and last. 26 Mar and 21 Nov.

Spring. Max 172 on 23 May. The first was on 26 Mar with only one other 3-fig count, 120 on 26 Jun.

Autumn. Max 48 on 5 Aug. Continuing low numbers with just one other double figure count, 12 on 10 Jul. A late record on 2 Oct, with another even later on 21 Nov.

MANX SHEARWATER – monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	1	40	172	120	12	48	-	1	1	-

BALEARIC SHEARWATER *Puffinus mauretanicus*

Status. Critically Endangered. Uncommon in summer & autumn, rare in spring & winter

First and last. 30 Jul and 2 Oct.

2021 summary. No early year records with the first one on 30 Jul. Numbers in early Aug did not give any indication of the new site record of 241 in just over an hour on 22 Aug, unusually heading E rather than S. This is between 1-2% of the global population, the absence of seawatching conditions indicates this was a feeding movement, highlighting the importance of Lyme Bay for the survival of this species.

Sep-Oct. Birds were still on a feeding circuit in Lyme Bay in early Sep with a max of 55 on 2nd. Passage picked up again late month with a max of 20 on 26th, with the last five on 2 Oct.

BALEARIC SHEARWATER – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	294	149	5	-	-
Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	12	1	-	-

Shearwater sp.

Jul: 10 on 30th probably Manx

Aug: c40 on 22nd 'also likely to be to Balearic'

Sep: possible Sooty on 1st; possible Yelkouan on 4th; 15 probable Balearic on 30th.

GANNET *Morus bassanus*

Status. Present throughout the year, often common, occasionally abundant during storms

2021 summary. Max 220 on 15 Aug, with over counts >100 on 200 on 27 Oct, 170 on 29 Sep, 163 on 2 Oct, 157 on 28 Sep, 150 on 2 Jan, 126 on 26 Sep and 103 on 8 Apr.

GANNET – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	150	nc	nc	103	44	30	25	220	170	200	83	24

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax c. carbo*

Status. Common non-breeding resident

2021 summary. Max 42 on 30 Oct after storms. Regular through the year.

CORMORANT – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	28	20	21	6	6	16	13	17	20	42	36	29

CONTINENTAL CORMORANT *P. c. sinensis*

Status. Scarce in autumn & winter, under-recorded

2021 records. Singles on 12 Feb, 21 May, 31 Oct and 23 Dec with two on 6 Nov.



21 May © Lee Collins

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Status. Common, sometimes very common non-breeding resident

2021 summary. Max 21 on 30 Apr. A very poor year with no feeding flocks offshore.

SHAG – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	12	5	nc	21	12	2	2	1	12	16	8	16

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia*

Status. *Rare in spring & autumn, very rare at other times*

2021 records. In spring an immature S on 14 May, with another S offshore on 20th, briefly checked out by two Pomarine Skua. In autumn, an ad on 5 Sep, two (same ad & juv) on 10 Sep and five (ad and four imm (1st & 2nd yrs) on 21-22 Sep. Finally a juv roosted on Finger Point on 4-6, 9, 22-24 & 29-31 Dec.



10 Sep © Luke Harman

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

Status. *Formerly rare, now scarce in autumn & winter*

2021 records. The first were ten birds off Cockwood, roosting on the Wreck on 9 Oct, with a very brief Devon record of 57 present the next day, Upto 52 birds remained until 16th. A lone bird was present on 30 Oct. Birds returned in early November with a new site record of 68 on 4th with 44 next day, two on 10th and 41 on 13th. 52 on 20th and four the next day. These are presumed to include returning birds from last winter. Their arrival on site seems linked to a combination of tide and afternoon milking times.

CATTLE EGRET – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	68	-



13 Oct © Alan Keatley

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea***Status.** *Uncommon non-breeding resident, sometimes common in autumn***2021 summary.** Max five on 5 Sep and 4-5 Nov. Regular through the year but scarce in the breeding season.**GREY HERON – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	4	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	5	4	5	4

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Ardea alba***Status.** *Previously a vagrant, now rare with 13 previous records of 18 birds***2021 record.** One E over Warren Point continued over Exmouth on 10 Oct.

One was reported on 22 Sep but no other details were received.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta***Status.** *Uncommon non-breeding resident, most common in autumn***2021 summary.** Max 14 on 11 Oct. Regular through the year in the estuary, although one was in Greenland Lake on 17 Mar.**LITTLE EGRET – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	8	6	2	2	3	5	6	9	13	14	8	4

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus***Status.** *Scarce in spring and autumn***First and last.** 2 Apr and 28 Aug.**2021 summary.** A good spring with five records; 2-3, 11 & 29 Apr and 13 & 17 May. Autumn was far quieter than average with just two records, on 22 & 28 Aug.**OSPREY – Number of Birds and days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-



22 Aug © Lee Collins

SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus***Status.** *Uncommon throughout the year, has bred***2021 summary.** Singles, occasionally two birds, recorded throughout year with no sign of obvious migration. Prey included Dunlin, Greenfinch, Kingfisher (unsuccessful), Starling and Woodpigeon.**MARSH HARRIER** *Circus aeruginosus***Status.** *Rare in spring & autumn***2021 record.** One low N early morning on 27 May was the only record of the year.**RED KITE** *Milvus milvus***Status.** *Uncommon in spring, rare at other times, min 102 previous records***2021 records.** One low over the Golf Course on 28 Feb, followed by two on 3, 4 & 18 Apr, and finally one on 14 Jun.

Red Kite – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	1	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Days	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE *Haliaeetus albicilla***Status.** *Introduction, vagrant***2021 record.** An immature female from the Isle of Wight reintroduction project was recorded on 21 Mar. The bird, G466, was in the Turkey Oak copse on the Golf Course early morning before being seen flying over the estuary and being relocated in trees just off site at Cofton.

It had flown along the East Devon coast the previous day, being seen on the Pebblebed heaths before roosting in the woodland to the east of Woodbury. After leaving Cofton she travelled a total of 75km that day passing over the Teign Estuary before roosting to the east of Plymouth.



Cofton 21 Mar © Lee Collins

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

Status. Infrequent overhead throughout the year, very rare actually on site

2021 summary. Recorded in every month but little sign of passage with max of four on 3 Apr and three on 25 Feb & 4 Apr. One was largely resident during Oct-Nov.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus*

Status. Scarce autumn migrant, rare in winter and spring

2021 records. Singles in the saltmarsh on 27 Oct, on Warren Point on 30 Oct and S offshore on 27 Nov.



27 Oct © Lee Collins

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco*

Status. Occasional non-breeding resident

2021 summary. Seen, or more often heard, during the year in Jan, Feb, May, Jul, Sep-Dec. A pr calling to each other on several dates in Nov was the first multiple record.



11 Nov © Dave Jewell

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

Status. Scarce in autumn & winter

2021 summary. Just a single bird in the early winter, in the estuary on 3 & 6 Jan and at the Main Pond on 23 Jan. The first autumn bird was on the Main Pond on 29 Jul followed by one in the estuary on 28 Aug and then regular until the end of the year. Two were seen on several occasions in estuary, one was at Langstone Rock on 26 Oct with two there on 6 Nov.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

Status. Very scarce in autumn

2021 records. A good year with five records, one on 24 Aug, 7-11 Sep, an elusive bird around the Bight and Golf Course, one on 19 Sep, 25 Sep on Warren Point, and the last of the year by the Main Pond on 16 Oct.



10 Sep © Luke Harman

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos major*

Status. Breeding resident and scarce migrant

2021 summary. A pair in the Entrance Bushes fledged at least three yg. Regular through the year, three on 17 Oct were possible migrants.

GREEN WOODPECKER *Picus viridis*

Status. Uncommon non-breeding resident

2021 summary. Regular through the year becoming scarce from Oct onwards. A pr in May with a juv on 28 Aug suggested succesful breeding nearby.



13 May © Dave Jewell

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

Status. *Uncommon non-breeding resident and autumn migrant*

2021 summary. Present throughout the year but aside from two on 6 Oct and 3 Nov, always singles. Several offshore considered to be passage birds, but could also have been local birds hunting migrants.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

Status. *Scarce in autumn & winter visitor, rare in spring*

2021 records. A female heading S offshore early morning on 31 Jul was the first Warren record for the month, with only four August records. In Oct birds also S offshore on 23rd and 31st. The last of the year was over the estuary on 4 Nov.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

Status. *Scarce in spring & autumn*

First and last. 27 Apr and 25 Sep.

2021 summary. A good year with 11 records, though perhaps only five individuals allowing for birds lingering in the wider area. The first flew through on 27 Apr, with singles on 28-29 Apr and, both offshore, on 3 & 4 May. Other migrants on 13 & 31 May, 8 Aug (offshore), and the last 22 & 24-25 Sep.

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

Status. *Regular non-breeding visitor, especially in autumn*

2021 summary. Birds present throughout the year, although absent mid May - mid Jul. Birds used perches on the Golf Course whilst closed in February and a juvenile lingered during October.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

Status. *Scarce, very rarely common in autumn, rare in spring*

2021 summary. One in the Entrance Bushes on 2 Feb was the first since Oct 2018. In autumn an UK wide interruption saw record visible migration with 21 W (19 in one flock) on 7 Oct, then a new site record of 62 W on 8 Oct (with 90 others moving offsite). On site one or two were present between 15 Sep and 11 Nov, with three on 5 Nov and the last on 28-29 Nov and 16 Dec. How many birds may have been involved is unknown but those in Nov were often passing through. The previous record count of 47 on 21 Oct 1983 was part of the previous UK influx.

MAGPIE *Pica pica***Status.** *Uncommon breeding resident, common in winter***2021 summary.** Breeding; at least eight territories, not including a pr collecting nest material on Warren Point before flying to a nest site in Exmouth on 21 Apr. Roost numbers peaked at 16 in Jan/Feb and 18 in Oct/Nov.**JACKDAW** *Coloeus monedula***Status.** *Rarely very common in autumn migrant, regular early summer, otherwise scarce***2021 summary.** The usual low numbers in the early year, excepting 61 in a pre-roost gathering on the mudflats on 25 Jan. Following the recent pattern adults began foraging on site in early May, max 18, before returning to nests on the mainland. It is not known why birds took so long to use the Warren for foraging; perhaps previously favoured sites are now under new housing?**Migration.** Oct: four on 2nd, two on 3rd, two on 7th & 8th, 856 on 13th, 504 on 15th, 21 on 22nd, four on 23rd, 90 on 26th, and 483 on 30th. Nov: 534 on 2nd, 60 on 3rd, 855 on 5th, four on 6th, 55 on 11th, and 25 on 24th**Jackdaw – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	61	6	3	3	18	6	-	-	-	856	855	8

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus***Status.** *Scarce though year, occasionally common in autumn***2021 summary.** Scarce through most of the year, but noticable spring and especially autumn passage. Max six on 10 Apr and 48 on 2 Nov.**Rook – Monthly bird sightings (bird-days):**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	3	8	11	23	1	-	1	-	9	49	167	2
Days	3	5	6	10	1	-	1	-	5	9	9	2

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone***Status.** *Common breeding resident, occasionally abundant in autumn***2021 summary.** Breeding; Seven territories, including one pr that built a nest on a boat moored in the estuary off Warren Point. Max 133 on 10 Sep, feeding on the mudflats. Other large counts also came from gatherings at low tide.**Carrion Crow – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	37	nc	10	15	nc	8	20	nc	133	60	44	117

RAVEN *Corvus corax***Status.** *Regular through year in small numbers***2021 summary.** Following lockdown two-four birds have become more regular on site. Max counts overhead 14 on 24 Jul and eight on 2 Jan. On 22 Feb one made a halfhearted attempted at taking a Brent Goose.**Raven – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	8	5	2	2	2	2	14	2	2	2	5	2

COAL TIT *Periparus ater britannicus***Status.** *Rare through year, scarce in autumn***2021 summary.** A good year for this species. The two wintering birds remained until 26 Mar. Post-breeding records began with two juveniles by the Main Pond on 31 May, followed by singles on 5 & 12 Jun, 15 & 18 Jul and 25-26 Sep. The last of the year were two that moved NE through the site on 2 Nov.**MARSH TIT** *Poecile palustris***Status.** *Very rare, usually in autumn, 12 previous records***2021 record.** One was by the First Pond on 1 Jan, presumably the bird that wintered off site along Shutterton Lane. The 13th record for the Warren.**BLUE TIT** *Cyanistes caeruleus***Status.** *Common breeding resident and occasional autumn migrant***2021 summary.** Breeding; at least nine territories, including a pr in the hide and one evicted from a nest box on the Golf Course by House Sparrows. Max of 12 on 8 Oct.**GREAT TIT** *Parus major***Status.** *Uncommon breeding resident***2021 summary.** Breeding; seven territories. Max count eight on 8 Oct.**SKYLARK** *Alauda arvensis***Status.** *Uncommon breeding resident and common autumn migrant***2021 summary.** Breeding; eight territories, all bar one on Warren Point. Max 74 on 2 Nov, with six other double-fig counts overhead in autumn.

Skylark – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	8	6	6	10	2	6	10	3	8	57	74	9

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia***Status.** *Uncommon in spring & autumn***First and last.** 24 Mar and 2 Oct.**Spring.** The first were two on 24 Mar with just three double-fig counts, the max 55 on 2 Apr. Last two on 8 May.**Autumn.** First return one on 13 Jul, just two double-fig counts. max 15 on 18 Jul and the last three on 2 Oct.**SWALLOW** *Hirundo rustica***Status.** *Breeding summer resident, common, rarely abundant in spring & autumn***First and last.** 31 Mar and 5 Nov.**Spring.** First five on 31 Mar, max 100 on 30 Apr, with three other counts > 45.**Breeding.** One pr bred successfully on the Golf Course,**Autumn.** Max 56 on 3 Sep, just three other counts > 40; regular until 17 Oct when 15 was the last double-fig count. Then six on 21 Oct, one on 30th and in Nov, a single on 4th and two over the Main Pond on 5th.

Swallow – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	5	100	75	15	14	40	56	52	2	-

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

Status. Common in spring & summer, occasionally abundant in autumn

First and last. 2 Apr and 5 Nov.

Spring. First six on 2 Apr, max 200 on 25 May, with only four other counts >20.

Autumn. Max 450 on 5 Oct, but only two other counts >20. The last was a late bird over the Main Pond on 5 Nov.

House Martin – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	40	200	1	17	15	62	450	1	-

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Cecropis daurica*

Status. Vagrant, four previous records, last in 2019

2021 record. One flew north early morning on 14 May, the 5th site record. This bird was along Dawlish Water the previous day and was watched flying north along the cliffs the next morning before being seen at the Warren.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

Status. Previously vagrant now very rare in autumn/winter

2021 record. One by the Main Pond on 18-30 Oct was heard singing occasionally. Recorded for the fifth successive autumn but only the 12th site record.

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

Status. Common breeding resident and occasional autumn migrant

2021 summary. Breeding; Two pairs bred successfully. Max 26 on 9 Nov, presumably including migrants, as 15 was the max on several other dates through the year.

YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Status. Previously a vagrant, now very scarce in autumn, rare in winter

2021 record. One in Dead Dolphin Wood on 9-13 Oct. The 16th record in the last ten years.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Status. Common in spring & autumn, has bred

First and last. 27 Mar and 20 Sep.

Spring. The first on 27 Mar, max 10 on 13 Apr with the last two on 8 May.

Autumn. First returning birds two on 10 Jul, max nine on 15 Sep. Last one on 20 Sep.



18 Apr © Lee Collins

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus c. collybita*

Status. *Uncommon breeder and in winter, common in spring & autumn*

First winter. Max four on 4 Feb.

Spring. Max 13 on 4 Apr and 12 on 11 Apr.

Breeding. At least seven territories.

Autumn. Max 28 on 1 Oct, with four other double-fig counts.

Second winter. Max nine on 7 Nov, with another small arrival late month and three remaining into 2022.

SIBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF *P. c. tristis*

Status. *Scarce in autumn, rare in winter*

2021 records. An elusive bird remained from 2020 until at least 6 Mar with one on 10 & 19 Apr. In November one on 6th and a noticeable influx in December, with a record five present on 5th and at least one remaining into 2022.



19 Apr © Dean Hall

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Status. *Scarce in spring and autumn, has bred*

First and last. 8 May and 12 Sep.

Spring. The first were three on 8 May, with two next day, one holding territory around the Buffer Zone until 5 Jun.

Autumn. The first returning bird was on 18 Jul, with singles on 22 & 31 Jul, 10 & 22 Aug, and in Sep, two on 4-5th, with singles on 6, 10 & 12th.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

Status. *Uncommon migrant breeder and autumn migrant*

First and last. 19 Apr and 2 Oct.

Spring. First at the Main Pond on 19 Apr, max eight on 30 May.

Breeding. Seven territories, with fledged yg throughout the bushes in late July.

Autumn. Max three on 5 Sep, with singles on 1st, 2nd, 11th, 14th, 15th and a late single on 2 Oct.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*

Status. *Scarce spring and rare autumn migrant*

2021 records. Two brief reeling birds in spring on 13 & 20 Apr, with a rare autumn record flushed from a ditch on the Golf Course on 5 Sep.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

Status. *Uncommon migrant breeder, rarely common in spring & autumn, rare in winter*

First winter. A male on 1 Jan was a rare winter record.

Spring. The first two were recorded on 29 Mar, max six on 2 Apr and 8 May.

Breeding. Five territories, with family parties obvious in late Jul.

Autumn. Max 13 on 12 Sep but no other counts over five until end of Sep. In Oct regular until 24th, with max eight on 3rd & five on 17th. Later records were all singles, on 30 Oct, 2nd, 4th, 8th and 14 Nov.



19 Apr © Lee Collins

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin*

Status. *Scarce spring & autumn migrant*

First and last. 2 May and 12 Sep.

2021 records. After the first on 2 May, three singles 7-9 May was the sum total of spring passage. Just three autumn records, singles on 24 & 26 Aug and 12 Sep.



2 May © Ben Lucking

BARRED WARBLER *Sylvia nisoria*

Status. Very rare autumn migrant, seven previous records

2021 record. One was around the east end of the Buffer Zone on 30-31 Oct. The 8th site record.



31 Oct © Dave Land

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia c. curruca*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant, has bred

First and last. 1 May and 4 Sep.

Breeding. A singing male held territory from 1 May but the presence of a female on 10 Jun was unexpected. On 19 Jun three fledged young were recorded, confirming the first breeding since 2005.

Autumn. Singles on 24 Aug and 3-4 Sep.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

Status. Common breeding summer visitor and migrant

First and last. 2 Apr and 29 Sep.

Spring. The first was a female behind the Main Pond on 2 Apr, the earliest ever for the Recording Area after one on 7 Apr 2011. A female next day was considered to be a different individual. Max 12 on 9 May.

Breeding. 13 territories.

Autumn. Max seven on 12 Sep. Regular until 15 Sep with the last on 29 Sep.

DARTFORD WARBLER *Sylvia undata*

Status. Previously scarce in autumn & winter, now rare

2021 record. An imm on Warren Point on 10 Oct, the first since Oct 2017.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapilla*

Status. Scarce in autumn & winter, scarce in spring

2021 records. A wintering bird remained until 21 Mar with two present in early Jan. The only other record was a single in Greenland Lake on 7 Nov.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

Status. Uncommon in winter & spring, occasionally common in autumn, has bred

2021 summary. Up to six birds wintering in Jan-Feb with two until 7 Mar and one until 22 Mar. No spring migrants, the first autumn bird was on 12 Sep, with next two on 3 Oct and a max of just three during the rest of the year.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Status. Common breeding resident

2021 summary. Breeding: 29 territories.



© Lee Collins

NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

Status. Scarce in autumn, rare at other times, increasing

2021 records. A record year with perhaps four individuals. One on 12 & 16 Jun, was presumably the bird just offsite by the railway station on 10th. Three further sightings on 17-18 Jul and 1 & 27 Aug.

TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

Status. Rare in autumn & winter, occasionally non breeding resident.

2021 records. One around the Entrance Bushes 8 Feb-10 Mar, singing on occasion. One in Dead Dolphin Wood on 4 Jul was a typical post-breeding movement.



8 Feb © Jo King

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Status. Abundant in late summer & autumn, occasionally in winter, scarce breeder

First winter. Max 400+ roosting at Main Pond on 1 Jan.

Breeding. Six territories around the Amusements and Clubhouse. Postbreeding flocks peaked at 380 on 10 Jul, with 210 roosting at Main Pond on 22 Aug.

Autumn. Max 188 on 30 Oct during vis mig.

Second winter. Max 500+ roosting at the Main Pond on 11-12 Dec.

Starling – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	400	nc	20	32	59	80	380	210	250	188	80	500

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

Status. *Uncommon resident breeder and in autumn & winter*

2021 summary. Breeding: Three prs, with all having to forage in the Back Meadow during the dry spring. Max just five on 2 Nov.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

Status. *Scarce in autumn, rare at other times, has bred*

2021 records. A pair were on the Golf Course on 27-31 Jan. Singles passed overhead on 6 Jun and 4th, 5th, 7th & 14 Nov and 4 Dec.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

Status. *Rare in autumn & winter, occ. abundant in hard weather, rare in spring*

2021 records. Autumn migrants were limited to one on 9th and two on 14 Nov.

REDWING *Turdus iliacus*

Status. *Uncommon in autumn & winter, occ. abundant in hard weather, rare in spring*

Last and first. 18 Feb and 15 Oct.

First winter. Two on 1 Jan with one until 14 Jan and another on 18 Feb.

Autumn. The first were two overhead on 15 Oct, max 579 NE on 5 Nov, with 200 on 3 Nov and 73 on 31 Oct also heading NE.

Late winter. Up to seven in the bushes during November.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

Status. *Common breeding resident and autumn migrant*

2021 summary. Breeding; 15 territories. Max 20 on 23 Apr, and 18 on 1 Jan.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

Status. *Scarce spring & autumn migrant*

First and last. 8 May and 19 Sep.

Spring. The first was an influx of at least seven birds on 8 May, the second highest site count after 14 on 20 May 1996. A good spring continued with singles on 9 & 15 May, two on 23 & 24 May and four on 27 May.

Autumn. One on 26 Aug and two on 15 Sep with the last on 19 Sep.



15 Sep © Alan Keatley

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

Status. Common breeding resident and autumn migrant

2021 summary. Breeding: 19 territories. Max 21 on 2 Oct, migrants confirmed by an increase in 'Green Sandpiper' calls as autumn arrived.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

Status. Rare spring & scarce autumn migrant, occasionally winters

2021 records. A fem/imm briefly on the seawall on 5 Nov with a virtual repeat performance from a male on 16 Dec.



16 Dec © Alan Keatley

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant

2021 records. A poor year with perhaps just two individuals. The first was a female around the Back Meadow on 16 Apr with perhaps the same bird on 18th. The only autumn sighting was a female on 5 Sep.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant

First and last. 29 Apr and 9 Oct.

Spring. The first were two on 29 Apr with singles on 8-9th and 27 May.

Autumn. Three singles on 26 Aug, 12 Sep and 9 Oct.



29 Apr © Lee Collins

STONECHAT *Saxicola rubicola*

Status. Scarce breeding resident and common autumn migrant

2021 summary. Breeding: a site record six prs, with the first fledged juvs on 7 May. Max 15 on 2 Nov and 13 on 22 Feb.

Stonechat – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	3	13	6	5	7	4	5	8	11	12	15	5

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Status. Common spring & autumn migrant

First and last. 17 Mar and 9 Oct.

Spring. The first was in Greenland Lake on 17 Mar, max seven on 18 & 21 Apr. Last bird on 3 Jun.

Autumn. First on 18 Jul, a juv on Warren Point. Max 17 on 10 Sep, with 10 on 11 & 20 Sep. In Oct singles on 2nd, 3rd and 5th with two on 6-9th.

Wheatear – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	6	7	3	1	1	7	17	2	-	-



21 Mar © Lee Collins

GREENLAND WHEATEAR *O.o.leucorhoa*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant, under-recorded

2021 records. Just one noted in spring on 13 May, in autumn singles on 22 Aug and 12 Sep, with two on 11 & 19 Sep.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus***Status.** *Common breeding resident***2021 summary.** Breeding: 20 territories but success impacted by the loss of nestboxes following the arson attack on Teignbridge's tractor shed. One pr then evicted Blue Tit from a nestbox on the Golf Course. Max 70+ on 2 Oct roosting in the Buffer Zone.**House Sparrow – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	16	15	7	11	nc	15	30	30	30	70	60	50

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis***Status.** *Common breeding resident***2021 summary.** Breeding: 31 territories.**YELLOW WAGTAIL** *Motacilla flava flavissima***Status.** *Rare spring and scarce autumn migrant***First and last.** 1 Apr and 9 Oct.**Spring.** The first flew over on 1 Apr with further singles on 4 & 13 Apr. unusually no May records.**Autumn.** First were three on 24 Aug, with two on 28 Aug, singles on 4-5 Sep, two on 17 Sep and the last on 9 Oct.**YELLOW WAGTAIL – Number of Birds and days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	5	4	1	-	-
Days	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	3	1	-	-

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea***Status.** *Common autumn migrant, scarce in winter, rare at other times***2021 summary.** The first of the year was overhead on 19 Aug. Max seven on 12 Sep. Occasional birds stopped off at the Main Pond until mid Nov, with one on the seawall on 19 Dec.**GREY WAGTAIL – Number of Birds & Days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	23	10	9	1
Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	7	9	1

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba yarrellii***Status.** *Uncommon breeding resident, common, rarely abundant in autumn & winter***2021 summary.** Breeding: One pair around the Boathouse. Max counts of autumn migrants 31 on 13 Oct and 18 on 3 Sep.**PIED/WHITE WAGTAIL – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	6	5	2	2	4	5	10	11	18	31	12	6

WHITE WAGTAIL *M. a. alba***Status.** *Rare spring and scarce autumn migrant***Spring.** 18 Mar, 4 Apr**Autumn.** 8 Aug, 5 & 12 Sep, two 7 & 11 Sep

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis***Status.** *Common in spring, occasionally abundant in autumn, has bred***Spring.** Max seven birds wintering, with 20+ on 16 Mar the first sign of movement. Last bird on 14 May,**Autumn.** Max 117 on 3 Oct. First return on 4 Sep. Three counts >50; 58 on 8 Oct, 56 on 26 Sep and 52 on 13 Oct.**Winter.** A late passage max of 20 on 2 Nov.**MEADOW PIPIT – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	7	5	20	2	1	-	-	-	56	117	20	12

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis***Status.** *Rare spring and scarce autumn migrant***2021 records.** Just four reports all singles overhead on 8 May, 12 Aug, 5 and 11 Sep.**Pipit sp.**

A calling bird flushed twice on Warren Point on 6 Nov was either a Tree or Olive-backed Pipit.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta***Status.** *Rare in winter and very rare in spring***2021 records.** One in the saltmarsh on 1 Jan was the only first winter record with two on 20 Nov, and singles on 21 & 28 Nov and 19 Dec, in the second winter period.**ROCK PIPIT** *Anthus petrosus***Status.** *Uncommon breeding resident***First winter.** Max three on several dates.**Breeding.** A pr at Langstone Rock had fledged yg on 3 Jul.**Second winter.** Max eight on 9 Nov.**SCANDINAVIAN ROCK PIPIT** *A. p. littoralis***Status.** *This species can only be identified with certainty in breeding plumage or through ringing recoveries. Probably scarce in autumn and winter, rare in spring***2021 summary.** Two Norwegian colour-ringed wintering birds remained in the first winter period, both last seen on 17 Feb. Yellow 632 was then seen at Sheringham on the north Norfolk coast on the 19 Feb, pausing briefly on its return to Norway.

Several unringed birds were also present early winter, but as is typical here all left before moulting into breeding plumage. A noticeable autumn influx with several on overhead migration and at least seven birds present in November.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs***Status.** *Common, rarely abundant in spring and autumn, scarce in winter, has bred***2021 summary.** No breeding records with a winter max count of eight on 14 Feb. No sign of spring passage and a poor autumn passage with max count of 50 overhead on 14 Nov, with 40 on 4th & 5th.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla***Status.** Annual autumn migrant, vagrant in spring and winter**2021 records.** Small numbers overhead in Nov with two on 2nd, four on 4th, one on 5th and three on 14th.**BULLFINCH** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula***Status.** Scarce breeding resident and autumn migrant**2021 summary.** A single breeding pr with a max of five on 9 May. Absent (or more likely moulting) 18 Jul - 24 Aug. In autumn small numbers overhead on five dates 24 Oct – 7 Nov with a max of seven on the last date.**GREENFINCH** *Chloris chloris***Status.** Uncommon breeding resident and common autumn migrant**2021 summary.** Breeding: At least 16 territories. In winter max 30 on 2 Jan with autumn migrants peaking at 90 on 4 Nov.**GREENFINCH – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	30	20	nc	10	8	3	2	1	8	28	90	10

LINNET *Linaria cannabina***Status.** Common breeding resident, often abundant late autumn & early winter**2021 summary.** Breeding: an estimated min 38 territories. Low numbers in the first winter but good numbers in autumn with max of 250 on 22 Sep and six counts >100.**LINNET – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	20	23	63	50	88	11	25	75	250	120	140	40

LESSER REDPOLL *Acanthis cabaret***Status.** Uncommon autumn migrant, scarce in winter and spring**First winter.** The first of the year were two feeding in the Entrance Bushes on 3 Feb.**Spring.** One over on 17 Mar.**Autumn.** Max five over on 13 Oct, with singles on 17 Oct, 7 & 14 Nov, with two on 13 Nov.**GOLDFINCH** *Carduelis carduelis***Status.** Uncommon breeder; common, sometimes abundant in autumn & winter**2021 summary.** Breeding: nine territories. Max in the early winter 45 on 1 Jan with no sign of spring passage. In autumn max 164 on 8 Oct, with at least 150 on 22-25 Sep. Max 90 on 7 Nov in second winter.**GOLDFINCH – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	45	25	20	12	8	20	20	30	150	164	90	85

SISKIN *Spinus spinus***Status.** Common in autumn & winter, rare in spring**First winter.** Max 10 on 19 Jan, with birds present until 1 Mar.**Spring.** Max 24 on 10 Apr, with 43 birds overhead on seven dates between 4-17 Apr.**Summer.** A juv in the Entrance Bushes on 18 Jul; only the second July record.

Autumn. Max 11 on 13 Oct, with 27 on five other dates. In Nov, 22 on seven dates, max seven on 14th.

Second winter. Two on 4 Dec.

Siskin – Monthly Maxima:												
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	10	7	4	24	-	-	1	-	-	11	7	2

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Status. Near-annual autumn migrant, rare in winter, spring vagrant

2021 record. A first winter female intermittently along the beach on 9-13 Nov.



9 Nov © Alan Keatley

CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirlus*

Status. Previously rare, now an uncommon breeding resident

2021 summary. Breeding; at least six territories, an increase from three in 2020, increase no doubt aided by winter feeding on the Golf Course. Max 15 on 2 Jan, a new site record.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Status. Scarce breeding resident and common autumn migrant

2021 summary. A male present throughout the early year was joined by a female and bred successfully on the Golf Course, a welcome return after last year's absence. Max 14 on 30 Oct, a very good site count.



3 Jun © Alan Keatley